

(1)

[1969]

Ladies & Gentle men

We gotten here tonight on what we hope will be an unforgettable occasion in the history of Black People of Starkville and Oktobbe County. We gotten to organize an Oktobbe County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. We have made many attempts to have at this meeting Mr. Charles Evans the state field secretary for the NAACP & Mr. Aaron Henry, the state President of the NAACP. But both these gentle men are so busy at this time that they were unable to come - Charles is very busy running for Mayor of Fayette, Miss. & Aaron Henry is busy on his job as Chairman of the Mississippi Democratic Party.

We do not propose to right the full three National Negro's shoes but we will carry on. For after all is said & done, Black people of Oktobbe County must solve the problems of the Black Community here even though we appreciate pep talks & inspirational talks from such men as Mr. Evans & Mr. Henry. We must begin to speak out & solve our own problems related to civil rights. We can speak out, we must speak out - not as lonely voices in the wilderness but as one large, united, dynamic, courageous whole.

(Last)

As of this night, ^{as of} this hour let us
now resolve that as Mississippians we will no
longer permit or tolerate injustice. Let us now
resolve that every act of discrimination, prejudice
and bigotry on the part of the white community will be
vigorously opposed by the united action of the entire
black community using what ever legal means
that are available or appropriate to the act—
Be it Selection Begging, defeat at the polls, marches,
at ins, legal suits or other legal means. We
are tired of being second class citizens! We are
tired of being the last hired and the first fired!
We are tired of our children and orphan children
going to 2nd & 3rd class schools! We are tired
of all the white collar jobs being held by whites!
We are tired of being cheated, robbed, beaten and
humiliated! We are tired of quining & bearing it.

To those many wh. who think that white is always
right — the blonde Toms, white Kenners, the
Aunt Jemima and all of the brain washed Blacks —
We admonish you now to get out of our way —
to step aside — to make way for proud blacks
who are not ashamed of their own color —
to make way for the new spirit of Black Pride,
Black Power and Black awareness that will one day
make us Free!