

The Time That the Maids Said \$3 a Day Just Won't Be Enough

BY GAIL FALK

BUTLER--"I told the lady that I was working for: her children was throwing out eggs and grits, and my children don't have any.

"I told her that her children be pouring out glasses of milk that my children would like to drink.

"I asked her for 75¢ an hour. She said she wasn't able to pay that much."

Like most ladies working as maids in Choctaw County, Mrs. Corinne Collins had been making \$3 a day for eight to ten hours of work.

A few weeks before Christmas she went to a ladies meeting called by SCLC workers Margo Thomas and Bond Perry, where the women talked about how they could get more money. They decided they should all ask for the same rate

of pay and refuse to work unless they got it.

And the next week about 20 of the women actually did ask their employers to start paying them 75¢ an hour.

Some of the ladies got the pay raise they asked for.

Word spread. Mrs. Mabel Carter said she hadn't gone to the ladies meeting at first because she was always so tired when she got home from working a ten-hour day.

"When I heard about what they were doing," she said, "I asked for 75¢ an hour. The man I work for said he'd have to have time to discuss it with his wife. I said I'd quit while he was discussing it with his wife."

"In January he called me back to work, and now he's paying what I asked for and he's paying my social security," said Mrs. Carter.

Mrs. Carter said the number of hours

she has to work has been reduced so she's not so tired any more.

"They're just as nice to me now," she said, "they're so afraid I'm gonna quit."

Not all the ladies were so fortunate as Mrs. Carter. Many, like Mrs. Collins, haven't been called back to work.

"I need the work," said Mrs. Collins, "but I been sufferin' all my life. I'd just as soon suffer a little longer now when maybe it'll do me some good."

She and the other ladies who are out of work get \$20 a month from the collections taken at the weekly ladies meetings.

Mrs. Collins explained she gets by because "when I was working I'd get off at 4:30 and there'd be an hour of light I could still work. I had a potato patch, and I raised peas, onions and turnips, snap beans, butter beans."

"On Saturdays I picked blackberries and canned more fruit than the people

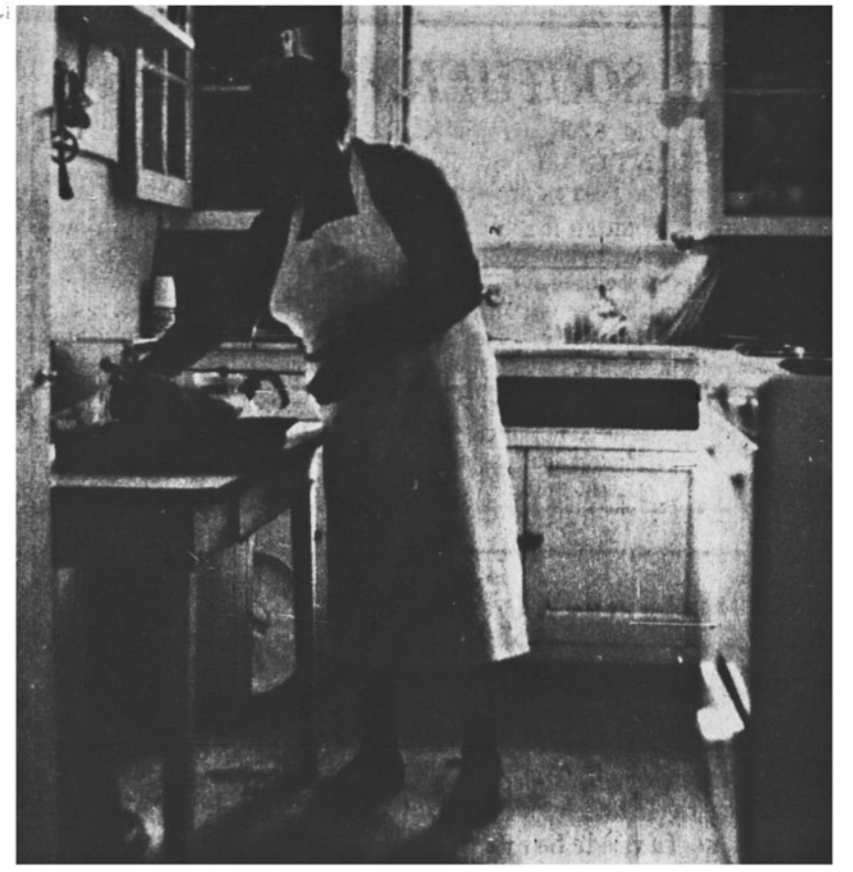
that wasn't working. So when I walked out of that lady's kitchen, I could walk into my own and have something."

The women, who are officially named Ladies Local No. 1 for Equal Pay for Domestic Workers and Others, are trying to get more of the maids in Choctaw County to join them.

They say that when northerners first come to the county, they "pay heavy," but after they've been in Alabama for a while they "lighten up" because they see maids are willing to work for less.

If no one were willing to work for less, said the ladies, that would force all the employers to pay more.

So far, however, only about 35 have asked for more pay. Some of them say they can't risk losing the \$3 a day they're earning now, and some of them, said Mrs. Collins, "they tell us they gettin' 75¢ an hour, but they're not--they's just afraid."



LADIES LOCAL NO. 1 FOR EQUAL PAY FOR DOMESTIC WORKERS

THE SOUTHERN COURIER

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TEN CENTS

In Bullock County

Wanted: Two Men

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

UNION SPRINGS--Negro leaders this week began looking for two good men to fill two good jobs that require lots of work and don't pay very well. They found one man right away.

The two new vacancies are on the Bullock County Court of Commissioners. A three-judge federal court opened up the jobs last Friday by ordering a special Democratic primary election for two of the four commissioners' seats.

The court acted on two suits filed last month by a group of Bullock County Negro voters and by the Justice Department.

Ben McGhee, one of the Negro voters and a local farmer, planned to file qualifying papers for one of the commissioners' jobs late this week.

H. O. Williams, Negro candidate for county sheriff, said another Negro probably will qualify for the other seat before the deadline next Friday. The court ordered the special election for May 31 with a run-off, if necessary, on June 14.

The federal judges threw out part of a state law which extended the terms of Bullock County's present commissioners from four to six years.

Alabama's legislators passed the law last August, two weeks after President Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act. When McGhee tried to qualify as a candidate for commissioner this spring, the county Democratic Executive Committee pointed to the new law and said

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX, Col. 1)

But None of Them Old Enough to Vote



EUFULA -- Mrs. Mary Marshall thinks she ought to have a say in how the schools of Barbour County are run. She has three of her children in school now, and three more coming along in a few years.

And so Mrs. Marshall is running for a place on the board of education.

Mrs. Marshall isn't worried about finding time to be a school board mem-



MRS. PEARL MOORNER, THE LADY WHO MET THE VICE-PRESIDENT

Mrs. Moorner Goes to Washington

'Like I Told the Vice-President'

BY RODNEY KARR

WASHINGTON--Mrs. Pearl Moorner, a tenant farmer on the Minter plantation in Tyler, Dallas County, shook hands with the Vice President of the United States last week. But she didn't let go right away.

She had some things to tell him first about the way tenant farmers are being treated on the Minter plantation.

"I told him that they took the land from us because we wouldn't sign over our cotton check to the landlord. I told him that with no land, we've got no way to work. No way to get money for food,

No money for electricity."

Mrs. Moorner explained that the Vice-President listened closely to her complaints.

Both Mrs. Moorner and Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey were at the second annual meeting of the Citizens' Crusade Against Poverty in Washington. The meeting was sponsored by labor leader Walter Reuther.

Mrs. Moorner decided to speak to Humphrey as the Vice-President was addressing the conference.

"I made up my mind I was going to speak to him face to face about this stuff. A policeman tried to stop me when I got near, and I told him that I might as well go back to Dallas County if that was the way the police were going to act. So I came back through another door and worked my way up close."

Mrs. Moorner and others also paid a visit later to the Department of Agriculture in Washington.

They were promised that more inspectors would be sent from the Washington office to look into the situation at the Minter plantation. An official from the Farmers Home Administration (FHA) also promised to send an inspector general to investigate the local FHA office.

Tenant farmers in Dallas County have complained that the FHA office has repeatedly turned them down for loans and instead sent them back to J. A. Minter, the landowner.

Sam H. O'Hara, head of the Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) office in Selma, which is supposed to distribute the cotton payments to the tenant farmers, said that at the moment he could do nothing for the tenant farmers.

"I can't give them any money because right now I haven't received any notice from Minter that they want to rent from him. We'll just have to wait for the results of this investigation."

Minter has demanded the cotton payments be signed over to him as security for rent before he will let the tenants work the land this year.

Many of the tenants however, such as Mrs. Moorner, refuse to sign over any benefits from the federal cotton program, until they find out exactly how much money they are supposed to receive from the government.

Art Show

The students at Trinity Gardens High School in Mobile take you on a tour of their class room. See Page Four.

Flowers Gets Support Of Both Negro Groups

BIRMINGHAM--Alabama's two major Negro political action groups haven't always seen eye-to-eye on everything, but last week they both endorsed the same candidate for governor--Attorney General Richmond M. Flowers.

The Alabama Democratic Conference, Inc., endorsed Flowers Sunday after a close vote in the screening committee and a bitter and confused fight.

On the other hand, the new Confederation of Alabama's Political Organizations gave the attorney general an almost unanimous endorsement on Saturday.

According to COAPO advisor Hosea Williams of SCLC, the vote in the group's political guidance committee was 80 for Flowers, one for former Governor Jim Folsom and one for Sherman Powell.

After the endorsements, the two groups said they were willing to forget their differences while working for Flowers.

"The most important thing is to get people out to vote," said Dr. John Cashin, finance chairman of ADCI. "We've got no argument with COAPO. We've got a job that needs to be done."

Williams, who built up COAPO this year to challenge ADCI's control of the Negro vote, said he hoped Flowers now "will quit campaigning among Negroes and go out after the moderate and liberal white vote in the urban areas."

While COAPO's endorsement of Flowers came without a fight, there were many stormy moments at the ADCI convention.

The ADCI screening committee split 13 to 8 between Flowers and former Congressman Carl Elliott. The Elliott

supporters reportedly included such important men as Rufus Lewis of Montgomery, Peter Hall and W. C. Patton of Birmingham and C.G. Gomillion of Tuskegee.

Then six of the Elliott supporters decided to sign a minority report, so the full ADCI would have a chance to overthrow the Flowers endorsement. The Flowers backers objected. "We've never had minority reports," Cashin

Too Many Names On Voter List in Macon

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE -- "It's not the correct list," said W. P. Mangham, chairman of the Macon County Board of Registrars. "It's not the list I gave him."

The list Mangham was talking about is the official, published list of county voters. The man he was talking about is Probate Judge Preston Hornsby. Hornsby certified a list of 11,300 voters. It was published April 14 under his "hand and official seal."

"The correct list of voters of Macon County today had between 7,000 and 8,000," Mangham said. "I don't remember exactly. You would have to get it from the probate judge. He's got our books."

The published list included about 6,800 Negroes and 4,500 whites. In 1964,

Hopefuls Seek 'Panther' Nods

BY LARRY FREUDIGER

GORDONSVILLE--In the less than three weeks since an independent third political party was officially formed in Lowndes County, competition has developed among Negroes for positions on the November ballot.

There are now two Negro candidates for nomination to each available county office, and on last Wednesday night they met to set their campaign schedules.

John Hulet, president of the Lowndes County Freedom Organization, explained to them the procedure for the next ten days.

Each candidate, he said, has already chosen a campaign chairman and will be expected to find a chairman for every precinct in Lowndes County.

Community, beat, and precinct meetings are being arranged by freedom organization members throughout the

U. S. Civil Rights Commission found only 2,678 white residents over 21.

Shortly before the list was published, Judge Hornsby said it was the newest one he had. He said the number of white voters was larger than the number of white county residents over 21 because the list had not been purged for 22 years.

"I can't change the records," Hornsby said. "The board of registrars would have to purge the list."

"I purged the list this January," said Mangham. "I marked out the dead and the people that have moved out."

"They've gone back and put 'em on. Undoubtedly they got an old list from four, five years back that hadn't been marked. I've got brothers and a niece on it that shouldn't be there."

The head registrar estimated that more than 3,000 Negroes have qualified to vote in the last two years. There were 4,049 Negroes registered as of Jan. 1, 1964.

Asked whether any Negro names are missing from the new voters list, Mangham declined to answer.

"I thought once about going to the judge with this general mess," the head registrar said. "But it was too close to election."

Mangham said he also talked with other members of the board of registrars. "We decided to keep our hands off. We are through. We have performed our duty."

"I don't know whether there's going to be any kicks. But if any individual tries to get us, I'll show our books."

Judge Hornsby speculated that no more than 2,100 whites would actually vote in Macon County May 3. William P. Mitchell, executive secretary of the mostly-Negro Tuskegee Civic Association, said he thought the number would be under 2,800.

"In our experience," Mitchell said, "they haven't tried to vote more than the number of qualified whites."



RICHMOND M. FLOWERS said afterwards, "It's the first time I ever heard of it."

Before the majority or minority report could come to a vote in the convention, Joe Reed of Montgomery demanded the election of new ADCI officers.

Reed said he called for the election "because the constitution (of the ADCI) mandated it. There must be an election every year."

The new slate of officers was headed by Lewis as chairman and Hall as vice-chairman, and included several other Elliott supporters.

Finally, a standing vote was taken on whether the full ADCI would endorse Flowers or Elliott. Lewis said later that 60 per cent of the membership stood up for Flowers; Cashin said it was 90 per cent; and Reed, who was running the meeting at the time, said it was "at least 85 to 15" for Flowers.

Some ADCI members were more enthusiastic about Flowers' endorsement than others. Cashin said some Elliott backers "played such dirty pool that under no circumstances would I vote for Carl Elliott. That man's been part of the power structure for 16 years."

Lewis, the new chairman, said in the meeting that he would go along with the endorsement of Flowers. Later in the week, he said he had favored Elliott earlier because the former congressman had "a much better chance of winning."

People were wondering if the Flowers-Elliott split would flare up again this Sunday morning when the Alabama State Coordinating Association for Registration and Voting meets in Birmingham.

The Coordinating Association, oldest of the state-wide Negro organizations, is not in the habit of endorsing candidates. But Flowers supporters were afraid that Elliott men might try to push through an endorsement.

Both the ADCI and COAPO will endorse candidates for other offices before the election. Cashin said ADCI's choices would be mailed out, without publicity, about four days before the primary.

A highlight of the ADCI meeting was a speech by Charles Morgan Jr., former Birmingham attorney:

"The words from the song of the freedom movement--'black and white together'--have never been reality... Now you have banded together in a political campaign to produce for this state, and through it for the nation, a new brand of Southern politics... The midnight is passing. Dawn is upon us. Let us go forward, black and white together, into that joyous morning."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX, Col. 2)

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What County Officeholders Do

Sheriff School Board Coroner Tax Collector Tax Assessor

BY NANCI FREUDIGER

Sheriff
SELMA--Dallas and Lowndes County residents are now being urged to run for office through their independent political organizations.

The Dallas County Independent Free Voters Organization and the Lowndes County Freedom Organization are distributing leaflets explaining the qualifications and duties of offices open for election on the county level.

On May 3, organizations in these and other Black Belt counties will hold mass meetings to nominate candidates who will run in the November election.

These groups are now trying to get people to think about representatives from among themselves, and to stop seeing public officials as special people remote from them.

The leaflets are designed to explain the official jobs in as simple and straightforward a manner as possible. The positions open this year in most counties are sheriff, tax assessor, tax collector, coroner, district attorney,

School Board
the school board, and board of revenue.

The office of sheriff is often considered the most important office in the county, and yet there are no special qualifications to hold that office.

The sheriff keeps peace in the county, suppresses riots and unlawful assembly, stops fights and collects fines for bootlegging, traffic violations, and other offenses.

The sheriff investigates crimes, apprehends and arrests criminals, and may arrest with or without a warrant.

In addition to a salary paid by the county, the sheriff also gets paid by the state for executing search warrants, arrests, serving subpoenas, moving a prisoner to another county, and making

Coroner
fingerprints.

The sheriff also helps with the county, state, and federal elections.

Members of the school board have the power to spend county money and to decide who works for the schools, as well as to determine the qualifications for teachers.

To serve on the board of education, it is not necessary to have a teaching certificate. The only qualifications are "a good moral character, a fair elementary education, and an interest in the good of public education."

The county board of education is in charge of running all the public schools in the county.

Tax Collector
The general duty of the coroner is to hold inquests. When there is evidence that a person's death was caused by someone else, the coroner must hold an investigation and may have medical assistance.

The coroner will also act as sheriff when the sheriff is temporarily unable to act.

The tax collector handles receipts for all taxpayers and can attach property for non-payment of taxes. He receives commissions on all taxes collected unless he is paid by salary.

The duty of the tax assessor is simply to estimate the "fair and reasonable market value" of all property for tax purposes.

Editorial Opinion

Make It Clear

It doesn't do much good to permit illiterates to register to vote if there's no way for them to read the ballot. But so far Alabama officials have failed to agree on any clear plan for giving illiterates assistance in reading the ballot.

"You call the federal district attorney. The U.S. government has taken over the election laws of this country. You ask him what he is going to do about it," said Mobile Probate Judge John Moore, who is supposed to be in charge of election procedures for his county.

"You better read Title 17 (dealing with election procedures) of the Alabama code and the Voting Rights Act and draw your own conclusion," said Probate Judge Perry Hooper of Montgomery.

The probate judge of Elmore County said in his county election inspectors will read the ballot to illiterates. In other counties judges have said that anyone an illiterate voter chooses may read the ballot to him.

There is a section of the Alabama code which says people who can't read because they are blind or paralyzed may get the assistance of an election inspector or some friend.

David Norman of the Justice Department, voting rights section, said this Alabama law has always been applied to illiterates, who were permitted to register in Alabama before 1946.

Judge Hooper of Montgomery said flatly that this isn't so. He says it will be up to the election officials at each poll to decide whether to allow help for illiterates.

The regulations about how people will be able to read the ballot must not be left to judicial whims or to the election officials at each poll. It's confusing enough to understand established election procedure if you're a new voter. And it's when the law is left unclear that discrimination creeps in.

In the past, the Attorney General of the state has ruled on the application of election laws. It would be wise for him now to straighten out the confusion that exists over the assistance illiterates may get inside the voting booth.

THINK AND GRIN

ABBREVIATED STATES

- What state is a number? Tenn.
- What state is a doctor? Md.
- What state always seems to be in poor health? Ill.
- What state serves as a source of metal? Ore.
- What state is the cleanest? Wash.
- What state is as good as a mile? Miss.
- What state is to cut long grass? Mo.
- What state never forgets itself? Me.
- What state is Moslem? Ala.
- What state saved Noah and his family? Ark.

War Is Declared

Between Macon Academy, Tuskegee Public School

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE--"When they did that," said the principal of Tuskegee Public School, leaning back in his office chair, "they were declaring war."

John L. Meacham was talking about the private school across the street. The school is Macon Academy, founded two and a half years ago for white children after the courts ordered the desegregation of Tuskegee Public School.

Last February Tuskegee Public and Macon Academy entered a seven-school basketball tournament. The luck of the draw matched the two schools across the street in the first round.

Macon Academy's board of directors would have none of it. They refused to allow their white basketball team to play Tuskegee Public's Negro-and-white basketball team.

A few days later, Macon Academy's headmaster, R. C. Edwards, took Meacham before the district athletic board in Opelika on a rules violation.

"It was really a last-ditch attempt to get us declared ineligible for the tournament," Meacham said. It failed. Macon Academy withdrew. Tuskegee Public played against another school.

"Until then I took a hands-off attitude," said Meacham, a young man who accepted the principal's job at Tuskegee Public last fall after others had refused it. "But not any more."

And, last week, Meacham came out with both hands swinging. In a letter to parents, he attacked not only Macon Academy but the school's best-known supporter, Governor George C. Wallace.

Meacham reminded the parents that the governor led the way to the founding of Macon Academy in fall, 1963, by closing Tuskegee Public School to avoid desegregation.

'The Movement's Movin' On'

TUSKEGEE--A traveling group called the Southern Festival of Song appeared at Tuskegee Institute last weekend before Negro and white college students.

The concert ended with a song that may symbolize the basic shift in the attitude of the civil rights movement.

Songfests like this one used to finish with the stately and patient anthem, "We Shall Overcome."

Last Friday, a folk singer from New York City, Len Chandler, said he had a new civil rights song, to the tune of "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

Pickets Protest Employee Firings At Five Mobile Movie Theatres

BY DAVID R. UNDERHILL

MOBILE--Pickets started marching two weeks ago to protest the firing of a few Negro employees at five movie theatres in Negro sections of Mobile and Prichard.

"But two additional issues are now involved in the picketing. The original issue arose when two projector operators, John Morris and Roy Simon, asked for a raise and were fired the next day. Sylvester Andrews, another operator who asked for a raise at the same time, quit his job because of the firings.

A spokesman for the C. H. King family, which owns all the theatres, says the two men were fired because they had not been maintaining their machines properly. The men say they were fired for requesting a raise.

About two weeks later, Lee Washington, who had been with the company off and on for almost 40 years, was also fired.

The men who were fired and the one who quit wanted to get their jobs back with a raise. They went to Negro lead-

Owner of the
LINCOLN, ACE, BOOKER T., HARLEM, AND CARVER THEATRES

FIRED
Under Paid Negro Operators because they asked for a raise in salary and replaced them with **WHITE ONES**

Please respect these

Picket Lines

CITIZENS OF MOBILE COUNTY

er John LeFlore, and this is when the additional issues started coming in. LeFlore said he offered to help them,

but they didn't come back to see him about it. The men say LeFlore is an old friend of the King family and didn't really try to help them.

They went to E. J. Moorer, who helped them set up picket lines. Under the leadership of Moorer the pickets are protesting not only the firings but also what Moorer calls "LeFlore and all the little LeFlores--Negro leaders appointed by the Mayor."

The second additional issue is how the protest should be conducted.

Moorer talks of "vigorous direct action" and says, "We need SNCC. We need them bad." He says he does not believe in violence and turned down a group of Black Muslims who offered to put King out of business.

Some of the picketers, however, say they might accept the Muslims' offer, if nothing else works.

Mobile to Reconsider Federal School Grant

BY DAVID R. UNDERHILL

MOBILE--Last week, the Mobile County school board voted not to apply for federal money to finance a summer school program for about 20,000 students, primarily from poor families.

This week, the board announced that it would reconsider its decision.

The vote against the summer school program had aroused an integrated outcry from parents, teachers, PTA's, professional organizations, civil rights groups, and civic clubs all over the county.

The summer school proposal had been prepared and then approved by school administrators after months of studies and surveys. It called for a great variety of special courses, to be offered free at every county public school with a "high concentration" of students from families living on less than \$2,000 a year.

According to the proposal, all 36 of the Negro schools in the county and 17 of the white schools fall into this poverty category.

The summer school courses would be specially designed to help students overcome the educational disadvantages

tages of being born poor and raised poor. But any student whose family is not poor would be able to join the program, if he needed the help it offered.

The summer school program is the board's last chance to use the nearly \$2,000,000 of federal anti-poverty money available to Mobile County for education.

The money could have been used in poor schools during the regular school year. The deadline on applications to use the money for summer school programs is a week away. If the board does not apply for the money by that time, the school system will not get any of the anti-poverty funds allotted to it for 1965-66.

When the board voted the summer school proposal down last week, some of the members cited last summer's federally-financed Head Start program as a reason for opposing the new proposal. The school board and the government had a long, confused dispute last year after federal inspectors discovered that Mobile's Head Start was completely segregated.

The board's contract with the government called for an integrated Head Start program.



BY MARY MOULTRIE
SATURDAY, APRIL 23

WIDE WORLD OF SPORTS--Three outstanding sports events for sports viewers: the Daytona "300" Stock Car Championships from Daytona, Fla., the International Surfing Championships from Makaha Beach, Hawaii, and the National AAU Women's Indoor Swimming Championships from Bartlesville, Okla., 3 p.m. Channel 6 in Birmingham, Channel 8 in Selma, and Channel 32 in Montgomery.

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

MY FAVORITE MARTIAN--Tim accidentally turns a squirrel into a human being while playing with Uncle Martin's molecular re-assembler, 6:30 p.m. Channel 4 in Dothan, Channel 19 in Huntsville, and Channel 20 in Montgomery.

TUESDAY, APRIL 26

TUESDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES--"The Time Machine" stars Rod Taylor, Alan Young, and Yvette Mimieux. The

fictional story of a man who invented a machine, which carried him into the future to a world of strange human existence, 8 p.m. Channel 12 in Montgomery.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

THE BIG VALLEY--"Last Train To the Fair"--The Barkleys' trip to the fair is shattered when Audra is stricken with acute appendicitis; the only man available to perform the operation that will save her life is an unlicensed medic who is being hunted by a rancher, 8 p.m. Channel 3 in Pensacola, Fla.; Channel 4 in Dothan, Channel 6 in Birmingham, Channel 8 in Selma, Channel 31 in Huntsville, and Channel 32 in Montgomery.

THURSDAY, APRIL 28

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SPECIAL--"The World of Jacques-Yves Cousteau," the latest, and greatest, adventure of the world's foremost underwater pioneer, 6:30 p.m. Channel 4 in Dothan, Channel 19 in Huntsville, and Channel 20 in Montgomery.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

John Patterson should not want none of the Negroes to vote for him, and George Wallace either, as bad as they hate Negroes. They know they are buying them to help put them back in the office. I won't vote for either of them. They are not friends to any Negroes. They want to put their foot down on us for four more years.

I do hope not either one of them will be lucky enough to get the office. John Patterson stopped the Negroes from parading downtown one Thanksgiving. He did nothing about the burning houses and churches, and killing of little children. He did make it hard for Negroes.

Wallace did worse than Patterson. Both are Negro haters.

(Name withheld)
Montgomery, Ala.

To the Editor:

...I think it is time for the Rev. Jesse L. Douglas (president of the Montgomery Improvement Association) and Rufus Lewis (chairman of the Montgomery Democratic Conference, Inc.) to wake up if they want the little people to vote with or for them and their candidates.

We can forgive Rev. Douglas for having all of those Uncle Tom school principals in the city auditorium (for a speech by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. last December) instead of having those civil rights workers with him--the little people who are the cause of the Negroes working downtown and taking care of the Negro preachers.

I don't blame Rufus Lewis for not taking any side with the Negro preachers. About three or four of them helped haul the people.

...Had it not been for the SCLC special task force, no one would have come in here and got the people registered. Where was the NAACP? What did they do? ...The NAACP here just talked. I did not see anything in Prattville move until SCLC. ...There is plenty to be done in Montgomery. Hurry, start picketing. I am with you. All of my children can be members of your SCOPE chapter of SCLC.

W.S. Williams
Montgomery, Ala.

(Editor's note: The first part of Mr. Williams' letter, which is not printed here, concerned a Carver High School parent who, Mr. Williams said, was harassed because of civil rights activity.)

To the Editor:

I would like to compliment you on the publication of The Southern Courier. I had never seen the paper until I came out here to Ohio.

I feel there is a great need for a paper to keep those of us all 'round the country informed. I hope you have readers in every city. And I hope other areas can start up their own "Couriers," too.

When I read in your paper and the other news of what the Office of Economic Opportunity is doing, I'm glad that I was not accepted as a VISTA volunteer. I would want no part of the "war (skirmish, really) on poverty" if it is to be run as it is now. Johnson doesn't want me in one war, so I must go to college to stay away from his other war.

Will Powers Jr.
Wilmington College
Wilmington, Ohio

To the Editor:

I just wanted to say I wonder why Mr. Wallace doesn't register his wife for the Army. If she can take a man's place in one thing, she should go and help win the war that is taking our boys and husbands. I think that kind of woman should go side by side with men in war.

In everything the world is in a bad fix, with women trying to run it.

Mrs. H. W. Arrington
Montgomery, Ala.

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



The Only

BOYS' CLUB IN MONTGOMERY

for Negroes

Photographs and Text by Jim Pepler

If Montgomery United Appeal Fund plans work out, the Capitol City Boys' Club will one day be in a new brick building on almost two acres of land.

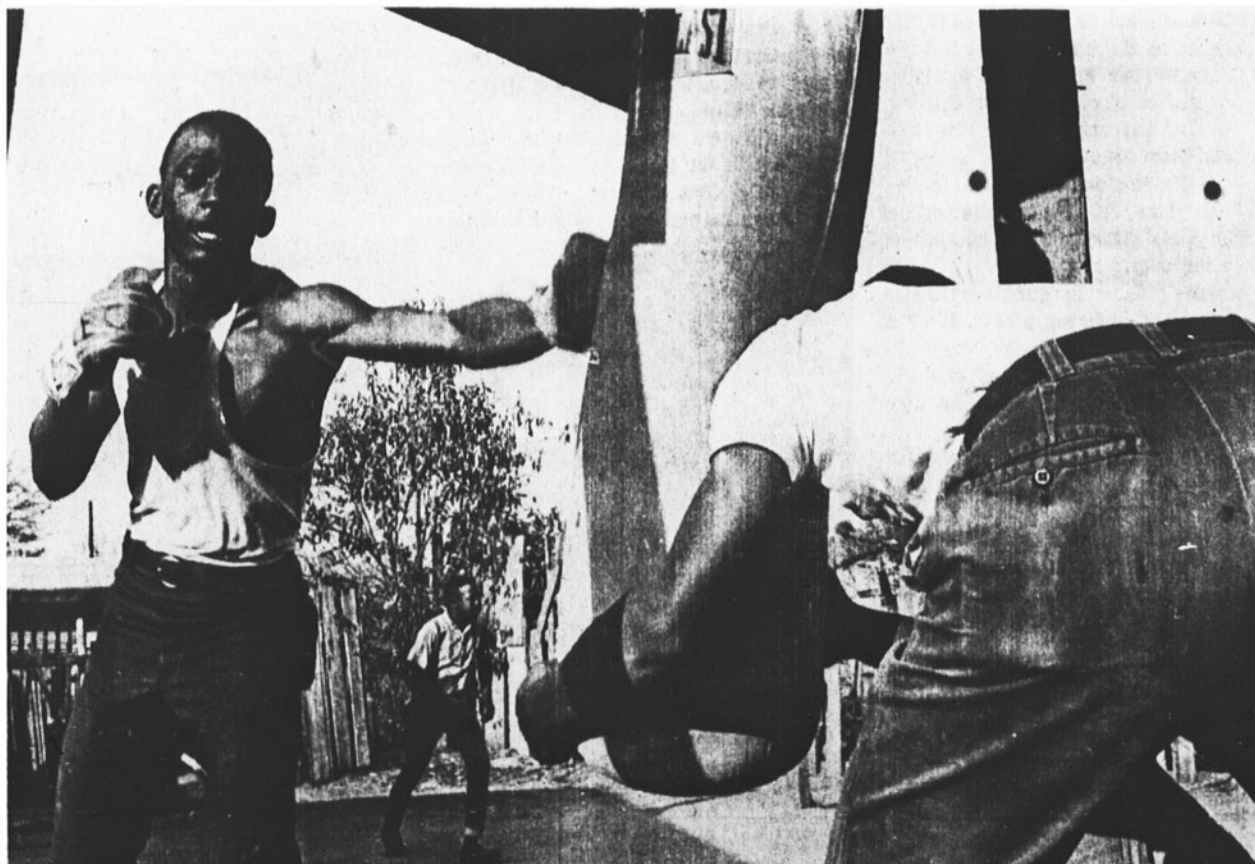
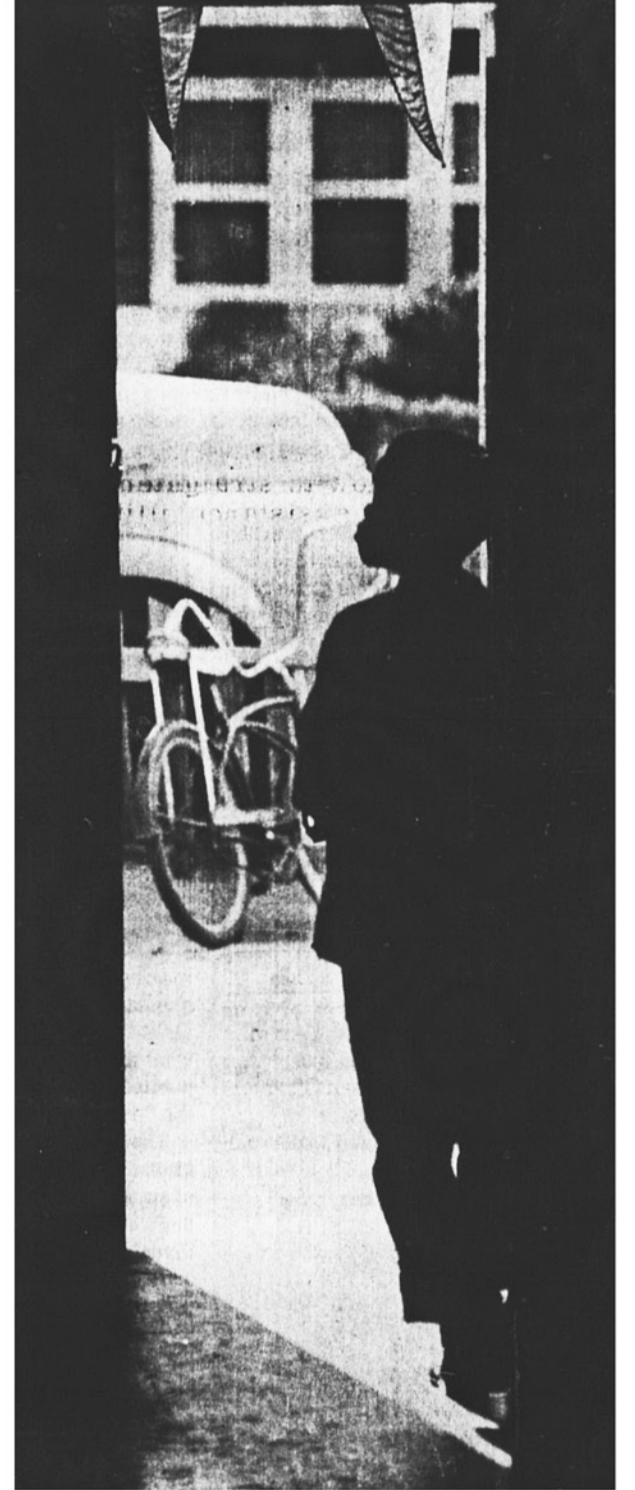
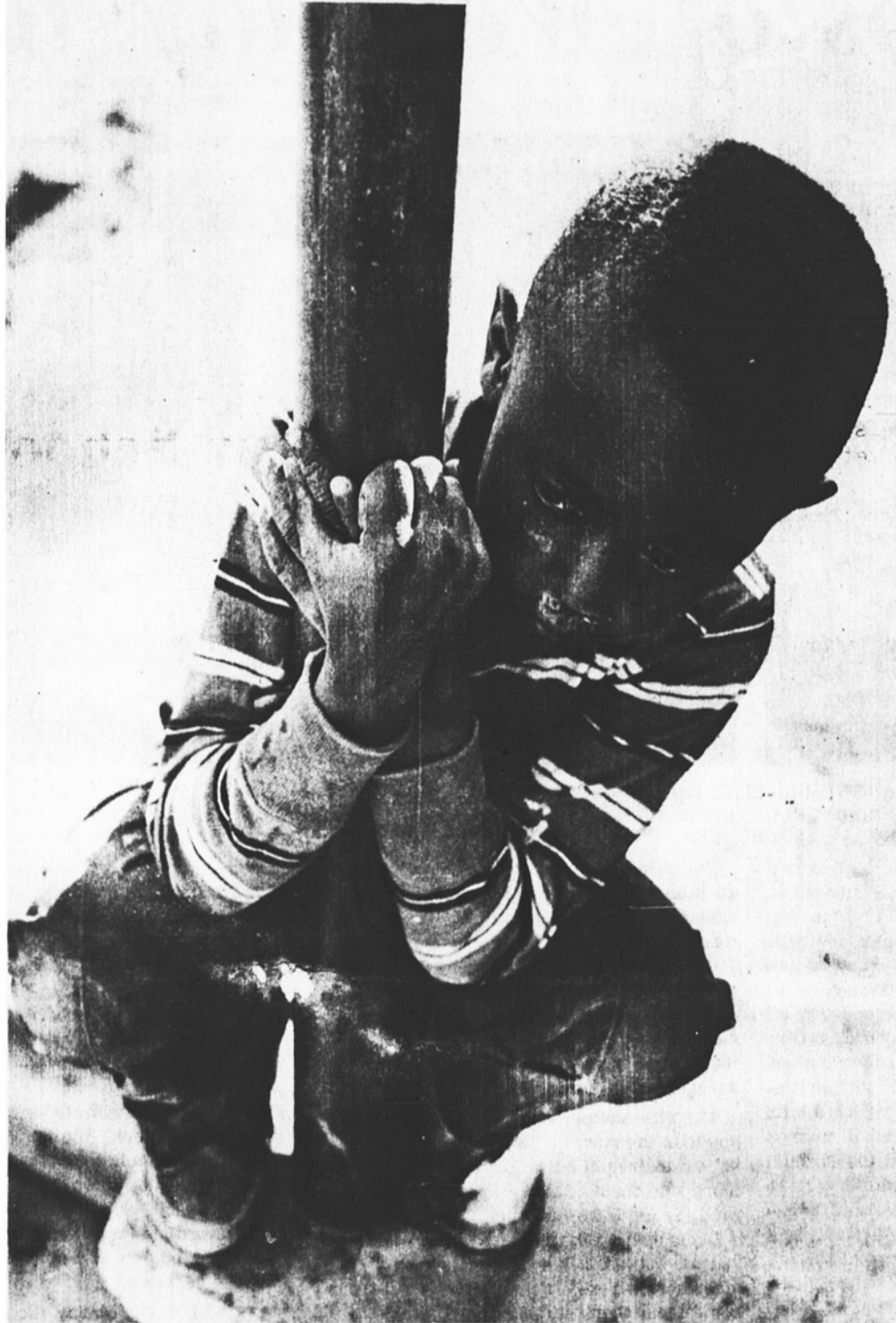
Today the Boys' Club, founded in 1961 and operated since then by Mr. and Mrs. William 'Kid' Franklin, is located in a six-room wood building surrounded by a scant 100 square feet of playground - basketball court.

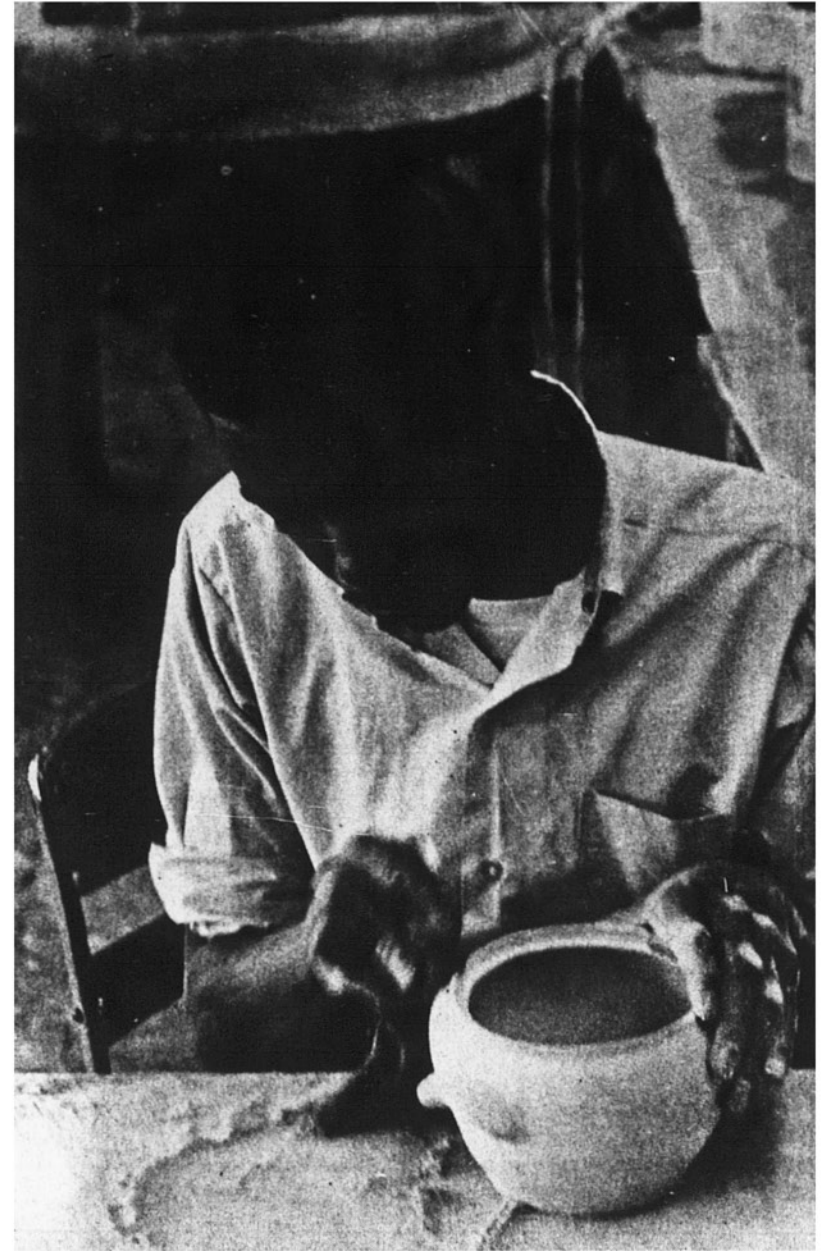
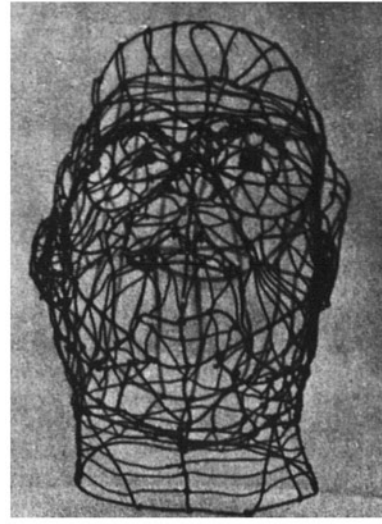
Even so, the Capitol City Boys' Club offers underprivileged Negro boys of Montgomery an opportunity for woodshop, library, arts and crafts, basketball,

baseball, football, boxing, and table tennis.

The youngsters are also exposed to a code of conduct in the Boys' Club oath, which Franklin requires the boys to memorize:

"I believe in God and the right to worship according to my own faith and religion. I believe in America and the American way of life, in the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. I believe in fair play, honesty, and sportsmanship. I believe in my Boys' Club which stands for these things."





High School Artists Use Their Hands and Their Minds From Lumps of Wet Clay to Works of Art

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAVID R. UNDERHILL

MOBILE--"I'm going to do something like this next," said the huge football player, pointing to a picture of a delicately shaped dish with an arched lid on it.

When he said "do," he meant he was going to start with a lump of wet clay and turn it into a work of art that any woman would like to have on her dinner table or any judge might like to award a prize.

The football player was in a Trinity Gardens High School classroom that teacher Edmond Dean has turned into an art studio and filled with enthusiastic students. They come in for class period every day. They also come in at noon, during free periods, after school, and even on Saturdays.

When Dean arrived at this new school three years ago, it had no art program of any kind, and the students didn't seem to mind. Dean started classes that touched on all major types of art. He concentrated on sculpture and ceramics, his specialties as an art student at Alabama State.

It took him a while to make the art classes into more than just another name on the list of elective courses at Trinity Gardens. He says that when he stood up in front of his first class and told them the plates they eat from are clay, they looked at him like he was out of his mind. A few students even told him so.

Senior Willie Howard, one of those early students, has been with Dean ever since. He sweeps his arm around the classroom filled with student works and says, "Before Mr. Dean came out here, I didn't even know you could make such things."

Now that the students know, they are



ART STUDENTS AT TRINITY GARDENS HIGH SCHOOL MAKE USUAL THINGS, LIKE JAMPOTS AND ASHTRAYS, AND UNUSUAL THINGS, LIKE STONE FIGURES AND WIRE SCULPTURES. THE POTTER'S WHEEL SPINS THE CLAY AROUND LIKE A TOP, BUT SKILLFUL HANDS ARE NEEDED TO SHAPE IT INTO A WORK OF ART.

making things that any high school should be proud of, if not amazed at. Many people were amazed when they went into the main branch of the Mobile public library during March and saw the Trinity Gardens art display.

The display included ceramics of all kinds. Ceramics are clay that has been shaped by hand or on a potter's wheel and then baked at very high temperatures in a special oven called a kiln. This baking causes chemical changes which make the clay hard and durable.

Trinity Gardens' ceramics were so well made that some viewers of the exhibit thought the students must have used molds to get such perfect shapes. But one of Dean's basic rules is that students must do everything by hand, from beginning to end.

Under this rule, and under his careful teaching, the students have become real craftsmen in ceramics instead of just thoughtless machines reproducing things which other people have made before.

This open-minded approach to art showed up even more vividly in the two other types of work displayed at the library: stone sculpture and wire sculpture.

Stone figures and faces weighing 30 or 40 pounds stared tensely out of their cabinets, like they wanted to break through the glass and leap into life.

One called "The Boxer" still has the squared-off shape of the rectangular stone that student Elton King started carving. By picking away just a bit of the surface on all sides, he produced a swinging, high-kicking fighter.

The wire sculptures are just the opposite of the stones. They are light and hollow instead of heavy and solid. But there's no doubt what they are: a man's head, an old lady, Christ on the cross.

If you spend a day in Dean's classes, you see that works like these are not accidents or strokes of good luck. They come from inspiration and hard work. Almost everyone at Trinity Gardens has seen the students at work. "Anytime somebody is doin' somethin' special," says Howard, "students will be hangin' all in the door watchin'."

Some outsiders, especially white people interested in what goes on at the classes, seem reluctant to find out for themselves. An employee of the library came up to a man viewing the exhibits there and said, "That's really great stuff, isn't it?"

"It sure is," the man answered, "I'd like to visit the art classes at Trinity Gardens some day."

"So would I, but do you know where the school is?" the employee asked.

"Yes, it's just off Highway 45, a couple miles out," said the man.

"I don't mean how you get there," said the employee. "I mean, do you know what that Trinity Gardens section is like? If you're going out there, you'd better go on the Beltline instead of 45."

The Beltline is a new four-lane highway that curves around the western side of Mobile and Prichard. It lets you off right near the school, so you don't have to drive along Highway 45 or through Trinity Gardens.

Highway 45, which runs through a sprawling Negro slum for about half a mile, has a reputation for being one of the roughest streets in Mobile County, Trinity Gardens, a part of the slum, is

listed on some maps as marshland. It's a low, flat area of open ditches, dirt streets, weeds, and broken-down houses. It looks like a fine breeding ground for snakes and rats, but not for young artists.

Yet Dean's classes are producing skilled beginners, and a few may be able to call themselves real artists some day.

The art room is stuffed with students, their work, and equipment. The equipment includes small tools for carving and shaping, long tables to work on, a motor-driven potter's wheel, and an electric kiln about the size of a kitchen oven that can bake pottery at temperatures over 2000 degrees.

There are also a supply of clay and a rack of jars containing glazes. Glazes are powdery mixtures of chemicals that give ceramics a smooth, hard, shiny, waterproof surface.

After a student shapes a piece of clay by hand or on the wheel, he lets it dry a few days. Then he chooses a glaze.

Most glazes have a whitish color in the bottle, but the heat of the kiln changes them into any color a potter wants, depending on the chemical make-up of the glaze. The young potter mixes a little of his glaze in water and paints it onto the clay.

Then the glazed clay goes into the kiln and the baking, or firing, starts. It takes about a day for the kiln to reach the proper temperature, be turned off at exactly that temperature, and then cool down again.

Emmett Brown was working on a clay head that would eventually go into the kiln:

"I started with wet clay and shaped it by hand in the form of a head. Then I fixed the rough shapes of the ears, eyes, nose, and mouth with my fingers. Now, I'm carving in the details, working down from the eyes and the bridge of the nose."

Next to Brown, Willie Mallory and King were carving together on a stone like the ones on display at the library. But the stone was much softer than the rock-like finished works in the exhibit. Dean and the students make the stones

right in the classroom. "It's half sand and half trade secret," Dean says. Whatever the other half is, they mix it with sand and pour the mixture into boxes, or big paper tubes, or any other shape they want to work with.

When the mixture has dried enough to hold together, they remove it from the mold and start carving. At this stage, the stone is light gray color and soft enough to carve with a kitchen knife. As it dries, it gradually turns brick-

collapsing legs coming out where the ears ought to be.

"The wings are holding the earth up in space," says King. "But the front side shows the weakening of the world from sin. It's so weighted down with sin that it's about to collapse."

Dean hopes to keep turning out students who work and talk like this, and who can use their training in factories or for hobbies. But he needs more space and equipment to make the school someday as proud of its art exhibits as it is now of its band.

The busy students don't seem to be thinking about competing with the band or about the jobs their art training might land for them later on.

A girl working after school on a lump of clay whirling around on the potter's wheel was thinking hard, but only about her lump of clay. "Most likely, it'll be a vase with a saucer attached," she said. "You can't always tell. My things tend to turn into pots."

Whatever it would be, she was creating something, simply "because I love it. I always have. Ever since I was a little child, I liked to draw and paint. Now I've switched over to ceramics."

Howard feels his work gives him a means of "self-expression," and Mallory said, "I feel more at ease workin' in here than doin' anything else."

King didn't think his desire to be an artist required much explanation. He just said, "Art is something you have to grasp while you've got the chance," and he started hammering away on his stone again.



hard and becomes almost pure white. Lately, the class has been experimenting at making different colored stones.

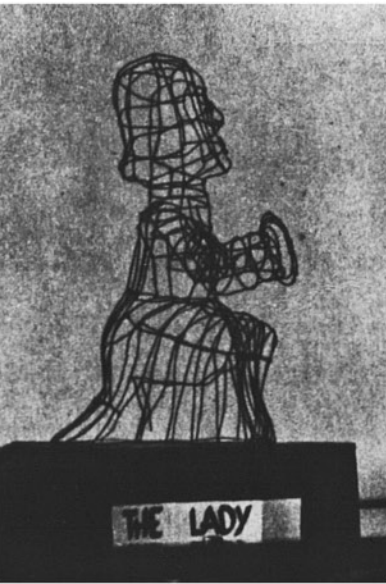
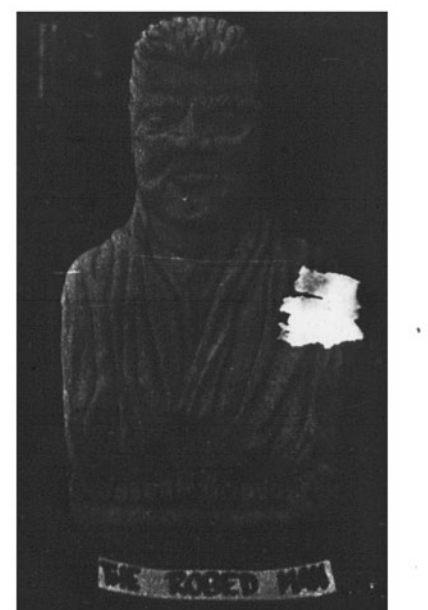
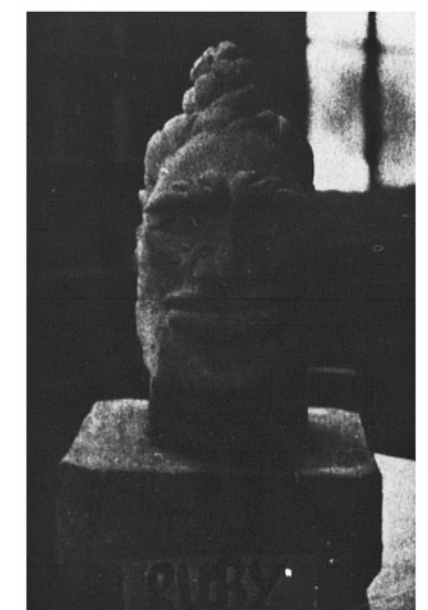
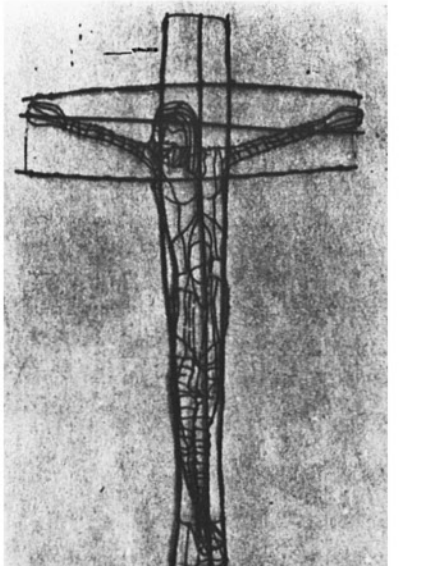
But all these preparations, techniques, and experiments are just ways of approaching the final goal—a finished product that shows not only skilled use of the materials and equipment, but also inspiration and originality. The best student work at Trinity Gardens has all these qualities.

"We stress creativity," explains Dean. "We don't give them a book and say, 'Do this.' We say, 'Find in your mind what you want to do in class.'"

"It all goes back to my teacher. That was his philosophy." This teacher was an old artist at Alabama State named Dr. Isaac Scott Hathaway. "He is just a genius," says Dean. "He can pick up a piece of clay and make it into a man right before your eyes."

Hathaway taught his students to learn their techniques well and then let their minds wander. Dean is teaching his students the same.

One of King's stone sculptures called "The World on Its Last Legs" shows the results. It's a round, rough head with wings on the back of it and bent,



You Have 69 Choices In Jeffco Primary

BY RICHARD J. VAUGHN

BIRMINGHAM--Going to the polls May 3? Good luck. In Jefferson County 56 people are running for 20 seats in the House of Representatives and 13 are running for seven seats in the state Senate. All of the candidates run county-wide.

Reapportionment of the state legislature last fall increased the number of elected representatives for the Birmingham area in the state capitol in Montgomery.

It also increased confusion among the voters. Chances are slim that any one voter knows something about all the candidates. But each voter must choose 27 favorites, and so the candidates are anxiously trying to spread their names around the county.

The race for the house seats is marked by the candidacies of four Negroes: Leroy S. Gaillard Jr., a Birmingham contractor running for place 9 against J. S. Kennamer and Tommy Watkins.

Dr. James T. Montgomery of Birmingham, running against Lawrence A. Lee and J. D. Wilkinson for place 10. David H. Hood Jr., a young attorney from Bessemer who is vice president of the Jefferson County Alabama Democratic Conference, Inc. He is running in place 20 against Thomas H. Jackson, Ben Maloy, J. Howard McEniry Jr., and Bill Prentice.

Arthur D. Shores, a Birmingham attorney and head of the Jefferson County Progressive Democratic Conference. His opponents for place 3 are Robert L. Ellis and Mack Rudd. Few of the candidates have expressed much disagreement over issues. Most favor pushing construction of roads, improvement of schools, reduction of the gasoline tax at the airport, and changing the tax structure.

A senate race that has attention is the one between John A. Hawkins Jr., who heads the Joint Legislative Committee to Preserve the Peace, and Jerome A. Cooper, a "liberal" from Birmingham.

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference in Birmingham claims a total of 65,000 Negroes now registered in Jefferson County. SCLC says this is an increase of 37,000 since it began a voter registration drive last December.

Federal examiners were sent to Jefferson County Jan. 20. The examiners said they have qualified 17,555 Negroes and 2,745 whites here. An estimated 170,000 whites are registered in the county now.

The U. S. Civil Service Commission, which is in charge of the examiners, said it has qualified 56,758 Negroes and 3,545 whites for the May 3 Democratic primary. That figure would bring the total of Negroes registered to vote in Alabama to about 225,000, the commission said.



GAILLARD



HOOD



SHORES

Trouble in Tuscaloosa

TUSCALOOSA--"The U. of A. is not puses across the state." The officers again asked them to leave. When they refused, the policemen quietly arrested two young men, identified as William L. Palya and Larry E. Knop.

The occasion was the annual University of Alabama Governor's Day, at which Governor George C. Wallace was the guest of honor.

It was clearly an anti-Wallace demonstration.

While the governor, after a 19-gun salute, reviewed the university military drill units, the university police arrived and asked the demonstrators to leave. When the students refused, their signs were taken away.

The demonstrators showed newsmen copies of press releases that said in part:

"We are Alabama students and concerned with the detrimental effects George Wallace's actions have had on academic quality and freedom on cam-

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Choctaw's New Voters Find:

Registering Is Only First Step

BY GAIL FALK

BUTLER--Eight months ago, in June, there were 385 Negroes registered to vote in Choctaw County. Now, because of the Voting Rights Act and a registration drive by the Choctaw County Civic League and the local SCLC project, nearly 3,000 Negroes are registered.

As the May 3 Democratic primary approaches, the question for Choctaw, as for other counties all over the Black Belt, is whether these voters will be turned into a political voice for the Negro people of the county.

The answer for Choctaw, in the wooded red hills on the Mississippi border, and other Alabama counties is going to depend largely on how well the leaders can organize the new voters to turn out for the election and to vote together.

In Choctaw, the civic league and its

president, William Harrison, have started to take the job of precinct organization as seriously as voter registration. In the past few weeks they have organized seven precincts and are ready to set up four more.

In a rural county like this one a precinct is about 15 square miles. It may be divided into two or three election "boxes," each with no more than 300 voters.

Until the May 3 primary, the civic league plans weekly meetings in each of the organized precincts.

A large part of the meeting is devoted to teaching. Many new voters are confused by the political process they are becoming a part of.

Some people, for example, thought they voted by dropping a candidate's card into the ballot box.

A member of the civic league or an

SCLC worker demonstrates how to vote on a sample ballot. He tells the people they must vote for no more than one candidate for each office. They must find the name of the person they want and then place an X, not a check, next to the person's name. The X must be clearly marked, and no bigger than the box.

They are told that a black sticker is placed on the number at the lower corner of the ballot. Nobody is permitted to remove the sticker, so that the voter is assured a secret ballot.

One of the workers explains the idea of the Confederation of Alabama's Political Organizations (COAPO). He tells about the county interview, political guidance, and patronage committees,

who will pick the candidates they think Negroes should vote for.

He tells people at the meeting not to sell their votes. Instead, he says, they should wait and vote for the candidate the confederation committee endorses.

The confederation and committee ideas are complicated, and a lot of people at the meetings don't understand the details.

But they probably get the main idea. One woman explained what she had learned at a meeting: "Mr. Hose Williams--he's teachin' for us to stick together."

Ward leaders are chosen who have the job of getting out the vote in their particular neighborhood. They are supposed to go door to door telling people not to promise their vote until they've heard from the COAPO committee.

The ward leaders are gathering information about who will need a ride to the polls on election day and who will need a baby-sitter. They are finding out which voters are illiterates so they can arrange for a partner to read the ballot.

On the day of the primary, the civic league may set up a car-dispatch headquarters at the SCLC freedom house.

And that night, they will wait for the results to see how well they have done.

CHOCTAW CANDIDATES

LISMAN -- A minister running for Choctaw County commissioner can recall the days when he chopped wood for one of his opponents for 50¢ a day.

The Rev. L. I. Spears of Lisman says that two years ago, he chopped wood for C. R. Ezell, the present District II commissioner.

The third man in the race for the Democratic nomination is Claude M. Reynolds of Yantley.

Mr. Spears, the first Negro to run for Choctaw County Commissioner, said poor white families "should have as much benefit" as Negro families, "and should be equally appreciative" of the programs he supports--especially a relief food-stamp plan.

Mr. Spears said he supported improvement of roads in Negro communities.

"Many people have to park their automobiles on the paved road and walk home when it rains," he said. "I believe in a short while I could have good roads in these communities so they wouldn't have to leave the cars so far away."

Ezell, who has been a commissioner for 12 years, said he didn't want to get

into an argument about the roads. "Anything they accuse me of, I won't deny it," he said.

Reynolds, who said he had been in the road-building business for 42 years, promised to bring the county "better roads and more factories." He said he also endorsed a food-stamp program.

The county board of commissioners --made up of a commissioner from each of the four county districts, and the probate judge--is responsible for running the affairs of the county. Most importantly, the commissioners decide how tax money will be spent.

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(Pd. Pol. Adv. by Charles G. Stokes, Tuskegee Institute, Alabama)



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On May 3 . . . Vote for

CARL ELLIOTT

(Pd. Pol. Adv. by Friends of Carl Elliott, Carl Elliott Jr., chairman)

First Showdown: Negro Vote Split In Montgomery Commission Race

BY ROBERT E. SMITH
MONTGOMERY -- The first direct battle between the confederation of newly registered voters and the old, established Alabama Democratic Conference, Inc. came in Montgomery's city commission primary election last Monday.

The Montgomery Democratic Conference, Inc. passed out sample ballots the Saturday before election day endorsing Harry Kaminsky.

Local members of SCLC's Confederation of Alabama's Political Organizations were a day late in spreading the word at churches for Pleas Looney. A fellow named Cliff Evans finished first in the primary; Kaminsky was second; and Looney was fourth.

"We used to be just like sisters and brothers going to the polls," said one Negro voter on election day. "Now the Negro vote is all split up."

"I'm so mad at those leaders, I'm gonna vote the way I please," said one woman.

Individual Negroes were also campaigning for E. P. "Tiny" Brown, who finished third, and for Walter L. Darby Sr., who was fifth.

Evans, a man most Negro groups were trying to beat, will oppose Kaminsky in a run-off this Monday. The winner will face the Republican and third party candidates June 6 for a commissioner's seat vacated by death in March.

With the Negro Democrats' support, Kaminsky won big at the polling places in or near Negro neighborhoods. Looney was second at some of these election places, but ran poorly in the rest of the city.

Nobody in the Negro community was happy about the outcome.

"If there had been more unity among Negroes," said Rufus A. Lewis, chairman of the county and state Democratic Conference, "we could have elected our man without a run-off."

Lewis would not say why he had endorsed Kaminsky.

The voters and church groups associated with SCLC's new confederation were bitter about the last-minute cir-



EVANS KAMINSKY

culcation of Lewis' endorsement for Kaminsky. They tried to spread the word in churches that Looney was the man.

SCLC staffers in Montgomery said they were disappointed by Looney's showing, and were undecided about what they should do in the run-off election Monday.

The Negro vote was large, especially among newly registered voters. One Montgomery Improvement Association member accused other Negroes of going into the voting booth with voters unfamiliar with the machine and then pulling the Kaminsky switch for the voter.



THE REV. ANDREW CARTER WALKS AWAY FROM THE VOTING BOOTHS IN HAMNER HALL IN MONTGOMERY WHERE HE VOTED MONDAY. THE 100-YEAR OLD MAN REMEMBERS VOTING BEFORE NEGROES WERE DISENFRANCHISED WHEN HE WAS 25 YEARS OF AGE. HE REGISTERED LAST OCTOBER.

U.S. JUDGE ORDERS BULLOCK ELECTION

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

no seats would be open to election for two more years.

In their federal court suit, the Negroes said the law was passed with the purpose of and had the effect of racial discrimination. They charged the county's white minority with seeking to continue "political dominance" over the Negro majority.

Only one member of the federal panel -- U. S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr. -- agreed with them on both points.

"The history of voting discrimination against Negroes over a substantial period of time in Bullock County on the part of the State of Alabama and Bullock County officials... has been systematic, intentional, invidious, and in clear violation of the 15th Amendment," Judge Johnson wrote.

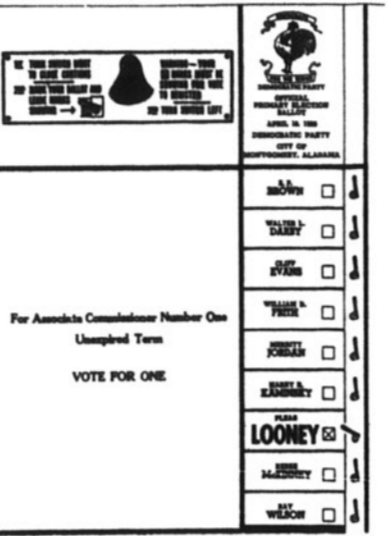
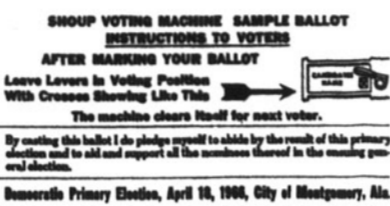
But U. S. Circuit Judge Richard T. Rives conceded only that the law had a "readily apparent discriminatory effect."

The law, he wrote, "freezes into office for an additional two years persons who were elected when Negroes were being illegally deprived of the right to vote."

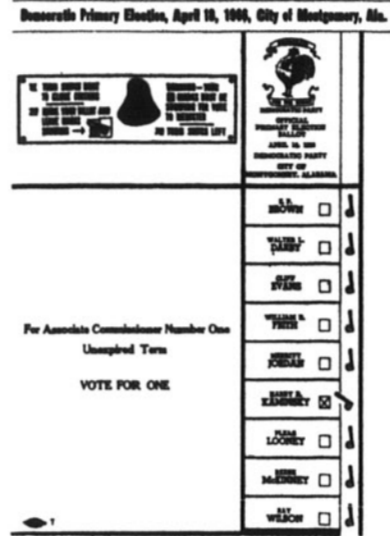
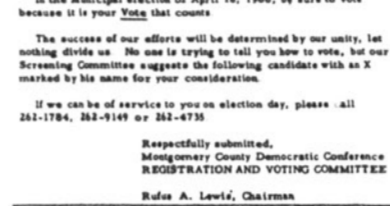
"Under such circumstances, to freeze elective officials into office is, in effect, to freeze Negroes out of the electorate. That is forbidden by the 15th Amendment," Judge Rives also found that the state law violated part of the

federal Voting Rights Act. U. S. District Judge H. H. Grooms, the third member of the panel, disagreed with the majority decision.

The judges left the extended, six-year terms in force for county commissioners elected in the future.



SCLC-COAPD ENDORSEMENT



DEM. CONFERENCE ENDORSEMENT

Panther Battle in Lowndes

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

county. Candidates or their campaign chairmen will be invited to attend the meetings to appeal for votes.

The candidates will also speak at a county-wide meeting this Sunday at Mt. Moriah Church in Beechwood.

Voting will take place on May 3 at a mass meeting in front of the Lowndes County Courthouse. By law, independent parties must do this on the day of the regular Democratic primary.

The winning candidate for each office will appear on the general election ballot in November under the symbol of a black panther, against Democratic opponents and possibly others.

It will be the job of the campaign chairmen to get supporters for their candidates to the mass meeting to cast votes, Hulett said.

In addition to community meetings, political education workshops will continue, he said.

SNCC worker Stokely Carmichael re-

ported that the Lowndes County sheriff has seen the political education leaflets circulated by the party to explain public duties and "he's really worried now that the people will know what he can do and how much he makes."

Three workshops are going to be held for the declared candidates by Jack Minnis, research director of SNCC.

"We'll talk about all the offices," said Minnis, "as they revolve around the power to tax. Taxation is a powerful weapon--it is the only weapon devised by politicians that can take money from the rich and give it to the poor."

Since many beats are not yet inde-

pendently organized, Lowndes County Freedom Organization members will be going into these areas to set up community meetings and to register voters.

So far at least one meeting has been set up for every night of the coming week.

Hulett said Wednesday that only five candidates had said they wanted to try for the three available seats on the school board.

So the candidates or their representatives drew lots out of a hat to decide which one of the five would run for the black panther nomination without opposition.

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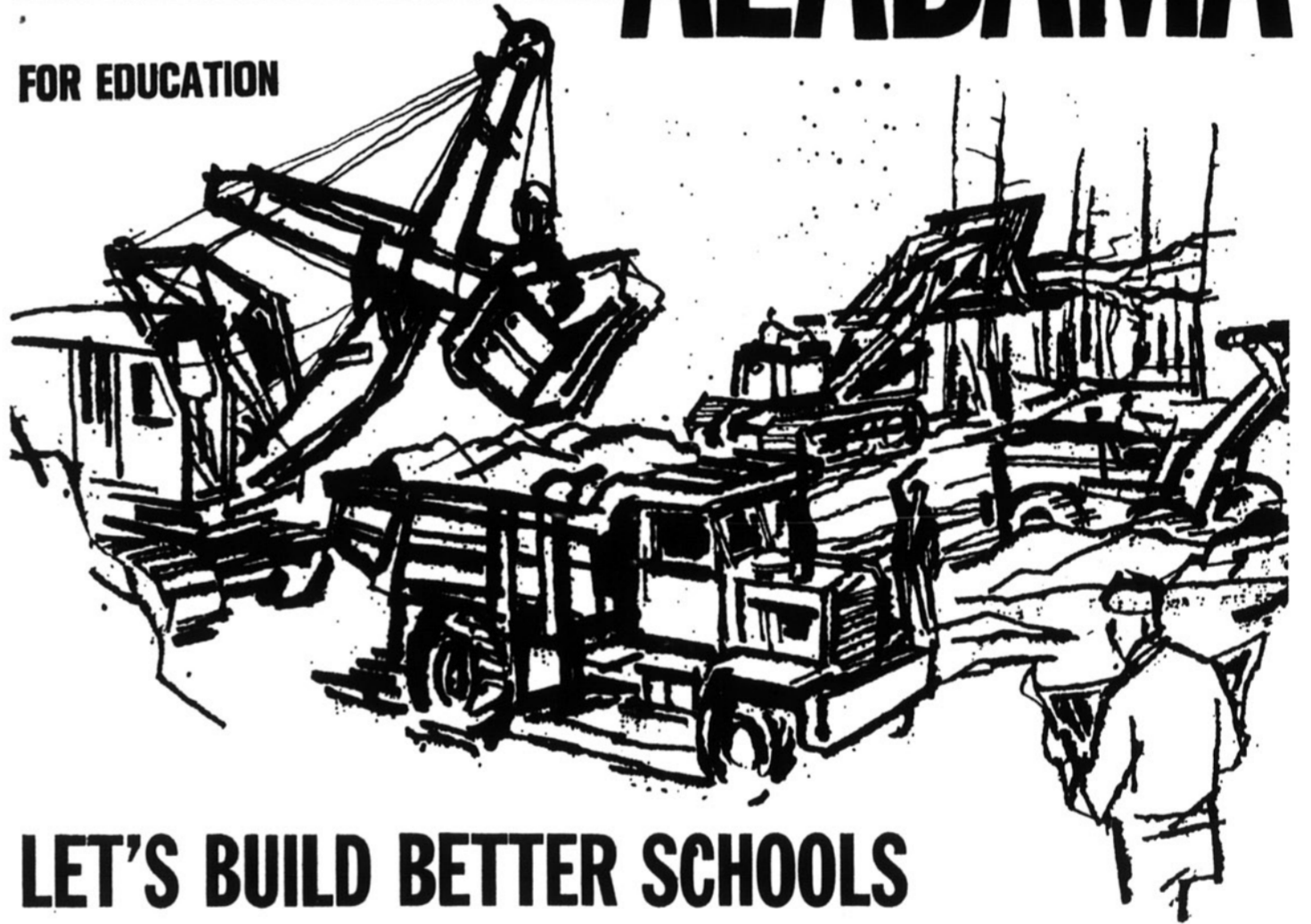
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Pol. Adv. by Dr. Paul R. Flowers, Dothan, Ala.

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