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## Letter to the Editor

Robert B. Patterson

Cliff Noyes

Burlington Free Press

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# Letter To The Editor

VERMONT  
BURLINGTON FREE PRESS  
Sept. 29, 1965

To The Editor:

We have read of the Vermont in Mississippi project whereby funds and workers are sent to Mississippi in an effort to bring about "racial equality".

Perhaps a more realistic method would be to offer homes, jobs and schools to Mississippi Negroes who might want to migrate to Vermont. According to the 1960 Census Vermont has only 519 Negroes in the entire state. An influx of

40,418 Negroes into Vermont would give you the national average of ten per cent, and thereby your people could take a much more personal interest in the race problem.

Would you, on behalf of your subscribers, make available homes, jobs and schools for migrant Mississippi Negroes? We would be glad to give your offer wide publicity throughout our state.

Due to laborsaving devices in the cotton fields and to the current racial agitation, undoubtedly, many Negroes would be interested in moving to Vermont. Then we would have a Mississippi in Vermont.

Robert B. Patterson  
Sincerely,  
Secretary  
Citizens' Councils  
Greenwood, Mississippi



Behind the Scenes

## From Here, Where?

by CLIFF NOYES  
Editor

VERMONT  
BURLINGTON SUNDAY NEWS  
Oct. 2, 1965

Politicians apparently think it is good to be the hero of pseudo intellectuals who feel that this nation's racial problem (among other things) can be solved by **LAWS** (force) rather than through the people's hearts and through time and patience. But now there is a threat which may place the reputations of those politicians and others on the line.

The Association of Citizens' Councils of Mississippi, with headquarters in Greenwood, Miss., has sent notice to this newspaper that "perhaps a more realistic method (to bring about 'racial equality' as the 'Vermont in Mississippi' project is supposed to do) would be to offer homes, jobs and schools to Mississippi negroes who might want to migrate to Vermont."

In a letter, signed by Robert B. Patterson, secretary of the Citizens' Councils, the organization emphasizes that "according to the 1960 census, Vermont has only 519 negroes in the entire state. An influx of 40,418 negroes into Vermont would give you the national average of ten percent, and thereby your people could take a much more personal interest in the race problem."

Some politicians, pseudo intellectuals, and religious leaders, will undoubtedly shrug their shoulders and say in a soft clear voice, "That is absurd." But **IS IT?**

It is easy to discard the threats of the Mississippi organization, but with the "Vermont in Mississippi" project interfering in Mississippian affairs, why shouldn't devoted, civic-minded Mississippi residents take it upon themselves to start a "Mississippi in Vermont" project?

What would happen if there were to be an influx of 40,418 negroes to Vermont? What would the intellectuals and their heroes do then?

The racial problem is like a keg of dynamite, and only a small spark is needed to set it off. Politicians thousands of miles away, religious leaders from throughout the nation, and others, who have taken it upon themselves to remedy this country's racial problems, probably thought by getting involved in the race problem, they could gain votes or prestige. Now, though, it is a different story.

When will the Vermonters involved learn to pay heed to Vermont problems instead of wasting time attempting to mess in other people's affairs?

Some of the top state officials in Vermont, along with Vermont religious leaders, will be responsible if there is a sudden influx of unemployed negroes to the State of Vermont. **THEY** will be the ones who had better be able to give the answers.

Vermont state and religious leaders would show their true colors, whatever they may be, if there were busload after busload of unemployed negroes to arrive in the Green Mountain State.

The people in the Northern States, with no negro problem and a small percentage of negroes, have no right whatsoever to interfere with another state's problems, which are so complex that even the federal government took it upon itself to send troops into the troubled area.

**It is the politicians and religious leaders of the non-Southern states who ignited the racial bonfire during the Kennedy administration.**

**What do these people now think of their negro hero, Martin Luther King, since he has advocated the admission of Red China to the United Nations? What do these people now think since King has announced his intention to write the leaders of the Communist countries of the world — WHICH IS IN DIRECT VIOLATION OF THE FEDERAL LAWS?**

**The federal government, vote-craving politicians, and naive religious leaders condoned violence and law-breaking during recent racial demonstrations in the streets. What do they think now that King has threatened to violate a federal law? How do they justify saying "it's okay" to violate one illegal act and "no" to another?**

Civil rights is a very complex social problem, and with the mealy-mouthed politicians of today, that problem, along with many others will **NEVER** be solved effectively and satisfactorily.

**Nationally-known, respected religious leaders have stated publicly that the civil rights problem can only be solved through the hearts and souls of the people. The solution lies in the hearts of those concerned, and NEVER — NEVER — will any VOTE-HUNGRY POLITICIAN be able to reach the hearts and souls of the American people the way they must be reached.**

**Anyone who thinks a 100-year-old problem can be**

**solved by LAWS, OVERNIGHT, had better submit himself to a sanity test.**

**The question, asked by Mr. Patterson, in a letter to the editor, is — "WOULD YOU . . . MAKE AVAILABLE HOMES, JOBS AND SCHOOLS FOR MIGRANT MISSISSIPPI NEGROES?"**

The answer is not so simple. But perhaps the politicians, and the religious leaders who have their own problems in their own parishes, yet become involved in something many miles away, have met their match.

**"WOULD YOU???"**