

'RIDERS' PLEDGE CONTINUED DRIVE

C.O.R.E. Official Says South Must Accept 'New Negro'

James L. Farmer, national director of the Congress of Racial Equality and leader of the "freedom riders," pledged last night that his group will continue to bring pressure on Jackson, Miss., and other points until their transportation facilities are integrated.

Mr. Farmer, who was arrested in Jackson himself, spoke to 120 persons attending a fund-raising rally of the Baltimore Committee on Racial Equality at Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church.

He said that so far 303 "freedom
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'Riders' Pledge Continued Drive

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"riders" have been arrested in Jackson. The mission of the "freedom riders" is to present the image of "the new Negro" to the ardent segregationists of the South, he said.

"You can't argue a man out of his prejudices," Mr. Farmer said. "They are emotional, not rational."

He said the people of Alabama and Mississippi could not understand the dignity of the "freedom riders"—"the new Negroes" who could look their guards in the eye.

It was the guards who had difficulty facing their prisoners, he said.

"The only way to destroy a prejudice—a mental image—is to bring the holder of the prejudice repeatedly into contact with people who don't match that mental image," he observed.

Mr. Farmer said Mississippi officials apparently were recognizing this when they attempted to "dehumanize" the freedom riders "by forcing them to go barefoot and wear only underclothes in their cells."

"Freedom riders" can gain the respect of others because they respect themselves," he said.

"Bias in the American South is matched by no other bias in the

world except that in South Africa," said Mr. Farmer, who lives in New York.

It was announced at the meeting that a demonstration is planned this afternoon at the jail in Elkton, Md., where three Philadelphians are being held on charges of trespassing at a U.S. 40 restaurant last week.