

GOP Opens in Florida--Dems Plan Challenges

It's Convention Time Again!

Fla., La. Republicans Hit White Delegations

BY JOHN CREIGHTON

MIAMI BEACH, Fla.--A huge, helium-filled elephant balloon floats in the sky, and a baby elephant paces in a cage on a hot street corner.

Delegates from all over the country reluctantly abandon the bars and beaches, and the back rooms begin to fill up.

Here--in one of the country's great carnival-like resorts--the Republican Convention is groping for reality.

Although former Vice-President Richard M. Nixon--who has been working toward the presidential nomination for four years--seems to have most of the delegates necessary for a first-ballot victory, he has been running scared.

Scaring Nixon is New York Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller, whose late-starting challenge is supported with all the force that money and popular enthusiasm can muster.

Nixon and Rockefeller--the "moderate" and the "progressive"--decided not to fight one another over the policy statements in this year's party platform.

So this week's platform hearings have not been very dramatic. Many national figures came to plead with the platform-makers to end (or win) the Viet Nam war, redress (or ignore) racism and poverty, and rebuild (or touch up) the cities.

But California's conservative Governor Ronald Reagan--who draws presidential support from the many left-over Barry Goldwater supporters in the party--upset the peace and quiet of the platform sessions by demanding that the GOP call for victory in Viet Nam, law and order at home, and an end to "helping the poor by bankrupting the nation."

Surprisingly, Reagan's strong conservative pitch for local government came close to the expressed desires of some Northern black militants.

For example, Roy Innis said the GOP should back CORE's call for a "new social contract between all whites and all blacks."

And "while the nation was considering that," Innis said, the Republicans should try to pass their "Community Self-Determination Act," which would work "not through government paternalism, but (through) local self-help, ownership, and decision-making."

The Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy, speaking for the Poor People's Campaign, said he is "disturbed by reports that the platform will be a document of vague generalities."

Does the campaign support the self-development act? Abernathy was asked.

"Self-help programs will help some people, but not the poorest," he replied, saying the GOP platform should include the demands made by the PPC.

"It's an interesting confluence of events," Innis remarked, "that some Republicans have over the last few years been developing ideas on self-determination and community control.... I think our proposals will have support in those white communities that haven't been our allies (in the civil rights movement)."

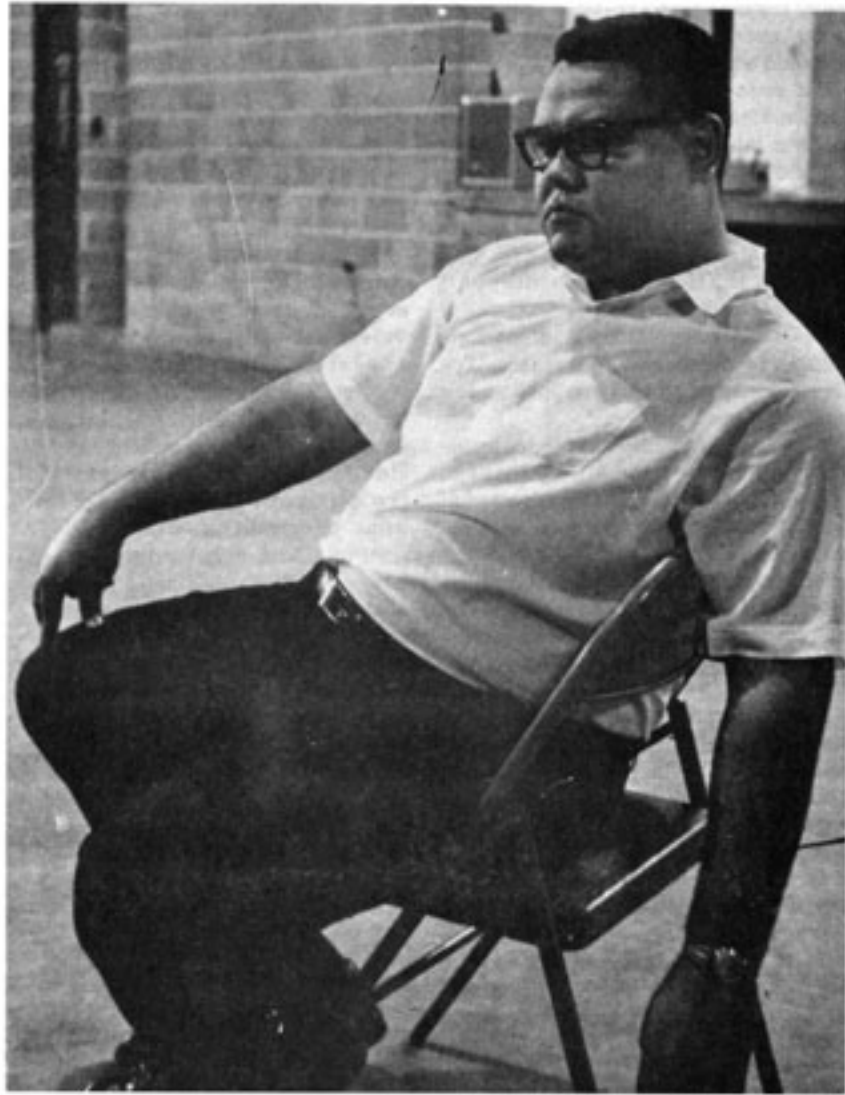
Innis was referring, in part, to the Southerners who left the Democratic Party to join the Republicans when Goldwater came along.

But some other people--such as long-active black Republicans from Florida (the host state) and Louisiana--said they aren't happy about what these new Republicans are doing within the party. Black groups from both these states claim they have been shut out of representation on the state delegations.

This was disputed by Clarence Townes, director of the party's Minorities Division--which has been pumping out good news about black participation at this year's convention, such as the increase in black delegates from 14 to 26 (out of 1,333) and the "symbolic" presence of Senator Edward Brooke of Massachusetts as temporary convention chairman.

Townes said this week that the Florida and Louisiana challengers are merely Rockefeller supporters who were

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE, Col. 4)



GUYOT GLUM OVER '68 POLITICS (Photo by Bill Peltz)

MFDP Joins Others In Loyalist Coalition

BY MARION SYMINGTON

INDIANOLA, Miss.--The Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party is going along with other groups in the "loyalist" challenge to the regular party organization, said MFDP chairman Lawrence Guyot. "But we are not joining another welfare, big-daddy organization," he added.

"In fighting (to unseat the regular delegation) at the convention, we are like one fist. But on issues we are like five fingers," Guyot told 200 MFDP members and friends at a meeting here July 21. "MFDP has the right to formulate and project its own program."

The meeting was called to get the people's support for the MFDP executive committee's decision to stay in the coalition of loyal Democrats, Guyot said. A coalition of dissatisfied Democrats, both black and white, was formed July 3 after the regular party's state convention was dominated by supporters of Governor John Bell Williams.

Representatives of the MFDP, the NAACP, the Young Democrats of Mississippi, the Mississippi AFL-CIO, the Mississippi Teachers Association, and the Prince-Hall Masons make up the coalition.

Why 2 Ala. Challenges?

BY BOB LABAREE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--Two groups--the Alabama Independent Democratic Party (AIDP) and the National Democratic Party of Alabama (NDPA)--are planning to send challenge delegations to the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, Illinois.

Both groups claim that their delegates will be loyal to the convention's presidential nominee, while the regular party men are loyal to George C. Wallace. But, say spokesmen for both challenge groups, that's the only similarity between them.

David Vann, chairman of the AIDP, explained again this week that his party has just one purpose in mind--to stop Wallace from keeping the name of the national Democratic candidate off the Alabama ballot.

The AIDP delegation, Vann said, is ready to replace any regular-party delegate who refuses to pledge loyalty to the convention's nominee. But, Vann said, it probably won't be necessary to replace the entire regular delegation.

"The so-called Wallace Party is a split party," he said. "There are two factions inside it--a loyalist faction and a Dixiecrat-Wallace faction. Anybody on that delegation who will vote for the (national) candidate, we'll be glad to have stay where he is."

But Jack Zylman, NDPA executive secretary, charged that by opposing only the regular party's disloyal delegates, Vann and the AIDP are purposefully leaving the most important things undone.

The NDPA is not "challenging the delegates themselves," Zylman said. "We're challenging the whole Democratic Party in Alabama--the same party which has been perpetuating racist politics here... and which has been helping oppress the poor black and white

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX, Col. 4)

'THE Question' On School Plans

BY BOB LABAREE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--"You asked him a question, and he has to answer it," said Reid Barnes, attorney for the Birmingham school system. "In our opinion, that is THE question confronting us now."

And then Barnes repeated the question that U. S. District Judge Seybourne H. Lynne had just asked Lester Scalls of the U. S. Justice Department: "What do you do with a teacher who refuses to

teach in a school where her race is in a minority?"

This was not the first time the question had been asked during the three days of hearings that ended last Tuesday, as Judge Lynne listened to progress reports and faculty-desegregation plans from three Birmingham-area school systems.

The question came up after officials of the Birmingham, Jefferson County, and Bessemer systems reported that most of their white teachers had refused to teach in formerly-Negro schools, even if ordered to do so.

Scalls and three lawyers from the NAACP Legal Defense Fund suggested that the teachers should be assigned to the schools anyway.

"I have considered the effects of that," Birmingham Schools Superintendent Raymond Christian replied. "It would mean the Birmingham schools would have an all-Negro faculty. I think some of them (the white teachers) are serious about resigning."

"Freedom of choice"--transferring teachers across racial lines only if they agree to go--is "the only humane and correct way to do it," Christian said.

The school officials said they don't plan to use any other method of faculty desegregation unless they are ordered to by the court.

"You can't force teachers to teach by injunction," Barnes argued. "You may be able to do it in Eastern Europe, but not in this country."

In all three school systems, officials noted "substantial" increases over the last school year in the number of teachers who will be working in an integrated situation this fall.

In Birmingham, the number was up from 35 teachers to 159. Jefferson County reported an increase from ten to 135, and Bessemer reported a rise from four to 20.

But the lawyers on the other side said they were not impressed. "The percentage of all the teachers in the system in an integrated situation is still small," said attorney Harvey Burg. He noted that in Birmingham, the percentage of white teachers in formerly-Negro schools this fall will still be less than 5%.

Judge Lynne said several times during the hearings that he thinks freedom of choice is the best method of desegregation. His final decision on whether or not to keep it in the three school systems was due later this week.

Meanwhile, in Mobile, U. S. District Judge Daniel H. Thomas ordered a zone-attendance desegregation plan for elementary and junior high schools in the Mobile County system. But the judge said senior high schools can still operate under a freedom-of-choice plan,

Carmichael Speaks in Mobile

'I'm Not in England'

BY JOHN SINGLETON

MOBILE, Ala.--"Black power, black power, black power," was all that could be heard last Friday night at the Afro-American School and Cultural Center in Mobile, as Stokely Carmichael was escorted into the old church building by about 15 husky members of the Neighborhood Organized Workers.

A crowd of more than 1,000 people had packed into the small building hours before Carmichael arrived in a gold 1968 Cadillac. The former SNCC chairman was accompanied by two aides--Bill Hall of Washington SNCC, and Donald Cox, West Coast field marshal for the Black Panther Party.

Another 700 people stood outside the school, on a street that had been blocked off by the police department, and listened to Carmichael over loud-speakers. The local press was not allowed to enter the building, but the reporters were able to tape the speech from outside.

For about three hours, Carmichael expounded the concept of black power, and covered every subject from politics to his view of "black awareness."

He told the crowd that newspapers are trying to cover up the facts about the "movement for the liberation of black people." The Mobile Press-Register, he noted, carried a story the day he arrived in Mobile, saying he was in England.

"I am no more in England than the white man is winning the war in Viet Nam," said Carmichael.

On the subject of the war, Carmichael said that people of color have a common bond, and "the V. C. (Viet Cong) will not let America control them.... We would rather die before we bow down before any white man."

"If we are going to learn how to survive in America," Carmichael told the audience, "we are going to have to learn how to love each other. We must have undying love. Muhammad Ali, Rap Brown, Huey P. Newton, and the brothers who took care of natural business



STOKELY CARMICHAEL IN MOBILE

in Cleveland two nights ago have undying love."

"White folks are rich because they steal from the world," the speaker went on. "They have to maintain army bases all over the world, because people are fighting them. The only people who don't have the guts to fight them is us...."

"We are the hardest-working people in this country, but we are the lowest-paid. There are three ways to get things--you work for it, you beg for it, or you take it. When the white man came to America, he didn't work for it, he didn't beg for it--he took it."

"You take things with guns, period. He (the white man) ain't taking Viet Nam with non-violence."

Carmichael seemed to know a great deal about the local situation. He sized up some of the local policemen, specifically mentioning "Connors," a Negro officer in Prichard.

"Some of these black policeman try to out-honk the honkie," Carmichael said.

When the speech was over, Carmichael shook hands, and was wedged through the crowd by body-guards. Outside, six or seven large men were in the gold Cadillac, and four teen-agers wearing "Afros" sat on the back, covering the rear window.

As the Cadillac sped away, it was followed by other late-model cars, driven by Negroes and the FBI.

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

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Editor: Michael S. Lottman
Associate Editor: Barbara H. Flowers
Composer: Mary L. Corbin
Technician: Gloria Bradford
Regional Circulation Mgrs.: George Walker, Norman Warren, Larry D. Williams
Subscription Manager: Margaret H. Dabney
Advertising Manager: James M. Fallows

Reporters and Photographers:

Table listing reporters and photographers with their locations and phone numbers, including Alexander City, Birmingham, Enterprise, Huntsville, Mobile, Montgomery, Selma, Talladega, Tuscaloosa, Greenville, Hattiesburg, Holly Springs, and Jackson.

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Editorial Opinion

The Wallace Campaign

One of George C. Wallace's great strengths has always been his ability to bring out the worst in his opponents. In his current presidential campaign, he is doing this on both state and national levels.

In Alabama, for example, people have been talking since 1964 about putting up an anti-Wallace slate of electors, to give Alabamians a chance to vote for the Democratic presidential candidate. (The names of the electors themselves--not the candidates--appear on the ballot in Alabama, and in 1964, the Democratic electors were pledged to Wallace.)

So what has happened? This November's ballot will have one slate of electors pledged to Wallace, one pledged to the Republican nominee, and TWO pledged to the Democratic candidate. The Alabama Independent Democratic Party (AIDP) and the National Democratic Party of Alabama (NDPA)--both claiming to have the loyalist loyalists--have each put up a slate of electors, and neither will back down.

Furthermore, both loyalist parties are sending challenge delegations to the Democratic National Convention. Both the AIDP and the NDPA hope to step in if the convention refuses to seat the delegation sent by the Wallace-dominated Alabama Democratic Party.

But that's not all. The role of some of the people involved in these feeble challenges to Wallace is puzzling, to say the least. Joe L. Reed, an AIDP candidate for elector, is a member of the regular Democratic party's delegation.

These men--all Negroes--have said they oppose Wallace and his party. Two of them will be running against regular party candidates in November.

But we have long since given up hope that this state's Negro politicians and white liberals will ever forget their petty jealousies and personal ambitions long enough to take any meaningful action.

The polls show that Wallace now speaks for as much as 20% of the American electorate, but the major parties refuse to come to grips with the issues he raises.

And not everything Wallace says is ridiculous--although the major parties always treat it like it is. It was about the time Wallace started criticizing the appointment of Abe Fortas as Chief Justice, for example, that people decided that the opposition to Fortas was racist and anti-Semitic.

But this ignores the fact that there are good reasons for opposing Fortas and President Johnson's other Supreme Court choice, Homer Thornberry--because both men, Fortas especially, have been too closely identified with the President, and because there are better men available.

It is interesting, too, that Wallace has talked about cutting the oil-depletion allowance (the fantastic tax break that Texas oil men have been getting for years), and about taxing church property.

Wallace always talks about the "little man," who is ignored by the major parties and the government in Washington. Liberal politicians say Wallace is talking about the redneck, the illiterate, the slob--and maybe he is.

But the real measure of Wallace's success is the agreement both parties have cooked up in case the former governor throws the presidential election into the U. S. House of Representatives.

Tactically, this is stupid--because it can only increase Wallace's stature, and because it lends credence to his claim that there isn't a dime's worth of difference between the two major parties.

But worse, this agreement is also illegal and immoral. If no candidate wins a majority of the electoral votes, the Constitution puts the burden of choosing the President on the members of the House.

Wallace has been plugging along, following the law and the Constitution, in an effort to influence the make-up of the government.

This extra-legal, under-the-table agreement is a symptom of the Lyndon Johnson school of politics, not the Wallace school. And it is the Johnson approach, not the Wallace approach, that has corrupted and cheapened the public image and the reality of our national government.

For too many years, too many people have been content to denounce Wallace, when the evils they claimed to see in him really lurked in their own hearts.

'It Doesn't Seem Difficult'

Desegregating Ala. Reform Schools

BY BOB LABAREE
BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--U. S. District Judge Clarence W. Allgood faced the problem of desegregating Alabama's three juvenile reform schools last Friday. He didn't look happy.

As Allgood pointed out at the opening of the hearing, the question of whether or not the schools should be desegregated was out of his hands--a U. S. Supreme Court ruling last March had already decided that.

The question now, said the judge, is how, and where, to begin.

But state Assistant Attorney General Gordon Madison confessed that he still opposes integration. "As an individual, I would say (the reform schools) are still better the way they are (segregated)," Madison said.

"As an individual, I agree with you," the judge said.

Resisting integration, Madison continued, is "like playing bridge. You play each hand so that you lose as few hands as possible."

"I would personally hate to see an injunction (to force integration)," he said. But he also admitted that "we don't want to do it (desegregate) ourselves. We'd rather be told."

"I know," said Allgood unhappily. "I've been asked by more than one defendant in these cases to issue an injunction so they wouldn't have to take the rap."

But Demetrius Newton, attorney for the Negro plaintiffs, assured everyone that he would not insist on an injunction. "You're entitled to an opportunity to work out the problems (of desegregation)," he said.

About two hours later, Allgood ordered the three schools to submit desegregation plans in 60 days. The details of the plans, he said, will have to be worked out between the school administrators and the juvenile-court judges.

During the hearing, the superintendents of the three state schools all said they are willing to desegregate, even though they think conditions within their schools are "unstable."

Mrs. Dorothy P. Weiss, head of the

State Training School for (white) Girls in Chalkville, testified that "three-fourths of the girls sent to us (by the juvenile court) have been diagnosed as psychotic."

Since the capacity of her school is small, she said--only 78 girls--"the living situation is close, which would be a problem if there are any who have feelings about race."

Nevertheless, said Mrs. Weiss, "as far as our girls are concerned, it doesn't seem that it (desegregation) would be extremely difficult."

Maurice Bishop--another lawyer representing the state--asked Mrs. Weiss if she thinks she should have the right to send a "colored girl" back to a predominantly-Negro school if the girl becomes a problem.

"I don't think I would have thought of it that way," she answered. "Whatever their color, we'll try to do the best we can for them before we send them somewhere else."

John Carr, head of the Alabama (white) Boys Industrial School, gave a similar answer when Madison asked him if he wants to select the kind of Negro delinquent to begin desegregation with. Carr said no.

"I'm talking about a different kind of boy, now," the assistant attorney general reminded him. "These are nigger boys."

It doesn't make any difference, Carr insisted: "We'd like to have the best

boys, that's all."

Administrators of all three schools said over-crowding is a problem. But E. B. Holloway's testimony indicated that conditions are the worst in Mt. Meigs Industrial School, the all-Negro institution.

"My place stays full most of the time," said Holloway, superintendent of the Mt. Meigs reformatory. With an actual capacity of only 300, he said, Mt.

Meigs currently houses 417 youths--160 girls and 257 boys.

But in spite of these difficulties, "I don't think we would have too much of a problem (desegregating)," Holloway said.

"Your institution has been getting along all right without them (whites) before, hasn't it?" Bishop asked.

"Let's say we've been getting along," Holloway replied.



Mobile, Ala.

Miss Brenda Raine, a June graduate of Talladega College, has been awarded a graduate fellowship to California State College at Los Angeles.

tion for older persons." The grant was announced last month by the U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. STAR will run the Mississippi program in three Delta counties--Washington, Bolivar, and Leflore.

Hattiesburg, Miss.

Miss Carolyn Ann Hall of Hattiesburg walked off with the Miss Spirit of Beauty award and a \$100 check last month at the Mississippi Independent Beauticians' Conference in Gulfport.

Atlanta, Ga.

More than 35,000 fans looked on in Atlanta Stadium July 14, as 350 alumni, students, faculty members, and friends of Miles College staged an appreciation ceremony for baseball great Willie Mays of the San Francisco Giants.



MISS BRENDA RAINE

Kappa Alpha sorority. This summer, she is serving as a volunteer social worker, and is doing a study on "The Organizational Problems of Civil Rights Groups."

Montgomery, Ala.

Alabama State College has received a \$1,040 scholarship from Air Force Colonel James W. Caskey and his wife. Caskey, currently stationed at Maxwell Air Force Base here, said the scholarship is established under the Rocco J. Tresolini Scholarship Fund.

Tuskegee, Ala.

Clarence T. Mason, director of the Carver Research Foundation at Tuskegee Institute, died suddenly on July 19. Mr. Mason was also professor of chemistry and chairman of the division of natural sciences at Tuskegee. He had been on the faculty since 1939.

Jackson, Miss.

STAR (Systematic Training And Re-development), Inc., of Jackson has received a federal grant of \$64,512 for a project involving "a new approach in development of food services and nutri-



MAYS RECEIVING AWARD

health and physical education center on Miles' campus in Fairfield. In the picture, Miss Phyllis Floyd--Miss Miles College for 1968-69--is presenting a plaque to Mays, as college President Lucius Pitts (right) and Miles basketball star Leandrew Woods look on.

New York City

At a press conference last month, singer Diana Ross (at right, below) announced her support of Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey for President of the United States.



AUGUST FOOD BARGAINS

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 August include turkey, peanuts and peanut butter, wheat products, plums, Bartlett pears, watermelons, cantaloupes, onions, and summer vegetables.

Also, says the USDA, August is Sandwich Month. Many of these food bargains either make good sandwiches or go with them.



(Private First Class Henry Clay Moorer, a native of Greenville, Ala., was a reporter for The Southern Courier from July, 1965 to June, 1967. He attended Alabama A & M College, and now is headed for Viet Nam with a company of U. S. Marines. The Southern Courier is publishing his letters--some written several months ago--telling what life is like for a Marine from Alabama.)

BY HENRY CLAY MOORER

CAMP LEJEUNE, N. C.--The Marine Corps has become known as America's "force in readiness." I could not understand this until I entered boot camp at Parris Island, S. C., last December.

They build the kind of man within me that had never existed there before. They gave me the knowledge of a true and free America, and an understanding of my own responsibility.

From them I learned that for peace and freedom, a man must give something, even if it's his life. The Marines are willing to risk their lives in any cause, if there is the slightest threat to our free democracy.

They build within a man the courage to stand up against wrongness, even if he must stand alone.

Many, I guess, say the Marines are a green machine that has no sense at all.

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

But within the corps, people have sense. What the public refuses to admit about the Marine Corps is that the men who serve in it have the courage to stand up and go on, whereas many wouldn't.

If you ask me, the Marines indeed build men. They build a man's body, mind, and spirit.

The corps has a program of physical training, designed to put a body into shape. This program started with me at Parris Island, and has continued with me up to the present. The corps believes that a fit body is the key to the success of America's defense.

In the mind, the corps builds a wall of knowledge about the corps itself, this country, its freedoms, and the many rights which we guard. They indoctrinate a Marine in the value of the rights granted us and our loved ones by the Constitution, and the necessity that these rights and freedoms forever be ours, regardless.

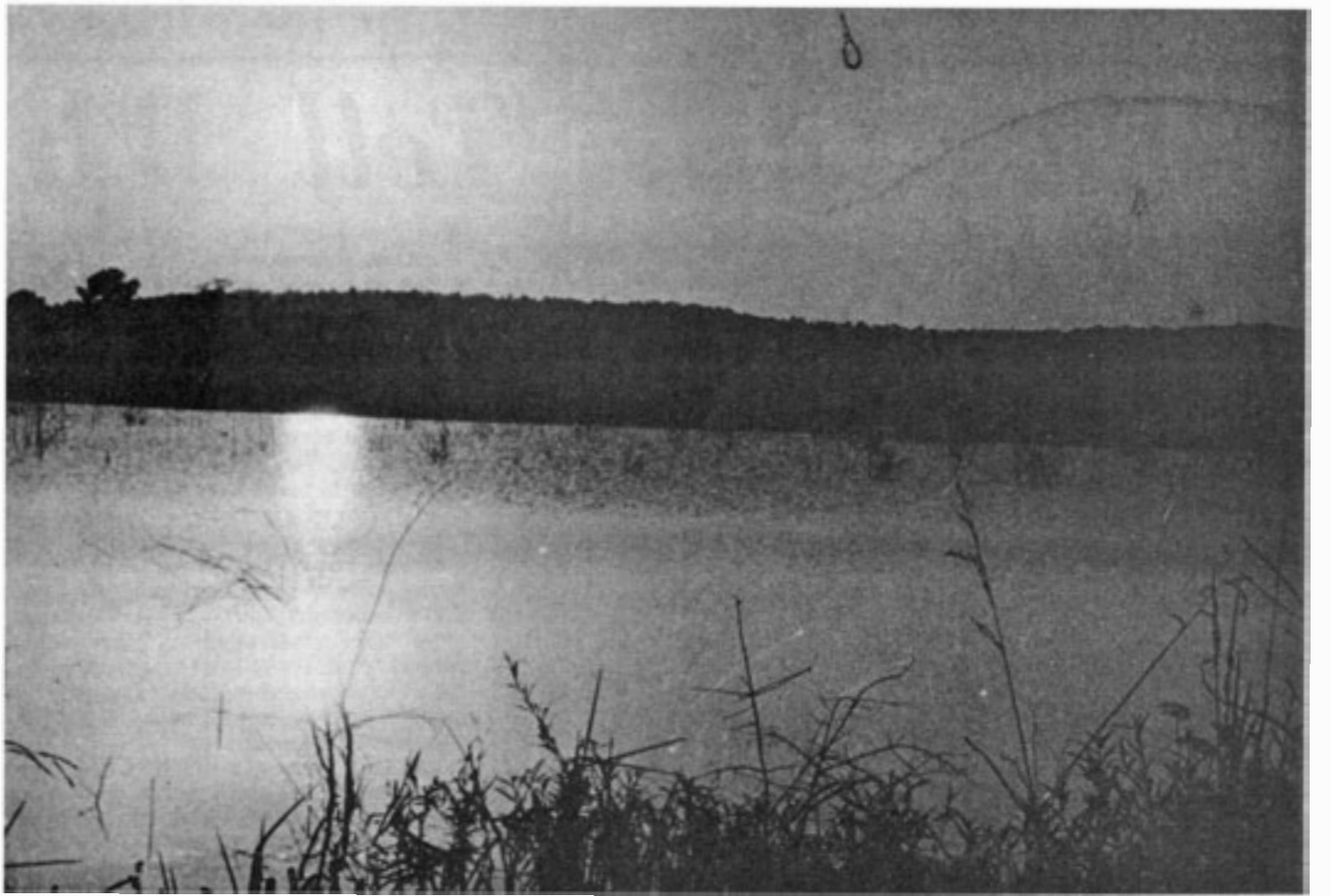
The corps builds a Marine's spirit, also. They encourage a Marine to attend the services of his belief, and they provide services for all denominations, if possible.

A Marine like myself must have a faith to believe in and to guide him (along with his wits) in a combat zone and anywhere he travels. I believe that a man who believes in God fears nothing.

I believe peace is good, but sometimes we must pick up arms to obtain it.

I thank God for the opportunity to serve in the Marine Corps. I feel that there is no better thing, other than God, to serve with.

I respect the Marine Corps and all who serve in it, and I say from the depth of my heart that I'm proud to be a member of this "force in readiness."



From Birmingham to Tupelo

Seeing the South

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY JAMES M. FALLOWS

Everybody's heard about Selma and Birmingham, and there's a song about the Tallahatchie Bridge and Tupelo. But how many of these places have you seen?

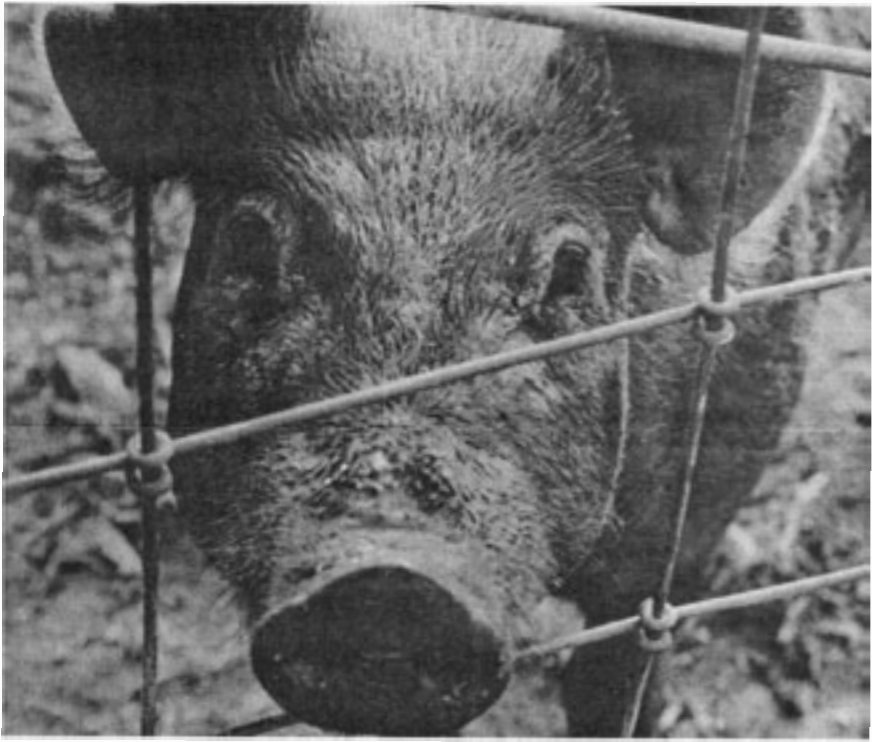
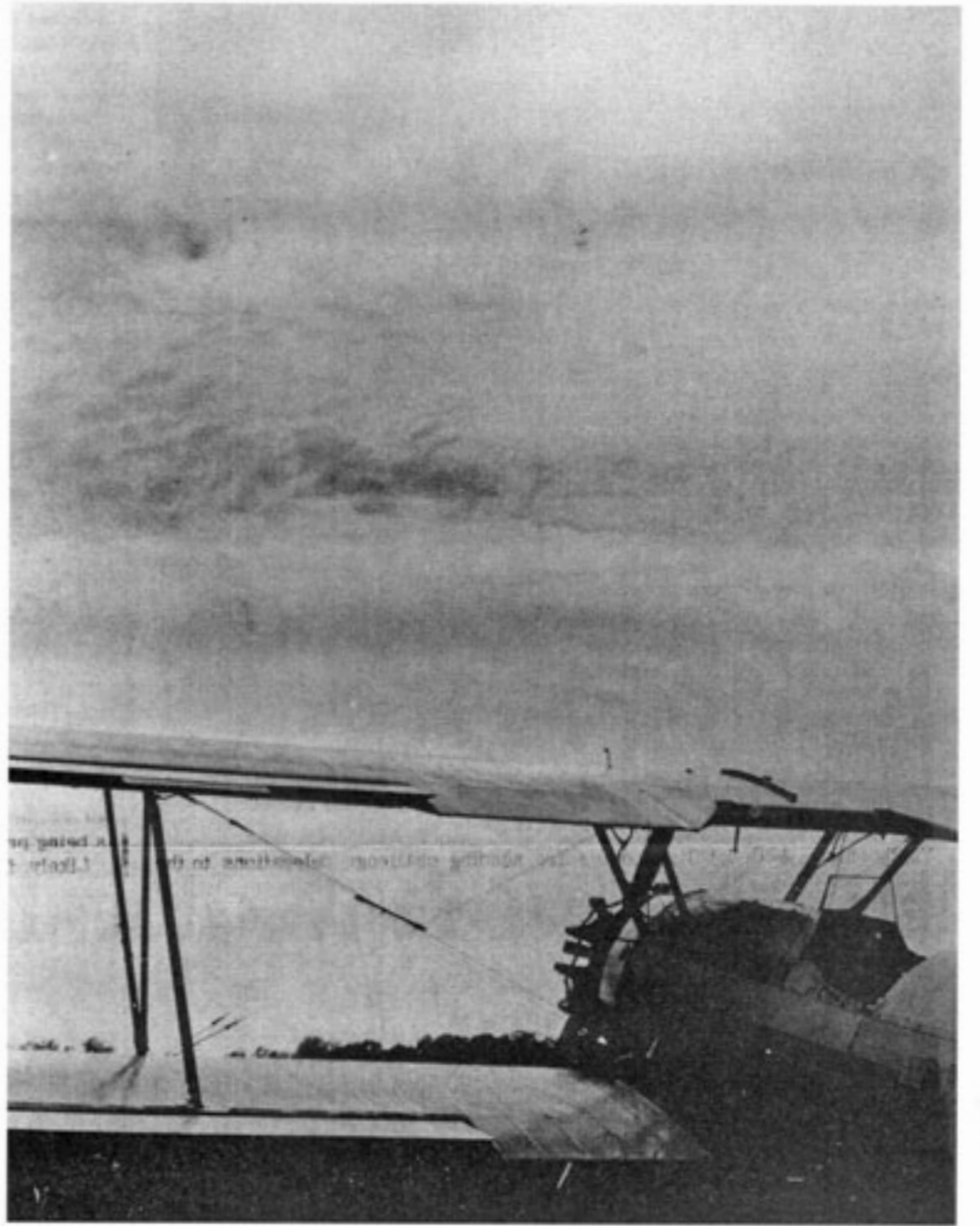
In fact, how much of the South have you seen?

If you got in a car one day and decided to cover the area, what would you expect it to look like?

If you used the official travel booklets, you'd read a lot about the "new South." You might believe it for a while--if you watched the modern Mississippi Delta farmers getting ready to dust their cotton fields by airplane (right).

In Atlanta, Ga., and Birmingham, Ala., you'd see tall, new buildings. And in a Montgomery, Ala., newsstand, you'd see that the South's newspapers (below) are just as up-to-date as anyone's.

But you'd get tired of the new South pretty soon, and you'd start



looking for remnants of the old South. In Arkansas, you might take pictures of a Civil-War-era railroad bridge (top left).

You could say hello to the pigs on a small Georgia farm (left), or watch the sun set into the mossy bayous of South Carolina (top right). And the travel books would tell you that this is all part of the South's "picturesque heritage."

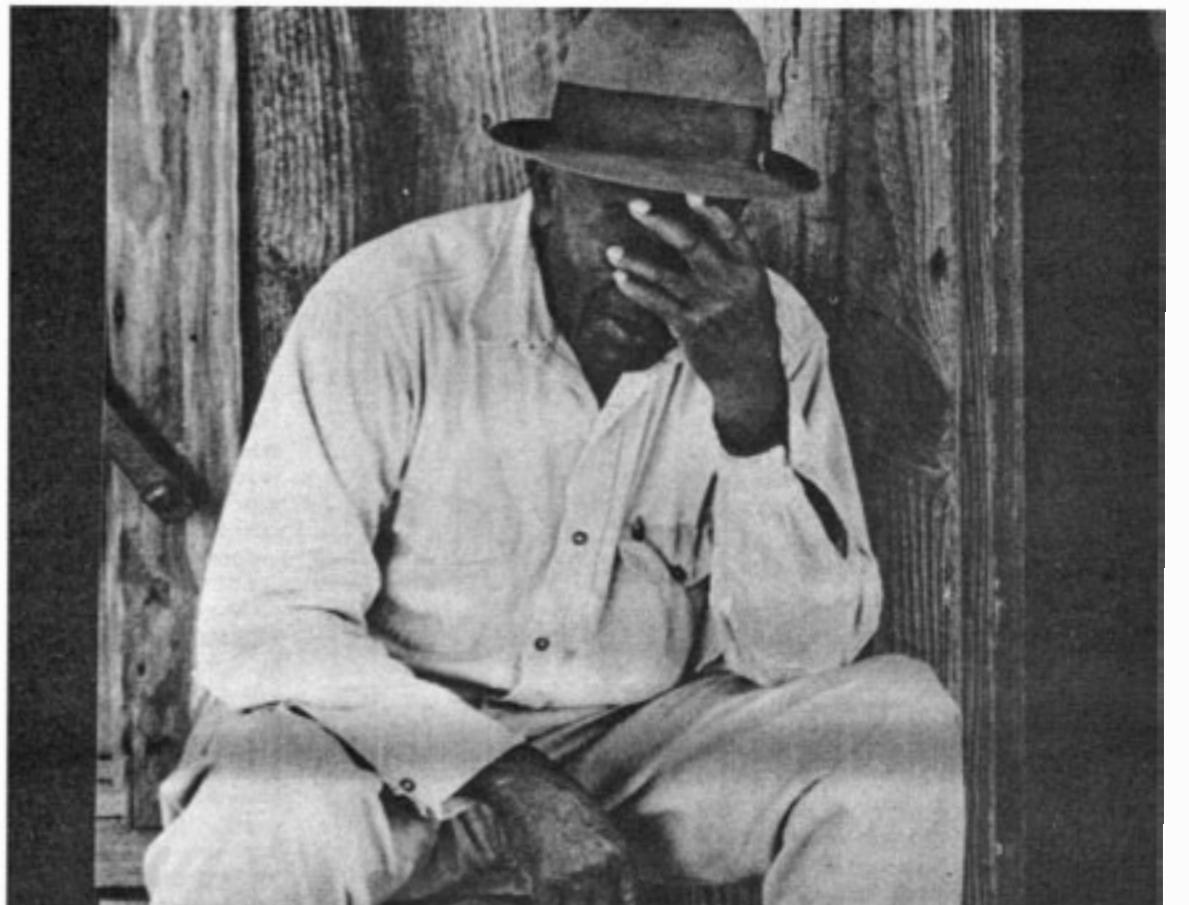
But everything wouldn't be "picturesque." You'd see that Vicksburg, Miss., rolls out its red carpet (bottom left)--but only to some people. You'd start taking pictures of a little old shack in North Ala-

bama (left)--and then find out that a family of 15 lives inside.

You'd spend a few hours with a man in Shaw, Miss. (bottom right), and find out about his life. He'd been one of 13 children.

When he grew up, Negroes couldn't go to school in his town. So he'd never learned how to read. He and his wife have 12 children of their own, but only the four little ones are still around. Two of the older boys have moved North, and two others have been killed in Viet Nam.

That's what you'd see if you were looking at the South.



'I Am Identifying With My People'

Miles Girls Tell Why They Went 'Afro'



MISS MERRIAM TAYLOR

BY MERRIAM TAYLOR
With the advent of the Westernizing of the slaves in America, an important concept was straightening the hair of black women.

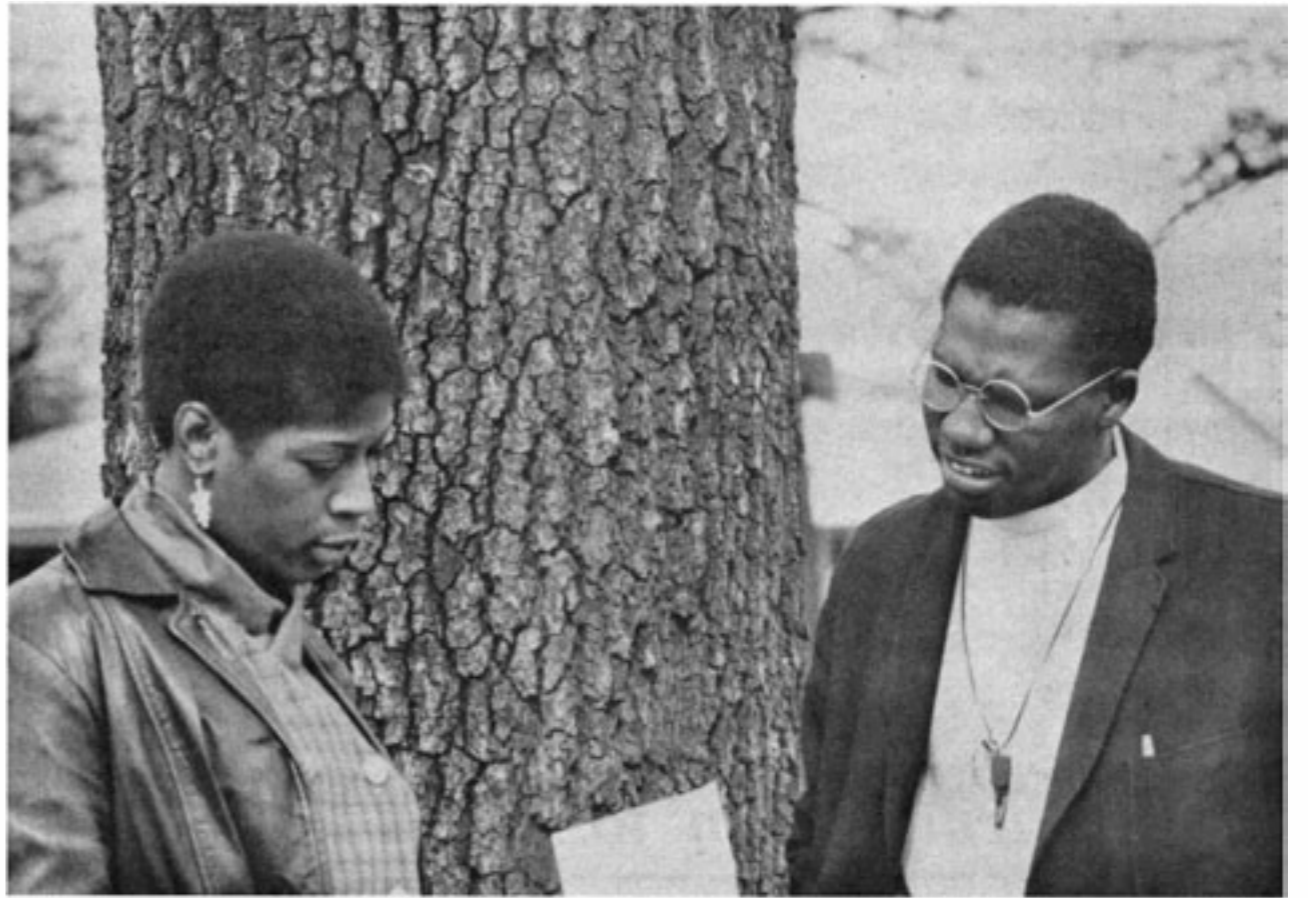
As a part of the brain-washing process, black women were instilled with the idea that the only beautiful hair was straight hair. This resulted in the feeble attempt by black women to imitate their white mistresses.

But times have changed, and are still changing. Today, black women are realizing more and more that being natural is beautiful.

Wearing my hair natural is a very personal thing. I feel as if I am identifying with my people--not only the black people in America, but also the brothers and sisters in Africa.

I'm not ashamed of my inherited characteristics. When we try to imitate the whites by changing our natural characteristics (by this I mean straightening or "processing" the hair, using bleaching cream to lighten the skin, and--for those who are financially able--having plastic surgery to minimize broad noses and lips), we are really telling them that we are ashamed of our features, our characteristics, and our heritage.

These are some of the reasons why I decided to wear my hair natural. I became aware of myself as a person, and asked myself, "What is the role of the black woman in this society?" After sitting down and checking the history of my people, the answer was obvious. I appeal to every black woman to ask herself the same question. If she is honest with herself, her answer will be obvious also.



MISS INEZ MULTRIE

BY INEZ MULTRIE
I wear an "Afro" because to me, it's a symbol of black beauty, black pride, black strength, and black sincerity.

For me, the natural look creates a sense of pride, and gives me a sense of dignity and hope. These things are vitally important to black people.



MISS DELOIS MCKINLEY

BY DELOIS MCKINLEY
Wearing the natural hair-style is part of the black woman's being natural in all aspects. It also shows society that the black woman is just as beautiful in a natural as she would be with straight hair or with a wig.

Another reason for wearing my hair in the natural style was to see how my peers on the Miles campus would react to the change--to see if I would be treated in the same manner as before.

The most important reason is that it is something I really dig. It is most convenient, in that it saves money and time.

Photos by
David Lee
*
Taken at Miles College
Birmingham, Ala.

BY ELLA GRICE

I wear an "Afro" because I am black and black is beautiful.

Why shouldn't I wear the "ladies' process"? The answer is quite obvious. The essence of blackness is to find true identity, and get away from being white--something that I'm not.

Without an Afro, I wouldn't be getting away from whiteness.

Some might say, "The mind can be black, but you don't have to have an Afro." My response to this is, "You have to be black in all ways, and your hair is a visible sign of blackness."

(Miss Grice, like the other girls pictured on this page, is a student at Miles College.)



MISS ELLA GRICE

Folks Come in and Talk

'Soul Roots Workshop' --Telling It Like It Is

BY BOB LABAREE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--Nat Godfrey has lived on Birmingham's south side for most of his life. Now--because others in the room were talking about the neighborhood--he was trying to tell what he knew about living there.

It's hard to explain, he said, but he's decided that it boils down to one thing--"poverty. That wraps up the whole thing. Poverty--everybody's always grabbin', always grabbin'." He used his hands to help him say it.

And poverty isn't what many people think it is, he said. For example, it doesn't always mean people are starving.

"Tell you what," he said, pointing through the ragged screen door to the shabby street outside. "Take all the food that's in these houses and pile it in the street, and you'd be surprised how much you'd find."

"Food's no problem. Negroes got plenty of food to eat. But I'll tell you what is a problem--fear."

Godfrey isn't the only person on the 1400 block of Eighth Court South who has things to say about living on the south side, or about being poor, or about being black.

Mrs. Johnnie Mae Jones and her husband, Ralph, for example, also have a lot to say. And in the last four months, Godfrey, the Joneses, and others have found a place to say their piece, along with people who will listen.

The place they've found is 1414 Eighth Ct. S., a little shotgun house on an unpaved alley. And the people they've found are their neighbors.

The house is rented by a 20-year-old VISTA (Volunteers In Service To America) volunteer named Michael Huber, who began leaving his front door open several months ago, so that his neighbors could come in.

Now, the house has gained a reputation as a community meeting place. It even has a name--"The Soul Roots Workshop."

People claim that no one planned to form the workshop--they say it just "happened." But now, they're talking more seriously about what it's going to do, and how it's going to do it.

The purpose of the workshop, they say, is to provide a place for people of all ages to come and express themselves in any way they want, whether it's in words, paint, or music.

Some of the products are already noticeable. Portraits, posters, and designs nearly cover one wall of the house's front room, and outside the door a brightly-colored sign announces that the workshop is going on.

On another wall hangs a small, neatly-typed letter with "WHITE HOUSE" printed in large letters across the top. "President Johnson appreciates your

friendly thought in writing to him," the letter says. It is signed by the President's personal secretary.

Huber explained that not long ago, ten of the younger children on the block had gotten together and written to President Johnson, telling him what they wanted most.

"They told him they wanted a swimming pool and \$1,000," Huber recalled. He said they wrote their message on an old shirt cardboard, signed their names, and then sent it to the White House.

Four days later, the answer came back. "They were really excited," said Huber, "but they were disappointed when it didn't say anything about a swimming pool and \$1,000. It took me quite a while to explain why that wasn't going to happen."

The workshop also operates in other,

less visible ways. One day an eight-year old boy sat in the front room of the house and talked, while Huber wrote down what he said.

"I can draw a apple, a house, a orange, and a man--that's all," the boy said. "I'm gonna go to a New York school, then I gonna come back and have everything."

One afternoon, Nat Godfrey put down his thoughts about "soul." "It's what you feel sometimes, feel deep down within," he said. "Without it, this project is nothing."

The people have decided that their own lives are worth writing about. As Mrs. Essie Mae Brown put it, "How you come up, how you struggled--that makes a story, too."

And there are the conversations, when people share their experiences and observations:



ISAAH CORE

What I Need

BY ISAAH CORE

I would like to have a soul roots workshop in my community because I feel that I have a talent which, if enhanced by more opportunities, will reach excellence. I have found that with art, I am able to relate those things within me which I once thought inexpressible.

At the present, I have neither the place nor the equipment to work with, I therefore do not exactly know what my limits are in art. A workshop would allow me to explore my own possibilities.

I would like to display my talent so that others may see it, as well as have the experience of observing the work of other guys like myself. A workshop would give us the opportunity to do all these things and more.



YOUTHS TALK ABOUT THEIR LIVES

"Without that gun, the (white) man here ain't gonna do nothin'. I wonder what'd happen if WE had the guns?"

"The only time a white dude comes in here is to pick up a Negro chick, or beat somebody's head in, like they did Clifford Holmes." (Holmes charged two Birmingham policemen with brutality, but eventually gave up trying to prove it.)

"The only reason the man don't come in more often is because somebody's payin' him to lay off."

"The man calls me 'Boy.' I hate it. What's worse, though, is when he calls my father 'Hey, Boy.'"

As for the future of the workshop, Huber said, the project can go any direction. But, he said, it all depends on financial and community support.

An old coffee jar sits on a table in the workshop, waiting to be filled with loose change from the pockets of generous visitors. But a recent counting found only \$11 in the jar.

In order to keep growing, the project needs money and materials soon--chiefly art supplies. Work has begun on a community newspaper, which will print what the people write and draw. But for this, the people say, they need typewriters and a mimeograph machine.

A community organization from another part of town, Neighborhood Action Communication, Inc., donated some much-needed furniture recently, and the Riley Girls Club has promised to solicit contributions for the workshop.

One man in the neighborhood said he will donate his time to teach young people the crafts he knows, including carpentry, brick-laying, cement-finishing, tile-setting, and wood-carving. And another man spoke of teaching about the tools of his trade--the harmonica and the guitar.

So far, though, the "program" is still spontaneous, and the "plan" is to let things happen. The workshop partici-

pants say that things do happen. One day last month, a card game finally dwindled away, and most of the players left the workshop for their jobs or for other hang-outs.

One boy was left. For a long time, he stared out the door, listening to a Ray Charles record.

Suddenly, he got up. "Mike, where's the paper?" he asked, and started to draw.



A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE LISTEN

Says Minister at Mobile Forum

'Christ Was Not a Good Citizen'

BY ROBERT JORDAN

MOBILE, Ala.-- There was disagreement from the start when a University of South Alabama student group held an open forum on human relations last July 24.

The session--organized by the interracial Student Council on Human Relations--brought together black militants, white segregationists, members of the "power structure," and about 100 concerned citizens.

The first speaker, the Rev. Milton Cutchen of the First Southern Methodist Church, said the root of human (or inhuman) behavior lies in the spiritual world, and not in politics. "Politics," he said, "only brings betterment to mankind on the surface."

Praising the capitalist system, the white minister declared, "The Scriptures teach that capitalism brings prosperity where socialism hinders."

But the next speaker, the Rev. George "Ned" Millner, said he didn't intend to debate the question of capitalism against socialism. Millner--a white minister who has been involved in civil rights protests--disputed Cutchen's



JOSEPH LANGAN

emphasis on the spiritual, other-worldly aspects of Christianity.

"Christianity is not so much what you believe about Christ, but how willing you are to be like Christ," Millner said.

"Christ was anything but a good citizen," he continued. "He was a non-conformist. . . . He broke every Jewish law in the book, and He was tried and convicted by a kangaroo court on the

grounds of sedition. And His followers were anything but good citizens."

Joseph Langan, a member of the Mobile City Commission, spoke of the "things in life" that society should be concerned with, and the order of their importance. Freedom of worship was first on his list, and food and education were on the bottom.

Henry Williams of the Mobile Area Community Action Committee concluded the speeches by citing the quotation, "Let us take up the white man's burden."

"It's the white man who's been the burden," Williams claimed. "All the surveys, books, and sociological attention about the Negro should be turned to the white man."

During the question-and-answer period, a stocky white man who had been pacing in the back of the auditorium began to question Williams.

When Williams said fossils indicated that Negro civilizations existed long before white societies, the questioner retorted, "Where are they now?"

"Where," countered Williams, "are the Roman, Egyptian, and Greek civilizations now? Where are all the great civilizations? Where will you be 100 years from now?"

"Why haven't you been able to develop your own economic system?" the man shouted, red-faced.

"That's what we've been trying to do, and it's got you scared to death," Williams snapped.

GOP Meets

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

forced out "in the grand political way, and not through racial angles."

"This is a weakness in Negroes' playing the game of politics," Townes said. "They're all registered Democrats--it's really hypocrisy. They're really saying, 'Take one of us for symbolism.'"

But St. Petersburg attorney Isaac Williams, who has a long history of activity in the Florida party, said it isn't that simple.

"One of the reasons you don't have more black Republicans in Florida (14,000, as opposed to 280,000 black Democrats) has been the failure of the party to go out and recruit Negroes," said Williams. "I'm inclined now to believe that the Republican Party in the South is more racist than Wallace's American Independent Party, and I'm serious about that."

WEUP Radio Station Huntsville, Ala.

Alabama's only Negro-owned and -operated radio station is proud to announce the public service rendered to its listeners during the past year.

Leroy Garrett, owner, has always had a close feeling to those whom he serves through WEUP Radio, and feels that something should be offered in return for the support given by the many listeners of WEUP. The doors of WEUP stand wide open for this purpose.

Radio is a prime information source all over the world, and WEUP is taking its place in the Huntsville community and serving well in this capacity. Some ways in which WEUP aids the community through its public service facilities are:

Lost and found, death announcements, local occurrences, aid to all local established government programs, school activities, religious activities and news, aid to charitable organizations, and other informative items on the Marshall Space Flight Center, NASA, the armed services, and special religious programs.

In actual cost, these services added up to \$112,707.15 during the year 1967.

Leroy Garrett's hope is that all people have gained from this service as much as intended, and that, if possible, he can do more in the future.



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.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS -- "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love." These verses from I John are part of this week's Lesson-Sermon titled "Love," to be read in Christian Science churches all over the world Sunday, Aug. 4.

WANT ACTION?--Come to Shelby, Miss., for some real action. The Shelby Education Committee wants you. We are conducting a very successful boycott, but we need you to help with the picketing. And we need people to help with Operation Black, teaching African culture and crafts. Food and housing will be provided. Call Mrs. L. C. Dorsey at 324-7393 in Shelby, or Mrs. Lucinda Young at 324-7373.

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 265-9992. Meet Baha'ullah.

WELFARE RECIPIENTS--Welfare recipients and other poor people seeking to defend themselves against injustices in the welfare system--and to change that system--have organized into the National Welfare Rights Organization (NWRO). NWRO's 171 groups in 31 states have more than 6,000 members, who directly represent the 25,000 welfare recipients in their households. Together they fight for adequate income, dignity, justice, and democracy. There are presently welfare rights groups in the South in Mississippi, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. Anyone wishing to join a group or help form one in his community should write to National Welfare Rights Organization, 1762 Corcoran St., N. W., Washington, D. C. 20009.

TRAINING JOBS FOR VETERANS--Government agencies can now hire Viet Nam-era veterans for jobs under special, non-competitive "transitional appointments." These jobs--paying from \$3,776 to \$5,565 a year--are for veterans with less than one year of training beyond high school, who have the required qualifications for the jobs. The veteran must also agree to take at least the equivalent of one school year of education or training under the G. I. Bill. Veterans must have had at least 181 consecutive days of active duty--some part of it after Aug. 4, 1964--to be eligible for these jobs. Veterans remain eligible until one year after their discharge or Feb. 9, 1969, whichever is later. Interested applicants may contact any government agency they prefer, or any office of the Veterans Administration or the Civil Service Commission, or the Veterans Assistance Center in Atlanta, Ga., or New Orleans, La.

TROY LEGAL PROGRAM--Applications are now being taken for the Legal Aid Program sponsored by the Organized Community Action Program in Bullock, Pike, and Coffee counties in Alabama. The program will offer legal aid to poor people in civil matters, such as divorces, evictions, and debt problems. Interested applicants should write the Organized Community Action Program, P.O. Box 127, Troy, Ala.

LOWNDES COUNTY RESIDENTS--Applications will be taken until Friday, Aug. 9, for the following positions in the OEO-sponsored Lowndes County Board of Health Community Health Project (P.O. Box 236, Hayneville, Ala. 36040): two public health nurses, two social workers (case workers), and three medical record clerks. Job descriptions and application forms are available at the project office in Hayneville, located in the brick building across from the Post Office. Applicants must apply in person. Only residents of Lowndes County will be considered at this time, except public health nurses.

SWAFCA JOBS--The closing date for applications for employment with the Southwest Alabama Farmers Cooperative Association (P.O. Box 956, Selma, Ala. 36701) has been extended until Aug. 15. SWAFCA hires its personnel on the basis of qualifications.

G. I. BILL STUDENTS--Veterans who plan to enter school this fall under the G. I. Bill should apply now for their Veterans Administration Certificate of Eligibility, and avoid the fall rush. Veterans already in training under the G. I. Bill who plan to change programs or schools this fall must also obtain new Certificates of Eligibility from the V.A. Veterans entering school for the first time should contact their nearest local V. A. office, and veterans who are changing programs should contact the V. A. regional office which maintains their records.

COAST GUARD ACADEMY--The annual competition for admission to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut, will begin with the College Entrance Examination Board test next Dec. 7. Applications to take this test must be sent to the Educational Testing Service in Princeton, New Jersey, before Nov. 2. Appointments to the Coast Guard Academy are made solely on merit--there are no congressional appointments or geographical quotas. To qualify, an applicant must have reached his 17th--but not his 22nd--birthday by July 1, 1969. Applicants must have a high school education, and must be in excellent physical condition. Additional information and application forms can be obtained from your high school guidance counselor or by writing to Director of Admissions, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, New London, Conn. 06320.

HOME-AIDE TRAINING--Looking for a job with security and dignity? No education or experience is necessary for you to qualify for training as a HOME ASSISTANT. Learn modern ways of performing household services (housekeeping, food preparation, child care), and attend classes in self-improvement. Then you will be placed in a job that fits your skill. This 12-week course is sponsored by the National Committee on Household Employment, under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare and the U.S. Department of Labor. The course is free to those over 18 years of age who qualify, and a stipend will be paid during the course. Contact by phone, letter, or telegram: In-Migrant Homemaker Training Program, Women's Service Club, Inc., 464 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, Mass. 02118, phone (617) 262-3935.

HELPING THE POOR--The Neighborhood Organized Workers (NOW) are trying to help deprived people obtain needed income, jobs, and medical treatment. We assist citizens by writing up and filing job complaints and racial-discrimination complaints with the federal government, Equipment, office supplies, and volunteers are desperately needed to aid the poor. To get help, to volunteer, or to make contributions, contact NOW Inc., 1100 Davis Ave., Mobile, Ala. 36603, phone 432-3252.

CAP Board Challenged At Meeting in Clayton

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

CLAYTON, Ala.-- "If the various programs are to continue in this area," said Carl Fouch, a field representative from the Southeast regional branch of the Office of Economic Opportunity, "it's up to the people of this area to get something done."

Then Fouch told board members of the District 24 Community Action Program that--once again--they had failed to comply with OEO rules.

Last spring--after several months of confusion and delay--the District 24 (Barbour, Dale, and Henry counties) CAP finally received federal funds to run several anti-poverty projects.

But, Fouch reminded 45 people at a CAP meeting in the Clayton courthouse last July 18, a new set of OEO regulations went into effect on July 1.

The new rules require a re-organization of the CAP board, Fouch said, and "until you actually come up with the exact structure of your board, certification of compliance cannot be given."

CAP director Charles L. Weston said that was what the meeting had been called for. But board members of both races raised several objections.

After Weston said the new board will include 16 local officials, 16 spokesmen for "major community organizations," and 16 representatives of "target-area" people, Mrs. Mary C. Smith asked a question.

"I would like to know when was these target-area peoples elected, and who elected them," she said. "The people in the target area don't know anything about it."

Mrs. Smith--a Negro lady who has been attending anti-poverty meetings regularly for three years--said she and her neighbors in rural Barbour County didn't find out about their election meeting until a week or more after it took place.

The Rev. G. H. Cossey--president of the CAP board--admitted that only about 12 people were present for the election last June 20. "A lot of the people in (Barbour) county are grumbling," he agreed.

And Ulysses Stanford, a board member from Henry County, charged that white officials in all three counties had "hand-picked" Negroes to represent the poor.

For instance, he said later, Dale County's two new target-area representatives are D. A. Smith, a retired principal, and O. J. Harper, currently a principal. "Those school folks just jump up makin' motions all the time," Stanford said.

In Henry County, he went on, white officials got together to dismiss the

Rev. J. A. Smith, a Negro minister who joined the board about a year ago. "He's a smart guy, and they don't want him," said Stanford. "But they kept on people who haven't been to five or six meetings in a row."

When Smith asked why he was removed from the board, CAP director Weston said he was sorry about it. "But a lot of people got eliminated just because they didn't fall into any of the (new) categories," he explained.

The local officials at the CAP meeting didn't seem to be pleased with the way things were going either.

Almost as soon as Weston called the group to order, Clio Mayor Dan Easterling leaped to his feet and said it would be illegal to hold the meeting, since all board members had not received notice five days ahead of time.

"Nobody's trying to have an illegal meeting, for goodness' sake," Weston snapped, after Easterling interrupted again. But of the 38 people named to the board so far, only 15 answered a quorum call. And so the meeting was adjourned.



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At 7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 5, in the 45th Street Baptist Church, 1209 Coosa St., East Birmingham, Ala., the Rev. Hobart E. Oden, pastor. The theme is "Christian Women and the Challenge of Change," and the speaker is Mrs. Margaret B. Little of Bethel Baptist Church, South. Mrs. Georgia W. Price, chairman; Mrs. Julia Rainge, co-chairman.



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Would You Believe a No-Hitter?

Rebels Tear Up the League

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--Baseball has rarely seen anything to match the record-smashing winning streak run up by the Montgomery Rebels.

When the Rebels left town last Friday after a two-game sweep over the Birmingham Athletics, they had won 16 games in a row--a record for the Class AA Southern League.

During the streak, the Rebels had roared from fourth place--a game under .500, and seven games behind the leaders--to the top of the S. L. standings.

But the amazing thing is not what the Rebels have done, so much as the incredible way they have gone about it.

When the team began its series with third-place Birmingham, it did not have a starting player batting higher than .278. And only one pitcher--Bob Reed--had an earned-run average below 3.00.

But the Rebels usually manage to pull themselves together for one titanic inning each game. A walk, a scratch hit, or a lucky break puts a man or two on base, and all of a sudden, the stampede is on.

For example, the Rebels downed the Evansville, Indiana, White Sox, 9 to 2, during the streak, on a nine-run inning that included five hits, four Evansville errors, two bases-loaded walks, and a wild pitch (plus two acts of God and a certified miracle).

And they beat Birmingham in Birmingham, 3 to 1, when Wayne Redmond and Barry Morgan bashed successive home runs with two out in the tenth inning.

Still, the two wins here against Birmingham probably topped everything else.

As 2,000 fans watched in disbelief July 25, Montgomery's Jim Brown pitched his second no-hitter of the season to whip the A's, 3 to 0. Brown struck out 12, and if he had not walked Darrell Evans in the eighth inning, he would have had a perfect game.

The winning streak was never in doubt. Larry Rojas doubled in Pete McKenzie in the first inning, Redmond singled home Tim Marting in the fifth, and Brown himself put the icing on the cake with a home run in the seventh.

But the tension was terrific when Brown strolled out to face the A's in the ninth inning. It took the lanky right-hander just five pitches to fan Chico Martinez, and three more to whiff



JIM BROWN WORKING ON HIS NO-HITTER

pinch-hitter Allan Lewis.

That brought up Birmingham second-baseman Danny Greenfield, a tough customer who always does well against the Rebels.

Greenfield fouled off one pitch, and then lifted a dangerous-looking pop fly to shallow center field. But Rebel center-fielder Paul Pavelko, running as though his life depended on it, caught the ball, and Brown's masterpiece was complete.

Brown tossed his glove high in the air, and before it came down, he was mobbed by his delirious teammates. The Rebels gave the Negro pitcher--who was celebrating his 24th birthday--a free ride off the field on their shoulders.

Last Friday night, the emphasis returned to keeping the streak alive. Rebel starter Ron Chandler got some rough treatment in the first six innings--especially from Greenfield, who had three hits. Catcher Fred Velasquez' fourth-inning double and sixth-inning RBI grounder gave the A's a 2-0 lead.

And then, unbelievably, the Rebels put on another one of those innings.

wall, putting the Rebels ahead, 3 to 2.

With that slim lead, Chandler suddenly turned into Pitcher of the Year. Aided by four nice plays by shortstop Marting, he mowed down the last nine A's, and fanned Stan Wojcik on four pitches to seal victory number 16.

In this year of concern over the fate of the black athlete, the Rebels are relying as never before on the heroics of black ball-players. Two of the five starting pitchers--Brown and Norm McRae--and two of the top clutch-hitters--Redmond and Rojas--are Negroes.

When Manager Frank Carswell had to attend his mother's funeral, Rojas was one of the players left in charge of the team, along with Morgan and Jim Leyland.

Morale is everything to a team like the Rebels, who must rely on guts and spirit in the absence of blinding talent. Obviously, someone here in the cradle of the Confederacy has found an answer to the problem that is said to be tearing many college and pro teams apart.

Democrats

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

people of Alabama for so long.

"If he (Vann) were out to change anything, he would be doing the same thing."

"I don't see them (the convention) taking the AIDP seriously," Zylman said. "He (Vann) doesn't have a party. We have enough of a grass-roots base to make a political party. The people he's got aren't grass-roots."

Vann admitted that the AIDP isn't a political party in the same way the NDPA is. But, said Vann, "I think if we are seated it will give us the impetus to form a permanent loyalist party within the state."

U.S. Judge Throws Out DEC Election in Barbour

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN
MONTGOMERY, Ala.--U. S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr. last week threw out the results of the May 7 voting for members of the Barbour County Democratic Executive Committee (DEC).

The judge said the way the election was held involved "purposeful discrimination against Negroes." He gave the present DEC 30 days to draw up a non-discriminatory plan for electing new committee members.

This is the second time in three years that a DEC election has been challenged in Barbour County. For more than 30 years before 1966, each of the county's 16 beats elected a member to the committee, and five members were elected at large.

In 1966, however, after Negro voters gained a majority in some beats, the DEC decided to have all members elected at large. Sixteen committee members would still live in and represent the various beats, but they would be voted on by the entire county.

Negro DEC candidates then filed a suit charging that the new election procedure was designed to keep them off the committee. Judge Johnson agreed, but he did not set aside the 1966 election results, because the Negroes' suit had been filed too late.

However, the judge did order the DEC to devise a new, non-discriminatory method of electing its members.

So this year, the committee decided to have all members elected at large--and to have them represent the whole county, regardless of where they live. But the U. S. Justice Department filed another suit, saying the arrangement still discriminated against Negroes.

In court, the board claimed the new method was adopted to comply with the "one man, one vote" rule laid down by

federal courts in reapportionment cases.

But after examining minutes of the meeting in which this was done, Judge Johnson ruled, "There is nothing in those minutes to suggest the committee had a serious interest in reapportionment."

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.

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Suit Hits ADC Limits

BY MARION SYMINGTON
GREENVILLE, Miss.--A suit filed in federal court last month has attacked regulations limiting the amount of grants that can be given under Mississippi's Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) welfare program.

"It is the first suit of its kind which asserts a person's right to life and health, and attacks the actual amount the state is granting for a particular welfare program," said Jonathan Shapiro of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law.

Four Negro residents of Leflore County--all with children eligible for the ADC program--brought the suit, in behalf of all needy Negro parents with dependent children.

Under the present ADC program, the suit said, "the amount of monthly assistance that can be granted to any one family is limited to \$25 for the first child, \$15 for the second child, and \$10 for each subsequent child, regardless of the amount of need as determined by the welfare department."

The suit claimed that this limit on

monthly grants is "discriminatory, arbitrary and unreasonable."

"It discriminates against the second child and subsequent children in violation of the 14th Amendment right to equal protection of the laws," the suit said. And, the complaint added, the limit discourages poor families from having children, violating their right "to determine the size of their families free from governmental restraint or compulsion."

Racial discrimination is behind the inadequate and limited ADC grants, the suit said:

"The purpose and effect of the limitations on ADC grants is discrimination against needy Negroes, discouragement of childbirth in needy Negro families, and elimination or diminution of the substantial Negro population in Mississippi through illness, malnutrition, and emigration to other states."

The suit asked the federal court to order state and local welfare officials to supply ADC recipients with "adequate funds to provide the basic necessities of life and health."

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