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Saturday, June 27, 1964 / Batesville, Mississippi / KA

6:10 AM

LOCAL COPO VOLUNTEER RECEIVES HIGH PARKING FINE

Justice of the Peace C.B. Gordon today fined Greene David Swearengen, an eight ~~teen~~ year old COPO volunteer from Batesville, twenty-seven dollars (\$27.) for overparking in a thirty minute parking zone on Friday.

Swearengen had been bringing people to the court house to register when the alleged violation occurred.

When the Justice of the Peace asked Swearengen for his plea, Swearengen said that he thought he was innocent, "but I wasn't wearing a watch so I can't be sure," he added.

Present at the trial was Claude Weaver, 20, of Atlanta, Georgia, COPO's project director in Batesville. Ms. George Leslie of Batesville, and Billie McDonald of Hattiesburg were standing by the car when Sheriff Earl Hubbard gave Swearengen the ticket. All feel certain that the car had been parked for twenty minutes, at most.

Christopher Williams of Amherst, Massachusetts and Carl Pomerance of Valley Stream, New York, also COPO volunteers, who had come to the court house with Swearengen agree that Swearengen had been parked for about fifteen minutes.