

THE SOUTHERN COURIER

ROOM 622, FRANK LEU BUILDING
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36104
PHONE: (205) 262-3572

THE SOUTHERN COURIER is published weekly by a non-profit, non-share education corporation, for the study and dissemination of accurate information about events and affairs in the field of human relations.
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Editor: Robert E. Smith
Executive Editor: Mary Ellen Gale
Photography Editor: James H. Peppler
Lay-out Editor: Amy R. Peppler
Business Manager: James M. Sims

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Editorial Opinion



**The
One
Question**

In years past, the political oratory in these parts was a simple guide for a voter. Either a candidate was a segregationist or he wasn't, and when you cast your ballot you knew what you were getting.

Now that almost all candidates have recognized the increased Negro vote, you can expect the office seekers to play games with the English language.

Nearly everybody in 1966 is in favor of peace and harmony. The others spend their time talking about an invasion from the federal government that must be stopped.

The best way to sort out the candidates is with one test question: Do you think the Confederate flag or the American flag should be flown above the Capitol dome?

The candidate's answer to that question pretty much tells you where he stands on the other issues in this election.

Attorney General Richmond Flowers has already given his answer. He would fly the American flag.

When the candidates tour the state to meet the people, this is the question they should be asked by the voters.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

The Scholarship Information Centre of the University of North Carolina YMCA-YWCA recently published a book called Financial Aid for Southern Negro Students.

We hope you may find some material in this booklet that could be printed by your paper and therefore gotten before even larger group of people. Here in North Carolina, the guide has been distributed already to all Negro high schools in the state.

As you can imagine, we are a very non-profit organization and function solely on periodic loans from the YMCA. Although we work on a shoe-string, we would like to get information about this guide out to as many people as we can.

Not only have we prepared this booklet (and incidentally a much larger second edition is slated for May), but we have also started a clearing house of information about new scholarships we find and of different job opportunities we come across.

Tony Mason
Scholarship Information Centre
YMCA-YWCA, Chapel Hill, N. C.

To the Editor:

On the 15th of February the patients at Searcy Hospital marched for better food and better clothing. They also marched at the front office to see Doctor Rowe about getting better treatment from the white employees.

They say the white employees cursed them out and throw their food to them when they go to the canteen. After the march, some of the police came to the front office of Doctor Rowe and handcuffed some of the patients, trying to make them tell who wrote their petition for them. But none of them would tell. They said they would die and go to hell before they would tell.

(Name withheld)
Searcy Hospital
Mobile, Ala.

Win a Prize

For the best letter from a student about why young people should go to college, THE SOUTHERN COURIER will give away a free copy of "Complete Planning for College," the \$3.20 book.

**U.S. Stiffens School
Desegregation Rules
Orders Teacher Transfers**

WASHINGTON--The U. S. Office of Education's new guidelines for school desegregation next year are tougher and more exact than 1965's.

The federal government said Monday it will insist that, in effect, each Negro school in a district have some white teachers and each white school have a Negro teacher.

Inferior schools must be closed and

**Voters Meet
Candidates
In Tuskegee**

TUSKEGEE -- It looked something like a game of musical chairs.

Eighteen people played it one night last week at the Mt. Olive Baptist Church.

They sat near the front, in a section of pews all by themselves. Every now and then, one of them would turn around and look at the 75 people seated behind them the way an actor peeks through the curtains before he goes on-stage.

Up at the front of the church, C. G. Gomillion, chairman of the Macon County Democratic Club, kept the game moving briskly along.

He would call out the names of five or six players, and they would get up from the pews and take seats in a short row of chairs facing the audience.

Then, one by one, they would stand up and speak.

They made it clear the game they were playing wasn't really musical chairs. It was political chairs.

The players--some Negro, some white, some men, some women--were candidates for county or state offices in the Democratic primary May 3. Some of them were running against each other. Some had opponents who weren't there.

Since there weren't enough political chairs to go around, the candidates were competing for votes. They all had different ways of going about it.

"I'm not a speaker, I'm a plumber," said Willie L. Kirk Jr., a candidate for the county board of revenue. "I'm a construction man, I can get on a dozer and show a man what I want. I'm for new industry and higher wages. I'm for the common working man."

"I'm a graduate of Howard University and I have masters degrees from Columbia and Chicago universities," said Mrs. Jessie P. Guzman, running for place No. 1 in the House of Representatives 31st district (Barbour, Bullock, and Macon counties). "I'm a professor of history and a former dean of women at Tuskegee Institute."

"There are 64,000 people in the 31st district," said Thomas Reed, who is running against Mrs. Guzman. "Hundreds of them go to bed hungry because they haven't reached an educational level where they can get jobs. People are looking for a new day--leaders they can trust."

Nearly all candidates promised they would be honest, efficient, intelligent, courteous, and eager for advice from the voters. But every now and then somebody departed from the pattern.

Robert Howard, a candidate for tax assessor, started off by saying, "I don't have too many qualifications. I don't know too much about the job. But I've been in business for 20 years and I know the value of property and how to keep records."

Howard, a white man, got the evening's biggest round of applause from

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE, Col. 4)

the students sent elsewhere. Next year systems must double and in some cases triple the percentage of Negroes in desegregated schools and they must make efforts to protect the students from harassment.

Buses must be routed as much as possible to serve any student who transfers to any school. A student who is in the ninth grade next fall or is at least 15 years old may choose his own school, regardless of his parents' choice.

There must be freedom of choice each year, for a period of at least 30 days. The school system must send an explanatory letter and transfer form to each parent. No reason need be given for applying for a transfer.

Once submitted, a choice may not be changed, unless the student moves, needs special instruction, or has a special hardship.

No choice may be denied except for overcrowding.

These, anyway, are the rules set up by the Office of Education. The office said it is doubling its staff to keep an eye on Southern school districts and will withhold federal money from districts that do not satisfy the requirements.

The federal government made the same threat last year, but no funds have been cut off yet. In a few cases, federal money has been delayed because of failure to comply.

Alabama Governor George C. Wallace reportedly asked a group of educators to help him resist the regulations. "We must obey the laws, just and unjust, but we should not have to obey edicts of bureaucratic officials which go beyond the law," the governor said.

State Superintendent of Education Austin R. Meadows was quoted as saying Negro teachers already teach in white schools in north Alabama, where the Negro population is low.

**Candidates Eye
Klan in Eutaw**

BY DAPHNA SIMPSON

EUTAW--On March 1, five Negroes qualified and announced their intentions for running for several offices in Greene County. On March 2, 250 copies of the "Fiery Cross," a Ku Klux Klan newspaper, were left on the steps of a Negro church.

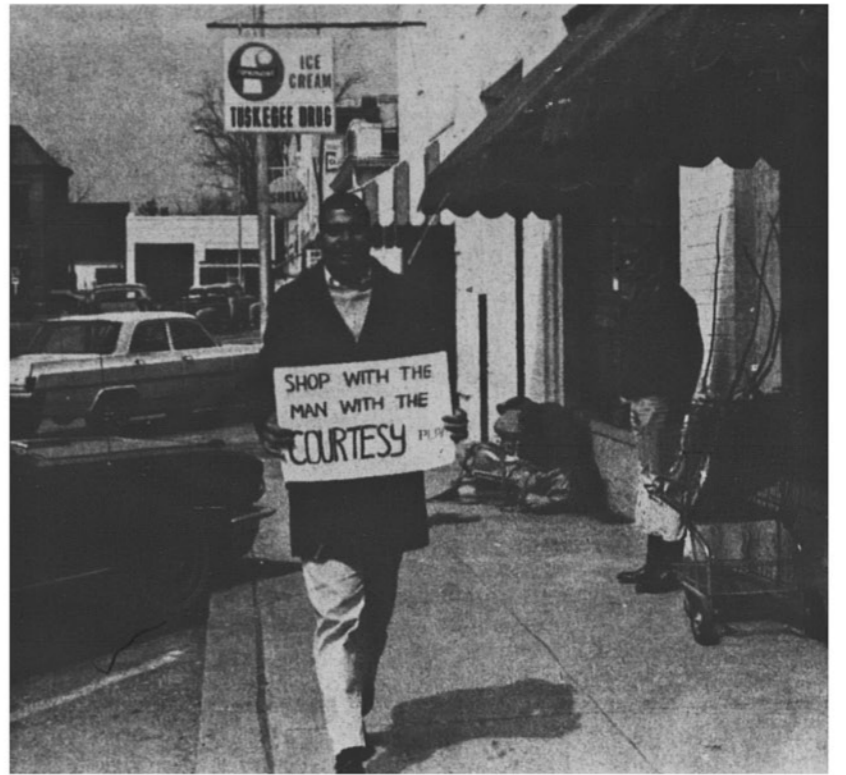
The papers were placed on the steps of the First Baptist Church of Eutaw. This is the church where mass meetings and other civil rights meetings have been held.

The Rev. William Branch, who is an active SCLC worker in Greene County, sent a letter to U. S. Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach in Washington. He asked that the Ku Klux Klan of Greene County be investigated to prevent a possible race war.

Mr. Branch said, "Negroes won't be frightened by them (the Klan) anymore. But we don't want any trouble. The Negroes in this county sense that the Klan is being reactivated in this area. We hope the federal government will come to our rescue before anything happens."

Rev. Branch said that the Deacons of Defense had offered its services, but so far he has turned the offer down. The Deacons of Defense is a Negro organization opposed to the KKK. It says its purpose is to defend when the law will not.

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



WENDELL PARIS, OF THE TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE ADVANCEMENT LEAGUE, PICKETS A & P SUPER MARKET IN TUSKEGEE, WHICH HAD REFUSED TO SIGN TIAL FAIR EMPLOYMENT PLEDGE, SAYING IT HAD FAIR POLICY ANYWAY.

**Tuskegee Refers Law
On Jobs to Committee**

TUSKEGEE--The Tuskegee City Council this week dropped the hot potato of fair employment practices into the cold water of a bi-racial advisory group. The council referred a fair employment practices ordinance, proposed by the Ad Hoc Committee for Justice in Macon County, to the brand-new Tuskegee Advisory Committee.

Although the committee has been planned for months, Councilman Stanley H. Smith said, it was set up now because "the city of Tuskegee is going through very critical times."

Smith said the group's "broad purpose is to advise your city government on all matters which are relevant to the concern of the governing body of Tuskegee." "This ordinance is certainly one of the things we should try to bring to the attention of the advisory committee at its first meeting," he said. The Council then voted to do so.

Ben-Zion Wardy, a Tuskegee Institute professor representing the ad hoc committee, asked the council when to expect action on the ordinance.

"This is a new committee. We're not expecting a report from them tomorrow," replied Councilman J. Allan Parker. "I'm sure they will act within a reasonable period of time."

The committee membership includes white segregationists and moderates. It also includes Negro moderates and conservatives from Tuskegee Institute, the Veterans Administration Hospital, and the residential community.

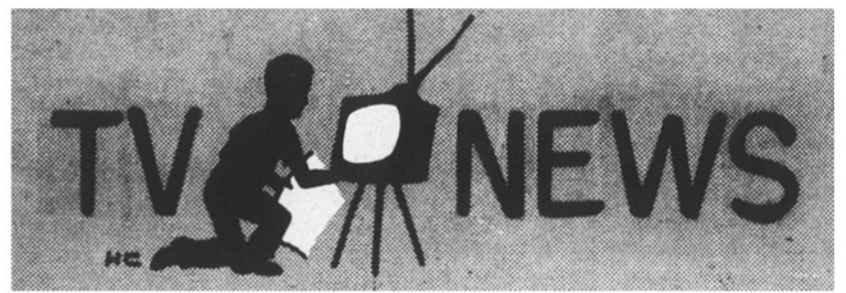
It does not include any member of the ad hoc committee, presently Tuskegee's most militant adult civil rights organization, or of the Tuskegee Institute Advancement League (TIAL), a student group.

"We need advice from more than one element of the community," Smith said in announcing the committee membership. "Even if they have conflicting interests, in the committee we hope they will think of the best interests of all the people of Tuskegee."

The council acted against a backdrop of agitation for fair employment practices by the ad hoc committee and TIAL. In the last three weeks, the two groups have persuaded 53 of Tuskegee's 250 businesses to sign a fair employment practices pledge. The groups have also collected 18 refusals.

Last Saturday, some 30 TIAL members picketed several stores that declined to sign the pledge, including the A & P Super Market. This week, Robert Funderburk, manager of the local A & P, sent the statement to the regional A & P manager for his consideration.

Funderburk admitted that the pickets had hurt his business "a little." "It's all a mistake," he added. "Our employment policy says just what their statement does. We go along with fair play 100 per cent."



SATURDAY, MARCH 12

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

--"Love is a Many Splendored Thing." The story of a love that defied time and conventions. A young woman doctor falls in love with a correspondent estranged from his wife, 8:30 p.m. Channel 6 in Birmingham.

SUNDAY, MARCH 13

DANNY THOMAS SPECIAL--Danny goes country and Western--an hour featuring Eddy Arnold, Kay Starr, Pat Buttram, and the Thirty Doodletown Pipers, a singing group. Completing the cast of entertainers is an assortment of barnyard animals, 8 p.m. Channel 12 in Montgomery, Channel 13 in Birmingham, and Channel 15 in Florence.

PERRY MASON--A case dealing with a ruthless star maker who is slain in a recording studio, 8 p.m. Channel 4 in Dothan, Channel 19 in Huntsville, and Channel 20 in Montgomery.

MONDAY, MARCH 14

THE ANDY GRIFFITH SHOW--Andy and his girl friend Helen get into a hilarious situation when they promote a romance between the stodgy county clerk and the county nurse, 8 p.m. Channel 4 in Dothan, Channel 13 in Birmingham, Channel 19 in Huntsville, and Channel 20 in Montgomery.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

THE VIRGINIAN--"A Bald Faced Boy." All kind of trouble breaks loose when Randy's rowdy mountain relatives come to Medicine Bow to protect him from a member of a hill clan seeking vengeance, 6:30 p.m. Channel 12 in Montgomery, Channel 13 in Birmingham, and Channel 15 in Florence.

BEWITCHED--"The Leprechaun." Samantha and Darrin are called on to help one of the little people retrieve his pot of gold, 8 p.m. Channel 3 in Pensacola, Fla.; Channel 6 in Birmingham, Channel 31 in Huntsville, and Channel 32 in Montgomery.

THE BARON--Following a tip on a big jewel theft, the Baron discovers "There's Someone Behind You." He recognizes the culprit and becomes a target for elimination, 9 p.m. Channel 3 in Pensacola, Fla.; Channel 6 in Birmingham, Channel 31 in Huntsville, and Channel 32 in Montgomery.

FRIDAY, MARCH 18

THE ADDAMS FAMILY--All kind of laughter and pranks will be going on in the home of these misfits, 7:30 p.m. Channel 3 in Pensacola, Fla.; Channel 6 in Birmingham, Channel 31 in Huntsville, and Channel 32 in Montgomery.

DICK AND TOM SMOTHERS
THE SMOTHERS BROTHERS--Tom gets assistance from a beautiful angel inspector named Dolores when he tries to help an unhappy commercial artist, 8:30 p.m. Channel 4 in Dothan, Channel 19 in Huntsville, and Channel 20 in Montgomery.



**Natchez Calls Off Boycott
That Began Last August**

NATCHEZ, Miss.--Negroes have begun trading at stores here again after a boycott that began last August.

The NAACP in Natchez said the protest had "100 per cent impact." "It was devastating for the merchants," it

said.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People said Negroes are still boycotting stores that have not agreed to hire Negroes.

Two stores owned by Mayor John J. Nossier are still being avoided by Negro shoppers.

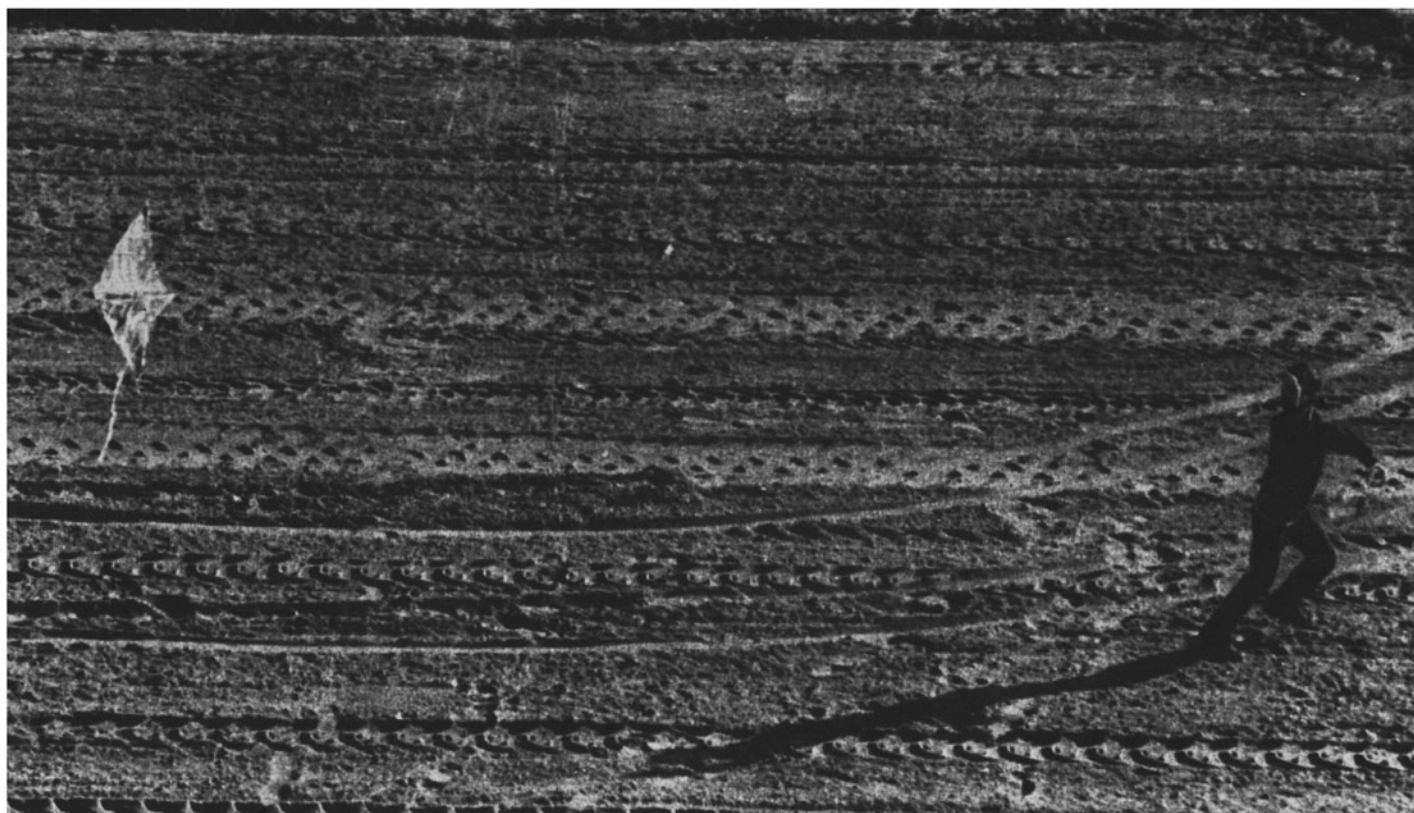
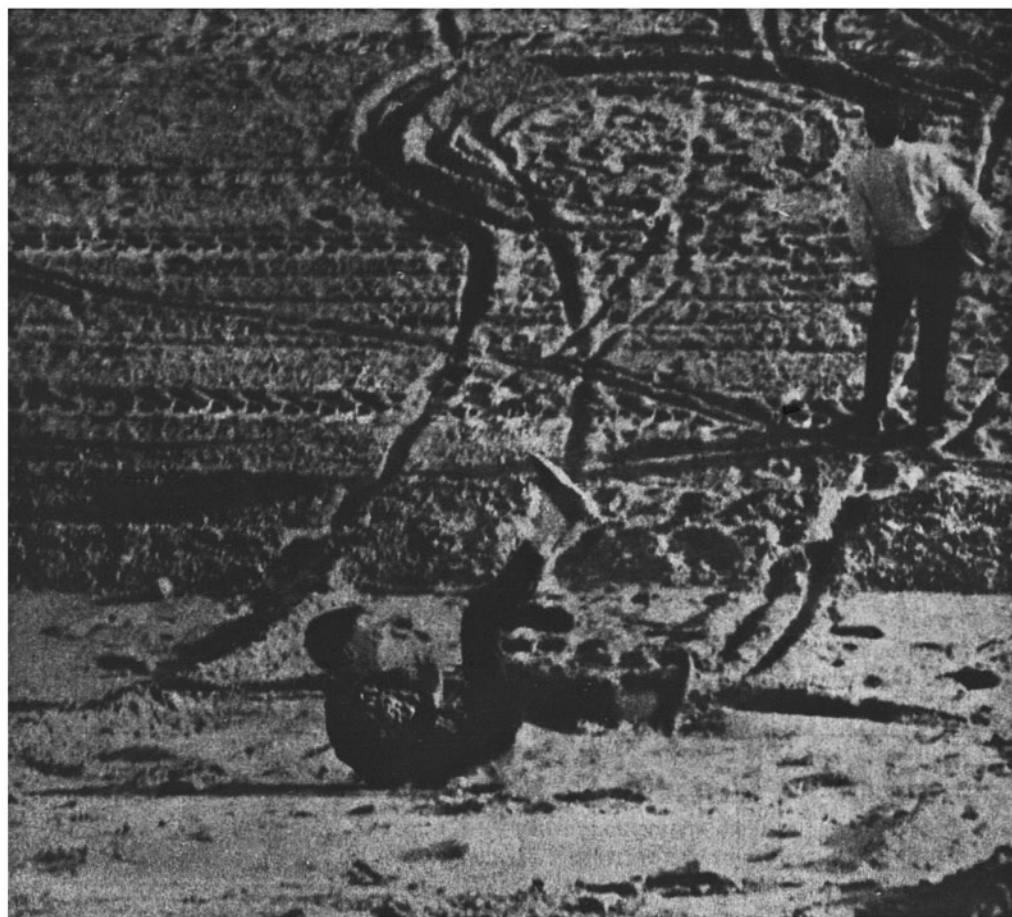
The announcement that Negroes would begin trading with most downtown stores came after a meeting last week of NAACP leaders, city officials, and merchants.

The original boycott began to protest the attempted killing of George Metcalfe, president of the NAACP branch, Aug. 27. Car pools were organized to take shoppers to nearby towns.

In early December the mayor announced that the city would agree to most of the demands by civil rights leaders--hiring Negro policemen, desegregating the city's federally supported hospital, ceasing brutality and verbal abuse, opening public facilities to all, and hiring city employees without racial discrimination.

However, the boycott continued when some Negroes employed at Christmas time were laid off. The business leaders agreed in the meeting last week to rehire those workers.

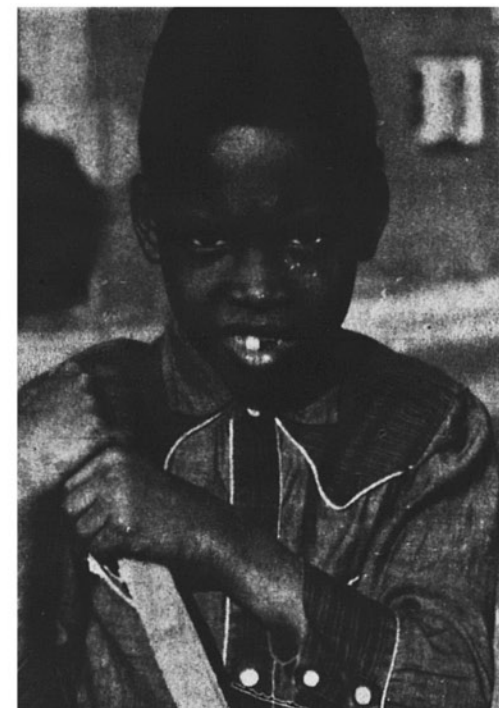




fantasy on 'freeway-to-be'

KIDS IN CONSTRUCTION LAND

city children convert highway construction site into versatile playground after workmen leave



PHOTOGRAPHS BY
JAMES H. PEPPLER





IN 1945, THOMAS TRIED OUT FOR THE DODGERS

BASE BALL • Domingo 2 de Mayo, 1937
MAÑANA Y TARDE

ENRIQUILLO PARK

DOS GRANDES ENCUENTROS ENTRE EL
"Ciudad Trujillo" y las "Aguilas Cibaenas"
en los 16 y 17 juegos del Campeonato "Reelección Pte. Trujillo".

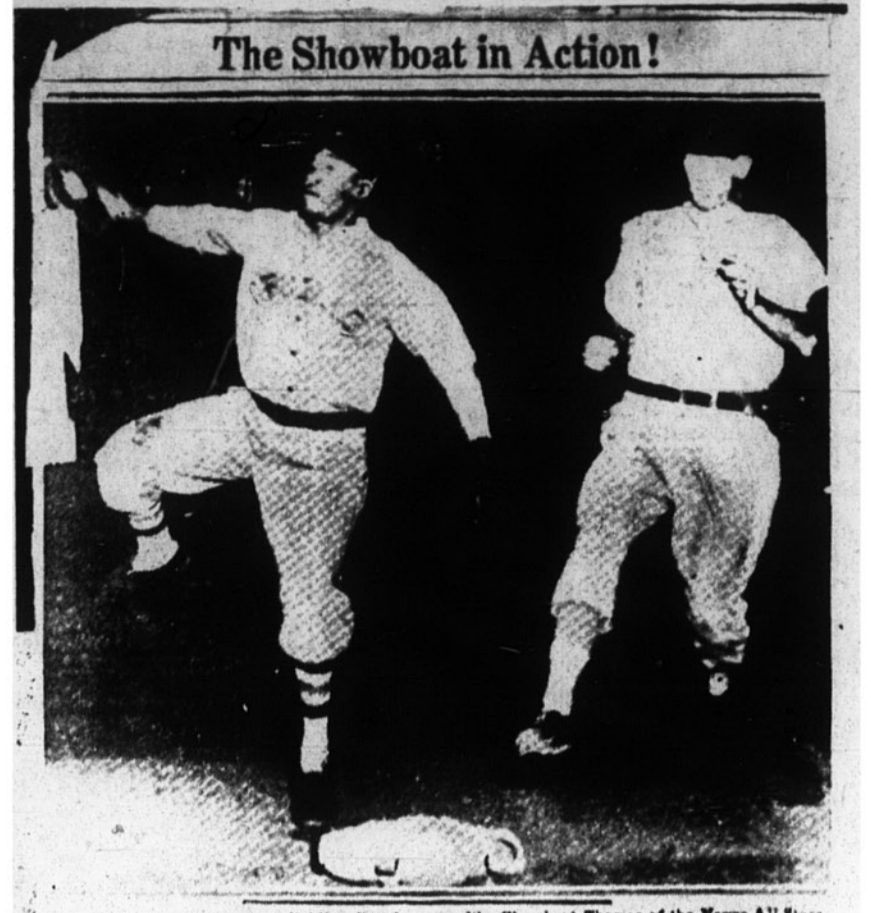
INTERESANTE DEBUT DE LAS ESTRELLAS AMERICANAS DE COLOR, RAYNOL PAIGE, WILLIAM PERKING y HERMAN ANDREWS POR EL "CIUDAD TRUJILLO" Y DE LOS FUERTES "SLUGGER" CLYDE SPEARMAN, CLARENCE PALE y DAVID THOMAS POR LAS "AGUILAS CIBAENAS"

No O deje Ud. de ver los sensacionales players cubanos Lázaro Salazar, Silvio Garcia, Caco Correa, Mircel Nolis, José Varona y Re-

THOMAS AND PAIGE WERE STARS DOWN SOUTH...



...AND UP NORTH



...never has seen a fielding first baseman like Showboat Thomas of the Negro All Stars. The Showboat thrills the fans with fancy footwork, graceful stops of the most difficult throws, and sensational catches of hit balls. He will be in action Saturday night at 8:30 against M. V. V. Alexander Empires of Springfield, Ill. He is shown above making a hard play to return a runner of Berger Friday night.

**NEGRO STARS BEAT M'VITTIES
12-1 FOR FIFTH STRAIGHT WIN**

By EDWARD CAHILL
Another team landed behind the eight ball in THE POST. The Negro All Stars defeated the M'Vitties at Merchants Park Saturday night. The Negro All Stars won their fifth straight game, 12-1, against the M'Vitties.

SHOWBOAT (AT LEFT) SHOWS HIS STYLE

'None of the Sports Will Ever Top Baseball'

Showboat Played the Game With Style

BY DAVID R. UNDERHILL

MOBILE--He was baptized David Thomas but hardly anyone knows that now. Most people know him as Showboat Thomas.

Thirty-six years ago in Baltimore, a sports writer for the Baltimore Daily News gave him the name after watching Thomas in action at first base for the Baltimore Black Sox of the Negro National League.

The name stuck with him for the rest of his baseball career, which took him all over this country and others, into parks like Yankee Stadium, and up against men like Babe Ruth, Dizzy Dean, Jackie Robinson, and Bob Feller.

By the time he retired in 1949, he had made such a name for himself in baseball that his baseball name had replaced his real name.

If you go into the office of the A.F. Owens housing project here, where Thomas works now as an inspector, and ask for David Thomas, the office staff may answer you with a blank stare.

But if you simply ask for Showboat, the all know instantly whom you mean.

Many other people in Mobile know the name also. Thomas grew up in the Maysville section of town, played ball all over this area as a youngster, and returned often for visits during his 23 years of professional baseball.

He lived 15 years in New York after retiring from baseball but didn't like some things about the city. "In New York you got the hustle and bustle all the time and everybody beatin' each other's brains out tryin' to get some- place."

He and his wife visited Mobile so often that he finally built a house and moved back, to the same neighborhood where he had grown up.

Years ago, when he started playing ball in parks and vacant lots in Maysville, people quickly saw that it wouldn't take him long to learn, especially at first base.

He covered the right side of the infield with such skill, speed, and grace, and batted so well, too, that he began playing with the grown-ups while he was still a kid.

Another kid from a near-by area called Down the Bay started playing with the grown-ups about the same time. He was a tall, speed-balling pitcher named Satchel Paige.

Thomas remembers, with a smile, the fun he and Paige had as they grew up playing ball together.

In 1926 they both left Mobile to play professional ball, Thomas in Montgomery and "Satch" in Chattanooga, Tenn. From 1927 to 1929, they were back together on the Birmingham Black Barons. The next year, Thomas went to the Baltimore Black Sox, where he got the name Showboat in the first game he played.

"The sports writer for the Baltimore Daily News said I played different from anybody else. He called me Showboat."

A writer might give that name to a player who did more showing than playing. This isn't why Thomas got it. He played first base with a showy style, but that was just his way of getting the job done.

He made plays that most first basemen only dream about. "When I fielded a ground ball," he remembers, "I never had to straighten up to throw. I could throw from the wrist." This, plus his speed, helped him perfect one nearly impossible play.



CUBANS PLAYED IN YANKEE STADIUM

With a runner on second in a tight game, the batter will often try a bunt down the third base line. If it's a well-placed bunt, the third baseman has to field it. That leaves no one covering third, and the runner on second can easily advance. But not when Showboat was playing first.

"I've thrown runners out plenty of times," Thomas says. He would race across to field that bunt down the third base line and flip it to the third baseman covering the bag.

When a first baseman can make plays like that, no one would care if he looked like a scarecrow while doing it. Showboat made those impossible plays with style.

After Thomas retired, a New York sports writer wrote that "he reminded you more of a ballet dancer in operation than any other athlete I've ever seen. . . . And, don't let anybody fool you either, that Showboat could belt that potato too."

The writer saw Thomas when he was with the New York Cubans from 1935 to 1949. They got their name from the Cuban who started it, but most of the players were Negro.

The Cubans' home park in Harlem was the first in New York City to have lights for night baseball. But it wasn't big enough to seat everyone who wanted to see the Cubans play the other Negro National League teams.

ers had been chosen only for their ability. At the end of the regular seasons, they both were on Negro all-star teams that played major league all-star teams on barnstorming tours of the country. The tours were no vacation for the white major leaguers.

Thomas was one of the first two Negroes ever to try out with a major league team. That was with the Dodgers, in 1945, one year before they signed Jackie Robinson.

But when segregation finally ended, Thomas was 40 and couldn't quite make it into the majors. He would have been starting at an age when most ballplayers are retiring.

Paige, however, was such a great pitcher that his age didn't matter much. Although he was well over 40 when they finally let him into the majors, the old man's pitching must have made batters hope for a return to segregation.

Last year, Paige was a relief pitcher for the American League's Kansas City Athletics, at the age of 61. Lots of fans thought he'd been hired just for publicity and for his famous sense of humor. The batters didn't always think so.

While Thomas was making Mobile known in Negro baseball and Paige was doing it in all baseball, a white ballplayer with ties in the Port City was doing the same thing in the majors. He was Eddie "the Brat" Stanky, star second baseman for the Braves, Giants, and Dodgers.

No one knew why he was a star, they just knew that he was one. Branch Rickey, baseball's elder statesman, came the closest to explaining Stanky: "He can't hit. He can't run. He can't throw. All he can do is beat you."

Stanky quit playing years ago but didn't quit baseball. This season he will continue Mobile's baseball tradition as the new manager of the Chicago White Sox.

Younger Mobilians now keeping the tradition alive on the field include Hank

"We played in the Polo Grounds when the Giants were away and in Yankee Stadium when the Yankees were away," sometimes before crowds as big as 45,000.

Paige and Thomas started a tradition which Mobile County is still living up to. Somehow, the county seems to turn out more first-class baseball players from its 300,000 people than any other area of similar size anywhere in the world.

When Thomas was playing, sports writers and players across the country agreed that he was one of the best first basemen in the game. And Thomas says that Paige was "the greatest pitcher I ever saw, and I've seen them all."

He was so good that he would have been even better, if he hadn't been so good. "If Satch had been just a little wild, nobody could ever have hit him, because nobody would ever have stayed at the plate. He threw like a cannon."

Thomas' opinion of Paige isn't just one hometown boy's praise of another. Few fans of the game will argue with the claim that Paige's name would now stand at or near the top of the list for every major league pitching record, if segregation hadn't kept him out of the majors during his best years.

Long before segregation ended in baseball in the late 1940's, Paige and Thomas both showed that they could have been playing in the majors, if play-

Aaron and Frank Bolling of the Atlanta Braves, Billy Williams of the Chicago Cubs, Tommy Agee of the Chicago White Sox, Cleon Jones of the New York Mets, and Willie McCovey of the San Francisco Giants.

Thomas is delighted that so many Mobilians are doing so well. But he's pleased to see anybody playing baseball, no matter how well or badly. "It's a good, clean game," he says. "Kids can learn a lot from it."

And a few, like Thomas, Paige, and the present stars from Mobile County, can go on to make a name and a living in the game, and have a good time doing it.

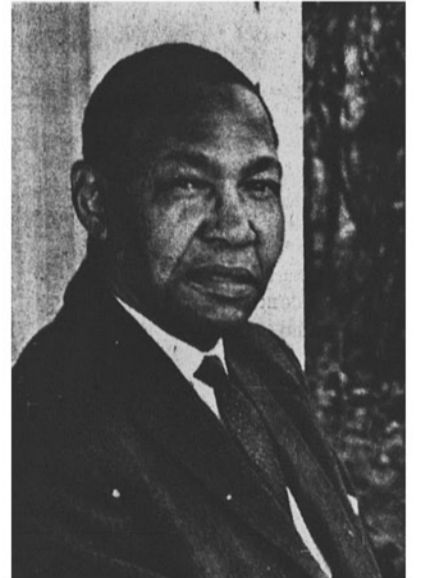
Some of Thomas' best times came after the close of the regular season when he played in the all-star games. Several times, he played against Babe Ruth. "Oh man, he was terrific. I'm telling you," Thomas says. "And he was a happy, jolly fellow, too."

The all-star circuit also gave Thomas as his biggest day in baseball. It came in 1931 against a white team led by a pitcher who had starred for the Philadelphia Athletics as they won the World Series. Thomas singled off that pitcher in the ninth inning to drive in the winning run.

During the winters, Thomas often played in the Caribbean, Venezuelan, and Mexican leagues. His scrap books are full of posters and newspaper articles announcing in Spanish that he and Satchel Paige and other American stars were coming to town.

Luckily, they always had a good team. "The fans, they're crazy down there. They're the craziest people I ever heard of. I wouldn't want to play on a losing team down there."

Showboat played four more seasons in the Negro league after his tryout with the Dodgers. Then he retired to a New York apartment located between Yankee Stadium and the Polo Grounds and went to games in both of them often.



SHOWBOAT THOMAS

There weren't any more Negro league games to watch, because "when Negro ballplayers began to go into white leagues, that killed our league."

Thomas didn't really object. He says with pride now that "baseball has gone a long ways to help desegregate this country. Now you don't even know if it's a Negro ballplayer or white, unless you see him."

Showboat thinks baseball will keep on helping, and he thinks it will keep on being the country's favorite game. There is something about it which makes people watch it, no matter who is playing it or how well. He says there's a children's baseball diamond next to Yankee Stadium, and he's seen "people on their way to Yankee Stadium stop and watch those kids play for a couple innings."

And there's something about the game which makes kids want to play. "None of the sports will ever top baseball. In the next few weeks, wherever you look, you'll see kids with balls and bats."



A NEGRO PLAYER FROM BASEBALL'S EARLY DAYS, WITH THOMAS AND PAIGE

Birmingham Rights Leaders Ask, SCLC Federation Ok'ed What to Do With All This Unity?

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

BIRMINGHAM--All is quiet now in Birmingham. No meetings. No shootings. Pickets quietly walk around Liberty Super Market, where five Negroes were shot more than two weeks ago while protesting alleged unfair hiring practices there.

A temporary court order limiting the number of pickets hasn't helped Liberty. It is still losing money, more than \$100,000 a week, according to recent testimony in court.

"When people don't want to buy, there isn't anything anyone can do to make them," said one picket at the door.

U. S. District Court Judge Clarence W. Allgood last week ordered the Community Relations Service and the Equal Opportunity Commission to mediate the dispute over hiring practices.

But they haven't arrived yet, and local rights groups and Liberty seem to be nearing an agreement without them. "We feel that we are very close to a settlement," said Demetrius C. Newton, a Negro attorney working for Liberty in the negotiations.

The Rev. Edward Gardner of the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights expressed hope that the differences between the store and the Negroes would be resolved soon.

Newsman Convicted

LIVERNE--The photography editor of the Southern Courier was convicted of trespassing Monday by Law and Equity Judge H.H. Little of Crenshaw County.

James H. Pepler was sentenced to 30 days in jail and fined \$200. He appealed the decision to circuit court and was freed on \$500 bond.

County Solicitor W. R. King charged Pepler with trespassing at the Helicon Junior High School in the northern part of the county Feb. 7. Pepler had been sent there to interview the principal, B. Y. Farris.

There was no demonstration at the school that day, but protests have been held before that time and since. Negroes say they want Farris removed.

Circuit court in Crenshaw County Feb. 2 ordered the demonstrations to cease, and the demonstrators attempted to have that order reviewed by federal court.

However, in Montgomery, federal court Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr. refused to do so, saying the protests "reached the point of being nothing more than a hysterical mob."

The market is on 13th St. North and 4th Ave. North in a Negro neighborhood.

"I wouldn't be surprised if we settled the thing this week," said Newton. The agreement would probably be a plan for Negro hiring.

And after Liberty "More Negroes are together than there ever have been on anything else," Hosea Williams of SCLC once said.

Even the Birmingham Baptist Ministers Conference, which has been termed by some ministers as the most conservative Negro religious group in the city, supports boycotts at Liberty. And the conference is also supporting a freedom rally to be held later this month.

The Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, has done what no other group in town has been able to do: It has unified the Negro community--something which SCLC couldn't do when it first came to town for the voter registration drive.

But the new-found solidarity would never have been possible had not the incident at Liberty occurred. It spurred the Negro community into action.

But the big question is, where will IMA move? It isn't sure, but it recognizes it has a basis for making wide-spread progress.

"If we don't get something done with what we have now, then nothing will work," said the Rev. Joseph E. Ellwanger of IMA.

If SCLC couldn't move the Negro community from within, then perhaps only someone from above can. And no prophets have been heard on the streets of Birmingham recently.

Court Approves Vote Rights Act

WASHINGTON -- People who have been qualified by federal examiners in Southern states will definitely be eligible to vote.

The Supreme Court gave its approval Monday to key parts of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Chief Justice Earl Warren spoke for all the justices in upholding the abolishment of literacy tests, the main issue at stake. The literacy test law applied to six Southern states, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Georgia, South Carolina, and Virginia.

"We may finally look forward to the day when truly the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude," Chief Justice Warren said.

been swarming with SCLC staff from Atlanta, they take pains to avoid giving the impression that SCLC will run the confederation.

When the newly-elected chairman, state senate candidate Lonnie L. Brown of Alberta, asked Williams when the next meeting should be held, Williams said, "Don't look at me; you're the chairman."

"This is not an SCLC organization," Williams emphasized. "We invited every organization in the state that we knew about."

"The Democratic clubs have their influence, the NAACP has its influence, the voters' leagues have their influence, that other state-wide group has its influence, SCLC has its influence," he said, "and we must bring them all together."

"Whatever has the respect of the Negro people in Choctaw County, that's the group that will speak for Choctaw County."

Before the next meeting March 26, SCLC plans a last big effort to bring more county groups and the important city organizations into the confederation.

As Williams explains it, the state confederation would bargain with white candidates, offering Negro support in exchange for promises of jobs and political favors. After the election, the confederation would distribute this patronage to loyal county organizations.

When Negroes were jailed recently after attempting to demonstrate at Helicon High School, "that patronage committee could have called the governor and said, 'Get down to Crenshaw County and do something now,'" Williams said.

Williams also says Negroes should organize similar bargaining groups in state legislative districts and U.S. Congressional districts.

"We've got to say, 'White folks, what you going to give us? We've been selling our vote all along,'" said Williams. "Now we've got to sell it for freedom."

TUSKEGEE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWO)

the mostly Negro audience. It happened when he said: "This office has never been integrated. I will integrate it. I will hire a competent colored clerk."

All the candidates who brought up the subject of race relations said they opposed discrimination and believed in working together.

"Only in unity can we accomplish what we seek," said Harold J. Noble, a white man running for re-election to the board of revenue.

"If I am elected," said Lucius D. Amerson, the first Negro ever to run for Macon County sheriff, "anyone who breaks the law will be arrested regardless of race, creed, or color."



WESLEY MCNEAR
Bullock Sheriff Candidate



MRS. MARY MARSHALL
Bullock School Board Candidate

In Eufaula, Voters Hear 'If Elected I Promise...'

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

county in the state."

John Kelly Jr. spoke twice--once as a candidate for the county Board of Education and once as a candidate for an at-large seat on the county Democratic Executive Committee.

"I am soliciting the vote of all registered voters regardless of creed or color or national origin," said Kelly. "I'll see to it we have the best facilities in all schools. Our teachers will be adequately paid. Our children will get the educational things that in previous years have been neglected."

Eight of Barbour County's Negro candidates are women. Six of the eight are running for precinct seats on the Democratic Executive Committee.

Although Barbour County has more white voters than Negro voters, some of the precincts have more Negro voters than white. The candidates for those seats sounded eager and confident.

"The time has come," said Mrs. Bernice Haslam. "We have been used to back seats, back doors, and back jobs. We've been silent too long. But now we're going to vote right and get right."

"We're not just going to move from the back of the bus to the front. We're going to drive."

Then she asked a question that office-seekers all over the United States nearly always ask, "Where is our tax money going?" she said, and added, "We'll find out."

The Rev. Ned Williams Sr., another candidate for an at-large seat on the Democratic Executive Committee, reminded his audience that "thousands have died who would have rejoiced to see this day, when we have a chance to make the laws.

"I was told a few days ago: 'You're going to lose friends running for that office,' I said, 'If I'm elected, I'm going to make friends.'"

Mr. Cossey said the Barbour County Political Association, formed to promote candidates for the election, could use some friends right now.

He watched while nearly every member of the audience walked up to a table and carefully counted out a dime or a dollar, or sometimes two dollars.

"I was hoping we'd have a houseful of people," he said, looking regretfully out at the pouring rain. "We need money." But then he thought of a last word for the audience and the candidates.

"If you don't win," he said, "this isn't the last time. Quitters never win, and winners never quit."

Only a Felony Prohibits Vote

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

hold us back?" Earl Wesley, another Prichard man with a minor conviction on his record, says he has also been turned down by the board of registrars.

He failed twice to get registered when the literacy test was still in use, but shortly after the Voting Rights Act of 1965 abolished the test last summer, Wesley went back. He says this is what happened:

"The man said, 'Wesley, what do you think about it? You think you made it?'"

"Yes, sir."

"Well, I don't think so. There's something on here I don't understand, this disorderly conduct."

"I can't see where that's a felony. But he just told me to try again, to keep tryin'....He didn't tell me no such thing as checking my record and then letting me know. I just don't see why they won't let me vote."

Mobile County Court House has no record of a felony conviction against either of these two men or against two other men who claim they have been rejected for similar reasons.

The board of registrars refused to comment on the situation.

Computer School Offers Training Open to All

MONTGOMERY--"They told me I could never operate a school for both races here in Alabama."

So a sales man from Georgia named Frank M. Vincent Jr. said, "I've got the money and the time, and let's see."

Vincent has run the Automated Institute of Technology in Montgomery for seven months, and he is still trying to spread the word to Negro youths about the opportunities in his field of computers and business machines.

If you drop into his office at the Institute, Vincent, a large and casual sort, will show you a bulletin board full of job offers for computer programmers and operators.

One of Vincent's favorites is a clipping from the Wall Street Journal last fall -- "Lack of Programmers Hits Computer Users; Training is Stepped Up.... Shortage, Estimated at 25,000, Prompts Makers and Schools To Increase Their Courses."

"Right, 25,000 jobs out there waiting," said Vincent.

The U.S. government is one of the largest users of computers in the country, and so Vincent's bulletin board has several military and civil service job offers in the area.

Programmers are the people who tell the business machines what to do, the card-punch operators code new information for the machines to take in.

"It may be fear that they won't be welcome, or expenses, that keep Negroes away," he said. He added that Negroes are welcome and that he will help them finance the courses, which run from 40 hours to nine months, night or day.

"I plan to get the state board of education to approve my courses. They keep crying about new industry in the state and the need for skilled workers for modern jobs. Well here I am."

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BIG JIM'S TRAIN IS ROLLING AGAIN

BY DAVID R. UNDERHILL
 GROVE HILL--"Big Train" came back to southwest Alabama this week and stopped at all the rural county seats.
 "Tell all your friends, The Big Train's runnin' again," shouted ex-Governor James Folsom to about 100 people who gathered in little groups around the Clarke County Court House Wednesday afternoon.
 "Big Jim" didn't really give a speech. He chatted about the Bill of Rights: "That's what my campaign is based on, that's what my campaigns

have always been based on."
 And he said that if he's elected, he'll call "a constitution convention for all the folks to bring this state up to date."
 Then he went around shaking hands and passing out bumper stickers, while his four-man guitar band sang out "some of the good old songs with lots of history to them."

Two elderly ladies came up to him, and one said, "We want to shake hands with you, Big Jim. It's been a long time, but we're so glad to see you back."
 Big Jim--6 feet, eight inches tall--bent way over, shook their hands, and said he was mighty glad to be back. Folsom was governor from 1946 through 1950 and 1954 through 1958.

Since his last race for the governor's office, Folsom has been an insurance agent and securities dealer in Cullman, in north Alabama.

"The old folks, they're gonna vote for him for sure," an old Negro man said. Folsom worked his way around to the microphone again and said the band would do "I'm Back on the Firing Line Again," while some helpers passed the ammunition boxes around.

"It doesn't matter how much you put in. What matters is we get our ammunition,"

Folsom chatted some more about the Bill of Rights, about building four-lane highways to every county seat, and about the old charges that he's in love with the bottle.

He said he used to drink a little but that he also had "an ailment that made me sometimes walk like I was drunk and talk like I was drunk."

He got over the ailment and "I wouldn't touch a drink now for a million bucks, I'm the new old Big Jim, and I'm back on the firin' line. We'll come around again in April. Tell all your friends."

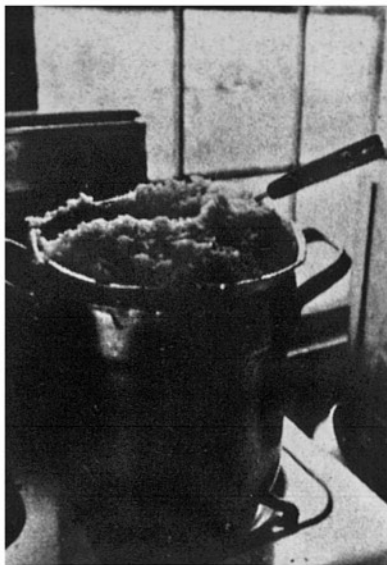
Whitney Young on Rights, Peace

TUSKEGEE -- "I don't think civil rights organizations ought to confuse their friends by getting off on another issue," said Whitney Young, national executive director of the Urban League.

Young was talking about the war in Viet Nam. On a visit to Tuskegee Institute this week, he told 250 students and faculty members that "an awful lot of people don't agree with the theory that 'you can't be for civil rights and be for the war.'"

He suggested that civil rights groups may lose sight of their immediate goals

20 Pounds of Potatoes, 20 Pounds of Fish, 24 Chickens, and 8 Pounds of Macaroni



100 MEALS A DAY



90 MEALS TO GO

MONTGOMERY--The other morning Mrs. Georgia Gilmore started to prepare the noon dinner. She began with 24 chickens, 20 pounds of fish fillets, 20 pounds of potatoes, more than eight pounds of macaroni and cheese, a dozen bunches of greens, and two gallons of beans.

Mrs. Gilmore is a big woman and she has a big family. But not that big.

She prepares from 100 to 125 meals a day in her own home on Montgomery's east side. Up to 90 meals are take-out orders for the nearby laundries, doctors' offices, and Alabama State College personnel.

But a dozen or more folks come each noon to Georgia's dining room for her choice of two hot meals. They come from different occupations and neighborhoods and so the talk is always varied and lively--from civil rights and the governor to baseball and music.

Usually someone will switch on the television set, and the dialogue of a soap opera will be heard over the conversation.

One of Georgia's regulars says that he once found Mrs. Gilmore crying her eyes out in the kitchen because someone on the TV soap opera had died. Georgia won't admit that, however.

Back in her kitchen, Mrs. Gilmore will tell you how she got into the food business.

She started cooking in her family when she was eight years of age, and when she was an adult she worked for the cafeteria at a Montgomery hospital.

At the time of the bus boycott in 1955, the restaurant was closed, and Mrs. Gilmore, with six children, was out of work.



MRS. GEORGIA GILMORE

She started carrying sandwiches to Martin Luther King Jr., the Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy, and other well-known people have dropped by for a meal. Who taught her to cook? Mrs. Gilmore is proud that the Rev. Mama, of course.

NAACP Ends Sumter Protest

YORK--No more picketing or boycotting is planned here for at least six months, county NAACP president Rev. Felix Nixon said this week.

That's how long Mr. Nixon said he would wait to see whether Sumter County merchants will make good on their promises to hire more Negroes.

According to Mr. Nixon, the merchants haven't hired any more Negroes yet, but say they will when warm weather brings more business.

"We're going to give them PLENTY of time," said Mr. Nixon.

Sumter County's two civil rights groups--the NAACP chapter and the Sumter County Movement for Human Rights--had been marching, picketing and boycotting in York and Livingston because they said they hadn't seen any signs of action from the bi-racial Sumter County Human Relations Committee.

But when, after six weeks of demonstrations, the merchants' associations of York and Livingston said they were willing to hire more Negroes, the word came through the bi-racial committee.

While the demonstrations were going on, the bi-racial committee recommended the hiring of Negro policemen, and in a few weeks the York City Council hired one.

But York Mayor Warren Grant admitted to the NAACP chapter, "Without your spurring on, they possibly wouldn't have moved as fast as they did."

Head Start

The deadline for communities to apply for funds for summer Head Start projects is March 31.

Specialists to advise applicants are at the anti-poverty offices in Birmingham and Montgomery.

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by taking stands on questions when their opinions can't be translated into programs.

Someone pointed out that the Urban League urged the U.S. government to support economic efforts to topple the white supremacist government of Rhodesia.

"That's different," Young said, "Rhodesia--that's clearly racial. Our government's policy on Rhodesia has a direct impact on Negro attitudes at home about the sincerity of this country in working for racial equality."



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