

OVER 800 MEET AT MFDP CONVENTION

JACKSON, MISS. - More than 800 delegates of the Freedom Democratic Party from over 40 counties met here to choose 68 delegates and alternates to attend the National Democratic Convention.

The delegates heard Joe Rauh of Americans for Democratic Action (ADA) predict that their challenge of the regular all-white Mississippi delegation had "a very good chance."

The Rev. Ed King and Mrs. Victoria Gray were confirmed by the convention as FDP committeeman and committeewoman. Among those chosen to go to Atlantic City were Charles Mc-

Laurin, Ruleville; Dr. A.D. Beitel, president of Tougaloo College; Jackson minister and businessman Rev. R. L. T. Smith; E.W. Steptoe of Amite County; Hartman Turnbow of Holmes County; and Dewey Greene, Sr., from Greenwood.

State NAACP head Dr. Aaron Henry of Clarksdale, 5th Congressional District director Lawrence Guyot, and Mrs. Fannie Lou Hamer, candidate for Congress were chosen presidential electors.

Mrs. Hazel Brannon Smith, white Pulitzer Prize winning newspaper-woman, was nominated but refused to accept.

The interracial delegation will carry its challenge to Atlantic City Aug. 24.

The Washington FDP office has urged friends and supporters to write or wire former Pennsylvania Governor David Lawrence, newly named chairman of the Credentials Committee of the National Democratic Convention, urging him to seat the MFDP. Lawrence's address is 216 Executive Office, the White House, Washington, D.C.

Organized to give Negro Mississippians an experience in political democracy and to establish a channel through which Negro and white citizens can support

the principles of the National Democratic Party, the MFDP now reaches into every corner of the state.

It was officially established in Jackson on April 26, when 300 delegates elected a temporary state executive committee.

The party's platforms support anti-poverty programs; medicare; aid to education; rural development; urban renewal and the guarantee of constitutional rights to all. Four MFDP candidates are running this year - Fannie Lou Hamer of Ruleville, opposing Rep. Jamie Whitten;

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THE STUDENT VOICE

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Judge Dismisses Protection Suit

HATTIESBURG, MISS. - U.S. District Judge Sidney Mize dismissed a sweeping attack on organized white supremacy groups in Mississippi July 30.

Mize said the suit was "one of the worst scatterguns I've ever heard of."

The suit asked Mize to name U.S. Commissioners in each of the state's 82 counties, to protect civil and voting rights workers. It also asked that the Ku Klux Klan, the White Citizens Councils, and the Americans for

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BOMBINGS AND JAILINGS HIT HELENA, ARKANSAS

HELENA, ARK. - The home where SNCC workers live here was firebombed Saturday night, Aug. 1 and local Negro businessmen have formed the Helena and West Helena Good Will Movement to seek improved Negro employment here.

The firebombing came after two fire trucks led 50 cars of whites through the Negro neighborhood, and two white men tried to throw a bottle filled with inflammable liquid through an open window.

No damage was done to the house.

Shortly after the formation of the Helena Good Will Committee the home of a local Negro was fired upon six times.

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THREE MURDERED WORKERS FOUND

PHILADELPHIA, MISS. - A tip from a paid informer revealed the hiding place where the beaten and shot bodies of three civil rights workers missing since June 21 were found.

Their badly decomposed bodies were located 20 feet under an earth dam on a farm located six miles south of Philadelphia between highways 21 and 488.

FBI sources said a tipster was paid as high as \$25,000 for information leading to the discovery of the bodies. Early reports said Chaney, the 21-year-old Negro youth from Meridian, had been beaten to death and the others, 24-year-old Mickey Schwerner and 20-year-old Andrew Goodman, both of New York and both white, had been shot but later reports said all were beaten and shot.

SNCC Chairman John Lewis demanded immediate Federal intervention in Mississippi to "protect the lives and welfare of voter registration workers and citizens."

"Now we know without a doubt that Mickey Schwerner, James



NESHOBA COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFF CECIL PRICE, at right, helps unload one of the bodies of three civil rights workers in Jackson. Price was the last person known to have seen the three alive, after he arrested them on a speeding charge June 21 in Philadelphia.

Chaney and Andrew Goodman - three brave and courageous Freedom Fighters - have been murdered by sick men who are victims of a vicious and evil

system," Lewis said, "American is burning its own cross on the graves of its children because it has not taken the responsibility." CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

DIXIE NEGRO VOTERS NOW NEAR 2,000,000

ATLANTA, -GA.- Negro voter registration in the eleven southern states totaled 1,937,982 as of April 1, according to the latest state-by-state tabulation by the Voter Education Project of the Southern Regional Council.

The VEP is a non-partisan program engaged in research on causes of low voter registration in the 11 Southern states, methods and techniques for increasing it, and development of education programs along these lines.

Under its sponsorship, voter registration activities have been carried on in the 11 states by independent local organizations and five major Negro organizations -- the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Congress of Racial Equality, National Urban League, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

The state-by state tabulation shows a range of Negro registration as of April 1 from 28,500 in Mississippi, where harassment has been heavy, to 375,000 in Texas.

The April 1 total of 1,937,982 Negro voters is 38.6% of eligible Negro voters in the 11 states. This means that a majority of them -- an estimated 3,078,118 -- were still not registered.

White registration in the 11 states, meanwhile, was estimated at 13,600,000 as of April 1, making the Negro-white ratio of voters almost one to six. About one-fourth of the South's voting age population is Negro.

The 1,937,982 total Negro registration compares with an estimated

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HARMONY BUILDS CENTER

HARMONY, MISS. - The staff of the Mississippi Summer Project has joined with local Negro farmers to build a community center.

The independent farmers are building the center on a piece of land donated by one of them. The men are donating the labor while the women are providing food for the workers. After the shell is erected the local teenagers will paint and decorate the inside.

Harmony residents decided to build the structure after the local school board refused permission to have the Freedom Schools in an abandoned school building.

The 30 by 60 foot building, estimated to cost about \$1500 will house a community library, snack bar, office space and recreation area. The Harmony Community Center will be open to all residents and under the supervision of the elected trustees.

When the summer volunteers arrived here, June 30, they had expected to use the community's empty school building. The building was originally built by local Negroes before Mississippi established public education. In the 1930's the school received funds from the Rosenwald Foundation. When the school was incorporated as a public school Negroes continued on the board of trustees. The state incorporated the school in 1953 under the county school board and the Negroes were ousted. In 1956 the building was closed.

In a short-lived legal dispute Harmony Negroes tried to prove that they had the right to the building since they built it and



AND UP IT GOES! Local residents with the help of summer volunteers build their own Community Center.

donated the land. The Leake County School Board won out since the state law gives them for public schools.

The new building will contain a library of over 5,000 books. Workers there, still need other equipment and supplies.

clear title to the lands intended Harmony is in the 4th Congressional District near Carthage. Twenty workers were stationed there this summer. The 4th is the focal point of operations for the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) in Mississippi.



MISSISSIPPI HARASSMENT

GRANADA, July 23, - SNCC worker Willie Blue was arrested for speeding enroute to Greenwood from the Memphis airport.

CANTON, July 23, - Civil rights worker Joe Lee Wells was struck by a cane by a white man while canvassing the community.

DURANT, July 23, - Summer volunteer Steve Bingham was approached by two whites who asked him what it would take to get him out of town. After 10 minutes one of the whites started to hit him. After several punches the men left.

MOSS POINT, July 23, - Roger Barnhill, summer volunteer, was arrested for reckless driving. He was traveling in an integrated car.

INDIANOLA, July 23, - A Negro policeman drew a pistol on Rabbi Levine of Temple Emmanuel, Rochester, N. Y. The policeman entered a voter registration rally, when asked to leave he drew a pistol, pointed it at the clergyman and shouted "I'll kill someone." He left but later returned with 12-15 sheriff and police deputies in riot garb.

MCCOMB, July 23, - The Rose Hill Church in Amite County was burned. It is no more than five miles from the two churches burned in Pike County.

MAYERSVILLE, July 24, - The employer of three local Negroes has threatened to burn the Moon Lake Baptist Church if there were any more civil rights meetings there.

DREW, July 24, - Rabbi Allen Levine and Jeff Thatcher, summer volunteer, were forcibly ejected from the office of the Drew city attorney. They had gone to attend a meeting with parents of recently detained children. The children, 23 of them were arrested when the police got the owners

of the property on which they were having a rally, to ask them to leave.

HOLLY SPRINGS, July 24, - Elwood Berry, summer volunteer from Dayton, Ohio, was arrested and charged with profanity in the presence of more than two people.

CLARKSDALE, July 25, - A beer bottle was thrown through the front window of the Freedom House.

GREENWOOD, July 25, - Eli Zaretsky, summer volunteer, had his clipboard snatched and thrown to the ground. Later, another volunteer, Adam Klein was jumped from behind and hit twice by a white man.

BATESVILLE, July 26, - A house with SNCC worker Claude Weaver and summer volunteers Kathy Amatnick and Tim Morrison in it was tear gassed.

GREENWOOD, July 27, - A white mob almost attacked two local Negroes after they integrated the Leflore Theater. The two left the scene in two SNCC cars. They went to the hospital after a coke bottle was thrown through the rear window of one car. They were forced to stay at the hospital because of a crowd of whites that had gathered outside.

ITTA BENA, July 27, - The Freedom Center was damaged, with the porch supports and windows broken. The front door was torn off and the inside pillaged.

BRANDON, July 31, - The Pleasant Grove Baptist Missionary Church was burned to the ground.

DREW, July 31, - Volunteers Fred Miller and Eddie Williams were arrested for distributing leaflets on public property without a permit.



The charred remains of the car of the three murdered workers in Neshoba County.

GREENWOOD, July 31, - Workers Silas McGee and John Paul were arrested for driving a car with a temporary license. Monroe Sharp who was in the car was arrested for resisting arrest.

BATESVILLE, Aug. 1 - Three shots were fired past the home of Robert Miles, where two summer volunteers are living.

GREENWOOD, Aug. 1 - John Handy was beaten in the Leflore County Jail.

CARTHAGE, Aug. 1 - A Des Moines, Iowa minister and a summer volunteer were beaten in a doctor's office near here.

GREENWOOD, Aug. 1 - Two county policemen, came into the SNCC office to arrest Carol Kornfield, a 93-pound worker, for assault with a deadly weapon.

MCCOMB, Aug. 1 - A car full of whites followed a SNCC car.

BATESVILLE, Aug. 2 - SNCC worker Claude Weaver and a summer volunteer were arrested on the steps of the Panola County Courthouse.

JACKSON, Aug. 3 - Folk singer Pete Seeger arrive in Mississippi for a tour of the state today. Six freedom schools have opened in Jackson.

GREENWOOD, Aug. 3 - A 20-year-old summer volunteer was arrested and charged with assault.

COLUMBUS, Aug. 3 - SNCC worker Donald White and a summer volunteer were arrested on traffic charges.

MOSS POINT, Aug. 4 - Forty-five local people and civil rights

workers were jailed during an outdoor voter registration rally.

CLEVELAND, Aug. 4 - Twelve workers were arrested for littering while passing out leaflets urging Negroes to register to vote.

SUIT DISMISSED

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the Preservation of the White Race, be restrained from violating Negroes' rights.

The suit was filed by the Council of Federated Organizations (COFO). One plaintiff was Mrs. Rita Schwerner, wife of Mickey Schwerner, COFO worker missing since June 21.

Attorneys said the dismissal would be appealed to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Mrs. Schwerner, COFO, SNCC Mississippi director Robert Moses and Mrs. Fannie Lou Hamer and others filed the suit under an 1866 law.

The suit charged Mississippi whites have "for many years" used "illegal force, violence and terroristic acts" to intimidate Negroes.

NEGRO VOTERS

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mated 1,350,000 Negro voters when VEP began in the spring of 1962, an increase of more than half a million.

The report shows that VEP-sponsored programs since then resulted in the registration of 551,328 people as of April 1, of whom all but 50,000 (in Texas) were Negro.

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POLICE JAILED 62 WHITE AND NEGRO CIVIL RIGHTS WORKERS and local people during a registration rally in Pascagoula, Miss. Aug. 4.

CONVENTION

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the Rev. John Cameron of Hattiesburg, opposing Rep. William Colmer; Mrs. Victoria Gray of Hattiesburg, opposing Sen. John Stennis, and Mr. James Houston of Vicksburg, opposing Rep. John Bell Williams.

The challenge at Atlantic City has its roots deep in Mississippi. The party organization was the first step; the second, trying to become a part of Mississippi's all-white Democratic Party at the precinct and county level.

In eight precincts in six different counties Negroes who attended precinct meetings organized by the regular party discovered the meetings were never held. The FDP delegation then held their own precinct meetings, and elected their own delegates to the county conventions.

In three precincts, in six different counties, Negroes found

all-white precinct meetings but were excluded. In Hattiesburg, Negroes were told they could not participate without poll tax receipts, despite the recent Constitutional amendment outlawing such provisions.

In 10 precincts in five different counties Negroes were allowed to attend meetings but were restricted in some way from full participation. In several meetings Negroes were not allowed to introduce resolutions calling for loyalty to the national party; in others, they were not allowed to bring their resolutions to a vote.

In six precincts, primarily in Greenville, Negroes were allowed to participate fully in the meetings. In most cases, however, they were excluded until after white participants drummed up additional whites to attend. In all but one precinct, the resolution on party loyalty was defeated.



Delegates at Freedom Democratic Party district convention, one of several held.



A DRAGLINE SITS ABOVE THE SPOT where the bodies of three civil rights workers, missing since June 21, were discovered. The bodies were found in "an automobile sized hole" to the rear of the pick-up truck in the lower center of the photo.

On June 23, 1964 Negroes tried to take part in the second level of Democratic Party meetings, the county conventions. Most of those trying to attend had been elected delegates to the county level by all-Negro precinct meetings. One was a delegate from a multi-racial meeting in Jackson.

In Canton, Negroes could not find the meeting as it was not held in the legally designated place.

In Greenwood, Negroes were denied the right to attend the county convention.

In Meridian, Negroes were allowed to attend the county convention, but were not allowed full participation. The meeting refused to consider the party loyalty resolution.

In Ruleville and Greenville, Negroes were not allowed to attend the convention as delegates but did attend as "observers."

In Jackson, a Negro delegate was seated in the back of the room, but was allowed to participate.

MURDERED WORKERS

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ity for enforcing the democratic way of life," he continued.

SNCC Executive Secretary James Forman, speaking from Hattiesburg when the bodies were found, had just told a group of summer workers the missing trio's disappearance was the "first interracial lynching in the history of Mississippi."

"I reminded them," Forman said "we could not afford to let the nation forget the terrible price that all of us, Mississippians included, must pay in order to change the patterns of segregation in this state."

"We feel there will be increased violence against local Negroes once the summer is over," Forman said. "We therefore call upon President Johnson not to forsake in the heat of the election his responsibility to the disenfranchised Negroes in Mississippi."

Memorial services for the three dead youths were scheduled for Chicago, Philadelphia, New York, Washington, Boston, Princeton, Schenectady, Cincinnati, Madison, Detroit, Ann Arbor, Carbondale, Columbus, Iowa City, and on the West Coast.

HELENA

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A week later, three SNCC workers - Arkansas Project director Bill Hansen, Larry Siegel, Joe Wright - were jailed in West Helena.

The three were arrested without warrants when officers came to the house where they live.

Officials at the Phillips County Jail refused to say why the three were arrested.

Eighteen-year-old Bob Blockham, a Negro worker from Birmingham, was jailed here the day before for vagrancy.