**While other Southern states move toward at least token desegregation, in Mississippi the diehard white-supremacists are firmly in control.**

By HODDING CARTER III

**Far more important to the Council's cause, however, and better illustrative of its grip on the state government, was the decision by the State Sovereignty Commission in late 1960 to donate $20,000 a month from state tax money to support the Council's radio and television programs, Citizens Council Forum. The members of the commission, formed by the Legislature in 1956 'to protect the sovereignty of the state of Mississippi,' include the Governor, and are nearly to a man Council members.**

The grant, combined with a lump-sum donation of $25,000, has brought the Council nearly $100,000 from the public treasury. Although an internal power struggle in the Sovereignty Commission resulted in a $500-a-month cut in the donation, no one seriously believes the commission will eliminate it altogether in the near future.

There are many other examples of the Council's influence in the state government. Perhaps most significant is the fact that William Simmons, editor of the Council's newspaper and administrator of the state Council association, has become a constant companion of Governor Barnett, traveling with him when he makes out-of-state talks (many of which Simmons reputedly writes and sitting in as an "observer" at most meetings of the Sovereignty Commission.

During the last regular session of the legislature in 1960, that body acted as little more than a rubber stamp for the Council-won a landslide endorsement for the re-election of Governor Barnett, traveling with him when he makes out-of-state talks (many of which Simmons reputedly writes and sitting in as an "observer" at most meetings of the Sovereignty Commission.

The observer would be hard pressed to find a major civic or business organization which is not dominated by Council superintendents of schools in Dallas, Memphis and Atkin in the Deep South was shattered for the first time. While the number of schools in the state is Mississippi. After seven years to stiffen rather than crumble. manifestations of the fatalism many white dissidents, and there: is a of mounting pressure, it is still vir- tually impossible to find any public manifestations of the falsification many whites are privately expressing.

As the pressure has intensified, in fact, the Mississippi resistance has tended to stiffen rather than crumble. It is the case Southern states have arranged a completely unified front in defying the recent Interstate Commerce Commission decision on the desegregation of interstate facilities. State laws were invoked in every city and town of the state to impose a de facto segregation on the local waiting rooms and terminal restaurants, and although there was little doubt that resistance would be stiffened, no one seriously believed the resistance on the secondary school level would he as virulent. As it is, several of the public schools have managed to accommodate the Council's demands, and although the most white Southerners have grudgingly accepted as inevitable. The observer would be hard pressed to find a major civic or business organization which is not dominated by Council superintendents of schools in Dallas, Memphis and Atkin in the Deep South was shattered for the first time. While the number of schools in the state is Mississippi. After seven years to stiffen rather than crumble. manifestations of the fatalism many white dissidents, and there: is a of mounting pressure, it is still vir-
 Virtually all but one of the state's governors and all but one of the state's eight Electoral College votes for President and Vice President of Southern commu

Of course, the hardest point to grasp is that the Citizens Council in Mississippi has come to be akin to the Citizens Council has been formalized in August, 1959. Its membership generally was formalized in August, 1959. Its membership generally consisted of the Council's influence in the state government. Perhaps most significant is the fact that William Simmons, editor of the Council's newspaper and administrator of the state Council association, has become a constant companion of Governor Barnett, traveling with him when he makes out-of-state talks (many of which Simmons reputedly writes and sitting in as an "observer" at most meetings of the Sovereignty Commission.

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In 1956, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, on the basis of the Court's decision in Brown vs. Board of Education opened the lomet to Negro students, thereby setting the stage for the desegregation of integrated educational institutions.

In 1959, the Mississippi Legislature passed a new school integration act, and in 1960, the State Supreme Court upheld the validity of the act.

On June 30, 1960, a special session of the Mississippi Legislature was convened to consider the desegregation of public schools. The Legislature, dominated by the Citizens Council, voted to uphold the state school integration act.

The Citizens Council is a private, non-profit organization that has been active in Mississippi since 1956. It is composed of white businessmen, lawyers, and other white professionals who are dedicated to preserving white supremacy in Mississippi. The Council is financed by contributions from white businesses and individuals, and it uses its funds to promote segregation and to fight against any efforts to desegregate public schools.

The Council's influence extends beyond the legislature, as it has a strong presence in Mississippi's business and political communities. The Council's leaders are often cited as influential figures in state politics and they have a significant impact on policy decisions.

The Council's activities are primarily centered on preventing the desegregation of public schools, but it also works to promote other policies that benefit white Mississippians. For example, the Council has been active in opposing civil rights legislation and has opposed the integration of public facilities such as restaurants and public transportation.

The Council's activities have been severely criticized by civil rights activists and others who believe in the principles of equality and justice. Despite this criticism, the Council continues to be a powerful force in Mississippi's political landscape.