

WATS LINE

OCTOBER 1st

PAGE 1

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Belize for Ocean Springs 9:30 Someone reported that a girl (negro) went to a Woolworth's store on Sat. the 26 of Sept.. She picked up an article and clerk said was told to put it down. He told the clerk to go to hell. The clerk called the police. He was taken to jail. Police Chief(fairly sure about that) brought the mother to the jail and forced her to beat the male. After this he was released with additional threats that the male might have to spend additional time in ~~6477~~ school next June. There have been other incidents. Lady beaten by circus worker. Lotsa minor things going on in Ocean Springs. Lawyers called about further action.

Laurel: 12:10PM New Comm. Center has no windows; not one place in Laurel will sell them now. Went up to call Meridian, Jackson supply places. 12 windows, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " by 28" - panes are 10" x 12". Also went 1000 copies of "Mississippi, Subversion of the Right to Vote."

McCORM 12:25; Reported over WHBY that three white men were picked up for the bombings. Ernest Zeecke was picked up at 5:00 A.M. and questioned until 10:00 this morning. Paul Wilson and Jimmy Wilson were picked up after his questioning. Several rifles and a pistol were confiscated along with several thousand pounds of ammunition from the home of Paul Wilson. Also a membership card for the preservation of the white race and a KKK card. The three men are being held in Jaynes, Miss. The investigation is being continued.

Vicksburg, 12:40 - This morning at 10:45, Willy Johnson, Project Director, went to Veteran Cab Co. and talked with Hayward Tarell., one of the three managers. He said that he got a phone call from Chief of Police earlier this morning. Chief said that he had heard about rumor that he had sent an officer down to the company advising them not to carry mixed couples (see yesterday's WATS). Chief said there was no truth in this. After the phone call, Tarell removed the bulleting. He told Willy that A.B. Minor, another manager, had talked with the officer (Hull) yesterday who told him he had an order which came from the Mayor which said: "From this day on, you should not transport mixed passengers." Reason given was that Mayor had received threatening telephone calls, threatening to throw objects into the cabs. Mayor felt this would cause disturbances. He also mentioned "outsiders causing trouble, which he implied was the basic reason for his action (don't know whether police officer meant himself or Mayor). Willy says he knows several cab drivers who said they saw Hull come to the station yesterday. Hull is the motor vehicle inspector for the cab company, and he can issue permits or reject them.

Shaw, 1:10 - Two people active in the school boycott, were not readmitted when school started today. The boycott began over a month. Negro school; about 3/4 of the student body boycotted McEvans High because a pair of summer vols (white) ate in the school cafeteria one day, and the principal kicked them out. School closed the next day. The authorities said it was because of the cotton season, but that is not the date school is usually closed. Today, the principal, Mr. Althiner, wouldn't let them in. He told one of them that he couldn't be admitted until he brought his parents with him; the other one would not be admitted until he paid for a drinking fountain at the school which the principal says he broke. The student says he has several witnesses to prove he was not in school the day the fountain was broken. About 1500 in the school; 700 in the h.s. (3/4 of the 700 originally boycotted). No Freedom School in Shaw, since the P.S. is coordinator is at present the only person in Shaw of COFO. Stakeley refuses to allow another worker there.

Indiana Annie Mae Streng of Sunflower County was fired... she was a cook at a local high school...her son, Ben Streng, was one of the ten persons arrested last Sunday.....

VICKSBURG: 7:00; Henry Hunter a local Negro staff member went into the white side of the Riverside cafe and ordered an orange pep. The proprietor told him to go to the other section. Hunter asked the man to wait a minute that he wanted to talk to him, however at this time the proprietor gave him the pep and he sat and drank it. Four minutes later, Bryan Dunlap, a white staff member and Willie Johnson a Negro project director, came into the cafe, sat down and ordered food. The three men stayed there for half an hour with no questions asked.

Ruleville 9:30 Linda Davis: the Freedom School and Community Center and COFO office has to get out of their building, because the man (Negro) who owns it lives on a pink plantation and is being pressured to leave, so he has to move into his place in town himself. This will take place in December , and Linda is confident that between now and then she can raise money to build a center. (?)

VICKSBURG : 9:50; An unknown local woman from Jenestown reported that last Sunday her house was shot into thirteen times. The Vicksburg project director is investigating it now. The woman has not been active in COFO.

MELZONI : 11:00; Charles Miles 15, and his sister, Dera have been released from jail. The

TCHULA: 11:25; Henry Lorenzzi was arrested tonight while driving a car. He is charged with carrying a concealed weapon, a bread knife, and with improper muffler. A hearing is set for 2:00 p.m. tomorrow. His car has been impounded. Two highway ~~patrolmen~~ have set up road blocks, and have been questioning people coming and going from a meeting at the community center. Lorenzzi is being held with no charge in Lexington Jail. The arresting officer was Meedy.

Wate lineOctober 1.....p.2.....

Holly Springs, 2:40 PM: Newspaper article in Aberdeen Examiner on Sept. 10: "Negroes' Trial Next Thursday" ... "The trial of Negro youths charged with a breach of the peace has been set for next Thursday morning at 10:00 in the city court room. Mayor George Howell is expected to preside.

"An arraignment for the Negroes, whose ages ranged from 13 to 22 years, was held Tuesday morning and afternoon before Mayor Howell with all entering pleas of not guilty. Since 16 of the youths will be represented by R. Jess Brown, a Negro attorney from Jackson, the date of the actual trial was postponed until next Thursday.

"Brown is at the present time tied up in circuit court in Hinds County and could not come any sooner.

"Three of the Negroes have not named their counsel as yet. All but three of those arrested have been released. The three still being held in jail are over 18 years of age and will be required to post a \$500 bond...

"Chief of Police Dan Kirk Adams said the arrests came after a group of Negro youths entered Tom's Restaurant on South Matubba St., and refused to leave the premises at the request of one of the restaurant employees...

"Every member of the Aberdeen police department, along with deputy sheriff J. A. Lackey and Constable Jesse Tate, was required to quell the disturbance!

From a Sept. 17 edition of the Aberdeen Examiner: The restaurant employee was Mrs. Doris Copeland. She asked the Negroes to leave, and they refused. She called the police, and they made the arrests. All were charged with breach of peace.

"...Last week's report of the incident in the 'Examiner' included the allegation that the Negroes ate potato chips. Mrs. Copeland said that this would lead one to believe that the Negroes had been given service: "We did not serve any of them;" she said, and they did not eat any potato chips." Lee Dilworth read this. He will meet Arneson in Aberdeen at the COFO office Friday morning with the newspaper articles.

Greenwood, 3:50 - Thomas Power wants a lawyer at his trial 1:15 Oct. 6. Assumes fine if found guilty will be same as bond.

Also, Mr. Dewey Green and Mary Lane, both delegates to the convention were served with a summons yesterday to appear before court in Jackson on the fourth Monday in October - chancery court.

Hattiesburg: Sandy needs \$3.22 for a car bill Jesse Harrison has promised him this money...