

To Julian from Mary

2/22/64

Re Freedom Days in Southwest Georgia

Terrell County

by the end of the afternoon 42 persons had gone in to register (earlier report of 26 was only up till noon,) in Dawson.

SNCC workers regard this as very important - great deal of excitement about size of number at mass meeting. Followed a week of concentrated leafleting.

Among the 42 were 7 teachers and one school principal.

30 (approximately) of the 42 not only made application but took the registration test.

There were also pickets in Dawson. No arrests.

Sumter County

workers were up by 5:30, in Americus.

Americus city ordinance provides for picketing from (9 AM to 6PM

Voter registration pickets were on the streets as early as 7:30 AM however, illegal according to the ordinance. Pickets walked in downtown area as well as Negro community. Perdue leafleted downtown. No arrests.

There was a rally at 4:00 at a playground.

Vote books were closed today (closed Saturdays) so activity centered on pickets.

Over 60 persons have attempted to register (gone down to courthouse) in past three weeks in Americus.

Dougherty County

workers up by 6:00 in Albany. Strategy meeting 8:00 AM.

Pickets around voter registration in four areas of Albany, including the downtown business area.

2 pickets walked in front of county courthouse, 2 across from courthouse, and 4 in front of City Hall.

Over 10,000 leaflets have been put out in last ten days. Leafleting in Negro community plus downtown area.

No arrests.

First time picketing and leafeting allowed downtown. "We have never picketed and leafleted downtown without having arrests before today," according to several, but you can quote Sherrod.

mass meeting at 2:00. About 100, many adults.

At least 19 went into courthouse to register.

Lee County

Books closed today. There has been registration activity building up in last week according to Mr. Agnew James (who presided over mass meeting at New Piney Grove Baptist Church at 8:00 PM)

All vote workers and local supporters came together for night rally at this church in Lee.

About ~~150~~ 150 (conservative guess) at rally in Lee Co.

Suggestion: Push the angle of first time in Albany there were pickets and leaflets with no arrests. Background of Peace Marchers.

Dawson registration regarded as very successful. Background of injunction just handed down.

No arrests in three counties where high activity today, a "new turn" or something like that.

This replaces all earlier reports in accuracy.