

THE STUDENT VOICE

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Vol 5 No. 6

The Student Voice, Inc. 6 Raymond Street, N.W., Atlanta 14, Ga.

OF FEBRUARY 18, 1964

816 North Street

Macon, Georgia 31201

KLAN BEATS MISS. NEGRO

NATCHEZ, MISS. - A local Negro undertaker was stripped and beaten by hooded members of the Ku Klux Klan late Saturday night, Feb. 15.

The undertaker, Archie Curtis, was lured to a deserted section near the city by an unidentified caller who told him a friend's wife was suffering from a heart attack, SNCC worker Julius Samstein said.

Samstein said Curtis was given directions to a rural road and told that a "man with a lantern" would meet him and take him to the house where the heart attack victim was located.

When Curtis and an unidentified companion arrived at the road they were ordered at pistol point to leave their car.

They were taken, blindfolded to Duck Pond Road near an oil field and asked to show NAACP membership cards. Samstein said the hooded men told Curtis he was "a NAACP nigger." He was also asked to produce NAACP membership lists, Samstein said.

Both Negroes were forced to strip and were beaten with a strap.

They were then returned to their car and released.

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U. S. HARASSES TWO IN ALBANY

Minister to be Removed

ALBANY, GA. - A South-west Georgia Negro minister, an active participant in the anti-segregation drive here, has been notified he is being removed from his job at the Albany Marine Corps Supply Center.

The minister, the Reverend Samuel B. Wells, a sandblaster at the supply center, received a letter from Supply Center Commanding General Tyler informing him "it is proposed to remove you from your present position with the Federal service." The letter said removal proceedings were begun against Wells because of "conduct unbecoming a Federal employee in that you committed perjury."

In Atlanta, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) protested the proposed dismissal and asked Marine Corps Commandant Lieutenant General Wallace M. Green Jr.

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Movement Secretary to be Tried

MACON, GA. - Mrs. Eliza Jackson will go to trial here Feb. 24 in United States District Court for perjury.

Mrs. Jackson, recording secretary of the Albany (Ga.) Movement, is one of nine Albany civil rights leaders indicted for perjury and conspiracy by a Federal grand jury.

The indictments grew out of a grand jury investigation of charges by a white Albany grocer that a half-hour picket line before his store was an attempt to intimidate him because he had served on a

ther Woodall, two youths active in the Albany demonstrations; Robert Thomas, an active participant in the Albany demonstrations and Joni Rabinowitz, a white field worker for the



Rev. Samuel Wells



Mrs. Eliza Jackson

SELMA PROTESTERS CONVICTED



WORKERS ARRESTED ON FREEDOM DAY See Page 3

jury that had failed to convict a Baker County sheriff of shooting a Negro.

The grocer, Carl Smith, protested to the United States Department of Justice. A grand jury was convened and nine prominent leaders of the Albany rights drive were indicted. They are:

Mrs. Jackson; Slater King, acting president of the Albany Movement; Dr. W.G. Anderson, former Albany Movement head; the Rev. Samuel Wells, a board member of the Albany Movement; Thomas Chatmon, a local businessman and Movement board member; Robert Colbert and Lu-

Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).

King and Wells, both tried in Nov. 1963 were sentenced Dec. 23, 1963 to a year and a day in prison. Chatmon and Thomas were given suspended sentences and placed on five years probation. Colbert also received a suspended sentence. Dr. Anderson's trial ended in a mistrial. The heaviest sentence was levied against Miss Rabinowitz, now a student at Antioch College, who was placed in the jurisdiction of the United States Attorney General. The length of her sentence will be determined by the United States Parole Board; it must be

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CB - 2519

Food, Clothes Sent To Miss.

RULEVILLE, MISS. - Ten tons of food and clothing were distributed here on Lincoln's Birthday to dispossessed families in Leflore and Sunflower Counties.

The shipment, which arrived by truck, was collected by the New England Friends of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) in 31 towns in and around Boston, Mass.

Food and clothing distributor is part of SNCC's program in Mississippi and "an attempt to deal with reprisals from local officials when voter registration drives are underway" a SNCC worker said.



TEN TONS OF FOOD AND CLOTHING arrive in Ruleville, Miss., or Negroes facing reprisals because of their activity in the voter registration drive.

The food and clothing, collected by the New England Friends of SNCC, will be distributed to families in Leflore and Sunflower Counties.

SNCC Chairman John Lewis said "many Negro Mississippians lose their jobs and homes each year because they try to vote."

Mrs. Jackson To Be Tried

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more than three months and could be four years.

All of the sentences are being appealed. Lawyers for the Albany nine have charged that the jury which convicted them was not representative. Although Negroes comprise 34% of the population of the Middle Federal District of Georgia, where the court is located, only 5% of those chosen for jury duty were Negroes.

The white grocer's charges sparked the most active and vigorous investigation by the Federal Government ever witnessed by rights workers in Southwest Georgia. At least 35 FBI agents investigated his claims.

THE STUDENT VOICE

Published Once A Week
On Mondays at Atlanta,
Fulton County, Georgia.

BY STUDENT VOICE, INC.
8 1/2 Raymond Street, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30314

Reverend Wells

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and Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara to "do everything in your power to insure that Reverend Wells is not being fired because of his participation in the civil rights movement."

Wells, and eight other members of the Albany Movement have been indicted on perjury and conspiracy charges by the Federal Government. Wells was convicted, and on Dec. 23, 1963, sentenced to a year and a day in prison. His conviction has been appealed.

His indictment, and the charges against the eight others, - resulted from charges by a white Albany grocer, Carl Smith, that members of the Albany Movement conspired to injure him after he served on a Federal jury that refused to convict a Southwest Georgia sheriff accused of shooting a Negro. Wells was accused of perjuring himself before the grand jury that investigated Smith's charges.

Wells has received a hearing before an administrative board but has not learned the hearing's results. If they rule against him, he will lose his job but may appeal to the Secretary of the Navy.

Wells, 49, was born in Lee County, Georgia. He is second vice - president of the Albany Movement, and serves as pastor of Blue Springs Baptist Church in Worth County and William Springs Baptist Church near Al-

bany. He has been arrested at least 10 times because of his participation in the Albany rights drive. He is married and has four children, ages 12 to 15. A veteran, he was discharged from the Army with a good conduct medal in 1947.

RECORD, SONGBOOK AVAILABLE FROM SNCC



WE SHALL OVERCOME contains songs by SNCC's Freedom Singers. The record, on the Mercury label, is available from SNCC or at most record stores.

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The Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee
606 PUBLICATIONS



WE SHALL OVERCOME is a new book of "songs of the Southern Freedom Movement." It is available from SNCC, 6 Raymond Street, Atlanta, for \$1.95.

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SNCC WORKERS EXAMINE syrup poured into a vote worker's car while Hattiesburg, Miss. police had possession of it. The United States Department of Justice had been asked to investigate the car's sabotage.

Musial Asked To Cancel Banquet Appearance

ATLANTA, GA. - The Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) has asked baseball star Stan Musial to cancel a Feb. 24 appearance in Jackson, Miss.

Musial was named head of the President's Committee on Physical Fitness on Feb. 14 by President Lyndon B. Johnson.

"Your participation in this gathering which excludes Negro citizens of the state of Mississippi would be an affront to them," SNCC Chairman John Lewis told Musial in a letter.

Lewis said the Feb. 24 event, sponsored by the Touchdown Club, a white group, would be open to Negroes.

Musial, of St. Louis, Mo., is scheduled to speak at the group's Hall of Fame Banquet at which Mississippi sports stars - all whites - will be honored.

Lewis informed the St. Louis Cardinals vice-president that several public figures - including Al Hirt, the stars of television's 'Bonanza' and 'Beverly Hillbillies', James R. Webb, chief administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and members of the 'The Tonight Show' - have been asked to appear at a meeting which does dishonor to the ideals of sportsmanship and fair play."

The SNCC Chairman said he had asked members of St. Louis NAACP and CORE groups to join SNCC in persuading the baseball star not to appear in Jackson.

SABOTAGE IN HATTIESBURG

HATTIESBURG, MISS. - Local police have either put syrup in a civil rights worker's gas tank or have let someone else do it, according to SNCC workers here.

Luther Houce, 17, of Hattiesburg was arrested Feb. 11, for speeding. He paid a \$9.50 fine and was released. Police impounded his car during the period he was in jail.

IN SELMA

Workers Convicted Negroes Enter Primary

SELMA, ALA. - Two young civil rights workers - arrested here on the Dallas County Courthouse steps as they carried signs urging Negroes to register to vote - were convicted Feb. 13 of "unlawful assembly."

The two were part of a group of 24 jailed during an Oct. 7, 1963 "Freedom Day" drive in Selma. The two, David Murray and Fred Moss, were released under \$500 appeal bond each. Murray was convicted here two weeks ago on charges on "distributing illegal boycott literature."

SELMA, ALA. - Two leaders of the Selma voter registration drive have qualified to run for city council position in the March 17 Democratic primary.

They are James E. Gildersleeve, a teacher at Lutheran Academy, and the Reverend Frederick D. Reese, pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church.

They are the first Negroes to seek public office in Selma since Reconstruction.

Workers from the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) began a voter registration drive here in 1962. Only .9% of the voting age Negroes in Dallas County are registered voters.

FREEDOM IN THE AIR ALBANY, GEORGIA



FREEDOM IN THE AIR, a documentary record on Albany, Georgia is available from SNCC'S Atlanta Office, 6 Raymond Street, Atlanta, Georgia,

SIXTY-FIVE STAGE SCHOOL WALKOUT

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. - Sixty-five students staged a one-day walkout from a Chapel Hill high school on Feb. 14.

The students, forbidden to pass out leaflets or talk about "Freedom" on school grounds, attended a "Freedom School" during the day.

Give Them A Future Help Support SNCC



SNCC 6 Raymond St. N.W. Atlanta, Ga. 30314
I am contributing \$..... to the direct action and voter registration programs of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

NAME
ADDRESS CITY STATE

I want to receive more information about SNCC and what I can do to continue SNCC's work.

Atlanta Group Calls Boycott

ATLANTA, GA. - Two large groups of professional men and women demonstrated Saturday afternoon, Feb. 15, to reinforce a call for a "Sacrificial Easter" issued by the Atlanta Summit Leadership Conference.

The day before, a delegation of Negro ministers visited the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce to ask members of the city's "power structure" to make Atlanta an open city.

The professional groups, doctors, dentists and teachers in the Atlanta University Center, marched through downtown Atlanta and around Grady Hospital.

Pickets at Grady carried signs reading "Members of Atlanta University's faculty protest segregation."

The Summit group, a coalition of local and national civil rights groups, has urged Negroes to boycott downtown stores.

Canton Rights Workers Fined

CANTON, MISS. - Two civil rights workers jailed here last week have been sentenced to six months in jail, fined \$500 and are being held under \$500 appeal bond.

The two, Claude Weaver of SNCC and Ed Hollander of CORE, were charged with "intimidating a family."

Their arrest brought to 11 the total number of civil rights workers held in Canton's jail. Among them is Carole Merritt, a SNCC worker from Cincinnati.

Cash Bail Rejected For Reverend Jones

ATLANTA, GA. - A Fulton County Superior Court Judge has rejected \$5,000 in cash offered as bail to free an elderly white man held behind bars in Atlanta since Aug. 28, 1963.

Superior Court Judge Durwood T. Pye said state law requires an appeal bond be made with unencumbered real estate.

Pye, who tried and sentenced the minister, the Reverend Ashton Bryant Jones of San Gabriel Cal., had originally set the 67-year-old clergyman's bail at \$20,000.

The Georgia Supreme Court ordered it reduced last month. Pye set a new bail at \$5,000, the maximum allowed by the court.

Jones was arrested here last summer when he and two Negro teenagers tried to enter all-white First Baptist Church of Atlanta. He was sentenced to 12 months in prison, six months on the public works, and fined \$5000.

His time in 28 - nearly six "dead time" since he is appealing his sentence and it will not be counted in his favor.

The church where Reverend Jones was arrested has since voted to accept Negroes.

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NEGRO HISTORY: a basis for the new freedom *Negro History Week*

Restaurant Integrates, Withdraws Injunction

PINE BLUFF, ARK. - A Pine Bluff branch of the nationwide McDonald's eatery chain has integrated less than a week before a scheduled hearing to determine whether an injunction sought by the owner against ra-

cial demonstrations should be made permanent.

William Hansen, head of the Arkansas Project of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), said the injunction was now dismissed.

William Knight, the owner of McDonald's here, had obtained the court order after two weeks of antisegregation protests.

It names SNCC, the NAACP and the Black Muslims and barred them from sponsoring integration drives aimed at the business.

GREENVILLE SCHOOL BOYCOTTERS EXPELLED

GREENVILLE, MISS. - Twenty students at all-Negro Greenville High School who tried to celebrate Lincoln's Birthday have been expelled. After being told they could not reenter Greenville High, five of the students tried to enroll in Greenville's high school.

They were met by the Greenville Superintendent of Schools who told them he would "have to speak with their parents."

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