



RE-LOADING BUS AFTER SEPT. 13 INCIDENT

Bus Case to Go To Grand Jury

BY SARAH HEGGIE
MONTGOMERY, Ala. -- J. H. Duke, the defendant in a controversial Montgomery bus case, was bound over to the grand jury last Wednesday by Municipal Court Judge Bishop Barron.

Duke, a 71-year-old white man, is accused of assault with intent to murder, in the Sept. 13 shooting of Mrs. Joyce Rogers, a Negro lady. A county grand jury will now decide whether he must stand trial on the charge.

In the 2 1/2-hour hearing last Wednesday, Mrs. Rogers testified that after getting on a city bus, she took a seat between Duke and Milton Hall, a Negro from Prattville. Duke told her to go to the rear of the bus, she said, but she remained seated.

Then, she said, Duke "hit me very hard on the right side of my face with his fist." A scuffle followed, she said, and "then Mr. Duke pulled a gun. I remember hearing him fire one time, and he hit me." She said both legs were hit.

Duke's attorney, John P. Kohn, arrived in court with two stacks of law books and a detailed diagram of the inside of the bus.

In a 20-minute final argument, Kohn claimed that Mrs. Rogers "committed an assault and battery on Mr. Duke," by touching him as she sat down, Mrs. Rogers "swished herself down there

and tried to squat down there," he argued. "She sat in (Duke's) lap," Kohn said Duke also had a right to defend himself against Hall--who, according to the testimony, began striking the older man after the encounter with Mrs. Rogers.

Duke had "every right to believe he was in danger of serious bodily harm," Kohn said, and therefore could legally shoot at Hall.

Finally, Kohn argued, Duke was not aiming at Mrs. Rogers, and could not have intended to kill her.

But Charles Conley, representing Mrs. Rogers in the hearing, said this is a case of "transferred intent." He meant that an intent to kill Hall--if one exists--can be transferred onto Mrs. Rogers.

For a full three minutes, the courtroom was silent as Judge Barron thought about the case. Then he said Duke's case must go to the grand jury.

The courtroom had not been so silent earlier, when Paul Barrow, a 15-year-old witness for the defense, referred to Mrs. Rogers as "the nigger lady," and Hall as "the nigger man."

Barron warned protesting Negro spectators to be quiet. When Assistant District Attorney Warren Goodwyn asked, "How far away was the nigger man from the nigger girl?" the judge had to warn them again.

Three members of the Alabama Action Committee carried picket signs outside the courthouse during the hearing.

Wrenn Holds Rally in Birmingham

'Why Shouldn't You Help Him?'

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN
BIRMINGHAM, Ala. -- "Why shouldn't you help him?" Minister James Shabazz asked the crowd at a rally for Tommy Wrenn. "You've helped everyone else."

Wrenn, a long-time Negro civil rights leader, is running for a spot on the Birmingham City Council in next Tuesday's election. He and 24 white candidates are all running at large for five seats on the council.

At a rally last Saturday in Kelly Ingram Park, Shabazz, a Black Muslim minister, said Wrenn is "the one man in the city of Birmingham who is willing to stand up."

But, said Shabazz, "many people--especially the rich--are saying, 'I'm not going to vote for him. He's not qualified. He's not the man for the job.'"

"If you don't vote for Wrenn," Shabazz asked the all-Negro crowd, "who you gonna vote for?"

Wrenn--a self-employed dental technician who is a leader in the Alabama Christian Movement--followed with a dramatic speech.

"Too long, too long have we, the Negro people, tried to divorce ourselves from political issues," he said. "But you cannot have Christianity without politics, and you cannot have politics without religion."

"Birmingham still needs some Paul Reveres," he said, "to alert the communities of every alley, every town, and every hamlet that a political revolution is at hand."

"We should not be satisfied, as long as our bodies are the victims of unspeakable police brutality . . ."

"We should not be satisfied, as long as public building or health agencies cannot or will not rid our communities of rat-infested buildings . . ."

"We should not be satisfied," Wrenn asked the people to send him to



AUDIENCE AT RALLY LISTENS TO WRENN

City Hall, so he can tell Birmingham officials, "You must let justice become a reality for all God's children."

But there were indications that Wrenn will have a hard time getting elected. His rally on Saturday, scheduled for noon, began at 3:30 p.m.

While the featured band--Lotsapapa and His Organets--was playing, a crowd of 350 people gathered. But people started drifting away as soon as the speeches began, and only about half the crowd was left when Wrenn finished talking.

Shabazz criticized the people for the small turn-out. "It's an outrage that

Barbour-Dale-Henry Board Fires CAP President Money

Press Barred

BY MARY ELLEN GALE
ABBEVILLE, Ala.--The board of the Barbour-Dale-Henry Community Action Program (CAP) refused to allow newspaper representatives to attend its special meeting on Sept. 28.

Despite protests from a few visitors and board members, the only reporter present was ordered to leave.

The CAP board voted to exclude the press after opening remarks by Larkin Bell, a field representative from the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO). Bell said the Southeast regional OEO office "feels that perhaps very serious mistakes have been made" by the board and its paid director, Charles L. Weston.

Weston--who was running the meeting--then called on Matt Colley, deputy director of Alabama's state anti-poverty office.

"This thing is so serious I'm of the opinion that all visitors, including the press, should not attend tonight," said Colley. "Definitely just the state and regional staff--and the board--should be here."

A white board member, Daleville Mayor Jimmy Day, promptly moved that the meeting be closed to the public. The board voted 19 to 8 in favor of the motion.

The 19 supporters of the motion included all the white board members present--and several Negroes who have consistently voted with the whites. All eight opponents were Negroes.

CAP board president W. T. Money told the visitors to leave. But no one stood up. Instead, a visitor protested that the action was "illegal," and said OEO rules require all CAP meetings to be open to the public, except when individuals are being discussed.

The visitor asked Bell to clarify the rules. Bell said he didn't want to "get involved," because he was only "an observer."

But, he commented, "if it's a meeting related to personnel matters, the board has a right to close it." Since there was no agenda, Bell asked the board what the "purpose" of the meeting was.

"The way I see it, the whole meeting will be related to personnel," said Billy Ray Fralish, superintendent of the Ozark city schools. Other white board members called out in agreement.

But Ulysses Stanford, a Negro, said the meeting had been called to discuss changes in employment policies and

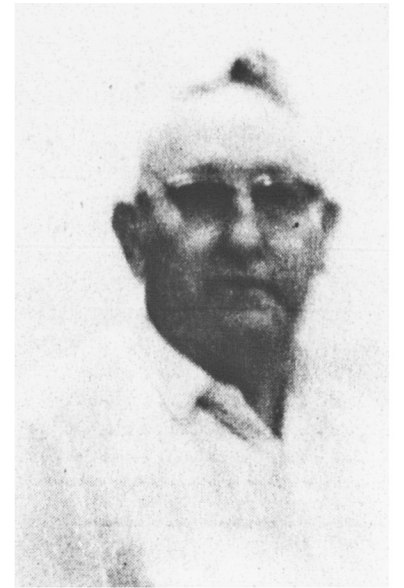


D. A. SMITH

procedures, not to discuss the people employed.

"We should not deal under cover," said Stanford. "There is nothing here the public should not know."

In reply, State Representative Buddy Crawford demanded that all visitors depart instantly. "If they can't leave themselves," said Crawford, "we have some law here in Henry County can move them out." At this, Money objected, "We're not having anything like that."



W. T. MONEY

"If I have to go, I will," said a well-dressed Negro man. "But I don't want to see a move like this just to get us out so we can't see the dirty work." The man said he had driven several miles to attend the meeting, and "I would like to stay."

Daleville Mayor Day said the man could remain. "The main reason I made the motion here was to get rid of the press," Day explained.

Money, the CAP board president, then (CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO, Col. 4)

MFDP Hits Law

BY ESTELLE FINE
JACKSON, Miss.--The head of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP) said this week that if independent candidates are kept off the November ballot, his group will move to stop the election.

So far, 11 independent Negro candidates have been officially disqualified, because they allegedly voted in the August primary.

Local election commissions disqualified the candidates under a 1966 Mississippi state law which bars independent candidates from voting in party primaries.

Lawrence Guyot, MFDP chairman, said last Tuesday that the law is unconstitutional, and that it has a "chilling effect" on the political rights of independent candidates.

He said Alvin J. Bronstein of the Lawyers Constitutional Defense Committee has asked a federal court to kill

the Mississippi law, and put the candidates back on the ballot.

The disqualified candidates are the Rev. Sammy Rash, running for state representative in Bolivar County; Benny L. Thompson (supervisor), Floyd Moore (justice of the peace), Ellis Saddler (JP), H. L. Gray Sr. (constable), Hubert McDonald (constable), and George Raymond (state representative), all in Madison County; and Jonnie Ross (JP), L. C. Leach (JP), Dan Lofton Mason (supervisor), and the Rev. John L. Brown (supervisor), all in Hinds County.

The Hinds County election commission invited the county's disqualified candidates to attend a meeting last Monday, but the candidates declined.

"We have taken our case to the United States Federal District Court," they explained in a statement.

"We believe the Mississippi law is not only unfair, but racist and unconstitutional. The law is unfair, because it singles out only independent candidates from voting in the primaries. Democrats are free to vote for Republicans and visa versa, but only independents cannot vote for anyone."

"We believe that every citizen has the right to help choose those people who are supposed to represent him. In Mississippi, the primary elections almost always determine who will represent the people," the candidates said.

"So, if we, as independents, are prevented from voting in the primaries, we are denied a basic right guaranteed by the Mississippi and United States constitutions."

Viet Nam Soldier Says Police Mistreated Him

BY MERTIS RUBIN
GRENADA, Miss.--About 100 people staged a march last Tuesday night, to protest the arrest and alleged mistreatment of a soldier home on leave from Viet Nam.

"We are marching until something is done about the police force," said R. B. Cottonreader of SCLC.

The soldier, Private First Class Archie Brown, is here on emergency leave for his mother's funeral. He and his brother, Willie, said they were at their father's home last Sunday morning, when sheriff's deputy Floyd Wolde and a Negro man came to the door.

"When I asked them what they wanted," Willie Brown recalled this week, "they said they were looking for a young lady. I told them that she wasn't here--she had left an hour earlier. Then he (Wolde) tried to enter the house."

The brothers said they asked Wolde if he had a search warrant. Archie Brown said the deputy replied, "I am the law, and I don't need a search warrant."

Wolde left, the brothers said, but then he returned with six city policemen. "I went outside where Willie was, to see what was happening, and about three policemen grabbed me off my

BY MARY ELLEN GALE
ABBEVILLE, Ala.--A group of white officials and their Negro friends voted together last week to give the Barbour-Dale-Henry Community Action Program a new board president.

But the group failed to elect the man of its choice--D. A. Smith, a Negro who has usually voted with white board members in the past.

The surprise vote to oust president W. T. Money--a white defender of Negro rights--came moments after the board had closed its Sept. 28 meeting to the press. The count was 13 to 11.

Several Negro board members said this week that the vote was illegal, since it was not announced ahead of time and was not taken in public.

But, added a Negro militant, "now I'm not sure what to think, because the scheme backfired on the people who planned it."

James Malone, a Negro board member, explained what happened. When a white woman--Mrs. Frances Watson--nominated Smith for the presidency, Malone said, a Negro pointed out that the Community Action Program (CAP) had by-laws to cover the situation.

The man said that under CAP rules, the board could hold elections only once a year. The president's job, he continued, must now be filled by the first vice-president--the Rev. G. H. Cossey, a Negro militant who has consistently voted against the white board members.

When the white board members tried to ram the election through, Malone said, the Negro militants were supported by Larkin Bell, a field representative from the Southeast regional branch of the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO).

Malone said Bell told the group they would have to obey their own by-laws, and Cossey wound up in the president's chair.

Several Negro board members--and former president Money--confirmed Malone's version of the meeting. But Smith, a retired school principal from Dale County, disagreed.

"Didn't nobody vote to get rid of Mr. Money--he walked out himself," said Smith. "He just walked out and said he was through."

Smith didn't recall being nominated for the presidency. In fact, he said, he's thinking about resigning from the CAP board.

Smith--and other Negro school employees from Dale County--have been under fire from the Negro militants. A leaflet distributed in Ozark last week said Smith has "utterly failed to represent the will of the black people in Dale County" at CAP meetings.

The leaflet described the behavior of Smith and another Negro as "often suggestive of an Amos and Andy team."

But Smith said he hadn't seen the leaflet. "I'm like Mayor Brown," he said. "I got no time for all that junk. Meetings, meetings, meetings--I'm tired of 'em."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO, Col. 1)

porch and handcuffed me and Willie together," said Archie Brown. "Then they put us in the car, and took us to the county jail. On the way there, they told us we were some smart-ass niggers who thought we knew our rights. Then they told us that niggers don't have any rights in Mississippi."

"After we got to the jail," Willie Brown added, "we were beaten, and Wolde told us that Uncle Sam is paying him to whip niggers."

The brothers said they were fingerprinted, questioned, and finally sent home.

Grenada County Sheriff Suggs Ingram denied the charges made by the Brown boys. He said Wolde was at the brothers' house because a Negro man was looking for his 19-year-old daughter.

The sheriff said the brothers' trial was set for next Thursday. He said he didn't know what the charges are.

At a meeting of about 50 people last Monday night, Archie Brown said, "I am going to ask my company commander for an extension of time, to go through court procedures in the state of Mississippi."

"If I cannot get the time, I will refuse to go back to Viet Nam to fight for a nation in which I do not have the rights as a United States citizen."

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ROOM 1012, FRANK LEU BUILDING
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36104
PHONE: (205) 262-3572

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Executive Editor: Mary Ellen Gale
Photography Editor: James H. Pepler
Lay-out Editor: Amy R. Pepler
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Mississippi Editor: Mertis Rubin

Reporters:
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Editorial Opinion

Good News

Carl B. Stokes, a Negro attorney, won the Democratic nomination this week for mayor of Cleveland, Ohio. Stokes--now an Ohio state representative--got heavy Negro support. But he also won many white votes, even though Cleveland in the past has been a race-relations nightmare.

Stokes beat the present mayor, Ralph S. Locher, by 20,000 votes, and he is expected to be elected over his Republican opponent in November.

This is a big step for a town like Cleveland to take. It makes you think there is still hope for the rest of the country.

CAP Board Fires Money, Talks of Hiring Negroes

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

Smith was referring to Ozark Mayor Douglas Brown, the white man who led the campaign against Money.

Mayor Brown--and most of the white board members who voted with him--were attending only their second CAP meeting last week.

"The've been on the board for 18 months and more," said Ullyses Stanford, a Negro member. "According to the by-laws, you miss four meetings and you're off the board."

But on the advice of CAP director Charles L. Weston, the board has aligned **Negro in Race For Council in Greenville**

GREENVILLE, Miss.--"We've had Negroes to run before and lose, but I am planning to win," said Joseph Bivins, after he qualified for the city council run-off election.

In Monday's Democratic primary, Bivins--a shoe repairman with a college degree--finished second in balloting for the at-large seat on the council.

R. A. Blackman, the present councilman, led the four-man ticket with 1,666 votes--206 more than Bivins polled, but not a majority of the total votes cast. Blackman and Bivins will be in a run-off Oct. 16.

Another Negro candidate, L. A. Taylor, was defeated in the race for ward 2 councilman.

Board Told to Open, Close Neville Schools

Henry County Caught in Middle

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

ABBEVILLE, Ala.--"We're between two hard rocks," said J. Tom Hayes, a Henry County school board member. "We've got the state decree on one side and the federal decree on the other."

The state decree is an order issued last week by Circuit Judge Forrest L. Adams. He told the Henry County Board of Education to re-open grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 in the formerly all-white Neville School.

The federal decree is the state-wide school-desegregation order issued March 22 by a three-judge panel in Montgomery. A school board attorney argued in state court two weeks ago that the order required the closing of the high school grades in Neville.

And now, the U. S. Justice Department has stepped into the case.

As soon as the state-court order was filed, Justice Department attorneys asked the federal court to over-rule it. Their motion requested the federal judges to add the Henry County school board as an individual defendant in the state-wide school case, and to order

ready agreed to allow the busy white officials to remain as members.

Although most of last week's controversy centered around the board presidency, the special meeting was originally planned for another purpose.

At a public session on Sept. 21, Weston announced that OEO had suspended the CAP's funds because of racial discrimination against Negro job applicants.

Weston denied the accusations, and the board called the Sept. 28 session to discuss OEO's directive to hire more Negro staff members.

Bell, the OEO representative, came to the second meeting at Weston's invitation. He told the board that it must correct "very serious" past mistakes, "if community action is to continue in this area." He said the board should take a more active part in running the program.

But the board apparently decided to leave some major decisions with Weston. On a series of motions by Mayor Brown, the CAP board gave its director the authority to comply with OEO's demands. These include the immediate hiring of Negroes for staff jobs at all levels, and the re-organization of the CAP personnel (employment) committee.

After the meeting, Malone said that even this vote might turn out the way the militant Negroes want it to. At one point, Malone recalled, Brown said to Weston, "If it's jobs they (the Negroes) want, give 'em jobs."

the board not to re-open the Neville high school.

The motion will be heard Saturday morning in federal court in Montgomery. By then, the case probably will become even more confusing.

Late this week, Judge Adams was expected to issue a second state-court order--telling the Henry County school board to re-open grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 at the all-Negro Neville Rosenwald school.

The trouble began three months ago, when the school board announced the closing of both high schools, and told Neville parents to send their children elsewhere.

Some parents complained. Eventually, they took their objections to state court in two unusual, segregated suits.

A group of white parents demanded the re-opening of the Neville high school. A group of Negro parents demanded the re-opening of the Rosenwald high school.

Judge Adams heard the two suits one after the other. He said he was issuing two separate rulings because the facts

AAC Goes Downtown, Seeks Food Plan for Montgomery

BY SARAH HEGGIE

MONTGOMERY, Ala.-- The Rev. Richard Boone and members of the Alabama Action Committee (AAC) went to the county board of revenue and the city commission this week, to ask for a food stamp program.

About 150 Negroes gathered in front of the county courthouse last Monday morning, waiting for Boone to lead them into the board of revenue meeting. But Boone was late, and by the time he arrived, several people had left.

E. D. Nixon of the NAACP and E. P. Wallace, a Negro writer for the Montgomery Advertiser, were also present. Wallace encouraged people to go home, instead of waiting for Boone.

The Negroes who waited for Boone heard the AAC director tell the board of revenue, "We want real concrete answers from you concerning food stamps."

William Joseph, head of the board, told the Negroes, "We have approved the issue, and it is now up to the city commission to agree to it." He also said it will take three to four months to get the program started.

Boone and his followers then left the courthouse, and went to City Hall to witness the swearing in of the "new" city commission. (Jack Rucker, police and fire commissioner, is the only new member.)

At City Hall, Boone was approached by a messenger from Mayor Earl James. The messenger said Monday's meeting was only a swearing-in ceremony, and no business would be conducted.



REV. RICHARD BOONE SPEAKS AT CITY COMMISSION MEETING

My people just want to see who is going to be running their government," Boone said.

After the inauguration, while everyone was still present, Boone stood and began walking toward the rostrum. "Mr. Mayor, we want to know what is going to be done about the food stamp issue," he said.

Before he could say anything else, Mayor James said, "You are out of order, and any business that you want

taken care of will be discussed in the meeting of the commission tomorrow morning."

Someone in the audience said, "I knew that those niggers were going to start something." All of the whites (and a few Negroes) applauded when Boone was told to sit down. A line of policemen stood in front of the speaker's platform, so that no one could approach the mayor.

At an AAC meeting that night, a mock funeral was held for "Uncle Tom." Dan Houser, second vice-president of the Negro organization, said, "I don't want to mention any names, but there are some Uncle Toms in the city who are working against us."

"These Uncle Toms are working for the white man," added first vice-president Roosevelt Barnett. "They don't care if you don't get food stamps, because they aren't hungry."

"Toms come in assorted colors--green, yellow, and purple," said Boone. "The green Tom is the Negro who doesn't want anything, and doesn't want to see anyone else with anything."

"The yellow Tom is the man who

says, 'Man, I can't go and march, I have to stay home.' He doesn't have to stay home, he's scared! He has a yellow streak down the front of him, down the back, and on both sides.

"The purple Tom spreads rumors. He doesn't know anything, but talks about everything. We have to watch for these Toms, because they'll tell the white man everything."

About ten people showed up the next morning, when Boone went back to the city commission. Mayor James told Boone, "We have met with the county (about food stamps), but we have come to no conclusion."

"It'll cost us about \$21,000 to put the program into effect," James said. "We have to know how much money is going to come from the program, before we can put money into it."

Disagreement At Mobile Meeting

BY EDWARD RUDOLPH

MOBILE, Ala.-- A disagreement broke out last Sunday at the Non-Partisan Voters League (NPVL) meeting in the Adams St. Holiness Church.

A bus driver--who didn't give his name--stood up and said Negro drivers are having "a hard time" at the bus company.

But John LeFlore of the NPVL said that when a meeting is set for the drivers to complain, they won't come out. "And when you help them," LeFlore added, "after that, you don't see them any more."

As LeFlore finished making this statement, the meeting became disorderly. One Negro man got up and walked out and then in again.

The Rev. W. T. Phillips then repeated what LeFlore had said. He said the members should help to build the NPVL up, so it could help more people.

Six or seven youths sitting in the rear began to make remarks like "Black power, brother." After more loud talking, the meeting was dismissed.

Kids Report Troubles At Wilcox High School

BY BETH WILCOX

CAMDEN, Ala.--Miss Ella Mae Cunningham, one of nine Negro students at Wilcox County High School, was suspended "indefinitely" last week after a series of incidents involving white pupils.



MISS ELLA MAE CUNNINGHAM

Miss Cunningham said she and her sister, Dannie Mae, were going into the school lavatory last Sept. 21, when "a boy threw some water at us. I picked up a tennis (shoe), and threw it at him."

Later, she said, "a boy pushed the door on Dannie Mae's back, and I pushed it back on him. He jumped back up, and started to hit me." She said she was taken to the office of Principal C. C. McKelvey.

"I just told him what happened," said Miss Cunningham, "and he told me to clear (leave) the campus." She said she and her sister left the school together.

A few days later, Mrs. Katie Mae

Cunningham got a letter from McKelvey, informing her that Ella Mae was suspended indefinitely. It said Ella Mae had used "vile and filthy language," and had "refused to follow directions of school personnel."

The letter also said she had "caused a scene in study hall," and "walked out of school and left the campus."

McKelvey's letter added that Dannie Mae was suspended for three days, because she didn't sign the school register before going home.

Mrs. Cunningham said she had told her daughters not to sign anything, unless they were sure what it was. "They had the teacher-choice forms there (at school)," the mother explained. "I didn't want them to sign them."

The girls said there had been several other incidents besides the one on Sept. 21. Dannie Mae said she once went to the principal's office after a boy threw water on her. "(The principal) just got up off his seat, and went and stood at the door," she said. "So I just left, and went to my next class."

Schools Superintendent Guy S. Kelly had no comment on the matter.

Another Negro student, Larry Nettles, said he left the high school Sept. 25, because a group of white boys were "flashing knives" at him. Later, Mrs. Mattie Nettles received a letter from McKelvey, warning her about the "unexcused absences" of her son.

Mrs. Nettles said she went to see Kelly, and "he was so nice he stopped me from saying some of the things I was going to say."

"I just told the superintendent if this continues, it's going to get messy," she said this week. "Everybody in town knows I tell it right. So I think he got the idea."



Heidelberg, Miss.

Airman Charlie Ben Porter left Sept. 23 for the Chin Chuan Kang Air Base on Taiwan (Nationalist China). Porter formerly played tackle for the South Side Braves of Heidelberg. He volunteered for the Air Force last Dec. 30, and made outstanding test scores while training at San Antonio, Tex. Porter is the eldest of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Porter's ten children (five girls and five boys), and he is the eldest of Mrs. Elsie Dase's 39 grandchildren. (From Mrs. Flossie D. Parker)

Birmingham, Ala.



HURSKIE LEE JONES

First Class Petty Officer Hurskie Lee Jones was aboard the USS Forrestal when the Navy ship caught fire last summer off the coast of Viet Nam. Family and friends were praying for his safety and the safety of all aboard when the news was broadcast. Then Jones telephoned his wife in Ridgecrest, California, and his mother, Mrs. Alma Jones of Birmingham, to tell them he was safe at the Navy base in the Philippines. (From Almond Jones)

Cleveland, Ohio

Odell M. Smith, shop foreman of Gambles, Inc., in Montgomery, Ala., joined 40 other supervisors and welding specialists here for a week-long seminar on new methods of cost-reduction. The seminar was sponsored

Birmingham, Ala.

The Rev. C. W. Woods of the East End Baptist Church and his wife, Lucille, welcomed the 12th addition to their family last Friday night at Holy Family Hospital. They named the baby boy Freedom Progress Woods. "The Lord revealed the name to me," Woods explained. (From Mrs. Georgia Price)

Montgomery, Ala.

Three life insurance specialists from Montgomery were selected to attend Mutual of New York's advanced underwriting workshop, held recently in Orlando, Fla. They are Ernest Lee Brown, Fred Hardy, and Jimmy Worthington.

Mobile, Ala.

Mrs. Dorothy Dockery was crowned Mrs. Big Zion for 1967-68 Sept. 24 in the Big Zion Methodist Church. Several church clubs put up candidates, and the winner was the one who raised the most money for the Big Zion building fund. When the Rev. Marshall H. Strickland announced the name of the winner, the crowd in the church screamed and hollered with excitement. As the crowd continued to shout, Mrs. Dockery walked up and back down the aisle. "This is the greatest moment of my life," she said. Her attendant, Mrs. Bertha Tucker, said, "I'm so happy I don't know what to do." Strickland said the building fund drive had raised \$10,000 for the year. (From Edward Rudolph)

Montgomery, Ala.

Works of art by members of the University of Tulsa (Oklahoma) art faculty went on display last Monday at the Alabama State College Art Gallery in Kilby Hall. They will be on display from 8 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 5 p.m. daily, and from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, until Oct. 31.

Mobile, Ala.

Kairos-Mobile's headquarters were broken into last week, and a typewriter, movie projector, and camera were stolen. Kairos is beginning a five-year program to improve the quality of life in Mobile's Central City.



HOBSON CITY

'Black Power' Since 1899

HOBSON CITY, Ala.--In a way, Hobson City is the town that nobody wanted. It is wedged between Oxford and Anniston in Calhoun County, like a jigsaw piece that doesn't quite fit in the puzzle.

Hobson City was cut out of Oxford on July 20, 1899, and has been in a squeeze ever since. Some of its problems are due to the fact that it is an all-Negro community--one of 22 in the country, and one of two in Alabama. (The other is Triana, near Huntsville.)

According to Isaac Evans, Hobson City's recreation director, the town was started after a Negro won office as justice of the peace in Oxford and Negroes threatened to dominate elections there. Whites re-drew Oxford's boundaries to exclude the Negro population, said Evans. The result was Hobson City.

In 1960, the city's population was 875. Now, says Mayor J.R. Striplin, the population has grown to 1,500. But Hobson City is still poor--in the 1960 census, the median family income was \$1,128, although city officials say it is much higher now.

Families living in the back end of town, known as "The Hollow," have no

sewage, and a natural spring is their only source of water.

But Hobson City is proud of what it has accomplished. Here, say its leaders, "black power" is a fact, not a slogan.

Hobson City has been the subject of a Birmingham TV show, and of articles in magazines like Ebony and Jet. Church groups and clubs come from Birmingham and other cities to use Hobson City's park and recreation center. And, says Mayor Striplin, "I think the future is great."

Genesco, a ladies' clothing firm, is the biggest industry in town. It moved to Hobson City in 1964, and now employs about 180 people.

The Men's Sportsman's Club, better known as Cleve's, is probably the second biggest business. On weekends, Cleve's draws hundreds of people--and hundreds of dollars--from all over the area.

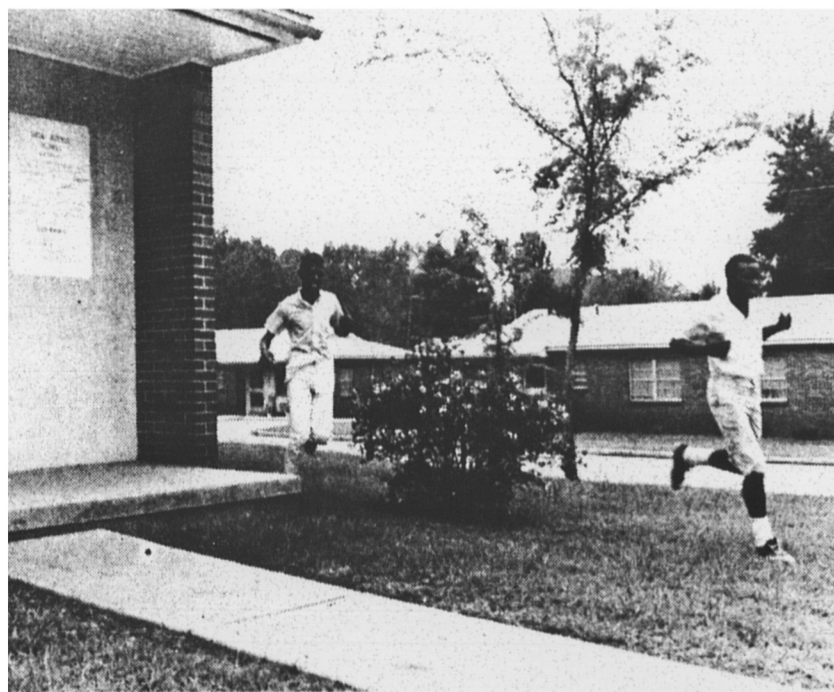
The third largest industry may well be the Golden Age Club. This group of 14 elderly people has turned out dozens of quilts, pillows, jewelry cases, articles for the Red Cross, and other hand-crafts since it was formed last spring.

The club meets five times a week, from 12:30 to 5 p.m., and members have been known to arrive more than an hour early. "We just have a real good time," said Mrs. Mary Frank Evans, director of the club.

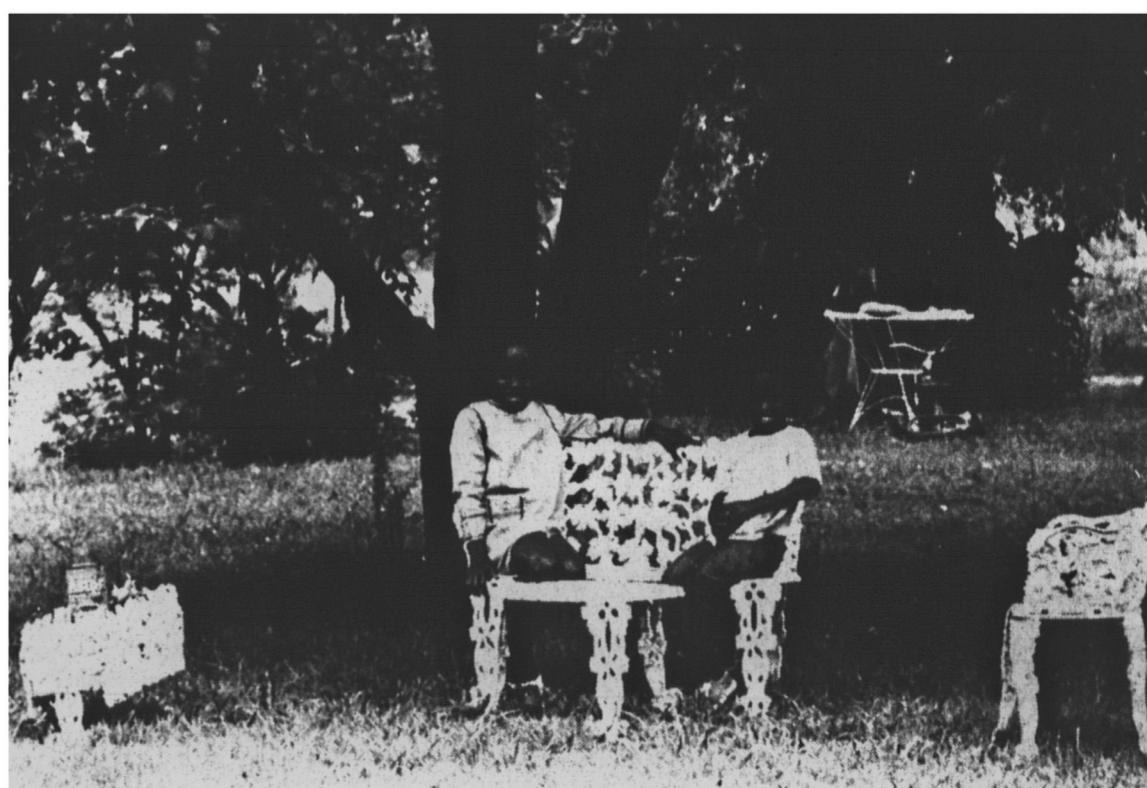
But the fastest-growing business in town is the federal government. Hobson City got a \$10,000 federal grant for recreation this summer, and has just received \$59,000 to enlarge its water and sewage system.

VISTA is also here. VISTA workers publish a newspaper, run a film series, teach school, and offer after-school tutoring. In short, says VISTA worker Bill Martin, the federal project does "everything that nobody else will do."

Text by Alan Boles



Photos by Jim Pepler



'If You Kill Me, You'll Always See Me Round'

Negro Ghost Haunts Pickens Courthouse

BY ROBIN REISIG

CARROLLTON, Ala.-- Down from the attic window of the Pickens County courthouse stares a haunting face. It has large, round, burnt-red eyes and a twisted mouth. The head is topped with a suggestion of a straw cap.

The face in the window is older than most of the people in Pickens County. And nearly everyone in the county can identify the image in the glass as Henry Wells, a Negro man who died violently almost a century ago.

How did the face get in the courthouse window? Negroes tell one story. White folks tell another.

"He (Wells) was hung, and they hung an innocent man," said Sam Bonner, an elderly Negro. Bonner recalled that the image has been in the window-glass "since I've been here, and I'm 61."

"My daddy told me that when they hung that man, he said there was going to be trouble," Bonner continued. "They had one of the worst storms there's ever been in Pickens County."

"The storm was so dark that the chickens went home to roost," added Mrs. Bonner.

According to the legend, the Bonners

said, Wells spoke a warning before he died: "You kill me, and you'll always see me round." And during the storm, the hanged man's face appeared on the courthouse window.

One version of the story says that Wells' grandmother was praying for his soul during the storm.

"You know how it is here in Alabama," said Mrs. Bonner. "It's the truth. You can't get it (the face) off. The hail blew the window off once, and they took the window out, but the face is right back there."

"It's the Lord and His miracles," added her husband.

But white people in Carrollton tell a different tale about Henry Wells. They say there was no hanging of an innocent man.

According to a leaflet the town hands out to curious visitors, Wells burned down the Pickens County courthouse in 1876.

"He was arrested two years later and died in jail in Carrollton in February, 1878, from the effects of wounds received while attempting to escape," the leaflet says. "It was in that same month that the (new) courthouse windows were put in place."

The leaflet--entitled "The Face in the Window or The Ghost in the Garret"--says that county officials tried to protect Wells from a crowd of angry



PICKENS COURTHOUSE

Pickens citizens, after his re-capture:

"To save him from an outraged mob, Henry was hidden in the garret of the new courthouse. It was then that an electric storm passed over--just when Henry was looking down in terror upon those gathered in the square below--and Henry's face was stamped as indelibly upon that pane as though a photographer had opened his lens and caught the likeness."

But James F. Clanahan, the author of a history of Pickens County, said his

research shows that Wells didn't burn down the courthouse on purpose.

In looking through the county's old records, said Clanahan, he discovered Wells' "confession," dated Jan. 30, 1878.

Clanahan said the confession admitted that while Wells was robbing the courthouse, he "left the candle near some paper," which caught on fire.

But whites and Negroes agree about the strange durability of the face in the window. During a storm at the turn of the century, Clanahan said, "all the windows on the (north) side of the courthouse were broken except that one."

"I've been in the attic, and you couldn't remove it (the face)," he said.

The town's leaflet claims that the window has been scrubbed with soap and gasoline, but the face still remains.

And now Carrollton has become so proud of its Negro ghost that it does its best to preserve him, and to promote the official legend about his death.

Every year, the town prints and gives away some 50,000 of the leaflets about the face, said Clanahan, who was mayor of Carrollton from 1956 to 1964. "One year every school kid in the state of Tennessee" ordered a leaflet, Clanahan recalled. "They had a haunted-house project."

Clanahan said the town used "to make it a little more weird by an arrow attached to the (courthouse) building"--pointing to the face in the window.

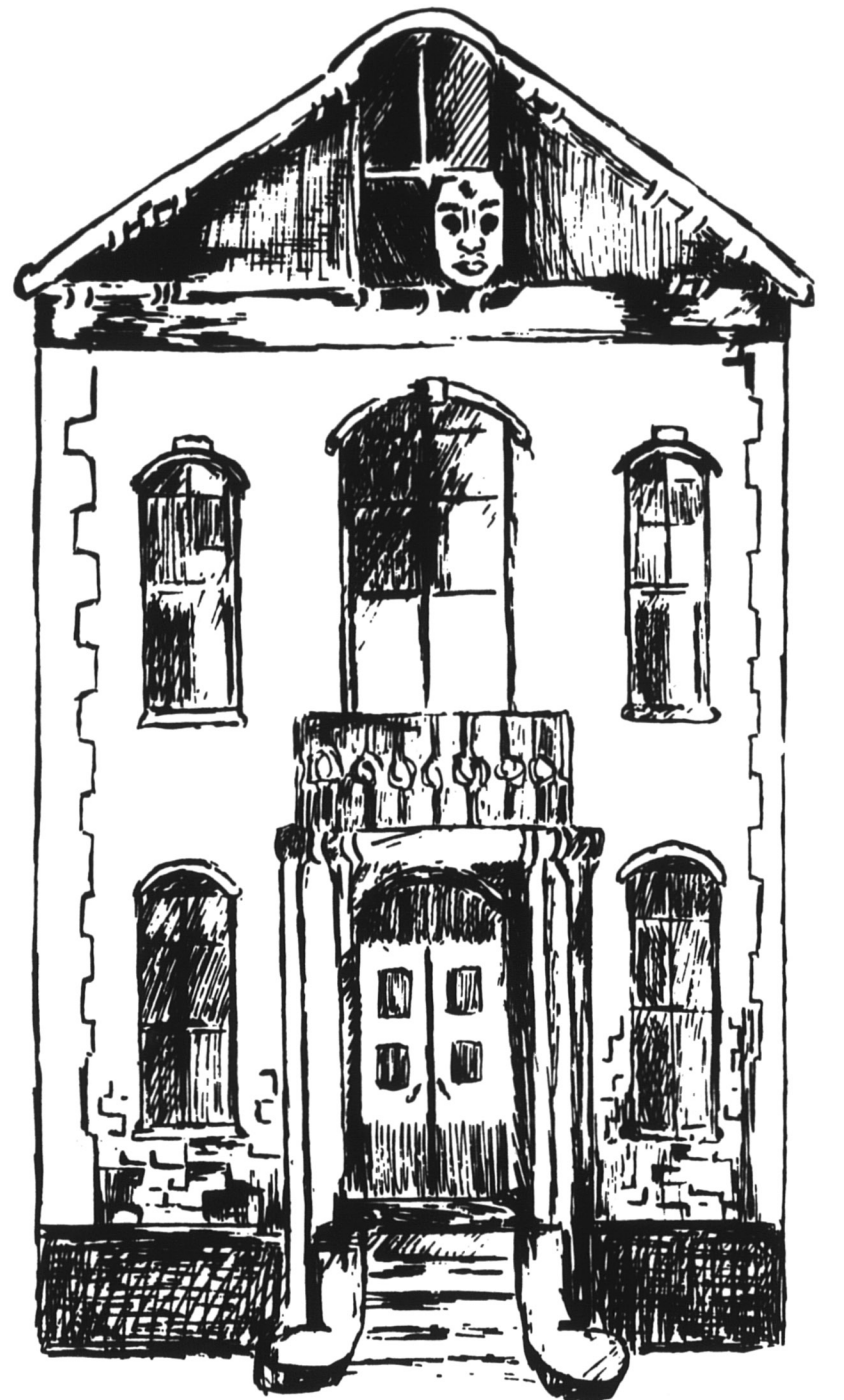
When the courthouse was remodeled in 1948, the "haunted" pane was carefully removed, stored in a vault, and put back in its place.

Private citizens have also taken advantage of the legend. A local evangelist preacher runs a "Face in Window Industry," peddling bells and bookends marked with faces.

A few years ago, a song called "The Ballad of Henry Wells" was recorded here. County officials disapproved of the ballad, which depicted Wells as innocent. But it was a local pop hit.

Like most white people, Clanahan agrees with the town leaflet that Wells died in jail and wasn't hanged at all. But the former mayor admitted that several men--Negroes and whites--were hanged in Pickens County shortly after the Civil War.

However, said Clanahan, "the mob rule didn't last but seven years"--ending about 1874, four years before Henry Wells died and the face appeared in the courthouse window.



DRAWING SHOWS WHERE THE FACE IS



MR. AND MRS. SAM BONNER

Sculptor Produces Works of Art By 'Doodling With a Ball of Clay'

BY PATRICIA M. GORENCE

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--"If art is a part of you, it will gradually come out," said George Penney. "That's what happened to me. I've been doodling and painting since I was a kid."

Penney, who earns his living as a barber, is also a part-time sculptor. He has made clay busts of such people

as former President John F. Kennedy, black nationalist Malcolm X, and jazz singer Billie Holiday.

Although he now is more interested in sculpture, Penney began as a painter about 17 years ago. A native of Bessemer, he was then living in Detroit, Michigan.

"In looking at other people's (art)

work, I felt I could do better than some of them," said Penney. "Then I just started to work."

Penney said he learned how to paint by doing it. "I noticed the rhythm in lines and began to understand and appreciate what artists are trying to capture," he said.

In addition, he studied at Wayne State University and at the Society of Arts and Crafts in Detroit.

He also worked as a barber. Since he moved to Montgomery earlier this year, he has continued barbering and sculpting.

The combination might seem strange, but Penney said that barbering helps him in his art work because he gets to "deal with people and to know them quite well." Barbering, he added, has given him a knowledge of "facial structure."

Usually, he makes busts of people he admires. He was inspired to make a clay likeness of President Kennedy after the assassination in 1963.

First, he said, he drew a picture of the slain President in charcoal. "One day, doodling with a ball of clay, the image of JFK just took place right in my hand," Penney continued.

He worked on the bust for several hours, but he wasn't satisfied and put it away.

"It took me about a year to finish the bust," Penney said. "I'd start working on it and have to stop until I got the feel of it again."

In Detroit, Penney said, "I got to know Malcolm X real well because I cut his hair." Working from photographs and from his own sketches, Penney completed a small bust of Malcolm X shortly after the black nationalist leader was killed in 1965.

Before sculpting Miss Billie Holiday, the famous Negro jazz singer, Penney said, "I read her autobiography and played her albums. Then all of a sudden I started seeing her, so I began to make a bust from photographs of her."

Sometimes, Penney works quickly. He said he can finish a bust in about 11 hours "if I'm in the mood."

Besides sculpting well-known people, he has made several clay portraits

of friends. His work includes life masks of jazz organist Jimmy Smith

and saxophone player James Moody. "They're good buddies of mine," Penney explained.

He also has tried his hand at wood-carving. "But I don't get the depth that I want," Penney said. "I can study the nature of clay and suggest the subject myself. You can't do that with wood because of the grain."

Penney believes that "the artist and his work reflect the trend of his times. All you have to do is know the trend, and pretty soon you will arrive at a piece of art that will sell."

The sculptor has sold some of his works. But he said he isn't interested in art for the money: "I just get a thrill out of bringing things to life."



SOME OF PENNEY'S SCULPTURES



PENNEY'S BUST OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY



GEORGE PENNEY AT WORK

Montgomery Shopping & Service Guide

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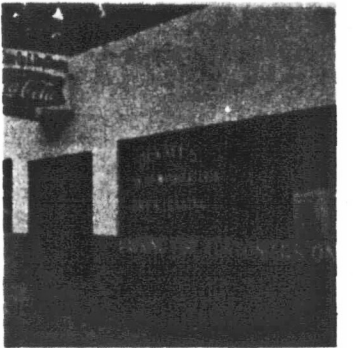
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First Negro Player Stars for Texas Team

'Easier Than I Thought'

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN
DALLAS, Tex.--One wall in the athletic office at Southern Methodist University is plastered with pictures of past SMU football heroes--like Doak Walker, Kyle Rote, and Don Meredith. A junior halfback now playing for SMU has already done enough to get his picture up on that wall. It will be something new for SMU, because the halfback, Jerry Levias, is the first Negro to play for the Mustangs. In fact, he is the first Negro to play in the entire Southwest Conference.

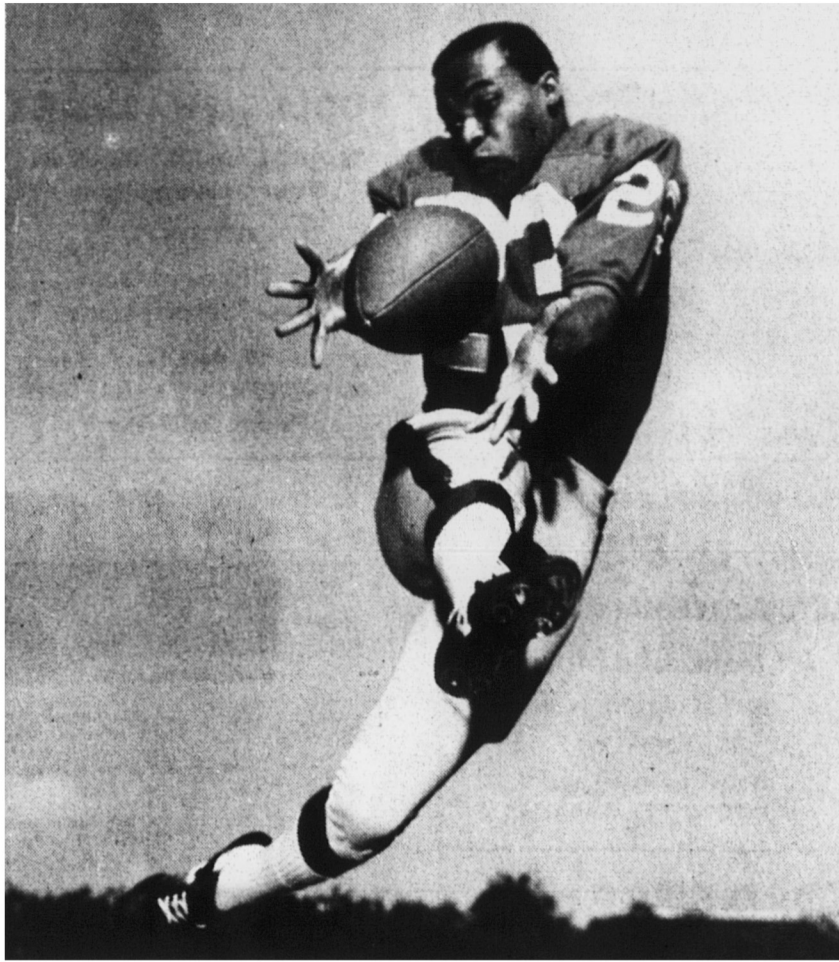
Levias played high school football near SMU, at an all-Negro school in Beaumont. Recruiters from more than 100 colleges approached him, but he wanted to go to SMU.

"I always liked Southwest Conference football," he said one day last month, as he sat in the training room with his ankle packed in ice. "I liked the city of Dallas, and I liked SMU's academic program."

In the past, said Levias, Negro athletes from his home town went to colleges in the North, or on the West Coast--"somewhere where they're used to Negroes playing ball."

But now, he said, "there's no need for a person to have to leave the state of Texas--or anywhere in the South--because of prejudice."

Playing at SMU has been "easier than I thought," said the 5'10", 175-lb. halfback. "I'm just out here to be respected as a football player, that's it. With an athlete, it's not your race or anything, it's just what kind of football player you are."



JERRY LEVIAS

Laurel High Eleven Trying to Improve

BY W. GOGGANS AND C. THOMAS
ALEXANDER CITY, Ala.--The Laurel High Hornets are hoping to improve on their 1-9 record of last season. Actually, the Hornets were a much better football team last year than their record indicated. For example, only two teams could score more than two touchdowns against them. Their main problem was getting an offense rolling.

Coach Lemuel Jones is trying to remedy this problem by putting a former center, junior L. M. Hunter, in the backfield at fullback. The coach says Hunter has all the tools to be a very good back.

Hunter scored twice--and had two more TD's called back--as the Hornets turned back Doby High of Wetumpka, 19 to 6, for their first win of the season.

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'God Helps Those Who Help Themselves'

Boycott in Lexington

BY ESTELLE FINE
LEXINGTON, Miss.--A selective buying campaign is going into its third week here.

Last Saturday, Court Square was almost completely empty. The only people around were a few Negroes standing on the corner--and Negro patrolman "Fats" Jordan, a target of the boycott, ordering them to move. Nobody was shopping in the stores.

"We be doing a nice job," said Mrs. Lucille Davis, looking across the deserted square. "We'll do it for 20 years, if necessary. We're tired of being beaten on the head, telling us what to do. We're grown, too."

The buying campaign was called to protest police brutality, among other things. Jordan, one of two Negroes on the six-man force, is accused of beating a Negro motorist whose car ran into a ditch.

Other aims of the protest include more jobs for Negroes in downtown stores, and courteous treatment of Negro customers. "We want jobs in the stores, the banks, the post office," said Miss Delores Baker.

Negroes are also demanding that

white merchants advertise in the Lexington Advertiser, instead of the Holmes County Herald. The Advertiser and its editor, Mrs. Hazel Brannon Smith, have often spoken out for civil rights causes.

The boycott "will last indefinitely--until we get results," said William Sims, one of the organizers.

In nearby Tchula, people said they were also planning a boycott of white-owned businesses. They said they are already staying away from two grocery stores and a dry-goods store.

Last Saturday, Miss Thelma Head decided to do something about the Tchula washeteria that makes Negroes enter

and do their laundry in the back. When Miss Head and her friends went in the front, they were told that the machines there were not working. So they set up an all-day vigil, to see whether white people would be allowed to wash in front. At least one white woman left after apparently being told she had to wash in the rear.

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FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

In Alabama all our yesterdays are marred by hate, discrimination, injustice, and violence. Among the organizations working for a better tomorrow on the principle of human brotherhood is the Alabama Council on Human Relations. Membership in the Council is open to all who wish to work for a better tomorrow on this principle. For further information, write the Alabama Council, P.O. Box 1310, Auburn, Alabama.

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.

MERCHANT MARINE -- The United States Merchant Marine Academy desires to inform qualified young Negro men of the opportunities available to them at the academy and in the United States Merchant Marine. The academy is located on Long Island Sound at Kings Point, New York, about 20 miles from New York City. The academy educates and trains young men for careers as licensed deck or engineering officers in the Merchant Marine, through a four-year college curriculum leading to the bachelor of science degree. In addition to receiving a degree and a license as third officer or third assistant engineer, graduates may be granted a commission as ensigns in the United States Naval Reserve. Candidates for admission must be nominated by a U.S. congressman or senator, but appointments are made on the basis of candidates' competitive standing within the state from which they are nominated. Competitive standing is determined by College Board examination scores, high school rank in class, and evaluation of candidates' leadership potential and motivation. Men desiring admission to the academy with the class entering in July, 1968, should request nomination by a senator or congressman as early as possible, and not later than Jan. 31, 1968. Information concerning the academy program, requirements for admission, and procedure for requesting a nomination can be obtained by writing to Admissions Office, United States Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, N. Y. 11024.

FOR A BETTER ALABAMA--The Alabama Council on Human Relations has active chapters in Birmingham, Mobile, Montgomery, Huntsville, Florence-Tusculumbia-Sheffield, Auburn-Opelika-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.

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BIRMINGHAM SERVICES --Worship with the New St. James Baptist Church, 600 N. Fourth Ave. Birmingham--the church with a program, the minister with a message. Sunday School 9:30 a.m., morning worship 10:45 a.m., Baptist Training Union 5:30 p.m. The Rev. L. Clyde Fisher, pastor.

SOCIAL SECURITY --Many people think of Social Security just as something for those over age 62. But Kenneth W. Jennings, manager of the Montgomery Social Security office, says many middle-aged people, young people, and even infants also are benefiting from Social Security. Jennings emphasizes that young people, in particular, should be sure they get Social Security credit for the work they do. Disability or death could deal a severe blow to the young family. Jennings suggests that you check your Social Security record every three years. Your local Social Security office has cards you can use to do this.

HELP WANTED --Interviewer wanted for part-time survey work. Must have private line. Not a selling job. Air mail a letter--including your education and work experience and the names of your references--to American Research Bureau, Field Staff Department, 4320 Ammendale Rd., Beltsville, Md. 20705. Give phone number when applying.

BAHA'IS--The Baha'is of Tuskegee will have as the subject of this week's informal, public discussion "Baha'ullah--The Promised One?" David Gordon will be the speaker. This gathering will be held at 8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 6, in the home of Mr. and Mrs. David Gordon, 33 Galliard in Tuskegee, Ala. No collections, no obligations.

KAIROS-MOBILE--Don't forget Kairos' every-other-Monday-night meeting. Come with your friends, and bring advice and support at 8 p.m., Monday, Oct. 9, in Kairos' Central City headquarters, 304 N. Warren St. in Mobile.

FRANCES PRICE --The Southern Courier has received your letter about selling the paper in your community. We would like to have you sell papers, but you did not send us your return address. Please write again.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS--"Are Sin, Disease, and Death Real?" is the subject of the Lesson Sermon to be read in all Christian Science churches this Sunday, Oct. 8. The Responsive Reading includes a verse from Romans: "The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death."

STUDENTS--If you want a chance to attend one of the country's top high schools, apply to the ABC Independent Schools Talent Search. Scholarships and expenses are provided for deserving needy students. Write to The Southern Courier, or to ABC, 376 Boylston St., Boston, Mass. 02116.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES --Last year, more than 5,000,000 students were involved in home-study courses. A directory of accredited private home-study schools, listing 95 accredited schools with quality courses, may be obtained without charge by sending a postcard to National Home Study Council, 1601 18th St. NW, Washington, D. C. 20009.