

Mississippi Free Press prints unprinted news

JACKSON, Miss. (CUP-CPS) Mississippi's newspapers are not known for moderate positions on the integration question. The Jackson dailies, followed by most papers in the state, have printed diatribes against James Meredith and the federal government in recent months that are, to put it mildly shocking to a casual reader from outside the South.

Even the mild stand of the University of Mississippi student newspaper editor against the violence at Ole Miss, brought low-level insinuations about her morality and good sense.

But in the midst of the state's racial hatred and invective, on dissenting voice is beginning to make itself felt.

The Mississippi Free Press, a student operated weekly, provides Mississippians with a point of view that has never appeared in their press.

Founded last December by members of the Student-Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, a Southern student action group, the paper is now under the direction of 20-year-old Charles Butts, who left Oberlin College, Ohio, to work for integration in the South.

Butts worked for some time in Fayette County, Tennessee, helping share-croppers evicted from their farms for registering to vote. He came to Jackson and the Free Press, determined "to convince Negroes that they are not inferior, but indeed are human beings, entitled to all the rights enjoyed by other citizens."

Currently running the technical end of the paper is Lucy Komisar, a senior on leave of absence from Queens College, New York. Miss Komisar worked for two years in the Queens Phoenix, student paper at Queens, currently in hot water with its administration. She has been active in civil rights work most of her college life and was jailed last year after a sit-in strike at a segregated Maryland restaurant.

The 21-year-old circulation manager of the Free Press, Dewey Greene, made news recently as he sought to become the second Negro to enter the University of Mississippi. Turned down by University authorities on the grounds he was unqualified, Greene has filed suit in Federal Court seeking a court order to admit him.

A native of Greenwood, Mass., the headquarters of the White Citizen's Council, Greene is a veteran of three years in the Navy.

The Free Press staff is paid a subsistence salary of \$20 weekly, largely financed by donations from Northern Colleges. Students at Tougaloo College, the state's

only integrated college, help with office work of the newspaper.

Things have not been all rosy for the Free Press, however. It cannot be printed in Mississippi, and has to be taken to Memphis, hundreds of miles away. Local police keep close watch on the paper's staffers, and Butts was beaten after a picture of him with an article attacking the Free Press, appeared in a Jackson paper.

The paper has been given some financial support from local Negro businessmen, Students at Oberlin, Earlham College, Swathmore College, Harvard, Brandeis, Notre Dame and Indiana University have sponsored subscription drives to aid the Free Press.

In a recent article, the American Liberal asserted the Free Press was beginning to have a real impact, not only in Mississippi, but in Washington, simply because it prints regularly news and articles that do not normally get into print in the state.

By exposing examples of brutality and giving big play to shootings and beatings of integration workers, the paper has called attention to many incidents that might have otherwise gone unnoticed.

MORE QUEENS

Four more Faculty Queens have been added to the gallery of contestants for the Munro Day Campus Queen competition. From top to bottom: Ann Suydam, Pine Hill; Barbara Aikman, King's; Kathy Isnor, Arts; and Pat Bell, Pharmacy.

(Photos by Purdy)



while in the possession of "offensive and lethal weapons". Returning unarmed, he explained to the House that he could not attend many sittings in the Commons because he plays hockey so often, "a fact which everyone from British Columbia to Nova Scotia is aware of." (for the unwary, this is a take-off on the grossest error of a recent "Newsweek" article featuring one John Diefenbaker, presently Her Majesty's First Minister for Canada.) He justified his absences, however, by claiming that he frequently practised intellectual talk while on the road, with such academicians as Eddie Shack and "Punch" Imlach.

Final piece of business was the darling of the "economists", that dedicated set of worry-warts who erment have to be paid for somehow. Proposed, by Don Brazier (Lib. Toronto Davenport) Minister of Finance, and seconded by Trade and Commerce Minister, August Visman (Lib. Assiniboia), both of whom displayed a "beautiful lack of knowledge of present economic happenings in the country," the Bill urged reduction of corporate and personal income taxes to create a governmental deficit of almost one billion dollars. Speaking in opposition to the Bill were Peter Puxley (NDP), Tory leader Randall Smith, and Bruce Davidson, (PC). Throughout the entire debate huge, impressive, and meaningless economic terminology was hurled with gay abandon across the floor. In the end, the Bill was defeated 32-31, the vote being strictly along party lines. This meant the Government had been overthrown, and a consequent NDP motion of non-confidence was passed.

Prime Minister Myers thanked the entire company for their enthusiastic participation in the parliament, and moved particular appreciation to Dr. Kerr, Prof. Aitcheson, Clerk of the House, Frank Sommerville, and Sergeant-at-arms, Kenneth MacKenzie, the latter living up magnificently to the standards of his Scottish forebears.

In retrospect, the Parliament produced some good speeches, the best coming from Alan MacDonald (PC), Terry Morley (NDP) and Jamie Fisher (Lib). The heckling, as always, was bad, at times getting out of hand, especially when Mr. Morley was speaking. This was unfortunate since his speeches were of the first order.

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nuclear arms. This statement was for some reason considered so significant that it was publicized by Canadian Press the same evening.

First business of the second sitting Thursday evening was the question period. Questions ranged from the sublime ("How much money is there at present in the Consolidated Reserve Fund?") to the ridiculous ("Up to the present time, how many schnorkelboxes are in use in the Post Offices?"). Most amusing was the response to a question from Alan MacDonald to the minister in charge of the C.B.C., when four ministers, (Finance, Trade and Commerce, Transport, and Postmaster-General) rose to answer the question. (One can only speculate that with the standard of entertainment offered by the CBC, four M.P.'s are being grossly overpaid.)

First Bill of the second evening came from the NDP, moved by Cliff Fielder (Port Arthur), proposing the abolition of capital punishment. The Bill was of little interest, judging from the number of members sitting at any time. It was finally defeated 41-21, with the great majority of Liberals and Conservatives voting against it.

RED KELLY

During the abolition debate, "Red Kelly" appeared, clad in full "Maple Leafs" uniform, and armed with skates and hockey stick, to take his seat as a Liberal backbencher. He was at first ejected by Speaker Prof. J.A. Aitcheson, for entering the House

U of T Slaying

TORONTO (CUP) — Michael Mason, 21, a third year psychology student at the University of Toronto has been charged with capital murder following the slaying of his room-mate, William Swayne, 24.

Swayne's body was found near the door of the men's apartment. He was shot with a rifle twice in the neck and three times in the chest.

Toronto homicide detectives told the U of T student paper, The Varsity, Mason and Swayne had been at odds over a New York girl, whom Swayne had been courting. She spent almost a week in Toronto then returned to New York last week.

Police said Mason reportedly objected to Swayne's treatment of the girl.

It is reported Mason had not been attending classes at U of T for several weeks prior to the slaying.