

MISSISSIPPI HAS ALL THE BENEFITS WITHOUT THE VERY REAL DANGERS

... As Mississippi Democrats we are enjoying all of the so-called "benefits" of this two-party system through our State Democratic primary elections, without exposing the people of Mississippi to the disastrous events and conditions that would surely follow the division of conservative Mississippians into two political camps, thus giving the balance of power into the hands of the minority.

Our Mississippi Democratic Party is entirely independent and is free of the influence or domination of any national political party, and it offers an adequate framework for candidates of widely varying views to offer their services to people. Mississippi has no need for a two-party system that would divide our people and stretch our political campaigning over many additional months with resulting expense, confusion, and disunity.

REPUBLICAN PARTY ALWAYS REJECTS THEIR CONSERVATIVE LEADERS

... The truth is that neither national party is "conservative." Both the National Republican Party and the National Democratic Party are the dedicated enemies of the people of Mississippi. The national leaders of both--consistently across the years-- have pursued courses of action which have moved our beloved country ever leftward -- which have threatened our citizens with ever more centralized power at Washington.

The National Republican Party has followed the National Democratic Party like a shadow. Both have moved toward socialism as they catered to organized "have-not" minorities in the heavy populated urban centers, ignoring the great, silent, unorganized majority of decent, responsible citizens in this country...

Neither party as constituted today offers any hope to free men and woman who value their independence and their honor. Both parties...if their platforms and their past actions are any guide -- threaten our Mississippi traditions, institutions and segregated way of life.

The Missipi Democratic Party -- which long ago separated itself from the National Democratic Party, and which has fought consistently everything both national parties stand for -- offers to the citizens of Mississippi and to the troubled white conservative voices in the land...

The Mississippi Democratic Party is not subservient to any national party... Our free electors may vote for any American leader who will espouse the principles in which we believe.

...Let's defeat the National Republican Party's candidates on November 5th by a vote so overwhelming that it will bury forever these "overnight" Republicans who would like to divide our State and hand it over to a minority group.

Unpledged Electors

Through the system of unpledge electors, officials of the state Democratic Party are seeking to substitute their voice for that of the voters of Mississippi. They are seeking another means through which to play hide-and-go-seek with the rest of the nation. Mississippi's all-white one-party power structure would like to wait until the Electoral College meets after the election to decide who the people in the state have voted for. Through the system of unpledged electors, a handful of men would be able to bargain a majority of Mississippi's votes with the leadership of the National Republican and Democratic Parties.

The following quotations give some idea of the current thinking of some of the major political figures in Mississippi, as well as some of the presidential electors. The system of unpledged electors may well be paving the way toward a "Democrats for Goldwater" movement:

Jackson Mayor Allen Thompson (quoted in the Jackson Clarion-Ledger, July 17, 1964).

Jackson Mayor Allen Thompson Thursday voted his approval of Republican presidential nominee Barry Goldwater, but affirmed continuing support of Alabama Gov. George Wallace. Thompson ... said Mississippi 'has a golden opportunity with Goldwater' because 'he is a man who thinks like we do'.

'The mayor said he felt Goldwater could carry Mississippi 'and possibly one or two other states without the support of Wallace,' but 'if Wallace decides to give everything he's got to Goldwater the South will have a chance in November. We'll have a chance to have somebody not afraid of pressure groups.'

Thompson said he felt Goldwater was unafraid of "pressure groups or liberals" because he told the Negro vote "we don't want you, or care about you."

'The South, Thompson said, will be "wooded" by the Democrats this summer. There will be quite a change in the attitudes of the Democratic Party, he said. "You talk about a hot summer - it's going to be a long hot summer for the National Democratic Party."

Presidential Elector Frank E. Shanahan, State Rep. from Warren County: said he had offered to add in a "Democrats for Goldwater" movement if it promoted the Arizona Conservative in his presidential bid and not just the Republican Party. "You've got a lot of local (Democratic) office holders in Mississippi who are going to vote for Goldwater," Shanahan said, and contended many would join a "Democrats for Goldwater" organization if the National Republican Party would promote such a group. (Jackson Daily News, July 17, 1964).

State Legislators Hayden Campbell and Russell Davis from Hinds County announced their support for Barry Goldwater, Republican presidential candidate, saying that Goldwater was the last hope for conservative government. Campbell said, "We, in America, have just witnessed the founding of a new political party...We have seen the birth of a new party in San Francisco. It is now the Conservative Party...We in the South cannot be a part of splitting the Conservative vote and giving the election to Lyndon Johnson. It is a time for all true conservative Southerners to come out openly in every way and support the leader of our new national party..."