Here’s How Negro Newspapers Capitalize On the Stupidity of

“Miss. White Methodist Women For Integration

“JACKSON (ANP). — Missis-
sippi Methodist white women
took a strong stand for racial fair
play last week and in the process
delivered a sounding slap to White
Citizens Councils.

“Meeting here the Women’s So-
ciety of Christian Service for the
Mississippi Methodist Conference
voted 129-62 for a charter calling
for liberal racial policies in the
church.

“The women voted for the char-
ter after hearing Dr. Dan Whit-
ssett, pastor, First Methodist
church, Sylacauga, Ala., call the
Citizens Councils ‘barriers to good
racial relationships.’

“Delivering the principal ad-
dress at the conference, Dr. Whit-
ssett also called the council’s ‘the
spirit of the Ku Klux Klan dress-
ed in high silk hats and long
tails . . .’

“The 10-point charter adopted
is as follows:

“1. Persons to fill positions
within the official body or staff
of the Women’s Division of Chris-
tian Service shall be selected on
the basis of qualifications with-
out regard to race.

“2. The institutions and pro-
jects of the Division are instru-
ments by which we may translate
the Christian ideals and attitudes
of this charter into action.

“(a) We will employ all mis-
sionaries, deaconesses and other
workers, regardless of racial or
national background, on the basis
of qualifications, and the promise
they show for effective work in
the field to which they will be
sent.

“(b) The facilities and oppor-
tunities offered by our projects
and institutions shall be open to
all people without discrimination
because of racial or national back-
ground.

“(c) Where law prohibits or
custom prevents the immediate
achievement of these objectives,
workers and local boards are
charged with the responsibility of
creating a public opinion which
may result in changing such laws
and customs.

“3. All promotional plans of
the Woman’s Division must take
into account the various racial
groups within its organization
pattern and related to its pro-
gram emphasis.

“4. Special guidance toward
the integration of all groups into
the life and work of the church
shall be given to the auxiliary so-
cieties of the Women’s Division.

“5. Summer School of Mis-
sions and Christian Service of
both jurisdictions and conferences
are urged to seek increasingly to
establish a working relationship
across racial lines in planning and
carrying out all phases of the pro-
grammes, taking into account geo-
ographical accessibility of groups
involved.

“6. Summer school subsidies
provided for by any jurisdiction
or conference should be available
when requested for use at the
school most accessible to the per-
son receiving the subsidy.

“7. Workshops, seminars and
institutes should be set up on a
geographical basis with full op-
portunity for initial participation
by all racial groups in the making
and execution of the plans.

“8. Local societies and guilds
should give increased emphasis to
the working together for all ra-
cial groups in the study and action
that will affect the life of the
church and community.

“9. All jurisdiction and confer-
ence societies are urged to work
for the enactment of policies at
the Methodist assembly grounds
that will enable the full partici-
pation of any racial groups in any
phase of the assembly program.

“10. The Woman’s Division has
consistently observed its estab-
lished policy for holding its meet-
ing in places where all racial
groups can have access to all fa-
cilities without discrimination in
any form.

“To further extend this policy
jurisdiction and conference socie-
ties are urged to work for its im-
plementation as a basic step to-
ward building Christian fellow-
ship within the organization and
ward an impact on the commu-
nity as a whole.”

—The Louisiana Weekly (a mem-
ber of the American Negro Press)
Saturday, May 7, 1955.