'If They Keep This Up, I'm Going to End Up Crazy'

BY ROGER RAPOPORT

MT. VERNON -- "I'm not crazy," said Miss Inez Pruitt. "But if they keep this up, I'm sure going to end up crazy."

As Miss Pruitt spoke, she was sitting in a small visiting room in Searcy State Mental Hospital. She had been brought to the room under guard, like a prisoner, and nurses kept coming by to check on her.

The 44-year-old Negro lady was committed to the mental hospital last week, after an incident in the Mobile County welfare office.

Her sister, employer, and friends op- William Thomas, an intern at Mobile to kick me, I lost my temper and hit her patients are examined by a visiting psy- "By putting her in Searcy, we may be posed committing her. But Probate Judge John L. Moore, acting on the testimony of three welfare officials and a Mobile General Hospital intern. sent her to Searcy on May 24.

Miss Pruitt has had a crippled left hand and leg since childhood. She had an operation for cancer of the left leg last November. Then in February, she spent a month in the hospital with pneu-

After her release from the hospital. she began working several days a week as a house-keeper for Mrs. Darlene Alford of Wilmer, But, says Miss Pruitt, her left leg started swelling, Miss Pruitt was not examined by a and her knee became as big as a volley-

General.

"I told her she shouldn't work for a month, but stay off the leg and keep it propped up," the doctor recalls. When Miss Pruitt said she couldn't afford to quit working, Thomas gave her a statement to prove her medical disability, so she could qualify for welfare.

On May 15, Miss Pruitt went to the welfare office and gave the medical statement to her case-worker, Miss Carolyn Gideon. There are different versions of what happened next.

According to Miss Pruitt, the caseworker "told me that I couldn't have any welfare money, that I was faking, and that I could really work. She made fun with my umbrella. I apologized afterwards,"

But Miss Gideon denies abusing Miss Pruitt or trying to kick her. Miss Pruitt "did not hurt me with the umbrella," Miss Gideon said.

Welfare authorities arranged to have the police take Miss Pruitt to Mobile General Hospital on May 19. There she was examined by Dr. Thomas.

"I looked her over and classified her a paranoid schizophrenic," the doctor said last week. "Of course," he added, "I'm no psychiatrist,"

After being examined, Miss Pruitt was taken to the Holcumbe Medical Unit. the psychiatric department of Mobile chiatrist before they are committed to Searcy.

But Dr. Ronald B. Mershon, visiting psychiatrist for May, says "I don't know her. I never saw the lady."

Was this proper procedure in such a case? "Our interns are very good," said Mershon, "and the head nurse at Holcumbe is as good as some of the psychiatrists."

But Mershon added, "Normally, there would have to be an OK from relatives to commit her (Miss Pruitt). I've never heard of a case handled like this,"

Miss Doris Bender, head of the Mobile welfare office, said that under Alabama law, applicants must be "permanently disabled" to qualify for welfare:

her on welfare for the rest of her life." However, the law also says that people can not receive welfare while they are in a mental institution. Mrs. Alford--who hired Miss Pruitt after the operation--said Miss Pruitt

able to get medical evidence that can get

should not be committed. "She's not crazy," said Mrs. Alford. "In fact, she's the best house-keeper I've ever

psychiatrist before she was put away. ball. On May 12, she went to see Dr. of my condition. When she raised a leg General Hospital, Normally, Holcumbe THE SOUTHERN COURIER WEEKEND EDITION: JUNE 3-4, 1967

She Never Got

GRENADA, Miss.-On the opening day of school in Grenada last September. Miss Emerald Cunningham left home for her first day at John Rundle High School. She never got there.

Last Wednesday in Oxford, Miss Cunningham tolda federal jury what happened. The jury was trying eight white men charged with interfering with school desegregation in Grenada. The men are accused of kicking, hitting, beating, chasing, rights "problems and and threatening Negro children on their way to previously all-white John Rundle and Lizzie Horn schools.

Miss Cunningham testified that as she neared the school with a group of Negro friends, one of the accused men--Grenada Justice of the Peace James Ayers --got out of a pick-up truck across the street and fired a pistol into the air. "All of us got frightened, The other Negro children ran," said Miss Cunning-

"I couldn't run because I had polio,"

When she tried to hobble away, Miss Cunningham testified, Ayers "caught me in the back of the dress and pulled me to the ground...on my back. He

Wilcox Gets

Home Plan

is getting \$38,640 from the federal Of-

fice of Economic Opportunity (OEO)

to help build homes for migrant farm

Under the program, people will be

trained to help each other build 20 new

houses in the Alberta and Lower Peach

the homes will supply most of the labor.

Building materials will be purchased

with loans from the Farmers Home Ad-

According to the proposal approved

by OEO, local and federal agencies have

agreed to help in the home-building

program. The FHA will screen appli-

The Wilcox County Health Depart-

ment will give the people lectures on

sanitation and maintenance, and the Co-

operative Extension Service will pro-

vide training in home management.

SCLC "will be asked to continue to as-

sist in stimulating community action in

all areas of the county, for present and

Alabama Self-Help Housing, Inc. The

Rev. Frank Smith of Lower Peach Tree,

pastor of the Salem and Pleasant View

churches, is president of the board of

directors. Two local white men--from

The grant was awarded to Southwest

The proposal says Wilcox County

The people who are going to live in

Tree communities.

ministration (FHA).

cants for loans.

future developments."

CAMDEN -- A Wilcox County group

started kicking and stomping on me," Thirteen or 14 other white men joined Ayers, said Miss Cunningham, and they started kicking and beating and stomping, too.

One of the men, Robert ("Bilbo") Shields "hit me up under my eye with his fist," she said. Another, Clyde Per-



NEGRO STUDENTS Going to School Last Fall

ry, "hit me on my right leg (her good

leg) with an iron pipe," she added. Then, Miss Cunningham told the jury, Ayers put a pistol to her head and said, "Nigger, if you bring your black ass over to this white school, I'll shoot your brains out."

"I didn't say anything. I just stood there and cried," the young girl said Wednesday.

Miss Cunningham was one of several Negro students who testified about being attacked on the way to or from John Rundle and Lizzie Horn last Sept. 12.

Richard Earl Sigh, an eighth-grader, told the jurors he wore a cast for five months after white men broke his leg by twisting it. Last Tuesday--while witnesses in

Oxford were recalling the violence of the opening of school--carloads of policemen were on duty in Grenada, to make sure the last day of classes was peaceful.

But when the Negro students got their final grades that day, they found they had a new problem to worry about. Of almost 50 Negro students who completed the year at John Rundle and Lizzie Horn, only six were passed to the next grade.

Some of the students said they didn't think there was anything unfair about the grades. "We were just behind." said Charles Alexander, a senior.

But some of the students said they might have been able to catch up if the teachers had given them more help. Robert Robinson said his teachers always told him they were busy during his vacant periods.

And a few students said they didn't get the grades they deserved. One ninthgrader--who had always gotten honor grades before this year--said she did all the homework and make-up work, participated in class discussions, and felt she understood her courses. She did not pass a single subject.

Nearly all the Negro students who (CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO, Col. 5) At Selma Hearings

To the School Farmers Hit ASCS

SELMA -- A federal board invited farmers and local officials to comment last weekend on civil progress" in ASCS programs. Most of the speakers said there are too many problems and not enough progress.

The Alabama State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights held marathon hearings last Friday and Saturday in Selma's federal courtroom. The committee was looking into ASCS (Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service) programs in Lowndes, Dallas, Wilcox, Sumter, Hale, and Greene counties.

Many witnesses and questioners were critical of the way the state and county ASCS committees are chosen. Bobby Doctor, a civil rights commission official from Memphis, Tenn., noted that no Negro had ever served on the state committee until a few months ago.

"Why weren't any Negroes appointed to the state committee?" Doctor asked Victor Phillips, an assistant to the ASCS administrator in Washington, D. C. "The secretary was very busy,"

Phillips replied.

"The only way for Negroes to have power is to be on the county committees," testified civil rights lawyer Donald A. Jelinek. "The fact that there are some on community committees means nothing, because they don't have

anything to do with decision-making." Jelinek suggested abolishing the ASCS elections. He said it would be harder than ever this year to elect Negroes to the community and county com-

mittees. "There are fewer jobs, so the landlord puts even more pressure on the people. They know they can lose their jobs because of mechanization....It is a risk to participate in an election," Jelinek said.

"Even if one Negro is elected this year, next year the pressure will be even more intimidating. . . . Even the worst bureaucratic appointment couldn't be worse than the people 'elected'

MRS, PEARL MOORER OF TYLER TALKS ABOUT FARM LIFE Bob Valder, executive director of because the people can't read them.

the Alabama Council on Human Rela- he said. tions, told the advisory committee that there was discrimination in the admin- between farmers and ASCS officials. istration of ASCS programs.

ments A state (ASCS) office official said he is sure that wealthy farmers receive more loans. Many farmers have never heard of loan pro-

Valder also pointed out that "the state office has two Negro employees -- both clerks. In 1966, Hale, Wilcox, and Lowndes--with 62.5 to 72.7% Negro farmers--had no Negroes employed in the county offices."

Farmers came before the advisory committee to criticize ASCS programs in their counties, "Until 1965, when the Lowndes County Christian Movement for Human Rights came in, no one knew about ASCS," said Mrs. Lillian McGill of White Hall.

John Vance, ASCS director for the southeastern U.S., replied, "We sincerely try to do what we can. We send out brochures."

But Jesse Brooks, a Wilcox County farmer from Coy, said that only 60% of the people in his community can read. Most of the brochures are thrown aside

There were many heated exchanges Robert Thomas of Panola, leader of the "The county committee determines farmers from Sumter County, testified. acreage allotments," Valder said. "We received notice about ASCS ballot "Negroes receive smaller allot- counting, but when we got there, the office manager would not let us in,"

> Woodson Ennis, Sumter County ASCS manager, denied this several times. "It's his (Thomas') word against mine, anyway," Ennis told the advisory com-

had. My three children loved her." Miss Pruitt said that because of her health, she is supposed to receive medication and to be on a low-salt diet. But at Searcy, she said, "they took my pills away from me when I came here ... and

they won't let me have my special

Neshoba Case Stalled Again

BY GAIL FALK

MERIDIAN, Miss. --Eighteen white men were supposed to go on trial here last Monday in connection with the 1964 killings of three civil rights workers.

But four days before the trial was to begin, U. S. District Judge Harold Cox put it off indefinitely.

The judge postponed the trial on his own motion--neither the prosecution nor the defense had asked him to do so. In his written order, Cox said only

that he was putting off the long-awaited

trial "for a good cause," According to published reports, Cox said the postponement had to do with the selection of jurors. He told newsmen that defense lawyers got a list of the 150 possible jurors ten days before the trial date, although he had ordered court officials not to release the names any earlier than three days before the trial.

In cases as controversial as the Neshoba County suit, judges often protect the jury list, to prevent anyone from trying to influence the prospective jurors.

The postponement was the latest of several delays in bringing the Neshoba case to trial. Twice before, Cox has dismissed similar indictments. And for several months, he failed to call a grand jury to consider new charges.

It will be three years this month since James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner disappeared on a trip to Neshoba County.

Robert Owen, a Justice Department attorney handling the case, said the government did not plan to do anything to speed up the trial. He said he is sure the case will be tried "sooner

Barbour, Crenshaw Ask Desegregation Slow-Up

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

MONTGOMERY -- School officials told a federal court last week that faculty desegregation "would seriously endanger public education in Barbour County,"

County Schools Superintendent Raymond E. Faught explained that the public schools are threatened by "a private school system."

If the court issues a "stringent decree," said county school board chairman Alto Jackson, "we will be decimated still further by the private school group."

"People are bitter toward (school) taxes now," added Faught. He saidfaculty desegregation at the county's many rural schools "would be an impossibility It would completely demoralize the good relationship between colored and white,"

Faught and Jackson made their predictions at a hearing to determine whether last year's court order desegregating the Barbour County schools should be updated to meet the stricter standards set in a state-wide schooldesegregation order two months ago.

U. S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr. replied by asking the school officials "to what extent could you accomplish faculty desegregation this

fall? "Don't tell me, 'None,'" he added. "The law requires more than that--and

you have none now. "I want to give you something you can cutive director, said Head Start centers live with--and to give (Negro parents and schoolchildren) what they're entitled to. But it may be that I can't do

it at all." At the same hearing, Alton Turner, attorney for the Crenshaw County Board of Education, told the court that faculty desegregation would be "almost impossible" next year.

But Judge Johnson reminded Turner that the Crenshaw County schools had made no start on any kind of desegregation until a year ago.



JUDGE FRANK M. JOHNSON JR. "The longer it is before you start," the judge commented, "the faster you have to go to catch up."

When Turner said that the Crenshaw schools had "made every effort to comply with the decree," Johnson said he had "no information to the contrary,"

Fred D. Gray, attorney for a group of Negro parents, then told the court he had just received a list of complaints about discrimination in fermerly-white Crenshaw County schools--"especially seating in the classrooms and on the

"This hearing wasn't set for that purpose," Johnson said as he ruled Gray's remark out of order. He told Gray to discuss the complaints with Turner.

Only a few problems were raised at earlier hearings on school desegregation in Montgomery and Bullock coun-

Judge Johnson praised both school boards. "You have evidenced a desire and intent to operate your school systems as professional educators, not as

politicians," he said. "This has undoubtedly inured to the benefit of all students, regardless of race, who seek quality education."

Camden and Oakhill--are on the board. in these elections." Can't Run Tuscaloosa Head Start

CAC Is 'Disappointed'

BY ROBIN REISIG

TUSCA LOOSA -- Tuscaloosa has won a summer Head Start grant, but the civil rights group that helped to get the grant will not be allowed to run the pro-

In approving a \$109,921 grant, the federal Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) said the Tuscaloosa Citizens for Action Committee (TCAC) could not be the delegate agency responsible for Head Start. Instead, said OEO, TCAC is to be an "advisory agency."

At first, OEO gave no reason for this decision. But at the request of the Tuscaloosa Opportunity Program (TOP) board of directors, the federal agency has promised to send a letter of expla-

"I think they--the Atlanta OEO office --don't want civil rights groups involved in poverty programs, and I know Tuscaloosa doesn't," said the Rev. T.Y. Rogers, president of TCAC. Rogers said he is sure "some pressure from Tuscaloosa" led to OEO's decision.

"I think the power structure in town does not care for TCAC to be involved in the poverty program," Rogers said "Without us, there would have been no Head Start, no poverty program."



REV. T. Y. ROGERS

The Rev. James Lilly, TOP board chairman, had some different ideas about why OEO might have taken Head Start out of TCAC's hands, "Idon't see any particular advantages of TCAC as delegate agency, and I would assume this is the reason Atlanta did not make them delegate agency," Lilly said.

A Negro who is a member of both the TOP board and the TCAC said people

who worked on the Head Start program are "very disappointed and hurt," He said he was also "disappointed" on May 23, when TOP decided to ask the city school board to run Head Start. "Back in the fall, the city (school

board) wouldn't apply, but as soon as they found out TCAC was applying, they reversed themselves," said the board member. "Why has the city board of education

changed its mind about its decision? To keep the money out of the Negroes' hands, that's all it is." But last Monday, TOP changed its

mind and decided to run its own Head Start program. Milton Hurst, TOP's assistant exe-

will be located in four white churches

and one Negro church. In hiring teacher's aides, said Hurst, TOP will give preference to parents of children in the program. And, he said, the requirement for Head Start teachers will be two years of college, plus experience in working with children,

Hurst said other jobs in the program would go to "people in need of work."

(This means people other than public

school teachers will be eligible.)

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Editorial Opinion

How Much Longer?

Once again, the trial of the Neshoba County death case has been delayed -- this time "indefinitely." U.S. District Judge Harold Cox--who took it upon himself to delay the trial--has shown once more that he is unfit for the federal bench. But the U.S. Justice Department must share the blame with Cox for this total job," Rogers said. frustration of justice.

Justice Department spokesmen said this week--as dog, but we don't have the money to buy they said last time Cox stalled the trial--that they will simply wait for the case to be put back on the court schedule. Meanwhile, though, the department continues to let almost every other civil rights case in the South go completely to hell.

The government's handling of the Harvey Conner trial in Montgomery was uninspired, to say the least. The Justice Department has staged a slow-motion cake-walk through urgent school-desegregation cases, like the ones in Neshoba County and in Choctaw County, Ala. And dozens of new incidents of brutality against Negro citizens have barely been investigated. let alone prosecuted.

How much more time is going to be wasted on a case that the government has almost no chance of winning? Either the Justice Department should press for a quick trial in the Neshoba County killings, or it should go on to other cases that are equally important.

The government should ask Judge Cox to hold the trial immediately, or to remove himself from the case. If he refuses, his decision should be appealed to the U. S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. The Justice Department could even go directly to the Fifth Circuit-in a "mandamus" proceeding--and ask the appeals court to order Cox to hold the trial.

It is only one tragedy of the Neshoba County death case that three more killings are going unpunished. Another--and possibly greater--tragedy is that while the Neshoba case occupies the attention of the Justice Department and the nation, Negroes across the South are suffering without even the hope of legal protection.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Nearly all literate Negroes read the Negro Press, some Negro periodicals, and at least a local daily paper. Few. however, avail themselves of the free forums in the press to express views on current issues. This service costs only a postage stamp, and the views expressed may be read in thousands of homes. A big Metropolitan daily reaches hundreds of thousands of read-

Although there may be many who subscribe to or read Afro-American newspapers, the bulk of the white reading public gets little of informed Negro opinion on issues of the day.

For many years at the turn of the century, the late Professor Kelly Miller was a regular commentator appearing in the Washington Star as the "Sage of the Potomac." Some papers adhere to a limited space for letters to the Edi-

Your Welfare Rights

tor, but some like the Washington Star, grant full-length double column to its

Generally the letter should be typed, double-spaced, brief, and to the point. I am reminded of the value of such writing by quoting from an article by Carl Rowan in the April issue of Ebony. Rowan wrote, "He (the late President Kennedy) thought Negroes were unwise in not paying more attention to the newspapers and magazines of the nation. He once observed that the haters, the reactionaries, kept letters going to editors of important publications, forever attempting to influence public opinion against the Negro and all liberal causes. But Negroes, Kennedy observed, rarely took the time to write letters, pro or con, about issues that affected them,"

E. B. Henderson Tuskegee Institute

BY ROBIN REISIG

BIRMINGHAM -- Several hundred members of the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights (ACMHR) gathered in the Metropolitan CME Church of Ensley last Monday, for some happy singing and a look at the movement they've supported for the past 11 years.

It was the ACMHR's 11th annual celebration. The ACMHR had its first meeting on June 5, 1956 -- just after the NAACP was outlawed in Alabama.

"They thought by outlawing the NAACP, there would be no civil rights movement in Birmingham," recalled the Rev. Edward Gardner, ACMHR vice-president, after last Monday's

The Rev. T. Y. Rogers, president of the Tuscaloosa Citizens for Action Committee (TCAC), talked to the gathering about "where we are in the civil rights movement," From 11 years ago, when "non-violence was fresh on the tongue," he said, "we have moved from the era of civil rights to the era of human rights."

"A civil right," he explained, is "a right which is guaranteed by the Constitution." Human rights--which are "not so clearly defined in our Constitution" --include "a decent living, decent sanitary housing, the right to a quality education, and the right to a well-paying

"We now have the right to buy a hot

Rogers expressed sharp disappointment in "middle-class white America." These people supported the civil rights movement in the past, he said, but "as soon as the brutality stopped, they thought everything was all right,"

B'ham Folks Look Ahead To --Is Settled in Bullock

UNION SPRINGS--After months of argument, Negro leaders and white officials have finally come to an agreement over the location of 60 new units of public housing.

But they still don't agree on what the argument was about.

Rufus C. Huffman, head of the local NAACP, said the city housing authority originally planned to put some of the new homes in a white section of town, and the rest in a Negro area.

"They were trying to perpetuate segregation," Huffman charged. And that, he said, was the reason why he refused to approve the proposed sites last winter.

Instead, he wrote a letter of complaint to Frank Kelly, director of the city housing authority, and to the federal agency that supplies the funds for public housing.

Because "minority group" approval is needed to split public housing projects into blocs of less than 50 homes, Huffman said, plans for the new units were held up until a federal official came to town last month.

Huffman said the official, Hubert Jackson, worked out an agreement with the city housing authority. Now, Huffman said, the housing authority has promised to build more than 20 of the new homes "in a buffer zone."

He said this area, on the northeast side of town, is in a racially-mixed neighborhood that is satisfactory to the local NAACP.

"We'll go along with it," Huffman said, "with the intention of encouraging Negro residents to move in. And we

Truth for Black People'

All-Negro Staff Starts Mississippi Newspaper

BY PATRICIA JAMES

JACKSON, Miss .-- "This paper was started because there is no newspaper in Mississippi written by black people.



THE FIRST ISSUE

written for black people, and completely controlled by the Negro people," said Donald Jackson, editor of the Mississippi Independent Community Newspa-

Jackson said the newspaper -- now one month old--got started when about ten people from various places in Mississippi decided it was time to do something.

"We spent six months talking to people and ourselves, and said that we needed a newspaper that tells the truth to black people," he said.

The Mississippi Independent Community Newspaper has an office on N. Farish St. here. Besides Jackson, the all-Negro staff includes Jesse Harris, the co-ordinator, and Miss Marjorie Hyatt, the secretary and treasurer.

The paper comes out every two weeks, and costs 10¢ a copy.

Jackson said about 25 volunteers are working for the paper, and more are expected to join the staff. "Titles are not important, he said. "People are doing the job that needs to be done."

"We can't free ourselves or win decent lives for our family without unity. We can't have unity unless we communicate with one another," Jackson said.

"As long as white people control Mississippi, there will be a need for newspapers like ours in the Negro community. Our paper is different from any other newspaper, because it is the only newspaper in Mississippi that tells the truth to black people."

The first two issues of the paper included stories about Stokely Carmichael's speech at Tougaloo College, the "racist" candidate for governor, the "inhuman treatment of Negro students" at Alcorn A & M, and the death of Beniamin Brown.

In the May 15 issue, there was an editorial about why Negro candidates lost in the recent elections in Sunflower and

"Our women burn their hair and scorch their scalps," the editorial said. "Our men get conks and processes. Our girls wear stringy, red wigs. All of this and bleaching cream, too. Trying not to look like a nigger

"We cannot win anything worth fighting for until we come to the realization that we are all Black people And we must learn to love ourselves as Black people,"

"We are more meek and lowly than Christ Himself. In short, we have made ourselves a nigger by trying so hard not to be a nigger," the editorial continued. "That is why we lost in Sunflower County."

housing sites.

things." Kelly, the city housing director, agreed that Jackson had worked out most of the problems about the new

have Jackson's word that the federal

authority will keep a close watch on

But Kelly denied that city housing officials had ever intended to use public housing to promote segregation.

"I've been here ever since this thing started in 1952," Kelly said, "and I can tell you that's not true." He said that a housing project is now under construction across the street from an area where "the houses go along so it's almost one of every other color."

Union Springs' two oldest housing projects are entirely segregated, Kelly admitted. But he said that was the decision of a housing advisory committee made up of people who live in the all-Negro project.

"We've never had any Negro applications for the white one," Kelly said,

GRENADA SCHOOLS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE) failed have signed up to go back to John Rundle and Lizzie Horn.

The students who think they got low grades because they were Negroes believe things will be different next year. Said one high school student, "They just did that to see would we still come

WORKMEN AT THE LOCKE AVE. HOUSING PROJECT "but we have had a dozen whites apply for the Negro one. The advisory committee said no. The committee members all said they did not want to court trouble."

He's the First!

NOXAPATER, Miss. -- Harry Truman Spiva got his diploma from Noxapater High School last month. That made him the first Negro ever to graduate from a previously all-white school in Winston County.

Spiva's father, the Rev. Johnny Lee Spiva, had sent two of his younger children to the Noxapater school in 1965-66, after the county schools were desegregated by a court order.

During that first year of desegregation, a cross was burned in front of the Spiva home. "That encouraged me to send them all," the minister said. So this year, six Spiva children -- including Harry -- were among the 21 Negroes who enrolled at Noxapater High.

Harry Spiva said this week that the white children had often hit him, and had told him they didn't want him to finish the year.

But he did finish, graduating with a C average. Now, he says, he is. thinking of studying at Mississippi State University.

Montgomery

Twelve-year-old Warren Staddery held the lucky ticket at the Montgomery Rebels game last Friday night, He was the only Negro kid to win a prize, and his prize was the big prize of the night--

the school ten sewing machines, and other companies donated cloth and thread. Burnley also sent one of its machine operators, Miss Fannie Smith, to teach the course.

Madison, Wis.



WARREN AND REBEL

a tan and white Shetland pony. Afterwards, Warren relused an offer of \$35 for the pony, saying, "He's worth \$1,000,000 to me." Warren said it wasn't any trouble getting the pony home, because the Staddery family lives on Adams St. near the ball park. When he got the pony home, he named it "Rebel," The game--attended by thousands of kids--was won by the Knoxville Smokies, 7 to 5. (From Franklin How-

Meridian, Miss.

STAR, Inc. (Systematic Training and Redevelopment) of Meridian has added sewing to its adult basic education course. STAR's job-development specialist, Paul Busby, said the course was added because of the trouble the center has had in finding jobs for its women graduates. He said there are 11 garment factories around Meridian that hire women qualified as sewing-machine operators. Several of these factories helped STAR set up its new course. Burnley Shirt Corporation gave

John Hulett of Hayneville, Ala., and Frank Smith of Lower Peach Tree, Ala, were among 53 people who graduated from a University of Wisconsin training course last Friday. They had been trained for 11 weeks in community action. Graduates of the program will return to their home counties to work on community problems, especially poverty.

Waynesboro, Miss.

Nearly 200 people crowded into Bryant's Day Care Center last Monday night for the monthly meeting of the Wayne County Friends of the Children of Mississippi (FCM). A doctor from Yale University told the group they needed to learn more about health, nutrition, and birth control. Children from FCM centers in Wayne and Greene counties sang songs they had learned in their classes.

Meridian, Miss.

St. Joseph's Catholic School held its kindergarten graduation last Sunday in the school cafeteria. About 75 people were present, to see the 20 graduating students in their white caps and gowns. Miss Terry Sitta Robinson, Jeffrey Hunter, and Miss Darlene Geree gave the welcome address. Their caps fell off when they bowed, "Your grandmother didn't have the start you have-you should be grateful. You are graduating from a school that shows you something," said the Rev. Joseph Kehrer, pastor of St. Joseph Parish, as he gave out the diplomas. "This school is different from all the rest. This school shows you the way to heaven. One thing for sure, you are being taught about God and how to get there." Kenneth Clark gave the closing address. The class motto is "Play with all your might," (From Patricia James)

Cut Off If You See a Man

BY LAURA ENGLE

Throughout the South, the "substitute father" policy is one of the most common devices used to deny or cut off Aid to Dependent Children (ADC). Under this policy, a welfare department can deny assistance to needy children if their mother has any social life at all.

- A substitute father is defined as: 1. A man living with the mother in the home: or
- 2. A man who visits the home frequently, and "has the privileges of a husband"; or
- 3. A man who sees the mother somewhere outside the home, and has a husband's privileges.
- The welfare departments assume that a substitute father is supporting all the mother's children. Therefore, the departments say, the children don't need any more welfare money.

But once most welfare offices determine a man's relationship with an ADC mother, they don't usually bother to see if he is actually contributing any money to the household.

A man can be called a substitute father whether or not he is the real father of any of the children. The welfare departments ignore the fact that the mother has no way of forcing one man to support another man's children.

Welfare departments have many ways of trying to find a substitute father. It is not unusual for them to question neighbors, shop-keepers, employers, and others about the mother's relations

When the departments receive a report that an ADC applicant or recipient has been seen with a man, they assume that the mother is having sexual relations with him. And then they assume

that he is supporting the entire family.

The mother is never confronted with the evidence about her supposed relations with men. In order to disprove the relationship, she must try to get evidence herself--asking the man to testify, and asking her friends and neighbors to help her. Very often, even this will not be enough to convince the welfare worker that the relationship is innocent or non-existent.

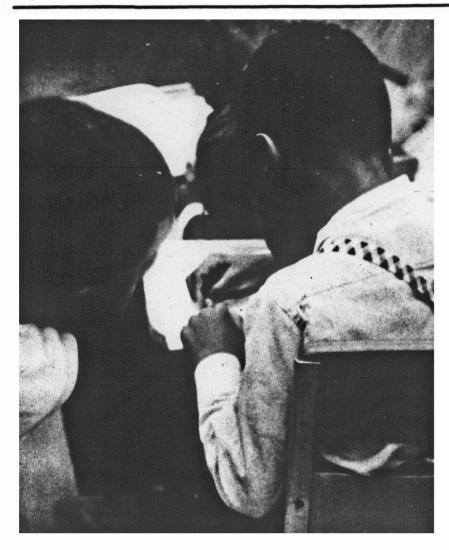
And should the mother admit having sexual relations with a man--even though he contributes nothing to her support and is the father of none of her children--she will be denied welfare assistance in most states.

If the mother becomes pregnant, her children will almost certainly be cut off welfare. In Alabama, the mother's because of a substitute father should pregnancy is considered proof that her ask a lawyer for advice.

other children have a father's support. In Mississippi, the mother may be able to prove that the relationship leading to pregnancy was "casual," rather than "continuing." But if she does, she may be reported to the court as keeping an "unsuitable home," and she may be threatened with having her children ard)

(Actually, though, the courts very seldom remove Negro children from the home because of the birth of an illegitimate baby. They would have no place to put the children if they did.)

Many questions have been raised about the legality of substitute father rules. There are cases in the courts of some states, seeking to have the rule removed from the books. Because of these questions, anyone denied welfare

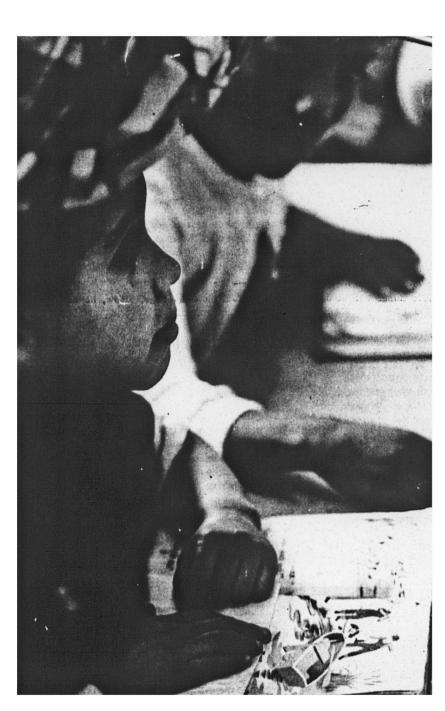


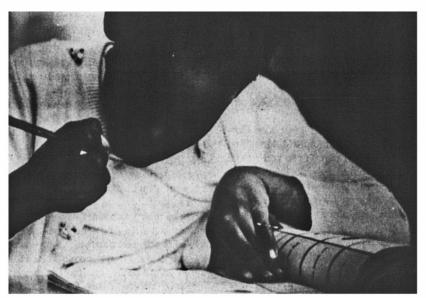


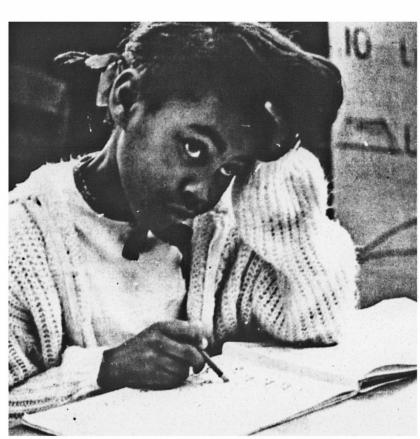


Children in the Classroom

A World All Their Own









Photos by Jim Peppler





Gray's Election Case Is Full of Surprises

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

had done something a lot of people said speed up the case. was impossible.

ing into Gray's law office in Tuskegee, officials, protested. the Negro attorney had won the Democratic primary election for a seat in the demanded Cope at one point. Alabama House of Representatives.

Since there was no active Republican Party in the three counties which made up his district, Gray seemed certain to become the first Negro elected to a state office in Alabama since Reconstruction.

Twenty miles south of Tuskegee, Henry Oscar Williams and Rufus C. Huffman sat in the front parlor of a funeral home in Union Springs, counting their election returns.

Williams was Bullock County's first Negro candidate for sheriff. Huffman was the county's first Negro candidate for tax assessor. As the early results trickled in both men thought they were winners.

But as the hours wore on, Williams' and Huffman's majorities ebbed away. Ben McGhee and Alonza Ellis, two Negroes who ran for seats on the Bullock County court of commissioners, were even further behind.

And, as Gray told a federal court judge in Montgomery last month, "at first it seemed I had won...but when all the ballots from Barbour County came in the next morning, it seemed I had lost,"

The five Negro candidates believed that the election had been stolen from them. They made careful preparations nesses gave important pieces of evidence for the first time for the May 31 run-off election. But again, they lost,

This time, however, the candidates took their suspicions to court. They filed a huge, complicated law-suit charging Bullock, Barbour, and Macon counties -- had conspired to "dilute" the Negro vote.

ten months. Meanwhile Gray's opponent, William V. Neville ruled Wallace's protest. Jr., and four other white men won the contested positions in the November election, and took office in January.

U. S. District Judge Virgil Pittman heard only a small portion of the case in four days of testimony last month. The trial is scheduled to continue on July 24.

Fred Wallace of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, chief attorney for the Negro candidates, ran into some problems

One problem was that some of his first 29 witnesses were white people who appeared in court only because they were ordered to do so. Wallace had to pry testimony out of these unfriendly witnesses with long series of seemingly aimless

Frequently, as Wallace pounced in with the crucial ques-MONTGOMERY -- On the night of May tion, Judge Pittman would rule that the witness did not have 3, 1966, it looked as though Fred D. Gray to answer it. Over and over, the judge prodded Wallace to

Pittman seldom interrupted the cross-examination of witnesses by lawyers for the white county officials. When he According to the election returns flow- did, R. E. L. Cope Sr., an attorney for the Bullock County

"Are we to do without cross-examination, your honor?"

"Oh no, Mr. Cope," said Judge Pittman. "We are just trying to weed out the repetition of things that are so wellestablished,"

The judge occasionally commented on the proceedings for other reasons. He broke in when Solomon S. Seay, Gray's law partner in Montgomery, began his testimony by saying,

"You mean Mr. Fred Wallace, don't you?" interrupted Judge Pittman, grinning broadly. He and the lawyers for

On another occasion, Judge Pittman returned early from The white lawyers soon gathered around to talk and joke with the judge. Wallace and his assistants sat quietly at their table across the courtroom, waiting to continue with

sides that he meant to conduct a fair trail. "I did not and do not intend to keep you from examining anybody," he told Wallace and Cope. "I only stopped you from reading what I could read for myself."

The trial was full of surprises. Several of Wallace's witin court--although they had been told to reveal the substance of their testimony earlier, during pre-trial hearings.

that election officials in Alabama's 31st House District -- in Perote in rural Bullock County, was not allowed to testify to the name of a Negro voter who asked for assistance but didn't get it. "You said you didn't have these names, but That suit wound its way through motions and hearings for now you come to court with them," Pittman said as he over-

> sey portions of her earlier sworn statement which seemed to contradict her testimony in court that Negro voters and poll-watchers in Perote were harassed and intimidated.

> as you were concerned, this was an honest, fair election, an honest, fair count of the ballots, and an honest return?"

"I probably misunderstood the question," Miss Outsey answered in court. "Because it (the election) was not honest. It was not fair."

After leaving the courtroom, Miss Outsey gave another



VOTERS LISTENING TO GRAY



"I was called in to associate with Mr. Wallace."

the county officials all laughed.

a recess and sat down in a chair near the defense lawyers.

But at the end of the week, Judge Pittman reassured both

In one instance, Miss Rosie Outsey, a Negro poll-watcher

Attorneys for the Bullock County officials read Miss Out-

"Did you not testify (at the earlier hearing) that so far



FRED D. GRAY CAMPAIGNING

explanation for her contradictory testimony, "At that hear- absentee ballots for many white patients who had been dising," she said, "Mr. Cope, he made those questions as long as he could. I'dask him to repeat and he'd say, 'Just answer the question.""

When none of Gray's attorneys said anything to back her up, Miss Outsey recalled, "I'd just go along and answer yes or no without really knowing what the question was." Miss Outsey also surprised the defense attorneys when they asked her about white voters in Perote.

Wallace had called in population experts to testify that the number of white adults in Bullock, Barbour, and Macon counties was 5,000 less than the number of white people registered to vote in the three counties.

He put white officials on the stand to show that it would have been easy to get--and cast--dozens and perhaps hundreds of illegal absentee ballots in the names of the extra

But he didn't ask most of the Negro poll-watchers whether they actually saw white non-residents voting on election day. So defense attorney Cope asked Miss Outsey, "You say you know all the people in Perote? . . . You didn't see

anyone at the polls you didn't know, did you?" "Yes," replied Miss Outsey, as Cope's smile faded, "I seen two or three people they didn't live in Bullock County." Judge Pittman asked her if they had voted, "Yes," Miss Outsey said.

But she couldn't remember the names under which the nonresidents had voted. And another chance to get the names of illegal voters was fumbled away when H.O. Williams was on roborated her testimony. Williams said that he trailed two car-loads of white peo-

line after they had registered to vote on May 16, 1966. Cope asked him to prove it by giving the auto tag numbers. Williams said he didn't have the tag numbers: "I gave

them to my lawyers." Wallace said he thought Seay had the tag numbers. Seay said he thought he'd given them to the Justice Department lawyers. John Rosenberg, a Justice Department attorney, at first said he didn't know where the numbers were. Later, out of court, he said the Justice Department "had no record" of ever having received the numbers.

Cope watered down Williams' testimony still further by getting him to admit that one of the two cars turned off down a road which meanders back and forth between Bullock and

But Gray's attorneys did manage to obtain solid, specific testimony about the handling of absentee ballots for

Hunter Slaton, register of the Macon County Circuit Court, at first said he notarized "very few" ballots--but later identified his signature on about 40 of them. Wallace selected one ballot and asked if the voter had appeared before Slaton. When Slaton said yes, Wallace asked, "Do not the appli-

cation (for an absentee ballot) and the ballot say (the voter) to decide whether there was any point to the rest of the eviwas confined to a nursing home with a broken hip? Were not both notarized on the same day?" Slaton answered yes to both questions. But when Wallace

tried to ask Slaton about other absentee ballots, Judge Pittman ruled out that line of questioning. "I can read the ballots myself," the judge explained.

Three Bullock County doctors testified that they certified

abled for weeks, months, or even years. They said most of these people would not have been able to leave their homes in May of last year.

Wallace then put into evidence a list of several white absentee voters. All of them had been certified by the doctors as unable to vote in person. And all of them--according to Bullock County records--had registered to vote in person on May 16, 1966, at the county courthouse.

Some of the most important--and confusing--testimony concerned the behavior of Negro poll-watchers and white election officials.

Two Barbour County poll-watchers--Mrs. Mary D. Marshall and Mrs. Clara Cochran -- testified that they were harassed by white people. But Preston Clayton, an attorney for Barbour County officials, drew a different picture of events as he cross-examined Gray.

Clayton charged that one of Gray's campaign workers went inside the voting booths at one polling place with "each illiterate colored voter" and cast all those ballots for Gray.

"Didn't you provide these colored girls with big six-inch badges saying 'I am for Fred D. Gray' to wear on election day?" snapped Clayton. "Not at the polls," Gray replied.

Mrs. Essie Nell Russell, a Negro poll official at the National Guard Armory in Union Springs, testified that police officers threatened to arrest Negro poll-watchers if they didn't leave the building. Several Negro poll-watchers cor-

Joe Adams, a white poll official, claimed that he didn't "believe" the Negro poll-watchers were threatened with arrest. But he admitted telling the poll-watchers they were "subject to a fine of \$200" for using "poll lists" of the names of registered voters.

Adams said the Negro poll-watchers frequently interfered with the election by crowding around the voting machines. The official said one poll-watcher "was trying to get intothe machine and see each voter vote.... He was listening and peeking through the curtain,"

The Negroes also complained that the bathrooms in the armory were locked on May 31.

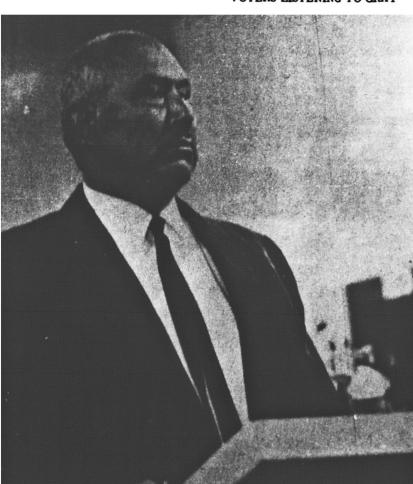
But the defense attorneys set out to prove there wasn't any discrimination: "White people there were deprived just as the Negroes were?" Cope asked Adams. "There were no restroom facilities for anyone," Adams replied.

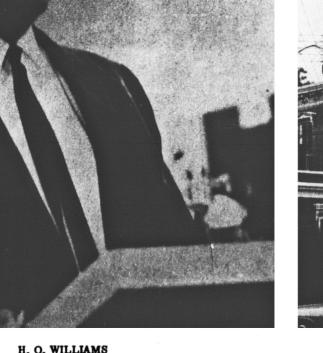
Cope then pointed out that the armory is "in a Negro residential section, so (bathroom facilities) were really more convenient for Negroes than for whites."

But when the subject of bathrooms came up later in the trial, Judge Pittman indicated that he had heard enough. "There's no point to the restrooms being locked up," the judge said bluntly.

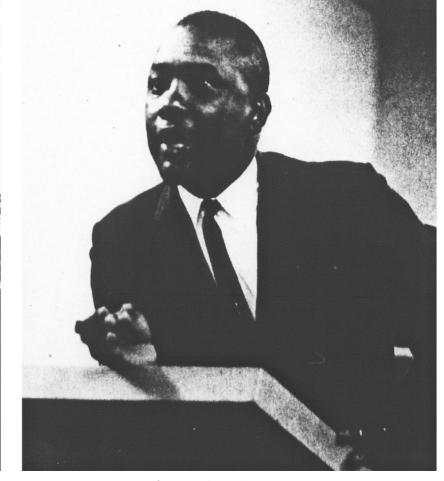
After the trial ends this summer, Judge Pittman will have

If Pittman rules that the May 31, 1966 election was dishonest, he will then have to decide whether the five Negro candidates are entitled to the new election they seek. By the time the case is over--one way or another--the Negroes' white opponents will have been in office for more than









H. O. WILLIAMS

THE BULLOCK COUNTY COURTHOUSE

RUFUS C. HUFFMAN

Kids Graduate in Tuskegee

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE--More than 300 people gathered in the Tuskegee High School auditorium last Friday night to see six Negro and 14 white seniors receive their high school diplomas.

The bi-racial audience included people with opposite opinions about school desegregation. As a speaker came up to the microphone on-stage, he could see civil rights supporters with one eye and segregationists with the other.

Each of the three main speakers had to decide whether to talk about school desegregation. Each of them solved the problem in a different way.

James I. Cohn, a white student who was star quarterback on the football team, tackled the subject head-on in his valedictory remarks.

State Senator Tom Radney--who represents Macon County (mostly Negro) and Tallapoosa and Elmore counties (mostly white) -- gave the kind of speech that got him elected. "Tonight there's a lot of love in this auditorium," he

And Miss Bettye C. Harris, a Negro student, gave the salutatory speech without referring to school desegrega-



TUSKEGEE HIGH GRADUATES

tion at all. Cohn, the valedictorian, reminded his

classmates that "a high-ranking state hind us." official (former Governor George C. Wallace) forced the closing of our school" after a federal court ordered about the future of this state so long as it to begin desegregation in September, it lies in the hands of the young people

"We were being used as a political football," Cohn said.

"Long will I remember the day an army of state troopers surrounded our school and no one was permitted to enter. I asked myself: 'Is this America, the land of the free? Is this democra-

In the "year of confusion" that followed, "the future of Tuskegee High School looked hopeless," Cohn said. But then, he added, the county school board and some parents joined together, and "slowly but surely they began to take the pieces that were left and put the puzzle back together."

A white man in the front row stood up and stalked out of the auditorium, but Cohn didn't pause, "Of course, some of our former classmates took the path of least resistance," he said. "But we replaced them with others."

In the past year, Cohn told the audience, "the student body was 100% be-

Senator Radney told the high school students that he was "not concerned of Alabama."

But he also had a few words of advice: "If you play the game of life as any less than an all-American," he said, "you will be left in the backfield while someone else is making a touchdown.

"There is no room in this country of ours for prejudice. There is no room for a blind passion for the grand old days of yesterday."

"I'm just old enough to tell you, there never was any grandold days of yesterday," Radney said. "We have never lived in such greatness as we live in

Miss Harris, the salutatorian, said she and her classmates had reached "a milestone" -- "the end of the beginning."

As the high school students go on to jobs or college, she said, "all of us have a responsibility for the progressive growth of our society."

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...Parents Complain at all. These are things that the in- conception of it. Coaches like boys to

The parents also asked the board to

James H. M. Henderson, a Tuskegee Institute professor who led the parents'

group, said he gave the board a letter

from Charles D. Stapp, director of

health and physical education for the

The letter said that "the trend is for

a student not to take part in but one sea-

sonal sport...Ithink a student should

have summers off, or one season at

The parents said they didn't know

whether white as well as Negro athletes

were required to play all sports. But

several Negro high school students said

the white athletes don't really have to

"Theoretically, it's for everyone,"

said one student. "But if the white boys

don't show up for practice, the coach

doesn't say anything. If we don't--well,

But Superintendent Wilson said "the

parents that came here have the wrong

State Department of Education.

least during the year."

follow the rule.

nary problems."

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE--A few weeks ago, two Negro boys were quietly transferred from the bi-racial Tuskegee High School to the all-Negro Tuskegee Institute High School.

For several months, Negro athletes at Tuskegee High have been required to train for all sports if they wanted to play on any school teams.

And most of the Macon County school buses still carry children of only one

A group of Tuskegee High School par-



STANLEY H. SMITH and Tuskegee Institute faculty members went to last week's meeting of the Macon County Board of Education to ask why.

But, said one of the parents, Mrs. Wilhelmina Jones, "there were no positive answers to any of our questions."

One of the parents' main concerns, said another member of the group, was the "purely illegal" transfer of the two Negro students in the middle of a

"They said it was for poor grades." the spokesman said. "But it was not for that reason at all. The real reason was for telephoning white girls."

The spokesman said that when the group tried to discuss this with the board, they were told "it was not our

"But it is our business," he said. "It's a matter of principle. It could have been any of our children. Students are going to like each other. They're going to communicate. It's a natural and normal thing."

At the meeting, Mrs. Jones said, one board member told the parents that they could expect an explanation of the board's position on transfers "at a future date."

But county Schools Superintendent Joe C. Wilson said this week that the board has "no specific transfer policy

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Rev. Roosevelt Franklin 630 Morrow Avenue Macon, Georgia 31201 Phone (Area Code 912) 745-6475 I SPECIALIZE IN ALL CASE WORK

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX, Col. 3) explain why "in the athletic program, boys must play all sports, or can't play any," Mrs. Jones said. "This is not WJLD Radio Top 14 Hits true anywhere else that we know of."

dividual school takes care of," he said, be continuously in good physical condi-

"The board does not handle discipli- tion. They have them do all the exer-

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- Ella Washington (Atl.) RESPECT--
- Aretha Franklin (Atl.) EVERYBODY LOVES A WIN-
- NER--Wm. Bell (Stax) 5. ALL I NEED--
- Temptation (Gordy) 6. TO BE A LOVER--
- Gene Chandler (Ckr.) 7. I DON'T WANT YOU CUTTIN' YOUR HAIR--B. B. King (B. Way)

- 8. I'VE LOST YOU --Jackie Wilson (Bruns.) 9. TRAMP--
- Carla & Otis (Stax)
- 10. TAKE ME IN YOURS ARMS--Gladys Knight (Soul)
- 11. YOU DON'T STAND ALONE --W. Picket (Atl.)
- 12. WOMAN LIKE THAT, YEAH --Joe Tex (Dial)
- 13. NOTHING TAKES THE PLACE -- T. McCall (Ronn)
- 14. ARE YOU READY FOR THIS--Jackie Verdella (Decca)

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ARKANSAS--The Arkansas Council on Human Relations has affiliate councils in Conway, Fayetteville, Pine Bluff, Fort Smith, and North Little Rock. We are interested in establishing local councils throughout the state. ACHR is integrated at all levels, working in education, voter education, employment. welfare, and housing. For information, write Arkansas Council on Human Relations, 1310 Wright, Little Rock, Ark.

SWAFCA JOBS -- If and when its federal money comes through, SWAFCA will be hiring the followings one horticulturist, ten agricultural field specialists, one assistant co-op manager (trainee), two administrative assistants (trainees), one comptroller, secretardrivers, loaders, and graders. Preference for non-technical jobs will be given to members of low-income farm families, then to other rural people. Apply to SWAFCA, P. O. Box 955, Selma, Ala. 36701, or pick upapplications at 1315 Jeff Davis Ave. in Selma.

JOB OPENINGS -- The Interagency Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners for South Alabama and Northwest Florida is holding an examination for mobile equipment operators -- like chauffeurs, bus drivers, light and heavy vehicle operators, and engineering equipment operators. Starting salaries range from \$1.64 to \$3.33 an hour. This examination may lead to career employment opportunities in the federal service in the 28 counties of South Alabama and the ten counties of Northwest Florida, Interested people must file an application card (Form 5000-AB), available at any board of U.S. civil service examiners and at most main post offices. Your application must indicate "Mobile Equipment Operator" as the title of the examination and "AA-7-10" as the announcement number, and it must show the city and state where you want to take the written test. Application cards should be filed with the Interagency Board of Civil Service Examiners for South Alabama and Northwest Florida, Room 1802, 107 St. Francis St., Mobile, Ala. 36602,

BAHA'IS -- The Baha'is of Montgomery will have as the subject of this week's informal, public discussion "Man, the Noblest Creation." Gathering are at 8 p.m. at the Chambliss home, 1925 Kenny St., on Thursday, and the Featherstone residence, 3222 Santee Dr. on Saturday. No contributions, no obligations.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS -- "God the Only Cause and Creator" is the subject of the Bible Lesson to be read in all Christian Science churches this Sunday, June 4. The responsive reading is from Psalm 78, and includes this verse: "And they remembered that God was their rock, and the high God their redeemer."

HELP! -- A New York civil rights lawyer is writing a book on the famous Dred Scott case--only it seems that Scott's real name was Sam. Does anyone know anything about the nickname "Dred" -what it means, what it refers to? Call 872-1079 in Selma if you do.

CAR WANTED -- The Southern Courier is looking for used cars in reasonably good running condition. Call 262-3572 in Montgomery. We pay cash.

FOR A BETTER ALABAMA -- The Alabama Council on Human Relations has active chapters in Birmingham, Mobile, Montgomery, Huntsville, Florence-Tuscumbia-Sheffield, Auburn-Opelika-Tuskegee, Talladega, and Tuscaloosa. It has a staff that works 'throughout the state. The Alabama Council is integrated at all levels: its staff officers, staff, and local chapters all have people of both races working side by side. The Alabama Council wishes to establish local chapters in every county in the state. If you wish to join the Council's crusade for equal opportunity and human brotherhood, write The Alabama Council, P.O. Box 1310, Auburn, Alabama.

CHURCH OF CHRIST -- Holt St. ies, clerk-typists (trainees), truck Church of Christ, 945 S. Holt St., Montgomery, Bro. K. K. Mitchell, minister. Weekly meetings: radio program 9-9:30 a.m. Sunday, Sunday school 9:45-11 a.m., worship service 11 a.m., classes for all ages at 5 p.m. Sunday, evening worship 6 p.m. General Bible classes for all ages at 7 p.m. Wednesday. Bible class at 2 p.m. Thursday. Personal work group meets at 7 p.m, Friday.

> NEWSPAPER JOB -- The York Gazette, one of the last of the really turned-on and tuned-in liberal daily newspapers in the country, is looking for a bright and hip young person who could be trained for a responsible job on the city desk. The candidate--male or female, black or white--should have had some reporting experience and, preferably, some experience in editing and headline writing. Salary: \$140 a week for a person with three years of news experience. After he is actually on the desk, the pay will increase. Candidates should write James Higgins, assistant editor, at The Gazette and Daily, 31 E. King St., York, Pa., and they should mention that they heard of the job through The Southern Courier.

> CHURCH SERVICES -- The Bayside Church of Christ in Mobile, 713 Bayou St. at Malin, cordially invites the public to its Sunday worship at 11 a.m. Bible school is held at 10 a.m. on Sunday, and Bible classes at 7 p.m. every Wednesday evening. The Rev. J.F. Gilcrease,

> DRAFT-AGE MEN -- The Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors now has a representative in Alabama. For advice or information, write to John Reynolds, 510 Depot St., Greensboro, Ala, 36744, or call 624-6241 or 624-8121 in Greensboro. The CCCO can provide free legal counsel if needed.

WASHINGTON COUNTY NAACP --The Washington County Branch of the NAACP will meet at 4 p.m. Sunday, June 4, in Lang's Chapel Church, McIntosh, Ala. Everyone is urged to be present, for business of importance, L.E. Moore, secretary; Eugene Garner Jr., president.

MEDGAR EVERS MEMORIAL -- The Meridian (Miss.) Branch of the NAACP invites members and friends to a Medgar Evers Memorial Day observation at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, June 11, in the First Union Baptist Church, 610 38th Ave, in Meridian.

TALLADEGA -- Earn \$10 or more a week by selling The Southern Courier. Call 262-3572 in Montgomery.



JACKSON, Miss.--"The boycott is starting small and growing," said the Rev. Allen Johnson. "We don't expect complete results right away."

Johnson is chairman of the committee organizing a selective buying campaign in Jackson. According to leaflets handed out by demonstrators, the purpose of the campaign is "to protest Ben Brown's death and demand action to change the conditions that led to it."

Twenty-two-year-old Benjamin Brown, a former civil rights worker, was killed May 12 at Jackson State College.

So far, Johnson said last weekend, the buying campaign is directed at the Miller's shopping plazas in North and West Jackson; all stores on Capitol St., and branches of these stores; and all branches of the W. T. Grant Co. and McRae's. "We'll add more stores as we go along," he said. "If it takes all summer,

Last Saturday, shopping on Capitol St. seemed normal, except for the presence of picketers. "A lot of people don't know about it (the buying campaign)," Johnson explained. "It takes about 30 days to organize a boycott of this size."

Pupils Fail

BY BETH WILCOX

GORDONSVILLE -- At the weekly meeting of the Lowndes County Christian Movement for Human Rights, members discussed the fact that more than 60 Negroes did not pass at formerlywhite Hayneville High School this year.

"In fact," said one man, "there was only one person who graduated. So they didn't even have a graduation."

"We went to see Mrs. Hulda Coleman (the schools superintendent), and asked why our kids aren't passing," said Frank Miles of Mosses. "Mrs. Coleman said that Hayneville High School kids are 'not interested in going on.' She even told us that they gave the children a test, and one child just wrote on the test, 'I'm so glad I'm in Hayneville High,' that's all.

"She wouldn't give us the name of the child, though. She finally said that the children's standards were so low that they couldn't raise them."

"Mrs. Coleman told us that some kind of achievement tests were given, and the

kids didn't pass them," Miles continued. "But what I want to know is how a kid who was making A's and B'suntil last week comes up flunking. I know lots of these kids worked hard."

One member asked, "Well, I would like to know why one teacher who had 12 students flunked them all."

"These white folks got to find out you're going to stay in that school," said another. "Then they'll stopfighting. I think these white people are trying to get the high school back for themselves, so they won't need a private school. That private school is costing somebody money."

(Nearly all the white students left Hayneville High last fall, when about 100 Negroes enrolled. Many of the white children went to Lowndes Academy, the new private school in Lowndesboro.)

Someone pointed to the old Gordonsville school next door and said, "Just look at this school. How can we come out of it and expect to make it in one year at Hayneville High?"





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NAACP Speakers Chide School Board, Parents

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE FIVE)

The parents also asked about faculty and school bus desegregation. Mrs. Jones said that one bus carries only Negro children to Tuskegee High School. The bus route "makes a perfect S instead of going in a straight line," she said.

But Wilson said the buses are all desegregated. "Anyone who wants to ride them can get on," he said. "Of course we'll always have some segregation, because some buses don't pass white

"Our faculties are not complete yet," he added, "but they will be integrated in most schools next fall."

At the meeting, Henderson complimented the school board for its efforts "to promote good educational policy and human relations." But at a NAACP meeting last Sunday, both the board and Macon County parents came infor criti-

Macon County children are being "short-changed," because "local people have not given very serious attention to this serious business of education." Stanley H. Smith told the NAACP.

Smith, a Tuskegee city councilman and Tuskegee Institute professor, predicted that if there were a study of county schools, it would turn up "glaring deers' qualifications, and school taxes. serve a good school system." ,.....

He urged "interested citizens" to join together and "project a program to meet the needs and ends of the people."

"We have the human resources here" to provide quality education, Smith said, if teachers, parents, and taxpayers are willing to make the necessary sacrifices. "If it cannot be done in Macon County, it cannot be done in Alabama,"

After Smith was through speaking, several parents said they had already tried to improve their schools--but without having any effect.

"I am part of a PTA in which some of this has been attempted," said the Rev. Vernon A. Jones, pastor of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Tuskegee. "But the attitude of the principals and teachers was, 'Now the PTA is beginning to meddle in our affairs,"

"How can we get the facts pointed up to the parents," Jones asked, "when what we usually get (from the school board) is a song and dance about how everything is lovely?"

Warren Smith, another Tuskegee faculty member, pointed out that A. J. Scavella, an unsuccessful candidate for the school board last year, "spent considerable time trying to convince everyone of the inadequacies of education in Macon County."

"Since the voters rejected this," he ficiencies" in course offerings, teach- said "perhaps they don't want or de-



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3:30-8 PM Larry Hargrove OLE GOSPEL SHIP 8-10 PM Willie McKinstry LATE DATE 10 PM-Midnight Johnny "Jive" McClure

Saturday

ALL-NIGHT SHOW Midnight-6 AM Lewis White WEEKEND SPECIAL 6 AM-Noon Larry Hargrove SATURDAY SESSION Noon-6 PM Johnny "Jive" McClure SATURDAY EXPRESS 6 PM-Midnight "Little Walter" Anglin



Sunday

Program Schedule

ALL-NIGHT SHOW Midnight-10 AM Johnny Jackson FAVORITE CHURCHES 10 AM-4 PM "Little Walter" Anglia SONGS OF THE CHURCH 4-6 PM Willie McKinstry JOHNNY JACKSON 6 PM-Midnight

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11th Annual Celebration **Alabama Christian Movement** For Human Rights

The celebration will climax Monday night, June 5, in the St. James Baptist Church in Birmingham.



The Rev. F. L. Shuttlesworth will deliver the annual president's message. Rev. Shuttlesworth is the pastor of the Greater New Light Baptist Church in Cincinnati, Ohio, and secretary of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. He has been a very successful president of the Alabama Christian Movement for the past 11 years.

The Rev. Edward Gardner, co-ordinator; Mrs. Georgia Price and Mrs. Julia Rainge, chairman; Miss Annie Peterson, secretary.

Monday, June 5

7p.m.

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