

July 28th. Tuesday.

The Freedom School here opened at the St. James Methodist Church with a roll of 48 students, dropped to 42, Thursday (July 30th) - a minimal decrease; the response, in fact, ~~was~~ is considered to have been very good.

Starkville's precinct meeting had Chief of Police Losey in nominal attendance. Losey with two other uniformed police and a dog sat in a parked car outside the house, 218 Gillespie Street, for entire length of the meeting, and when it finished Losey questioned ^{some} people as they left. (Affidavits to follow). The meeting elected ten delegates to the County meeting to precede the District meeting at Jones Chapel. Tibbee, August 2nd.

* correction : At one point there were three cars, one of them a sheriff's car. The latter did not stay more than a few moments. Losey told the Rev. Bill Webber (NCC, attached to Columbus staff) "I'm not going to mistreat anyone, but I'm not going to be run around by anyone".

Columbus3.

July 29th. Wednesday.

Freedom registration drive was planned at a staff meeting to-day. As the plan now stands a concentrated effort will be made through Friday, July 31, to Thursday, August 6th, along the lines of sending out a team of nine (all Negroes) to each County in turn in the district. This is to wind-up the ~~present~~ effort to get somewhere near the target levels.

As for Freedom Days the concensus of opinion favoured getting people down to the courthouse after the freedom registration drive. I ~~if~~ wasn't here but ~~if~~ as the meeting was described to me, I take this to be a tenuous decision.

Tupelo: A precinct meeting was held in the evening, later convened into a county meeting. The result: 8 delegates and eight alternates are to go to the District meeting at Tibbee, August 2nd.

Columbus.....4.

July 27-30.

July 30. Thursday.

Starkville 'Freedom House' established. The lease was taken out for three months. Will Ervin, Ron Bridgeforth, Steve Fraser, and Bobby Bradwell (a Starkville Negro) will now be out there permanently.

A minor incident happened this evening at 9.50.

A car with two whites inside, drove past, came back again and stopped for a moment outside Freedom House. It seemed that ~~the~~ one of the white's threw something out; in fact we found nothing in the roadway. The car took off in a hurry (without lights) and the same car, a 1958 Oldsmobile, came past again 25 minutes later. ~~The~~ On this occasion it didn't stop.

..... Friday, July 31. Received Robert Moses' memo re distribution of Free Press.