

COLUMBUS ARRESTS

Sears Buckley, a Negro COFO worker from Columbus was sentenced to thirty days in the Lowndes county farm today (wed) on a vagrancy charge. Another COFO member, Fred Hamburger, of New York City, was arrested while driving Buckley in a COFO car. He was held in jail pending a \$400 bond on two traffic charges.

Highway police arrested Hamburger for failing to have a chauffeur's license and commercial auto tags. The vehicle was a two door Chevrolet and although it contained radio equipment, COFO spokesmen said it was not used as a commercial vehicle. A hearing on the charges was set for Monday.

Judge R.A. Patrick in Columbus confirmed a report that Buckley was ~~imprisoned~~ and sentenced today although COFO was told the trial would ^{be on} Saturday. Judge Patrick refused to tell why the trial date was changed because he said he "was not going to answer calls after office hours." (A COFO official telephoned him at 7 pm.)

State law provides for fines of from \$5 to \$200 on improper tags and drivers' license charges. Civil rights attorneys have complained that although other citizens are fined nominal sums on these charges COFO members are dealt much harsher penalties. Recently, for example, two COFO workers who were arrested on similar charges in Lexington were required to post a \$1,850 appeal bond after they were fined \$1,050.