

## Legislature Convened; Farmer, Ordered Off Land, Says, 'No Trouble -- Not Until I Voted'

BY CAROL S. LOTTMAN  
**MONTGOMERY**-- Governor George C. Wallace opened a special session of the Alabama legislature last Tuesday night. But just for a moment, to the folks at home watching on a state-wide telecast, it must have looked like the Original Amateur Hour.



THE WALLACES

the University of Alabama three years ago, he said:

"We warned of the coming violence that would sweep our nation. . . . The violent organizations intent on overthrowing our government and destroying our law and freedoms are growing, they are not diminishing."

"We are proud of the men that fight communism in Viet Nam," Wallace went on. "We are proud of Alabamians who oppose it here at home. However, we grow somewhat tired of fighting communists in Viet Nam and yet letting them run wild in this country. . . ."

He suggested the legislature adopt a resolution "supporting the recent bombings. . . in North Viet Nam," and calling for "more of the same." He urged his audience to "pray for our boys in Viet Nam."

A Montgomery address was flashed on the screen at one point during the governor's opening speech. But instead of soliciting votes for boy sopranos or animal imitators, Wallace asked his listeners to send their nickels, dimes, and dollars to that address. He was seeking contributions to support "people in our state who are being forced to conduct private schools because of the destruction of their public schools."

These private schools, such as the one due to open in Lowndes County this fall, are being organized so white students will not have to go to school with Negroes.

In a sense, the governor was also asking viewers for their votes. The telecast, paid for with an estimated \$7,500 of taxpayers' money, included pictures of his wife Lurleen's campaign for governor.

At the end of the governor's speech, Mrs. Wallace was introduced as "the next governor of Alabama."

Much of Wallace's speech had political overtones. Although the session was called primarily to vote on a school appropriations bill, the governor talked at length about his administration's success in bringing new industry to the state, and of the progress made in his highway-building program.

Wallace spoke of the current racial violence in Northern cities.

Recalling his stand in the doorway at

BY MARY ELLEN GALE  
**SHOPTON**--"We been round here all our days," said Mrs. Nathan Christian. She leaned against her porch railing and looked at her yard the way people look at things they want to remember well.

Hens were scratching in the dirt underneath big, shady trees. Tall rows of cornstalks marched up to the side of the weathered frame house.

"I mind most about the church," Mrs. Christian said sadly. "Oak Grove Baptist Church No. 4. I ain't gonna move my membership if I don't get to church but once a year. My husband, he's a deacon and a Sunday school teacher. . . ."

Christian, a strong, young-looking man, came out on the porch. "Sixty years I been working for 'em," he said. "Now in two, three weeks I'll be gone. We sure hate to leave home."

The Christians are leaving the gently rolling farm land of southwestern Bullock County because they have no choice. Robert Pickett, the white man who owns the land, has told them to leave. They have nowhere to go but a brother's small farm in Dallas County.

"All the reason I could get out of Mr. Pickett was I whistled at his daughter," said Christian. "I said I didn't know anything about it, but it didn't help me. 'I never had no trouble with him before. Not until I voted.'"

It was May 9, six days after the Democratic primary election, that Pickett spoke to Christian about leaving. Around the same time, some other Shopton families were having trouble of a similar kind.

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MR. AND MRS. LEROY HUGES

### NOW Means Now

BY DAVID R. UNDERHILL

**MOBILE** -- "We don't need any Toms. So I'm asking you people not to go out and talk to any Toms about this. We can use some whites, if they really want to work. But we don't want any great white fathers or great white mothers to show us the way. We know the way."

David Jacobs, temporary chairman of Neighborhood Organized Workers (NOW), gave these recruiting instructions to a small group of Mobile and Prichard residents who had just set up the new organization

at a meeting in his home last Sunday.

Other temporary officers elected at the meeting are Leo Brinkley, vice chairman; Manuel X. Green, secretary; and Isaac Craig, treasurer.

"Not one of these old organizations here has been out walking around in the slums to tell the people the truth. We're going into the streets and into the bars to let the people know the truth," Jacobs said.

Each member of the group was assigned to a section of the county, where he would look for recruits and

spread the word about the new organization.

A meeting was scheduled for this Friday night to plan NOW's first projects. A voter registration drive, federal registrars for Mobile County, and a free food program for poor families will be discussed, along with any other ideas that anyone brings up.

A representative of the Alabama Technical Assistance Corporation, a Montgomery group, agreed to come to the meeting and explain the details of a free food program.

As an Independent

### Bessemer Physician Runs for Governor

BY DON GREGG

**BESSEMER**--"The prosperity of this state depends on the working man and the farmer," said Dr. Carl Robinson, independent candidate for governor of Alabama. "We must do everything we can to raise the incomes of the people of Alabama."

On this basic platform, Robinson, a physician and lawyer here, is running for governor against Mrs. Lurleen Wallace and the probable Republican candidate, U.S. Representative James D. Martin of Gadsden.

Why would a successful doctor and lawyer enter a race against two powerful and well-known opponents?

Robinson said he is seeking office because Alabama needs "a transfusion of energy. This state needs treatment more than most of my patients do. I have no political aspirations beyond this. I can do quite well in my two professions, but I see a job to do and want to get it done." (Robinson, 40, practices law in Birmingham and Bessemer, and medicine in Bessemer.)

He also indicated that he wasn't happy about Alabama politics--particularly the Wallace brand. He said he will get the state "realigned with the Democratic Party and get the state back in the Union," if he wins the election in November.

"I think that the people will know that I'm really the only true Democrat in the governor's race, even though I'm running as an independent," Robinson said. He said he was a "true" Democrat "because I'm for the working man."

Alabama, Robinson said, has "rotten workmen's compensation and unemployment laws, and we ought to set our goals to be the best in the nation in this area. We are one of the three remaining states where the employee still has to pay part of his unemployment insurance."

Robinson said that a large portion of Alabama's income is from federal spending. "So to elect a governor who constantly condemns our highest federal officials because of such spending is only to ask for bankruptcy," he said.

"We need a hard-headed program of studying our problems and then hard work to solve them. Our officials aren't even aware of all the federal programs that are available to us."

If elected, Robinson said, he would advocate adding a chapter to Alabama history books telling of the struggle and contributions of the Alabama working man:

"If labor hadn't demanded and fought for fair wages, we would have about 8% rich people, and the other 95% would be poor. Our wealth is based on the fact that the working man and the farmer get a decent living. We've ignored them too much. It is their efforts that have gotten all of us, businessmen and professional people, a good standard of living."

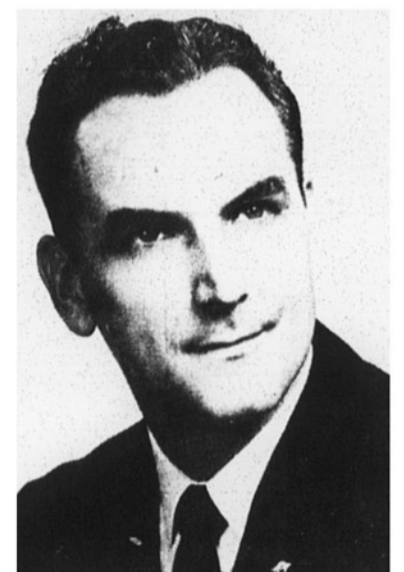
Citing education as a leading industry in Alabama, Robinson said that "in the next four years, we need to double the size of every educational system in the state. We've had an information explosion, so our children must learn more than we did. Our teachers must be better qualified and our children more motivated than we were."

He said teachers' salaries should start at \$5,200 a year. "We need to pay our teachers enough so they won't have to move to Florida to make a decent salary," he said.

On civil rights, Robinson said, "Everybody who acts like a first-class citizen ought to be treated as such; if a person chooses to act like a hoodlum, then he ought to be treated like one."

"I'm a practical man, so I don't believe in defying the law. None of us can obey just the laws we like. We must abide by all the laws."

(At a formal press conference earlier



DR. CARL ROBINSON

### Opp H.S. May Desegregate

BY PETER CUMMINGS

**OPP**--Opp High School may be completely desegregated this fall, because of a new order from the U.S. Office of Education.

In the past, Opp High has been nearly all white. Since there is no Negro high school in Opp, Negro students were carried by bus 14 miles to all-Negro schools in Andalusia. Last fall, the Opp school board began a freedom-of-choice program, and four Negro students chose to attend Opp High.

But two weeks ago, Lawrence Crowder, a field representative for the Office of Education, told the Opp school board that freedom of choice would no longer be enough. Crowder offered the board three choices:

1. Stop bussing Negro students and completely desegregate grades seven to 12.
2. Desegregate grades seven to nine and hire one Negro teacher.
3. Desegregate grades ten to 12 and hire one Negro teacher.

The school board hasn't made its decision yet. But one school board member, who asked that his name be withheld, said he was sure that the board would desegregate all grades rather than hire a Negro teacher.

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## Church Doors Are Locked In Tuskegee Again...



SERVICE ON THE STEPS

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

**TUSKEGEE**--The minister of the Westminster Presbyterian Church led a worship service on the steps of the Tuskegee Methodist Church last Sunday.

The Rev. Lawrence F. Haygood, a Negro, spoke to a bi-racial group of 40 students and teachers. They had just tried and failed to desegregate three all-white churches -- Tuskegee Methodist, First Baptist, and First Presbyterian.

Only two members of the group were missing. Haygood's wife, Mrs. Shep Haygood, and Mrs. James Woodson were attending services in the predominantly white East End Church of Christ. But, said a Church of Christ member this week, you couldn't really count that



REV. LAWRENCE F. HAYGOOD

as desegregation. "We've had mixed groups occasionally since we began meeting eight or ten years ago," he said.

It was the second Sunday in a row that summer instructors and students from Tuskegee Institute tried to worship downtown. Most of them--followed by a few spectators and guarded quietly by several policemen--went to the Methodist Church.

As the group neared the steps, a gray-haired man peered out, hastily drew in his head, and clicked the lock into place. When the group's leaders knocked on the door a moment later, there was no reply.

Three Negroes who tried to enter First Baptist Church also found the doors locked. But at First Presbyterian, church members came outside to tell their visitors, "You can't worship here."

The outdoor service on the steps of the Methodist Church brief, Haygood, Bible in hand, told his listeners that "racial segregation is a sin in the sight of God."

"This matter of locking doors," he

(CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT, Col. 1)

## ...And in Birmingham

**BIRMINGHAM**--A Sunday school class from the mostly-Negro St. Paul Lutheran Church here wanted to find out how different people worship. So they began going to services at other churches, some Negro and some white, including the Unitarian Church and a Jewish temple.

The group was turned away only once--from another Lutheran church, the First Lutheran in the fashionable South Highlands area.

The "welcome" sign was out when the integrated group arrived. But one of the men blocking the path to the doorway said, "You're not coming in here. You're trying to cause confusion. You're doing the work of the devil."

"You won't accept us as fellow Christians?" asked the class' white teacher.

"That's right," snapped the man. The visitors left.



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**THE SOUTHERN COURIER**

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THE SOUTHERN COURIER is published weekly by a non-profit, non-share education corporation, for the study and dissemination of accurate information about events and affairs in the field of human relations.  
Price: 10¢ per copy, \$5 per year in the South, \$10 per year elsewhere in the U.S., patron subscription \$25 per year used to defray the costs of printing and publication. Second-class postage paid at Montgomery, Alabama.

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Vol. II, No. 31 July 30-31, 1966

**Editorial Opinion**

**Could It Happen Here?**

For several years, people in the North have had a good time laughing at the South's racial problems. Northern "liberals" have fallen over each other in their eagerness to denounce Southern segregation.

This week, the shoe is on the other foot. Many Southerners have enjoyed reading about the race riots in Chicago and Cleveland. To them, the riots prove that the South has been right all along.

Neither reaction--Northern or Southern--is very intelligent. The riots, death, and destruction in the North carry serious lessons for all sections of the county. In some ways, the riots show how little has been done since the civil rights movement became popular more than 10 years ago.

The riots prove--if any more proof is needed--that race relations is a national, not a Southern, problem. There was no more brotherly love displayed in Cleveland and Chicago than there was in the worst days of Selma and Birmingham.

White officials in Cleveland and Chicago showed that they have, if possible, even less understanding of Negro problems than do the white officials of the South. In Chicago, Mayor Richard J. Daley had done almost nothing for Negroes on the West Side since the near-riots that occurred last summer. Just before the trouble started this month, the mayor announced plans for a new theater in Chicago. His thoughts, obviously, could not have been farther away from the troubles of West Side ghetto residents. Even when the riots began, Mayor Daley didn't know what was happening. He blamed the unrest on "juvenile delinquents."

Mayor Ralph S. Locher and other Cleveland officials were just as blind. Cleveland had been promising urban renewal for the run-down Hough area for many years--but the promises were just promises, and life in Hough grew more unbearable every day. Last spring, U.S. Civil Rights Commission hearings in Cleveland produced almost unbelievable stories of slum life. But still Cleveland did nothing.

Many "friends" of the civil rights movement have predicted unhappily that the riots will hurt the Negro cause, by alienating white supporters. Negro leaders can hardly be expected to care about this. Their white supporters have done them little good as it is. For the riots, and the reactions of Northern whites, demonstrated that the North has just as many "cautious liberals" as the South. These people are supposedly waiting for just the right moment to add their weight to the struggle for equality. But the right moment is long past, and the struggle can't wait for them any longer.

The Northern riots raise the question: Could it happen here in the South? The answer is yes.

So far, the South has been lucky, as far as riots are concerned. Negroes in the South have had something, however inadequate, to show for more than ten years of civil rights activity. For the first time, they can eat in the same restaurants as white folks. Last May, many Negroes were able to vote for the first time in their lives.

But the Northern Negro has been voting for years--for white party officials, white city councilmen, white mayors, and white legislators, or for Negro candidates who owe their allegiance to the white men downtown. And the Northern Negro has long been able to eat in white restaurants--the only trouble is, he can hardly afford to eat at all. In other words, the civil rights movement has done much for him.

So while Negroes in the North are mad enough to riot, Negroes in the South apparently are not--for the moment. But if the march toward equality--already painfully slow--gets much slower, anger and frustration may spread across the South.

But the South still has a chance to avoid the riots that have ended lives and destroyed businesses in Northern cities. How? White officials must try to keep in touch with their Negro constituents. Almost everywhere in Alabama and Mississippi, this is much easier than it is in Chicago and Cleveland. And Negroes deserve--right now--to be represented by Negroes on city and county governing boards, ASCS committees, anti-poverty committees, and police forces. Besides this, the fair-weather Southern liberals must make their voices heard--now--among their unconvinced and uncommitted neighbors.

One of the worst Northern mistakes was worrying more about riots than what causes them. True, a riot is unfortunate because it brings death and destruction. But the most unfortunate thing about a riot is that it means the people have given up on society. If Negro leaders--Northern and Southern--decide that only fear of a riot will force white officials to act, then "the fire next time" will truly be burning. And those who have watched and waited and worried--and done nothing--will have only themselves to blame.



SCENE OF THE DISPUTE

**\$4 a Day Not Enough, Say Maids in Meridian**

BY GAIL FALK

MERIDIAN, Miss.--"When you leave home at 7 in the morning and come home at 5:30 p.m., them's some long hours. And for \$4 a day--it's just not enough," said Mrs. Emma Henderson, a pretty young mother of six. Until last Thursday she was a maid at Travel Inn, a modern motel on Tom Bailey Drive in Meridian.

"It seems like I had to do two days' work in one," said Mrs. Henderson. "I had 12 rooms. In each room I had to change the linen, dust, mop, clean the bathroom and run a vacuum cleaner through. On Mondays we'd do general cleaning--pull out the beds and wash the windows."

"Then I came home and I had to do my own cleaning, cook, bathe the children, and go with my husband."

Last week, Mrs. Henderson and the five other maids at Travel Inn decided it wasn't worth working if they earned

**When You Buy**

**How to Get A Fair Deal**

A woman who lives in Washington, D.C., went to buy a \$514 stereo set. She signed a contract to make regular payments on the set.

The woman's only income for herself and her seven children was a \$218 monthly welfare check. She couldn't keep up the payments, and she ended up in court. But surprisingly, an appeals court ruled that selling such an expensive item to such a poor person was unfair, and the woman didn't have to pay the \$514.

"Here is an important new legal concept that deserves wide publicity," said Mrs. Esther Peterson, the woman President Johnson appointed as assistant secretary of labor, to look out for the interests of the consumer.

Mrs. Peterson this month told the NAACP national convention in Los Angeles what poor folks can do to get a better deal when they shop.

"The people with the least money are often the ones who pay the highest price," she said.

And so, Mrs. Peterson offered this advice to local civil rights groups:

1. Spread information on how to shop around, how to judge values, what a buyer's rights are, and how to register a complaint about an unfair deal.
2. Start a buying clinic to discuss how to get your money's worth.
3. Arrange shopping trips to unfamiliar stores, to demonstrate the advantage of shopping around before you buy. In England, Mrs. Peterson said, housewives in many neighborhoods survey local stores early in the morning and then post comparative prices on a central bulletin board.
4. Start buying clubs and cooperative stores, credit unions and credit counsel services, and legal assistance agencies.
5. Teach consumer education to young people.
6. Elect public officials who are interested in the consumer. Mrs. Peterson said consumers in Massachusetts forced the legislature there to pass a law requiring a full statement of finance charges on all loans, a maximum of 18% interest on credit sales, advance notice of two weeks before the finance company can repossess merchandise, and a "cooling-off" period of 24 hours in which the buyer can change his mind about a purchase.
7. Organize groups to deal directly with businessmen. "It pays to make yourself heard if you have a complaint," said Mrs. Peterson. "One recent survey showed that in a group of people who received defective merchandise, only about one of ten took the trouble to even make a complaint to the store, much less return the item."
8. Watch out for tricks like "jumbo quarts" (same size as any other quart) or "cents-off" offers (no savings at all, really).
9. Make sure you know the total cost of an item when you buy on credit. Watch for carrying charges, delivery charges, and just-plain-extra charges.

only \$4 a day. They asked for a \$1-a-day raise. Their request was refused, and so they walked off the job.

Mrs. Henderson said the maids' complaints started when a new housekeeper came to the motel. "We used to have a colored housekeeper, and it worked out nice. But this new lady, she told us we couldn't drink out of the fountain in the lobby."

The ladies worked seven days a week and got \$4.35 a day; 50 cents for transportation had to come out of that.

The Travel Inn manager, who asked that his name not be used, said he told the maids he couldn't afford to pay them any more. "Then they just walked off and left me holding the bag. I had to hire a whole new crew," he said.

He didn't have any trouble finding new maids, since the Travel Inn pays higher wages: than some of the other motels on Tom Bailey Drive. The federal minimum wage law doesn't apply to maids' salaries.

A receptionist at the inn said the only reason the maids didn't like the new housekeeper was that she made them work harder. "They'd gotten used to coming in at 9 and leaving at 12," said the receptionist.

The ladies talked about picketing Travel Inn after they walked off. But there is no maids' union to support them through a strike, and they didn't think they could get jobs anywhere else if they were seen in a picket line.



BY CAROL S. LOTTMAN  
SATURDAY, JULY 30

WIDE WORLD OF SPORTS--If you want to see what people do out in California, watch them ride the ocean waves in National Surfing Championships. Later, on the same program, you can see pool experts compete for the World All-Round Pocket Billiards Championship. At 3 p.m. on Channel 6 in Birmingham, Channel 8 in Selma, and Channel 12 in Jackson, Miss. At 4 p.m. on Channel 31 in Huntsville, Channel 3 in Pensacola, Fla., and Channel 13 in Biloxi, Miss.

REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION --For viewers who like their spectacles with a political twist, the Alabama GOP presents a live telecast of the closing session of its convention. You'll see the usual nominating and acceptance speeches, and the well-planned "spontaneous" floor demonstrations for the nominees. The convention is expected to nominate the following candidates: James D. Martin for governor, John Grenier for U.S. senator, and Don Collins for Alabama attorney general. At 6:30 p.m. on Channel 4 in Dothan, Channel 5 in Mobile, Channel 6 in Birmingham, Channels 12 and 20 in Montgomery, Channel 15 in Florence, Channel 23 in Decatur, and Channel 31 in Huntsville.

MONDAY, AUGUST 1

VACATION PLAYHOUSE --"Where There's Smokey." A small-town fire chief has a perfect record until his brother-in-law unconsciously, but steadily, brings the fire department to a state of complete confusion. The comedy stars Soupy Sales, Gale Gordon, and Jack Weston. At 7:30 p.m. on Channel 4 in Dothan, Channel 13 in Birmingham, Channel 20 in Montgomery, and Channel 12 in Jackson, Miss.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MOVIE--"The Glass Menagerie." Tennessee Williams' moving story about a young crippled girl, her family, and her "gentleman caller." Stars Jane Wyman, Kirk Douglas, Gertrude Lawrence, and Arthur Kennedy. At 8 p.m. on Channel 6 in Birmingham, Channel 8 in Selma, Chan-



**Helicon**

Roosevelt Barnett, an SCLC worker who went to Chicago after spending six months in Helicon, came back to visit his old friends here last week. Barnett said he has left Chicago permanently and would try to get re-assigned to Alabama. How did he like Chicago? "Helicon is over Chicago like a dollar is over a dime," he said.

**Huntsville**

Some Huntsville citizens, led by Ralph Olsen, have spent Saturday mornings for the past three months moving out-houses from Huntsville to farming communities in Madison County. After the city health department provided a sewage system system in Huntsville, the out-houses were no longer needed in town.

**Andalusia**

Dallas Berry, 17, has been having a hard time finding a summer job. Berry was one of the few Negroes who attended previously all-white Andalusia High School last year. A few weeks ago Berry applied for a job at a Dairy Queen near the center of town, operated by Melvin Faulkner. Berry says that Faulkner "got my application sheet ready and started asking me questions. When I said I was going to Andy High, he said, 'Get out, I don't need you,' and tore up my sheet. He put a little cursing in there." Faulkner says he doesn't remember Berry, but would refuse to hire any Negro who attended Andalusia High. At Faulkner's Dairy Queen, Negroes must buy from the right-hand window, and whites go to the left.

**Stonewall, Miss.**

Sylvester Itsen suffered a broken ankle Monday when three bales of cotton fell on him at the Erwin Mill, where he works. He is recovering at Watkins Memorial Hospital in Quitman.

nel 31 in Huntsville, Channel 3 in Pensacola, Fla., and Channel 13 in Biloxi, Miss.

BOB HOPE PRESENTS--"The Enemy on the Beach." World War II action. Two Good Guys attempt to uncover the secret detonating device of a mine planted by the Bad Guys. At 8 p.m. on Channel 10 in Mobile, Channel 12 in Montgomery, Channel 13 in Birmingham, and Channel 15 in Florence.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5

COLLEGE ALL-STAR FOOTBALL GAME--The outstanding seniors from the 1965 college football season take on the Green Bay Packers, National Football League champs. At 8 p.m. on



Channel 6 in Birmingham, Channel 8 in Selma, Channel 31 in Huntsville, Channel 3 in Pensacola, Fla., and Channel 13 in Biloxi, Miss.

CBS NEWS SPECIAL--Just in case you haven't heard, some D. C. chick named Luci Baines Johnson is getting married to, uh, what's-his-name. Watch what goes on as these nice average American kids get ready for the Big Day. At 9 p.m. on Channel 4 in Dothan, Channel 20 in Montgomery, and Channel 12 in Jackson, Miss.

**Tuskegee**

Two thousand hungry families are receiving 2 1/2 tons of peanut butter every month from the Macon County Surplus Food Distribution Center. And that isn't all they get. Besides peanut butter, each month the poor families receive 21,690 pounds of meal, 15,000 pounds of meat, 24,870 pounds of flour, 19,521 pounds of dry milk, and large quantities of grits, shortening, rolled wheat, rice, and raisins. The U.S. Department of Agriculture provides the food free. Tuskegee and Macon County are splitting the cost of distribution, so far less than \$10,000.

**Selma**

Mrs. Alonzo West and Donald Doss returned Monday from a five-day CORE workshop in Beaufort, South Carolina. They had all their expenses paid to the meeting. Doss has returned to Charleston, South Carolina, with Miss Addie Lilly to attend another CORE workshop which lasts for two weeks.

**Ozark**

"All of the fellows, white and colored, used to talk to each other on the radio," explained Jimmy Phillips, 20, "so they decided to get a club." The result is the Southeast Alabama Emergency Squad, an inter-racial citizens band radio club. The club's 20 members come from Dale and Coffee counties. If a member spots an auto breakdown on the highway, he radios to other club members in town to get help. The organization also collected clothes and furniture for a local family whose house burned down.

**Andalusia**

Mrs. Dorothy S. Bradley, first grade teacher at Woodson Elementary School, is attending a six-week National Science Foundation Institute at Adrian College in Michigan. Mrs. Bradley is one of 30 people, chosen from more than 700 applicants, attending the conference.

**Mobile**

About 30 members and guests of the Mobile Human Relations Council met last week at the Church of the Good Shepherd to make plans for the coming year. Mrs. Kathy Wood, president of the organization, said they agreed to concentrate on education and youth, and that specific projects would be decided by the group's officers.

**Birmingham**

Three Jefferson County voting precincts were split last week because of complaints from Negroes who had to stand in line as long as eight hours to vote in the May primary. B. C. Hill School, Washington School, and the Pratt City Fire Station, where lines sometimes stretched for six blocks, had large numbers of their voters transferred to Center Street School, Smithfield Community Center, and Scott Place.

**Bogue Chitto**

Eleven students in an SCLC citizenship class received certificates for completing a three-month adult education program. The certificates were awarded at a dinner last week, where Albert Turner, president of Alabama SCLC, gave a talk. Miss Addie Lilly of Selma taught the class.

**Troy**

Last week Mrs. Mattie Lee Curry delivered a petition, signed by 75 citizens of the West End, to City Hall, asking that the area's streets be paved. A few days later she received a letter from Mayor James E. Ray. He said the city's policy was to pave certain streets at the request of the people who own a majority of the property along the street, and he "will be glad to discuss with anyone the possibility of improving your street...."

**Lisman**

Miss Deborah J. Kelson recently returned from the national meeting of Future Homemakers of America, held in St. Louis, Missouri. Miss Kelson is a junior in the Choctaw County Training School. Her FHA advisors are Miss Linda F. Turner and Mrs. Minnie Taylor.

**Birmingham**

The NAACP gave U.S. Assistant Attorney General John Doar a special award here Sunday. Presenting the trophy, the Rev. J. L. Ware said Doar had earned it "not just because he has trudged the highways of Alabama and Mississippi, not just because we could call him when we needed him, but because he has a deep love and passion for justice for all human kind."



# ROOTS DAY

GORDONSVILLE--"In Africa we don't dance for the sake of dancing," announced Miss Makeda Myoriba, an African student studying in America. "All our dances have meaning: to pray to God, to celebrate a marriage, to mourn a death,"

And with her explanation out of the way, Miss Myoriba began a wildly moving and highly rhythmic African folk dance before an audience of 400 curious onlookers at Elijah Logan's farm near here.

"What's she doing that for?" cried a young girl. "She's crazy," said another. "Look at her go," yelled a man.

Roots Day had come to Lowndes County. "A race without the knowledge of its history is like a tree without roots," said the posters advertising the SNCC-sponsored event.

Lowndes County Negro residents reacted to the presentation with curiosity, interest, and amusement.

A flatbed trailer in the middle of an open field served as a stage for African songs, dance, stories, even a fashion show.

"I liked the African fashions a lot. I'd like to have some," said one woman. "But the dancing, wow!"

Most people seemed to like the Afro-American Folkloric Troupe best--especially their short folk tale about how woman, though weaker than man, came to rule his life.

SNCC head Stokely Carmichael was there too. He spent most of his time talking and playing with children.

Photographs by John Phillips



STAR School Teaches Adults

Reading, Writing, and 'Something Else'



STAR SCHOOL IN MISSISSIPPI TEACHES ADULTS TO READ...

BY GAIL FALK  
**MERIDIAN, Miss.** -- Mrs. Sarah Ott didn't have a job three months ago. Now she's talking about being a Head Start teacher.

The Rev. Lloyd Smith can read the Bible to his congregation now and pronounce the words so they can understand.

Mrs. Polly Heidelberg will pass to the fourth grade in two weeks if she works hard.

They are all students at STAR, Inc. of Meridian, an integrated school that teaches basic reading, writing and arithmetic to adults with less than a sixth grade education.

Such schools have started with federal funds in many places in the South. There are 15 STAR (Systematic Training And Rehabilitation) schools in Mississippi. Similar schools in Alabama operate under the Adult Basic Education Program, Neighborhood Youth Corps, and Tuskegee Institute Community Education Program.

But in every town the first integrated school might as well be the first one ever. The first program that gives hope and training to poor people of the area might as well be the first one anywhere.

Meridian's STAR school is genuinely integrated. Director Connie Moore keeps his faculty half Negro and half white with mathematical precision; Negro director, white secretary, white job specialist, Negro Community Action Program coordinator; white social worker, Negro supervising instructor; Negro and white recruiters, counselors and teachers.

There are only 15 white students out of 122 so far, but those 15 have gotten along so well that more are expected. "These people look like they've been together for years," said the Rev. Charles Johnson, a teacher.

Students and faculty are proud and a little surprised to find how easily white and Negro can get along. "This needs to be a permanent program," said one of the white teachers. "I've never worked in such a free and open place."

But not everyone likes STAR. A few of the students have been threatened by the Klan. The STAR center in Carthage was burned last month.

"If you train the poor white man and show him he's a citizen, and then show him he can get along with poor Negroes,



MRS. POLLY HEIDELBERG: HER NEXT GOAL IS FOURTH GRADE

that hurts the Klan, and the Klan knows it," explained Johnson.

Some students may have come at first for the \$8.50 to \$35 they are paid each week. But once at STAR, just about everyone becomes a determined student. "I keeps it on my mind," said Mrs. Ott. "I carries a little tablet home. I sit down. I try to print the letters real good."

STAR is more than a place to work or go to school for some of the students and faculty: it is a crusade.

"STAR gives something else besides training, something you can't explain. It makes them ready for responsibility because they see the need for responsibility. It gives a student hope, makes him feel like a man..." said Mr. Johnson.

But beyond giving hope and the experience of integration, can a school like STAR make a real difference to the lives of its students? To most people that means, can it get them a better job?

The first of the school's three-month cycles ended well over a month ago, yet many participants still have no jobs.

One problem is there just aren't very many job openings in most parts of Mississippi.

In the Delta many thousands of sharecroppers have lost jobs to machines that

pick cotton more cheaply than the lowest-paid tenant.

Around Meridian, no new industries at all have come in during the past few years to provide jobs for a population which has increased by several thousand.

D.R. Burch, manager of the Meridian office of the Mississippi State Employment Service, said his office had a record of 1,346 unemployed in Lauderdale County as of June 15. He estimated the actual number of unemployed was between 2,000 and 2,400; others place the figure higher.

STAR is working in several ways to find or make job openings. The Labor Mobility Project, a one-year experiment, will give some people help in moving to areas where there are more jobs.

On the Gulf Coast new defense industries and big plants have created a demand for workers. The Labor Mobility Project will guide people from around Meridian and the Delta to jobs on the Gulf Coast.

It will pay the cost of a trip for an interview and a look around. If an applicant decides he does want to move, it will pay part of the moving cost and help him get settled.

The demonstration program is small.

Three hundred families in all will be relocated; 120 from the Meridian-Philadelphia area.

"We're not trying to sell relocation," emphasized James Crawford, the supply area coordinator for Meridian and Philadelphia, "but to find out whether people are interested in moving and if not, why not."

Crawford and other STAR staff members agree that job development in the Meridian area must still be the solution for most people.

One goal is opening to Negroes jobs that have been white only. The Mississippi State Employment Service does not keep separate employment figures for Negro and white, but it's well known that white people can find a decent-paying job far more easily than Negroes.

The job development counselor also tries to find out what skills would be in demand if people had the right training. A Manpower Development and Training school has started courses here for nurses aides, auto mechanics, service station attendants and dieticians because a survey showed there was a need for these skills. Training programs in wood-working and metal-working may start soon.

STAR director Moore would like to get a Small Business loan from the federal Office of Economic Opportunity to start some new local industry. "Then we could make our own jobs," he said--perhaps making packing crates from cheap lumber in the area.

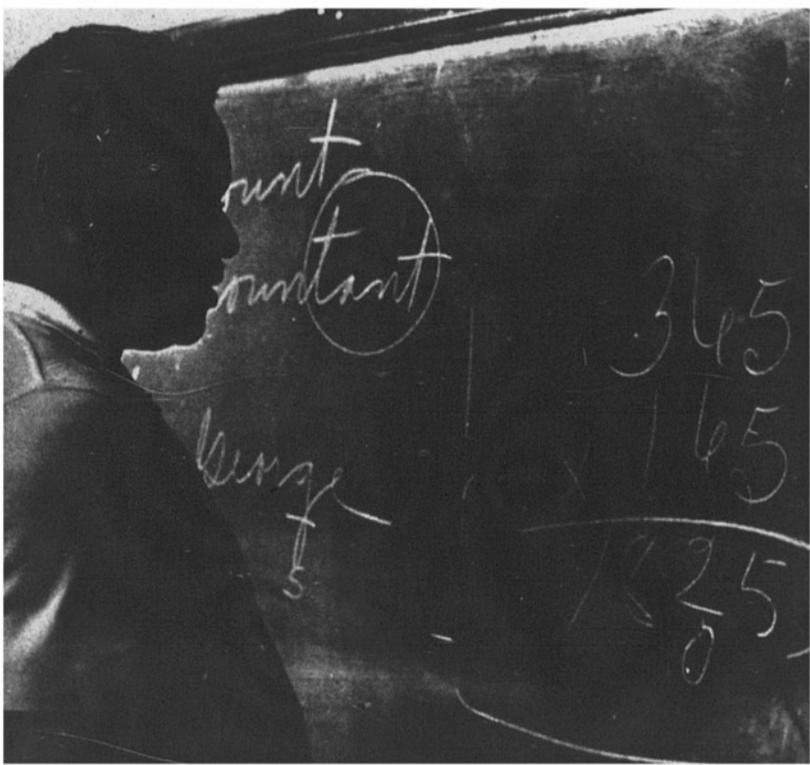
Even if more jobs are created, STAR may still have trouble getting its students into those jobs. Sixth grade level is the highest STAR can train students right now, but most jobs above maid and janitor require an eighth or ninth grade education.

And for the students who come to STAR unable to read or write, three months isn't long enough to get even as far as the sixth grade. The students realize this. "It's so fast," said Mrs. Ott. Most of them hope to be among the few who will be allowed to continue at the school for a second three-month cycle.

Some of the teachers would like to get the cycles extended. But meanwhile they must decide whether the students they choose from hundreds of applicants will be those who, with a little polishing, will be ready for the job market, or those who need help the most.

Moore and his staff have chosen in many cases to admit students with no

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE, Col. 1)



...TO DO ARITHMETIC AND, WITH LUCK, TO GET BETTER JOBS

The Long Uphill Journey of James Kolb

BY PETER CUMMINGS

**LIVERNE**--It was a Monday in 1924, and the dusty streets of Luverne, Alabama, were hot. Groups of white men stood in the dust holding rifles and shotguns. South of the town, for four miles through the Beaver Branch swamp, dozens of armed white men were searching for Moses Hampton, a Negro accused of rape.

Another Negro, 25-year-old James Kolb, was chopping wood with his father in a forest near Luverne. Kolb's shirt was rolled up at the sleeves and his blue overalls were soaked with sweat, but he was not thinking about his work. He was thinking about Moses Hampton. Kolb knew that Hampton was innocent, because he and Hampton had been together when the rape was supposed to have occurred. Yet Kolb couldn't see how he could help Hampton--he didn't even know where Hampton was.

The only people who knew were two of Kolb's sisters, aged 12 and nine. At that very moment they were making their father's bed, after helping Hampton hide between the two mattresses that were on the bed. Then they ran through the forest to find their brother. Panting, they told him where Hampton was hidden.

Now Kolb acted. With his father he sought out Adam Parks, a small white man who had a reputation for being quick to use a gun. Parks listened quietly to Kolb's story, and then spoke. "Now I won't guarantee that I can keep them from killing Mose", but they'll have to kill me first."

Parks strapped two revolvers to his hips and put a broad-brimmed Western hat on over his long hair. At a place near the Kolb home, the silent Parks and the frightened Hampton met and began their walk towards town.

When they reached the house of the girl who had been raped, they met the mob. Wiry Adam Parks placed his hands on his revolvers and spoke to the angry men carrying rifles and shotguns. "Gentlemen, I don't want anybody to move. I got this man in charge." Then Parks and Hampton moved toward the house and the mob stepped aside to let them pass.

Confronted with Hampton, the girl declared that he was innocent. Slowly, lazily, the mob melted away into the dust and heat of the summer. Because of a white man, Adam Parks, and a Negro, James Kolb, no one would be killed in Luverne that day, and Moses Hampton would live to be an old man.

All that happened a long time ago. Today James Kolb is 67 years old. He farms 41 acres of land he owns in Crenshaw County. The years have stooped his shoulders slightly and slowed his walk, but muscles still show when he



"I FOUGHT BY MYSELF"

wears his work overalls. When the daily farm work is done, Kolb turns to other tasks. In the past year he has been arrested several times for leading civil rights demonstrations in Crenshaw County.

His mailbox has been bombed, and the letters "KKK" are painted on the highway in front of his home--but Kolb still chairs the weekly meetings of the Crenshaw County branch of the Alabama Democratic Conference, Inc.

Kolb is a good talker. He has an easy smile and an earnest manner. With a group of friends or in a mass meeting, he can go on for hours, recalling stories from his youth or explaining his views on the issues of the day--"breaking it down", as he puts it.

Kolb talks like a farmer who has seen a lot of the world:

"He doesn't know any more about that than a rabbit knows about bookkeeping." "Ignorance is so thick on the streets



"BUT NOW I GOT HELP"

of Luverne that you can scoop it up and haul it away."

"You could take all the whiskey I've ever drunk, put it in a tablespoon and drive back to town with it."

"I wouldn't trust him any further than I could throw an elephant uphill by the tail."

In describing a local white man, for example, Kolb says, "He's bourgeois. No, I guess he's between the sap and the bark--petty bourgeois."

A word like "bourgeois" comes easily to Kolb. Although he says he is "nothing but a plowboy," he's been a lot of places, done a lot of things, and met a lot of people.

During the past 60 years he has worked in steel mills, warehouses, pipe foundries, and hospitals; on construction jobs, insurance routes, and farms. He has worked with Jews, Puerto Ricans, Italians, Spaniards, Africans, Russians and Poles. He has talked with such people as Negro organizer Marcus Garvey, President Lyndon B. Johnson, Communist Party leader Gus Hall, NAACP founder W.E.B. DuBois, and actor Paul Robeson.

"I've been just about everywhere in the country except the penitentiary, and I guess I just missed that," Kolb says. James Kolb was born on Christmas Eve in 1898, near Luverne. His mother had no education and was the daughter of a former slave-owner, an Indian who had passed for white. His father worked for \$4 a month as a sharecropper, and was forced to drop out of school in the third grade.

Kolb, like his parents, had little chance to learn. He was the oldest boy

in a family of 12 children, and went to work in the fields when he was seven years old. Although he went to school for eight years, "the longest that I was able to get in school was eight weeks in one year."

When he was 18, Kolb went to Tuskegee Institute, but after three days "I was called out of school to help start the crop so my father could borrow money for the farm."

At an early age, Kolb puzzled over the way Negroes were treated in the South. "I could see the white people who lent us money come out to look at the crop and I could see how my father feared them. When they said the crop was good, my daddy would feel awfully good and he would talk about it when they left. One day when I was nine or ten I asked my daddy,

"Do you believe God is just?"

"Yes I do," he said.

"Does he think as much of me as he do of the white people in Luverne?" I asked. "Why do I have to knuckle under and bow down to them and be punished to go without all the things they have?"

"And my father hesitated to give me an answer. He would say 'Ah, well...' and he would clamor for something to say. I just couldn't understand the set-up."

Kolb wondered if he should go North to earn money. An incident in August, 1920 made up his mind. A white mob beat a Negro teenager on the main street of Luverne.

"They beat him with an axe handle and he was screaming from the blows. My father and myself were standing across the street against our wagon and I said to my father, 'This is another reason why I have to leave this town.' Two days later I caught the train to Cleveland."

In Cleveland, away from his family, the young Alabamian found little to do in his spare time. So he turned to books for new ideas on the problems which faced Negroes and poor people in general. Books by and about Negroes fascinated him--Frederick Douglass' "Autobiography of an Ex-slave," biographies of Booker T. Washington and G.W. Carver, Dubois' "Souls of Black Folk," and years later, Howard Fast's "Freedom Road."

Some of Kolb's fellow workers were Communists, and Kolb argued late into the night with many of them. He read histories of the Russian revolution, Lenin, Stalin, and Marx, as well as the Communist Party's newspaper, "The Daily Worker." While Kolb has never

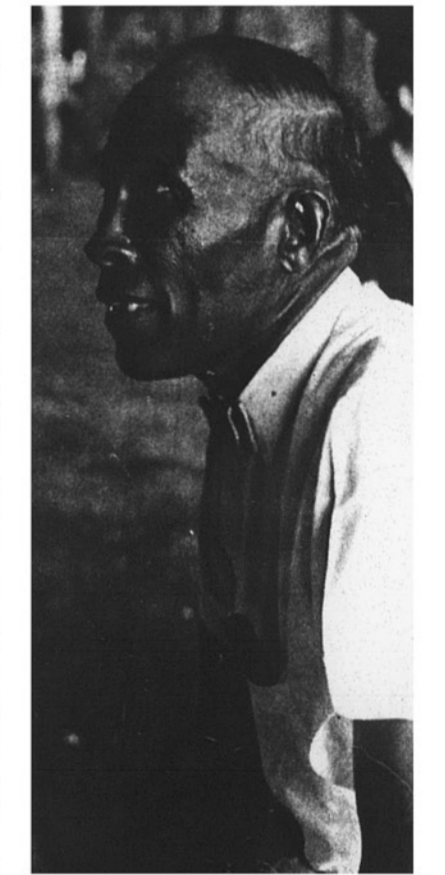
agreed with communism he has always had respect for Communists and feels that he has learned a lot from them: "You're smart until you meet a Communist," he says.

In Cleveland Kolb began reading "Crises," the fiery magazine put out by a new group called the NAACP. And he helped Marcus Garvey's Black Star movement. Garvey, a Negro, organized a fleet of ships, called the Black Star Line, to carry Negroes back to Africa. Kolb nearly sailed on one of Garvey's ships, but decided against it after his mother begged him not to go.

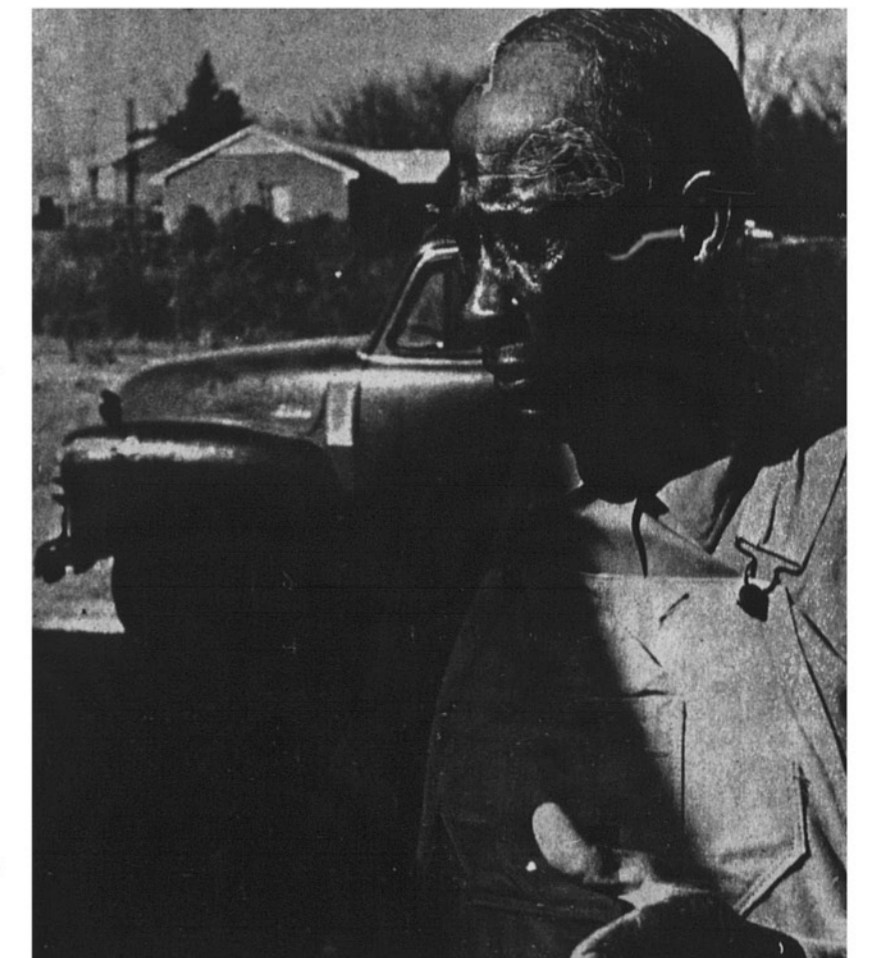
Kolb found ideas but no money in Cleveland. In 1922 he came back to Alabama as poor as when he left. For the next few years he worked with his father on their rented land and in the steel mills of Birmingham. In April of 1927, he married Miss Willie Byrd, a pretty girl from Montgomery whom he first met at a Crenshaw County baseball game.

When nine Negro boys were accused

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE, Col. 1)



JAMES KOLB



# ASCS: 'A Gut Issue'

BY NFI SON LICHTENSTEIN  
SELMA--"The ASCS committee puts more money into some rural areas than the county government itself," said Mike Kenny, field co-ordinator for the National Sharecroppers Fund. "That's why winning these elections is a gut issue."

ASCS committees decide how much cotton, peanuts, and tobacco farmers can grow.

SNCC, SCLC, the Sharecroppers Fund and the Alabama Council on Human Relations are working to get Negroes on the ASCS (Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service) committees this year.

"But time is short," said Kenny. "State ASCS usually holds the elections in the fall, but they moved them up this year, at the beginning of the harvesting season."

These civil rights groups and the Lawyers Constitutional Defense Committee have filed a lawsuit in federal court in Washington to get the elections postponed until December. Twenty Alabama Negro farmers will journey to the capital soon, to give testimony about alleged discriminatory election practices by all-white ASCS committees.

"If we win the lawsuit and postpone the elections," said Kenny, "we will have enough time to raise money to make a thorough campaign. If we lose we'll have an immediate state-wide meeting to determine if a boycott (of the election) would be effective."

In Dallas County, which has three times as many Negro farmers as white, 25 Negroes have been nominated for the 30 positions open on ASCS community committees.

"If I am elected, God help me, I'll do my best to help the little farmer," said nominee W. T. Towns at a meeting in the East Salem Baptist Church near Sardis. Towns has a cotton farm near Pleasant Hill in Dallas County.

Walter Blocton of Tyler, who is also running for his local community committee, said, "We want someone to run who will stand up against the big boss."

## JAMES KOLB

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR)  
of rape in Scottsboro in the 1930's, the Kolbs tried to help them. Illegal NAACP meetings were held in Kolb's Montgomery home.

Looking back, Kolb says, "This was the mess that got the whole thing burning today. . . . It took nine little old ignorant Negro boys and four very trashy thrown-away white people to open the eyes of the world."

White politicians and businessmen have separated the races in order to gain power for themselves, Kolb feels. And as long as poor whites and poor Negroes remain separate, "they're like the great big elephant who was chained to the little sapling. The woman came by and when she saw the elephant she shook her head sadly and said, 'If only he knew his strength.'"

During World War II Kolb and fellow white workers brought unions to U. S. Steel's Birmingham hospital. Shortly thereafter Kolb lost his job at U. S. Steel.

But luck was with him. He went North and found a better-paying job. When he returned to Alabama a year later he did something he'd wanted to do for years--he paid cash for 41 acres of farm land in Crenshaw County and built a house on it.

The farm has not always done well, and Kolb has had to leave it several times to find jobs in Birmingham and near Cleveland to support his family. But he is proud of his land and it now produces enough to feed him and his

## STAR

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR)  
schooling and measure their success in ways other than job placement.

"At least we can show them the advantages of education and give them a love for knowledge so they will refuse to let their children be dropouts," said Moore.

Many students are learning to take an interest in community activities, to register to vote, and to read newspapers. STAR gives classes in health habits, economical shopping, and paying bills.

"We can teach people to come down out of their castles in the clouds," said the Rev. Carl McArn, the school's social worker. "A woman tells me what she wants is to be able to read a cookbook and follow sewing instructions--she's dealing with reality," explained the Rev. R. S. Porter.

"Reality for these people is no bed of roses," said McArn, "but we've got to teach them to keep their feet on the ground."

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We have never had any one on the committee who would tell the Negro farmer what the ASCS can do for him."

George Rembert owns a part time eight-acre farm near Myrtlewood in Marengo County. "I am interested in the ASCS elections because the Negro has always been tricked right down the line," he said.

"I don't like the whites getting all the cotton allotment," he said. His small

## Bag Company, Union in Mobile Accused of Job Discrimination

BY DAVID R. UNDERHILL

MOBILE--"We are employed as direct press helpers at Bemis Company. This position pays \$1.89 an hour. White men employed as helpers on the offset press do exactly the same work and receive \$2.29 an hour."

Two Negro employees of the Bemis Company, which manufactures bags here, made this charge in a job discrimination complaint to the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Fourteen other workers at the plant, which employs 21 Negroes, also signed the complaint against the company and against the union which represents about 150 white workers at the plant.

The Negro workers charged that certain positions are filled entirely by Negroes, and "the Negro positions receive the lowest pay, even though many require more skill than white positions."

All lift truck operators are Negroes. They make "\$1.89 an hour, while white 'yard men' who mow the grass and pick up papers receive \$2.14 an hour," the complaint says.

One Negro employee who has worked for the company over 20 years says he has trained five white men to do "exactly the same work" he does. The white men he trained receive 36¢ an hour more than he does, according to the complaint.

wife, three daughters, and two grandchildren.

Kolb is trying to raise something besides vegetables in the county where he was born. He's working for justice and racial equality. They're tough crops to grow.

"Sure I'm scared," he said about leading civil rights demonstrations. "My knees are so wobbly they knock together, but I've got to face the issue." And things have changed since Kolb watched Moses Hampton, an innocent man in trouble, face a mob with only one companion.

"It's been an uphill journey. . . ." Kolb said. "I fought this thing a long time by myself, but I got a little help now."

farm shows how important the decisions of the county ASCS committee (elected by community committee members) can be.

Right now, Rembert is raising almost four acres of cotton and four acres of corn on his farm. He'd like another acre of cotton, but he can't get an allotment for it.

"Cotton's worth \$200 an acre and corn is only \$150," said Rembert.

Difference in pay scales are the Negro workers' main complaint against the company. But they also charge that eating and washroom facilities are still segregated, even though "white" and "colored" signs have been removed.

They say the white union, Local 480 of the International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers, has helped keep the pay scales different and the facilities segregated.

The complaint was filed after some of the workers contacted a member of the Mobile NAACP's legal redress committee who has been working on job discrimination cases for about ten months.

The NAACP member says his ten months of work have convinced him that the conditions at Bemis are not unusual: "I get calls every day on problems people are having. The situation around here is just terrible."

## Opp Desegregation

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

Mayor J. Ned Moore agreed: "I think that would be the best choice for the local situation."

"We haven't had any race trouble since about 1905," said one white businessman, "but if they put a Negro teacher in that high school, I'm sure there would be some trouble."

White officials and businessmen said they were unhappy about the choices the town has been given. "It'd be different if we hadn't made an honest effort to comply," said one man. "But we offered freedom-of-choice and now they're trying to force this thing on us." However, the same white people said they would obey the law.

Reaction in the Negro community was mixed. Mrs. Chessie Lee Tolbert was happy about the Office of Education ruling: "I think everyone around here is pretty well pleased about what's happened. If they don't think it's good, they're crazy."

But some mothers were worried. "I'm glad my child doesn't have to go there for another year," said one.

At least one other city in Covington County, Florida, may be affected by the Office of Education's efforts. White students in Florida attend a nearby



## Task Force

GREENSBORO -- A task force from Tuscaloosa, sponsored by the Confederation of Alabama's Political Organizations (COAPO) and directed by the Rev. Edgar Osburn, has expanded the picketing of Greensboro stores to include the testing of public accommodations.

When Osburn and six other people asked to be served in Williams Cafe Diner last Saturday, Osburn said, "the white people left, leaving half-eaten steaks behind, and the waitress told us that the place was closing."

Last Wednesday saw the first arrest since the picketing began six weeks ago. SCLC field worker John Reynolds said he was charged with disobeying an officer as he urged other demonstrators to insist on their rights.

county high school, while Negroes are bussed to Andalusia. Thomas W. Carroll, county superintendent of education, said Crowder told him that bussing Negro students to Andalusia must stop, and that students must be assigned to the school nearest their home.

Carroll is not yet sure what his office will do. "Whether we're going to get right with the federal government or not, I just don't know," he said.

# Shots Fired in Miss. At Negroes, Whites

BY GAIL FALK

PHILADELPHIA, Miss. -- J. E. Hurdle, city superintendent of schools, found his green-painted door sprinkled with gun-shot Monday morning.

Another white Philadelphian found his car window shot out the same morning.

And Freedom School teacher Jim Perkins called the FBI late Sunday night to tell them a shot had just blasted the front window of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party office here.

Philadelphia police arrested Norman Stevens and Steele Clay early Monday morning. The men were charged with assault and battery.

Hurdle, who has been Philadelphia superintendent of schools for six years, turned some local people against him last fall when he appeared on television before the opening of school to call for orderly integration of Philadelphia High School.

Miss Ajatha Morris, a student at Philadelphia High School last year, said Hurdle disciplined Stevens' step-son, David Sisson, for hitting one of the Negro girls at the school. "Mr. Hurdle

was nice to us," said Miss Morris. But, she added, he is known to Negroes as a segregationist.

White community leaders were reportedly shocked by the shooting of the superintendent's trim white house just outside the center of town.

"It's made some of them realize," said one white lady, "that if you say nothing about the shooting of the FDP office, that leaves the door open to shoot into Jim Hurdle's house."

Meanwhile, not far away in Clarke County, Negroes were talking about the need for self-defense, after Mrs. Allie Jones' home in Shubuta was splattered with tomatoes; shots were fired at Jim McQueen and Sam Wallace in Quitman; and an integrated group was harassed while watching a movie in Quitman's Majestic Theater.

"I'm just so tired of people having to fight every time they go to a restaurant or movie theater or filling station," said MFDP worker John Sumrall.

## 'They're Tired'

GADSDEN -- The program of the Gadsden Community Service Center used to be whatever the SCLC worker who lived there got around to doing. Now even she is gone, but local people have decided to keep the center going.

The all-Negro board of directors signed up a local student to plan a program. The student, William Fleming, has big plans--a new building, a library, exhibits on Negro history, and classes for children and adults.

Last Sunday, Fleming took the first step toward getting more local people interested in the center. He held a mass meeting at the Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church. Only 15 people showed up.

But Fleming wasn't disappointed. ("Negroes here aren't lazy," he explained later. "They're tired.") He went ahead and gave the 15 people his speech: "Why We Can't Sleep."

## TRY AGAIN

JACKSON, Miss. -- Elections for the Mississippi legislature cannot be held next year unless a new plan is drawn up for House and Senate districts.

A three-judge federal panel made up of Judges J. P. Coleman, Harold Cox, and Dan Russell said they agreed with a Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party suit claiming the present plan didn't live up to the U.S. Supreme Court's "one man, one vote" rule.

Mississippi legislative districts were reapportioned in 1962 for the first time since 1890, but the federal judges said this plan still didn't give equal representation to people in every part of the state.



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*In Wiregrass Area*

# Voter Registration Lags

# Mrs. Jones Goes Back to School; ECHO Gives Her a Second Chance

**625 ATTEND**

BY DON GREGG

BY ELLEN LAKE  
TROY--"The SCOPE workers registered more people in two days than I did in the year since they left," said Mrs. Johnnie Mae Warren, president of the Pike County Voters League.  
"When they came (last summer), it was right after the voting bill and people was already eager to register. Now it's just got down to the real hard ones, and you can't hardly pull 'em out."  
Mrs. Warren's discouragement is typical of feelings all over the Wiregrass area. Folks began to talk about this feeling after the special four-day registration period earlier this month.  
Mrs. Warren said the first day of the registration period was the worst: "I stayed at the courthouse all day, and only one colored and one white came in. I went out into the streets, looking for people, and into the cafes and pool-rooms. I even got the owner of the pool-room to go back and ask was there anyone who had not registered. But everybody had excuses." Thirty-two people registered in the four-day period, she said.

"SCOPE got people out that I never could," said James Kolb, president of the Crenshaw division of the Alabama Democratic Conference, Inc. "Registration hasn't exactly quit since then, but it's slowed down a lot. There's so much going on, with TICEP (Tuskegee body register, and I generally be's up there every day."  
As in most of the Wiregrass counties, Harrell said that the biggest problem was getting people down to the courthouse. "Once they get there, they don't have no trouble getting registered," he said.  
Houston County, one of the few Wiregrass counties which had no SCOPE workers last summer, seems to have topped all the others recently in voter registration. Members of the Houston County Voters League and the NAACP brought 63 people to register one week this month, and they have registered more than 600 since Jan. 1.  
J. C. Forrester, president of the voters league, explained its methods: "We passed out handbills and had announcements made on the white radio station," he said. In addition, he said, members of the voters league went to the churches and got the ministers to ask who was not registered. To these people, they gave cards reading, "I am a registered voter," which the people could fill out once they had registered.



MRS. WARREN KOLB  
Institute's Community Education Program) and all, that I don't know if we've been doing too much about registering."  
In Abbeville, Clinton Harrell, a local leader, said he hadn't even known the Henry County courthouse was open during the special period: "Nobody worked to get the people out. I didn't see any-



MRS. WILLIE BELLE CARLISLE GRADUATES

BIRMINGHAM--Mrs. Helen Jones dropped out of school in 1952 to get married. She was six weeks away from getting her high school diploma. Now, at age 31, she's back in school.  
Mrs. Jones is one of 625 Birmingham area residents, Negro and white, who are attending adult education classes at Miles College or Immaculata High School. She has five children. The oldest, 13-year-old Miss Marcella Jones, helps with the younger children while her mother attends classes five nights a week.  
Miles College began this Educational and Cultural Help Organization (ECHO) as a small operation back in November. It has now joined forces with the Jefferson County Committee for Economic Opportunity and the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) in Atlanta.  
The Miles College ECHO program has reached its full potential at the two present centers, Miles and Immaculata, and there are plans to open eight other centers in Birmingham and Jefferson County in September.

The program--and the people in it, like Mrs. Jones--have three goals. The first is to prepare the students for a General Educational Development test. If they pass this test, students are awarded high-school equivalency certificates by the state. This certificate is as good as a high-school diploma.  
At present, nine students have passed the GED test, administered by the Birmingham Board of Education. They were given a full scale graduation exercise.  
ECHO's second goal is to give people a chance to get better jobs, or to compete for promotions on their present job.  
Mrs. Jones, who has been attending classes for nearly two months, said she wants to attend a nursing school in Birmingham, or at least get a job that will pay enough to send her children to college.

Even when she passes her GED test, Mrs. Jones said, she will keep coming to the classes. This is the third goal of the program--to raise the social, cultural, and educational level of the students. One man, 71 years old, said, "I just want to learn how to read my Bible." Another man said he had always wanted to be able to write his name.  
The eight new centers which ECHO plans to open in September will serve Birmingham and the rest of Jefferson County, in such communities as Warrior, Ensley, Leeds, Bessemer, and North Birmingham.

But money has proven to be a problem. Ralph D. Harris, director of ECHO, said the program applied for federal assistance from the OEO in the spring, and received authorization to "incur debt" on May 11.  
But the ability to build up debts is only half of what it takes to finance a program. You've got to be able to pay the debts off once you make them.  
Harris said \$20,000 is supposed to be on the way, but as yet is not available. So the Miles ECHO program cannot pay off the debts it built up when buying textbooks. Worse, after June 30 it could no longer pay salaries to the staff members organizing the program and teaching in the classes.

Five teachers left when told of the financial situation, Harris said. "The people who are working on the program are doing so out of dedication."  
An OEO spokesman in Atlanta said the money for ECHO was "under final processing" and "should be received by the local community in about ten days." ECHO's money problem is not unusual, he said: "We're all swamped with paper-work, and we are behind."

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# MFDP Will Try Again in November Election

BY GAIL FALK

JACKSON, Miss. -- The Mississippi Democratic primary last June received less attention than Alabama's, because of the shooting of James Meredith the day before the election and the excitement of the march that followed.

Now that the official county-by-county vote tabulation has been released, people interested in Mississippi politics are taking a closer look to see what that election can teach them.

Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party candidates ran in the five U.S. congressional races and the senatorial campaign, and all of them lost by large margins.

In the senatorial race, the Rev. Clifton Whitley, dean of Rust College in Holly Springs, got 34,323 votes, about one seventh of the 240,171 polled by the present senator, James O. Eastland. Whitley has announced plans to run

for senator in the general election as an independent, and the MFDP will support independent congressional candidates in some districts.

As MFDP workers collected the signatures needed to get the independent candidates on the ballot in November, the questions to be asked were:

Why did the MFDP candidates lose so badly in June? And is there any reason to expect them to do better as independents in November?

The key to the answers is probably still voter registration. The 23 Mississippi counties with federal voting examiners averaged a 38% increase in Negro voter registration between August, 1965, and April, 1966. And these counties--less than a third of all the counties in the state--accounted for two-thirds of Whitley's total.

In just about every county, the total of votes for MFDP candidates fell well

below the Negro registration. Only two counties--Claborn and Jefferson--produced majorities for Whitley against Eastland, even though several other counties now have Negro voting majorities.

Most people agreed that many Negro voters just didn't know who the MFDP candidates were.

Whitley, who had appeared on television, ran a little ahead of the other MFDP candidates.

"We started too late. People didn't know him enough," said Mrs. Catherine Crowell of Meridian.

Other people said publicity wasn't

the only problem. "I work till I was just as nutty as a nutmeg," said Mrs. Polly Heidelberg. These people said many new voters didn't know how to mark their ballots right. Other voters went to the wrong polling places, because they were confused by the redistricting in several towns. Some illiterates got no help in reading the ballot.

In some counties--such as Madison--registration workers said intimidation kept many voters away from the polls.

In a few places, the distraction of the Meredith incidents may have interrupted an all-out drive to get Negroes to vote.

MFDP chairman Lawrence Guyot expects that a split of conservative voters between Eastland and Prentiss Walker, the Republican candidate for senator, will help Whitley. But few people, even around the MFDP office, are predicting a Whitley victory.

And if Whitley can't win, many Negro people are wondering whether it

wouldn't be better to vote for Walker, even though Walker is as conservative as Eastland. These people think an Eastland defeat might be an important step in shaping state politics. And it would let Negro voters feel they were on the winning side.

But Guyot had strong words for this (CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT, Col. 4)

## ROBINSON'S PLATFORM

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

this month, he said that public defiance of the law by public officials is the major problem in Alabama today.

The candidate was hesitant to classify himself politically. He said he doesn't like the titles of "liberal" or "conservative," because they have been used in the South for just one purpose--to label a person as an integrationist or a segregationist.

"Some people would call me a conservative because I believe that every able-bodied man ought to do a full day's work," said Robinson. "But some would call me a liberal because I realize there are people who must be cared for--old folks, the mentally ill, and disabled people, for example.

"I'd rather be known as a man who can recognize a problem, study that problem, and come up with an answer that is best for Alabama and her people."

Finally, Robinson has some strong ideas about the governor's responsibil-

ities. He said it is the governor's job to see that there is a truly representative government. A committee should be set up to hear complaints and suggestions of people and groups from all parts of the state, he said:

"The people need to feel that paying taxes is like buying stock in a corporation. Stock-holders own a corporation, and this gives them the right to vote and the right to know how the business is being run. A governor should be like the president of a corporation, and should run the state like a corporation."

Robinson added that the governor should issue a statement each month giving details of how taxes are being spent. This would be possible, he said, if computers were used to do the state bookkeeping.

"I encourage the people to vote straight Democratic in November, except for one position--the one at the top," said Robinson. "I want them to vote Robinson for that position."

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Do you need a baby-sitter? Want to rent an apartment? Need a certain kind of tool or electrical appliance? Want to announce a church dinner or a dance? You, too, should put an ad in the Courier's classified section. If it's in The Southern Courier, people in your community are sure to see it!

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Send your ad, along with \$1, to The Southern Courier, 622 Frank Leu Building, Montgomery, Ala. 36104. We must receive the ad by 5 p.m. Friday--one week before the paper comes out. Be sure to include your phone number or your address, so people who see your ad can get in touch with you.

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GROUPS, CLUBS, CHURCHES-- Do you want to make money? Do you have bills to pay or things to buy? Hold a subscription drive for The Southern Courier, and earn up to \$50 with little trouble. Sell subscriptions to the Courier in your neighborhood or church, and get a big commission on each one you sell. Contact The Southern Courier and we will supply you with all necessary information and equipment. Montgomery, 262-3572.

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EQUAL EMPLOYMENT -- Mr. Samuel C. Jackson, a member of the President's Equal Employment Opportunities Commission, will be speaking to the Montgomery community on Monday, Aug. 15, at 7:30 p.m. Place to be announced in this column later. There will be a question-and-answer period. Sponsored by the Montgomery Improvement Association.

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# 'I Feel Like I Want to Stay'

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)  
Mrs. Elizabeth Dotson lived on Hugh B. Tompkins' land for 20 years. In late May, she said, Tompkins' grandson, Warren Domergue, "came and told me if I didn't get the cow out of the pasture, he'd shoot her. Our cows had been there ever since we had been there."  
The run-off election came May 31, and Mrs. Dotson voted a second time.

## TUSKEGEE CHURCHES

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)  
said, "... is giving everyone the green light to practice racial discrimination, violence, and mad acts."

Miss Mariene Ellis, a white summer instructor who attended the indoor Methodist Church service, said the congregation began whispering when they heard the knock on the door:

"One woman behind me said, 'Isn't it a shame this can happen in a civilized country?'"

"On the tenth of June, Mr. Tompkins told me I'd have to move. He never asked to see my ballot. But that's the onliest reason I could see. I hadn't said nothing and I hadn't did nothing."

Tompkins, an old man who leaves most of the work to his grandson these days, said, "I didn't need her no more. Her husband was killed a year ago when a tree fell on him."

"His wife's all right, but she's got too many chilluns. She couldn't make anything with me. She needed to find work somewheres."

But Mrs. Dotson, who now lives in a three-room house with her son and nine children, said that Tompkins told her in January that she could stay and farm a small patch.

"It's really made things hard on me," she said. "I had cane, butter beans, potatoes, and a garden. I had to leave most of 'em there."

Christian and Mrs. Dotson said they

voted for every Negro candidate on the ballot in the primary and in the run-off. Leroy Huges and his wife only voted once, on May 3. Since they can't read or write, "we told the white lady to vote us for Flowers and the four colored ones," said Huges.

"After this, Mr. Tompkins' grandson said if I didn't vote like he wanted us to, we'd have to move. He talked like he knew who we voted for."

When it came time for the run-off, Mrs. Huges said, her husband was sick. "He got the high blood. The blood jumped up on him that day, and I had to stay with him. So we didn't vote."

"I been here 27 years," Huges said. "I worked on share till four years ago. Now I can't work."

His wife nodded her head. "We got no children and no land. I been here so long I wore myself out. I feel like I want to stay here. We got a good well, and our home..."

"Someone's got to tell them niggers how to vote if they can't read and write," Tompkins said. "I gotas much

right to tell 'em as the federal government does, but I didn't. I say to 'em, 'The ballot is your business.'"

His grandson, Domergue, said angrily, "I'll talk in court when I get ready to talk."

But so far it doesn't look like anyone will take Domergue to court. The Christians said two Justice Department men talked to the three families and went away without making any promises.

"They listened but they didn't do nothing," Christian said. "And we can't prove anything." He looked at the cornfield, golden in the clear evening light.

"Pickett once told me it was right for me to vote," he said. "I think some of his neighbors got on him to make me move. Tompkins--he's an old man. He's treated his hands all right."

"It's the grandson who wants to tell everyone what to do. Well, he's young. Some day he'll learn everyone needs help sometime."

## MISS. ELECTION

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE SEVEN)  
sort of reasoning. "The fight along those lines," he said, "does not offer an alternative. The fight simply against seniority, without constructed issues, undercuts the political momentum that will be necessary to convince Negroes and poor whites that they must become politically active."

The Rev. J. C. Killingsworth of Enterprise had another answer to people who are thinking of voting for Walker. He thought running a Negro candidate was important because "lots of Negroes still have the idea that they are not qualified to run for office. Our history book don't tell us about the Negroes who were in Congress."

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## The People Move In

WAYSIDE, Miss.--"I'm proud to be part of an organization of people who are tired and sick of working for the white man," said Mrs. Ida Mae Lawrence. "This is the first step for black people all through Mississippi to gain independence and dignity."

She was talking about Freedom City, nine miles south of Greenville. Some of the people who moved into Freedom City for the first time last Sunday--like Mrs. Lawrence and Isaac Foster, project director of the group--were the same people who had been taken off the abandoned Air Force base near Greenville last February.

Living at Mt. Beulah in Edwards, Miss., with the Delta Ministry, these people joined together in the Poor Peoples Conference, and bought 400 acres of land near Greenville. Every day, people would get into cars at Mt. Beulah and ride for two hours to get to the land, where they planted soybeans.

For the past few weeks, the people had been putting up houses. When night came last Sunday, there were no lights yet at Freedom City, and the 21 houses were dark. Yet the people had seen worse times. Mrs. Lawrence said, "We are rich today, even if we are poor." (Photo by Nash Bason, Delta Ministry)

## Selmont Residents Tell Mayor He Should Take All or Nothing

BY WAYNE HURDER

SELMA--"Take us all or leave us alone." That's what hundreds of people in the Selmont community are saying about plans to add a part of Selmont to the city of Selma.

The area which would be added has about 500 white voters and 200 Negro voters. About 700 Negro voters who live in Selmont would be left out of the proposed new city limits.

Two weeks ago, white residents of Selmont submitted a petition to Selma Mayor Joe T. Smitherman, asking him to annex Selmont to Selma. At the same time another group formed an organi-

zation, the Concerned Citizens of Selmont, either to stop the city from adding on Selmont, or to get it to annex the whole area.

Last Monday night the Concerned Citizens of Selmont asked the mayor, City Attorney McLean Pitts, and City Council President Carl Morgan to come to a meeting and give their reasons for annexing only a part of Selmont. None of these men was available.

The Concerned Citizens asked the mayor to attend a meeting either Thursday night or next Monday, but he said he couldn't.

Samson Crum, a member of the Concerned Citizens of Selmont and a candidate for Dallas County sheriff, said he tried to get a map of the area to be annexed. He said the city attorney told him the City Council had it, and the council told him the city attorney had it.

The city will provide fire protection, a water system, a drainage system for sewers, street lights, police protection and better roads for the people in the part of Selmont being annexed.

Crum said Smitherman told him that the annexation would work a financial hardship on the city, since Selma will have to provide many new services, including a filtering plant. The city should get about \$100,000 in extra revenue from the area.

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5. I BELIEVE I'M GONNA MAKE IT--Joe Tex (Dial)
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7. WADE IN THE WATER--Ramsey Lewis Trio (Cadet)
8. SEARCHIN' FOR MY LOVE--Bobby Moore (Checker)
9. DIRTY WORK--Little Joe Blue (Checker)
10. LAND OF 1000 DANCES--Wilson Pickett (Atlantic)
11. AIN'T TOO PROUD TO BEG--Temptations (Gordy)
12. OPEN THE DOOR TO YOUR HEART--D. Banks (Revelot)
13. LET'S GO GET STONED--Ray Charles (ABC)
14. I'M WAITING--Joe Hinton (Backbeat)

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"Small enough to know you, large enough to serve you."

SERVING OUR CUSTOMERS SINCE 1941

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### J. D. Shakespeare's Cash Grocery and Market

200 North Cotton St. Andalusia, Ala.

FINE FOOD--THE BEST FOR LESS

Open 5 1/2 Days a Week

### ANDALUSIA CIVIC LEAGUE

Meets Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

At the Lakeview Recreation Center

Come to the Meeting!

Find out what's happening in Andalusia, and take your part in future plans.

Everybody Welcome!

Pres.: Rev. W. C. Anderson

## GIRARD CAFE AND GROCERY

Fine Foods and Friendly Service

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Hortie Mae Vaughan, Proprietor (Southern Courier sold here)

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