



BIRMINGHAM MARCH (Photo by Chris McNair)

Protest Goes On In Birmingham

BY JOAN CLARK

BIRMINGHAM -- "The people down at the courthouse want to know when we're going to get tired of carrying that casket around," said the Rev. Fred L. Shuttlesworth. "Well, if one casket doesn't get the message across, we can carry nine!"

Demonstrators have been carrying the casket through the downtown streets every evening for more than a week. They also carry signs protesting the killing of nine Negroes by Birmingham policemen in the last six months. Shuttlesworth told Monday night's meeting of the Alabama Christian Movement that the demonstrations have not been in vain.

He and other civil rights leaders praised a statement issued last weekend by city officials including Mayor Albert Boutwell and Police Chief Jamie Moore. "This statement alone is worth six months of marching," Shuttlesworth said.

"Ours is a police department for all the people and our belief in equal treatment under the law is sincere," the officials said in response to requests from Negro leaders last week.

"It is recognized that police officers have no right to inflict punishment or use more force than necessary" in making arrests, the statement said. It promised that "excessive force on the part of officers will not be tolerated. Appropriate disciplinary action will result when investigation substantiates such charges."

Civil rights leaders said they were "pleased" by a similar statement issued Wednesday by Jefferson County

Sheriff Mel Bailey.

"The use of firearms is always a last resort and we abhor the wounding of a person or the death of a human being. . . ." the statement said. "Whenever force in any degree is used by a deputy, he is required to report this fact to his superior officer, in writing, and an inter-departmental investigation is and will be made to determine the facts."

But the Negro leaders and the officials didn't agree about everything. The mayor and city council turned down what they said was a request for a "civilian review board" that would oversee the police department.

In a reply to the city officials, the Negro leaders said they weren't asking for a civilian review board. What they wanted, they said, was the appointment of a racially-balanced board of deputy coroners.

The board would "work with the coroner in investigating the deaths of all homicides at the hands of a peace officer," the Negro group explained. "This would relieve the coroner of the awesome and sole responsibility of investigating and judging such homicides."

The Negro leaders renewed their request for human relations workshops for law officers, and the immediate hiring of more Negroes for law enforcement jobs.

They also asked an end to "the practice of sending officers of the law to public meetings in Negro communities when they have not been invited, Negro citizens interpret such action. . . as signs of intimidation and distrust."

The new policy statement from the city lays the foundation for "mutual respect between the police department and the community," the Negro leaders added. "We are grateful for this beginning and we shall continue to be vigilant. . . ."

...And Prattville

BY ROBIN REISIG

PRATTVILLE--"We're not going to spend our money with the white man when the white man takes our taxes to pay a man to kill us," said Dan Houser, president of the Autauga Improvement Association (AIA). "No use in paying a man to kill your brother."

Houser is the leader of a group of Negroes who are trying to organize a boycott of white-owned stores to protest the death of Charles Rasberry. Rasberry, a Negro, was fatally shot by Deputy Police Chief Kenneth Hill two weeks ago. Officials said Rasberry was trying to escape from Hill, who arrested him following a gun battle that killed a white man, William Cranmore.

But Negro leaders said Rasberry told friends before he died that he was shot in the back after police told him he was free to leave.

On Feb. 16, the day Rasberry died, more than 60 Negroes met with Prattville Mayor C.M. Gray. They demanded the hiring of Negro sheriff's deputy

ties and Negro policemen, and the firing of Hill and Sheriff Phillip Wood.

When Gray didn't reply to their demands by their deadline last weekend, AIA leaders called a "selective buying campaign."

Gray explained that he couldn't give an answer until his "city council was in town." But he also said that he didn't expect the council to agree to the demands.

"He said he would let no one . . . help run the town," Houser said angrily. "I thought it was a Negro town, too." Although Prattville Negroes have been holding mass meetings every night since the shooting, there were signs that some people didn't agree with the boycott.

Houser admitted that many Negroes are continuing to buy at downtown stores. He blamed the "reverends." "All they do is pray and sing," he said.

Meanwhile, he said, the campaign is being conducted in accordance with the law. There are no pickets around white stores, and no efforts are made to stop Negroes from entering. But AIA members are keeping lists of the Negroes who ignore the boycott, and visiting them to ask for their support.

Prattville's protest is not directed entirely against local officials and businessmen. A SNCC worker, Rap Brown, connected the shooting of Rasberry with the war in Viet Nam. He charged that Alabama is second only to Viet Nam "in the death toll of black men."

Some people have criticized Brown as an "outside agitator." But Houser said the AIA stands behind the SNCC worker's statements. An AIA statement has accused America of "genocide" (the planned extermination of a racial group).

Bomb Kills NAACP Leader; Murder Rocks Natchez, Miss.

BY GAIL FALK AND MERTIS RUBIN

NATCHEZ, Miss.--Wharlest Jackson signed off work at Armstrong Tire and Rubber Co. at 8:01 p.m. last Monday night. He had worked at the big tire plant for 12 years. But Monday was his first day as a cement-mixer operator.

He climbed into a pickup truck and started toward home. Four and a half blocks from the plant, a tremendous explosion that shook houses three blocks away blew Jackson from the truck and scattered pieces of the vehicle in every direction.

Natchez and Adams County officials later agreed that the explosion had come from a bomb planted under the driver's seat of the truck.

The explosion occurred at about 8:10 p.m. in front of the home of an elderly couple, David Williams and his wife. Flying bits of metal peppered the tin roof and walls of their frame house.

The next day, Williams recalled the scene: Jackson, he remembered, had to be pulled from under the cab of the truck, which had been blown three houses farther on down the street. "His clothes were tore off him . . . There was flesh laying all in the street.

"From there on up," said Williams, pointing to his waist, "he was all right. But from there down, he was tore to pieces."

Jackson was dead by the time an ambulance carried him to the hospital. The tragedy brought forth immediate and shocked response from both Negro and white communities.

Natchez Police Chief J. T. Robinson said city, county, state, and FBI law officers are all working together to arrest the men who planted the bomb. And after that, said Mayor John J. Nosser, "there's no question about a conviction. Something has to be done."

In a front-page editorial, the town paper, the Natchez Democrat, declared, "There is no act in the long history of Natchez that is as wanton, dastardly, brutal, and senseless as the murder of Wharlest Jackson, highly valued employee of



HOLES IN THE DOOR

David Williams points to marks left by the explosion

Armstrong Rubber Co. and highly respected citizen of the community."

The shock was deep partly because Jackson was well-known and well-liked. People all over town described the 37-year-old father of five as "quiet," "hard-working," and "responsible."

But the incident rocked Natchez for another reason. The bombing closely resembled another bombing just 18 months ago. Negro and white leaders believed race relations in Natchez had improved greatly since then.

A co-worker of Jackson's, George Metcalfe, was nearly killed by an explosion after he left work one evening in August, 1965. Like Jackson, Metcalfe had been working overtime at the Armstrong plant. When he turned on the ignition of his car, a bomb under the hood exploded. Metcalfe was in the hospital for 90 days.

Metcalfe and Jackson had worked together not only at Armstrong but also in the NAACP. Metcalfe is president, and Jackson had been treasurer of the Natchez chapter until a month ago.

After Metcalfe's brush with death, Natchez Negroes started protest demonstrations and a highly effective black-out of white businesses. The months of protest ended with a broad agreement between Negro and white leaders.

Police violence against Negroes declined, many Negroes were hired for "white" jobs, and the city's white leadership began working closely with the Negro leadership. But no arrests were ever made in connection with the Metcalfe case.

At a mass meeting that overflowed Rose Hill Baptist Church Tuesday night, speakers said the second murder perplexed them. "We thought we had pulled our marching shoes off," said the Rev. Shepard Baldwin, NAACP vice president.

"We had begun to think that racism and brutality, that we have in certain counties, had passed away in Adams County," said Julius Calhoun, president of the Adams County Democratic Club.

"What is the answer this time?" was the question asked by every speaker. NAACP field secretary Charles Evers answered, "We are going to close Armstrong down. . . . We want the Kluxers and all their sympathizers out of Armstrong." After the meeting, nearly 1,500 joined a peaceful march on the Armstrong plant.

Wednesday morning Armstrong's factory manager, Floyd C. Krause, criticized the demonstration. "We feel that Armstrong is being discriminated against," he said.

But Metcalfe, like many Natchez Negroes, thinks Jackson was killed "because of that upgraded job" and that someone inside Armstrong was involved. No Negro had worked the cement-mixer before. Jackson got the job because he had more seniority than all the white men who bid for the job.

Metcalfe, who returned to work at Armstrong last June, said only someone inside the plant could have known Jackson agreed Monday to work four hours overtime.

But Krause said he doesn't believe Jackson's death was "because of the job he held with Armstrong Rubber Co." He said Jackson was one of 40 Negroes who have been placed during the past year in jobs previously held by whites.

Meanwhile, the Natchez Board of Aldermen, Adams County Board of Supervisors, Armstrong Tire and Rubber Co., and some Natchez private citizens joined this week in offering a \$36,000 reward for information about Jackson's killers.

Grand Jury Indicts 29

JACKSON, Miss. -- Twenty-nine men were arrested this week on conspiracy charges in two big civil rights murder cases.

A federal grand jury of 18 whites and five Negroes returned the indictments after hearing evidence all last week about the 1964 murder of three civil rights workers near Philadelphia and the 1965 fire-bomb slaying of Hattiesburg NAACP leader Vernon Dahmer.

Most of the men had been arrested before on the same charges. But the original indictments were thrown out because the grand jury that brought them didn't have enough Negroes.

Seventeen of the 18 men originally indicted for the Neshoba County killing of Michael Schwerner, Andrew

Goodman, and James Chaney were charged again. They are Neshoba County Sheriff Lawrence A. Rainey, Deputy Sheriff Cecil Ray Price, Bernard Lee Akin, Jimmy Arledge, Horace Doyle Barnette, Travis Barnette, Olen Lovell Burrage, James Harris, Frank Herndon, James E. Jordan, Edgar Ray Killen, Billy Wayne Posey, Alton Wayne Roberts, Jerry McGrew Sharpe, Jimmy Snowden, Herman Tucker, and Richard Willis.

Two new names--former Neshoba County Sheriff Ethel Glen "Hop" Barnette and Laurel Klan leader Sam Holloway Bowers Jr.--were added to the list. Bowers was also one of the 11 men re-indicted in connection with the Dahmer slaying.

Rights Worker Set Free By Hung Jury in Miss.

BY GAIL FALK

MAYERSVILLE, Miss. --A jury of six Negroes and six white men couldn't agree on a verdict in the case of a civil rights worker tried in Issaquena County circuit court last week.

The jury spent an hour and a half weighing the evidence against Robert Fitzpatrick, who was charged with driving his car too close to the back of a school bus.

Then the jurors came back and told Circuit Judge Ben Guider that six of them thought Fitzpatrick was guilty and six of them thought he was innocent. (A member of the jury said later that the Negroes voted for acquittal and the whites for conviction.)

It was the first time in recent history that Negroes have served on an Issaquena County jury. And it was the first time anyone could remember that a Mississippi jury had failed to find a civil rights worker guilty of charges brought against him in a county court.

The historic case began last Sept. 8 when Fitzpatrick, a law student at George Washington University, was arrested while he was doing research for a school-desegregation suit. He was following an Issaquena County school bus to find out whether it passed the homes of Negro children and whether it was too crowded to carry them. The bus driver, Mrs. Thelma Chisum, swore out a warrant charging Fitzpatrick with reckless driving. A few days later, a justice of the peace found him guilty and fined him \$100.

Fitzpatrick appealed to the circuit court. While he was waiting for his new trial, the charge was changed to following a school bus too closely.

When the case came up in court last week, Fitzpatrick's attorneys--Jonathan Shapiro and Robert Forman of the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law--asked Judge Guider to throw it out. The attorneys argued that Negroes and women were systematically excluded from Issaquena County juries.

The lawyers said that although Negroes are 62% of the adult population in this Mississippi River county, the jury list is only 27% Negro.

But Judge Guider denied the lawyers' request.

The case finally came to trial last Wednesday. The jury heard testimony about the condition of the road. Fitzpatrick said he wasn't following the bus too closely. Mrs. Chisum said he was.

After the jurors reported that they (CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO, Col. 4)

LCDC DROPS LAWSUIT

BY ROBIN REISIG

SELMA--A lawsuit that could have been a landmark in Alabama's civil rights struggle died quietly this week in federal court.

The case challenged Alabama's right to demand that only state-licensed lawyers practice in state courts. The suit argued that Negroes and civil rights workers cannot get fair legal representation from members of the Alabama bar.

Therefore, the suit said, it is "unconstitutional" for the state to deny Negroes and civil rights workers the right to a lawyer of their choice--even if he doesn't have an Alabama license.

The case was scheduled for trial Monday in Selma. Instead, it was settled by agreements filed in U. S. District Court in Mobile.

The Lawyers Constitutional Defense Committee (LCDC), which brought the suit, agreed to drop it. And the state agreed to forget about charges against LCDC staff counsel Donald A. Jelinek for practicing law without a license.

Attorneys for both sides stipulated that Jelinek "cannot practice law in Alabama without complying with the laws of the state of Alabama." That means LCDC agreed that Jelinek must be a member of the Alabama Bar Association to practice law in the state.

The agreement also said that Jelinek

"is leaving the employ of LCDC and leaving the state of Alabama at this time."

Why did LCDC back down? Alvin J. Bronstein, the attorney in charge of LCDC's Jackson, Miss., office, said only that it was "because they agreed to drop the prosecution against Jelinek."

District Attorney T. H. Boggs of Linden, who arrested Jelinek for practicing law without a license in a Marengo County courtroom last November, was more specific. He said the state dropped its cases against Jelinek because "the main thing we wanted to do was get rid of him, and we did."

The state had several reasons for wanting to get rid of Jelinek. He was the only lawyer in Alabama willing to take almost any civil rights case without pay. And he won several legal battles for his clients.

But Samuel Pipes, an attorney who worked on the case for the Alabama Bar Association, said there was a bigger principle involved. Pipes said the bar association entered the prosecution against Jelinek because "if Jelinek's contentions are correct, anybody can practice without a license."

Bronstein said Jelinek had not applied for an Alabama license because he hadn't lived in the state long enough.

Last Monday--the day Jelinek's suit died in Mobile--another LCDC lawyer, Robert Sobell, went on trial in Louisi-



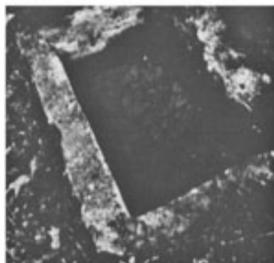
DONALD A. JELINEK

ana on charges of practicing law without a Louisiana license.

Bronstein said LCDC hopes that a favorable decision in Louisiana will encourage Alabama to change its policy of refusing to let out-of-state lawyers practice in state courts. He said LCDC plans to replace Jelinek and continue operating an office in Alabama.

But District Attorney Boggs said the state is "not going to let LCDC practice. They can handle one or two cases, or be an associate in a matter, but they can't set up an office and solicit business."

A Grave



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THE SOUTHERN COURIER

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THE SOUTHERN COURIER is published weekly by a non-profit, non-share education corporation, for the study and dissemination of accurate information about events and affairs in the field of human relations.
Price: 10¢ per copy, \$3.50 per year in the South, \$10 per year elsewhere in the U.S., patron subscription \$25 per year used to defray the costs of printing and publication. Second-class postage paid at Montgomery, Alabama.

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Vol. III, No. 10 March 4-5, 1967

Editorial Opinion

Food for Thought

The federal government, recognizing that starvation isn't good for people, has set up two programs to provide food for poor families. Under one of these programs, surplus food--rice, meal, milk, canned meat and the like--is given away free. It is a fast, cheap, and effective way of filling empty stomachs. But the other program, which involves the sale of food stamps, is a snare and a delusion.

The main difference between the two programs is that people with no money at all can get surplus food. But every family, no matter how poor, has to scrape up some cash to exchange for the food stamps. It might be as little as \$6 or \$8 for \$40 worth of stamps--but everybody has to pay something.

This means that the poorest people--the ones who most need help--go hungry under the food-stamp program. And several Southern politicians have discovered in food stamps a handy new tool for dislodging Negro voters from their counties. In the Mississippi Delta region, many counties have cut off surplus food distribution in favor of food stamps--leaving thousands of Negro families with virtually nothing to eat, and nothing to do but move.

It is true that the food stamps give people the chance to eat a greater variety of foods--the ones they like as well as the ones that are good for them. And Mississippi's displaced welfare recipients say the federal government can, under present law, change its rules to give the stamps away to families with no income. That way, everyone would benefit--and the politicians couldn't use the program to harass poor people.

The Mississippi Negroes have a good idea. The federal government ought to start looking into it right away.

LCDC Sells Out

The Lawyers Constitutional Defense Committee (LCDC) has deserted the civil rights movement in Alabama. One of the reasons for LCDC's existence, supposedly, is to give legal representation to Negroes and civil rights workers. But by dropping its federal-court suit in Mobile this week, LCDC guaranteed that for a long time to come, movement people will come to state courts friendless and alone.

From the time he arrived in Selma last summer, LCDC staff counsel Donald A. Jelinek performed in state courts like a bull in a china shop. He didn't want to be friends with opposing lawyers and biased judges--he just wanted to help his clients, and often he did. Jelinek's attitude seemed to be consistent with LCDC's determination not to compromise away people's rights in order to stay on the good side of local officials.

Like other LCDC attorneys, Jelinek was not licensed to practice here. His presence in court, then, could only be seen as a challenge to Alabama's power to deny movement people their right to counsel.

Finally, Alabama took up the challenge. Jelinek was arrested for practicing without a license, and LCDC had a chance to make its point. If LCDC could make a test case out of Jelinek's arrest, it could establish the right of movement people everywhere to be defended by the lawyer of their choice--whether he came from Alabama, New York, or Alaska. But after milking the case for every possible ounce of favorable publicity, LCDC just dropped it.

It is bad enough that LCDC chose to play ball with the district attorney and the state bar association. Making "deals" is an old courtroom tradition, but rarely has it been followed in a case involving such a vital principle.

What is worse, however, is that LCDC has made the situation impossible for any other out-of-state civil rights lawyer who might want to defend a client in an Alabama court. Before Jelinek came, these out-of-state lawyers were tolerated. Now they are barred--not only in Alabama, but also in states like Mississippi and Louisiana, where local authorities quickly caught on, once Jelinek began making headlines.

So where are movement people to turn? There is not a white lawyer in the state who would adequately defend, say, a SNCC worker accused of disturbing the peace. And Alabama's Negro lawyers have been more and more reluctant lately to get involved in anything really controversial.

Since Jelinek and LCDC deliberately muddied the waters for civil rights lawyers, they had an obligation to finish what they started. Instead, they chose to give up. And so a case that might have been one of the movement's greatest victories ended in a sordid deal that was worse than defeat.

Two New Negro Law Officers

Dallas County Deputy Sheriff Stays Inside the Jailhouse

BY ROBIN REISIG
SELMA--Nathaniel Holmes spends five days a week in the Dallas County jail.

Holmes is not a prisoner--but he's about as hard to see as the prisoners he guards. As Dallas County's first Negro deputy, Holmes works inside the jailhouse. He carries a bunch of keys and answers the elevator.

He says he is "not allowed" to give interviews "until things are like they're supposed to be."

He doesn't say what that means, but the big question around Selma is whether Holmes is anything more than a custodian of the jailhouse.

Sheriff Wilson Baker said the deputy goes out on calls. But Holmes said he does all his work right in the jailhouse.

"He's working in the sheriff's department. He's working. He's working," was as specific as Sheriff Baker would get about Holmes' duties. Baker refused to say whether or not Holmes is authorized to arrest whites.

The Rev. P. H. Lewis, first vice-president of the Dallas County Voters League (DCVL), said that the sheriff



WILSON BAKER

told him and several other Negroes in December that he "just didn't want to put Holmes out on the road by himself. He said when he got a second Negro deputy he'd put the two in a car together, rather than send one out alone or

Policeman in Magee, Miss., Fights Crime on the Streets



DANIEL BOWEN

with another white deputy." Baker has since promised Negro leaders that he will hire a second Negro deputy by the summer, Lewis said.

Before the Democratic primary election last year, Baker said he would hire Negro "deputies" and jail attendants if he were elected. He received a strong endorsement from the DCVL and won most of the Negroes' votes.

But some Negro leaders are not satisfied with Baker's performance to date. Although the Rev. F. D. Reese, DCVL president, feels "we're proud to have Holmes as a deputy," Lewis said he's "not pleased with him just being in the jailhouse, hidden from everybody."

And Clarence Williams, president of the Dallas County Independent Free Voters Association, said, "So far--it's very early in the future--we have yet to see some definite changes in the trends of Selma and Dallas County. We'll still be looking, wide-eyed and waiting. Another election's on the way."

Meanwhile, Miss Shirley Mesher, a white woman, reported that the Selma jail is still run along the segregationist lines set up by former Sheriff Jim Clark. When she tried to visit a Negro woman prisoner last month, Miss Mesher said she was told, "We don't allow whites back there with the niggers."

Agency Loses Control Of Montgomery Head Start

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

MONTGOMERY -- The battle over Montgomery Head Start came to something that looked like an end last week. The county's Community Action Committee (CAC) voted unanimously to take charge of the program.

At a meeting last Thursday, the CAC members agreed that the Child Development Agency (CDA)--which organized Head Start in Montgomery--would become a "technical advisory board" after its present grant runs out Apr. 30.

"There was no problem," said CAC director Charles R. Shelton. "It doesn't change a thing. Head Start has always been under the community action committee."

But Mrs. Maggie Y. Forte, chairman of the mostly-Negro CDA, said there was a big problem. She charged the CAC was taking Head Start away from the CDA because "our channels of communication are clogged."

"The CAC doesn't understand the program at all," she said. "They think we want it for the money, when we're seeking to render a community service."

And Mrs. Carrie Robinson, assistant chairman of the CDA, accused the CAC of "racial animosity." "The Negroes on their board are being used as rubber stamps," she said. "I don't think they're interested in the Negro.... They're interested primarily in the money."

But Shelton denied the charges. "There was no intent to deprive anyone," he said. "My entire board feels the CDA deserves the greatest word of appreciation for what it has done."

The CAC's purpose, Shelton said, was "to more correctly align responsibilities.... It was an unworkable arrangement to have one director serving two bosses."

Dr. Joseph Stewart, chairman of the CAC, said there were "no complications at all" when the Head Start program was discussed at the CAC meeting last week. "Mrs. Forte was there," he said. "She voted with us."

Mrs. Forte said that was partly true. She explained that she made the vote unanimous when "I saw I had no support."

Mrs. Robinson said Montgomery's Head Start children will not get the program's full benefits from the CAC.

"In my opinion, the CAC doesn't know anything about running an educational program," she said. "They're hiring people who are not qualified and running the program like an army camp."

Stewart, the CAC chairman, replied that all employees are hired on the basis of recommendations from a personal screening subcommittee of three whites and two Negroes. "This is a capable committee," he said. "I have complete confidence in them."

Gillon Defeated

GRENADE, Miss.--Nobody was surprised this week when Robert Alexander, a white segregationist, defeated U. S. Gillon, a Negro civil rights supporter, by nearly 700 votes in a run-off election for city councilman. The tally was 1,914 to 1,228.

Although nearly half of Grenada's voters are Negro, Alexander easily topped Gillon--and two white men--in the first election last month. Alexander, who has blamed Grenada's problems on "civil rights agitators," will represent the city's heavily-Negro Ward Three.

"I feel that it's a political thing," added Mrs. Robinson. "It's the Republican party trying to defeat the program of the Democratic party.... It's just Montgomery, that's all."

But Stewart, a conservative Republican, said politics was not involved. "I'm concerned with 800 little kids," he said. "People who are sincerely interested in this program will get in and work and quit fussin'."

"I don't know what the group (CDA) will do," Mrs. Robinson said, "but I definitely will not continue as a technical advisor." Mrs. Forte said she thought other CDA board members would feel the same way.

"The only thing to do," she said, "is make a success out of the two months we have left."

No Hearing In Uniontown Case

UNIONTOWN -- Uniontown Negroes thought they had won a major victory when Mayor T. R. Long and the City Council agreed to have a hearing on the circumstances surrounding the arrest of Francis Walker.

But, in less than three weeks, the victory has disappeared. Walker had charged that a state trooper slugged him and knocked him out while two Uniontown policemen, who had arrested him moments before, watched and did nothing.

Last Friday, without the prior hearing that had been publicly promised, Walker was tried and convicted on two charges. He paid fines of \$18.75 for highway intoxication and \$58.75 for resisting arrest.

He pleaded not guilty, but Records Court Judge W. V. Meador said he convicted Walker because he offered "no evidence" to support his story.

"Officer Stone admitted hitting him (Walker) because he gave resistance," Judge Meador said. (Walker has said it was a state trooper, not Uniontown policeman L. E. Stone, who hit him before he lost consciousness.)

"I can't see a man saying that if he didn't hit him," the judge said. Meador noted that Walker "refused medical attention twice with that gas on his head, and the doctors said he was intoxicated."

Mayor Long said the hearing had not been held before the trial because "we've been waiting for him" (Walker) to ask for it. But Police Chief E. L. Hancock said "there's no hearing to be held as far as I know."

Willie White, a Negro leader, explained that the community wanted the hearing because "if the policemen are wrong, if they lied in their report (which did not mention the incident), we want them fired."

NO VERDICT

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)
could not agree on a verdict, Judge Gulder declared a mistrial. The ruling means that the case may be re-tried later, if the state lawyers want to bring it before another circuit court jury in Issaquena County. Or, the charges may be dropped.

Fitzpatrick's case stirred up a lot of interest. About 150 Negroes packed the Mayersville courtroom for his trial.

And, the next day, there was another hung jury in the same court. Four Negroes and eight white men failed to reach a verdict in the case of two young Negroes charged with shooting a deer out of season. The vote was nine to three for conviction--but a jury must agree unanimously before it can give a guilty verdict.

RUBBER TALKING BUSINESS
NECK SUE FOLKS AND HERS TOO



MR. AND MRS. WILLIE T. AUSTIN Troy

Miss Shirley Boykins, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Boykins of Troy, and Willie T. Austin, the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Austin of Riceboro, Ga., were married last Friday in Morning Star Baptist Church by the Rev. L. B. Baldwin. The maid of honor was Miss Evelyn Warren of Ozark, and the best man was Buford Dennis of Tuskegee. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Warren, the bride's aunt and uncle, gave the reception. The bride is a Tuskegee Institute sophomore. The groom, a graduate of Tuskegee Institute, is employed in Smyrna, Ga. The couple will make their home in Atlanta. (From Mrs. Johnnie M. Warren)



PEOPLE ENJOY ELMORE COUNTY'S FIRST MASS MEETING

BY MERTIS RUBIN
MAGEE, Miss.--Daniel Bowen has a good job and works 40 hours a week. But when city officials asked him about being a part-time policeman, he didn't turn the offer down.

Instead, he went home to "talk it over with my family."

"At first it worried me," his wife recalled, "and I said no and if he took the job I was going to quit him. But then I thought about it and it was okay."

So Bowen became Magee's first and only Negro policeman. He's been busy enforcing the law ever since.

"That week-end after I accepted the job I was over in town," he said. "Two boys got to fighting about a checker game. One of them had a knife and the other one fell in my arms and I didn't have nothing but my hands, the boy just gave me the knife when I asked him for it."

Bowen said he took both men to jail. "The next morning I went to the chief of police and told him I needed some protection. He gave me a gun, badge, handcuffs, night stick and a cap. He said he didn't have no uniforms for us (Bowen and a white policeman), but we ordered some."

Bowen doesn't have a patrol car, nor does he ride with any of the white policemen. But, he said, he has the same authority as any patrolman on the force. "Just because my beat is the colored section of town doesn't mean if I catch a white man breaking in a store I am not going to arrest him, because I am," Bowen said.

He reported that his co-workers are friendly. "When I go in the office the white ladies are nice," he said. "They ask me if I want them to write out my tickets for me, they write the other policemen's tickets."

But not everyone likes Bowen's new job. A few days ago, he warned a drunken man to go home. "About 15 minutes later he came up to the cafe where I was and parked next to my car and told me, 'You won't arrest me.'"

"I told him to go home again. He left his car and got into another one with two more guys. They came by speeding and throwing rocks everywhere." So, Bowen said, he arrested the man.

"On the way downtown to jail, he tried to pay me off. I told him no, 'cause I didn't want his pay-off. He was so mad, I think he's still kind of mad with me."

Greenville
The Greenville Jets won a second-place trophy in a basketball tournament last month at Frisco City. The Jets defeated Grover Hill, 63-61, and the Manroville, Tramps, 72-70, before losing to the Pensacola Coca Colas in the final, 70-61. (From Henry Clay Mooror)

Wetumpka
The first mass meeting ever held in Elmore County took place last Sunday at the Second Baptist Church. The theme was "Remember James Earl Motley." More than 200 people turned out to hear speeches by Mrs. Sallie Hadnott, a Prattville civil rights leader; Mrs. J. R. Carr, president of the Montgomery Improvement Association; and the Rev. K. L. Buford, NAACP state field director. Buford urged the group to come to the pre-trial hearing in federal court in Montgomery for Harvey Conner, a former deputy sheriff charged with depriving Motley of federal rights "under color of law." (Motley died in the Elmore County jail last November a few hours after Conner arrested him.) The 150 Elmore County people who showed up for the hearing Wednesday filled the federal courtroom. They heard Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr. refuse to dismiss the charges against Conner and set his trial for the week of Apr. 10.



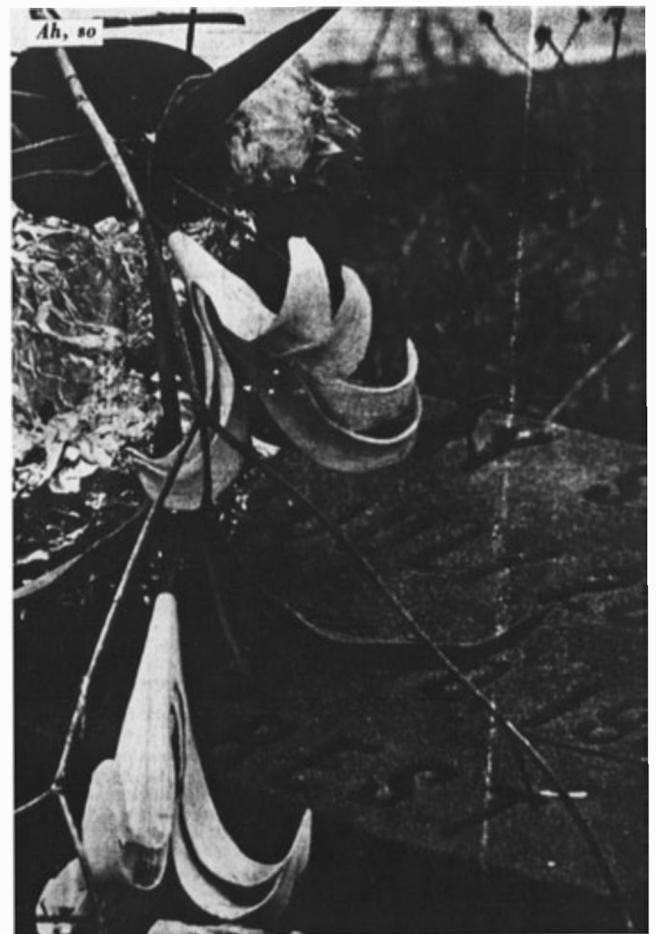
NOW I LAY ME DOWN...



*must even the grave
be a slum*



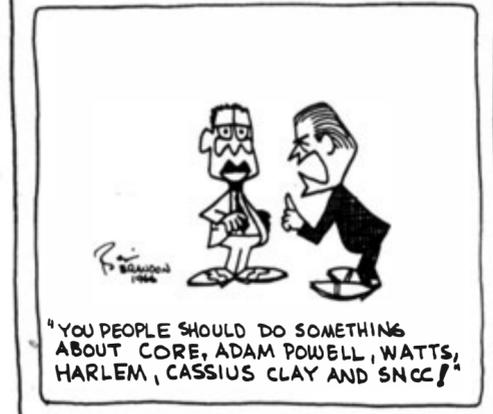
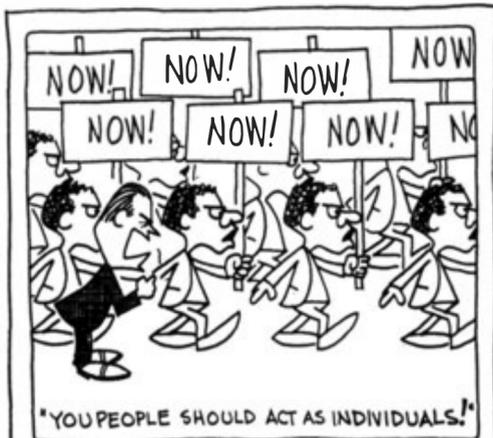
Photographs by Jim Pepler





By
Brumsic Brandon Jr.

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Officials 'Favorable' Free Food in Lee Co.?

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

OPELIKA--"I been trying for about a year to get a job," said a lady in the back of the room, "but I'm too old. A lot of people are in my shoes. They have no money to buy stamps with. They need food."

Most of the 50 Negroes sitting in the Sanford High School auditorium nodded and murmured in agreement. And so did the white man standing up front.

"I will do my best to get the commodity distribution program into Lee County," promised Bill Baker, one of four county commissioners. He said the other county commissioners are "very favorable" to the idea of distributing free food to hungry people in Lee County.



BILL BAKER

"But we feel like we can't handle it alone," he added. "We need help from these city governments."

Baker spoke at a community meeting called by Lee County's Negro leaders to get support for the surplus food program. He was one of many public officials who last week endorsed the food distribution plan.

Nearly all the officials agreed with the Negro leaders that Lee County needs free food, not food stamps.

"The stamps would please the merchants," said county Probate Judge Ira H. Weisinger. "But they would cost us more. And frankly I think the commodity program would take care of the needy better."

"You need some cash to buy the stamps," said Tom Botsford, a member of the Opelika City Commission. "Stamps won't help the people who need it most."

Auburn Mayor G. H. Wright said he favored the stamps because "people get more variety of things" with them. But Mrs. Kenneth B. Roy, president of the Auburn City Council, said most council members prefer the food distribution program.

Weisinger said that the county will apply to the federal government for the

free food as soon as the Auburn and Opelika city governing boards "agree to contribute their share" of the cost, about \$14,400 a year.

"We would be willing to share in the cost," said Botsford, "but the county must take the initiative."

Mrs. Roy said almost the same thing. Although the council has not made a final decision, she said, "I believe the city government will cooperate--but the county will have to take the lead."

Lee County's Negro leaders said they hope to convince the county to act soon. "Somebody's got to take the initiative," commented William Harper, head of the committee seeking the free food.

The committee started the drive for the food program several months ago. In January, representatives from all over the county gave the county commissioners a petition signed by 2,000 people.

Most of the signers were Negroes. But, Baker reminded the meeting at Sanford High School, the program would help everybody. "They tell me we've got a lot of white people that need it," he said. "We hope they'll take advantage of it along with you."

Tenants Group Wins Struggle in Mobile

BY JOHN C. DIAMANTE
MOBILE--The tenants in the Albert F. Owens Housing Project have won their year-long battle to organize and represent themselves.

James Alexander and Bert Stevens of the Mobile Housing Board recognized the new tenants association by coming to the project for a meeting last week with the group's president, Mrs. Annie B. McGrue.

"We had a most pleasant time," said Mrs. McGrue. "I believe people can do things by talking to each other. They explained the rent policies so that they will be clear to our people... they're giving us all the help we can use to get letterboxes in the project... and we got that Powell thing straightened out."

W. O. Powell, a Negro, is a project trouble-shooter for the housing board.

When the original tenants association became more interested in rent complaints and teen-age delinquency than in teas and turkey-raffles, Powell broke it up. But when he tried to organize another association, most tenants stayed away.

The new group finally got organized as the Tenants Review Council several

weeks ago, meeting at a school and private apartments.

But after talking with the housing board members, Mrs. McGrue said the group will be able to meet at the project in the future.

Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights

The weekly meeting will be at 7 p.m. Monday, March 6, at St. James Baptist Church, 1100 Sixth Ave. N., the Rev. C. W. Sewell, pastor.



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'They Made Us Rebels'

BY GAIL FALK

JACKSON, Miss. -- Jackson State College honored its retiring president, Jacob L. Reddix, in a recognition program at College Park Auditorium last Sunday afternoon.

The college choir sang, the college band played, and nearly 40 platform guests--Negro and white--took their turn to praise the president's 27 years of service as head of Mississippi's largest Negro college.

Then Hermel Johnson, president of the Student Government Association, stood up to speak on behalf of Jackson State's students.

"In my opinion," Johnson told the audience of 1,500 people, "all Negro colleges have one flaw in common: they were born into a segregated world and set out to serve us with the view that our separate world would someday be equal. As a result each Negro college has a stake in the status quo. And, needless to say, status quo is now anathema to most Negroes."

"The Negro revolt required the Negro college president to spend much of his time attempting to soothe the restless Negro students, who are embarrassingly aware that they are receiving an inferior education while being sur-

rounded by all the trappings of segregation," Johnson went on.

"Jacob L. Reddix and other Negro college presidents were the heroes of my father's late youth and early manhood... Men like President Reddix stood between us and the raw nakedness of our educational plight... They went before hard-core segregationist school boards and pleaded for money to build us a library, a chemistry lab, a dormitory, or a football stadium...."

"I do not envy men like President Reddix. Only with reluctance do I sing their praise. Yet praiseworthy they are. They fashioned us into the rebels we are...."

As Johnson returned to his seat, the audience was silent for a moment. Then there was a strong burst of applause.



Sandra McDonald Says:

My name is Sandra McDonald. I go to St. Ann's School. My father and I sell The Southern Courier. I sell the Courier in Decatur, Ala., and Athens, Ala. I was the first girl to sell the paper in these places. I make money every week for only a few hours' work.

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BIG D WAKE-UP SHOW

6-9 AM Sam Double "OO" Moore

OLE GOSPEL SHIP

9-11 AM Willie McKinstry

NOON SPECIAL

11 AM-1 PM Sam Double "OO" Moore

AFTERNOON SESSION

1-3:30 PM Rick Upshaw

MOVIN' HOME SHOW

3:30-6 PM Sam Double "OO" Moore

EVENING SPECIAL

6-8 PM Rick Upshaw

OLE GOSPEL SHIP

8-10 PM Willie McKinstry

LATE DATE

10 PM-Midnight Johnny "Jive" McClure

Saturday

ALL-NIGHT SHOW

Midnight-6 AM Lewis White

WEEKEND SPECIAL

6 AM-Noon Rick Upshaw

SATURDAY SESSION

Noon-6 PM Johnny "Jive" McClure

SATURDAY EXPRESS

6 PM-Midnight "Little Walter" Anglin

Sunday

ALL-NIGHT SHOW

Midnight-10 AM Johnny Jackson

FAVORITE CHURCHES

10 AM-4 PM "Little Walter" Anglin

SONGS OF THE CHURCH

4-6 PM Willie McKinstry

JOHNNY JACKSON

6 PM-Midnight

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11. THEN YOU CAN TELL ME GOODBYE--Casinos (Fraternity)
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BAHA'IS--"The Most Great Peace Shall Come..." will be the topic for informal, public discussion this week by Ardeshir Khavari of Iran, guest speaker for the Baha'is of Montgomery. The meetings will be at 513 Charles St., Thursday at 8 p.m.; in Tuskegee at 33 Gaillard St., Friday at 8 p.m., and at 3222 Santee Dr., Saturday at 8 p.m. No contributions. No obligations.

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.

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.

CHURCH SERVICES--The Bayside Church of Christ in Mobile, 713 Bayou St. at Mall, cordially invites the public to its Sunday worship at 11 a.m. Bible school is held at 10 a.m. on Sunday, and Bible classes at 7 p.m. every Wednesday evening. The Rev. J.F. Gilcrease, pastor.

SIMPSON COUNTY, Miss.--The Civic League of Simpson County will hold a ground-breaking ceremony at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 12, to begin work on its new community center. The ceremony will be on the community center property next door to the Voice of Calvary Church in Mendenhall.

PRATTVILLE--Make \$10 or more a week by selling The Southern Courier. Call 262-3572 in Montgomery.

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.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS--"Man" is the subject for this week's Lesson-Sermon to be read in all Christian Science churches this Sunday, March 5. The Golden Text is from Jeremiah: "Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is."

SOCIAL SECURITY--If you received Social Security payments and earned an additional \$1,500 or more in 1966, you must file a report of your earnings with the Social Security Administration before Apr. 17. You should file this report unless you were 72 or older for the entire year. If you do not receive an annual report form in the mail, or if you have any questions, get in touch with your local Social Security office, in Montgomery, write to the Social Security Office, 474 S. Court St., Montgomery, Ala. 36104, or call 263-7521, Ext. 421.

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.

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.

Pickets, Praise Greet McNamara in Jackson

BY GAIL FALK

JACKSON, Miss. -- Many of Mississippi's most powerful businessmen and politicians turned out to welcome U. S. Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara to Jackson last week. And so did about 65 pickets.

The political and business leaders joined McNamara on the speakers' platform Friday night at the Mississippi Coliseum.

Two hours earlier the pickets--a biracial group of students from mostly-white Millsaps College and mostly-Negro Jackson State, Tougaloo, and Utica Junior colleges--held a downtown "March in Memory of the Burned Children of Viet Nam."

The demonstration was originally planned as a direct protest against McNamara's visit. But student leaders changed their minds when they heard they might be arrested if they picketed McNamara's arrival at the airport in Jackson or his speech at the Coliseum.

The pickets handed out two kinds of leaflets. One was given to white people on Capitol St. It quoted the Biblical story of King Herod ordering the killing of male babies. A statement by Dr. Benjamin Spock, the child-care expert, told the readers that "a million children have been killed or wounded or burned in the war America is carrying on in Viet Nam . . ."

The other leaflet, given to Negroes on Farish St., had an extra section which compared the bombing of Vietnamese children with the bombing of Negro American children by racists.

McNamara's visit was the high point

Clark Fined

MOBILE--Former Dallas County Sheriff Jim Clark was fined \$1,505 and court costs here last Monday on charges stemming out of the Selma civil rights demonstrations two years ago.

Federal Judge Daniel H. Thomas found Clark in "civil contempt" of a federal court order not to harass people who were trying to register to vote or encourage others to do so.

Clark was told to pay the \$1,505 to Peter Hall, a Birmingham civil rights attorney, to cover the transportation costs of seven lawyers who were involved in the case.



STUDENT DEMONSTRATORS IN JACKSON

of a weekend of special events to attract attention to Millsaps College. The school is trying to raise \$3,750,000 by 1969.

On the Millsaps campus last week, 14 students handed out leaflets claiming that McNamara "is conducting an immoral and criminal war. Millsaps is prostituting its funds by gaining money by his reputation."

But Mississippi put on a unified greeting for McNamara last Friday night. The audience was integrated. The Millsaps College choir opened the program with "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," the North's Civil War song. And men who have condemned the federal government stood up to praise McNamara.

Mrs. Molly Stewart of Wetumpka wishes to thank her friends for their kindness after the recent death of her daughter, Mrs. Ola B. Barton of New York.

At Anniston Meeting People Disagree About Integration of Schools

BY JOAN CLARK

ANNISTON--"Freedom of choice is very contradictory," a white man complained last week when federal officials came to town to discuss the new school-desegregation guidelines.

"It only works for one side," the man said. "Where does it start and where does it end?" He charged that the U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) is telling parents "you can choose--or else."

"If I choose to send my children to a segregated school, then the federal government will step in," he said. "It seems to me that the schools that want to integrate, (should) integrate, and the ones that choose to be segregated, (should be) segregated."

But Calhoun County Judge Edward L. McLaughlin, who was running the meeting, said, "You're off base . . . We are not here to defend or criticize the law. The law is the law and you've got to live with it!"

About 200 Negroes and only a dozen white men showed up for the meeting last Thursday at Anniston High School. But the white people did most of the talking.

One of them interrupted a speaker to ask why he wasn't worried about the American Indians, "the only people in America who can truly call themselves Americans."

A representative of HEW replied that wherever Indians are a significant percentage of the local population, "we are discussing that problem."

When the time came for people to tell the officials how desegregation was going in their home counties, some of the Negroes joined the white people in criticizing freedom-of-choice plans.

"On the surface we have freedom of

choice, but behind closed doors, no," said Herbert H. Thomas of Talladega.

Thomas also said that Negro teachers in Talladega work longer hours than white teachers. But a white teacher stood up and said she didn't think there was any difference.

William Taylor of Talladega asked whether local school boards had the right to fire teachers for civil rights activity. Everett Waldo--one of three panel members from the U. S. Office of Education--told Taylor that the boards do not have that right.

Waldo said any teacher who thinks he can prove he lost his job because of civil rights work may sue his school board.

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9:00-9:30

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Jordan Ray Show (R&B)

The Gospel Hour (Religion)

Dorothy Jo's Pantry Shelf

(Women's News)

Gospel Train (Gospel)

Ruben Hughes Show (R&B)

Jordan Ray Show (R&B)

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Rev. Greene

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Dorothy Jo Stanley

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7:00-9:00

9:00-9:30

9:30-12 Noon

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