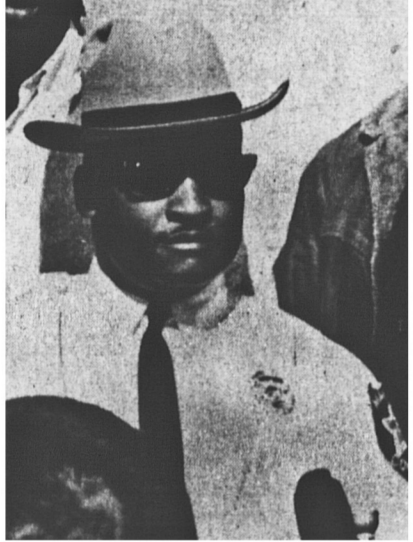


## Constables Run Loose in Macon

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE -- Sheriff Lucius D. Amerson pledged this week that "something will be done" if Macon County's new white constables get in the way of law enforcement.



LUCIUS D. AMERSON

Amerson, the county's first Negro sheriff, refused to say anything more about the sudden appearance of the new constables--the county's chief topic of conversation since he took office last week.

"It's all a lot of talk for nothing," Sheriff Amerson said. "I don't see where it's so important."

But the constables--who make arrests and serve almost all kinds of legal papers--will be in direct competition with Amerson for the money he needs to run the sheriff's office.

At least three white men have been named to the jobs since Amerson was elected last November. Two of the new constables--O. C. Bryant of Notasuga and former deputy L. O. Hall of Tuskegee--were appointed by local justices of the peace since Jan. 1. The third, Willie Kirk Jr., was named by Governor George C. Wallace last Nov. 22.

Probate Judge Preston Hornsby, who was sheriff here for 15 years, said the present total "gives us two or three more constables than we usually have."

And the governor's office confirmed that applications from former Sheriff Harvey Sadler and several other would-be constables are awaiting action by Mrs. Lurleen B. Wallace.

The law provides for ten regular constables in Macon County, one for each election precinct. With Kirk and another white man, Billy Joe Pugh, filling two rural positions, Mrs. Wallace can name eight more constables if she wants to. And there is no legal limit to the number of special constables who may be appointed by justices of the peace.

Former Sheriff Hornsby admitted that constables "can really cut into the sheriff's fees. Arrest is the only way he's got of making money. There's no salary."

But both he and former Sheriff Sadler said that competition between constables and sheriff's office is nothing new in Macon County. "I used to get mad with 'em (the constables) when I was sheriff," Hornsby said.

"I had constables workin' against me--well, not against me, with me," Sadler said. "People will tell you they weren't active, but they were."

Sadler said that if he is appointed a constable, he doesn't plan to work against Amerson. "I truthfully believe constables would be a benefit to him, take the pressure off him," the former sheriff said.

"A lot of people blew this up just because he was colored. They're tryin' to make it look like something directed against someone... but I think it would be of help."

"I certainly don't want full-time constables in every beat--that's not for the good of the county," Sadler added. "I have just a very, very little time to put into it. I work a 12-13 hour day here at my store."

But at least one new constable does plan to work full-time. Hall, who still wears the brown uniform he wore as one of Sadler's deputies, said, "I'm going to be out there trying to make a living."

Hall said that he asked for his constable's badge after getting encouragement from both races. "Your colored and white have asked for something... I don't know whether because they didn't want to support Amerson or what."

The new sheriff stopped Hall on the street last week, and asked to see his constable's identification. Amerson said Hall didn't show it until "I went to put the handcuffs on him. Then he dug his hands down in his pockets and brought it up. I didn't arrest him. If I had, he'd be in jail."

Hall has now threatened to sue Amerson for false arrest. The sheriff said, "I hope he does."

Amerson warned all constables to show proper identification when asked, "If they don't, I'm gonna lock 'em up," he said. "I'm not gonna have people running around the county wearing badges and I don't know who they are."

Does Macon County really need sev- (CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX Col. 1)

## Council Backs Amerson

TUSKEGEE -- "I don't think there's a place in a democracy for people who won't accept it when they lose an election," said City Councilman J. Allan Parker. "It's time for the responsible, law-abiding people to stand up and be counted."

A few minutes later, Tuskegee's bi-racial City Council unanimously passed a resolution giving the city's "wholehearted support" to Macon County Sheriff Lucius D. Amerson.

The action came late Tuesday night at the council's first meeting since Amerson was sworn in as the county's first Negro sheriff. The resolution was proposed by Councilman Stanley H. Smith.

Smith said only that "a number of things are happening in our community... These are very trying times." But everyone in the room knew that he was referring to the sudden appearance of several white constables in Macon County.

In its resolution, the city council promised to "extend every cooperation to (Sheriff) Amerson to facilitate his law enforcement role." The council also pledged to "use its good office to discourage any attempt to mar the effective performance of this duly-elected official."

## Opponents in Birmingham War on Poverty

# Mrs. Boykin, Rev. Burrell Share Platform



MRS. EMYLIE BOYKIN --Photo by Chris McNair

# Death on the Highways

## Lady Killed In Clarke

BY JOHN C. DIAMANTE

COFFEEVILLE--"She left home and went to take some mail down Jackson Rd.," said a relative of Mrs. Grace Mae Osborne. "It was too late for her to go out by herself. They brought word that she had been run over... The law was here, and the undertaker came and got her."

Mrs. Osborne, a Negro, was killed on Highway 69 the night of Dec. 2. Cecil Shepherd, a 29-year-old white man, has been charged with first-degree manslaughter in connection with the death of the 33-year-old mother of three.

"I just can't figure it out," said Shepherd's uncle, "Tink" Shepherd. "My two boys went off to the ball game in the truck, and then to their sister-in-law's. Cecil jumped in the truck and took off. My boys chased him down the road. By the time they got to him, he'd done had the accident..."

"They brought him back to the house. Then they went looking for the hubcaps off the truck, and they found that nigger woman."

Shepherd is out on \$2,500 bail, awaiting a hearing during the spring term of the Clarke County grand jury on the manslaughter charge.

State Trooper Marshall Dannelley, who assisted Clarke County Sheriff Hu-



SCENE OF HIGHWAY DEATH

bert Paul the night of Mrs. Osborne's death, said Cecil Shepherd "didn't have a driver's license," and may have been drinking that night.

But Shepherd was not charged with any license violation, and he was not tested for sobriety. These possible violations could not be pursued, "because we didn't see it," Dannelley explained.

"We don't give tests for intoxication," added Sheriff Paul.

Last Saturday night at Scyrene, James Patrick, an 18-year-old Negro youth, was killed by a hit-and-run driver while walking home. When that happened, Sheriff Paul's office got a Mobile toxicologist to perform an autopsy--which indicated that the youth had been drinking before his death.

Mrs. Osborne's relatives say people in the community have tried to help them. "The people here been so nice--white and colored," said one of the victim's cousins. "Course, that's not bringing her back, but they been nice. Bring the children food and clothes--they had the biggest Christmas in their lives."

According to the Shelton family, witnesses to the incident said Anthony Shelton lay on the ground, bleeding, for an hour before an ambulance took him to Memorial Hospital in Bessemer. After being transferred, he died in the emergency room of University Hospital in Birmingham.

Last Monday night at a meeting of the Alabama Christian Movement in Birmingham, the Rev. C.W. Woods said that if action isn't taken in Shelton's case, "they'll just get bolder and bolder."

"Understand me," said Woods. "I don't condone the Negro that does wrong. But white folks talk back to cops. Why don't they get shot and killed for it?"

Bullock Case Stalled MONTGOMERY -- Attorney Fred D. Gray and four defeated Bullock County Negro candidates face another delay in their election suit, the U. S. Justice Department this week got more time to prepare its case.

## Visitor Shot By Trooper

BESSEMER -- A week after it happened, people in Bessemer and Birmingham were still talking about the death of Anthony Shelton, a 27-year-old Negro from Detroit, Michigan.

Shelton was shot to death Jan. 19 by Alabama State Trooper Mickey Shell, after Shell arrested him on Highway 11. Colonel C.W. Russell, director of the state Department of Public Safety, said this week that Shell "arrested the nigra for DWI (driving while intoxicated)." While seated in a car with the trooper, Russell said, "the nigra broke and run."

Then, said Russell, "the nigra jumped the trooper, and actually got the gun away from the trooper." Shell scuffled with Shelton, said the colonel, until "the nigra hit him and knocked him down an embankment. That's when (Shell) shot him."

Shelton was in Birmingham to visit relatives--his mother, Mrs. Hattie Shelton; his former wife, Carol; his brother, Mack; and his sister-in-law, Mattie.

Anthony Shelton was hoping for a reconciliation with his former wife, said his brother, and he was on his way to see his mother-in-law when the incident occurred. "He wasn't about to be drunk," said Mack Shelton.

According to the Shelton family, witnesses to the incident said Anthony Shelton lay on the ground, bleeding, for an hour before an ambulance took him to Memorial Hospital in Bessemer. After being transferred, he died in the emergency room of University Hospital in Birmingham.

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Birmingham War on Poverty Opponents Mrs. Boykin, Rev. Burrell Share Platform BIRMINGHAM--Two enemies of long standing shared the platform at the Alabama Christian Movement's meeting last Monday night.

The antagonists were Mrs. Emyle Boykin and the Rev. Johnnie Burrell. Mrs. Boykin is an executive of the Jefferson County Committee for Economic Opportunity (JCCEO), the agency that controls federal anti-poverty funds in this area.

Burrell, a Smithfield barber, is president of the renegade Smithfield Neighborhood Council--the only council actively protesting JCCEO policies, and ever since it protested, the only council Mrs. Boykin's committee refuses to recognize.

Of the two, only Mrs. Boykin had a chance to speak. She asked the people to take part in JCCEO activities, especially the upcoming anti-poverty elections.

Mrs. Boykin, wife of a Birmingham dentist, spoke slowly and clearly, in the manner of a school teacher. "Now how do we elect people?" she began, and went on to explain, very carefully, how there are 16 neighborhoods in greater Birmingham and each will elect a representative to the anti-poverty board.

"This is what we call 'community action,'" she said.

In her only reference to protests against the JCCEO, she said that all some people can do is complain. "Money isn't just given to you," she said. "We have to work for it, and if we don't get it, whose fault is it--ours."

Far to her right on the platform, Burrell listened, sitting stiffly. He has claimed that Mrs. Boykin's committee is part of a "conspiracy" to fritter away federal money--money that could help free black people if it were "spent decent."

But many at Monday's meeting said informally that Burrell's protests have been "too hot," "too hard," and "too wide open."

Later, on the street outside the East End Baptist Church, Burrell explained his criticisms.

The heavily-financed Neighborhood Youth Corps, he said, often does not train people, but merely provides free mental labor for white institutions. He said the JCCEO needs day-care centers, nurses who can teach hygiene, and home economists who can teach young

wives how to live on a small budget--not an expensive downtown office and elaborate youth programs.

Burrell also charged that the JCCEO is more concerned with "teaching correct attitudes" than it is with fundamental problems.

As the meeting was breaking up, the Rev. Edward Gardner, who was presiding, said that whatever the problem was, the Rev. F. L. Shuttlesworth, president of the Christian Movement, would settle it when he came to Birmingham.

The doors were clogged with departing members by then, but the Rev. C.W. Woods, pastor of the East End church, took over the microphone and shouted for them to stop. They did.

"Why do we have to wait?" he said, adding that too much protest was being lost in committees. "Rev. Shuttlesworth told us we should learn to take care of our problems ourselves."

Leaders of the Christian Movement commented, however, that Woods has been absent from some important committees. Speaking as he did, said one, "he was out of line."

## Capital's Head Start Controversy Stays Hot

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN

MONTGOMERY--Opposing factions in the Montgomery Head Start program continued to slug it out this week, after three local centers were closed for failing to meet state and federal standards.

No one disputed the judgment of Charles R. Shelton, director of the Montgomery Community Action Committee (CAC), that the three centers apparently had made "no effort to meet the standards."

At least one of the centers was closed because it failed to provide an adequate playground. "There was ample space to have had a playground," said Mrs.

Bertha D. Howard, chairman of the new Head Start policy advisory committee. "I don't know just why they didn't follow through." Another center, she said, "didn't even meet the health standards."

But to some people in the mostly-Negro Child Development Agency (CDA), which runs the Head Start centers, the closings still seemed like part of a plot--though perhaps an unsuccessful one.

"They want to close all these centers and get all the children centralized at Resurrection and St. Jude," charged Mrs. Carrie Robinson, assistant chairman of the CDA, Resurrection and St. Jude are two large Catholic institutions where Shelton has opened new centers, and where the CAC's proposed summer Head Start classes would be held.

Mrs. Robinson said these institutions are "the only places white people will send their children, because those two have white administrators."

She said of the CAC, "They're trying to get rid of us... The CAC wants to handle the money, and they want to keep the status quo in Montgomery. They know this is where the problem gets solved, if you start with the children. They want to stay with the Job Corps, and things like that."

But Dr. Joseph Stewart, the white dentist who is chairman of the CAC, said "the last thing we want to do" is take the Head Start program away from the CDA. "If we've got an agency doing a good job, that's exactly what we prefer," he said.

And, he added, "there's nothing we'd like better" than to re-open the three centers that were closed this week.

Some CDA supporters have challenged Stewart's credentials as head of the anti-poverty program, because he has been an active supporter of ultra-conservative U.S. Representative William L. Dickinson.

"I was afraid that was going to come up," said Stewart. "My personal philosophy, etc., I never let interfere with what I think is right... This program has the greatest intent of any program the government has ever conducted. It's helping the little children. Anything that helps little children, I am for 100%."

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**Editorial Opinion**

**Sour Grapes**

The voters of Macon County have elected Lucius D. Amerson their sheriff three times in the last year-- in the primary, the run-off, and the general election. Every time the margin grew wider. It should have been enough to convince anyone that the voters wanted what they got--Alabama's first Negro sheriff since Reconstruction.

But the county's segregationists apparently haven't quite grasped the fact that they lost the election. Almost as soon as Amerson took office last week, white constables began popping up like snowdrops in the spring. At least two white justices of the peace have appointed their own constables, rather than accept the services of Amerson and his deputies. And the names of half a dozen or more other men are on constable's applications in the office of the governors Wallace.

The creation of a white constabulary to compete with Amerson's integrated office may seem like a logical extension of Alabama's comic-opera style in government. But a separate-and-equal police force to silence Macon County's sore losers would be a serious blow against local law enforcement. By taking away the fees which are the sheriff's only source of revenue, the white constables could force Amerson out of business. Falling that, they could still thwart the new sheriff's efforts to give the county the peace and quiet most of its citizens deserve.

Macon County's segregationists apparently want to have their sour grapes and eat them, too. Is this also how the Wallaces feel? For years, the first Governor Wallace has been shouting about respect for law and order. Now the second Wallace has a chance to do something about it.

The appointment of a flock of white constables in Macon County would prove that all the Wallaces' talk about law and order is just racism wearing a different label.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

To the Editor:  
I'm wondering about these women who are elected to fill their husband's shoes but their husbands are still wearing the shoes. Why don't the people wake up and see that Mrs. Wallace is only a governor in name?

Down in Laurel, Miss., they elected Mrs. (Fern) Bucklew to be mayor. And her husband's going to run the government through her, just the way Wallace is going to run it through Lurleen.

A lot of us peoples are wondering when the so-called peoples that knows something but aren't doing nothing are going to stand up.

Mrs. Jimana Sumrall  
Quitman, Miss.

\* \* \*

To the Editor:  
I feel that our leader, Mr. C. G. Gomillion, erred in leading the Negro

voters to accept tokenism in obtaining positions with authority. Only one candidate from among us was elected who has some authority, and that is the sheriff, and already steps have been taken to dilute his authority by the appointment of a whole lot of little constables that are not needed here. However, I am proud to see that the Negroes did not listen entirely to the boss and voted one such candidate in, obviously over protest. Others have expressed opinions in agreement with mine on this subject, too.

We must continue to support Mr. Amerson, because when ever a Negro gets in power, he gets picked apart. Congressman Powell got by like the rest of them until he was made chairman of that committee, then the bottom fell out on him.

We complain about what the City Council is not doing. I wonder how many

low-rent housing made into an air base. Black people saw black militants and activists forced into the army because of the inequities in the draft.

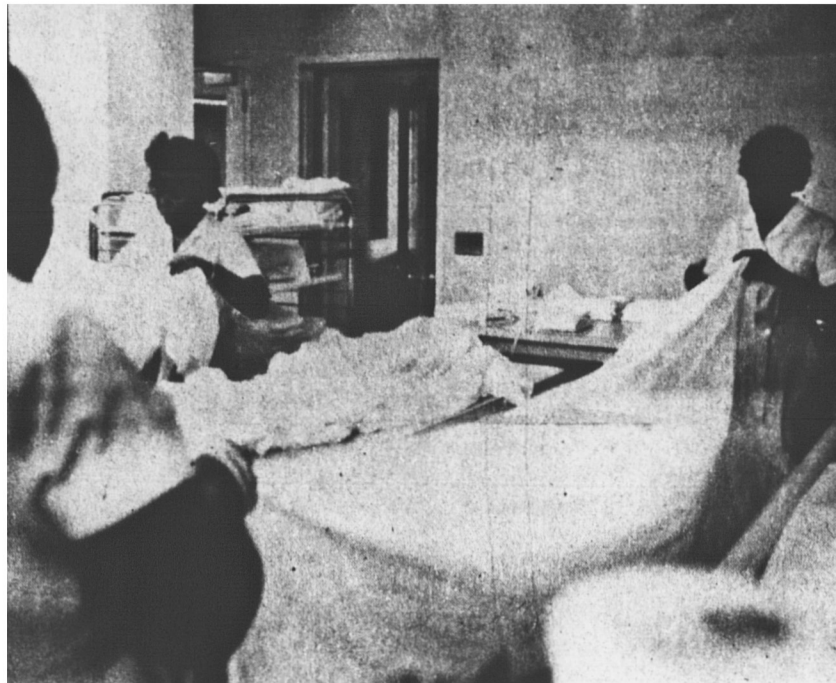
The white capitalists told us that we should support the war, because black men were getting jobs. Black people were working in the factories that made the guns, the tanks, the bullets. Black soldiers were getting incomes for their families. But what the white capitalists forgot was that we are a people with principles. It has been these principles that carried us through the vicissitudes of this country. A black mercenary was killed in the special forces in Viet Nam, supposedly fighting for freedom for the Vietnamese people, and he could not get a burial in Wetumpka, Ala., because there were no plots left in the black portion of the cemetery. A black mercenary returns to this country from Viet Nam, and he cannot get served in a local bar in Illinois.

Lewellyn Johnson  
Tuskegee

**Many Will Get Higher Pay**

**What New Law Does**

**Meridian Employers Say Money Has to Come From Somewhere**



New federal wage standards will go into effect next Wednesday raising pay for thousands of workers throughout the country.

All workers who have been receiving \$1.25 an hour under the present minimum-wage law must start receiving \$1.40 an hour on Wednesday. A year later, on Feb. 1, 1968, their pay will go up again, to a minimum of \$1.60 an hour.

Many workers who were not covered by the old minimum wage are included in the new law. Anyone doing the following kinds of work must be paid at least \$1 an hour after Wednesday:

1. Work in a hospital, rest home, or nursing home. This category includes mental hospitals or homes for the mentally retarded.
2. Employment in a school or college. School bus drivers, janitors, and cafeteria workers are included in this group.
3. Work in a laundry, cleaning, or fabric-repair business.
4. Construction work for a company not already covered by the present law.
5. Employment by a taxicab, bus, or street-car company.
6. Work in a cotton gin, and on most kinds of logging crews.

Workers in large hotels, motels, and restaurants will be covered by the \$1-an-hour minimum, if the business takes in \$500,000 a year.

Many farm workers are covered by the new law, if they work for an employer who used more than 500 man-days of labor in any four-month period of the previous year. (For instance, a farmer who employed at least ten people for 50 days between May and September would have to pay the minimum this year.)

Migrant workers are covered by the law. However, some farm workers who always live in the same place may not be covered, because the law excludes laborers who do local work in different places for piece rates. For example, cotton pickers who work on several plantations near their homes are not covered by the new law, but pickers who work only for one farm owner probably are covered.

The minimum wage for all these newly-covered workers will go up to \$1.15 an hour on Feb. 1, 1968, and to \$1.30 an hour the following year.

But in some cases, an employer can legally pay less than the minimum wage. For instance, if a hospital, farm, or construction worker receives food or housing from his employer, a "reasonable" amount for room or board can be subtracted from his take-home pay.

An employer may count tips toward the minimum wage for any worker who regularly gets more than \$20 a month in tips. But the employer may not count the tips toward more than half the minimum wage.

Trainees, handicapped workers, and full-time students are not covered by the minimum wage in some businesses. Workers covered under the old minimum wage law must receive overtime pay (1 1/2 times their regular hourly rate) any time they work longer than eight hours a day or 40 hours a week.

Workers covered by the new law must get overtime pay for more than 44 hours of work a week. Next year, the limit will be 42 hours a week, and in 1969, it will be 40 hours. For workers in nursing homes, rest homes, and bowling alleys, however, the limit is higher--48 hours a week. Overtime limits do not apply to farm work.

If you want to know whether your job is covered by the minimum wage law, you can visit, call, or write the nearest federal wage and hour office. In Mississippi, call 948-7821, extension 349, in Jackson, or write U. S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Office, Room 675, Milner Bldg., Jackson, Miss. 39201.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE, Col. 4)

BY GAIL FALK  
MERIDIAN, Miss.-- Last spring, workers at Classic Cleaners in Meridian walked off the job to protest their pay. They had been earning \$27 a week for six full days of work. But the manager refused to raise their pay, and they had to go back to work for the same wages.

Starting next Wednesday, the manager of Classic Cleaners will be paying those workers \$1 an hour. Under the new minimum wage standards, he has to. "We've got to obey the law," he said last week. "It's just one of those things we've got to learn to live with."

But according to many employers in town, it's more complicated than that. The money has to come from somewhere--most likely from the public's pocket. Employers will also economize by cutting staffs and eliminating fringe benefits.

The manager of a large motel, for example, said he had been paying his maids a little more than \$4 a day. When he has to start paying \$1 an hour on Wednesday, their wages will go up almost 100%. The motel manager said he couldn't lay anyone off--"you need a certain number of maids and a certain number of porters." So the only way he could meet the wage increase was to "raise room rates \$1 a room across the board."

He explained that the large jump was due to "the escalation of wages." Once you raise the lowest-paid workers to \$1 an hour, he said, you have to raise wages all the way up the scale.

At one private hospital, however, the administrator said the new pay scale wouldn't affect the budget much because workers there were already earning at least 85¢ or 90¢ an hour. "The law's been coming for a long time," said the administrator. "We realized before the law that people have to make a living."

R. B. White, director of East Mississippi State Hospital, a large mental hospital, said state institutions face different problems.

The budget for East Mississippi State and 51 other state institutions comes from the legislature in two-year chunks, he said. A budget for last until 1968 was voted last year, when the legislature didn't know anything about the wage increase. Now the legislature isn't in session, and no one is sure how the pay increase will be covered.

Like the state hospitals, public schools have to get budget increases from taxes. A spokesman for the Meridian schools said if the schools keep the same number of workers in 1971 (when the minimum wage will be \$1.60), the wage increase would cost \$130,000. That would go beyond the limit that the schools are allowed to collect in taxes, he said.

A 5% increase in the cost of school lunches, starting in the second semester, (CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX, Col. 3)



**Fairfield**  
Schuyler Lawson has made the recently-announced honor roll at Fairfield High School. On the junior high honor roll at Fairfield were Sidney Brewer, Miss Edna McLin, Miss Tijuana Cox, Miss Brenda Mayes, Miss Angela Drake, Dwight Ellis, and Miss Naomi Boykin. These boys and girls are among many Negro students doing good work at Fairfield High. Miss Gale Strickland is a member of Fairfield's junior high band, and Miss Betty Jo Abrams belongs to the Pep Club. Both are the first Negro members of their organizations.

**Abbeville**  
Mrs. Norma Robinson from Brooklyn, New York, was a visitor in Abbeville. She was thrilled to be here, and enjoyed everything during her stay in the home of Mr. and Mrs. James J. Vaughan.

**Tuscaloosa**  
"Before I knew anything, another student was running toward me, and hit me," said John Reynolds of Greensboro, a new Negro student at the predominantly-white Shelton Trade School here. The white student who hit him was helping him, for Reynolds' shirt was on fire and the student was putting it out. Reynolds, a civil rights worker, wasn't burned, but his shirt and sweater were ruined. He said he didn't see who set him on fire. Reynolds said school officials promised him that such an incident wouldn't happen again.

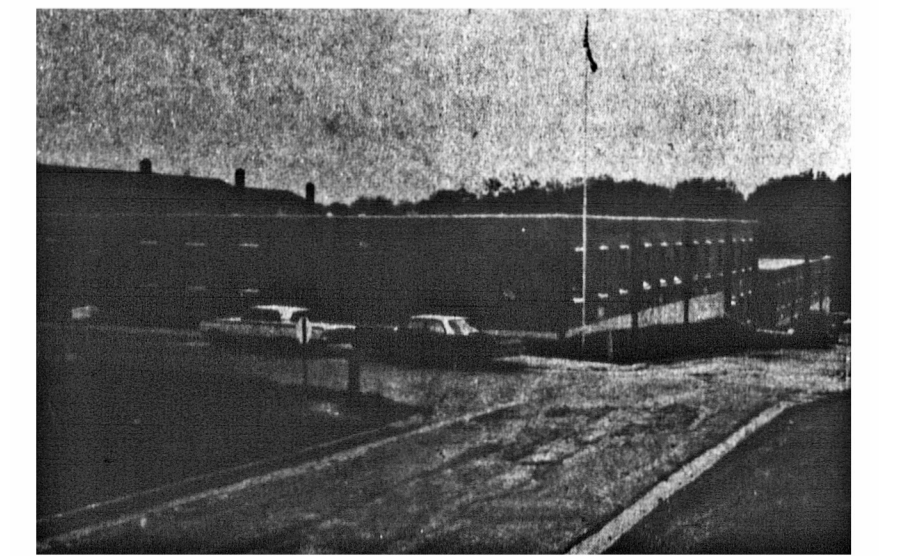
**Abbeville**  
Mrs. Vallie Dantle was funeralized at the St. Peter Baptist Church at 2:30 p.m. last Sunday. Mrs. Addie Corbitte was funeralized at 3:30 p.m. the same day at the Holiness Church. (From James J. Vaughan)

**Tuscaloosa**  
The Community Interest Corps, formed last October to work with young people, installed its officers last Sunday in a "kick-off celebration" at the Barnes YMCA. The president is Joe

**Birmingham**  
Miss Thelma Martin, a registered nurse now at University Hospital here, says former Southern Courier reporter Clay Muserman is recovering "very well" from his serious auto accident.

**Montgomery**  
Mrs. Johnnie M. Carr was elected president of the Montgomery Improvement Association Jan. 19 at a board meeting in the MIA office. Other officers elected were the Rev. Samuel McGhee, first vice-president; Mrs. Erna Dungee Allen, second vice-president; the Rev. Isaac Forbes, secretary; Mrs. Idessa Williams, assistant secretary; John Thomas, treasurer; Mrs. Hazel Gregory, financial secretary; and Mrs. Olivia Boyd, chaplain.

**Troy**  
This is James O. Cogborn's tenth year as principal of the Oakland Heights School. The people in Troy give great respect for Cogborn. Since he has been principal, the school has added a lunchroom, a library club, Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts (Troop 253 and Pack 253), televisions, playground equipment, and a kindergarten. Best addition of all is a modern building with all conveniences, including central heating and air conditioning. The building cost more than \$250,000. The school has moved from an elementary school with 19 teachers to a junior high school with 15 teachers, two secretaries, 510 students, nine work-study students, and 125 free lunches a week. (From Elaine Warren)



OAKLAND HEIGHTS SCHOOL



**Views on Viet Nam War**

PATRICIA JAMES

BY PATRICIA JAMES

The war in Viet Nam is an ugly war. Over 2,000 Americans have been killed. Since 1961, more than 350,000 Vietnamese men, women, and children have died in this terrible war. Millions of refugees roam over the countryside, uncared for and unwanted by either side fighting. Gasoline bombs have burned villages down to the ground, because the "Viet Cong" may be hiding there. Crops are being poisoned with chemicals to deprive the "enemy" of food. Many whole villages have been relocated at gun-point into concentration camps. Many people have died, and many more will die if the war isn't ended.

The United States is trying to preserve "democracy" and "freedom" in Viet Nam. Some kind of democracy and freedom that is when the United States can't even run its own government. We don't even have freedom in the United States!

There is a war going on in the United States--a war against poverty, education, ignorance, and many other things. Why can't they stay in their own country and run their own business, instead of trying to tell someone else what to do when they don't know what to do themselves?

The U.S. should just get the hell out of Viet Nam. They draft boys, dress them in uniforms, and send them over there to fight.

When the boys return from Viet Nam

(if they return), they can't live where they want, they can't eat where they want, they can't talk to whom they want to. But they are over there fighting, dying one by one.

The United States should let the Vietnamese people decide what they want to do and let them do it, Viet Nam is their country.

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BY GWEN PATTON

War is hell, and nobody knows it better than black people in this country. We have been forced to fight wars for survival ever since we have been in this country. Now this country is forcing us to fight an inhuman war in Viet Nam, against people who like us have been fighting for survival all their lives. If the white man wants to fight yellow people for democracy, then let the white man fight his own battles, because democracy was never intended for black people in this country.

When the war in Viet Nam first started, black people were deeply involved with their own war on poverty and racism in this country.

As time progressed and as the escalation for black soldiers increased, and as the black death toll got higher, black people saw that they had to be concerned about the Viet Nam war. Black people saw that the Viet Nam war was the reason why the war on poverty had diminished. Black people in Washington, D.C., saw a site which was to be used

for low-rent housing made into an air base. Black people saw black militants and activists forced into the army because of the inequities in the draft.

The white capitalists told us that we should support the war, because black men were getting jobs. Black people were working in the factories that made the guns, the tanks, the bullets. Black soldiers were getting incomes for their families. But what the white capitalists forgot was that we are a people with principles. It has been these principles that carried us through the vicissitudes of this country. A black mercenary was killed in the special forces in Viet Nam, supposedly fighting for freedom for the Vietnamese people, and he could not get a burial in Wetumpka, Ala., because there were no plots left in the black portion of the cemetery. A black mercenary returns to this country from Viet Nam, and he cannot get served in a local bar in Illinois.

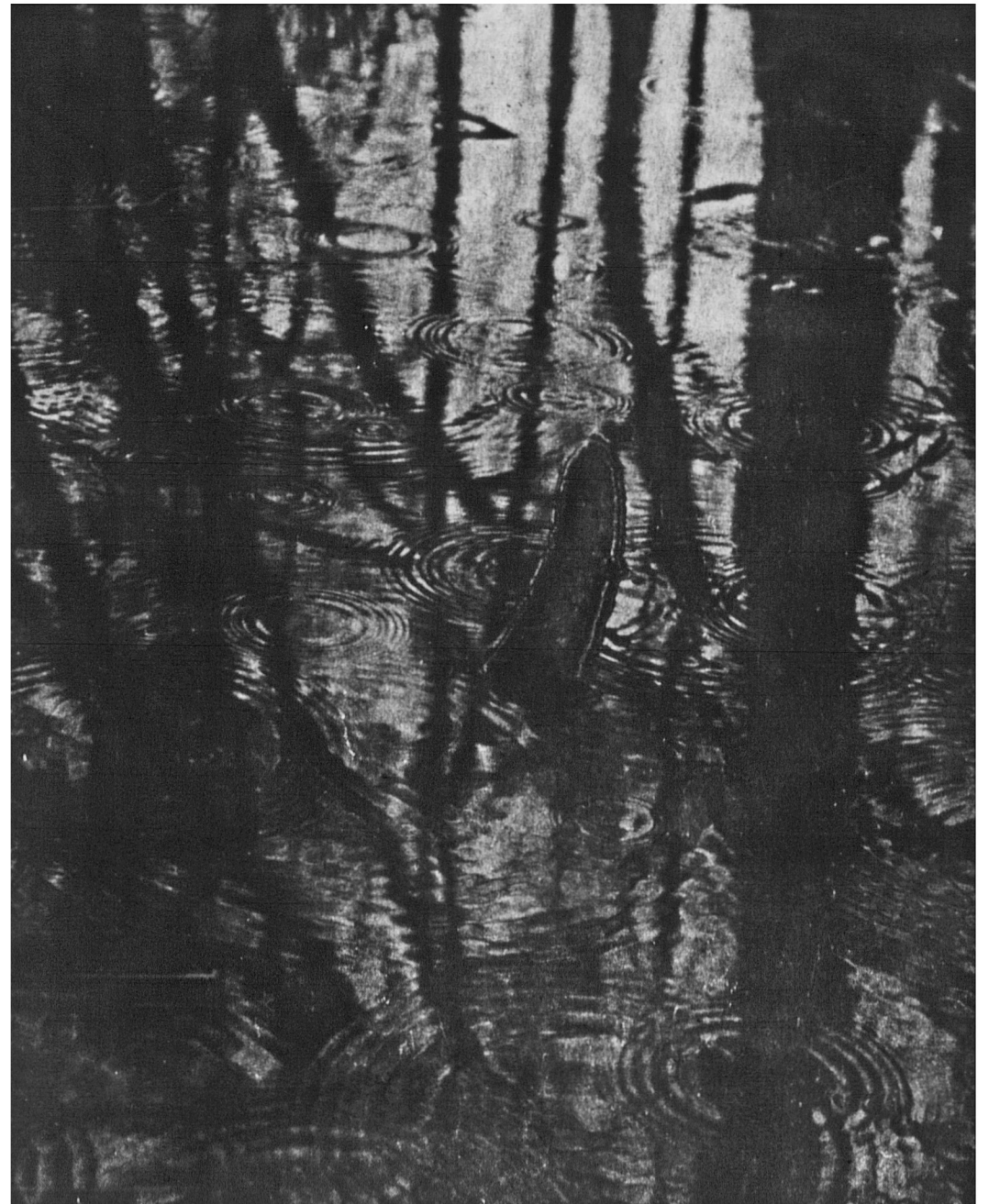
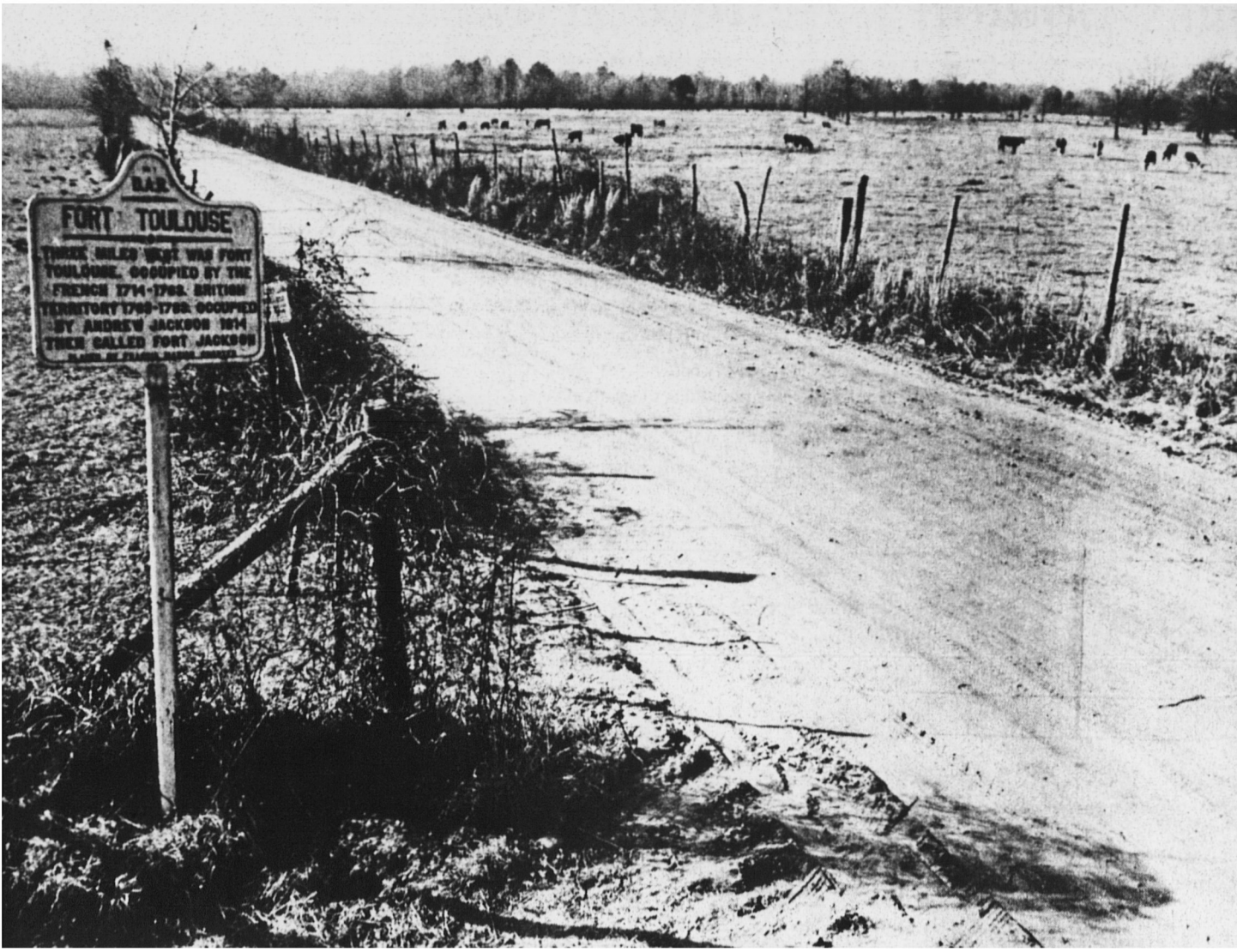
Black people began to analyze this war. It became very clear to us that this is a racist war. Our minds reflect back when this country dropped a bomb on Japan, a yellow nation, and not on Germany, the initial cause for World War II. Japan was the laboratory for the atomic bomb. Now Viet Nam, another yellow nation, is the laboratory for napalm and other biological warfare chemicals. Black people are the cannon fodder.

This country has been built on racism and imperialism. This country has con-

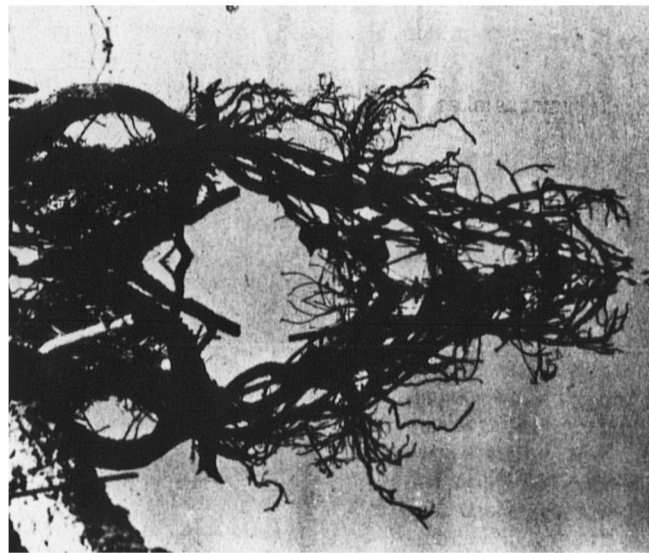
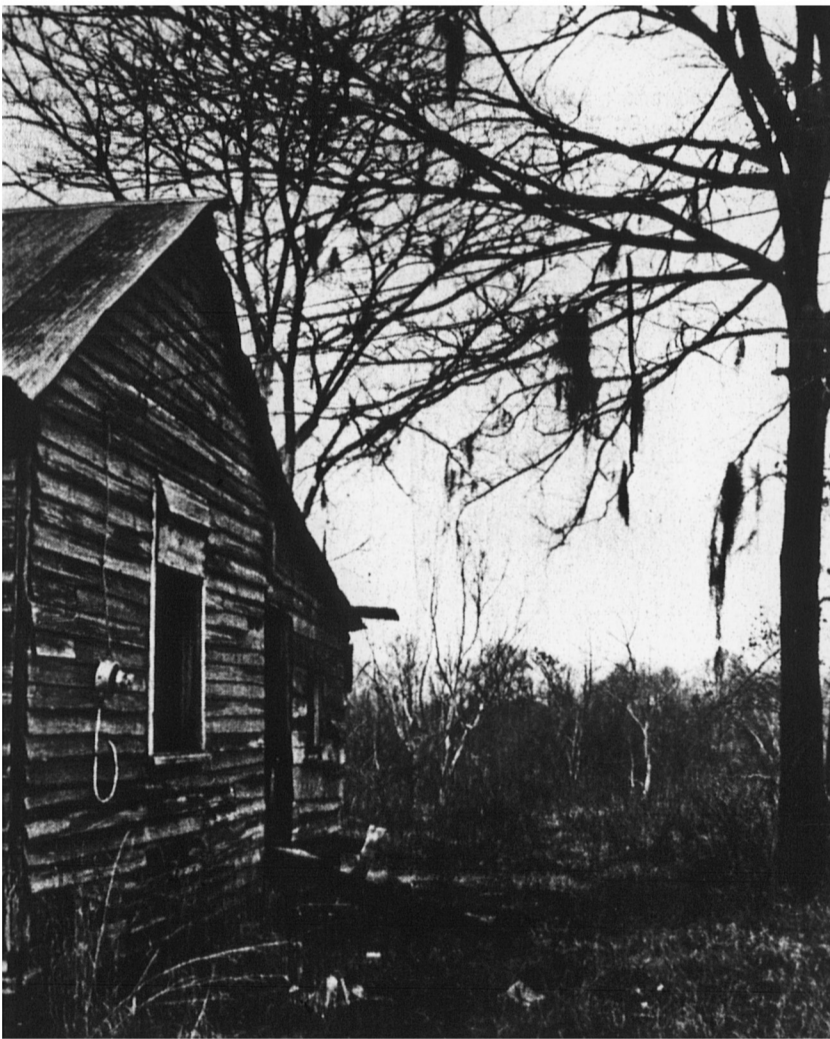
GWEN PATTON

stantly been building a world empire by exploitation and capitalism. The victims involved in recent years have been the colored peoples of the world. Stokely Carmichael is right when he says that to stop the war in Viet Nam will be a step in destroying this system. We KNOW this country is not going to stop that war, because we KNOW that Viet Nam and wars like it are inherent in the very nature of this country. After Viet Nam, and maybe before, we KNOW it will be Guatemala. We KNOW that there is a war of exploitation in Africa. Therefore, the course of action to take is simply not to stop the war in Viet Nam, but to radically change this country so that no more horrors and atrocities will exist in this country and abroad. To think that ending the war in Viet Nam will make this country "good" is a naive fallacy.

White people of this country had best realize this, because colored peoples of the world are uniting themselves independent of the whites. To talk about a real coalition means that all parties must recognize who the real enemy is. That enemy is the white capitalists who make up the U.S. Government. After the real enemy has been defined, then we as an international force must move to destroy the enemy. White people (the so-called leftists, socialists, etc.) have a real obligation to radically change the structure so as to save this country. Black militants and activists are fighting the enemy.



**SEEN  
IN  
PASSING**



**THROUGH  
ELMORE  
COUNTY**

*Photographs by Jim Pepler*



## 'The Negroes Just Couldn't Believe It'

# How Desegregation Worked Out at Bryce

BY ROBIN REISIG

TUSCALOOSA -- "Mental illness levels people. Alcoholism, schizophrenia, or whatever aren't the province of one race," said Mrs. Barbara Price, a former employee at Bryce Hospital.

Mrs. Price was working at Bryce last April when 30 Negro patients desegregated the all-white mental hospital.

At the same time, 30 white patients desegregated all-Negro Searcy Hospital in Mt. Vernon, near Mobile. About a month later, Governor George C. Wallace ended the experiment in desegregation by transferring the patients back to the hospitals they had come from. He said families of the white patients at Searcy had complained.

But according to Mrs. Price, the experiment worked at Bryce Hospital. She said that staff members and patients accepted desegregation. They knew it "would have meant better salaries, better treatment for everyone because we could have applied for government grants."

Another hospital employee agreed, Mrs. Virginia Dobbins, director of the patient activities department, said that the desegregation was "very successful."

Mrs. Price worked in the patient activities section. The patients, wearing sports clothes, gather together in the department's central room to watch television, play ping pong, read the latest magazines, and chat.

Before the Negroes came to Bryce, Mrs. Price recalled, "A lot of white people had said, 'Oh, I'll never sit with a Negro.' But there was this thing they were all aware of: they were mentally ill; they were all in this situation, and were no longer special."

Then the Negro patients--mostly young boys--showed up. And instead of ignoring them, the white patients were friendly.

"There was a great deal of warmth and understanding expressed from one patient to another," Mrs. Price said. "The Negroes just couldn't believe it; they were bewildered. Then bingo, everyone was moved out."

"I'm sure the Negroes who integrated Bryce thought it was a dream. So maybe it was logic to them that they were deprived of it," she said.

The Negro patients in Alabama's mental hospitals have been deprived of a lot of things that the white patients have. But it didn't begin that way. Bryce Hospital, founded during the Civil War, was integrated until Searcy was built in 1902.

Today, both hospitals are made up of large, handsome buildings with spacious grounds which the patients help keep. But--according to Alabama's new governor, Mrs. Lurleen Wallace--both hospitals are "overcrowded and understaffed."

Yet the shortages are not divided equally between the hospitals. Bryce has about 5,000 patients (including close to 400

Negroes, segregated in buildings far away from the main hospital), twice as many as Searcy's 2,500.

But Bryce has 4 1/2 times as many doctors, six times as many psychologists, six times as many social workers, and 7 1/2 times as many registered nurses.

Bryce has 21 medical doctors; Searcy has five. Bryce Rapid Treatment Center No. 2--the hospital's main Negro section--has one. Five of the M.D.'s at Bryce are certified psychiatrists; none of Searcy's psychiatrists are certified. Bryce has six psychologists with Ph.D.'s; Searcy has one. Bryce has 18 social workers; Searcy has three. Bryce has 30 registered nurses; Searcy has four.

The hospitals are roughly even only in number of chaplains--Bryce has three, Searcy has one.

The jobs are not equally divided. None of the doctors, psychiatrists, social workers, or registered nurses at either hospital is Negro. Before the Alabama Department of Mental Health went on the state merit system this fall, nurses' aides and attendants were separated into four groups for salaries, ranging down from "white men," the best paid, through "white women," "colored men," and "colored women."

A man who has worked closely with the hospitals said that the money for patients isn't shared evenly either. Although the state says it spends \$3.20 per patient each day, the man said, Searcy actually gets about \$2 a day for each patient, while Bryce gets more than \$4.

The statistics make it look like Alabama cares more about its white mental patients than its Negro ones. But Robert G. Harris, director of information and public relations for the state's mental institutions, said the figures don't tell the whole story.

Harris said Searcy's patients get psychiatric care even though the hospital has no certified psychiatrist. "All of our M.D.'s are psychiatrists because they're all practicing psychiatry--like if a doctor takes your appendix out, he's a surgeon," the public relations director explained.

He said Bryce has a larger staff than Searcy partly to serve the rapid treatment center for Negroes. (But he admitted that the center has only one doctor, to the hospital's 21.)



BRYCE MENTAL HOSPITAL IN TUSCALOOSA

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX, Col. 5)

# SOUL-SEARCHING AT BAYTREAT

## 'Will We Go On Playing Mr. Charlie?'

BY JOHN C. DIAMANTE

FAIRHOPE--A group of ministers and civil rights workers sat around a roaring fire for three days early this month and tried to figure out where the movement has gone and whether the Christian church should go there too.

The group of about 15 Negro and white people was called together by the Rev. Francis X. Walter, director of the Selma Interreligious Project. It included ministers and laymen who have worked for civil rights up North and down South.

In the peace and quiet of Baytreat camp, the members of the group sorted out their ideas and feelings about recent and

not-so-recent events in civil rights.

"Was Selma just three weeks of 'pop race'?" asked Walter. "Or was it a preview of things to come?" No one gave a direct answer.

But nearly everyone welcomed the push for black power. And most people felt that the integrated civil rights movement of the early 1960's was dead.

"We've gone through the social and political phase of the civil rights movement," said Warren McKenna, who used to work with the Delta Ministry in Mississippi. "We're now in the economic phase of the revolution and, baby, that's when the white man closes the door."

Kim Dreisbach, associate director of the Episcopal Society for Cultural and Racial Unity, said that black power doesn't mean Negroes and whites can't work for the same ends.

"Coalitions may consist of whites working with whites, and blacks with blacks--attacking a common problem from different flanks rather than always working side by side," he suggested.

Then the group puzzled over the role of white Christians in getting black power. Several white ministers remarked that the churches themselves had done little or nothing to end racism and discrimination.

The institutional church is "one of the central nerves in the system of white America," a minister noted.

"When push comes to shove--when the revolution comes--even if it's another riot, will we go on playing Mr. Charlie or will we be out there throwing a brick too?" asked another man. Everybody at the conference agreed that the church wasn't doing the job it should be doing. But different people had different ideas about how to get it back on the right track.

"We start by telling people that their historical, cultural, and economic gods are dead!" one man proposed. Someone objected that people look to the church for stability in a fast-moving society.

"We've got to change that," was the reply. "You've got to tell the middle class that change is coming, and tell the poor that they're going to do it!"



TIME OUT FOR FISHING AT BAYTREAT CAMP

One minister had another question: "I didn't ask for a middle-class, white congregation, so I'm asking, 'What can I do?'"

"Make sure you don't teach any more of them to be Christians like that," came the answer.

The conference didn't come up with any specific plan for revolutionizing the church. But several people agreed in a statement that went like this:

"We are white middle-class, and members of the church; therefore we should do everything possible to expose racism in the church--not by 'study groups,' etc., but by direct action. We should adapt the tools of the movement--demonstrations, strikes, sit-ins--to 'God's frozen people.'"

## Church Called 'Society Of Little Old Ladies'

BY JOHN C. DIAMANTE  
FAIRHOPE--"You can bend history," a teacher from the Ecumenical Institute of Chicago told an unusual, week-long course here early this month.

The students, laymen and clergymen from the Mobile and Gulf area, gathered in separate groups at Baytreat to hear some rapid-fire lectures on the Ecumenical Institute's proposal for a new kind of church.

Joseph Mathews, head of the Institute, has explained it like this:

"In the past, we thought the church was the place where you make gentlemen's agreements to like each other... which anybody with one ounce of raw, red, human blood knew was for the birds.

"The church became a society of little old ladies of both sexes. The clerics became the kept woman.... If we kept our nose clean, they would send us to Palestine once in a lifetime. Or if we were a Negro, they would give us a Cadillac."

The new church, according to the Ecumenical Institute, must be dedicated to action to improve the world. Then it can lead the way in all kinds of revolutionary movements, including the civil rights movement.

But first, the Institute aimed to let people know just what kind of a world they were living in. The teachers gave lessons on the modern "revolutions" in religion, science, and city living.

The teachers also tried to "un-glue" their students from old ways of looking at the world--and to convince them that they could change things for the better.

One way to do that, explained David Scott, a teacher from the Insti-

tute, is to give people a new idea of themselves. "We shouted 'Hallelujah' when black power came along," he said, because it fitted right in with the Institute's teachings about self-respect.

The Institute course also stressed the importance of groups of people committed to working together to change things.

"You have to have some way to hold people accountable for doing a job without using the feeling of guilt for not getting the job done," Scott said. "Our image is that one person will do his job. If he's supposed to register 50 voters and comes back without having done it, we're not interested in his excuses. We want to know what his battle plans are for getting them registered tomorrow."

Scott said that this kind of forward-looking discipline could change the course of the whole civil rights movement in big cities like Chicago.

"Groups like SCLC haven't grasped the... need for disciplined structure, except in emergency situations," he said. "If SCLC had worked for three months in Chicago like they did in Selma for three weeks, they could have cracked it open."

The people who attended the Institute course were brought together by the Rev. Bill Alerding of Prichard. Not all of them liked it. One minister from Mississippi left half-way through the course. Another complained of "brain-washing."

But those who stayed heard the Institute teachers insist that the "new" church will be responsible for future movements, and eventually, a revolution in civil rights and the whole structure of American life.



TALKING ABOUT THE CHURCH AND CIVIL RIGHTS

# Defense Department Offers Jobs for Teachers

The nation's ninth largest school system has classrooms in such far-away places as Iceland, Bermuda, Japan, England, Ethiopia, and Pakistan. It pays teachers anywhere from \$5,500 to \$9,800 per year, besides providing free housing. And it hires on a "best-qualified" basis, without regard to race, religion, or national origin.

This sprawling system is the Overseas Dependents Schools, run by the U. S. Department of Defense. More than 165,000 boys and girls--members of the families of U. S. government employees--attend 327 schools in more than 30 foreign countries all over the world.

Now the Defense Department is looking for teachers for the 1967-68 school year. It says it wants "the best elementary and secondary teachers in the United States--those who are not only outstanding academically, but are mature, conscientious citizens who will represent the United States abroad in a dignified and honorable manner."

To qualify, you must be a physically-



fit U. S. citizen, at least 21 years old, with a bachelor's degree and 18 semester hours of course work in professional teacher education.

You must have college training in the field you want to teach in, and a certificate saying you are authorized to teach. You also must have had two years or more of successful full-time experience as a teacher, counselor, librarian, or administrator during the past five years.

There are openings for everything from elementary school teachers to high school principals. If you apply for a high school job, your bachelor's degree must be from an accredited institution, or you must have taken at least

five semester hours at an accredited graduate school.

Married people can apply for these jobs, but preference is given to people who are single or who have small families. If the husband and wife both teach--and they don't have any children--they can apply together for teaching jobs, but these opportunities are limited. The Defense Department will not hire unmarried people who have to care for children or other dependents.

If you are selected to teach overseas, you will probably live in U. S. government housing, or in local housing paid for by the government. "Quarters are adequate, but do not compare to housing to which most Americans are accus-

tomed," says the Defense Department. "Furnishings, heating, and plumbing often do not meet United States standards."

You must agree to remain overseas for a specific period--usually a year--in return for free government transportation to the country where you will

### What Law Does

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWO)

In Alabama you can call 263-7521, extension 456, in Montgomery; 325-3352 in Birmingham; or 438-2552 in Mobile. Or you can write to wage and hour offices at the Post Office Building, Montgomery, Ala. 36103; 1917 Fifth Ave. S., Birmingham, Ala. 35223; or 951 Government St., Mobile, Ala. 36604.

teach.

A teacher with a bachelor's degree and two years' experience will have a starting salary of about \$5,505. The salary goes up by steps as you add experience and training.

To obtain application blanks or further information about the program, you should write to the following:

In Alabama--Alabama State Employment Service, 1816 Eighth Ave. N.,

Birmingham, Ala. 35200; or Alabama State Employment Service, 457 Church St., Mobile, Ala. 36600; or Alabama State Employment Service, 125 Clayton St., Montgomery, Ala. 36100.

In Mississippi--Mississippi State Employment Service, 502 Yazoo St., Jackson, Miss. 39200.

Applications should be filed as soon as possible at the address most convenient for you.



### Lesa Joyce Price Says:

I am only nine years old. I go to Center St. school. I am in the fourth grade. I was the first one of my age to sell The Southern Courier in Birmingham. After I started, my grandfather, Mr. George Walker, became a regional circulation manager.

I earn some weeks from \$10 to \$15. I have a route in my neighborhood. I can go by myself and deliver the papers each week. I would like to encourage others to become sellers for The Southern Courier.

(Miss Price is the daughter of Mrs. Georgia W. Price.)

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#### Monday thru Friday

Sign On 6:00 AM		
6:00-7:00 AM	Morning Reveries (Gospel)	T. J. McLain
7:00-9:00	Jordan Ray Show (R&B)	Jordan Ray
9:00-9:30	The Gospel Hour (Religion)	Rev. Greene
9:30-10:00	Dorothy Jo's Pantry Shelf (Women's News)	Dorothy Jo Stanley
10:00-12 Noon	Gospel Train (Gospel)	Dorothy Jo Stanley
12:00-3:00 PM	Ruben Hughes Show (R&B)	Ruben Hughes
3:00-Sign Off	Jordan Ray Show (R&B)	Jordan Ray

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD (Church & Social News)--On the Half-Hour  
NEWSCASTS--5 Minutes Before the Hour

#### Saturday

Sign On 6:00 AM		
6:00-7:00 AM	Morning Reveries (Gospel)	T. J. McLain
7:00-9:00	Jordan Ray Show (R&B)	Jordan Ray
9:00-9:30	The Gospel Hour (Gospel)	Rev. Greene
9:30-12 Noon	Gospel Train (Gospel)	Dorothy Jo Stanley
12:00-3:00 PM	Ruben Hughes Show (R&B)	Ruben Hughes
3:00-Sign Off	Jordan Ray Show (R&B)	Jordan Ray

## THE GOODWILL GIANT MOBILE, ALA.

### WANT ADS

**NEW LCDC OFFICE**--The Lawyers Constitutional Defense Committee has moved its Alabama office to 1015 Griffin Ave., Selma, Ala.

**BAHA'IS**--The Baha'is of Montgomery will have as the subject of this week's informal, public discussion, "The Beauty in Differences." Discussions will be held at the Featherstone home, 3222 Santee Dr., on Saturday at 8 p.m., and at the Chambliss home, 513 Charles St., next Thursday at 8 p.m. No collections, no obligations.

**CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS** -- "Love" is the subject of the Lesson-Sermon to be read in all Christian Science churches Sunday, Jan. 29. The Golden Text is from I John: "No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us."

**WILLIE G. ENGLISH**-- Could you please send your return address to The Southern Courier, 1012 Frank Leu Bldg., Montgomery, Ala. 36104, so we can answer your letter?

**JOB OPENINGS**--The Southern Courier will soon be interviewing applicants for four positions on its business staff. Two people are needed to work on circulation and subscriptions, and two are needed to work on advertising. High pay, generous expense accounts. Applicants must be honest, responsible, and willing to work long hours, and they must be experienced or interested in business. A car is required. If interested, call 262-3572 in Montgomery to arrange an interview.

**WANTED**--A manager for the Freedom Quilting Bee Handcraft Cooperative. Should have experience in arts and crafts or design, some business sense, and the willingness to live and work in a rural community. Write Selma Inter-religious Project, 810 29th Ave., Tuscaloosa, Ala. 35401, or call 758-2301.

**MOBILE** -- The Happy Tears Club, organized last summer for school-age children on the South side, is looking for more members. The club encourages play activities of all kinds, and urges youngsters to join churches and choirs. More mothers are needed to cooperate in an attempt to get a playground. If interested please call 438-1270 in Mobile.

**ARKANSAS**--The Arkansas Council on Human Relations has affiliate councils in Conway, Fayetteville, Pine Bluff, Fort Smith, and North Little Rock. We are interested in establishing local councils throughout the state. ACHR is integrated at all levels, working in education, voter education, employment, welfare, and housing. For information, write Arkansas Council on Human Relations, 1310 Wright, Little Rock, Ark. 72206.

**FEIFFER ON CIVIL RIGHTS**-- A collection of funny and biting cartoons by one of the leading commentators on civil rights. Feiffer shows up the hypocrisy of race relations in America today. Bayard Rustin has written the foreword. Available at \$1.00 per copy from the Alabama regional office of the Anti-Defamation League, 1715 City Federal Building, Birmingham, Ala. 35203.

**CHOICE OPPORTUNITY**--For medical records librarian or technician. The challenging task of directing the medical records department of a modern 95-bed hospital awaits the "challenger" at Good Samaritan Hospital in Selma, Ala. Exceptional working conditions, fringe benefits, salary open. Letter of application should include character references, work experience, and educational background. Send to Good Samaritan Hospital, P. O. Box 1053, Selma, Ala. 36701.

**FOR A BETTER ALABAMA**--The Alabama Council on Human Relations has active chapters in Birmingham, Mobile, Montgomery, Huntsville, Florence-Tusculumbia-Sheffield, Auburn-Opeika-Tuskegee, Talladega, and Tuscaloosa. It has a staff that works throughout the state. The Alabama Council is integrated at all levels: its staff officers, staff, and local chapters all have people of both races working side by side. The Alabama Council wishes to establish local chapters in every county in the state. If you wish to join the Council's crusade for equal opportunity and human brotherhood, write The Alabama Council, P. O. Box 1310, Auburn, Alabama.

**TUSCALOOSA COUNTY** -- Voters who registered before January, 1963, must re-identify themselves by Feb. 1 with the county board of registrars, or their names may be removed from the voters lists. This re-identification is required so that the names of people who have died or moved to other counties can be taken off the lists.



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# Macon Parents Protest Schools

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

SHORTER--"There's so many things being left off that we should get," said Leon Lumpkin. "Our children is just as important to us as anyone else. As parents, we have to demand what we want."

The 50 parents gathered in the First Baptist Church here last Sunday nodded their heads. Some of them spoke up and said, "That's right." And at the end of the meeting, more than half of them signed a letter to the Macon County Board of Education.

The letter asks the board for smaller classes, more courses, and physical improvements at Prairie and Shorter elementary schools and at Deborah Cannon Wolfe High School in Shorter.

Lumpkin said it wasn't the first time the parents have gone to the school board with their requests. "We asked for all these things last summer," he said. "We never got any reply."

But county schools superintendent Joe C. Wilson said this week that "the board talked to him, I did, too." Wilson said he told the parents, "It's their problem, not ours."

"I don't like to say this about any community," Wilson went on, "but those people down there want someone to do something for them, and they don't want to do anything for themselves. All these things they're asking for are things they themselves and the principal would have to do."

"We got classrooms with 50 children and one teacher," Robert Knight told the parents' meeting. "I won't say those classes are taught, I'll say they're held. That's all. We got to tell the superintendent we won't have it. They don't have it at those high schools in Tuskegee."

But Wilson said that class size is a "problem of scheduling" left up to each principal. "Each school has at least one teacher for every 29 children," he said. "That's what the law provides. It's up to the principals to use them." "The principal at Prairie Farms (Reuben A. Bascomb) chose not to teach . . . The principal at D.C. Wolfe (Mack H. Lee) has two extra teachers, but he holds to the minimum curriculum," Wilson explained. He said he had encouraged Wolfe's principal to add courses and reduce class sizes, but "he likes the status quo."

The parents complained that D. C. Wolfe offers sub-standard science courses, and no foreign languages. "My son was an A student in science at Wolfe," Lumpkin said. "But when he entered the science fair, he was below the 50th percentile. . . . All these new phases were Greek to him."

Wilson said D. C. Wolfe would have foreign language courses like the ones at the high schools in Tuskegee, if Wolfe's teachers were willing to teach them and the principal was willing to assign the teachers. "They have a science lab just as modern as it can be," the superintendent added.

The parents also asked for regular **Constables**


(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE) eral new constables to enforce the law? Judge Hornsby said, "If they act as they should, it will be all right. . . . If they run all over trying to get business, I don't think it would be in the best interest of the county."

The judge said he didn't expect that to happen. "They'll get tired of it," he said about the constables. "They'll find out it'll take a lot of time and they still won't get a living out of it."

But some of Amerson's supporters weren't willing to wait for that. "This is just racism," said a man who campaigned actively for the sheriff. "If it isn't illegal, it should be. . . . We're going to find some way to stop it."

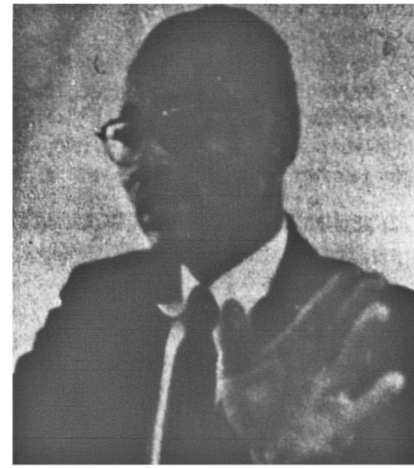
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LEON LUMPKIN

music and art classes, better libraries, an expanded sports program, remedial reading, more counseling, and vocational classes, "so every child will have something his hands is trained to do."

Wilson said that a small rural school system can't pay for all these things. "The parents should help instead of standing back and finding fault," he repeated.

But he did promise that Wolfe High is next in line for physical improvements. "We're building a \$300,000 addition at South Macon High (formerly Macon County Training School) right now," the superintendent said. "The need was greater. It's got 900 children, Wolfe has only 300. We have plans to add 16 classrooms and a cafeteria to Wolfe and eliminate Prairie Farms altogether, as soon as we get the money."

### 'I Was Gassed'

SHORTER--Around mid-morning on Jan. 6, a valve blew on the gas tank at Prairie Farms Elementary School.

It made a loud noise that sent the children and their teachers rushing out to see what was going on. Later that day, someone found Mrs. Consuello J. Harper, a teacher, asleep at her desk. When she didn't wake up properly, she was taken home.

This week Mrs. Harper was back at her home in Tysonville after two weeks in St. Jude Hospital in Montgomery. "I was gassed," Mrs. Harper said. "The doctor said I had all the symptoms of monoxide poisoning."

She said she didn't think the gas tank was safe. "I had reported and reported it," she added. "I mentioned this to the principal several times, that I could smell gas from the tank right outside my window."

"That is not true," replied Reuben A. Bascomb, principal of the Prairie Farms school. "She never complained before."

Bascomb said he did remember getting a note from Mrs. Harper shortly before she was found unconscious at her desk. "She did send to me," he said, "but I was busy. I had to meet with the superintendent."

### Game of the Week

# Wild Finish in Mobile

BY JOHN C. DIAMANTE

MOBILE--Hanging on through a game that was as confusing as it was tense, Central High's basketball team pulled out of a long deadlock to beat Mobile County Training School, 78 to 75, last Monday night.

In the first few minutes of the game, with Theodore Spradley and Jeremy Dubose dominating the backboards, it looked as though the larger County team was headed for victory.

But by the end of the first quarter, Andre Brown and Donald Belle had inspired their Central teammates to close the gap to 18 to 17.

Central's Joe Fuertado and Paul Dirkins then joined Brown and Belle in breaking through County's defense. But Spradley continued to score from the key for County.

By halftime, with the score tied at 33 to 33, hysteria was beginning to build in the Training School gym. And it mounted during the third quarter, which ended with County ahead, 54 to 52.

County and Central fought it out point for point in the last quarter. Dubose

### New Wage Law

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWO)

mester, will cover some of the wage increase. The rest, said the spokesman, would have to be covered by cutting the cafeteria and cleaning staff.

But a lady who works in an elementary school cafeteria said more has been cut than the staff. In addition, she said, the fringe benefits of the job are being taken away. The cafeteria workers used to get a free meal, but now they will have to pay 30¢ for lunch. They used to get paid vacations, but those will stop, too.

Price increases and staff cuts were reported by laundries and dry cleaners, which will be covered by the minimum wage for the first time.

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# Mental Hospitals

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR)

Harris also claimed that some of the social workers at Bryce are actually administrators who serve both hospitals.

Big as the problems are at Bryce and Searcy, they're likely to get bigger. Early this month, the U. S. Public Health Service announced plans to cut off federal aid to the Alabama Department of Mental Health. The department stands to lose nearly \$800,000, about one-tenth of its yearly income.

The fraction isn't very large because the mental hospitals have been getting federal money only for building funds, training programs, and surplus food.

"We have not been eligible (for several kinds of federal aid) for a long, long time," said the state's director of mental health, Dr. J. S. Tarwater. "You have to be integrated to be eligible."

Yet Mrs. Price, the lady who worked at Bryce, thinks the loss of federal funds would do some good. She predicted that all patients--not just the Negroes-- would feel the pinch of a smaller budget. "Let the white people know what it's like to do without some things," said Mrs. Price, "and it will give them understanding, and the hospital will finally speak up to Wallace."

### Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights

The weekly meeting will be at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 30, in the Macedonia 17th St. Baptist Church, 1405 13th Ave., the Rev. A. B. Blackmon, pastor. The speaker will be the Rev. G. E. Pruitt of the Rising Star Baptist Church, Cottageville.

**Alabama Council on Human Relations**

## Annual Meeting

FEBRUARY 3-4, 1967

DINKLER-TUTWILER HOTEL  
BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

FEBRUARY 3--7:00 p.m.  
Speech--Dr. Herman Long, President, Talladega College.

FEBRUARY 4

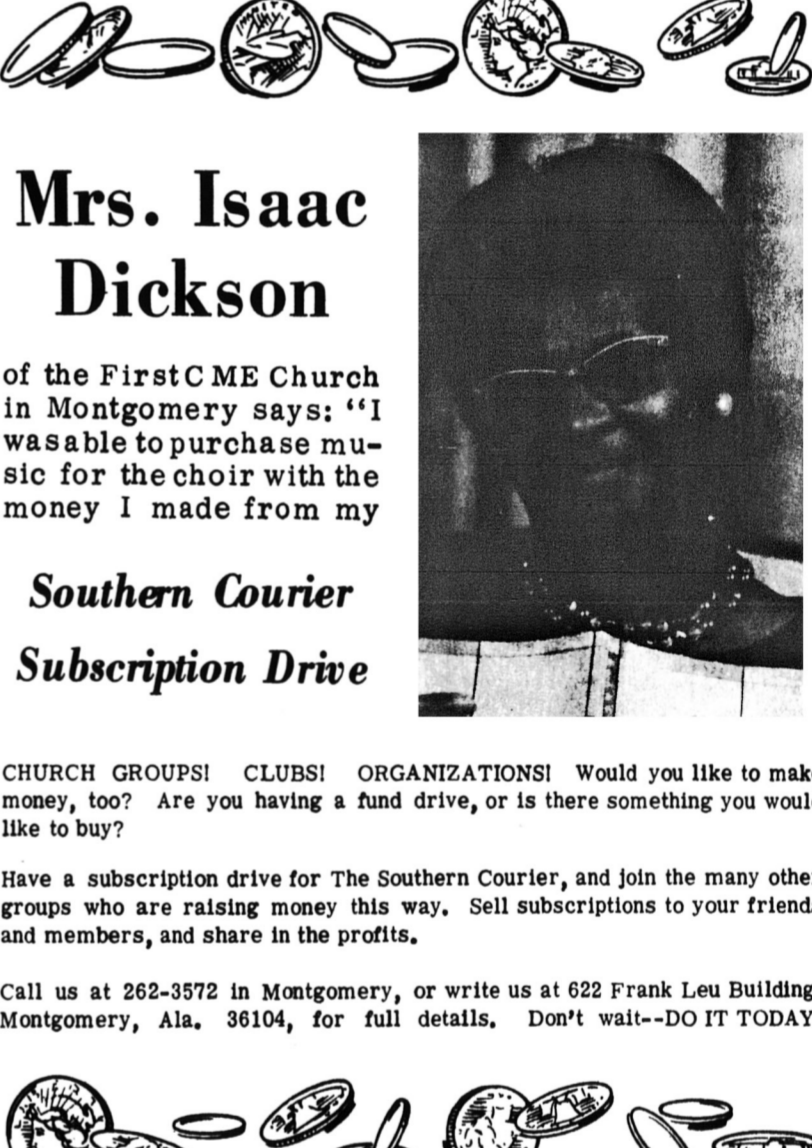
9:00 a.m.--Registration. No registration fee.	12 noon -- Luncheon. (Tickets available at registration desk or at the luncheon.)
10:00 a.m.--Workshops on school, hospital, and nursing-home desegregation; employment; voter registration and voter education.	12:45 p.m.--Speech by Mr. Frank Smith, former Mississippi congressman and now Executive Director of Tennessee Valley Authority.

**Public is invited and welcome to attend**

**Mrs. Isaac Dickson**

of the First CME Church in Montgomery says: "I was able to purchase music for the choir with the money I made from my Southern Courier Subscription Drive"

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NOON SPECIAL 11-1 PM Rick Upshaw	GOSPEL SHIP 8-10 PM Trumon Puckett
AFTERNOON SESSION 1-3:30 PM Willie McKinstry	LATE DATE 10-12 Midnight Johnny Jive

Saturday

WEEKEND SPECIAL  
6-12 Noon Sam Double O Moore

SATURDAY SESSION  
12-6 PM Johnny Jive

SATURDAY EXPRESS  
6-12 Midnight Willie McKinstry

Sunday

FAVORITE CHURCHES  
6-12 Noon  
TOP 14 REVIEW  
12-4 PM Rick Upshaw  
SONGS OF THE CHURCH  
4-6 PM Trumon Puckett  
FAVORITE CHURCHES  
6-12 Midnight



All-Nite Show--Midnight to 6 AM  
Johnny Jackson - Lewis White - Rick Upshaw  
News at Twenty-five and Fifty-five Past the Hour

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