

## WHY THE CONNALLY DELEGATION DOES NOT REPRESENT TEXAS MINORITIES

The 100 members of the challenge delegation from Texas (including 23 Negroes and 26 Mexican-Americans) are asking to be seated as Texas delegates in the Convention with  $\frac{1}{2}$  vote each for a total of 50 of the 104 votes allocated to Texas.

### THE CONNALLY DELEGATION EMBODIES "TOKENISM"

NEGROES AND MEXICAN AMERICANS ARE 27% OF THE POPULATION OF TEXAS, BUT CONSTITUTE ONLY 9% OF THE CONNALLY DELEGATION.

Negroes alone are 12% of the Texas population, but only 5% of the Connally delegation. Mexican-Americans constitute 15% of the Texas population, but only 4% of the Connally delegation

### MINORITIES ARE GROSSLY UNDERREPRESENTED IN TEXAS PARTY AFFAIRS

229 of the 237 counties in Texas holding conventions chose delegations to the state convention which underrepresented their Mexican-American populations.

There has never been a Negro on the 62 member State Democratic Executive Committee which governs Texas party affairs.

### NEGRO-CHOSEN NEGRO LEADERS ARE KEPT OFF THE DELEGATION

One damning example of this:

In Dallas, 17 elected Negro precinct chairmen swear by affidavit that they asked to be delegates to the state convention, and not one was chosen by the Connally people. In fact, there are 27 Negro precinct chairmen in the district and not one was chosen a state convention delegate.

Of the six Negro delegates on the Connally delegation, only two were chosen by the area convention caucuses. Two of the other four (who were picked by the Connally machine) lost their races for precinct chairman.

Thus, even these few Negroes who are on the Texas delegation show the refusal of the Connally people to let Negroes have their own elected leaders represent them in the convention.

### HOW THE TEXAS DEMOCRATIC PARTY EXCLUDES MINORITIES

Here are some of the ways it is done:

- redistricting to eliminate Negro majorities (example: Harris County)
- not telling Mexican-Americans how to obtain credentials for conventions (example: Bexar County, 1968)
- unlawfully changing voting rules to eliminate Mexican-American strength at conventions (examples: Klaberg and Val Verde Counties, 1968)
- discrimination in enforcing party rules (example: Harris County, 1968)
- intimidation and discouragement of Negro participation in conventions (example: Seguin, 1968)
- unit rule throughout the state at all levels of the selection process
- overloading delegate lists and giving chairman power to select those to actually attend conventions, so he can exclude minorities at will.

(Evidence on these exclusionary efforts is contained in the briefs, testimony and affidavits presented to the Credentials Committee.)

### WHAT THE NATIONAL CONVENTION MUST DO

UNDER THE CALL OF THE 1968 CONVENTION, DELEGATIONS MUST BE "BROADLY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEMOCRATS OF THE STATE." THE TEXAS DELEGATION WILL BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEMOCRATS OF TEXAS ONLY IF THE MEMBERS OF THE CHALLENGING DELEGATION ARE SEATED IN THE CONVENTION.