

VOTER REGISTRATION ACTIVITIES OF THE

N*ational*

A*ssociation for the*

A*dvancement of*

C*olored*

P*eople*

IN SPITE OF HARDSHIPS:

The Southern Regional Council reports in its January, 1959, issue of the New South: "THE NEGRO VOTERS IN THE SOUTH ARE HOLDING THEIR OWN AND EVEN SHOWED A SLIGHT INCREASE. While in the country as a whole, the number of eligible voters has dropped in the past two years."

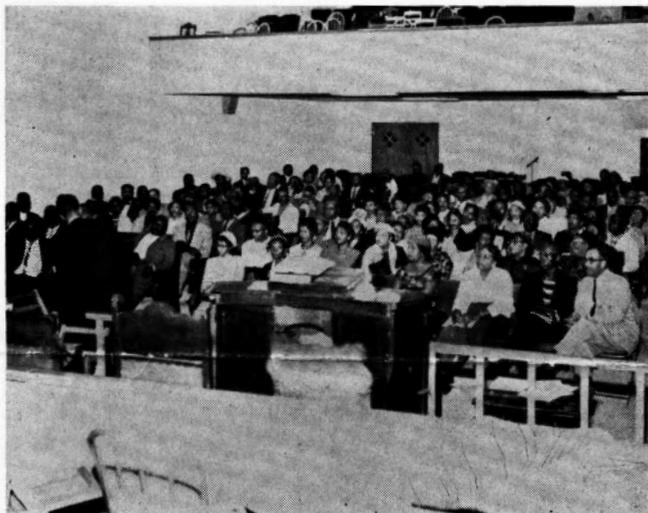


We believe this achievement was made possible through the efforts of the local NAACP Voter Registration Committees, churches and all other civic, social, fraternal and labor organizations who have cooperated with us in our voter registration program. We believe our continuous efforts will be reflected by a marked increase of Negro voters in the January 1960 to January 1961 survey report.

Kelly M. Alexander, Chairman
NAACP Voter Registration Committee

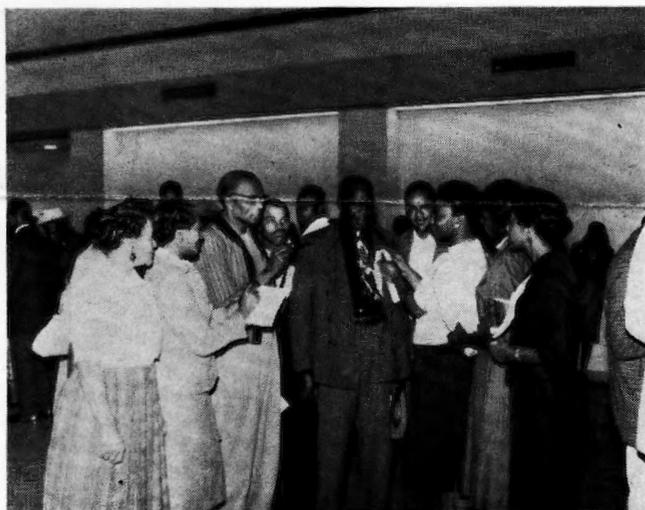
AREAS OF WORK - - CHURCH -
COMMUNITY -
YOUTH

A TYPICAL NAACP BRANCH IN ACTION working with the community



Selling the NAACP Voter Registration Program to a group of interested and inspired individuals and organization representatives.

True, this picture was taken at night, but these people are not waiting in line to attend a dance!! **THEY ARE WAITING IN LINE TO REGISTER** and become qualified voters. **REGISTRAR'S OFFICE OPENED AT NIGHT!** It was opened at night because the citizens of Tampa asked the city officials to open the registrar's office one night a week. (Public officials respect and respond to organized efforts.)



ANOTHER VOTER TO THE LIST

The difference in voter registration programs on paper and voter registration programs in **ACTION**.

The registration drive in Tampa, Florida, is a typical example of our community work. We were contacted by the Tampa's NAACP Voter Registration Committee and Robert Saunders, NAACP field worker for the state of Florida. A coordinated voter registration program was started with churches, civic, fraternal, labor and social groups lending full cooperation.



Arrow points to W. C. Patton, field worker for the NAACP Voter Registration Committee. He can afford to smile and say "A well done job in community coordination for voter registration." Mr. Patton directed the Tampa campaign.

A newly registered voter receiving his button of honor which says, "I am a registered voter, are you?" A fitting climax to Tampa's registration campaign which started January 13, 1960 and ended April 2, 1960, adding **4,000 NEW VOTERS TO THE REGISTRATION LIST. NEXT STEP, THE VOTING BOOTH.**

An integral part of our NAACP Branches' program is voter registration and voting. We must take advantage of **the Negro voting strength,**" said Gloster B. Curry.

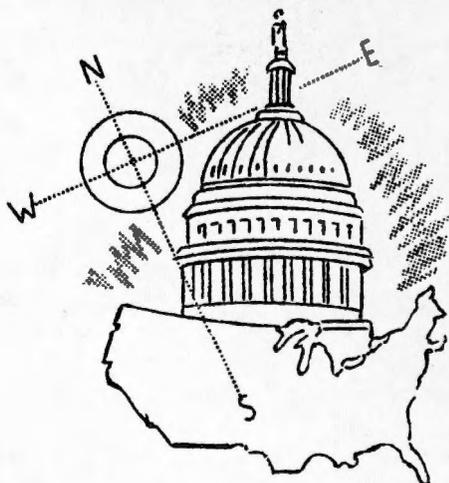
THE CHURCH AND VOTER REGISTRATION . . .

A significant part of our NAACP Church program is designated to encourage and promote voter registration participation by intra-church departments. Under the direction of Church Sec'y, Rev. Edward J. Odom, Jr. churches led by their ministers and officers have established special voter registration committees. The first task of these committees is to qualify the official church family 100%. When this has been accomplished it is relatively easy to have the church membership follow the example set.

"Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's."
Matthew 22:21



THE NAACP WASHINGTON BUREAU



CLARENCE MITCHELL, DIRECTOR

This bureau of the NAACP is our watch dog on the National level and it carries our message in no uncertain terms to the top level departments of the United States Government.

Excerpts from Mr. Mitchell's speech to the Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice: "The final set of examples that I would like to mention is in the field of voting. Here, it seems, that the State of Mississippi leads a charmed life. Our files show a steady stream of complaints, both before and after the Civil Rights Act of 1957. Yet, the colored citizens of that state have received no redress. That is why I personally consider it a grave affront for any Department official to say that no action has been taken because there have been no complaints." Mr. Mitchell then presented complaints of individuals in Mississippi who are being denied the right to vote.

NEVER TOO YOUNG

A WONDERFUL EXAMPLE OF MEMBERS OF OUR NAACP YOUTH COUNCILS PROMOTING VOTER REGISTRATION.

These three youth from Tampa, Florida are carrying signs which say, "I am too young to register, what's your excuse?"



ram is voter registration. "We must increase our e of the New Civil Rights Act of 1960 to expand ent, NAACP Director of Branches.

What's Your Excuse?



Hats off to the members of our NAACP Youth Councils and College Chapters throughout the country who are working to increase the Negro electorate. Herbert Wright, NAACP Youth Secretary, said: "They may be too young to vote, but they are making qualified voters out of many of their parents who are delinquent in the matter of voting."

CAN COLLEGES PROMOTE VOTER REGISTRATION PROGRAMS? -- YOU BE THE JUDGE.

A revealing report on the Thirty-fourth Homemaking Institute of Bennett College, Greensboro, North Carolina. Theme: Register and Vote.

This project was led by the faculty and students which included a large number of our NAACP youth members. Mrs. Louise Streat, a member of the faculty, was chairman. John M. Brooks, NAACP's Voter Registration Director, conducted the kick-off workshop for the registration drive.

Area of concentration of drive	Precinct No. 7 Greensboro, N. C.
Number of homes visited in Precinct No. 7	1,463
Number of persons of voting age in these homes eligible to vote	2,695
Number of persons already registered in Precinct No. 7 prior to "Operation Doorknock"	736
Number of persons registered during "Operation Doorknock" (3 nights of canvassing by students. Registrar available 5 nights)	887
Total number of persons now registered in Precinct No. 7	1,623
Mics. new voters obtained	148
Grand Total	1,771

WHAT ABOUT YOUR BRANCH? ...

Is your branch just talking about voter registration? or does your branch have a wide awake Voter Registration Committee with a program of action?

Experience has taught us that a few **DEDICATED** hard working individuals can spearhead a voter registration program in any community. Will you take the challenge and write us for further information?

The NAACP Voter Registration Committee

Kelly M. Alexander, Chairman

John M. Brooks
Voter Registration Director

Roy Wilkins
Executive Secretary

W. C. Patton, Field Worker
NAACP Voter Registration

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