



THE MARCH MOVED LIKE A SNAKE ALONG HIGHWAY 51 IN NORTH CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI. MOST OF THE WORK OF THE MARCHERS WAS IN THE SMALL TOWNS ALONG THE ROUTE WHERE VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVES BEGAN.

March Doubles Vote Registration Along Route Through Mississippi

BY DAVID R. UNDERHILL

GRENADA, Miss.--Some Negro critics of the Mississippi march have called it a publicity stunt. Senator James Eastland of Mississippi called it "a circus."

But if the march does as well in every town along the route to Jackson as it did in Grenada, the critics will have to admit that it registered more voters than any other circus or publicity stunt before.

When the marchers sang and shouted their way into Grenada Tuesday noon there were about 625 Negroes registered in the entire county. By Wednesday afternoon, that number had doubled, and people were still coming to register even though the march had left town Wednesday morning.

How Deacons Protect March

BY DAVID R. UNDERHILL

GRENADA, Miss.-- To reach the marchers' tents pitched for two days on federal property at the base of Enid Dam, you had to go through three state troopers' roadblocks.

And carloads of troopers stood watch on top of the dam around the clock. The marchers seemed to be well protected, and there was no serious trouble at the dam or anywhere else along the route since James Meredith was shot last week.

But the men at each roadblock sitting in cars flying Confederate flags and talking with the troopers like old friends wouldn't have to use the roads. It would have been easy for snipers to sneak down the wooded hills around the camp and get clean shots at the tents.

The same is true along the line of march, Highway 51, where the woods come right up to the edge of the road. "Never, never, let the women get on the outside of the road. Keep men on the outside. These woods are real ambush territory," Leon Hall told a meeting of line marshals Sunday night.

A few feet away, another marshal was setting up an all-night guard around the camp.

And a few feet farther away, Earnest Thomas was sitting at the controls of the short-wave radio in his car.

"I better turn on my radio and see what the Klan's talking," he said. Thomas, originally from Jonesboro, Louisiana, is a founder and national officer of the Deacons for Defense and Justice, an organization prepared for self-defense when Negroes are attacked.

Thomas had a pistol stuck in his belt and another one in the car.

His radio wasn't just for listening to the Klan. He said other Deacon cars were out patrolling the road around the



WORKER KEEPS CHECK BY RADIO camp, but he would not tell exactly how many Deacons or how many cars there were.

Thomas talked at great length, though, about the Deacons' commitment to self-defense, and he let TV cameramen film him using his radio.

The next morning, one of the white Northerners who have come down for the march stopped Thomas and said, "What are you trying to do to the march? We are supposed to be non-violent, and now it's all over the country that armed Deacons are with us."

"Well, good," Thomas said. "Then maybe the Klan's heard about it too. That'll help keep them off us."

"Many people who would have come down to join our march won't come now," the man replied.

"Whose march?" Thomas asked. "Our march," the man said. "Whose do you think it is?"

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX, Col. 3)

Third of Hospitals Meet Rights Rules For Medicare Plan

BY MIKE STEWARD

With the beginning of the federal government's Medicare plan a month away, a third of Alabama's hospitals have cleared the biggest hurdle standing between them and participation in the program.

That hurdle is Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which requires any facilities receiving federal money to be desegregated. The Department of Health, Education and Welfare has announced that at least 50 Alabama hospitals have agreed to comply with the law if they are accepted for Medicare participation.

Beds in the 50 hospitals that have agreed to obey the desegregation rule total about 4,000, or less than one-fifth of the 23,465 in all of the state's hospitals. This means that most of those hospitals complying are small ones.

Medicare is the new government health insurance plan that pays a large chunk of the medical bills for people 65 and over. The low-cost medical coverage is expected to allow many more people than in the past to use hospital facilities.

Several administrators said their hospitals have been approved for Medicare or soon will be, even though they weren't in HEW's list of 50. These hospitals include Mobile General Hospital, St. Jude's Catholic Hospital in Montgomery, and Jackson Hospital in Montgomery.

Technically, under the Civil Rights Act, hospitals getting federal funds through the Hill-Burton Act for construction or from any other present federal programs are supposed to be desegregated. However, the Medicare plan has brought the first close look by federal authorities to see whether the hospitals really are desegregated.

A spokesman for the federal government's Office of Equal Health Opportunity explained that the desegregation guidelines drawn up for Medicare require that hospitals be "color blind."

"We try not to get into a numbers game," he said. "If a man comes to the admission desk and is assigned to a bed simply on the basis of his case, that's all we ask. It's not true that Negroes have to be a certain percentage in a hospital."

The guidelines also mean that mostly-Negro hospitals should desegregate as much as possible. But the government spokesman said, "A Negro hospital can be in compliance with the Civil Rights Act. If a white person assigned to the hospital would be admitted and assigned to a bed on the basis of his medical needs, that's all the law requires."

However, one practice that will have to stop, according to the spokesman, is doctors' sending all of their white patients to one hospital and all Negroes to another.

Treating patients without regard to race, the spokesman predicted, "will eventually lead to many more Negroes in white sections of hospitals."

In addition to agreeing to comply with civil rights laws, hospitals must still satisfy the government that they meet general hospital standards before they will be fully eligible to take part in the program when it begins July 1.

So far only 15 hospitals in Alabama have satisfied both the desegregation and general standards requirements and are now fully eligible for Medicare participation.

This means that 35 of the hospitals that have agreed to comply with the desegregation requirement must still pass inspection on whether or not they meet general hospital standards.

Another 78 hospitals in the state have applied to participate in Medicare but haven't been approved on both counts by the government. This means that out of Alabama's total of 148 hospitals only

'No Proof Lowndes Negroes Evicted for Registering'

BY TERRY COWLES

MONTGOMERY -- A federal judge ruled Wednesday that there was "absolutely no evidence" that white landowners in Lowndes County evicted tenant farmers because the farmers had registered to vote.

U. S. District Court Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr. then ordered a group of civil rights lawyers who represented the farmers to pay all the court costs connected with the case. In doing so, Johnson said that it seemed that the farmers, who as losers in the case would ordinarily have been charged with the court costs, had never authorized anyone to file the case.

The civil rights lawyers and U. S.



FRANK M. JOHNSON JR.

Justice Department lawyers, who were called into the case by the judge, accused 13 Lowndes County landowners of evicting the 20 tenant farmers and sharecroppers because they had registered to vote. The lawyers said this violated the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Section 11 of the act states that it is a criminal offense to "intimidate, threaten or coerce, or attempt to intimidate, threaten or coerce any person for voting or attempting to vote."

Judge Johnson said, however, that there was a lack of evidence that the sharecroppers and tenant farmers had been intimidated.

Johnson said "the only evidence of intimidation" concerned one of the farmers, Cato Lee. Lee was evicted by white land owner LaRue Halge after Lee attempted to send his children to a formerly all-white school.

Johnson said that there was no evidence that Lee had been thrown off the land because he had registered to vote.

Johnson ruled in the case after studying written statements by the tenant farmers and sharecroppers and by the landowners.

Attorneys for the farmers, landowners, and the Justice Department also submitted written statements. There was no formal hearing in the case.

A similar case in Baton Rouge, Louisiana was thrown out of court by a federal judge there last January. Negro farmers had said they were evicted for registering. U. S. District Judge E. Gordon West called the Voting Rights Act of 1965 a flagrant violation of the U. S. Constitution.



MISSISSIPPIANS HAD DIFFERENT GREETINGS FOR THE MARCHERS



AFTER A LONG DAY OF MARCHING, THE FEET BEGAN TO ACHES

The registration kept going strong because the marchers have developed a new strategy. When the march left Grenada, many of the marchers didn't.

A token force of about 60 walked out of town headed toward Greenwood, 30 miles southwest of Grenada on Highway 7. Greenwood is .97 miles north of Jackson.

The marchers who didn't march were working on registration in Grenada and in other towns. Most of them rejoined the march before it reached Greenwood. A few will stay behind and help the local people get organized to continue the work that the marchers started.

Grenada was such a success that leaders of the march planned to follow the same pattern in the towns and counties ahead.

When the march arrived in Grenada, after three days of walking down Highway 51 from Batesville, no one expected a great success. Less than 100 people had been registered in Batesville and "task force" registration crews, which started working the surrounding area Monday, had not done well. Floyd McKissick of CORE said Tuesday, "No great numbers have been registered by the task forces. Yesterday, they got numbers like 20, 30, and five."

The reception in Grenada was not too encouraging. Large groups of Negroes started gathering an hour early where the highway enters the city. But

when the marchers arrived, most of the watchers just kept on watching as the march passed by. The city had never had any civil rights activity before.

But enough watchers joined the 300 marchers to make the march about half local people. By the time it reached Confederate Monument in the town square the rally there had ended. A small American flag was placed on the monument right above the head of Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederate States of America.

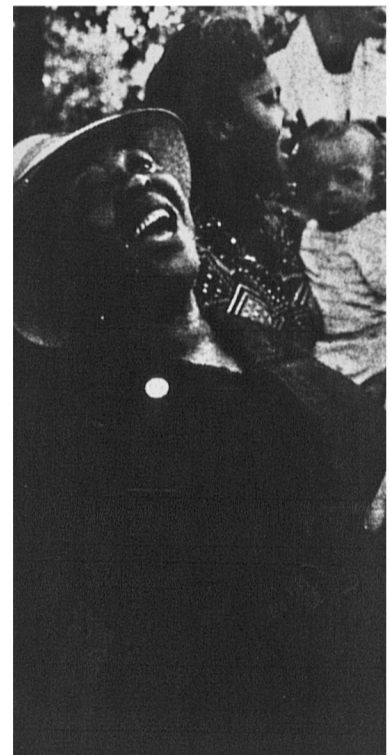
Then the march moved across the square to the Grenada County Courthouse and a few white youths pulled the flag down. A total of 175 Negroes registered that afternoon. "These Negroes have been afraid to do anything," said a local Negro watching inside the courthouse. "But this sure exceeds my expectations. We're not gonna stop it now. We're gonna keep it going."

In the evening, a huge crowd packed the New Hope M. B. Church, after another march through Negro sections of town.

"We're supposed to be singing about freedom!" one of the civil rights workers shouted as the singing started. "You never had this town before. Now you've taken it over in a day. That's freedom. So sing about it."

A few minutes later, he made an announcement that indicated that a local official had taken some notice of the day's activities.

Leaders of the march, including the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., who had just rejoined the march, were negotiating with the officials. The registrars



MRS. FANNIE LOU HAMER

Led Marchers in Song

had agreed to stay open until 9 p.m. that night.

About 300 people--most of them unregistered--marched off to the courthouse, led by SCLC's Hosea Williams, whose singing could be heard for blocks. But they arrived at 9 p.m., and the registrars were just leaving. So the group demonstrated for a while, held another rally at the monument, marched back to church, held another rally there, and agreed to return to the courthouse the next morning.

In the morning, people started coming in to register and the leaders of the march held a press conference which emphasized that registration was not their only concern.

They said they would return to Grenada, if the city did not make progress in other areas also.

Wednesday afternoon McKissick and King spoke at a rally in Charleston, the seat of Tallahatchie County. About 150 people marched through the little town after the rally, while scores of state troopers patrolled the streets and some white citizens sat in their cars and trucks talking on shortwave radios.

Forty or 50 people lined up to register after the demonstration. Four workers said they would stay behind in Charleston.

They are wondering what will happen after the march, when all its TV cameramen and federal officials move further south. People in other towns visited are wondering the same thing.

Rights News

GREENSBORO -- About 30 Negro demonstrators picketed--four at a time--in front of V. J. Elmore's Store for the second week, saying "We want jobs now."

An SCLC civil rights worker said the pickets were threatened Monday noon-time by a white man with a shotgun.

SELMA--Dallas County SHAPE, an anti-poverty committee set up separate from the Selma mayor's committee, applied for \$1.5 million from the federal government for a year-around Head Start program for 800 youngsters around the county.

The application proposed 22 centers to employ 270 people.

THE SOUTHERN COURIER

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Editorial Opinion

When in the Course of Human Events ...

"He has refused his assent to laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good. He has forbidden his (legislature) to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance

"He has called together legislative bodies at places, unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

"He has dissolved representative houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people

"He has obstructed the administration of justice, by refusing his assent to laws for establishing judiciary powers.

"He has made judges dependent on his will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

"He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance

"He has combined with others . . . for quartering large bodies of armed troops among us; for protecting them by a mock trial from punishment for any murders which they should commit on the inhabitants of these states; for cutting off our trade with all parts of the world; for imposing taxes on us without our consent; for depriving us in many cases of the benefits of trial by jury

"He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us

"In every stage of these oppressions we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms. Our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

"Nor have we been wanting in attention to our . . . brethren We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice"

Sound like a civil rights speech against King George I of Alabama? Not at all, this is a statement by five American patriots against King George III of Great Britain. They called it The Declaration of Independence.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:
To the Brave Coward who Shot Mr. Meredith,
The shooting of Mr. Meredith will not stop anything. The causes for liberties, justices, and rights of all human beings will always go on. You may kill 100 or 1,000, you will only have just that many more to join the marches.
The Negro has the right to vote as well as any other American. I wish they would go every time they have registration.
It was wonderful to know that President Johnson went so far as to get the Voting Rights Bill passed. Even the man who can't read or write can vote after he has registered.
James Meredith was carrying a Bible, so we know he was not going to kill anyone with it. A brave man will be seen when he's up to some good, only a coward will hide in a bush and shoot a man in the back.
Many good men were killed before the shooting of Mr. Meredith, what did it stop? Only a life trying to do someone else good.
If you listened to Mr. Paul Harvey's news one day, you would have heard him make the statement about a writing on the wall, "God is dead," signed "Meechui." Someone else came along and wrote, "Meechui is dead," signed "God."

kill a cause. He will probably get 5 or 10 years for being a coward.
Mrs. Janice McCullough
Mobile, Ala.
* * * * *
To the Editor:
The Junior Braves Pony League team of Mobile is planning on coming to Montgomery Saturday, June 25, to play Mr. William Knight's team. The Braves players are from 12 to 14 years of age
We are also trying to get the team a game in Birmingham or some city near Birmingham or Montgomery. We would like to play two games while we are on this trip.
Louis Black, Manager
(432-9944)
Mobile, Ala.

THE SOUTHERN COURIER welcomes letters from anyone on any subject. Letters must be signed, but your name will be withheld upon request.

Rights Lawyers Open Selma Office

BY ROBERT E. SMITH
SELMA--A lawyers' committee that provides free legal services in civil rights cases has opened an office here.
The Lawyers Constitutional Defense Committee of the American Civil Liberties Union has worked for the past two years out of offices in Jackson, Miss., and New Orleans, La. It has sent more than 200 volunteer lawyers to the Deep South to work with its five full-time attorneys here.
Donald A. Jelinek, a young New York attorney who had been on the lawyers' staff in Mississippi, has opened up his office in Selma at 311 1/2 Franklin Street, in a room last occupied by SCLC and below SNCC's Alabama headquarters.

Tips on How to Handle Money

DON'T Be Like the Man Who Got Stuck Buying the Super-Duper-Model Sweeper

BY ARLAM CARR JR.
MONTGOMERY -- "The price of money varies. Money can be borrowed at lower rates at different places," says Earl C. Pippin, executive vice president of the Alabama Consumer Finance Association.

The best way to borrow money is to find out how much it would cost to borrow money. The interest is much higher at many loan companies than it is at others to borrow the same amount of money. For instance, at the ABC Loan Company the interest rate on \$200 may be 4%, and at the XYZ the interest rate may be 5 1/2%.

Interest is the amount of money that lenders charge you for the use of their money.

In planning your spending, there are some do's and don't's. They are as follows:

DO (1) Keep track of your income, expenses, and savings for at least one month. (2) Find how much you have left after all your necessary expenses and payments are taken out. (3) Set aside money for needs between pay days so

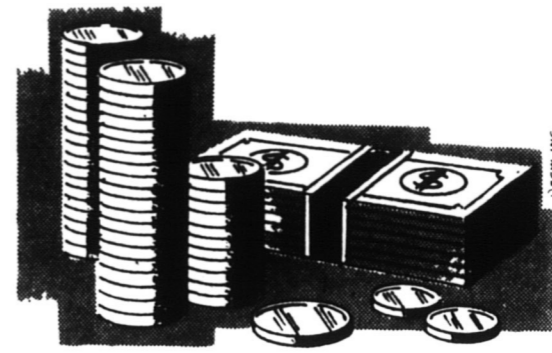
that you won't go broke before pay day.

DON'T (1) Don't be a soft touch for a smooth salesman who uses an emotional approach. EXAMPLE: "You owe it to your kiddies to buy this set of encyclopedia (only \$400)." By the time your kiddies are old enough to use them, the books will be outdated and worthless--and you will probably be in a much better position to afford the set they need than you are now.

(2) Don't fall for the old sales gag about the "other buyer who is going to snap this bargain up" if you don't get on the dotted line at once. If Salesman Sam really had a customer that eager, he wouldn't be trying so hard to sell you.

(3) Don't buy anything--for cash or credit--that you don't really want or need, just because it is cheap. EXAMPLE: One eager customer signed up for a \$260 super-duper-model sweeper. Later, when the company agents came around to see why he was behind in his payments, they found he didn't even own a rug.

Of course, few people are this eager to buy, but far too many seem unwilling to match their wants and needs with a



realistic understanding of their ability to pay.

In a family of four, where take-home pay per month is \$400, the expenses should be divided as follows. "Her" responsibility would include: \$113.60 for food, \$57.20 for house operation, \$38.80 for clothing, and the total should be \$209.60. "His" responsibility should include \$64 for shelter (rent), \$56 for transportation, \$50 for personal advancement, and the total should be \$170. "Their" expense or responsibility would be \$379.60 for total His and Her expenses, \$20.40 for total savings, insurance, and contributions. The total would be \$400.00, the take-home pay per month.

Personal Advancement includes health, health insurance, education, recreation, vacation expenses, newspapers, magazines, books, hobbies, dues, state income taxes, membership fees, allowances, baby sitters, entertainment, etc.

So, says Pippin, remember in borrowing money and budgeting the family money that there are always tricks of the trade that both the borrower and the lender can use.

'New South'

Same Old Story in Long Sentences

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN
The first issue of the new "New South" came out last winter. It was a big, fat quarterly magazine, instead of a little, skinny monthly one, as it used to be.

Buried in pages and pages of the worst kind of drivel in the first issue were two really rewarding articles--Helen Howard's account of a day in the life of a poor Negro mother, and Professor James Silver's up-to-date views about the "closed society," Mississippi.

Now the second issue of the new, improved "New South" is upon us. Again, there are pages and pages of boring and indigestible observations about the South.

But this time, there is only one arti-

cle that really ought to be read--Margaret Long's report of her visits to newly-integrated neighborhoods in metropolitan Atlanta.

And even reading her article requires courage; you have to get through an opening paragraph that says:

"Dogwood was in alabaster bloom, azaleas flamed densely pink and tomato red, spirea showered white fountains from lawn to lawn, redbud trees thrust out rosy limbs and big trees reached lacy and cloud-like with beginning green leaf in the modest Atlanta neighborhoods where 'the colored are taking over.'"

In the old "New South," the writers often couldn't resist describing all the trees, flowers, weeds, mammals, birds, and bugs in the vicinity. Evidently, they still can't.

But after the flowery beginning, an old

white lady in a racially changing neighborhood tells Miss Long, "We got niggers all around. Niggers on that side, niggers on that side, niggers across the street and over yonder, niggers around the corner both ways."

How does she like it?

"Just fine! You couldn't ask for nicer neighbors. We don't have no trouble. They all nice people."

Another white woman in another part of town seems to agree: "The colored people has been a lot nicer and friendlier to me than the white people that moved out."

But still, even though most people say they like their new neighbors, the white people are leaving, one by one. "Right now," a real estate agent tells Miss Long, "we're not integrating neighborhoods, but expanding boundaries of the colored ghettos."

This piece is much better than Miss Long's article in the winter issue--a long, long, long discussion about where the movement is and where it's going.

For this study, Miss Long simply interviewed every civil rights leader in sight, and strung their remarks together without any serious attempt to organize her material. The confusion is worsened by sentences like the following--one of the few 110-word sentences ever to get by an editor:

"Roy Wilkins, who finds himself increasingly objecting to the designation of civil rights activity as 'the Movement,' an umbrella to cover the work of all organizations and local community groups, and which in some ways does

injustice to some organizations' work and pays extra dividends to others, when individual components of the effort are scattered all over the country, with all kinds of objectives and action, sees the present as 'a era when accelerated and expanded work is called for, and when more needs must be met in a less spectacular fashion,' and when, unhappily, 'there is no spectacular means for attracting attention' and funds for Negro improvement and preparation."

How's that again?

"New South" seems to be fascinated by the civil rights movement's problems. At least, it keeps on getting people outside the movement to write about what's going on inside the movement. In the spring issue, August Meier of Roosevelt University in Chicago tries where Miss Long failed. In an article almost twice as long as Miss Long's, Meier analyzes dozens of things that don't need analyzing.

The incident at Greenville, Miss., when poor people tried to take over buildings on a deserted air base, hardly needs any explaining, but Meier explains it anyway.

First, he says, "it demonstrated the necessity of increasing Negro voting power at the state level and, in local areas."

And for those who might have missed it, he reveals that "the air base demonstration was symptomatic of the increasing restlessness of the poor Negroes, both rural and urban, in the South"

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX, Col. 1)



"EXPANDING BOUNDARIES OF THE COLORED GHETTOS"



BY CAROL S. LOTTMAN
Can you picture yourself peering around the side of the house, flinging your slinky black cape over your shoulder, and skulking off into the dead of night?

Have you ever thought of going out at midnight when the moon is full to terrorize the neighborhood?

Do you dream of zapping little green men with your secret outer-space atomic-ray gun?

If so, you can stop feeling embarrassed. You are just one of a growing number of monster-movie fans.

You love to sit in the eery gray light from the tube and watch the horrifying adventures of your favorite prehistoric or futuristic fright. You may shiver and shriek, but that's all part of the fun.

Anyway, you know the simpering blond heroine always escapes the evil clutches of the Local Menace by the movie's end.

Whether you like your creatures from the Black Lagoon or Planet X, there's a movie just for you. Unfortunately, the people who choose the movies for TV stations don't seem to share your love for monsters. Science-fiction films are about as scarce as werewolves at noon.

Saturday, June 18, will be an exception. Several Alabama TV stations will unleash some ghoulish goodies for your viewing pleasure. And stations which aren't showing these movies might become victims of any of the following:

THE DAUGHTER OF DR. JEKYLL-

Blood-hungry off-spring of the world's most bestial fiend. Hidden in her body was there the frightening reincarnation of a brutal werewolf? 7 a.m., Channel 6 in Birmingham. (That's right--7 in the morning. You have to be a real fan to get up and watch that one.)

PHANTOM OF THE OPERA--Hideous creature lives in dark musty cavern under the opera house, has a soft spot in his heart for beautiful opera star. He also has a soft spot in his head, because he kidnaps her so he can listen to her sing, 9:30 p.m., Channel 31 in Huntsville.

TERROR IN THE HAUNTED HOUSE--Story of a young bride who is terrified when her husband takes her to live in a mansion believed to be haunted, 10 p.m., Channel 20 in Montgomery.

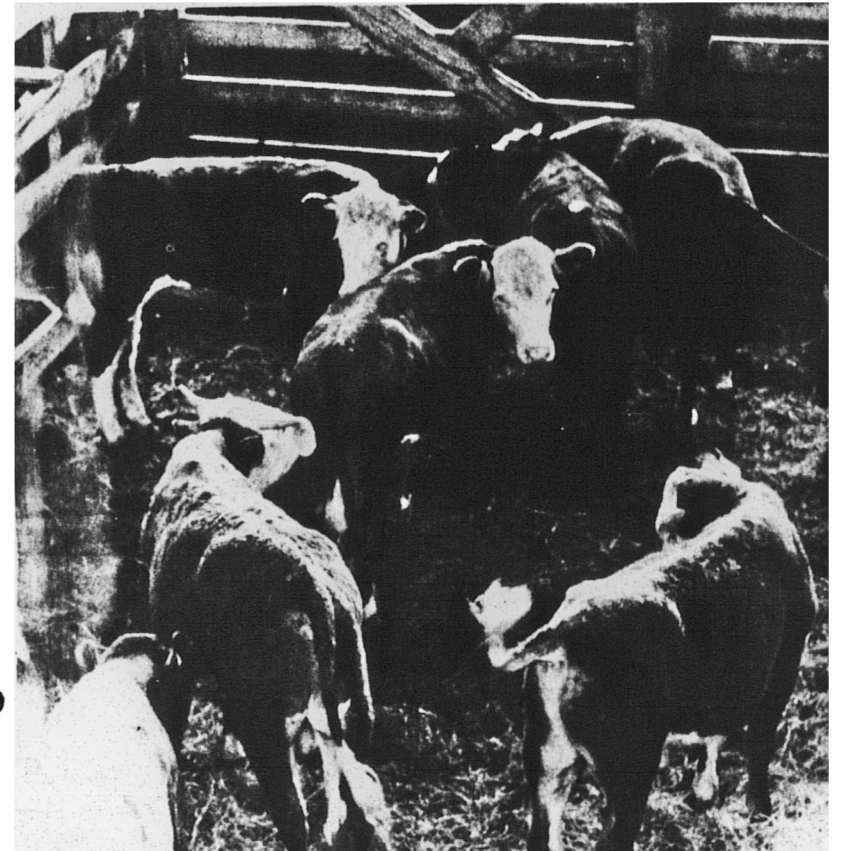
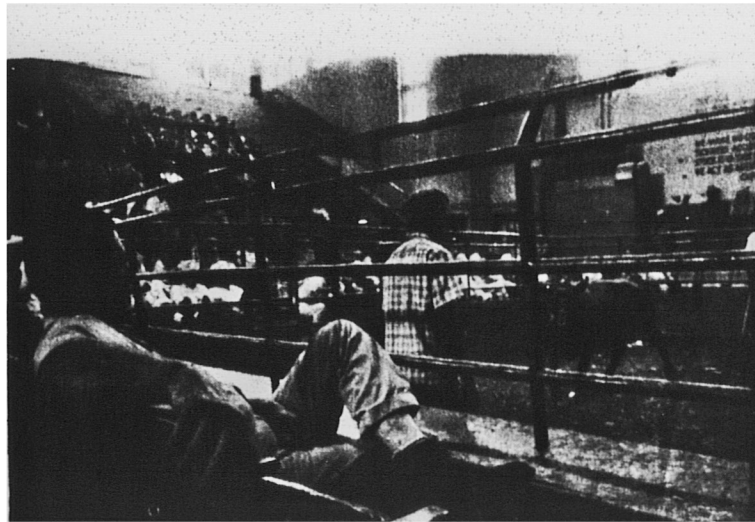
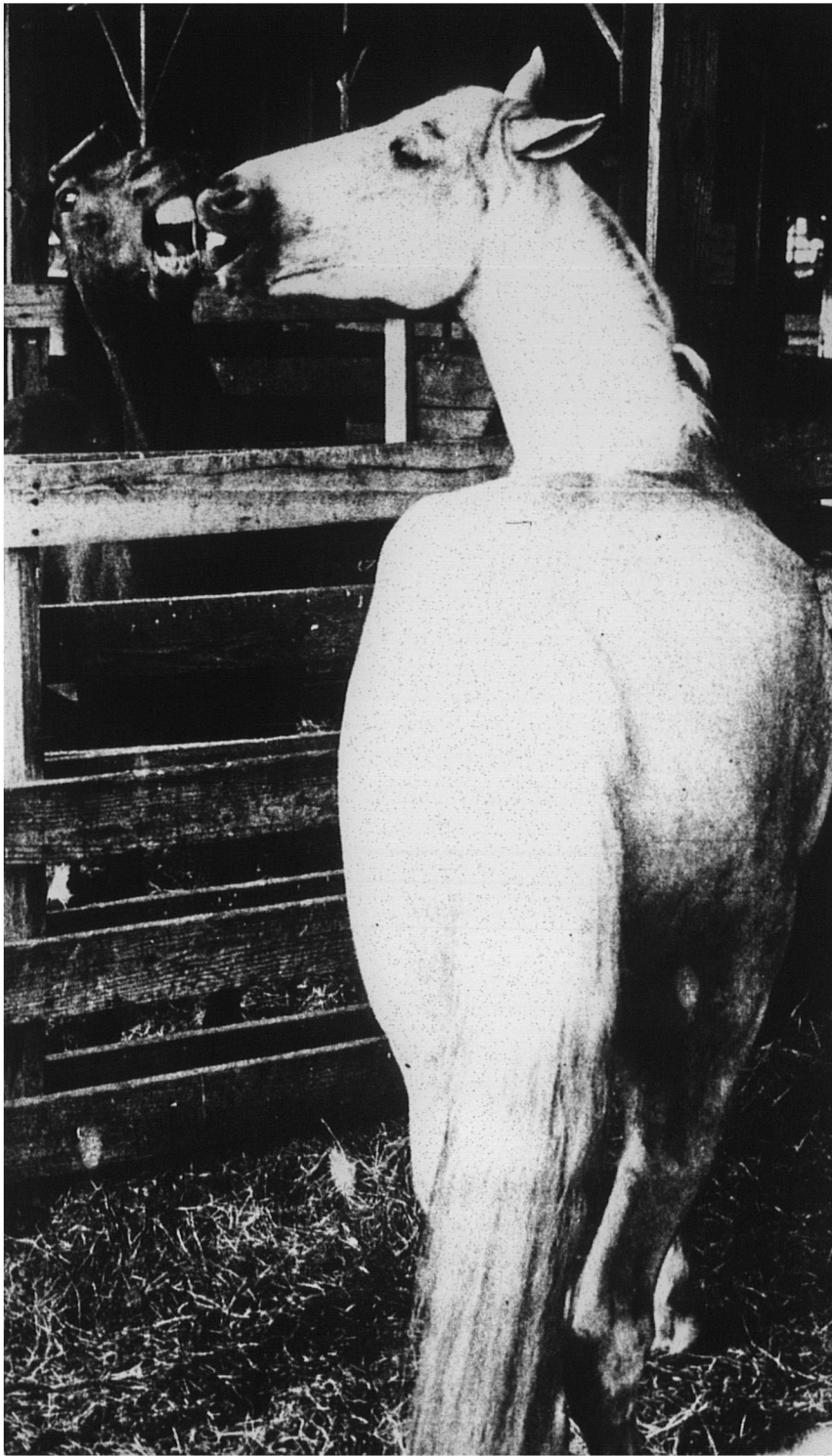
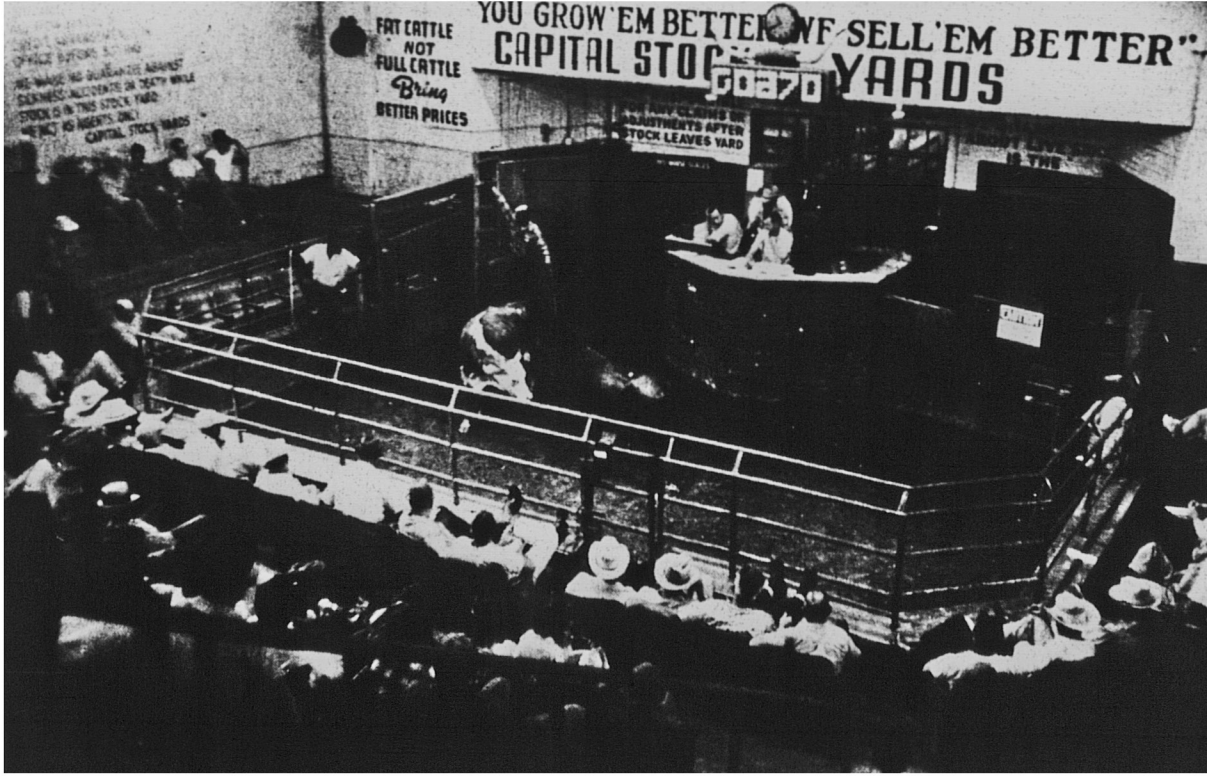
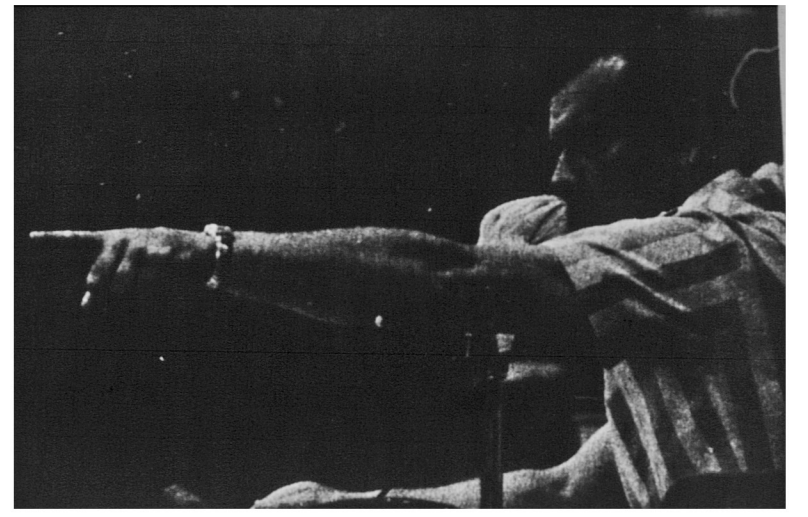
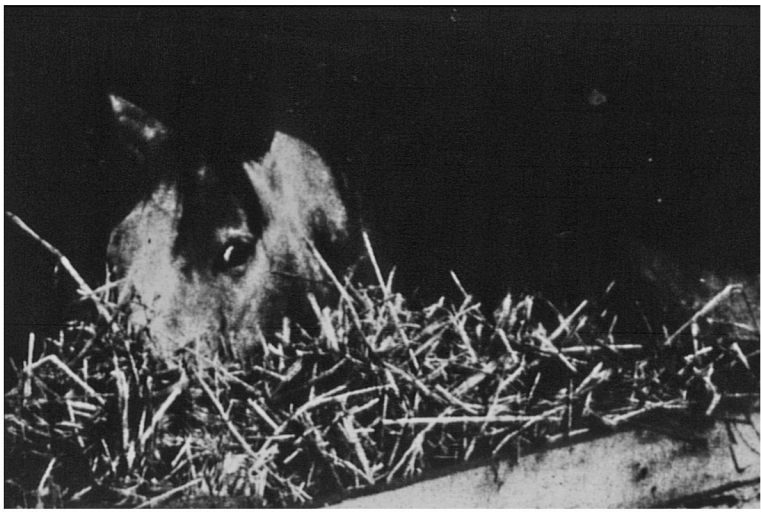
CURSE OF THE UNDEAD--Voodoo doings in deepest darkest jungle delight a mad doctor, dismay a lovely heroine and added hero, 10:30 p.m., Channel 12 in Montgomery.

THE ATOMIC MAN--Atomic age produces its own unsightly wonder, in true Frankenstein tradition, 11 p.m., Channel 4 in Dothan.

For those who prefer more realistic film drama:

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

A FAREWELL TO ARMS--Ernest Hemingway's classic tale of love and war set in Italy during World War I, with Rock Hudson and Jennifer Jones, 8 p.m., Channel 3 in Pensacola, Fla.; Channel 6 in Birmingham, Channel 8 in Selma, and Channel 31 in Huntsville. At 10 p.m., on Channel 4 in Dothan.



You Raise 'Em Better, We'll Sell 'Em Better

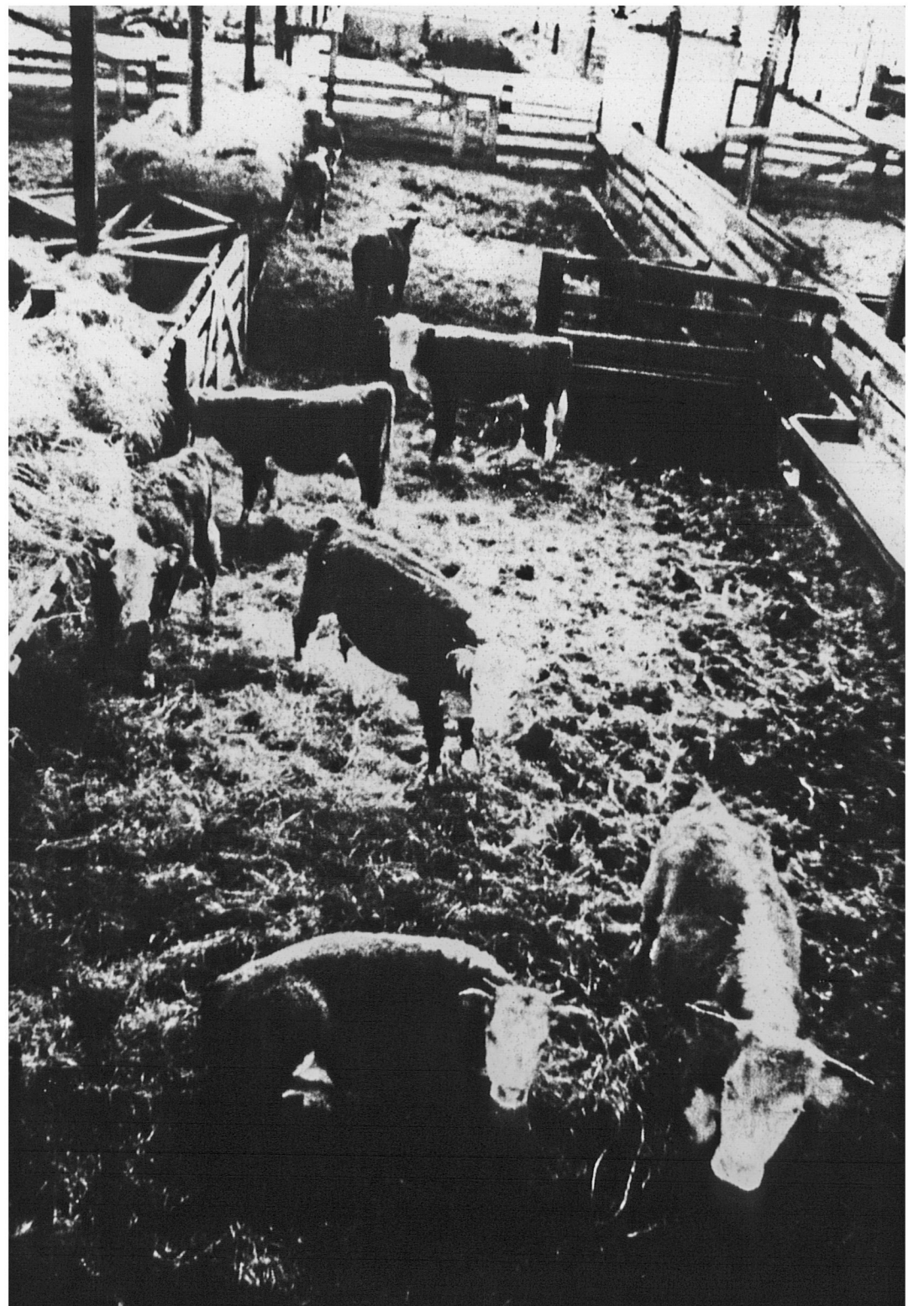
All right, boys. Let's go. Here's a nice one now. What'll ya give for him?

Eighty dollars, gimme eighty, eighty-one. Lets have two. Who'll give eighty-two for 'em. He's a good one boys...

Let's have a hundred, hundred, a hundred. Sold to the gentleman for one-hundred dollars.

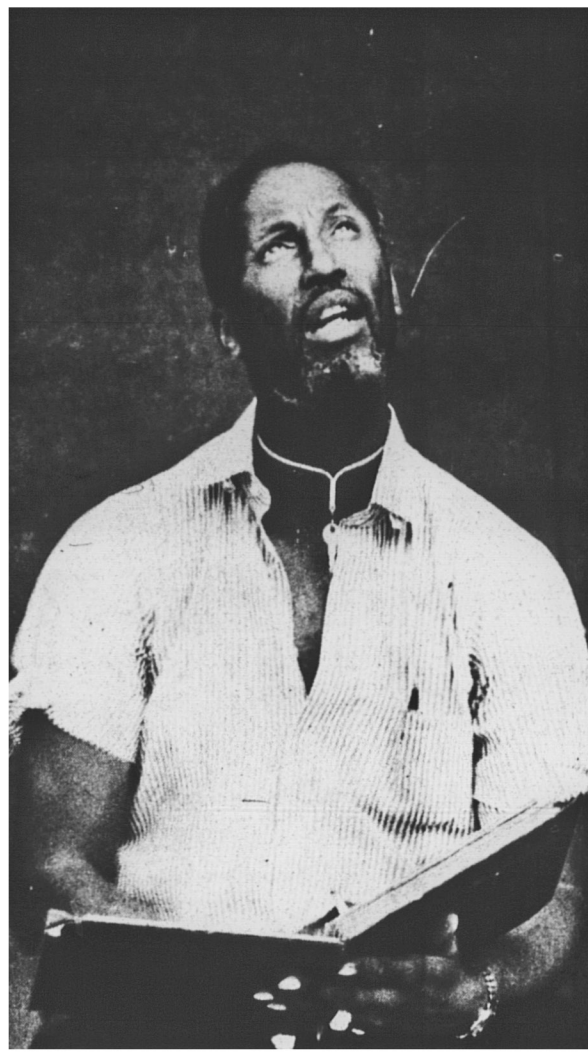
Now boys, what will ya start for this one? A real fine one, boys.

Photographs by
Jim Pepler

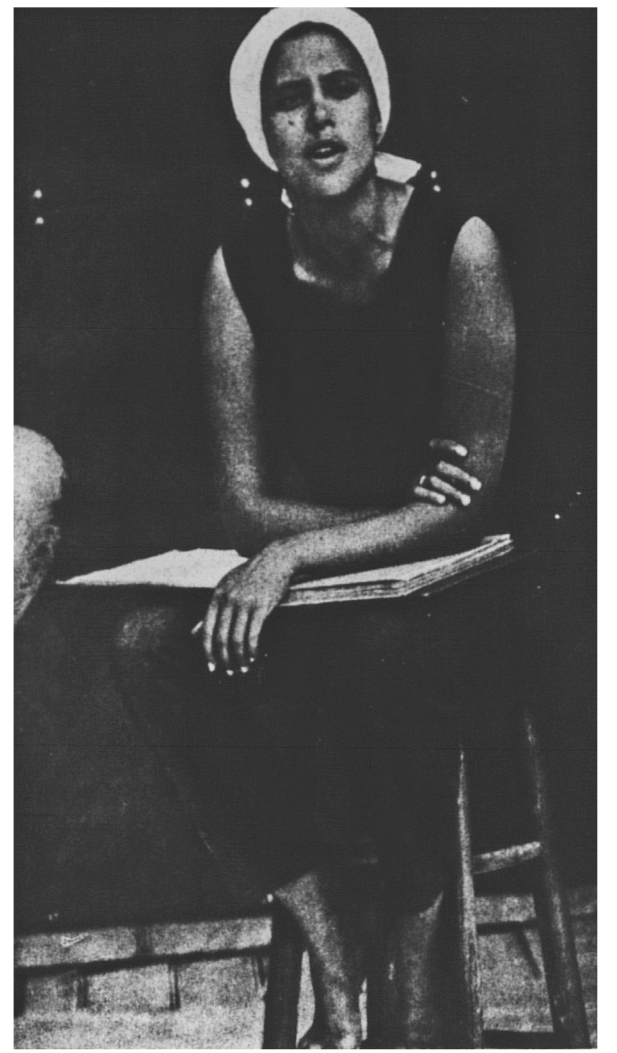




THE ALABAMA FESTIVAL OF ARTS TOOK PLACE TWO WEEKS AGO IN NOTASULGA.



ACTORS FROM THE FREE SOUTHERN THEATRE REHEARSED IN THE AFTERNOON.



42 Acres of Land and an Idea

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

NOTASULGA--Take a hillside in southeastern Alabama. Pick one that's covered with red earth and pine trees, just like hundreds of hillsides in Alabama.

Now take a good look at it. What do you see?

The chances are you see a heap of red earth and a woods full of pine trees.

But that isn't what Miss Doris Mitchell sees when she looks at her hillside in Notasulga, ten miles north of Tuskegee on Highway 81.

Miss Mitchell has 42 acres of land and an idea. She wants to turn her hillside into a cultural center. And she isn't talking about an occasional art class or casual concert.

The cultural center she wants to build would be a small city of art and artists, set in the middle of the Alabama countryside.

But it wouldn't be a city of strangers. Although Miss Mitchell wants to attract outstanding artists of all kinds--musicians, painters, sculptors, writers--she doesn't mean to limit her center to them.

The most important people at her cultural center would be the people who already live in rural Alabama--the farmers and their wives and children. "They don't really know what they can do," Miss Mitchell explained. "All their lives they've been told that art and culture have nothing to do with them." They have the idea that art is something by and for rich people or white people or, simply, other people.

Miss Mitchell hopes to build a cultural center that would change the way Alabama farmers think and feel about themselves and about art. She wants them to discover for themselves that their own lives are the raw material out of which they can make music or paint pictures.

"School programs make you think you have to be a mathematician if you want to play music or write music," Miss Mitchell said. "They start off by showing you how to write down the notes.

"The notes are fine, but they aren't necessary. The music isn't in the written notes. It's in feelings and rhythms, instruments and sounds."

But you can't just pick up a stick and start beating it on a drum--not unless you have a lot of talent and a lot of self-confidence. Teachers at the cultural center would show people how to do what they want to do, and how to discover what they can do.

Adults would attend small classes or work on their own, using the center's library and workshops and materials. For children there would be a summer camp with artists for counselors.

The center would also be a place where artists of all kinds would live and work, learning from each other.

Miss Mitchell would invite creative artists, like painters and sculptors, to exhibit their works in a gallery that would also have room for the works of Alabama rural people. Performing artists, like actors, dancers, and musicians, would give programs in a large theater that would also put on performances by local people.

Miss Mitchell calls her idea the Alabama Academy of Arts. The thought first came to her last year, a few months after the death of her father, Dr. Joseph R. Mitchell. She started the Joseph Mitchell Memorial Foundation to "do something in memory of him."

She began with the idea of holding a concert, and



MISS DORIS MITCHELL

expanded it to a festival of the arts. Then she discovered that there really wasn't any place to hold such a festival.

"I realized that southeast Alabama needs a cultural center," Miss Mitchell said. "It needs a center for folk art and African art. It needs a place where Negroes can find out that they have arts and culture of their own."

With that idea in mind, she gathered together a board of directors including writer Ralph Ellison and folk-singer Odetta Gordon. And she started trying to raise money.

The first project was a concert by Odetta last fall in Birmingham. "It was sensational flop," Miss Mitchell said. "We lost nearly \$2,500."

The second venture was a concert of African drum music and dancing, held earlier this spring in Columbus, Ga. It broke even.

The third was an Alabama Festival of Arts, held two weeks ago on the hillside in Notasulga. The Macon County Board of Revenue donated the use of its equipment to clear some land in time for the festival.

The Sunjet Serenaders, a steel band from Trinidad, played calypso music. The Free Southern Theatre, a group of actors from New Orleans, performed a play and read poetry written by American Negroes.

The Columbus Ballet, young dancers (most of them teen-aged girls) from Georgia, performed several dances. John Beecher read his poem about some Notasulga sharecroppers (white and Negro) who tried to form a union during the 1930's but were killed by angry landowners.

The festival ran for three warm, moonlit nights. The performances were given on a wooden outdoor stage, completed just minutes before the first evening's program began. The audience sat on tree stumps on the hillside, looking down at the stage.

Up the hill, Miss Mitchell had hung an exhibition of Mexican folk art in the wooden house that is the temporary gallery.

Nearly everyone who came said they liked the festival and hoped Miss Mitchell would hold another one soon. But not enough people came to raise any money to build a permanent cultural center. Instead, the festival lost more than \$3,500.

Of the 300 people who did attend the festival, very few were the rural people Miss Mitchell wants most to reach. And there were no local performers at all.

"I talked to so many people around here," Miss Mitchell said, shaking her head and smiling. "Some of them said they would do it, but they didn't.

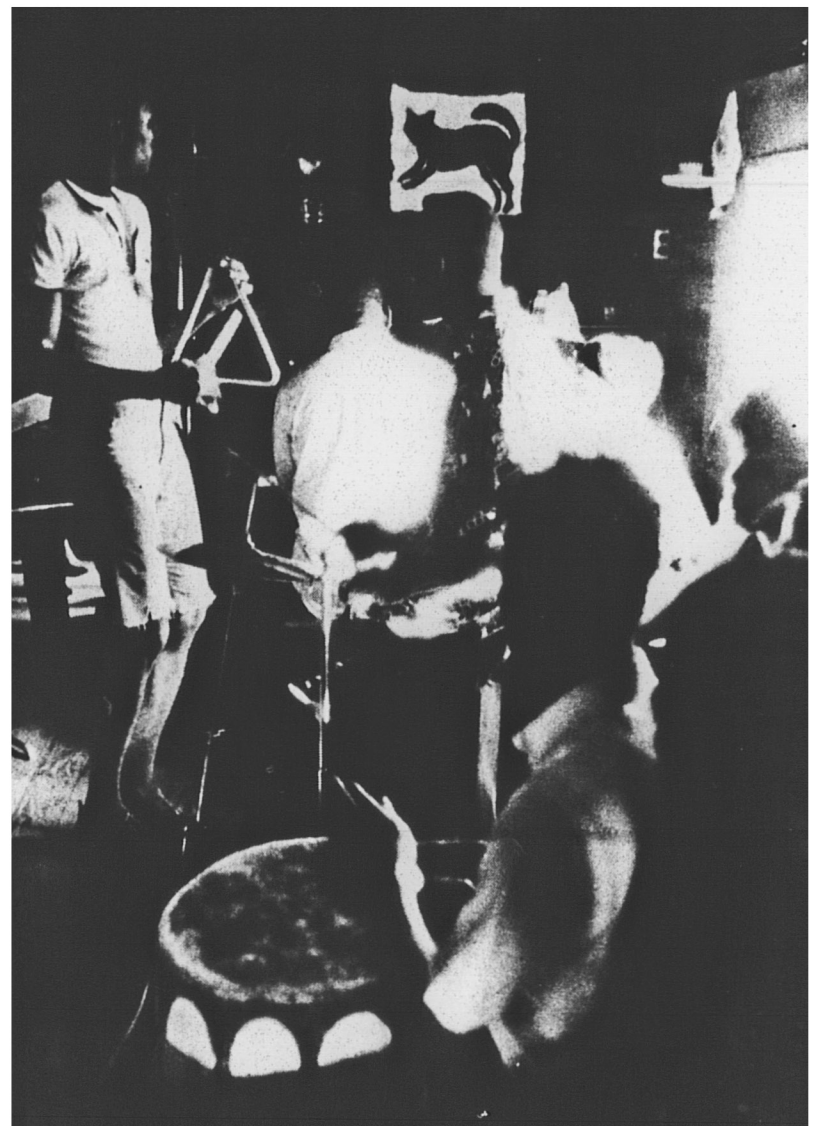
"But I'm not discouraged. The problem is that people need a cultural center more than they realize. Somehow we can make them aware of who they are and what they can do."

Meanwhile, Miss Mitchell is looking for "a hundred people who are as interested as I am in this idea." She said she needs a competent administrator and a group of workers.

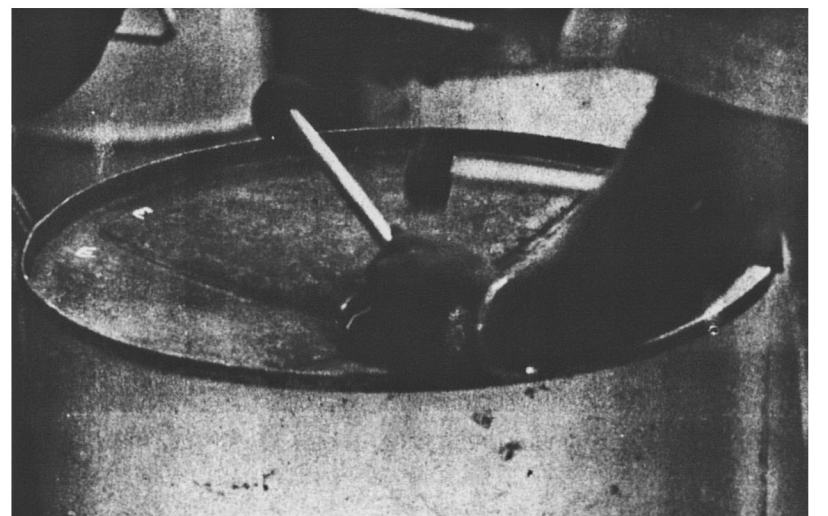
She also is exploring other ways of raising money. If she can get even a few thousand dollars, she still hopes to open a small art canteen this summer.

The Free Southern Theatre has promised to give more performances on the outdoor stage during warm weather. Miss Mitchell hopes to persuade artists visiting nearby cities to come to Notasulga.

She also plans to keep trying to get her neighbors interested in the idea of a cultural center of their own. "If we can get people used to coming out here now and then for an evening," she said, "we'll have something to build on."



THE SUNJET STEEL BAND PLAYED IN THE ART GALLERY . . .



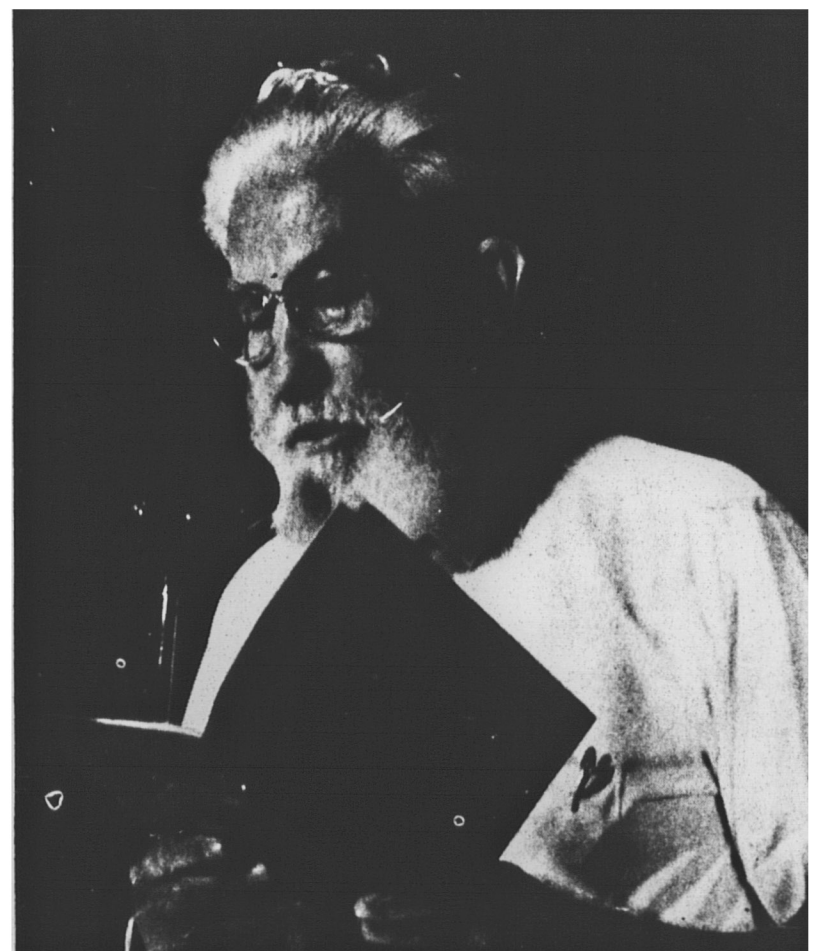
. . . AND OUTDOORS.



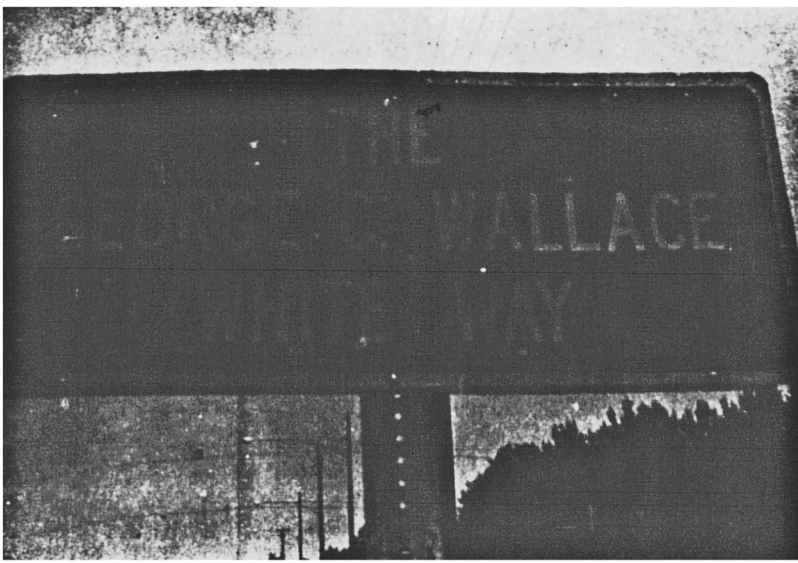
AT NIGHT, THE COLUMBUS BALLET DANCED . . .



. . . THE FREE SOUTHERN THEATRE READ POETRY AND GAVE A PLAY. . .



. . . AND JOHN BEECHER READ HIS POEMS.



The signs on the highway between Birmingham and the Mississippi-Alabama state line give the road different names. At one point, the highway is named for Alabama's 49th governor, at another point it is named for the 50th governor. The main thing to remember is that the road is U.S. Highway 78, and it will get you from Birmingham to Mississippi, and back again.



U.S. Gives Its School Figures, And Meadows Gives Alabama's

BY GLORIA GERMAN

BIRMINGHAM -- "We meet today during a period of considerable contention here in Alabama over the issue of desegregating the schools as required by the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and earlier federal court decisions."

That was the opening line of Harold Howe II, U.S. Commissioner of Education in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Howe was the keynote speaker at a conference to explain the 1966-67 "Guidelines for Education Desegregation."

The purposes of the meeting were given by Samuel Simmons, director for the Field Services Division, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights:

- (1) Explain and discuss the 1966-67 guidelines for education desegregation issued by the commissioner of education.
 - (2) Discuss various federal laws and administrative procedures relating to school desegregation.
 - (3) Discuss problems, methods, and techniques involved in the desegregation of schools.
 - (4) Discuss grants and other services made available by the federal government and private agencies to aid schools and communities in desegregating schools.
- Howe, who was appointed commissioner of education Dec. 18, 1965, explained why the state has two sets of figures concerning the number of schools which have complied with the guidelines.

"The state has issued different figures than ours because they do not know how many districts have signed compliance forms. Many districts sent forms to us without notifying Montgomery."

To date, 59 districts have sent compliance forms; 35 of these complied without reservation, the other 24 districts may not have sent acceptable compliance forms because they included qualifying remarks, Howe said. There are 118 school districts in the



HAROLD HOWE II

Whether all or some of these 24 will be acceptable will be decided by next week by the Office of Education legal staff. Austin R. Meadows, Superintendent of Education in Alabama, gave his reason for the state's different figures:

"I don't know how many complied because some districts didn't send me a copy of the form they sent to Washington," Meadows said.

Howe also explained the method of cutting off federal funds. Some of the money comes to the state already earmarked for certain districts, and some of it comes to the state and the state makes the basic decision as to where that money goes.

All money, however, must be spent in

TAKES COMPLAINTS TO WASHINGTON

NAACP Presses U.S. Steel Case

BY DON GREGG

BIRMINGHAM--In a follow-up to last week's march, Dr. John W. Nixon, state president of the NAACP, asked the federal government for an economic boycott against the U.S. Steel Corporation.

Nixon said that he feels the government has "just cause to withhold contracts on the basis of the more than 200 complaints filed against the Fairfield Division of U.S. Steel."

Nixon and five members of the NAACP Birmingham branch's labor and industry committee flew to Washington the day after the march. They spent two days there presenting evidence of alleged job discrimination to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Nixon said that Dr. Luther Holcomb, acting chairman of the commission, made no commitment about further

Federal Judges Rule:

Dothan Deserves Only 1/5 Of County Representation

MONTGOMERY--The city of Dothan in Houston County has more than 61 per cent of the county's population and pays 69 per cent of the taxes collected by the county board of revenue.

Yet, Dothan has only one voice out of five on that board.

In early April, Dothan Mayor Earl C. Moody took the issue into federal court. He asked a three-judge federal panel to order that Dothan have more of a voice in the decision of how county tax money was to be spent.

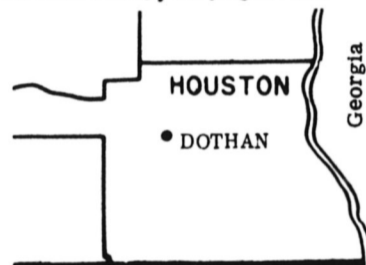
Under Alabama state law it is the responsibility of the state legislature to see that the population of a county is

evenly and equally represented in the county government.

Last week Judge Walter P. Gwin of the Fifth U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals and U.S. District Court Judge Seybourn H. Lynne dismissed the case, saying three conditions must exist before federal judges could interfere with the normal legislative process.

The three conditions stated by Judges Gwin and Lynne were (1) when there is a "long-continued failure" of the state legislature to remedy a situation of unequal representation; (2) when the unequal representation is for the "obvious purpose of depriving Negroes of their right to vote"; and (3) when the "strangle-hold" of a minority in the state legislature has made action by the legislature impossible.

None of these conditions existed in Houston County, the judges said.



Florida

The third member of the panel, U.S. District Court Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr., said he did not agree with his fellow judges.

Judge Johnson said in dissent, "The principles of equality among voters within a state and the fundamental precept that representative government is one of equal representation for an equal number of people without regard to race, sex, economic status, or place of residence--apply to local organs of government."

A similar case that involved Randolph County was dismissed in the same action.

suspects job discrimination.

Committee members who accompanied Nixon were Virgil Pearson, a committee chairman; Clarence Duncan; Freddie Rogers; Thomas Johnson; and Grover Smith Jr. All are employees of U.S. Steel, and so they made a detailed report to the commission about their experiences at U.S. Steel.

The majority of the 200 complaints relate to promotion of qualified Negroes, but some complaints singled out problems with lay-offs, vacations, and the question of proper union representation of Negro workers.

Aside from staff and budget problems, Nixon said that he feels the government drags its feet where big business is concerned.

"They seem to be handling complaints against small businesses first. It is very important that the federal government document our complaints, but there is a feeling among NAACP members that the government is stalling."

"If the size of U.S. Steel is causing the government to go slowly, then where does fair play begin and politics end? The Civil Rights Act can become a political football instead of a commitment of the American people," Nixon said.

U.S. Releases Films On Civil Rights News

WASHINGTON, D.C.--The story of the desegregation of the University of Alabama is one of three films that the federal Community Relations Service is making available to community organizations.

The film, an ABC-TV Scope program, is called "The Quiet Revolution."

The Community Relations Service, now an agency of the Justice Department, was created by the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to help communities solve racial problems.

A second film describes work by residents of Macon, Ga., and students and teachers at Mercer University there to aid peaceful school desegregation in Macon. It is called "The Mercer Project."

The third film, "A Time for Change," describes events leading to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The half-hour films are available for showing from the Media Relations Office, Community Relations Service, U. S. Department of Justice, Washington, D. C. 20530.

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HOSPITALS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

20 haven't yet asked to join Medicare. Birmingham's Baptist Hospital is one of the 20 hospitals in the state that hasn't yet asked to participate in Medicare. According to Executive Director L. R. Jordan, the hospital has never asked for federal funds.

This policy, he said, doesn't have anything to do with integration, but rather is based on a "long-standing Baptist principle of separation of church and state."

He said the hospital's board of trustees has been studying the Medicare proposal for several weeks and will probably make a final decision about joining or not when it meets next Monday.

Administrators at hospitals trying to get approval for Medicare participation doubt that white patients would resent being treated in a desegregated hospital.

One of the hospitals that was on HEW's list was Colbert County Hospital in Sheffield. When Administrator J. R. Frye was asked if he thought white patients would resent being treated in a desegregated hospital he answered:

"There are some people who don't particularly go along with the idea, but most realize it's a federal law and that we have to comply with it, that's all."

Douglass Goode, Administrator at Jackson Hospital, said all of Montgomery's hospitals are trying to cooperate with HEW on the Medicare issue, but "It takes time to work these things out."

He said he doesn't expect any trouble from white patients over the desegregated Medicare plan. Most, he said, realize this is just "a way of life." He added that usually 17 to 20 per cent of the hospital's patients are Negroes.

Miss Ann Pratt formerly of La Petite Beauty Salon announces the **Grand Opening** of **Ann Pratt's Wiggery & Coiffure** 850 High St. Montgomery 262-6667 June 17 - 24 Window Demonstration of Wig Styling on a Live Model. 9:30 Saturday, June 18.

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ON THE MARCH THROUGH MISSISSIPPI STARTED BY JAMES MEREDITH THE MARCHERS STOPPED FOR A NIGHT OR TWO AT CAMP SITES ALONG THE WAY. AT LEAST ONE WOMAN (ABOVE) FOUND THE MORNINGS CHILLY. ANOTHER MARCHER TOOK TIME FOR A QUIET MOMENT OF PRAYER AT A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR A MARCHER WHO DIED OF A HEART ATTACK.

Wilkins, Evers Tell Opinion of Marchers

BY DAVID R. UNDERHILL

JACKSON, Miss.--A memorial service here Sunday honored the slain Medgar Evers, praised the NAACP, and scolded the marchers headed toward town.

DEACONS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

"The black people's march," Thomas answered, "We're the ones who's catching hell and are going to catch it even worse after the march is gone. You don't have any right to tell us how to defend ourselves if we're attacked." The man insisted that the march was officially non-violent. Thomas replied that no organization had asked the Deacons to come, but no one could tell them to leave. Besides, Thomas added, the Deacons had agreed to non-violence "during the marching," and no one had really objected to them guarding the camp at night.

But when the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. rejoined the march Tuesday at Grenada, he said, "This is definitely a non-violent march. We don't need any arms, day or night. Everybody agreed to this."

So the issue is apparently still unsettled among the leaders.

Among the marchers, a few people, mostly white, would like the Deacons or their arms to leave. But some of the whites and almost all of the Negroes are glad to have the Deacons around.

One Negro girl said of Thomas, "I know one thing. If he is in the line, I gonna be right next to him. I wouldn't want to be anywhere else when they start beatin' heads."

Evers was field secretary of the Mississippi NAACP when a sniper killed him in front of his Jackson home three years ago.

About 2,000 people came to the service, and about 800 of them marched through downtown Jackson at the end of it.

The executive secretary of the national NAACP, Roy Wilkins, led the march and was the main speaker on the program.

Wilkins argued for the NAACP way when he said, "If this marching and agitation is to mean anything at all, . . . it must create new laws."

But the main objective of the civil rights movement now does not need to be more laws, Wilkins said. Rather, it should be to prepare Negroes for a full role in society, because "the battle against the white people is on the way to being won--believe me."

Almost every speaker on the program said the issue now is not white people against black people. Without naming any particular groups, they criticized ones with an "all-black" approach to civil rights.

They also had some stern words about "missionaries coming down here from the North to save Mississippians from fear."

"We need help," Wilkins said, "but if anyone comes here . . . to save our souls, well, that's another thing."

But Wilkins did not say that the march is useless. He suggested to the audience that "you use the marchers while they are here" for voting registration.

Charles Evers, present NAACP field secretary for Mississippi, did not repeat the same highly critical remarks he had made a few days earlier about the march.

Instead he said, "I hope that when they get to Jackson, they'll make a switch and go over to Highway 61 and march back to Memphis registering every Negro along that road."



Mobile Holds March To Honor Medgar Evers

BY PHILIP SAYRE

MOBILE--"This is part of a continuing attempt to knock off the leaders and kill the movement," charged Dr. R. W. Gilliard, president of the Mobile chapter of the NAACP, at a protest rally here last Sunday.

He was talking about the shooting of James Meredith June 6 and the killing three years ago of Medgar Evers, Mississippi field chairman for the NAACP.

About 40 people gathered for the rally at the Warren Street Methodist Church, and then walked 15 blocks, protesting "the failure of state and federal government to protect civil rights workers" and "to point up the importance of passing the proposed civil rights bill, which will protect workers from harassment, injury and burglary."

The marchers, whose numbers grew

to about 75 as they walked Sunday afternoon through the Negro sections of Mobile, carried signs saying, "Join this march for freedom to walk the highways," and, "Stop the white man from killing us."

The Mobile demonstration was part of a nation-wide protest to support the march in Mississippi and observe the anniversary of the killing of Medgar Evers. There were rallies and marches as far away as Portland, Maine, and Omaha, Nebraska.

As the marchers walked through the streets, a great many people waved from their porches and windows but did not join.

"If we fail to march here in Mobile, then we fail those men who have died," said local NAACP director, David Jacob Jr. He echoed the message of a poem recited at the rally by Miss Bessie Hill, "Wake Up Negro Wake Up."

REVIEW OF 'NEW SOUTH'

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWO)

But when it comes to stating obvious facts in as many words as possible, no one can top Leslie Dunbar, former executive director of the Southern Regional Council, which publishes "New South."

"By all evidence that we have," he begins in the winter issue, "the situation of Negro Americans is so desperate that to overstate it is hard." Then Dunbar lists six "policies" that will help this situation. "None is original," he says, and he isn't kidding. Among the policies are:

"Security of the person must be guaranteed."

"The job of erasing all racial barriers must be completed."

"Negroes must enter into full and free participation in politics at all levels."

And so on. People who have known these things for years may be surprised to learn that if you're a political scientist, you can get paid for writing them down.

Finally, Dunbar tells us, "We must start from where we are."

After Dunbar's article comes an in-

teresting, informative piece by Professor Silver of the University of Mississippi.

He does some work on his own, instead of just reading newspapers. And so he comes up with cases like the Negro training school principal who has been registered for 20 years in a town 165 miles away from the school, so that he always has a good excuse for not voting.

The first issue also includes an article by Dr. Robert Coles of Harvard University, the movement's kept psychiatrist, whose studies of Southern Negroes always come out just the way you want them to. In this article, he concludes that "the pain and torture of the South's history has (sic) been shared by all its people. . . Their minds have all taken in the region's hurt and bad blood, but lived also in company with the region's warmth, openness, and really splendid countryside."

And then there are the contributions of F. C. Campbell, Our Negro Poet, who gets away with some pretty awful poetry but thrills "New South" editors by referring to his own people as "niggers."

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