

December 11

Pine Bluff: Bill Hansen

Jim: Bill would like you to call Mr. Hannah (Michigan State Pres.) and Father Theodore Hersburg in attempts to get the Civil Rights Commission to pressure the State Advisory Commission on Civil Rights to hold hearings in Arkansas. It seems (Helena) they are reluctant to do so, and the Chairman, James Youngdahl has suggested to Bill that they work thru U.S. Commission (he refused to go on record that he felt there should be a hearing however).

Father Hersburg is a good one to pressure since the guys in Helena were arrested on Catholic Church property.

The state advisory commission is composed of

James Youngdahl, Chmn.: State Advisory Commission (can possibly be pressured thru AFL-CIO)
Ruth Arnold
Solomon Hill (Negro): Pres of Shorter College- North Little Rock, AWE school
(Bill said he'd contact Hill's bishop, but we should try for anyone higher)
John Gammon (Negro): head of state Negro Farm Bureau
Robert Lefler: Prof. University of Arkansas Law
Fred Darragh: Little Rock businessman
Steele Hayes: Little Rock Attorney (son of Brooks Hays- former Ark. congressman and special assistant to Kennedy -possibly still with Johnson)

Also: there will be a meeting of the Committee on Political Education of AFL-CIO in Little Rock, January 14. It will be for Louisiana, Mississippi, and Arkansas. Big labor people from those areas will be there. Youngdahl has suggested that ~~ask~~ our Arkansas people should go there (and that probably includes Miss. and Louis. too) in order to form connections with labor people. Bill will contact Mahoney and Moses about it.