

# THE SOUTHERN COURIER

VOL. I, NO. 14

Weekend Edition: Oct. 16-17, 1965

TEN CENTS

## Special Issue: The Anti-Poverty Programs

### War on Poverty, in Second Year, Is Slow but Effective in Alabama

The federal government's War on Poverty entered its second year this week.

In the first year of its existence, the anti-poverty program spent its \$793,000,000 appropriation on the following:

Community Action Programs in more than 1,000 cities and counties in all 50 states;

Head Start schools for more than 560,000 children in 13,344 centers, again in all 50 states;

Neighborhood Youth Corps providing jobs for 348,338 boys and girls in 916 projects.

Other programs--like the Job Corps, VISTA, College Work Study, Work Experience, Legal Services, Adult Basic Education and Rural and Small Business Loans--also helped large numbers of people.

In Alabama, the anti-poverty program got off to a slow start. At the end of the first year, six of the 26 anti-poverty districts in the state had received grants to start Community Action Programs.

There were still no programs in most of the impoverished Black Belt counties. But 15 more districts had submitted plans for Community Action Projects. And in the Black Belt, whites and Negroes were beginning to plan together, as the anti-poverty program requires (Page One).

Some communities in the northern part of the state had ambitious anti-poverty programs, and were planning for more.

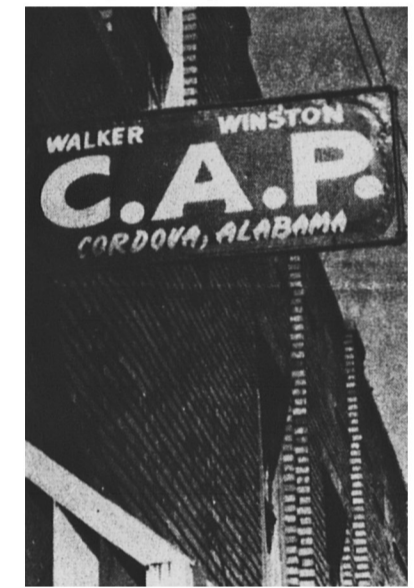
These included Winston and Walker Counties (Page One), Anniston (Page One) and Hobson City (Page Five).

### Walker-Winston Program Aids Counties' Economy

BY DAVID R. UNDERHILL

CORDOVA -- "I don't know what they're doin' up in the old union office, but I hope they're doin' somethin'. We sure need it around here."

The man hitching a ride into Cordova



va hadn't had a steady job in almost two years. There are many others like him in Walker and Winston Counties.

The old union hall is the headquarters for the new Walker-Winston Community Action Program, which is trying to bring the economy of the two counties back to life.

The program operates on a federal anti-poverty grant of \$92,000, hard work and hope. And it's getting a lot of

voluntary help from the people of the two counties.

Last spring many of these people came to the meeting in the Walker County courthouse that made the first plans for the Community Action Program.

Some citizens of Jasper, the county seat and largest town, had asked for a federal official to come in and explain how they could use the Economic Opportunity Act.

They needed help from somewhere. Just a few years ago the coal mines and cotton mills in the area meant steady jobs for thousands of people. Then the demand for coal dropped off, and scores of mines had to close.

Improvements in mining methods reduced the number of jobs available in the coal fields that managed to stay in business.

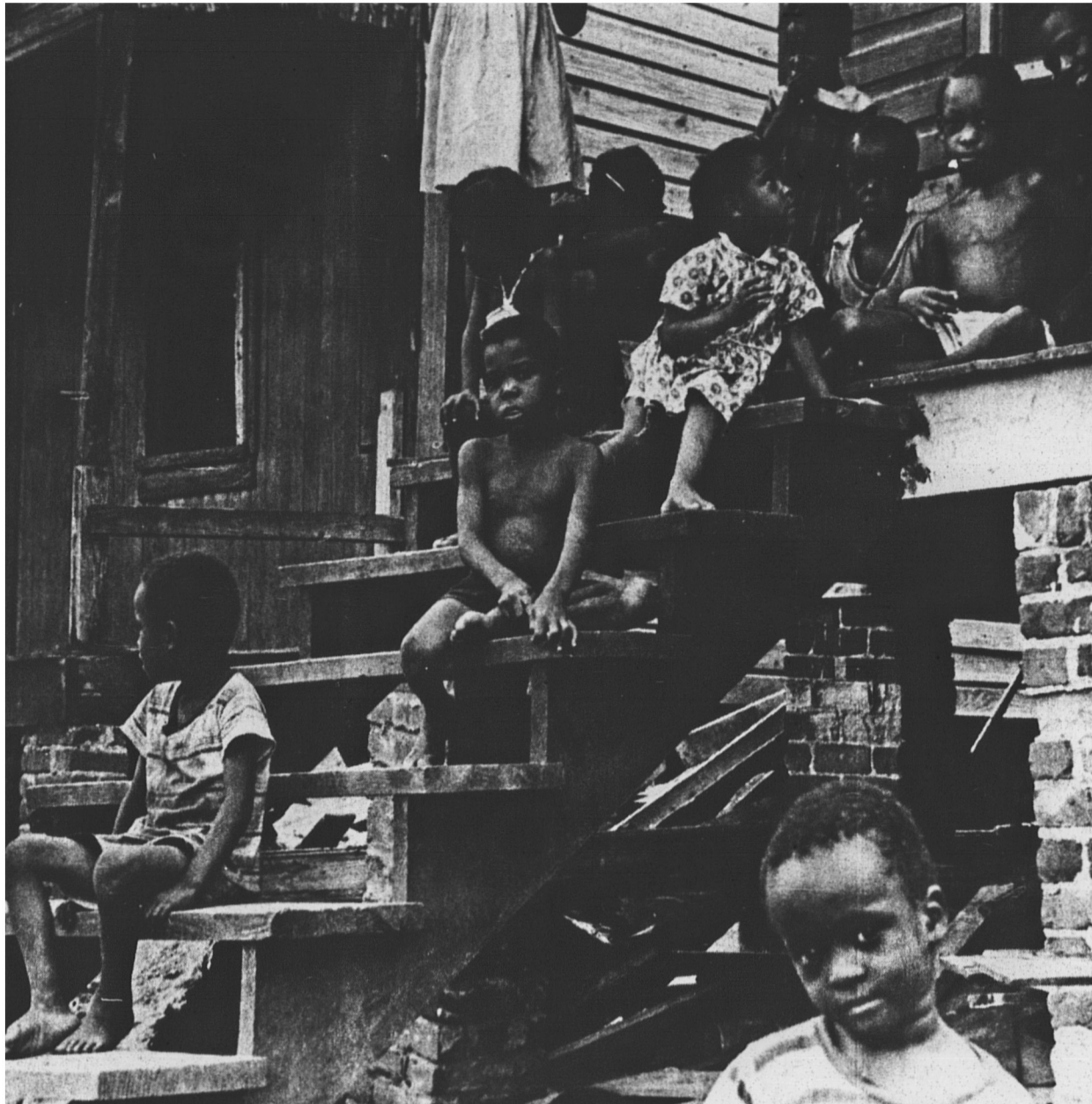
Textile mills that once employed more than 1,000 workers had to close completely, because they could not compete with newer, more efficient mills in other places.

"It looked for a while that Cordova was completely gone," Joe Poe, the mayor of this little town near Jasper, said this week. "We had hit the bottom."

Now Cordova and the county are trying to crawl back up, and the Community Action Program is beginning to give them a boost.

After the meeting in Jasper, the towns in the county each contributed about \$100. Selson Boyd, a local accountant, was selected to prepare an application

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### People Learn New Job Skills

BY GAIL FALK

MONTGOMERY -- "This education means a lot to me. It means a good job opportunity for me--I hope. This education means a future with opportunities."

A student in the clerk-stenographer class of the Manpower Development and Training Act school in Montgomery last year wrote this. Now she has a job in Prattville as a secretary and accountant.

The Montgomery school, in a white-pillared mansion that used to be the Elks' Club, trains men and women from central Alabama who would otherwise be unemployed. They learn skills that are in demand in this area.

Mrs. Maxine Sanders, from Luverne, heard about the program last year from friends. It had been 11 years since she'd graduated from high school. Her son and daughter were in school.

"I didn't have anything to do. I was just sitting around all day," she said this week. "The only job I could have gotten was as a domestic, and I hate that

kind of work."

And so, last February, she applied at the State Employment Service to go to the Montgomery school. She filled out an application and had an interview. They told her to stop back every month. Finally, towards the end of the summer, she was notified that she had been accepted.

Mrs. Sanders was one of 40 women who started clerk-typist or clerk-stenographer courses this fall.

The school offers courses in skills that are currently needed.

Now, according to a State Employment Service survey, there is a need for nurses, welders and people trained in duplicating processes. Charles E. Carroll, area supervisor, said he wanted to start courses in these subjects as soon as funds were approved in Washington.

Mrs. Sanders and her classmates in the clerk-typist course put in a hard eight-hour day at school. They take courses in typing, filing, bookkeeping, office machines, math, English and basic education.

They learn to work electric typewriters and adding machines and mimeograph machines. Some will learn to run a headliner or a multilith offset machine.

Carroll said he wished the program could last longer than a year. "There are too many needs to be met in a year," he said.

Mrs. Sanders, for instance, graduated from high school, but she can't do fractions or figure percentages. "The teachers at my school didn't know anything, so you know I wasn't going to get it from them," she explained.

Carroll got funds to add a basic education course and extend the program 12 weeks this year. But still, Mrs. Sanders has to start learning bookkeeping and business math before she has caught up in arithmetic.

The school is quietly integrated. Right now, there are about 30 Negro women and 10 whites. "The students are here for one purpose--to prepare for a job. They're more intent on that than on

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE)

### Calhoun Has Dollars And Difficulties

BY DAVID R. UNDERHILL

ANNISTON--Not long ago, an hysterical lady burst into the offices of the Community Improvement Board of Calhoun County and began screaming that the whole thing was another of the great federal give-away programs.

In one way, she was right. The federal government has paid the anti-poverty board here well over half a million dollars since it started operations last May. But the government hasn't given the money away.

It gave the Improvement Board the money to start an office and to pay for the anti-poverty programs run through the office.

All the board's requests for funds were drastically reduced in Washington before being approved, and the board's programs are carefully checked as the money is spent.

And the money isn't spent on anyone who wants some. It is spent on programs to benefit families earning less than \$3,000 a year. There are over 7,000 of these families in Calhoun County.

The aid these families get is not give-away aid, like many welfare programs. Instead, the money is spent to help these families eventually earn their own living, so they won't need any more government help.

The hysterical lady was partly right about the give-away--and mostly wrong.

But if she was also worried that the Community Improvement Board might help to integrate Calhoun County, then she was quite right.

This anti-poverty office like all others in the country, cannot discriminate by race in the programs it runs or in the hiring and assignment of its own staff. It loses its money if it does.

Both Negro and white youths are in the biggest program the Calhoun board is running now, and almost 20 Negroes work as planners or administrators of the board's programs.

The integration has caused no serious problems. Negro counselors are working with white youngsters, and "nobody even notices," according to staff members.

But there are some problems. Money is one, despite the large amount that Calhoun County has received already. Ninety per cent of the funds this year came from Washington. The remaining ten per cent had to come from local government or private gifts.

Getting that ten per cent wasn't easy, and beginning in July next year, the anti-poverty law requires that the non-federal share rise to 50 per cent of the total, except in special circumstances.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE)

## Race Complicates Black Belt Anti-Poverty Plans

BY EDWARD M. RUDD

SELMA--In the Selma SCLC office two weeks ago, the Rev. Harold Middlebrook listened to a report of a meeting held the night before by the Dallas County Planning Committee for President's Anti-Poverty Aid. "And were there any white folks there?" he asked.

Three white men from Selma had attended the meeting in a Negro church, he was told. One was a Lutheran minister, and the other two were a father and son who own a department store in the Negro section.

"Good, good," said Mr. Middlebrook. "But did everybody on the list get a letter?"

Certified letters had been sent to 14 white people in all walks of life in Selma. The letters invited them to the first public meeting of the anti-poverty planning committee. All the members of the "white folks" anti-poverty committee got an invitation.

Mr. Middlebrook was furious at first to hear that only 14 letters had been mailed.

He wants to show receipts from as many certified letters as possible to the Office of Economic Opportunity when it comes time to apply for a Community Action Program. The letters will help prove that his committee tried to reach all the people--white as well as Negro.

"And what about the people from out in the rural areas?" he asked. "Was Mr. Paine there from Orrville?"

Finers Paine, president of the Dallas County Home Improvement Association, had come to the meeting. He brought his plans for a processing plant in Orrville that would supply the new Negro-owned and -operated P & B Supermarket in Selma.

"You see, doctor, we did our homework!" cried Mr. Middlebrook. He was happily jumping around now, because the meeting had done just about every-

thing he wanted.

Mr. Middlebrook has a definite plan for getting anti-poverty money and projects for his group.

"We understand that the white folks' poverty committee had a very good program. But we didn't like the fact that they had not invited the Negro community or any poor whites on their committee. They are all businessmen or people who are pretty well set," he said.

A group of prominent Selma citizens had formed a poverty committee and submitted a Community Action Program to the Office of Economic Opportunity in Washington. But because there weren't enough Negroes involved, the plan was not approved, and the committee died.

"You see," said Mr. Middlebrook, "what we're going to do is take over the white folks' program--which we think is very good--add our own proposals to it, and submit the whole thing to the OEO."

Mr. Middlebrook said he hoped that once the anti-poverty committee gets a federal grant, more whites will join.

"If white people could understand that the anti-poverty program is not just for Negro people, but for the betterment of the total community, they would join in.

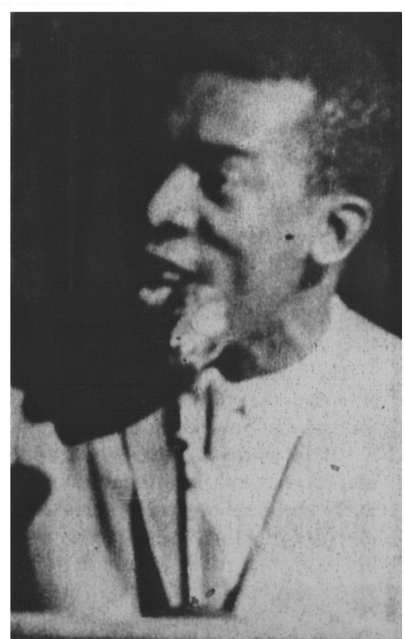
Life for the poor white ain't been a crystal staircase. There have been boards torn up and nails sticking out."

Six leaders of the white community arrived at the next meeting and pledged their help to the poor in Dallas County.

NO HOPE IN CAMDEN

CAMDEN--You can bet your last penny that the city of Camden won't ask the federal government for anti-poverty money. At least as long as Mayor Reginald Albritton has any say about it.

"There a hasn't been a red, copper penny of federal funds in this town for 20 years, and as long as I have anything to say about it, there won't be any for



THE REV. HAROLD MIDDLEBROOK

the next 20 years," said the mayor. Albritton was elected mayor of Camden 20 years ago. One of the first things he did after he took office was to put a 1¢ sales tax on every item sold in the city. Since then, the mayor said, the town has been able to install a sewer system and a public lighting system entirely with money from its own treasury.

The reason the Camden mayor prefers to go it alone is simple:

"We don't want federal funds because there are too many strings attached. Every time you take federal funds, you end up paying ten times as much for all the red tape."

"Camden is one of the truly independent towns in the state," concluded Mayor Albritton.

Albert Gordon, a Negro schoolteacher in Camden, said he thought all this independent spirit was fine for the white people. But he wondered what it all meant for the impoverished Negroes in the area.

When Gordon's county-wide anti-poverty committee sent out 25 letters to white people, inviting them to two meetings in the Antioch Baptist Church, there was not a single reply.

"They don't want any part of it," said Gordon.

CONFLICT IN GREENSBORO

GREENSBORO--There are only about 33 counties in the United States that are poorer than Hale County, Alabama.

But, despite the obvious need for help, the two planning committees in the county can't get together to apply for an anti-poverty program.

The committee in Greensboro is all

-Negro. Its leadership comes from the Hale County Improvement Association, the group behind the demonstrations in Greensboro last summer.

The committee in Moundville has 16 whites and four Negroes. Its chairman is Victor Poole, president of the Bank of Moundville.

"They have 16 whites and four Negroes who don't represent the Negro community," charged Lewis Black, chairman of the Greensboro committee.

But Poole said the Greensboro committee could not claim to speak for the Negro:

"They say that their two leaders speak for the Negroes, but for every one that follows them I can name 15 who

wouldn't touch them with a 10-foot pole. "They call the Negroes on our committee Uncle Toms. I'd like to know what they mean by Uncle Tom. The Negroes on our committee might not be agitators, but they know what they want and what is rightfully theirs."

Behind the leadership question, a deeper political conflict keeps the two committees apart. The Greensboro group takes a "Freedom Now" approach, while Poole's group follows the slower road of moderation.

"Our two committees would be together, if it hadn't been for all the hell-raising and street demonstrations," said Poole.

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# THE SOUTHERN COURIER

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## By the People

The anti-poverty program will be a great test of the American democracy.

President Lincoln said in his Gettysburg Address that the American democracy was a government of the people, by the people and for the people.

The anti-poverty program is of and for the people. It works on the faith that the "little people" of America are the key to her future strength and prosperity.

And the program is also by the people. The burden of making the program work in each community is put squarely on the shoulders of the people of that community. Of course, some of the burden will be carried by the men who have always carried it--the town officials, the civic leaders, the doctors, the lawyers and the ministers.

But for the first time, the poor must help carry the burden. Anti-poverty money will not be a gift for the farmer who just gets by, the mill hand out of work and the young mother with six children and little food. It will be a heavy, heavy load.

No one person can take it upon himself to speak for the people and get the money for them. Nor can he tell them how to spend it. If he tries, he is only fooling himself and the community, because no one can speak for the people but the people themselves.

To get the anti-poverty money, it takes long meetings of the people where everybody gets his say. It also means tense meetings that jumble together rich and poor, black and white. And it takes courage to stand up at these meetings, to say what you mean, believing in the worth of yourself.

That's what American democracy is all about. The Office of Economic Opportunity has put democracy to a test. Whether Alabama and the rest of the country can pass this test is up to you--all of you.

## United Appeal Avoids U.S. Integration Rule

BY ROBERT E. SMITH

MONTGOMERY--A new federal policy this year has pressured fund drives like the United Appeal to sponsor only integrated agencies.

The U.S. Civil Service Commission, which is in charge of employees of the federal government, has said charity money collected from those employees must go only to integrated groups.

This order covers collections from military personnel, and so several Alabama communities are feeling the pressure.

In Montgomery, for instance, the United Appeal expects to raise \$100,000 on the city's two Air Force bases and in federal buildings like the Post Office. The appeal has a goal of \$625,000 from the rest of Montgomery.

Montgomery's United Appeal raises money for 27 agencies. Twenty of them have signed a statement saying they are open to members of any race or creed.

Only the 20 agencies that have signed the statement may split up the \$100,000 that is expected to come from federal employees and armed forces personnel.

All 27 agencies will split the other \$625,000, if that is raised, according to Bernard De Turenne, who is in charge of public relations for the United Appeal of Montgomery.

However, the United Appeal has a way of getting around the federal policy. This way, the seven agencies that have not said they are integrated will not lose out on their share of the federal contributions.

"If we raise our full goal this year," De Turenne said, "we will use some of

our extra reserve funds to make up the difference for the seven agencies."

For instance, if the 20 agencies that say they are integrated get \$5,000 each from federal employees' contributions, then the United Appeal will give the seven other groups \$5,000 from its extra funds. These funds are left over from past years.

De Turenne said federal employees may be asked to give at home, like most other people. Then their contributions would go into the \$625,000 shared by all 27 agencies.

Contributors can name the agency they want to give their money to, but few do, said De Turenne.

The agencies that have not signed the pledge to integrate are the all-white Boys Club of Montgomery, the Child Care Council, the Children's Home on Upper Wetumpka Road, the YMCA, the YWCA and two veterans groups. The YMCA has one Negro branch.

De Turenne said he thought some of these groups would sign the statement before long.

The other agencies that benefit from the Appeal in Montgomery are:

American Red Cross, American Social Health, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, the Negro Capital City Boy's Club, Catholic Charity Bureau, Children's Center of Montgomery, Community Council, Community House for Negroes, Family Guidance Center, Mental Health Association, Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Salvation Army, School for Retarded Negro Children, United Cerebral Palsy, U.S.O., Veterans Welfare Funds, and the United Appeal Central Services.

## Ambulance Driver Refuses to Help Negro

BY JOSEPH WILSON AND JAMES P. WILLSE

BIRMINGHAM--The Birmingham City Council this week extended the contracts under which the Ambulance Service Company and Smith and Gaston Funeral Home provide ambulance service to people injured on the city streets.

The contracts were extended Tuesday to Oct. 31, rather than renewed, so the city council could review the contract terms.

The clause saying the Ambulance Service Company was not "obligated" to pick up Negroes was taken out of the extended contract. A similar clause, saying the Negro-owned Smith and Gaston ambulances were not "obligated" to pick up whites, was also deleted.

The Ambulance Service Company has been bitterly criticized by both whites and Negroes in the city during the past week. A white Ambulance Service driver refused to pick up an elderly Negro man, Joe Bruce, 63, after he was injured

in a traffic accident Oct. 6.

Eyewitnesses described Joe Bruce's death this way:

At 7 p.m. on the rainy night of Oct. 6, Bruce was standing behind his car at a service station on Birmingham's busy Bessemer Highway, asking directions from the station owner. A car driven by Ben F. Kimble jumped the curb and struck him from behind. Bruce was crushed against his car, and both legs were separated from his body.

The police were called immediately. A request for an ambulance was made and relayed by the police dispatcher to Ambulance Service Company. Witnesses estimated that the ambulance, driven by Owen Tollett of Birmingham, arrived three or four minutes after the call.

According to bystanders, Tollett stopped the ambulance and got out only long enough to look briefly at Bruce. He then drove away after radioing the Ambulance Service Company dispatch-

# State Supreme Court Stuns Gov. Wallace; Filibuster Still Blocks His Succession Bill

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN



MONTGOMERY -- Gov. George C. Wallace, closer to defeat than he has ever been before, was stumping the state this week, trying for another four years in office.

Wallace was dealt a big defeat Wednesday by the Alabama Supreme Court. In a 6-1 decision, the court refused to change the state Senate's 24-vote requirement for closure (shutting off debate).

Wallace's Senate supporters had asked the court to declare the requirement unconstitutional, after they failed to cut off debate in their first attempt last week.

Wallace needs a constitutional amendment to succeed himself in office. A filibuster in the state Senate has stopped the bill that would put the amendment to a vote of the people.

When Wallace's men tried to shut off debate last week, they fell six votes short.

They then asked the state Supreme Court to reduce the number of votes they would need to stop the filibuster. But on Wednesday, after a tense five-day wait, the court

ruled that the Senate had a right to require 24 votes to shut off debate, even though only 21 votes would be needed to pass the amendment.

There is nothing in the Constitution's section on amendments "to make the Senate do anything it does not want to do," the court ruled.

After the decision was read in the Senate, Wallace called a press conference to announce that he would "go to the people in this matter."

Specifically, he said, he would go to the people in districts represented by men who opposed him.

These districts included Huntsville, Tuscaloosa, Gadsden, Birmingham, Mobile, Morgan County and Elmore and Tallapoosa Counties.

"I trust the people of this state, I will cheerfully accept whatever decision they might render," the governor said. "If I stay in public office, I will do exactly what I have been doing in the past."

If the people wanted him to, he said, he would go back to Indiana, Maryland and Wisconsin, where he ran in presidential primaries last fall.

He said he didn't think the filibustering senators "have a right" to keep the people from voting on the second-term question. And he added:

"The succession amendment, in my judgment, is going to pass."

The Wallace forces still could try to stop the filibuster by changing the rules of the Senate. A simple majority of the senators could decide to reduce the 24-vote requirement.

But the Administration could run into another filibuster if it tries to change the rules.

Both the House, which has already passed the succession bill, and the Senate were adjourned until Friday.

## Wage, Union Laws Beaten

BY LAURA GODOLSKY

WASHINGTON--As the U. S. Congress winds up one of its busiest sessions in history, three of President Johnson's domestic proposals seem headed for defeat.

No action is expected on repealing "right-to-work" laws, raising and expanding the federal minimum wage, and giving "home rule" to the nation's capital.

The President had promised that Congress would do away with work laws in 19 states, including Alabama. Repealing the laws would allow workers in these states to organize union shops. In a union shop, a worker must join the union after he is hired, or lose his job. The right-to-work repeal was passed in the House, but ran into trouble in the Senate. When a vote last Monday failed to stop a filibuster against the repeal, it seemed likely that the Administration would give up.

Congress' failure to change the right-to-work laws would be a major defeat for the nation's labor movement, and for the President. President Johnson promised the repeal to the unions after they helped him get elected last fall. Democrats in the House gave up trying to get the minimum wage raised this year.

The proposal that came out of the House's Education and Labor Committee would have raised the minimum wage from \$1.25 an hour to \$1.75, and extended the law to another 7,900,000 people, including farm and laundry workers.

This was far more than the President had asked for. The bill never came to a vote, because the House was busy with other matters, and because the law's chief sponsor, Representative James Roosevelt of California, resigned to take another federal job.

President Johnson also wanted to give home rule (self-government) to the residents of Washington, D.C. They are currently governed by various congressional committees and appointed officials.

The Senate passed the Administration's bill, but the House voted for a complicated measure that would delay home rule for an indefinite period. It is considered doubtful that there is enough time to work out a compromise.

## King Visits Trouble Spot

BY STEVE COTTON

CRAWFORDVILLE, Ga.--The Rev. Martin Luther King came to Crawfordville Monday night, and for one evening, the population nearly doubled in this little Georgia town.

More than 700 Negroes and a handful of white civil rights workers packed the Friendship Baptist Church to hear Dr. King. When there was no more room inside, latecomers had to huddle outside the doorways in order to hear.

"There will be neither peace nor tranquility in this community until the Negro receives justice in Crawfordville," Dr. King declared. He said his organization, SCLC, was "here to stand by your side until freedom is yours."

The racial situation in Crawfordville, he said, "left you with no choice but to demonstrate and left us with no choice but to support your demonstrations."

Negroes have been demonstrating here for two weeks to protest school desegregation. A dozen have been arrested.

Before school opened, it looked for a while as if Tallapoosa County's only white school, the Alexander Stephens Institute, would be integrated.

But all the white students transferred to schools in two other counties, and the school board then said there would be too few students to operate Stephens Institute.

Negroes were told that they could not go to school outside Tallapoosa County, because registration was over and it was too late to transfer. That meant that Negroes had to go back to the all-Negro Murden School, the only other school in the county.

Now there is another school, a log-walled freedom school six miles from Crawfordville, and 300 Negroes have been boycotting the Murden School to attend it.

There are demonstrations every day in Crawfordville. Each morning a few Negroes try to join white students on

## Fear, Apathy Slow Voter Registration

ABBEVILLE--Fear and lack of interest have slowed down the voter registration drive here, according to a white SCLC worker.

"The Henry County registrars have cooperated ever since the Voting Rights Act was passed," said Michael Bibler of SCLC, "even though there are no federal examiners here."

"They register everyone who comes down," agreed James J. Vaughan, a Negro store owner.

"Getting the people to come down is a problem, however," said Bibler. Bibler said 750 Negroes have been registered to vote in Abbeville since July. He estimated there were 4,500 Negroes of voting age in the county.

The next registration day in Henry County is Monday, from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Regular registration days are the first and third Mondays of each month.



THE REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING IN CRAWFORDVILLE

the buses going to school outside Tallapoosa County, but 40 state troopers are there to keep the Negroes back. Each afternoon there is a march to the courthouse.

Gov. Carl Sanders has asked that the Negroes stop demonstrating until a federal court in Augusta decides whether Tallapoosa County's brand of segregation is legal.

Local leaders have said the demonstrations will continue, and Monday Dr. King backed them up.

"We are going to say to the state of Georgia that we will not be fooled any longer," Dr. King said. "We have not made a single gain in Georgia or anywhere else in this nation without

## Employee Pickets Paper

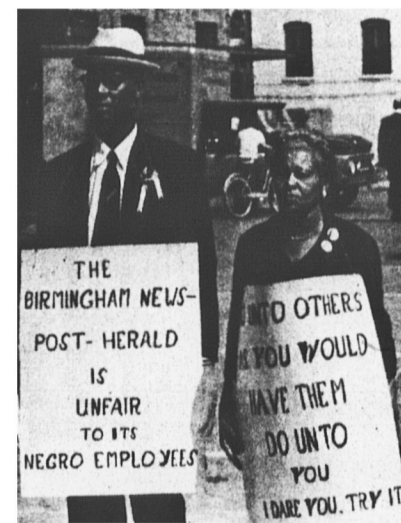
BIRMINGHAM--Stylishly dressed in tie and tails, the Rev. Jack Graham is picketing the Birmingham News Co. He is protesting his dismissal last July for "neglect of duty" and "refusal to obey a direct order" to see the company doctor.

Graham was seriously injured in the plant last May 5, when a scaffold fell on him. After a few months of care by the company doctor, Graham began to get treatment from his private physician. The News fired him because he did not obey their "order" to go back to the company doctor.

Graham, who had been working 15 years for the News, claimed he was fired because of his civil rights activity and because of his demand for equal distribution of overtime work among union members.

He is running for his seventh term as president of the all-Negro Printing Specialty and Paper Products Union, Local 565.

Graham said he would picket the News



THE REV. GRAHAM AND SUPPORTER

indefinitely. "I am willing to give my life for this cause," he said. "You can't throw 15 years of work out on the street."



Following are selected highlights of the television week ahead:

FRIDAY, OCT. 15

Leontyne Price--The great Negro opera singer appears on an hour-long program with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, 8:30 p.m. Channel 2 in Dozier, Channel 7 in Anniston, Channel 10 in Birmingham, Channel 26 in Montgomery (all Educational TV stations).

SATURDAY, OCT. 16

College football--Arkansas vs. Texas, 2 p.m. Channel 10 in Mobile, Channel 12 in Montgomery.

Football scores--After the game on the above channels, and at 5:45 p.m. on Channel 8 in Selma.

SUNDAY, OCT. 17

Pro football--Baltimore Colts vs. Washington Redskins, 11:45 a.m. Channel 4 in Dothan, Channel 5 in Mobile, Channel 20 in Montgomery.

TUESDAY, OCT. 19

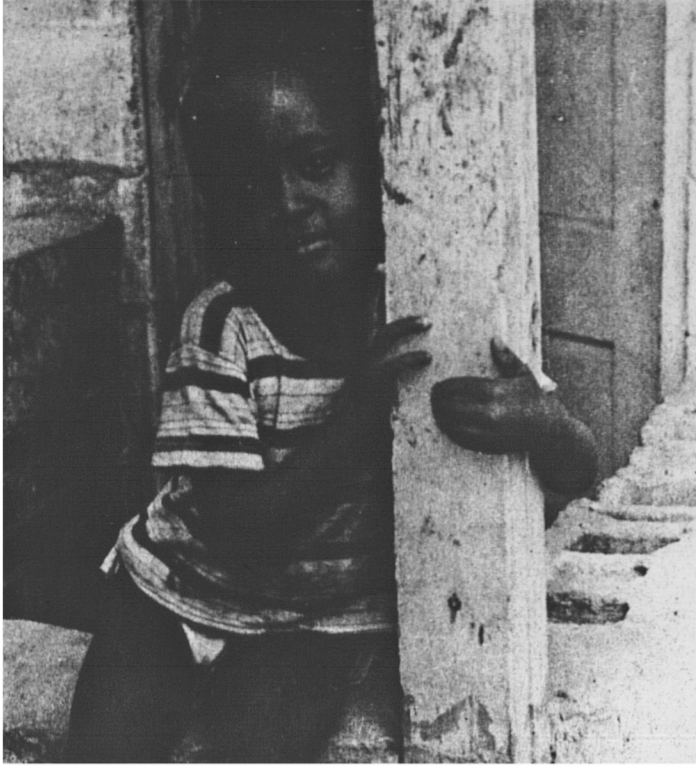
THE MAKING OF THE PRESIDENT 1964--Film clips of the Johnson-Goldwater fight for the White House make an exciting story, even though you know how it ends, Channel 4 in Dothan, Channel 5 in Mobile, Channel 20 in Montgomery.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 20

MY NAME IS BARBRA--A re-run of a very popular show of assorted musical skits by Barbra Streisand Broadway's "Funny Girl." If you like Barbra, you will enjoy this witty hour.

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POVERTY HAS A YOUNG FACE



AND AN OLD FACE,

# Poverty in Alabama



POVERTY LIVES IN GARBAGE HEAPS



AND IN PAWN SHOPS.



AND POVERTY LIVES ON THE FARM.



POVERTY IS LONELY



AND TIRED.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAMES H. PEPPLER



A WHITE FACE



AND A BLACK FACE.



POVERTY WALKS SLOWLY DOWN THE STREET.



# Anti-Poverty Programs Offer Many Chances for Progress

BY GAIL FAIK

Everyone knows there are poor people in Alabama. Everyone has seen faces of poverty like those on Page Three. And almost everyone knows Congress has voted the money for anti-poverty programs--money local communities can use to get rid of poverty.

But there are 120 U.S. laws containing 700 titles with 5,000 sections that deal with anti-poverty programs. So it's hard for people in local communities to figure out where to start. It's hard for them to learn what the anti-poverty program will do, and it's hard to find out how to get them.

Here is a description of some of the new anti-poverty programs that almost every town or county in Alabama can get.

## Community Action

The most important program created by the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 is the Community Action Program.

There have been anti-poverty programs on the books for years. But these programs have never reached many of the people who need them most.

One reason has been that poor people--the people who had the problems--did not share in planning the programs. They usually weren't consulted when programs were started, and, if they were, they usually didn't know enough to come up with a good plan.

The Community Action Program is a way to get local people--especially local poor people--in on the planning, and to figure out what programs are needed most in the local community.

To start a Community Action Program, a group that represents all the residents in the area--including the poor people--requests a federal grant.

The government will pay the group to start an office and to hire a coordinator (someone with a college degree and experience in community planning), two assistants and a secretary (preferably a Youth Corps member).

One of the first jobs for this office is to make a study of poverty in the area. This study should find out things like whether most of the poor people are high school drop-outs, retired people, or people out of work because they don't have the right skills for the jobs available.

The Community Action Program study may find out how many people cannot read and write. If there are quite a few illiterates who would like to learn to read, the study may recommend an Adult Basic Education program.

It may find a large number of unwed mothers, and recommend a mobile birth control unit. It may find that men are being laid off work at a plant in the area, and recommend a job referral center.

The Community Action Program leaves the planning of anti-poverty programs up to the imagination of local people, who know the needs best and who will use the programs themselves.

There are hundreds of possibilities. Some are described below. Others include public housing for senior citizens, training for the handicapped and mentally retarded, educational television, library construction, juvenile delinquency control, rural electrification and day-care centers for children of working mothers.

The thing that makes the Community Action Program different is this: people can request and get money for a program that no one has ever thought of before.

## Head Start

Head Start has been the most popular and the most widespread of the anti-poverty programs.

Maybe the reason it has been so successful all over the country is that it attacks such a basic problem.

Most children in the United States have learned a lot before they get to the first grade in school. They have learned to count, and they have learned the names of colors. They have learned to listen and pay attention, and many of them have learned to write their own names.

But many poor children come to first grade without learning these things.

These children, who are already behind when they reach first grade, are sometimes called "culturally deprived." And these children are the ones the anti-poverty program wants to give a Head Start.

Head Start was an eight-week summer program for children about to enter kindergarten or first grade.

The children learned while they were having fun. They learned the names of colors as they painted. They learned to sit still and listen while teachers read them stories. Some learned the letters of the alphabet on the blocks they played with.

Many poor children fall behind in school because they aren't healthy. Head Start gave all children an medical examination. Children who had never had a smallpox vaccination or polio shots were given them. The children's eyes and hearing were tested.



Some schools gave toothbrushes to all the children. A teacher in Selma said that some of her class had never used a toothbrush.

The children were served a snack of fruit juice and at least one balanced meal a day. For many youngsters, this was more food than they got at home.

Many schools had "parents' night," where the teachers told the parents how the children were taught and how the parents could take better care of their children's health.

All over the country, people found the summer program so worthwhile that they asked for it to continue into the fall.

The year-long Head Start program will be called Upward Bound. In addition to the things the summer programs had, it will provide after-school activities for six- to 11-year-olds and a more thorough medical program.

Funds for many Upward Bound projects in Alabama are expected to be approved by the end of the month.

## Neighborhood Youth Corps



For many children who never had a Head Start, school has meant falling behind a little more each year. By the time they're 16 or 17, they feel there's no way to catch up. So they drop out of school and look for a job. But there aren't many jobs, especially for high-school drop-outs, when 4 1/2 per cent of the people in the United States are out of work.

The Neighborhood Youth Corps will pay young people (16 to 21) the federal minimum wage of \$1.25 an hour to do jobs in the community for the government or for non-profit organizations.

The idea behind the Youth Corps is this: the only way to learn to keep a job is to have one. Once they are given a job, Youth Corps members are encouraged to learn good work habits, like being on time, coming to work regularly and doing the job carefully.

High school drop-outs may work up to six months in the program. They are permitted to work up to 32 hours a week, at jobs like cleaning parking meters, stamping text books or helping teachers in Upward Bound projects. Besides the experience of a steady job, they get special counseling and advice on how to apply for a permanent job.

Some Youth Corps members are still enrolled in high school. These students earn spending money by doing jobs around the school--shelving books in the library, serving food in the cafeteria or showing films. People still in school may not work more than 15 hours a week.

## Job Corps

The Job Corps makes a beginning at breaking the pattern of poverty for many young people, by getting them away from home. It is a residential training program for out-of-school, out-of-work 16- to 21-year olds.

There are two kinds of Job Corps centers: The rural Job Corps centers, for men only, are work camps located in national parks and forests. Boys do hard physical work on conservation and forestry projects.

Urban centers, for men or for women, give training in skills that are in demand today. The men's centers--some of them on unused military bases--give training in auto mechanics, data processing, and all kinds of parts service and machinery repair.

The women's centers prepare girls for jobs as nurses, secretaries, cooks, recreation leaders, teachers or commercial artists.

Men apply for the Job Corps at the State Employment Office. Women's applications are handled by Women in Community Service, a national federation of women's groups.

Young people who apply are screened carefully and the ones most likely to benefit from Job Corps experience are selected. There are no set standards. Some young people who are accepted have an eighth-grade reading level. Others don't even know the alphabet.

An important part of Job Corps training is basic education. The goal of the reading program is to teach every Corps member to read an average book or magazine. The math program is aimed at everyday problems, teaching Job Corpsmen the math they need for shopping, paying bills and paying taxes.

As in the Neighborhood Youth Corps, the actual job training is in two parts--job skills, and instruction in how to apply for and keep a job.

Most of the girls in the Job Corps centers will soon have the job of keeping house and taking care of a family. And so the girls' program includes classes in child care, family budgeting and meal planning.

Much of the education in the Job Corps is informal--learning to live in a group with young people from all over the country, and getting to know teachers and counselors who care about young people.

Job Corpsmen receive room, board, \$30 a month for spending money, and the cost of one trip home a year.

When Corpsmen leave the centers, they are paid \$50 for every month they were there. If a Job Corpsman wants to send home up to \$25 per month of this, the government will send home an equal amount.

Maximum stay at a Job Corps center is two years. The center tries to see that its graduates are settled in a school, a job or the Army.

## Work Experience

Teen-agers aren't the only people who have trouble finding jobs. A person in his 40's or 50's who gets laid off, a woman who is divorced, or a widow may find themselves with a family to support and without the skills they need to get a job.

The Work Experience program gives adults the extra training they need for a steady job. It is intended particularly for people now on welfare.

Under this program, living expenses will be paid for adults while they get on-the-job training and take basic literacy classes.

For example, a woman who is being trained as a practical nurse may have her children's day-care expenses paid by the program.

Like the Job Corps and the Neighborhood Youth Corps, the Work Experience program combines reading and arithmetic classes with job training.

## Legal Services

Laws are supposed to be for protection. But for most poor people who don't understand the law and who can't pay for a lawyer, laws are frightening and confusing.

The Legal Services program pays lawyers to tell poor people about their rights.

Poor people often get poorer because they don't know their rights. They don't know they can break a lease if the landlord doesn't keep the house up. They don't know when there is a limit to the amount of interest they can be charged. They don't know what to do if they buy a TV set that doesn't work, or if their welfare check is stopped without good reason.

The lawyers may give neighborhood classes--on installment buying, on paying taxes or on what to do when arrested. They may hold office hours at night in poor neighborhoods to give advice on legal problems. And they may see to it that people who can't afford to pay a lawyer get legal aid.

## Adult Basic Education

If you're illiterate, you can't read the want ads, so you don't know where to look for a job. You can't read traffic signs. You can't read the Bible. If you can't add, you can't work in a store, or tell if your grocery bill is right. Almost 20 per cent of the people in Alabama



TYPING CLASS AT THE MONTGOMERY MANPOWER TRAINING SCHOOL

cannot read well enough to understand a newspaper or a sixth-grade text book.

These people may have lived for 20 or 30 or 70 years in a world that expects everyone to be able to read. Many of them would like to learn.

The Adult Basic Education program teaches adults with six years of schooling or less to read, write and do arithmetic.

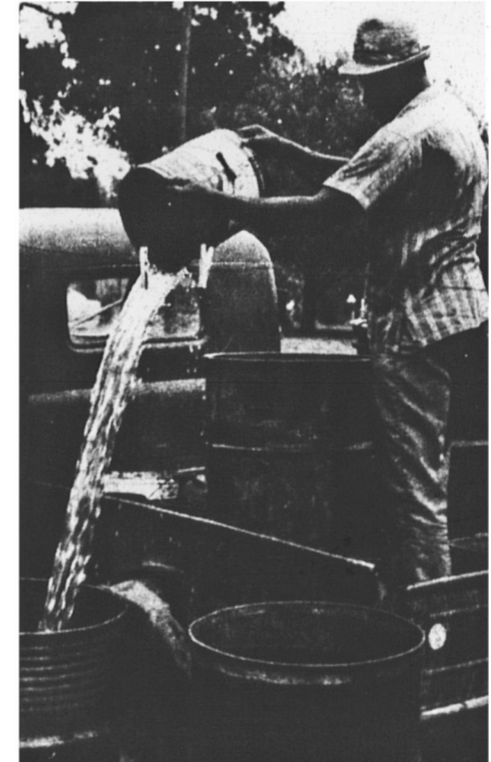
The program is experimenting with new ways of teaching. Some teachers don't use a reading book, for instance. The teachers let the students tell stories, and they write them down in the words the students use. The stories then become the "reader."

Many adults didn't learn to read because they couldn't see the blackboard and no one knew they needed glasses, or because they couldn't hear the teacher and no one knew they needed a hearing aid. Many of the basic education courses give a sight and hearing test at the start, and then see to it that everyone who needs glasses or a hearing aid gets them.

A town in Delaware took over a house in a slum neighborhood for its Adult Basic Education project. The house was painted and remodeled. In addition to classrooms, a game room, a kitchen and a child-care center were built, so the house could be a place for people to make friends as well as to learn together.

## Rural Loans

A small farmer who has a mortgage on his farm may fall farther and farther behind in his payments because he can't get a loan for farm improvements.



Through the Farmers Home Administration, he can now get an "opportunity loan" of up to \$2,500. These loans, at 4 1/8 per cent interest, can be used to refinance old debts or to pay for new equipment, new animals, good seed, or clearing and fencing timber land.

A farmer who gets a rural loan will work closely with an FHA representative to plan farm improvements. The FHA man will encourage the farmer to think ahead about how many acres to clear this year and next, or about crop rotation.

As the FHA representative helps the farmer plan, he will give him advice on technical questions--what kind of seed or fertilizer to use,

or what crops will sell best.

The loans are not just for farmers. Non-farming rural people can get loans to improve their businesses. A rural non-farm loan might be used to buy a pick-up truck, enlarge a farm machinery shop or build a roadside market.

Farmers' cooperatives can get loans that don't have to be completely repaid for 30 years. The loans can be used to buy shared farm machinery or a crop-storage building. One dairy cooperative, for instance, got a rural loan to rebuild a milk processing plant.

An FHA representative will work closely with the cooperative, as with the small farmer, to make sure the loan is used wisely.

## Small Business Loans

Small business owners usually give up trying to improve or expand their businesses when they cannot get a loan.

The Economic Opportunity Act provides for loans to businesses with a reasonable chance of succeeding. The loans are made through the Small Business Administration. They can be as large as \$25,000, to be repaid in 15 years at 5 1/2 per cent interest.

These loans are available only in communities that have Small Business Development Centers organized by the local Community Action Program or by private businessmen. The Center will recommend a business for a loan if it thinks the owner is reliable, and if it thinks the loan will help the economy of the community by providing needed jobs or services.

## VISTA

VISTA--Volunteers in Service to America--is a program for people 18 and over who want to spend a year in the War on Poverty.

VISTA volunteers are carefully chosen, and go through a thorough six-week training program. They will have to work with community problems that no one has been able to solve before. They will have to get along with drop-outs that teachers have not been able to reach, or with poor people who have learned to distrust everybody.

Requests for VISTA volunteers come from local Community Action Programs or private agencies.

VISTA volunteers could find themselves teaching crafts to the mentally retarded, encouraging school drop-outs to go back and give school another try, teaching soon-to-be-paroled prisoners, or organizing poor people in their neighborhoods to work together.

The volunteers receive a monthly living allowance and \$50 per month to be paid when they finish their year's work.

Applications are made to VISTA, in the Office of Economic Opportunity in Washington.

## Manpower Training

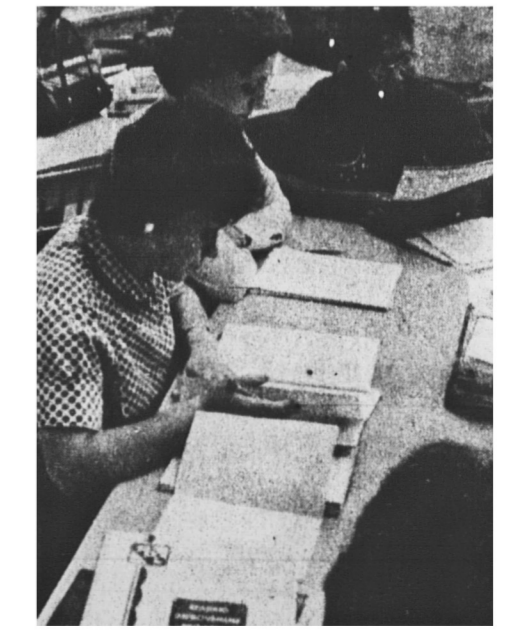
Automation has put many people out of work. But it has also created new jobs--for people with the skills to fill them. The Manpower Development and Training Act was passed three years ago to give job training to people who would otherwise be out of work.

Manpower Development and Training Act schools give a one-year course in skills that are in demand, like television repair, welding and nursing.

Students are selected by the State Employment Service. To be eligible, a person must be in one of the following categories: unemployed; employed less than full time in a job that will soon be taken over by a machine; employed in a job that would be below his capacity if he were trained; between 16 and 22 and in need of training or a member of a farm family with an income less than \$1,200.

A trainee who is head of a household and who has had two years of gainful employment may receive an "allowance." Students who cannot live at home while in training will be paid living and transportation costs.

The State Employment Service helps students who have completed the Manpower Development and Training Act course to find jobs.



## Kirk's 'Keys' Can Unlock The Problems of Poverty

MONTGOMERY--The elevator in the Alabama Public Safety Building doesn't go as far as the Office of Economic Opportunity. You have to get out on the third floor and walk the rest of the way.

That's because it's a new office, like the Community Action Program that it supervises all over the state. People in Alabama are just starting to learn it's there and that it can help them.

The state office was started to give advice to people in Alabama who want anti-poverty programs in their community. This advice may include ideas for programs, help with filling out forms, and suggestions about what programs Washington is likely to approve or disapprove.

There are two yellow posters in the office of Claude R. Kirk, coordinator of the Alabama Advisory Committee for Economic Opportunity. One has nothing but pictures of locks, and one has nothing but pictures of keys.

"That's our job," says Kirk, pointing to the posters, "and the job of the local Community Action Program coordinators. People in the local communities identify the lock--the particular problem they have--and then we help them find the right key. We help them to plan the program that will help their community most."

Kirk spends much of his time explaining the Economic Opportunities Act of 1964:

"This is not a bleeding-hearts program," he says, "but a program to afford economic opportunity to those in the community who need such an opportunity."

"People on welfare are now a burden to themselves and to the economy of the community. The Economic Opportunities Act of 1964, is directed toward removing as many people as possible from the welfare society--through economically sound programs."

When he's talking to businessmen, he may do some math to explain the program:

"If you could increase by \$1,000 the income of the million people in Alabama who are below the poverty level, you would add a billion dollars in purchasing power to the Alabama market. What businessmen will turn that down?"



# Hobson City VISTA Volunteers

## 'Help People Help Themselves'

BY CLAY MUSSELMAN

HOBSON CITY--"This town gets things done when it wants to," said Gary Mols of Buffalo, N.Y. He is one of five volunteers in this town's two-month-old VISTA project.

Hobson City is a town of 800 people in Calhoun County, with an all-Negro government. Under Mayor J. R. Striplin's bi-racial committee, it was the first community in the nation to apply to the Office of Economic Opportunity in Washington, D.C., for a VISTA project.

"We are here to help people help themselves," said Eugene Peters of Endicott, N.Y.

A. Snow, Hobson City Street Superintendent, said the VISTA volunteers are doing "a nice job."

The mobile library truck from Anniston never stopped in Hobson City until one of the VISTA volunteers made arrangements for it to come every week. "You ought to see the people get around there when that library truck comes in here. Old folks too, not only the young ones," said Snow.

Now Hobson City is the biggest stop of all for the Anniston bookmobile.

That's not all VISTA has accomplished.

"See those drums over there?" Snow said, pointing to three silver trash containers on the corner of the city square. "They put them there."

Soon after they came here, VISTA workers organized a clean-up day. They got everybody, the mayor and city council included, to go from yard to yard cleaning up paper and trash. Then they decided to place permanent waste containers on the street.

"Finances are the big problem," said Miss Ruby Shankin, from Berkeley, Calif., the only Negro volunteer of the five and the only girl. One need is for sports equipment.

In a month or two, VISTA will get federal money to start a day-care center for the children of working parents. But small amounts of money are needed to supply the classes that volunteers teach.

If you step through the side door of the VISTA headquarters, you are in the mayor's office.

The VISTA volunteers spent a full week organizing the official files of Hobson City after they arrived.

"There was absolutely no system for record keeping" one said.

"We gathered three barrels of waste paper, about \$50 in checks--some over a year old--and even some loose cash," said William S. Hansell, a graduate of LaSalle College in Philadelphia, Pa. VISTA is working on keeping the jail clean.

"We could go in there and clean it ourselves," Miss Shankin said. "But we would like to see the town do it every day."

Hobson City was changing before VISTA arrived.

Snow said the state highway department is building almost two miles of new road, with curb and pavement, under a \$44,000 state grant.

And there is a plan in the works to replace the open drainage ditches along the road with an underground sewerage system.

"We have nothing to do with the sewer building plan," said Hansell. "That was going on long before we got here."

## Cordova

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

for an anti-poverty grant. to start a Community Action Program.

He spent weeks convincing people in federal offices and in Walker County that the program would work. And the federal officials told him to bring neighboring Winston County into the program too.

Then the grant came through, and the Walker-Winston Community Action Program opened its offices in a vacant building that had once been the textile union headquarters in Cordova.

The building and the materials to fix it up were all donated to the program.

The Community Action Program has 14 full-time employees, all local people, working in the office and out in the field. It could use more, if it had the money to hire them.

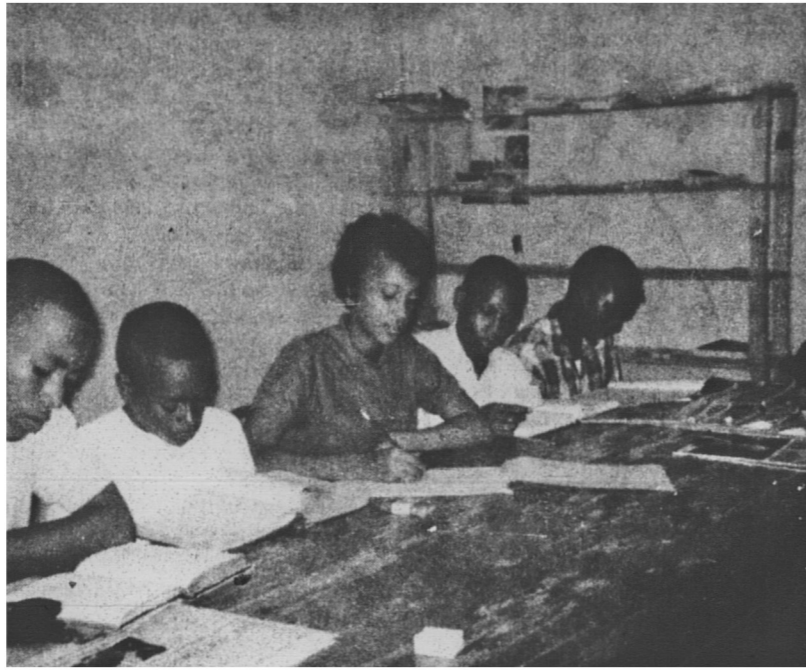
There are two main projects at present. One is a survey of all the families in the two counties who live on less than \$3,000 a year.

Most of the anti-poverty programs are open only to people in this category. The Walker-Winston group wants to locate them all, and find out which of the many different programs would help them the most.

The other main project is the establishment of "referral centers," where people in poor neighborhoods and rural areas can go to learn what local, state, and federal services are available to them.

"You'd be surprised how many people don't know about the assistance that's already available to them," said J. L. Sartin, assistant to coordinator Boyd.

The first center opened in the Negro section of Jasper. "We figured there's the best place to start because that's where the greatest need was," Sartin explained.



# VISTA Trainees Graduate

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE--"I didn't mind the rats in my room," said Miss Ann Klein, 22, a pretty, dark-haired college graduate from Burlington, Iowa. "It was the rats in the piano that bothered me."

"They had a nest in the piano, and at night they'd chew on things. The sound echoed through the whole house."

The house was owned by an elderly couple in rural Macon County. They and several of their children worked in their cotton fields all day. They just barely managed to make a living from the land.

This family and many others in Macon, Lee, and Tallapoosa counties benefited from the two training programs the Volunteers In Service to America (VISTA) recently held at Tuskegee Institute.

Each of the more than 80 trainees stayed with a poor family for 2 1/2 weeks, to find out what poverty is like and to help the families learn to fight it.

Miss Klein was one of 41 trainees, ages 18 to 74, who graduated from the second program last Friday.

She could have bought rat poison the first day she went to live with the family. But that isn't the way VISTA works. Instead, she persuaded the farmer's wife to buy rat poison, and to make an effort to keep rats out of the house.

"At first," Miss Klein said, "she didn't believe anything could be done. Her husband was a very religious man. He felt it wasn't right to fix his own roof or clean his own well when a neighbor needed him."

"I had to try and help his wife show him that he could help his neighbors and still help himself and his family live a little better."

Bill Luvaas, 20, of Eugene, Ore., who

is taking a year off from college to work for VISTA, stayed with a Tallapoosa County Negro family which used a white man's land to raise cattle and corn.

"The family told me the man was a member of the Ku Klux Klan," Luvaas said. "Sure enough, when he found out I was there, he threatened not to let the family harvest its crop or use his pasture."

"The family wanted me to stay, anyway. But then the next day the father went to his job at a textile mill and was told he had been 'temporarily' laid off. That night he asked me to leave."

Miss Roxie Luke, 22, of Beloit, Wis., had another kind of problem. "The family I stayed with treated me as someone superior," she said.

## Anniston Program

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

"I really don't know where the money will come from," said Andrew Cooper, a Negro administrative assistant in the Anniston office.

Other problems arise from the federal regulations the improvement board operates under.

The board has just started a Neighborhood Youth Corps that already has enrolled nearly 300 youngsters to work at \$1.25 an hour on various public service jobs. The regulations say that no one already employed can take a Youth Corps job.

Jim Thompson, director of the corps, said a high-school senior who washes dishes in a cafe 35 hours a week for only 40¢ an hour came in and asked to join the corps.

Because he already had a job, they had to turn him down, even though he could have equalled his present pay with the Youth Corps in about one-

## MDTA School

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

their differences," said an English teacher.

Teachers want the students to take their typewriters and filing seriously. But they also encourage the students to think beyond their business courses.

"We try to find a special interest of the student and encourage the ability," said one teacher. "Last year we had a student who was a good artist, and she did a lot of drawing. Now she has a shop of her own. She uses skills she learned here like bookkeeping, to keep her shop."

Most of last year's graduates have jobs now, using skills they learned at the school. Some have not been able to find good jobs, and a few have not been able to find any job.

"The government's going to be paid back in six to eight years by this program (because people will be taken off the unemployment rolls). But that's not the important thing--saving money for the government," said Carroll.

"The thing that's important is that we've helped individuals who didn't have anything to do. We've helped some people that were down in the gutter--really in the gutter."

"They fed me first while the kids stood around and fanned the flies off. I stopped that. I told them we were all in this together, as equals."

Despite their troubles, the trainees did get things done. Miss Luke and other VISTA workers in the Hardaway area helped families fix up their homes.

They began adult education classes, cleared land for a playground, and brought a group of children into Tuskegee to swim in a swimming pool for the first time in their lives.

The volunteers who trained at Tuskegee Institute will spend 10 1/2 months helping poor rural families throughout the United States. Two of them, including Bill Luvaas, were assigned to Huntsville.



## Careful Planning Brings Program to Tuscaloosa

BY JAMES P. WILLSE

TUSCALOOSA--The Tuscaloosa Opportunity Program--TOP for short--has grown from an idea to a working organization in one year.

With the passage of the Economic Opportunity Act in August, 1964, several Tuscaloosa residents active in the Community Council--a local welfare group--decided that a Community Action Program could be the answer to many of the county's welfare problems.

So the Council contacted city and county officials, to establish itself as the agency handling the program. A six-man study group was then formed, to compile evidence of the poverty in Tuscaloosa and to prepare an application for a Community Action Development Grant. This grant would enable the Council to make a closer study of poverty, and to create projects to fight them.

Headed by Allen Cutting, instructor in psychology at the University of Alabama, the preliminary study group gathered statistics for the area.

The study was completed last January and was submitted to the Office

of Economic Opportunity in Washington, along with a plan for setting up a research staff.

No action on the application came until March, when representatives of the Tuscaloosa Community Action Committee, an expanded version of the preliminary study group, attended a meeting in the Office of Economic Opportunity's regional office in Atlanta.

The group's budget was cut from \$115,000 to \$44,300. The Community Action Committee also agreed to expand from 28 members to its current 60, and to include more people from the Negro community and from the outlying rural districts.

After a three-month wait, word finally came at the end of June that the grant had been approved and the research-development stage of TOP could begin.

The committee then hired Jerry E. Griffin, a native Alabamian educated in social work at the University of Alabama and Boston College, as executive director of the program. He began the task of pinpointing the needs of the county's poor.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX)

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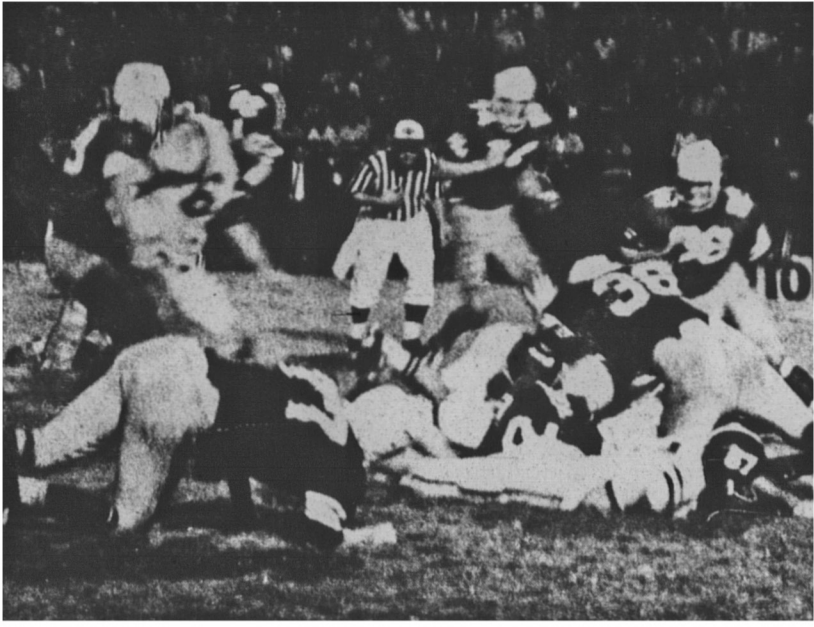
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## Murphy Defeats Vigor In Game of the Week

BY DAVID R. UNDERHILL  
MOBILE--You wouldn't have thought it was a high school football game. The two big, fast teams had been whipped into shape for the game in secret practices conducted by six-man coaching staffs. The result was passing, running, and tackling that few college coaches would complain about. Mammoth bands staged awesome half-time shows, and battalions of cheer-leaders kept the fans in a frenzy, when the action on the field didn't. There were more than 30,000 fans, and they had plenty to shout about.

They may have been watching Alabama's white high school championship game. It certainly was the Mobile area championship game.

Both Vigor and Murphy were undefeated this season, both stood near the top in all the state-wide rankings, and both had crushed all their opponents this season by frightening scores.

Murphy had an unstoppable backfield, and Vigor had a senior quarterback who started getting college offers when he was still a junior.

Vigor went into the game a slight favorite, but few people would have risked much money on the Wolves. The Vigor-Murphy game is usually the big one in Mobile, and it is usually unpredictable.

This year was no exception. The two high-scoring teams held each other scoreless until the last few seconds of the first half. Vigor forced Murphy to punt four times, and Murphy held down Vigor's running and passing attack.

But with only 69 seconds left in the first half, Vigor took a 40-yard Murphy punt on its own 36-yard line. Quarterback Scott Hunter then showed why people say he's the best high school quarterback ever seen in south Alabama.

He moved Vigor out of its regular "T" into a "shotgun" formation. The ball came straight back to Hunter, and he threw six completed passes in a row for a touchdown that put Vigor ahead 6 to 0 at the half.

But Murphy came back in the second half and turned the game inside out. The Panthers took the kick-off and drove 62 yards in six plays for a touch-

down and extra point that put them in front to stay.

They added another touchdown on a 16-yard pass late in the fourth quarter. Meanwhile, they held Vigor to just one first down, and intercepted two of Hunter's passes. It ended 14 to 6.

The Murphy-Vigor game attracted most of the fans and most of the attention last weekend in Mobile, but in other games Central edged Booker T, Washington 13 to 6, Thomasville shut out Grove Hill 20 to 0, and Jackson beat Citronelle 14 to 10.

LISMAN--Choctaw County Training School defeated C. P. Austin High School of Linden by a score of 12 to 0 last Friday night.

In the first half, the Choctaw Wildcats threatened several times to make a touchdown. They got as close as the three-yard line.

In the second half, star Wildcat quarterback Landis Dothard ran the ball for the first touchdown of the game. The second touchdown for the Choctaw Training School came on a pass from the quarterback to right end Tom Jackson.

## Sermons of the Week

BY ROBERT E. SMITH

DOTHAN--"The grace of God is not like a bank, where you can't always get money.

"It is never too early in the morning. You can go anytime to get the grace of God."

This was the message of the Rev. T. M. Finch, pastor of the New Maranda Baptist Church, last Sunday. He was preaching at the Adams Street Baptist Church, where the pastor is the Rev. E. D. Jones.

Mr. Finch's scripture was "God is able," from the third chapter of the Book of Matthew. "If you believe it, act like it," he told the congregation. "God is able. He is able to keep us on the path, regardless of how crooked it is."

The choir repeated the theme with its selection, "He Knows How Much We Can Bear."

## Selma Program Offers Free Food to Needy

SELMA--When disaster strikes a city, families often have to rely on emergency free food distribution to get them over the crisis period.

But to some families every day is a crisis, because the man of the house can't find work and there are many mouths to feed. These families need food as badly as disaster victims.

A free food distribution program has been set up in Dallas County to help families like this keep food in the house. The food is distributed under the U. S. Department of Agriculture's free surplus food program.

"Say a man is making just enough for his family to get along on, and then he gets laid off for a couple of months," said Col. Joseph F. Decker, County Commodity Supervisor.

"The free food can give him just the little boost to help him get over the hard luck."

Free flour, lard, rice, cheese, beef and other foods will be handed out every month at 26 North Division St. in Selma, beginning on Nov. 1. The foods come from the surplus crops that the Department of Agriculture has bought to keep farm prices stable.

The program can also be a life-saver to men who have jobs, but can't make enough money to support their families properly.

"The fact that they're working keeps them off the welfare rolls," Decker explained. "This is the group that really needs help, and the free food program really gives it to them."

The City of Selma and the Dallas County Board of Revenue pay the costs of distributing the food and keeping track of the people who get it.

The city and county had been asked to take on the money end of the program several times before they finally accepted this summer. They accepted when it appeared that the program would be handed over to the county's civil rights organizations to administer.

Hunger apparently does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or

creed. "Surprisingly enough, it's about 50-50 white and Negro who come in for the food," Decker said.

Although Dallas County is the only county in the Black Belt that has a free surplus food program, it is not the only one in the state. Twenty-five counties in northern and south-eastern Alabama started distributing food as far back as 1953.

Neal Freeman, Director of Commodities Distribution in the Department of Agriculture, explained why the program was so popular in these areas. Once a free food program was started in one county, he said, it was easier for neighboring counties to learn about it and start ones of their own.

## Work-Study Plan Aids Young Poet

TUSKEGEE--Xavier Nicholas is a 21-year-old poet from Mobile with big dreams and a small bank account.

Two years ago, Nicholas left college at the end of his sophomore year. "I was bored," he said. "I was silly and immature."

He went north to Chicago. Days, he distributed mail in an insurance firm. Nights, he explored the city and wrote poetry.

At the end of two years, he decided he wanted to finish college after all.

But his father, a mail clerk, had retired. There wasn't enough money to pay all his expenses at Tuskegee Institute. He was too late to apply for a scholarship, and his request for a loan had been turned down.

It looked as though Nicholas wasn't going to get a second chance at college. But he discovered something new had been added to Tuskegee's student aid program while he had been away.

That something was the War on Poverty's college Work-Study Program. Tuskegee is one of 20 Alabama colleges receiving funds to provide part-time jobs for students who otherwise might not be able to afford college.

The Institute has had its own Work-Study program for years. But the anti-poverty funds have doubled its size.

Nicholas found a job writing news releases for the Institute's information bureau, and enrolled as an English major in the junior class.

"Eventually I'll try to get a master's degree and teach," he said. "And I'm still struggling to be a writer."

## Plans for Black Belt Complicated by Race

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

"The two leaders of the other committee were at the head of the demonstrations. It would be political suicide for any public official to embrace those two or their organization."

And, in fact, the public officials of Greensboro did shy away from Black's group last summer.

But one white man, Poole, wrote to Black from Moundville. He said he couldn't make any of Black's meetings, but he invited Black to come over to his committee meetings in Moundville. "Poole is about the only white person I feel I can trust," said Black. "The rest, they're scared--can't hardly trust them."

"This poverty program is not all that popular with white people," said Poole. "I don't agree with all of it myself, but I've taken a stand for it. I believe this county definitely needs the poverty program, and that the advantages will greatly outweigh the disadvantages."

"You know as well as I do," he said, "that 95 per cent of the people who will get the money are colored people--but that's all right."

"We figure if they can double their income and improve their living, we're going to get a share of it, too."

Poole is confident the two committees will eventually be one.

"We're this close together now," said Poole, holding his fingers a few inches apart, "when we were that far apart before." And he stretched his arms out wide.

## Tuscaloosa

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE FIVE)

One of the Griffin's approaches was to conduct tape-recorded group meetings where low-income families described the primary needs in their neighborhoods.

TOP has been finding out how to help existing programs fill the needs, where possible, rather than starting separate projects from scratch.

Cutting said, "Working together on the common problems of poverty has greatly improved the relations between the minority and majority groups here. A year ago there was little or no communication. Now we all sit down and work together without really noticing it."

## Ambulance

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWO)

Bruce's funeral took place last Sunday at the First Baptist Church of Mountain Park.

In his eulogy, the Rev. B. G. King said, "This (Bruce's death) has painted vivid pictures all over Birmingham. Sometimes it takes something like this to bring men to their senses."

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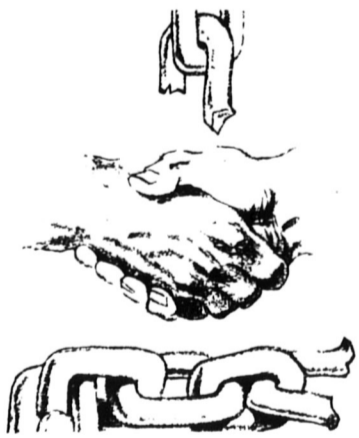
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## Negroes in American History: A Freedom Primer

Beginning next week in

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