

WEST TENNESSEE VOTERS PROJECT The boycott of Fayette Co. schools is in its third day. Today 65% of the kids stayed out. The Supt. of Tipton Co. where another boycott is in progress, announced over the radio that he will prosecute parents who keep their kids out.

SUMTER CO., GA. Via Albany, Roy Shields/Jeanne Breaker

In Plains, approximately 10 miles from Americus, 5 Negro guys, two white girls, and one Negro girl were beaten up by a mob of whites while engaged in voter registration activities. In Americus, 40 demonstrators began a sit-in on the courthouse lawn, where they said they would stay until a bi-racial committee was formed.

LEXINGTON, MISS. John Griefen/Barbara Brahd

Over 50 people attended a county-side FDP convention here yesterday. The purpose was to discuss recent developments in voting: the state voting bill, the federal voting bill, etc. After the discussion, people went to the courthouse to register. Since the introduction of the 6-question form, the registrar has been going out of his way to ~~emphatically~~ help people who come to register.

PANOLA CO., MISS. Penny Patch/Bab

In the northern school district, 7 kids registered for the white school. Several others were turned away for not having proper birth certificates, etc.

NEW PROJECT: NEWTON, MISS. FDP, Rt. 2, Box 1 A, 601-683-9919

Project director is George Smith, CORE Task force .

COLUMBIA, MISS. Curtis Styles/Bab

Today workers tried to buy tickets to the downstairs section of the movies. The manager refused to sell them tickets for downstairs. They then went to the Mayor, and discussed the public accommodations section of the cr bill with him. The Mayor said that local officials couldn't enforce the civil rights bill because it was a federal law. However, he promised to talk to the owner of the movie theater the next day.

He has instituted 24-hour per day police protection of the office-freedom house. Both city police and state troopers take turns in patrolling it every 35 minutes.

Thursday, August 5, 1965

ARKANSAS ROUNDUP via Little Rock, Jerry Tecklin/Jeanne

FORREST CITY Simon Kahn, white volunteer (21, Chevy Chase) was beaten up by a white man while leaving the Wagon Wheel Restaurant after an integration attempt there.

The attacker was arrested and charged with assault.

GOULD Tim Janke, white volunteer (21, Portland, Oregon) was slugged by a white guy who was charged with assault. A Negro witness was fired from his job at a service station after he said he saw the incident and his employer insisted he didn't see anything. This happened Tuesday.

On Wednesday, members of the Gould Citizens for Progress picketed the service station, urging a boycott. After the demonstration, Janke was again attacked by a local white guy. He swore out a warrant for the arrest of the attacker.

STUTTGART Last night, 2 volunteers and 7 local folk integrated the Majestic Theater. This was the first time in the history of the theater that Negroes sat in the downstairs section of the theater.

FORREST CITY A member of the St. Francis Achievement Comm. was arrested for refusing to help an officer put a drunk into the paddy wagon. He refused when the policeman kept referring to him as "boy." Charge was refusing to obey an officer.

(over)

JACKSON, MISS. Ed King/Barbara Brandt

It now looks as though there will be three groups trying to gain official recognition at the National Democratic Convention in 1968--the lily-white regulars, the Freedom Democratic Party, and a group which just organized two weeks ago, called the Mississippi Democratic Conference. The MDConf is made up of both moderate white elements (for example, the state AFL-CIO, headed by Claude Ramsay), and moderate Negroes (NAACP). The NAACP is taking a hard line against the FDP; for example, they said they wouldn't participate in the MDConf if the FDP were allowed in. However, AFL-CIO elements have made some advances to the FDP. The situation is still very changeable, says Rev. King.

WTVP Bob Gabriner/Bab

Today the WTVP filed a suit in federal district court in Memphis today, requesting a temporary restraining order on the Brownsville police. This is in preparation for the march this Saturday to protest police harassment and non-protection last Saturday and during past days. The case will be continued tomorrow.

At present, a group of middle-class NAACP types is negotiating with the Mayor of Brownsville. WTVP feels there is the possibility this group will make some kind of deal with the white power structure, and then will issue a statement saying that the march is off, and the WTVP people are Communist outside agitators.

At the meeting Tuesday with John Doar, nothing was promised in the way of protection. WTVP is also appealing to the state for protection on Saturday, and don't know exactly what to expect. Gov. Frank Clement is in a bag--his political supporters are racists, but he also wants to preserve a moderate image for the state in order to get in industry. Today an aide to the Governor told Danny Beagle that the demonstrators would have protection, but he didn't specify what kind.

They have heard rumors that the police will arrest some of the demonstrators, and other rumors that whites will beat up the leaders of the march.

The Fayette Co. school boycott was today 75% effective. The local papers are accusing or workers of threatening parents and kids with beatings and bombings if they don't keep their kids out. Participants have been warned by the dept of welfare that they would be thrown off welfare. Debby Rib also points out that the compulsory attendance law, which has not been enforced among Negroes for years, suddenly began being enforced a week ago, when the boycott began.

DC FDP Jan Goodman/Bab

The Federal Voting Bill was passed today. It does not eliminate the poll tax, but it strongly recommends that Congress recognize the poll tax as a discriminatory measure, and calls upon the Atty Gen to outlaw the poll tax. The signing of the voting rights bill will be witnessed by invited or leaders tomorrow. Nobody from the FDP was invited.

NATCHEZ NOW H/S A PHONE AGAIN: 119 E. Franklin, 601-445-9328

EASTERN SHORE, MARYLAND John Battiste/Bab PROJECT REPORT

They are working with a union of Negro workers at a crab canning plant. At the request of the union, they went in to help organize strike action, picketing, etc. This is on Kent's Narrows Island. They have distributed food and clothing donated from the North as well as from a local farmer to the strikers.

As a result of a threatened suit by CNAC and the Medical Committee for Human Rights against the Cambridge Maryland Hospital, the hospital completely desegregated its facilities a week ago. The settlement was negotiated through the offices of the Maryland Commission on Interracial Problems and the State Dept of Health,

Last Monday a delegation of people from Ward 2 in Cambridge attended the City Council to ask for sewer lines in their neighborhood; this was after a severe rainstorm led to the flooding of many homes in the area.

Another meeting with Dept of Agric. reps on the food stamp program is planned.