

But Principal's Son Gives Commencement Speech

'Worked the Hardest and Did the Best'

BY MARY A. ABBEVILLE, Ala.--

James Ricky Boatwright, Bu. smile faded a little.

Boatwright, a senior at Henry County Training School, earned top honors in his graduating class of 44 students. In past years, Mrs. Boatwright said, the valedictorian has given the commencement address.

But, she said, the speaker at this year's ceremonies will be the son of the principal, Edward C. Ward--

his son to speak to make his son is the highest,"

For instance, Mrs. Boatwright said, Ward's daughter--Miss Doretha Ward, a junior--will be one of the solo singers

at the commencement exercises. And, she said, Edward Ward sang the baculaureate solo last Sunday.

Mrs. Boatwright said she isn't criticizing the Ward children. But she thinks some other talented teen-agers should be given a chance to perform.

"He said Mr. Ward said my son didn't participate in things," Mrs. Boatwright

recalled. She shook her head. Among other activities, she said, her son was captain of both the football and basketball teams, president of the Future Farmers of America, and a member of the Latin Club, the choir, and the Mary Magdalene Baptist Church.

At the school this week, Boatwright--a muscular youth with a friendly smile--said he doesn't want to make an issue out of the commencement speech.

"Every one in the whole town knows about it," he said, "so I just figured I'd go on and let it go."

"There probably is a complaint, but not a bona fide complaint. Some years we have an outside speaker, some years we have a valedictorian, some years we have a class officer."

He said the senior class advisors planned the commencement program last March -- before anyone knew whether Boatwright or Edward Ward would be the top student.

"I was totally responsible for the program," agreed Mrs. A. L. Lawson, one of the advisors. She said she de-

cidet to have the class president give the main speech after studying a guide to commencement programs put out by the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

But Mrs. Boatwright wasn't satisfied with the explanation, and neither were some of her neighbors and friends.

"At Henry County Training School," the man said, "the possibilities are unlimited--unless you happen to be the principal's child."

THE SOUTHERN COURIER

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Miss. Votes On U.S. House

BY JOHN SISSON, KATY SIEPMANN, AND PATRICIA JAMES

GREENVILLE, Miss.--Three long-time civil rights workers are trying to unseat white congressmen next Tuesday in the Mississippi Democratic primary.

Mrs. Theima Barnes of Washington County is running for Thomas G. Abernathy's U. S. House seat in the First Congressional District. In the Fourth District, Clarence Hall Jr. of Issaquena County is challenging E. V. "Sonny"

more than 1,300 Negroes registered to vote in Washington County alone. Although Negroes make up a majority of the population in her 15-county district, registered white voters still outnumber black voters.

Besides Abernathy, Mrs. Barnes faces another proven white vote-getter in Hebert Ladner, Mississippi secretary of state.

Hall and Mrs. Barnes both decided to run April 4, the night the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was killed. Hall said Dr. King's death wasn't what influenced him to run, but "I hope it will generate some thinking among the peoples about what he stood for. Sometimes in a crisis they understand more--maybe this will get people thinking and ready to move into politics."

In 1957, Hall became the first Negro in Issaquena County to pay the poll tax. He has been a member of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party since it began.

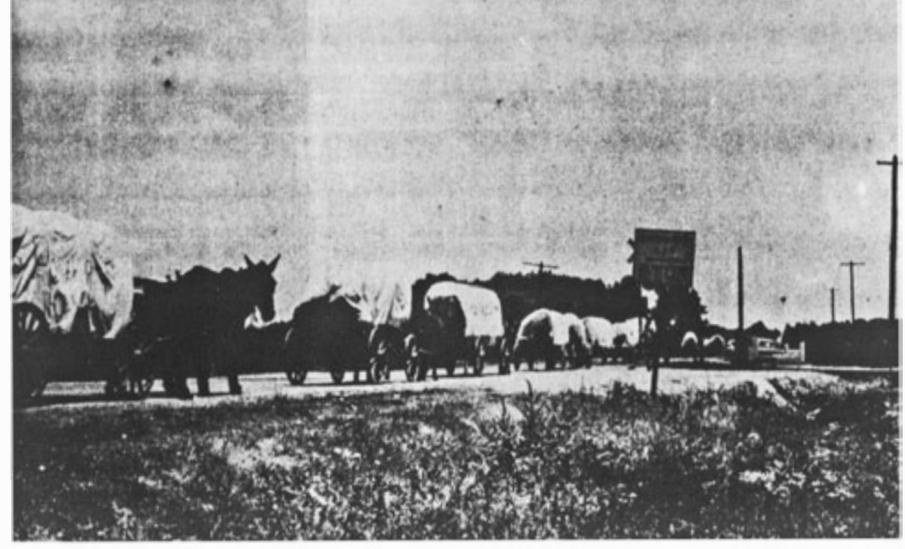
"I am a farmer," said Hall, "and I support programs that will assist the small farmers of our district. . . . I would demand that the U. S. Department of Agriculture enforce its rule that tenants and sharecroppers not be evicted to increase a farmer's cotton allotment."

Hall owns a 66-acre farm in Issaquena County. "The land I own today is the land that in 1941 I cleared for \$1 a day with an axe from before sunrise to when the moon rise at night," he said.

Killingsworth has long been in the front lines of the civil rights movement--leading protests and demonstrations in Kemper and Clarke counties, and now in Hattiesburg. He has urged that the U. S. "stop the unfair use of young Negro men" in the Viet Nam war.

Another black candidate in Tuesday's election is W. Albert Jones of Meridian, who is running against 16 white opponents for beat 5 supervisor in Lauderdale County.

PPC Battles Mud



MULE TRAIN HEADS FOR WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, D. C.-- A carpenter working in Resurrection City watched the Washington sky cloud over again last week, and said:

"If we have to build us an ark to sail up to the Capitol, that's all right too--there ain't nothing gonna turn us around."

The Poor People's Campaign (PPC) was pulling itself out of the Resurrection City mud this week. And it was also wringing some concessions out of Orville Freeman, the U. S. secretary of agriculture.

Groups of about 100 campaigners--led by the Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy, president of SCLC, and the Rev. Jesse Jackson, Resurrection City manager--have been going regularly to Freeman's office and other parts of the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The campaign is insisting that Freeman immediately put free food programs in counties where the people cannot afford food stamps.

A recent report called "Hunger, USA," put out by a citizens' board of inquiry, says the USDA is going to return \$220,000,000 to the U. S. Treasury this year, instead of using it to get food to hungry families.

Freeman recently said for the first time that he could use this money for commodity distribution. But he also said it is legally impossible for him to put a free food program into counties that already have stamps--even if the stamp plan exists only on paper.

But a few days ago--with angry campaigners, including a 13-year-old black boy, rebuking him in his office--Freeman admitted that it is a question of "my judgment on the matter" as to whether he can use his emergency powers to put both programs in the same county.

Freeman has also warned 34 Southern counties that he will step in directly if they don't start operating their own food programs by July 1.

In another area, the U. S. Department of Labor and the National Alliance of Businessmen announced a new program called JOBS (Job Opportunities in the Business Sector). This program will start immediately to place unemployed people in 106,000 jobs across the country.

Faced with torrential rains and a sea of mud, about two-thirds of Resurrection City's residents moved temporarily to churches and private homes this week.

But construction and improvements continued. The city began publishing a daily "Unity News," and it welcomed the arrivals from the Western caravan.

At first, the PPC's demands were for jobs, food, housing, and welfare--chiefly the concerns of poor blacks and whites. But before the Indians, Spanish-Americans, and Mexican-Americans from the 750-man Western caravan would move into Resurrection City, SCLC leaders had to broaden their demands.

The problems of Indians were emphasized last week when the U. S. Supreme Court upheld a ruling that the State of Washington may regulate the fishing rights of the Puyallup and Medicine Creek tribes--rights granted under treaties more than 100 years ago.

Last Wednesday, representatives of all ethnic groups went along with the 15 Indians who delivered oral statements of protest to a Supreme Court clerk.

The day-long demonstration was peaceful--until someone broke four windows in the Supreme Court building. Abernathy said the damage was done by youths who were not part of the PPC.

Ten people were arrested--including three campaigners who tried to haul the Supreme Court building's flag to half-mast in observation of President John F. Kennedy's birthday.



MRS. BARNES KILLINGSWORTH

Montgomery, and in the Fifth District, the Rev. J. C. Killingsworth of Forrest County is running against William Colmer.

Mrs. Barnes, director of special projects for the Delta Ministry, has been saying that better education is the way to "bring meaningful change to the lives of the dispossessed."

"The more you review the products of education in Mississippi among Negroes," she said, "the more you come to realize that this is the basic problem. It is a vicious circle, because people in the instructional field are products of the same situation."

School integration, she said, is not the answer: "We must strive for quality education in all schools."

Mrs. Barnes has also called for a federal law on compulsory school attendance, welfare benefits that meet the needs of the recipients, and food stamps for all needy families.

After she announced her candidacy,

Barbour County DEC Back in Court Again

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--The Barbour County Democratic Executive Committee had no intention of discriminating against Negro voters when it changed its election rules this year, said Preston Clayton, the committee's attorney.

In fact, Clayton told a federal court last Wednesday, the all-white DEC switched from beat to at-large elections for its 21 members for another reason altogether--to comply with the court's "one man, one vote" ruling.

The old beats were somewhat in size that they were "obviously unfair," Clayton recalled.

But U. S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr. didn't let the argument get very far. "I don't concede that this is a 'one man, one vote' case," the judge said, since "I doubt that the Barbour County Democratic Executive Committee has a legislative function."

And if the DEC were really interested in proportional representation, said U. S. Justice Department attorney Lester N. Scall, it could simply have combined some of the beats.

In any case, Scall went on, the DEC can't use one federal ruling to evade another--and violate the rights of Negro voters.

Food in Mobile

MOBILE, Ala.--The Mobile Area Community Action Committee (MACAC) has begun distribution of surplus food under an emergency program approved by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Last Tuesday at the Prichard center, hundreds of Negroes gathered early in the morning and lingered late into the evening, waiting for the food.

At one point, a white man wearing a gun told the people to "get back, get out the way. . . . we ain't giving away nothing right now." A Negro girl who works for MACAC said the man is normally employed by the city of Prichard to control the work gangs.

The old Negro ladies had no way to get their food home. Some tried to carry the heavy boxes of food, while others stood and waited for help.

Mule Caravan Creaks Over Mississippi Road

BY KATY SIEPMANN

STARKVILLE, Miss. -- Driving a team of mules from Marks, Miss., to Washington might sound like an awful lot of trouble. But the members of the SCLC mule train--part of the Poor People's Campaign--don't look at it that way.

"We only have the normal problems that you would expect to have on a mule train--mules getting tired, throwing shoes--but we haven't had any serious trouble," said Andrew Marrisett, co-leader of the caravan.

The mule train was going through Oktibbeha County--about 150 miles from Marks--last weekend. Since the 17 wagons and 25 mules had set out from Marks, on May 13, there had been a few delays.

Two mules died on the road, but they were quickly replaced. "They were too old and no good," said Marrisett. Now, he said, the leaders of the train are trying to find out which mules are the strongest, "by trial and error."

The mules are shifted around so that some pull and others walk behind the wagons. Marrisett said the weaker mules will be replaced, until the team is strong enough to make it all the way to Washington.

The mule train covered only eight to ten miles a day at first, but recently it has been averaging 25 to 28 miles each day. "We're trying to condition the mules to 50 miles a day," Marrisett said.

As for the people on the slow trip to Washington, they seem to be happy. "When we started out, we were all disorganized, but we're like a closely-knit family now," said Marrisett. "We've organized the fellows, and the women help--even the kids, when they can."

The train stops several times a day to water and rest the mules. The mule train has had no real trouble so far with humane societies or animal-lovers. "Hell," said one man, "the mules eat better than we do."

"Trail scouts" go ahead of the wagons each day, to make arrangements for places to stay. "People in towns donate food, living quarters, and meeting places for us," said one of the scouts.

"And," Marrisett added, "I might say that we have had great assistance from the (Mississippi) Highway Patrol and the FBI and the police officers with us."

With more than 100 passengers--from eight months to 70 years in age--the mule train is heading for Alabama this week. The leaders have planned stops in Eutaw, Tuscaloosa, Bessemer, and Birmingham.

For the children, life on a mule train is "just fine." The smaller members of the group all seem to know what the campaign is about. "When we get to Washington we gonna tell Johnson that we poor," said eight-year-old Charles

Milton. "We gonna tell him that we need money and food and clothes and shoes. And if he don't give it to us, we gonna stay."

The sight of the covered wagons inching their way down the middle of the road is a new thing for the people along the route, and for some it means a lot.

As the caravan creaked by an old Negro lady on Highway 82, a broad smile came over her face. "That's some beautiful thing," she said.

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Who's Hiram Walker?



BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--The state of Alabama will "strongly resist through the courts" if its schools are ordered to do away with freedom-of-choice desegregation plans, Governor Albert P. Brewer said last Wednesday.

At his second weekly press conference, the governor was asked about this week's U. S. Supreme Court decision that freedom-of-choice plans are unacceptable if they do not bring an end to the dual school system.

"Freedom of choice has worked real well in Alabama," Brewer said, adding that he is "deeply and gravely concerned" about the effect of the Supreme Court ruling.

Brewer also said he didn't know if any Negroes were among the ten educators recently appointed to the State Textbook Committee, which recommends books to be used in the public schools. But if people want to recommend textbooks that include more Negro history and culture, he said, they should inform the committee of the books' titles, authors, and publishers.

On a different subject, a reporter who has been investigating the state's dealings with various liquor companies asked the governor: "Do you know why Hiram Walker pulled out of Alabama?" Brewer--who doesn't drink--replied, "I don't even know the gentleman."

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Table with 2 columns: City, Alabama and Phone Number. Lists reporters for various Alabama cities like Birmingham, Mobile, and Tuscaloosa.

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Editorial Opinion

Brewer and the Press

A conspiracy seems to be developing among the Capitol news corps to present Alabama Governor Albert P. Brewer as the Second Coming. This is especially evident in the dispatches some of the local newsmen are sending to national newspapers and magazines.

Following is the full text of a story--apparently submitted by a local correspondent--that appeared in the New York Times last week:

MONTGOMERY, Ala., May 22--Gov. Albert P. Brewer pledged his support today to former Gov. George C. Wallace's campaign for President, but he indicated a more conciliatory line on race relations than Mr. Wallace had followed.

At his first news conference since succeeding Lurleen Wallace after her death May 7, Mr. Brewer was asked if he would meet with Negro leaders to discuss state employment policies. He responded that he would meet with "any group of citizens to discuss any problem."

He said that as far as he knew, no Negroes had applied for jobs as state highway patrolmen but that he "would assume that they could be hired under state merit service regulations." No Negroes now hold such positions.

At no point during the 45-minute parley did Mr. Brewer attack the Federal Government, a favorite target of Mr. Wallace.

The only discussion of desegregation problems came when he commented on a Federal Court order that has directed the public school authorities in Mobile to begin drawing school zones to bring about a greater amount of desegregation.

"I'm a lawyer, and I have respect for the law, and I will abide by any court order," he said.

There are several things wrong with this story. In the first place, it is nothing new for an Alabama governor to say he will "discuss any problem," and to observe that no Negroes have applied for such-and-such a job. Even George Wallace did that. If the governor really wanted to "indicate a more conciliatory line on race relations," he might have said something like this:

"I am taking immediate steps to see that Negroes--who make up one-third of the population of our state--are adequately represented in the state highway patrol and in other agencies. I am ordering Public Safety Director Floyd Mann to treat all job applicants, Negro and white, with equal attention and respect."

But the most serious distortion in this story involves the governor's remarks about the Mobile school situation. Brewer did say he would abide by all court orders--but he said this much later in the May 22 press conference, and not in answer to a question about Mobile. Here are some of the things the governor did say about Mobile:

"(The court order) has caused great concern to the people there. Frankly, it would cause great concern to me if I were there. . . . (The order will cause) nothing but irrevocable harm to the schools of Mobile County, and, if extended, to those of our state. . . . I fear for the public school system if such a ruling is followed as is being followed in Mobile County. . . . (The order) endangers the peace and tranquility that exist in Mobile County--a county that has enjoyed excellent race relations until now."

If anything, these remarks will lend encouragement to the white people who are fighting the orderly desegregation of the Mobile County schools. And if the tense situation in Mobile flares into violence, Governor Brewer will have to bear a large measure of the blame.

But all this is glossed over in the New York Times report. And at least one of the national news magazines is planning a similarly adoring portrait of Alabama's new governor.

The national news media have not always been fair to George Wallace, but during his reign, they performed an invaluable service to Alabama. If people in Washington and other parts of the country had not known what Wallace was up to, Alabama Negroes would never have received the federal attention and private support they needed to fight him.

But if a few newsmen can convince the country that everything is fine under Brewer, this outside help--already dwindling--will disappear entirely.

We, too, believe that Albert P. Brewer has the courage and the ability to lead this state in a new and better direction. Just the fact that he is holding weekly press conferences is a marked improvement over the past few years, when the governor met the press only for purposes of personal publicity. And Brewer's press secretary, Bob Imman, certainly compares favorably with the rude and uncooperative men who have filled that post in the past.

But we believe Brewer should be judged on what he does and says--not on what we think he might do, or on what we hope he means.

Brewer's first press conference had its highs and lows. The best summary we have seen of the meeting--and of Brewer's performance to date--was a paragraph in last Sunday's Montgomery Advertiser-Journal: "Brewer said many of the same things George Wallace said, but his answers were calm and reasoned, while Wallace's were full of bombast and sulphuric commentary."

Protest at Tuskegee Public School

'Down With Inconsistency!'

BY MARY ELLEN GALE TUSKEGEE, Ala. -- "Everybody thought it was a black-power movement," said Harold Robinson, a Negro sophomore at Tuskegee Public School. "But man, it was for the whole school."

A white student--standing at Robinson's elbow--agreed. "If you'd told us about it," he said with a grin, "we would have been in on it too."

A group of some 30 high school students--several of them still holding large cardboard posters--were talking about what happened last Monday, at Tuskegee Public's award assembly.

The entire student body of 250 Negroes and 150 whites was gathered in the school auditorium. Principal Condon Campbell was presenting honors to outstanding scholars.

But when he called Lawrence Haygood's name, said Miss Joyce Booth, Haygood didn't respond. "Mr. Campbell asked Lawrence didn't he think the honor was good enough," Miss Booth recalled.

Then, she said, Haygood--a straight-A student--stood up and said he was refusing the award as a protest against school policies. And Negro students all over the room held up posters saying things like "Down with Inconsistency!" and "We want rules (written) not rumors!"

Some white students grabbed for the posters, saying they wanted to join the protest, said Miss Geraldine Williford. At the same time, added Miss Regina Lewis, teachers began tearing the posters out of the students' hands.

The students said the confusion was straightened out in a few moments, and Campbell agreed to meet with five protest leaders to talk about their requests.

What happened at the two-hour meeting? Campbell said only, "We had a frank discussion, and the complaints are being looked into." And Macon County Schools Superintendent Joe C. Wilson--who also attended the session--wouldn't comment at all.

But Haygood and Douglas Jones--one of the school's outstanding athletes--were fairly hopeful. "I feel like a change is going to come," said Haygood. "I'm satisfied with (Campbell's) proposals," said Jones, "but something is going to have to come out of this."

The senator--who represents Macon,



STUDENTS DISPLAY PROTEST SIGNS

played for 20 minutes, they'd play for 20 minutes, we all got up and danced. It was a nice little party."

The students also asked the school to add a second-year algebra course, retain its Spanish courses (which are not

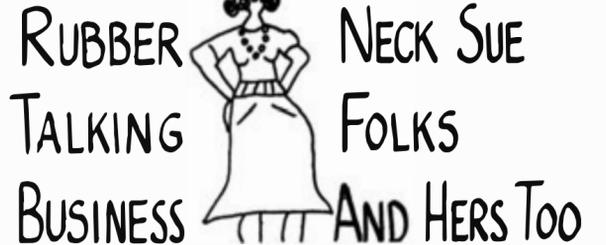
A main item was the request for written rules. The students said some teenagers--mostly Negroes--have been suspended for smoking, while others--mostly whites--were only given warnings.

And, said Miss Williford, "if we attempt to sit at the lunch table with the white kids, we are punished for antagonizing them."

The students also asked for extra-curricular activities, including a homecoming celebration, dances and parties, and a school newspaper.

The way it is now, Robinson said, "we have no socials at all. They're scared we want to dance with each other. The students are ready for a dance. It's the administration that doesn't want to move with the times."

In fact, he recalled, on "clean-up day" last winter, the students quietly turned it into a social event. "We got a band, and they got a band," he said. "Ours is colored, theirs is white. We



Opelika, Ala.

Eddie B. Warren, president of the South East State Crusaders, made his first address to the South East State Convention May 16 in Opelika. After Mrs. Alice Jones, president of the women's department of the convention, gave up her space on the program, Warren spoke on the subject "Young Men

brutally charges and unfair hiring and promotion practices. "We are going to do these things by whatever means within our rights," said the Rev. Charles Johnson, chairman of the committee.

Detroit, Michigan

Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey told the General Convention of the A.M.E. Zion Church May 21 that white businessmen should welcome Negroes as partners. He said Negroes should be given the chance to be managers and proprietors, rather than just employees. "Can you believe," Humphrey asked, "that until recently, in a country driving 97,000,000 cars, there was one Negro automobile dealer?"

New York City

Reuben Anderson, the first Negro to graduate from the University of Mississippi Law School, has been named director of the Mississippi legal program of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. Anderson, who is 25 years old, succeeds Miss Marian Wright, who is now in Washington, D. C.

Montgomery, Ala.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Crisp of Gary, Indiana, have been visiting Mrs. Crisp's mother, Mrs. Pearl C. Davis, at the Davis farm here. They have also seen their other relatives in the Montgomery area.

Selma, Ala.

Attorney Bruce Boynton spoke at last week's meeting of the Dallas County Progressive Movement for Human Rights. He said he is "depressed" over the lack of Negroes' coming together and staying together for the purpose of getting things done.

Montgomery, Ala.

Miss Deborah Provo of Daisy Lawrence School has won the \$25 first prize in an essay contest sponsored by the Montgomery Traffic and Transportation Club. Contestants--sixth-grade students in Montgomery schools--were required to write an essay on "What Transportation Means to Montgomery." Cardeuvre Pitts of St. Jude's Educational Institute was the second-place winner, and Miss Sharon Jones of William R. Harrison School was third.

New Orleans, La.

After protests by the New Orleans NAACP, Schools Superintendent Carl J. Dolce has agreed to include three of the city's predominantly-Negro schools among those selected for a special program in the "new math." Last April, the NAACP complained that all the schools chosen for the program were predominantly-white. NAACP President Horace C. Bynum said he is "delighted" that Dolce agreed to include Negro schools, too.

Meridian, Miss.

A new group--the Meridian Action Committee--has been organized to deal with community problems like police-

Radney Talks At THS Ceremony

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE, Ala. -- "Finish your education and come back to Alabama," State Senator Tom Radney urged 212 graduating seniors at Tuskegee Institute High School's commencement exercises last Friday.

The senator--who represents Macon,



TOM RADNEY

Elmore, and Tallapoosa counties--admitted that there are good reasons why the seniors might not want to return home.

"No county in Alabama has faced greater problems than Macon," Radney told a mostly-Negro audience of some 1,000 people. "We'd be fooling ourselves to ignore it."

"The easy way out is to leave--leave the state to people who don't care about solving our problems."

The hard way, he said, is to "come back and be a part of this movement that I am a part of," and help create "a new Alabama and a new South."

Radney--one of a very few state legislators who have opposed the policies of former Governor George C. Wallace--conceded that some Alabamians don't seem to want progress.

If the seniors do return, he warned, "you'll get called names. . . . You'll receive phone calls in the middle of the night, as I have."

But, he said, the calls don't bother him much: "For each one of those, I get five saying, 'Thank you for your guts.'"

As they work to improve their state, Radney urged the seniors to "use the processes of law--be living examples of obedience to judicial authority." But, he added, he doesn't think the advice is really necessary.

"I have said on the floor of the Senate--I have said the length and breadth of this state to anyone who will listen to me--that the young people of this country who burn draft cards, who say they will not fight to defend this country, who loot and riot and burn, are NOT Alabamians," the senator recalled.

In discussions with young people, Radney said, he has learned that the "greatest thing" bothering them is not the war in Viet Nam, "although that is a puzzling situation."

Instead, he said, their biggest concern is "that their parents have said, 'We have lost the battle.' I have yet to meet a young person who thinks that."

And the young people are right to be optimistic, Radney said: "There isn't a more exciting time to live than right now. . . . I'm convinced I'm going to go to the moon--I'd like to go for a weekend some time."

The senator said he has faith in the nation's ability to solve its problems. Although "some of my neighbors think we're stark raving mad," he noted, he and his two young daughters raise an American flag in front of their Alexander City home every day, and then recite the pledge of allegiance.

At the end of his speech, the audience applauded warmly. They also clapped at the beginning, when Radney looked around at the fans and commencement programs fluttering in the 90-degree heat and said: "Maybe the next session of the Legislature, the first bill I'll introduce will be to air-condition Tuskegee Institute High School."

Before handing out diplomas, THS Principal Alonza Harvey honored some of the school's top students. Among them were Miss Deborah Jean McGregor, winner of half a dozen awards including a National Achievement Scholarship, and Herman M. Hooten, a football star and outstanding scholar who accepted a National Merit Scholarship to Notre Dame University after receiving offers from nearly 60 colleges.

ATLANTA, Ga.--Each month, the U. S. Department of Agriculture issues a list of "plentiful foods"--foods that are likely to be cheaper during the month because so much is being produced.

Likely food bargains for June include milk and dairy products, eggs, seasonal vegetables (celery, beans, lettuce, asparagus, etc.) and vegetable fats and oils. Housewives are advised to check these items.



EDDIE B. WARREN in the Time of Crisis. He said young people should get a good education, and do their jobs well: "If it falls to your lot to be a street-sweeper, sweep the streets as Shakespeare wrote poetry."

"Man and God must work as a team," he added, "and as a team, this troubled world will overcome."

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MISS PROVO (CENTER), PITTS, MISS JONES (RIGHT) RECEIVE AWARDS

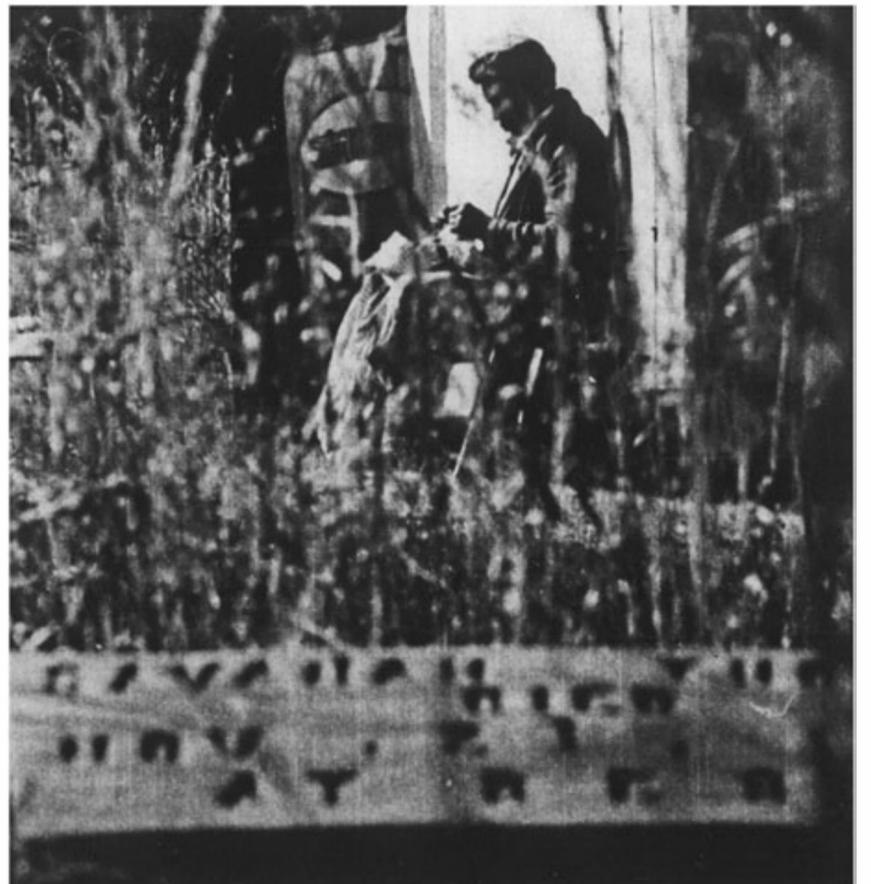


***There's Nothing
Blacker Than...***

A Black Grave



***Photos
by
Jim
Pepler***



'We Put Ourselves on the Map'

3,000 Folks Move Into Resurrection City

BY JOHN CREIGHTON

WASHINGTON, D. C.--A small new city has sprung up on 15 acres of West Potomac Park, alongside Washington's famous Reflecting Pool.

Rows of simple plywood houses stretch for nearly half a mile between two massive marble buildings--the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial. This is Resurrection City, home to some 3,000 participants in the Poor People's Campaign. The "shantytown" stands close to the spot where the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.--assassinated president of SCLC--told the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom that "I have a dream."

SCLC is back in the nation's capital this spring, still demanding jobs and freedom. But this time, the campaigners--who say they represent some 40,000,000 poor people--plan to stay until they get what they came for.

And so they and their friends have built Resurrection City, within walking distance of the Capitol, the White House, and the offices of many government agencies.

The site was chosen for another practical reason--sewer lines remain underground, left over from World War II when the park was filled with U. S. Army barracks.

The "town" was planned by a young white architect, John Wiebenson, with a team of sociologists and other people. Wiebenson designed two different kinds of cheap, weatherproof dwellings to house the campaigners--a 20-foot A-frame dormitory which sleeps six, and a pair of lean-tos that form a family unit.

The houses are made of simple, prefabricated two-by-four frames and sheets of plywood. They have raised wooden floors, skylights of clear plastic sheeting, canvas doors, and electricity.

Construction of the prefab parts for the 600 dwellings started in April, on

the campus of a nearby college. Building at the site in West Potomac Park began May 13, when the Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy--Dr. King's successor as president of SCLC--drove the first nail.

Before taking up the hammer, he asked permission for use of the land from 20-year-old Miss Linda Aranayko of the Creek Indian Tribe. On behalf of the original Americans, she lent the site to the Poor People's Campaign.

SCLC also obtained a permit from the U. S. Department of the Interior. The government permit expires June 16. But it can be renewed--and probably will be, since the campaign has put off its climactic march until June 19.

On that day, SCLC leaders hope that more than half a million people will join the residents of Resurrection City in demanding an end to poverty in the United States.

In the meantime, life at Resurrection City goes on--but not quite the way the planners anticipated.

Originally, the town was to be divided into 12 neighborhoods, each with its own toilet facilities, shower building, supply center, and information building.

But despite the efforts of hundreds of residents and volunteers--including plumbers and electricians who came to work on the city at night--it didn't work out that way.

Truckloads of lumber and supplies--and busloads of campaigners from all over the United States--arrived almost on top of one another during the first two weeks. Supplies of lumber ran short as new arrivals hammered together any kind of shelter to get out of the rain.

For a while, lack of money slowed the construction of Resurrection City.

Hundreds of confused people milled around a small communications booth where only three telephones were available to get in touch with SCLC offices and the outside world. Caravans of campaigners had to wait outside Resurrection City in local churches and schools until there were places for them to stay.

And last week, day after day of heavy rain turned the area into a muddy swamp, forcing some of the residents to leave their new plywood homes.

But gradually, things began to get organized. A "city hall"--with telephone lines and offices--started functioning. The old sewer lines were finally located and put to use. Shower baths started operating. A day-care center began looking after children while their parents were busy with campaign activities.

"As soon as we're organized, we'll be running our own devices--the schools and kitchens and so forth," promised the Rev. James Bevel, a leader of the campaign. Meanwhile, Resurrection City depended on its volunteers.

Some of them are professional groups, like the Medical Committee for Human Rights, with a staff of doctors and dentists. At Howard University,



MRS. DOROTHY WILLIAMS (CENTER) OF MOBILE, ALA., IN RESURRECTION CITY (Photo by Jim Peppler)

trained dieticians prepare food to be trucked over to the city's huge dining tent--cold breakfasts, sandwiches for lunch, and hot dinners.

But there are also many individual volunteers--barbers who cut hair, an ice-cream vendor who has given away hundreds of cones, and off-duty taxi-drivers who take loads of children to the zoo.

Some volunteers came from far away, like Eugene E. White of San Francisco, an artist who traveled to Washington with the campaign's Southern caravan. White said he is staying on "to expose some of these kids to the fact that there is black art--I'll try to teach them something, and then I'll split."

Some volunteers came from nearby. A local newspaper reporter is helping the day-care center staff draw up requests for toys and educational equipment. The proposals will be submitted to various companies.

Although more than 4,000 people traveled to Resurrection City in half a dozen different caravans from all over the country, many of them didn't stay. Some had promised to return to their jobs or families in two weeks. Others--angry youths and riot veterans--were sent home after they roughed up white people.

The remaining 3,000 campaigners

have pledged to stay till the end, to go to jail without bail, and to be non-violent.

Some of them like their plywood "tents," and say their new homes are better than the slum houses or rural shacks they left behind. But some young militants call Resurrection City "just another kind of whitey-designed ghetto."

Nevertheless, nearly every structure has been decorated with paintings or poetry. Signs reading "Boss City Headquarters," "Malcolm X Center," "Blackstone City," "Flores (Spanish for flower) Power," "Red (Indian) Power," "Akron--Home of the Rubber Town Sound," "Love one another," and "Knock and enter if you're together," can be seen up and down the length of Dr. King Plaza, Abernathy Boulevard, Selma St., and Soul St.

Every day, Bevel and other SCLC staff members conduct workshops in non-violence. A staff team from the Scholarship, Education, and Defense Fund holds group sessions in leadership training and self-awareness.

And there are other kinds of meetings. "We got some Negro ministers up there in the pulpit singing opera," roared the Rev. F. D. Kirkpatrick, as he hammered away at his guitar to begin a singing and song-making session.

"That's not us! We're not going to be ashamed of gospel--we're going to get back into our culture."

Each morning, the gates to Resurrection City swing open to let lines of singing campaigners--many dressed in blue-denim workclothes--pass through on their way to the Capitol.

In the evening, the campaigners march back into Resurrection City for dinner. Afterward, they gather around the Reflecting Pool for entertainment by leading show-business people or for speeches, sermons, and more singing at a "town meeting."

SCLC leaders are letting the residents decide how Resurrection City should be governed. Last weekend, the campaigners began choosing a city council.

Most of the campaigners are black people. But there are also whites, Indians, Mexican-Americans, and Puerto Ricans. Although the groups usually keep to themselves, everyone pitches in on clean-up efforts like the one led by actor Sidney Poitier, or joins in a discussion of poverty with a visiting congressman.

"This is a community of brotherhood," Bevel reminds people. "We're all learning from each other--everybody is a student, and everybody is sacred."

But there are divisions of opinion and goals between the older people and the youth, and between young rural Southerners and gang members from Northern big-city ghettos.

Small children from the Northern slums watch in amazement as rural children gulp down carton after carton of milk--the first milk many of the Southern youngsters have ever had.

And the Northern children are even more surprised when the Southerners happily wade into the Reflecting Pool (which they call the "cement pond," and which the police refer to as "coon la-")

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE, Col. 1)



A HOME IN MARKS, MISS. (Photo by Bob Labaree)

'Southern Time'

BY JOHN CREIGHTON

WASHINGTON, D. C.--How were the decisions being made? Who was making them? Was anyone making them?

Visitors to Resurrection City kept asking questions like these last week, but they didn't get much in the way of answers. In fact, the Rev. James Bevel of SCLC seemed to be amused.

"Because we operate on a brotherhood concept and not on authoritarian thinking, (the police and the press) get frustrated," said Bevel. "I'm not intimidated by a loose, unstructured group of people."

During its first weeks in Washington, the Poor People's Campaign has pretty much refused to get organized in the usual manner of petitioners or lobbying groups.

For instance, representatives of various government agencies learned about "Southern Time" when the Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy--the campaign leader--arrived hours late for private discussions on the demands of the poor.

And the press--which expected to be a welcome guest--was thrown out of Resurrection City early one day. "You

just don't come around disturbing people at five in the morning," explained Bevel.

"We have no fronts and no games," he said. "You can talk to the people and find out why they're here. But give people in this camp the same respect you'd give to Lucie, Lynda, and Lady Bird"--President Johnson's wife and daughters.

The lack of planning created some problems. For example, SCLC had hoped to set up a Poor People's University where students of all ages could learn about the problems of the poor.

But when local colleges were asked for classroom and dormitory space, they replied that they hadn't had enough notice. They said the facilities were already filled with other activities--like exams and summer school.

For the last three weeks, the campaign has been short of money. Different leaders have made different estimates about the size of the financial problem. But so far donations have kept the campaign alive on a day-to-day basis, with much of the money coming from well-known entertainers.

to replace the welfare system, and for urban renewal programs that will concentrate on people instead of on buildings.

For the Mexican-Americans and Indians, there are additional demands. The Mexican-Americans--many of whom are migrant workers in the Southwest--want decent working and living conditions as well as fair wages. Most of all, they want the government to force big companies to recognize the workers' unions.

The Indians are demanding that the government stop taking away their land, and that the Bureau of Indian Affairs become responsive to their needs and wishes--instead of trying to make decisions for them.

The Rev. Al Sampson of SCLC said that America's leaders must make amends for the evils of the past and present.

"They (the whites) broke into the Indian's house and put them (the Indians) on the reservation and called them a savage," said Sampson. "Then they broke into the African house and put us on the plantation and called us nigger."

"And to show you the consistency, they went and broke into Ho Chi Minh's ten-room Viet Nam house, took five of his rooms, and said, 'Let's negotiate for the other five.'"

But SCLC still believes that white America can be reached with the spirit of brotherhood and non-violence. Sampson said: "Our people walk with love. The people with guns--they are people with black faces, but with white minds."

Not all the campaigners agree with him about that. "I'm trying 'em all," said a big-city youth. "Man, we almost burned Chicago down, and we might do it yet."

"Now I'm non-violent as long as I'm with this campaign, see? But if this don't work out, those dudes better watch out for me--'cause when I go back home, I'm the meanest cat in town."

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One SCLC worker described the campaign participants as people who have been "excluded" from the American dream--or "who have been used and discarded by the American nightmare."

All the campaigners--black, white, Puerto Rican, Indian, Mexican-American--want better jobs, housing, food, medical care, and education. They are asking for a guaranteed annual income

Poor People's Campaign Seeks Jobs and Income

BY JOHN CREIGHTON

WASHINGTON, D. C.--"I'm like President Johnson--I need to get something done, so I'm going where the power is, to the Congress," said the Rev. Jesse Jackson, "city manager" of Resurrection City.

The Poor People's Campaign hopes to put so much pressure on the legislators that the needs of the poor will take first place over issues like the war in Viet Nam, higher taxes, and "crime in the streets."

And the message that must reach America, said the Rev. James Bevel of SCLC, is this: "It is the responsibility of every mature, intelligent person in this country to straighten out this economy to include America's 40,000,000 poor people."

Last week, the campaigners began non-violent direct action to dramatize the problems of poor people. Some participated in congressional hearings--and heard U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman promise to increase distribution of free food to hungry families.

Others took a night-time walk to the Capitol building--and were arrested for singing and praying in an area where demonstrations are illegal.

Jackson arrived in time to lead most of the campaigners away and halt the arrests--but he warned that another group might be back later on.

As the Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy--SCLC president and leader of the Poor People's Campaign--put it, "We're going to turn this city and the nation upside down--by which we mean right side up."

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Not the First

WASHINGTON, D. C.--This isn't the first time poor people have come to the nation's capital to demand a fair share of jobs and income.

For instance, Union Army veterans marched into Washington about 100 years ago, seeking benefits for their service during the Civil War. Other campaigns:

1894--Jacob Coxey, a reformer, led 500 unemployed men from his home in Massillon, Ohio, to make a "living petition" to Congress, after the economic panic of 1893 left many thousands of people without jobs. Coxey was arrested when he tried to deliver a speech from the Capitol steps.

1932--The Bonus Expeditionary Force--15,000 World War I veterans demanding immediate payment of bonus certificates averaging about \$1,000 each--camped in Washington during the darkest days of the Depression. On orders from President Herbert C. Hoover, General Douglas MacArthur led Army troops against the veterans, and drove them from the city.

1963--The late Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and other civil rights leaders organized the one-day March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. A quarter of a million people participated in the peaceful demonstration.

1968--The Poor People's Campaign erected Resurrection City--a town of plywood homes for 3,000 demonstrators--and pledged to stay until "Congress acts on... the problems of the 40,000,000 poor of all races in the U. S."



REV. JAMES BEVEL IN A QUIET MOMENT (Photo by Bob Fitch)

Says Candidate in Tuesday's Run-Off

'Some of Us Are Still Afraid'

BY ETHEL THOMAS

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. -- "We think we are having a good time, but we are on our way to the slaughter pen," said the Rev. F. N. Nixon.

Nixon, a candidate for a seat in Alabama's delegation to the Democratic National Convention, has been urging Negroes to get out the vote for him in next Tuesday's run-off.

In the first Democratic primary May 7, Nixon was more than 1,000 votes behind his white opponent, J. R. Stallworth. But Nixon was hurt by a "poor turn-out" last month, he said, and he has been campaigning hard since then.

Nixon and Stallworth are seeking to represent the old Sixth Congressional District at the national convention. The district includes Chilton, Bibb, Greene, Hale, Shelby, Perry, Sumter, and Tus-

'Put Ourselves On the Map'

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR)

caloosa counties. At a Tuscaloosa Citizens for Action Committee meeting last month, Nixon asked the people if they had food stamps. When they answered that they didn't, he said, "You don't need any, either, because the white people are not going to give you anything."

"How are we going to get them?" he asked, "Vote for the Negroes, and learn one thing. We must demand what we want--start from the bottom and go to the top. . . . (Our parents) X'd the white man in. Now we can X him out of office."

Before the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. came along, Nixon said, the people were afraid to do anything: "Now you can sit anywhere, and some of us are still afraid."

"How many marched before Dr. King was killed?" the candidate asked. "And now all of you want his picture. We are responsible for his death, and we should repent."

Two Negro candidates--Joe L. Reed and



REV. NIXON
caloosa counties.

ALLEN

Both Allen and Selden are conservatives who oppose most civil rights, anti-poverty, and welfare legislation. Both

of the Alabama State Teachers Association and Birmingham lawyer Arthur D. Shores--were elected to the Alabama convention delegation without opposition May 7, and five Negroes were unopposed as alternates.

The major race being settled in Tuesday's run-off is for the U. S. Senate nomination. Negro leaders this week were trying to decide whether they should endorse former Lieutenant Governor James B. Allen, Congressman Armistead Selden, or no one.

claim the support of former Governor George C. Wallace.

Allen has tried to brand Selden, a 15-year veteran of the U. S. House, as a member of "the Washington crowd." But while Selden has held press conferences all over the state, Allen has refused to answer questions on most campaign issues.

In another run-off contest, former State Senator Neil Metcalf--one of the legislators who blocked Wallace's succession bill in 1965--is running against Wallace supporter Earl Goodwin for the post of Democratic national committee-



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, Ala. 36830.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED--The Montgomery Head Start needs all the volunteers help it can get to work in the classrooms. Men, women, and teen-agers (minimum age 16) can all be of use. Volunteers will assist as teacher's aides and cook's helpers, and will take children on field trips in the area. A volunteer can choose his or her own hours between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. on a convenient day Monday through Friday. Transportation and lunch will be furnished. If you are available, apply to the Rev. E. W. McKinney, volunteer director at 419 Madison, call 263-3474, or go to the nearest Head Start center.

EBONY MAGAZINE--The Tuscaloosa Citizens for Action Committee is offering one year (12 issues) of Ebony Magazine for \$3. Call the First African Baptist Church in Tuscaloosa, Ala., phone 758-2833.

DISABLED WIDOWS--Disabled widows may now receive monthly benefits based on their husbands' Social Security record. The widow must be at least 50 years old, and must have a physical or mental impairment that prevents her from doing any gainful work. To file a claim, you should bring your marriage record, your Social Security number, your deceased husband's number, and proof of your age to your local Social Security office.

IMPORTANT PAMPHLET--The Southern Student Organizing Committee, Box 6403, Nashville, Tenn. 37212, is circulating a pamphlet entitled "Towards a Black University," by Keith Lowe. Copies can be ordered at the following prices: single copy 10¢, 15 for \$1, 100 for \$6, 200 for \$10, 500 for \$20, and 1,000 for \$35. Checks should be made payable to the Southern Student Organizing Committee.

BAHA'IS--The Baha'is of Montgomery invite you to their weekly fireside at 8 p.m. this Saturday, at the Community House, 409 S. Union St., Montgomery, Ala. For transportation, call 265-4394. Meet Baha'u'llah.

ENTRANCE EXAM--Alabama State College will administer a special American College Testing (ACT) Examination on Friday, June 28. Students who failed to take the test on one of the national dates and who are interested in enrolling at Alabama State College for the fall semester of 1968 should register for the examination before June 21 with the Office of Testing and Psychological Services, Room 235 in Council Hall on the campus in Montgomery, Ala. An ACT score is one of the requirements for admission to the college.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS--"They that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of nought. For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee." These verses from Isaiah are the Golden Text of the Lesson-Sermon to be read in all Christian Science churches this Sunday, June 2, "Ancient and Modern Necromancy, Alas Mesmerism and Hypnotism, Denounced" is the title of the Lesson.

CHURCH RALLY--The Rev. Larry H. Williams of Montgomery will be the speaker at the Third Annual Rally of the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church at 3 p.m. Sunday, June 2, in the church in Enterprise, Ala., the Rev. T. H. Hill, pastor. The theme is "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh when no man work."

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REV. PHIFER
REV. SHUTTLESWORTH
REV. SANKEY

MONDAY NIGHT, JUNE 3: Homecoming Night, at 7 p.m. in the St. James Baptist Church, 1100 Sixth Ave. N., the Rev. C. W. Sewell, pastor. We are asking everyone to come home. The guest speaker is the Rev. J. S. Phifer, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, White Plains, New York. The theme is "We Shall Overcome Through Love and Nonviolently." The Rev. Edward Gardner and Mrs. Lucinda B. Robey, co-ordinators; programs by Mrs. Georgia W. Price and Mrs. Julia Ralinge.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT, JUNE 5: Usher and Choir Night, at 7 p.m. in the Thirdgood CME Church, 517 Center St. N., the Rev. Jesse Douglas, pastor. The guest speaker is the Rev. W. J. Sankey, pastor of St. John Baptist Church, Pratt City.

SUNDAY, JUNE 9: 12th Annual President's Message, at 2 p.m. in L. R. Hall Auditorium, 16th St. between Fourth and Fifth Ave. N. The Rev. F. L. Shuttlesworth will give the message. Also: the New Light Angelic Singers of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Birmingham, Ala.

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Holly Springs Marchers Convicted

'They've Made Us Mad'

BY PERRY WALKER
HOLLY SPRINGS, Miss.--"I'll show these people who's boss around here," said Holly Springs Mayor Sam Coopwood.

Coopwood acted as municipal-court judge May 16 and 17, as trials were held for more than 50 Negroes charged with violating a city ordinance regulating pickets and demonstrations.

About 40 of the marchers were children, many of them students at Sims High School in Holly Springs. Among the adults arrested were R. B. Cottonreader of SCLC, and Quentell Gipson, Alfred Robinson, and the Rev. Albert Pegues of Marshall County United for Progress.

The ordinance was passed by the mayor and the board of aldermen on May 10, after a week of marches and demonstrations. The new law states that march participants must obey all traffic signals and directions; they must walk in groups of 20 or less, with intervals of not less than 20 feet between groups; and they must give an hour's notice to the police department before starting.

In municipal court, ten adults were found guilty of violating the ordinance.

Not for Riots

MONTGOMERY, Ala. -- Governor Albert P. Brewer said last week that members of the state trooper auxiliary force will be used "to fill the gaps, not stop riots."

The civilian volunteers--who serve without pay, and provide their own uniforms and fire-arms--will be used "to assist in trooper duties in their localities when the troopers are engaged in putting down disorders" or in other emergencies, the governor said.

The idea of a volunteer force has been criticized by some people. "I think the whole thing is rather risky," former state Attorney General Richmond M. Flowers said earlier this year.

The Rev. K. L. Buford of the Alabama NAACP has complained that no Negroes are included in the auxiliary force or in the regular troopers. He said this has "ominous and serious implications" for Negro citizens.

Macon Challenge Put Off

BY MARY ELLEN GALE
TUSKEGEE, Ala.--Nothing was settled this week when the Macon County Democratic Executive Committee (DEC) met to consider the primary election challenge filed by a losing candidate for the board of revenue, Wilber D. "Bill" Johnston.

Johnston's victorious opponent--the Rev. V. A. Edwards--showed up in the county courtroom accompanied by Tuskegee's best-known lawyer, civil rights attorney Fred D. Gray.

Gray whisked out a sheaf of papers and said his client was challenging the challenge, "on the grounds that it comes too late" and that the DEC doesn't have jurisdiction over Johnston's complaints

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.

Blessings Blessings

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MAYOR COOPWOOD CONFRONTS MARCHERS

They are appealing their convictions to Circuit Court. The children were released from jail after payment of fines ranging from \$10 to \$20.

Three of the leaders of the school protest here have also been arraigned on narcotics charges. All three--Cottonreader, Robinson, and Pegues--say the narcotics charges are a frame-up.

Robinson said that a deputy, while searching him after his arrest, dropped an empty cigarette pack containing some marijuana, and then pretended the pack belonged to Robinson.

"He had it hidden in his hand," said Robinson. "And when he reached to my pocket, he let it drop, and said, 'Hey, what's this you got here?'"

Cottonreader said the police planted narcotic pills in his shoe, and bootleg liquor in his car.

Hearings on the narcotics charges have been temporarily postponed, but will be held before Circuit Court convenes in August. The three men have been released on bond.

The Holly Springs demonstrations began as a protest over the firing of

three teachers at Sims High School. Now the campaign has expanded to other issues as well.

"They think they've got us scared by putting us in jail," said one of the marchers last week. "But they have only made us mad."



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Three Years For 'Perjury'

BY ESTELLE FINE
MONROEVILLE, Ala. -- After 11 minutes of deliberation last Wednesday, an all-white jury convicted Clarence Stallworth of perjury, for accusing Beatrice Mayor Thomas Black of beating him unconscious two years ago.

The jury had been chosen from a panel of 48 people--two of whom were Negroes. After the verdict, Circuit Judge Robert E. L. Key sentenced Stallworth, a Negro, to three years in prison. "I'm going to appeal all the way," Stallworth said.

Black was cleared of the beating charge after a trial in June, 1966. In three grand jury sessions after that, he sought to have Stallworth indicted. On the third try, he succeeded.

In Stallworth's trial Wednesday, prosecutor Ralph L. Jones called a number of witnesses--including Monroe County Probate Judge David M. Nettles--who said Black was busy with other people during the time of the alleged beating.

Stallworth said there were two people in his car when the incident occurred --D. C. Oatem and Rufus Montgomery. Oatem is now dead, and Montgomery--who had refused to testify until this trial--told defense attorney Arthur D. Shaw that he never saw the mayor that afternoon.

In his final argument, Shaw said the prosecution witnesses had given varying and conflicting testimony.

Jones argued that Stallworth "willfully and maliciously" lied in accusing Black. "Your verdict," he told the jurors, "will determine whether Monroe County is going to have law and order, or violence and rioting."

Mobile Folks Seek Jobs

BY JOHN SINGLETON
MOBILE, Ala. -- For three weeks, members of the Mobile County Movement have walked in the sun and in the rain at the W. T. Grant department store in Prichard, seeking "dignified jobs."

One day last week, white high school students sprayed the picketers with water-guns, as other shoppers watched and laughed.

Someone then called a group of young Negro militants recently organized to "protect the interests" of the black community. The militants quickly arrived, wearing their cover-all uniforms. Soon afterwards, the Prichard police showed up, saying they were there to protect the picketers.

The next day, a Negro lady went past the picketers into the store. As she did so, words were passed. The lady later swore out a warrant for one of the ladies on the picket line. Four picketers

have been arrested this way. In last Monday night's movement meeting, a lady said her daughter had been arrested for telling a white girl to "go to hell." But, the lady said, the police refused to arrest the white girl for calling her daughter a "smart nigger."

Hubert Bell, executive director of the movement, said there must be a change in the way black Prichard policemen treat black people: "It is common for them to knock on black people's heads." And, he added, "we are going to have to stop black sisters from slipping around in these dark alleys, getting in cars with white policemen."

Last Saturday, 3,000 people marched about five miles through Mobile, to show their sympathy with the Poor People's Campaign, and to demand equal job opportunities. The march was led by the Rev. John Thompson, a white minister.

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