

THE STUDENT VOICE

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VOTE PICKETS IN GREENWOOD, MISS. -- Lay the ground work for a massive summer project in that state. Voter registration drives -- calling for "One Man -- One Vote" -- will expand to all 82 counties by mid-summer.

SEVEN ARRESTED AFTER PICKETING

HATTIESBURG, MISS. -- Seven voter registration workers, including five ministers from the

PAMPHLET WEAKENS GENOCIDE MEASURE

JACKSON, MISS. -- A controversial "genocide" bill passed the Mississippi House of Representatives here May 20 with its worst features removed.

The bill, which originally would have enforced sterilization or jail terms on the parents of two or more illegitimate children, was passed without the sterilization feature.

SNCC Chairman John Lewis had said the bill was aimed at "eliminating the state's Negroes."

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North, were arrested here May 18 for illegally picketing the county courthouse.

Picketing to encourage Negro voter registration has occurred almost daily for the past five months since SNCC intensified its 5th Congressional District efforts. The drive has been aided by clergymen from all parts of the nation.

A \$500 cash bond was set for the ministers, three of whom are from Pittsburgh, Pa., one from Nebraska, and another from Ohio. One thousand dollars in property bonds are required for the two local volunteer workers from this city.

They were the first vote pickets arrested since April 10 - 11 when 44 were taken into custody

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IN MISSISSIPPI

POLICE ENLARGED; WHITES ORGANIZE

GOVERNOR CONTROLS POWERFUL FORCE

JACKSON, MISS. -- Mississippi Governor Paul Johnson has signed into law a measure May 22 which gives him personal control of an expanded state police force to quell civil rights activity.

In calling for the new powers Johnson cited plans of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) for its Mississippi Summer Project - now joined by the state NAACP, CORE and SCLC in the Council of Federated Organizations - in which hundreds of teachers and college students will be working.

House Bill 564 was introduced in the wake of SNCC's announcement of summer plans in April, and received final passage in the state legislature May 14.

The legislation boosts patrol numbers from 275 to 475 men and is expected to cost the state \$4 million.

Some opposition to the bill came from state lawmakers who feared the new power would be used to control illegal liquor practices in this dry state. Others were against the governor being granted power to send in state police over the objections of local officials, as the measure provides.

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WHITE STUDENTS TO OPPOSE COFO

CLEVELAND, MISS. -- A group of white Mississippi college students has joined the growing list of white supremacist organizations which Mississippi newspapers report have appeared in this state during recent months.

The newly formed group, headquartered here, calls itself the Association of Tenth Amendment Conservatives (ATAC). The organization proposes that hundreds of white Mississippi students meet summer civil rights workers where and when they come into the state.

ATAC's head, Jack Bishop of Indianola - home of the White Citizens' Councils formed in 1955 - told reporters the group would "peaceably discuss" segregation with incoming rights workers.

The "invaders" Bishop claims his group will meet are presumably hundreds of teachers and college students, mainly from the North, who will man Freedom Schools, and voter registration drives for a Mississippi Freedom Summer Project. The project is directed by the Council of Federated Organizations - a union of four major civil rights groups working in this state.

Other supremacist groups

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SNCC CHALLENGES COURT SPLIT

ATLANTA, GA. -- A proposal that the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit be split into two separate panels was challenged today as a "move with grave implications for people actively engaged in civil rights work in the deep South."

According to John Lewis, Chairman of the Student Non-

violent Coordinating Committee in Atlanta, "any reconstitution of a panel which has traditionally upheld the constitutional rights of Negro litigants, while on the district court level some judges have consistently flown in the face of established precedent, gives us justified cause for alarm."

His statement followed indica-

tions that Sen. James O. Eastland, (D., Miss.) approves a plan which would exclude Circuit Judges John R. Brown of Texas, and Judge John Minor Wisdom of Louisiana from the new panel by drawing the division of the circuit at the Mississippi River. Both judges have consistently upheld Negro plaintiffs in civil

rights cases.

Subject to the appointment of six new judges, this would leave the Fifth Circuit with Chief Judge Elbert Tuttle of Georgia, and Judge Richard T. Rives of Alabama as its only strongly pro-civil rights members. With Judge Tuttle scheduled for mandatory

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VOTE WORKER INTIMIDATION RISES

BEL ZONI, MISS. - Intimidation of voter registration workers increased this week as police made arrests on traffic charges here, in Holly Springs and Oxford.

Seven workers for the Council of Federated Organizations (COFO) were arrested here May 14 as they were driving to Jack-

son. Their car broke down, and when they discovered it could not be repaired immediately, they separated to secure rides to Jackson, and were arrested two by two.

Police officers told them they had been arrested because they were an integrated group and "to prevent riots" in Bel-zoni. They were released the next day and given an escort out of town.

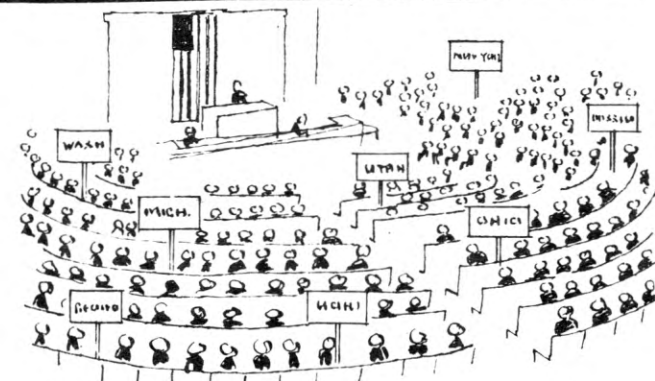
On May 5, six workers - some in the same group as the Bel-zoni arrests - were held overnight in Oxford on "suspicion of carrying materials which advocate the overthrow of the government." After questioning and a trial at the home of the mayor

of Oxford on a traffic count, they were released.

They had been transferring a trailer - load of books from Greenwood to Rust College in Holly Springs. The books will be used in Freedom Schools this coming summer.

During a "Freedom Vote for Governor" campaign last November, police made 60 arrests on traffic violations in 21 days. At least 100 other incidents of harassment were reported.

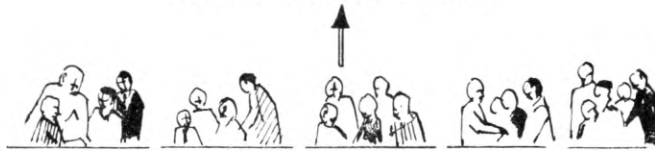
On May 6, the same group was held overnight in Holly Springs for "investigation" after the car's driver was ticketed at a weighing station. "He was tried on the spot by an old man who was introduced as a judge," COFO worker Larry Rubin said.



Democratic National Convention



State Convention



District Conventions



County Conventions



Precinct Meetings

FREEDOM DEMOCRATIC PARTY literature explains the mechanics of the planned challenge of the regular all-white Democratic Party of Mississippi. Freedom Party workers plan to challenge the regulars at the National Democratic Convention in Atlantic City in late August. The challenge is an indigenous one, sponsored by local Mississippians.

COURT SPLIT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

retirement as Presiding Judge in three years when he reaches the age of 70, he would succeed by Judge Walker P. Gwin who has been called "the circuit's most conservative jurist on civil rights matters."

The circuit as now composed includes Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, and the Canal Zone. The changed circuit, announced as a means of lightening the caseload of the present panel, would place Louisiana, Texas and the Canal Zone under a new jurisdiction.

While no immediate action is contemplated, a bill to be submitted by the Senate Judiciary Committee, over which Sen. Eastland presides, would recommend the change to the U.S. Judicial Conference which makes recommendations to Congress. As a member of that congress, Chief Justice Earl Warren, of the United States Supreme Court has "reluctantly" concurred in plans to split the circuit.

Lewis quoted from a recent Harper's Magazine article titled "Justice with a Southern Accent," in which Columbia Law School professor Louis Lusky points out that "the secret of the present Southern resistance lies in canny exploitation of weaknesses in the Federal judiciary as it is now organized and manned.... The Federal district courts are manned by judges drawn from their localities, a necessity since much of the law they apply is the law of the state where they sit. Being human, these district judges have not remained unaffected by the entrenched social patterns

of their communities, of their friends and former colleagues at the bar...."

"What the district judges need -- and what most of them want," Lusky quotes political scientist J.W. Peltason, "is not the responsibility for making choices, but rigid mandates that compel them to act...."

"Our contention that the present circuit should be preserved," Lewis said, "is strengthened by Lusky's observation that 'it is... the Federal courts of appeals - particularly those for the Fourth and Fifth Judicial Circuits, sitting at Richmond and New Orleans and serving all the states of the old Confederacy except Tennessee and Arkansas - which can best take the laboring oar in implementing the principle of racial equality....'"

"In that same vein," Lewis continued, "a recent Yale Law Journal article titled 'Judicial Performance in the Fifth Circuit,' 'clearly demonstrates the need for a strong circuit court bench to curb what is described as 'the reluctance of district court judges in the deepest South to grant timely or compliant enforcement of civil rights.'"

"Should the present plan to split the Fifth Circuit prevail," Lewis added, "we have no doubt that our way through the traditional avenue of justice which the Fifth Circuit Court has represented will be clouded with the politics of Senator Eastland."

"Already," he noted, "we are confronted with a situation where one of President Johnson's recent appointees to the Federal bench was Robert W. Hemphill, former U.S. Congressman from South Carolina,

POLICE FORCE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Concern for the summer's civil rights activity apparently won out.

"Isn't it a fact that the whole nation and all people who read Mississippi newspapers know that an army of agitators is coming down in June?" state senator Helden Campbell was quoted in the Jackson Daily News as asking.

As candidate for governor last July, Johnson told audiences he opposed the plans of his opposition to establish a state police force to control liquor practices.

"I would never permit such a police force to operate in the state of Mississippi. These are the very Gestapo tactics we oppose in the Federal government and have fought two world wars to defeat," he said July 16, 1963.

SNCC Chairman John Lewis said the "Mississippi is now a bona fide police state and the governor has a private army to suppress civil rights efforts."

"This new law shows the necessity for immediate presidential and Federal action to protect vote workers under jurisdiction already given the Federal government from legislation in 1866, 1870, 1948, 1957 and 1960," Lewis stated.

The summer project plans - the most ambitious proposal ever made by a civil rights group - call for Freedom Schools, community centers, political campaigns and vote drives.

Five other statutes enacted during the current legislative session to ward off rights activity have been signed into law by the governor recently. Ten laws already on the books are expected to be used in new application against civil rights mobilization.

On May 6 an anti-invasion bill was introduced in the House and a bill defining "criminal syndicalism" was offered in the Senate.

Senate Bill 2027 prohibits "criminal syndicalism" which is explained as the doctrine which advocates or teaches "the commission of crime, violence and force as a means of accomplishing or affecting a change in agricultural or industrial ownership or control . . . or in affecting any political or social change." That measure, now passed by the Senate and before the House, makes it a felony to teach or "justify" such a precept.

Another bill, not yet passed by either chamber, makes it a felony to teach in or conduct a school

LEGISLATURE ATTACKS TOUGALOO RATING

JACKSON, MISS. - A bill aimed "at discrediting Tougaloo College" passed the Mississippi Senate on May 14.

Tougaloo was set up by the American Missionary Society to educate freed slaves, and has always had an integrated faculty. During the last few years, its student body has been integrated as well.

Students and faculty members at the school have been involved in anti-segregation activity, and have provoked the ire of local law enforcement officials.

Under present law, Mississippi accredits Tougaloo because it is recognized by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The new law would eliminate requirements that the state accredit every college listed by the Southern Association.

Lt. Governor Carroll Gartin said dropping accreditation would mean teachers graduating from Tougaloo could not get state teachers' licenses.

GENOCIDE BILL

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Representative Stone Barfield of Forrest County, site of a concerted voter registration drive, told the House, "when they start cutting they'll head for Chicago."

The measure originated in the House, and was passed there on May 12 by a vote of 72 to 37.

The Senate killed the measure on May 12, after stripping the sterilization features, and admitting the changes "did away with the bad features which shocked the country."

But the bastardy bill was reconsidered, after copies of the SNCC booklet "Genocide in Mississippi" were placed on the desks of Senate lawmen.

The SNCC pamphlet, published April 15, charged that the bill was an attempt either to destroy the Negro people or to drive them from the state.

Newspaper reports said the bill was reactivated because "lawmakers didn't want to feel they were knuckling down to a civil rights group."

It passed in House May 20 in the watered-down form. The Governor's signature is required for the measure to become law.

which has not been licensed by the state. Rights workers maintain it is directed at the project's Freedom Schools.

'I didn't know colored people could vote.'



"I came up on a porch and an ancient man says 'Yes, sir' and offers me his chair. An enraged white face shouts curses out of a car window. We are greeted with fear at the door: 'I didn't know colored people could vote.' And people ask why we are down here . . ."

- from a white SNCC worker's field report.

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____.

I pledge \$ _____ per month to the Student Nonviolent

Coordinating Committee (SNCC).

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NEWS ROUNDUP

CANTON, MISS. - A white man who tried to get into the Freedom House here May 20, fired five shots into the air when he was refused admittance.

The white man, who was not arrested although vote workers furnished police with a description of him and his car, asked to be admitted "so he could talk."

The house's occupants refused to admit him, and he returned to his car, got a pistol, and fired shots into the air.

SELMA, ALA. - The sheriff of Dallas County, maintaining that an order of the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals gives him the right to sit-in on Negro voter registration meetings, refused to leave a May 18 meeting of the Dallas County Voters League.

Sheriff Jim Clark read a statement to the meeting quoting from a Fifth Circuit decision which he said gave him the right to remain.

Police officers here have always attended mass meetings, often with walkie-talkies which they used to broadcast information to officers outside.

In Atlanta, SNCC protested Clark's appearance at the meeting to the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Civil Rights Commission.

ATLANTA, GA - The Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee has asked J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, to stop an FBI agent from speaking before a segregated audience

in Mississippi.

SNCC Chairman John Lewis has also asked Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Anthony Celebrezze to "reconsider" a HEW grant of \$17,400 to the University of Southern Mississippi.

Lewis told Celebrezze "we do not begrudge white children the benefits they will derive" from the government grant, but reminded the government official that the University "is a segregated school."

Hoover was asked to halt the appearance of agent Frank C. Holloman, a special agent attached to Memphis, Tenn. Holloman was scheduled to appear May 22 at graduation services for the white Iuka High School.

NASHVILLE, TENN. - The Metropolitan Council of Nashville gave preliminary approval May 19 to a proposed public accommodation ordinance.

The measure was offered by Negro councilman Robert Lillard, was given first-reading passage and then referred to the executive committee for study.

Lillard said the ordinance was similar to that passed in St. Louis, Mo. a year ago.

Almost all this city's restaurants have integrated, except two or three targets of recent anti-segregation demonstrations.

CHAMPAIGN, ILL. - Fourteen University of Illinois and high school students were arrested here May 19 when they refused to leave a protest demonstration at the Champaign County Board of Realtors.

GA. CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE OPPOSES VOTER LITERACY TESTS

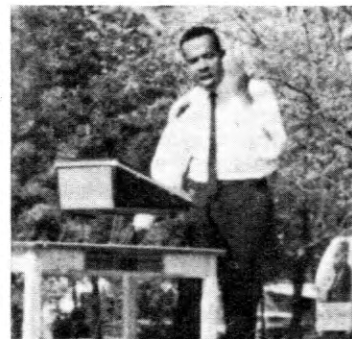
ALBANY, GA. - Attorney C.B. King, candidate for the 2nd Congressional District nomination at the Sept. 9 Democratic primary, says literacy tests have "no place" as a requirement for registration to vote.

King has told campaign audiences throughout southwest Georgia that the "current civil rights bill which would establish a 6th grade education as a voting standard does not go far enough."

Ballots are not cast on the basis of careful study today, but as a result of the mass media, he claimed. "Even sharecroppers' cabins often have radios," he said.

King, 40, addressed rallies in Decatur, Dougherty, Thomas, Crisp, Tift and Randolph Counties prior to the May 2 deadline for voter registration in this state.

Georgia's only Negro Senator,



C.B. KING ADDRESSES an outdoor rally in southwest Georgia.

Attorney Leroy Johnson, introduced a measure into the Georgia Senate which makes it easier for illiterates to register. The new measure, which must now pass in the House before it becomes law, reduces from 30 to six the number of questions illiterates must answer before they can register.

WHITE STUDENTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

which have recently come to the fore are the Association for the Preservation of the White Race (APWR) which draws most of its membership from dissatisfied Ku Klux Klan and White Citizens Council ranks. Fifteen counties, primarily in the southwest area of the state, are reported to have a membership of 30,000.

A Pike County spokesman for the Klan claims the KKK con-

trols one-third of Mississippi's votes. J.E. Thornhill, Sr. of Summit said during a Klan rally near McComb May 16 that Klansmen numbered nearly 100,000 and included some law enforcement officers.

SEVEN ARRESTED

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

including two Negro Congressional candidates who are residents of Hattiesburg. Mrs. Victoria Jackson Gray, 37, who seeks Sen. John C. Stennis' seat, and the Rev. John E. Cameron, 31, who is running for the 5th District Democratic nomination in the June 2 primary, were arrested under a new state anti-picket law.

Those 44 cases, now in Federal court, challenge the constitutionality of the law which outlaws picketing of all city, county and state buildings, plus "streets and sidewalks."

Forrest County registrar Theron Lynd has been involved in litigation with the U.S. Department of Justice since 1961. Only 200 out of 7,400 eligible Negroes are now registered to vote, despite the concentrated vote drive.

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