



IN SELMA...

Carmichael All Around!

Trial in Selma

BY ROBIN REISIG

SELMA--Wearing a loose, flowing Nigerian "agbada" robe, with cap and sunglasses, SNCC Chairman Stokely Carmichael walked into federal court here a minute after it was called to order March 30.

Thomas Taylor of SNCC--who calls himself Obaka Onwale Adedunyo, which means Elderly Chief That Has Returned with Crowned Wisdom--was there, in black cap, black turtle-neck sweater, and black slacks. SNCC field secretary William S. House had also arrived--wearing a conservative gray suit and vest.

They were ready for the federal hearing on their challenge to Alabama's "inciting to riot" law. (Carmichael and House were convicted under this law last November.) Their attorney, Donald A. Jelinek, began setting up his exhibits.

But Selma City Attorney McLean Pitts stood up in the courtroom, and said the hearing couldn't be held yet.

The suit was challenging the constitutionality of the state's anti-riot law,

Pitts said, and the governor and the state attorney general must be notified at least five days before all such hearings on constitutionality. They had not been notified, Pitts told the court.

"I was not trying to get you gentlemen down here and take that position just to be smart about the thing," Pitts assured U. S. Circuit Judge John Godbold and U. S. District Judges Virgil Pittman and Daniel H. Thomas.

But Judge Godbold said he would issue an order halting the state Circuit Court appeal of the SNCC workers' convictions--scheduled for early May--if the federal court could not meet before then to rule on the constitutionality of the law.

"That indicated the court isn't afraid to issue an injunction," Jelinek said afterwards, "because to issue an injunction, even under these circumstances, is to assume there is a probable chance of success."

Carmichael, who said he was wearing the agbada because "it's my ancestral robe," commented as he departed, "About time the hunkies get some justice, they'll throw out the case because they'll see it's clearly ludicrous."

Talk in B'ham

BY ROBIN REISIG

BIRMINGHAM--"People seeing you jump up and down like Tarzan, yelling black power, get the feeling you're trying to take over," a critical white reporter told Stokely Carmichael, standing in blue jeans and shirt sleeves on a podium above the reporter, Carmichael replied:

"BLACK POWER!" The SNCC chairman's cry rocked the Miles College Student Union last Tuesday night. The students stomped and cheered for it.

"The white man is not my measuring stick," Carmichael went on. "I've been denied power by hunkies, I'm gonna get that power back."

Do you want to build another Klan? asked the reporter.

"If you didn't like the Klan, you should have gotten rid of it," said Carmichael. "You didn't, I'm gonna, baby."

The reporter asked Carmichael if he was trying to "bring up your race," it's already brought up, Carmichael re-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE, Col. 1)



... AND AT MILES

THE SOUTHERN COURIER

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TEN CENTS

Protection Suit Lost, Kids Quit

BY GAIL FALK

PHILADELPHIA, Miss. --"I just can't let them go back down to Central," said Mrs. Angie Moore. "There's just no order on that bus." Mrs. Moore spoke with a tired voice and shook her head, as she looked at her ten-year-old twin daughters, Jawana and Luana, who have stopped going to school.

The pretty twins had almost completed their second year at previously all-white Neshoba Central Elementary School, and they were doing well in their classes, said Mrs. Moore.

Then last March 18, Jawana went to Jackson as a witness in the U. S. government's suit against the Neshoba County schools. The suit asked special protection for Negro students attending the county's desegregated schools.

She told U. S. District Judge Harold Cox that high school boys often hit her and her sister, and that one of the boys "said he would beat me up if he saw any more government men at my house." Nonetheless, she testified, she was still attending Central regularly at that time, along with her twin sister and nine other Negro students.

But on March 20, the first school day after the hearing, Jawana arrived home in tears, saying she didn't want to go back to Central any more.

She told her mother that the boys on the bus had beaten her much worse than ever before, and that the bus driver did nothing when she called for help. The boys said they were beating Jawana because of what she had said in court, and they threatened to cut the little girl with a knife if she came back to school the next day.

Mrs. Moore kept Jawana and Luana home the next day, and now she doesn't think she ever will send them back to Central. The five other Negro children who rode the bus with the Moore twins have also withdrawn from Central, because of harassment on the bus.

The same week that Jawana was beaten, Judge Cox decided there was no need for him to order special protection for the Negro students at Neshoba Central.

In explaining his decision, Cox said, "The teachers at these schools exerted every reasonable effort to protect the colored children from the pranks and assaults from the white children. They seemed to have done a very good job under the circumstances...."

"It is safe to assume that it takes two parties to have a fight.... The colored preacher, with a heart full of venom and hate, was in my opinion a large part responsible for the misbehavior of his two daughters in this school."

(Cox was apparently talking about the Rev. Clint Collier, who had testified that he didn't teach his children to say "Yes, sir" at home because he didn't think it was democratic.)

Referring to the withdrawal of 22 Negro students from Central's high school last September, Cox said, "There is no reason to assume... that the departure of these colored students from this school was anything but completely vol-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO, Col. 3)



JAWANA AND LUANA MOORE

White Officials Attack SWAFCA, But Co-Op Leaders Confident

SELMA--All of a sudden, everyone's talking about SWAFCA.

An all-star cast of Alabama officials--including both U. S. senators--appeared at the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) in Washington last Wednesday, to oppose a possible \$503,540 grant to SWAFCA (the Southwest Alabama Farmers Cooperative Association).

SWAFCA, an association of small farmers from ten Black Belt counties, has applied for an OEO demonstration grant, to pay for expert advice, equipment, and other needs. The farmers, working together, hope to get better prices for their vegetables crops, and to improve their farming methods.

According to one person who attended the Alabama officials' meeting with OEO, their "predominant" objection was that SWAFCA is a "black panther" group.

The white officials questioned the re-

'We're Spending Our Lives Trying to Be White'

Monroe People Organize After Beating

BY JOHN C. DIAMANTE

MONROEVILLE -- "About these beatings and everything else," said the Rev. Daniel Harrell, an SCLC staffer from Wilcox County. "They are one-sided affairs because we wanted it that way. What we're going to have to do is stop it NOW!"

Harrell, Ezra Cunningham from Beatrice, and a cross-section of Monroeville leaders joined forces last Sunday afternoon to address about 80 Monroe County Negroes at the Hopewell Methodist Church. They were attempting to launch a movement in a county which has had almost no civil rights activity.

Monroeville Mayor J. T. Hines describes the situation in Monroe County as one "that we're all well pleased with." But now some Negroes say they are not pleased--because of the beating of Alford Salter, 30-year-old Negro, on March 25, and the charge that Salter was refused proper medical care.

Salter said this week that he had a history of trouble with Monroeville Police Chief O. B. Godwin. The victim and his family said Godwin attacked him last month for no apparent reason.

As Salter related it from his hospital bed, he had gone into town with his family to buy Easter presents. As Salter was standing on the street, he said, Godwin's car came around the corner, went up the street, and then turned around and

liability of Miss Shirley Mesher, a SWAFCA co-ordinator, and tried to link her and the organization with Stokely Carmichael of SNCC.

Selma Mayor Joe Smitherman was "quite strong in his sentiments" about this aspect of the program, said the person who was there.

The officials also said there was no need for SWAFCA. U. S. Representative Bill Nichols presented statistics showing that since last July 1, the federal Farmers Home Administration (FHA) had made more than \$2,000,000 in new loans in the ten SWAFCA counties--90% of them to Negroes.

Bertrand Harding, deputy director of OEO, told the officials at the end of the two-hour session that no decision had been made on the proposed grant.

In Selma, some people rose to defend SWAFCA. Miss Mesher said the officials are "complaining about personal-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE, Col. 2)

U.S. Order 'Impossible,' Educators Say at Hearing

BY MARY ELLEN GALE
MONTGOMERY -- A

parade of white and Negro educators told the state Legislature last Wednesday that compliance with a state-wide desegregation order would endanger Alabama's public schools.

One by one, college presidents and school superintendents described the sweeping federal court order as "unworkable" and "impossible."

Only three of the 22 witnesses opposed Governor Lurleen B. Wallace's move to defy the court and take over the operation of the public schools.

Last week, Governor Wallace asked the law-makers to give her the powers now held by the state schools superintendent, and to consider hiring more state troopers "in order that the children of our state be protected."

The legislators called Wednesday's joint session of the House and Senate to consider the governor's request. They took testimony for nearly five hours.

One of the three witnesses who spoke out against the governor was Joe L. Reed, executive secretary of the Alabama State Teachers Association (ASTA).

"We are free to disagree" with the federal-court order, Reed said. "We are not free to disobey."

"How can Negroes in Alabama believe that race is not the issue, when we see what advantages the court decision will have on Negro education and what is advocated by those who oppose the decision?" Reed asked.

Another witness, Chester Higgins of the Tuskegee Institute Student Govern-



GOVERNOR WALLACE BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE

ment Association, told the law-makers, "If you want to undermine education in Alabama... give the governor the power she is asking for."

Higgins said that "complying with the court order will enhance the status of Negro education." But the presidents of four Negro state colleges disagreed.

Levi Watkins, the president of Alabama State, said "yes" when State Senator Joe Goodwyn of Montgomery asked if his college "would have some difficulty recruiting qualified white instructors."

Watkins drew a loud round of applause when he said, "During the period of my

tenure, neither I nor any other employee has been under duress or under pressure. We have been able to go forward with building an institution for all the people to the best of our professional abilities."

Watkins was only one of several educators--white and Negro--who thus attacked the basis for the court order. The federal judges said they were ordering state-wide desegregation because state officials had interfered with local efforts to desegregate the schools.

Several white educators condemned the court order as a threat to school

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MEETING IN MONROEVILLE

came back.

"He (Godwin) got out and said something--he was holding something behind his leg. I said, 'What you want me for?' Then he hit me pretty fast--the first lick kinda blinded me. And he kept hitting me again, until I leaned onto the car."

Godwin then took Salter to the Monroeville hospital, where Dr. Ralof Junior Smith treated the victim. Both Smith and Godwin indicated later that

March 28, when Godwin personally drove him down to a private clinic in Mobile. "All three doctors had the same diagnosis--that there wasn't anything wrong with him," said Godwin.

Godwin then brought Salter back to the jail, where he stayed until last Friday. At that time, Mayor Hines--who is also the town judge--convicted Salter of public drunkenness and resisting arrest.

Salter's mother said she paid Hines \$50 for part of the fines, but Salter was taken back to jail. He was still in so much pain Friday, the family said, that Godwin let the prisoner's mother, aunt, and wife stay the night in the cell with him. Last Saturday, Salter was taken to the hospital again.

Because the family was so upset, Cunningham explained at last Sunday's meeting, he went around to city officials, urging them to attend the meeting to "open up an avenue so we can talk about things." Only one white man came to the meeting--"to get the truth of it," he said. He gave the group \$5, and left before the organizing started.

"Monroe County has received all the benefits from SCLC, MFDP, everything--but you haven't contributed anything," Cunningham told the gathering Sunday. "Your ministers--what do they say? 'Pass the plate.' For what?--a Cadillac!" He said the group had diffi-

culty getting a church for the meeting. "This whole thing in the U. S. is a social revolution... all over the world, and we Negroes in Monroe County are spending all our lives trying to be white when we're going to die black!" Cunningham continued. "It is a fact that the most cowardly Negroes live here in Monroe."

After the speeches were over, Cunningham asked for a committee to draw up a resolution to be presented to the city. Many people started to leave. Eventually, a five-man committee was chosen: the Rev. Curtis Bradley, John E. Clausell, John L. Knight, the Rev. George H. Brown, and the Rev. Adam Gallery.

Hines said he could not attend the meeting because he had a previous engagement for Sunday.

But Cunningham said he'd had a battle with the mayor and others over the meeting, after they originally promised to come. "Hines told me I didn't have no business making any protest about affairs in Monroe," Cunningham said. "I said I spend \$3,000 a year here."

"I said if you won't come out here to hear our protest, we might have to come up to reach you. He said we'll have law and order here, and that damn nigger ain't worth all the trouble. I said that's what we're talking about--that damned nigger!"

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Editorial Opinion

When Reason Fails

Governor Lurleen B. Wallace's speech to the Alabama Legislature last week was boringly predictable. As usual, the Wallaces were declaring war on the federal government. As usual, the battle cry was "states rights and segregation." And, as usual, the stirring call to arms had absolutely nothing to do with the facts.

From the beginning, the Wallace speech-writers took off on a fantastic voyage. The governor referred to the "great strides" Alabama has made in educating its children. She didn't mention that its public schools are still among the nation's worst.

Then she told the people about the terrible "emergency" they were facing--a federal court order to obey the law and desegregate the schools. She said that three wicked federal judges would "determine all matters of educational policy," close all Negro schools unless white children enrolled in them, and probably jail anyone who spoke out against the court order or refused to send his children to desegregated schools.

All of these might be pretty good reasons for fighting the state-wide school desegregation order. The only thing wrong with them is that none of them is true.

But the speech didn't stop with mis-statements of fact. The governor wildly distorted the law that she so solemnly claimed to respect. No matter what Alabama's brave Legislature may do, it has no legal right to assume the burden of a court order directed to someone else. Under the new ruling, State Schools Superintendent Ernest Stone is chiefly responsible for seeing that the schools are desegregated. If they are not, he is the one most likely to end up in jail.

In asking the Legislature to order the federal judges to "cease and desist," the governor descended from the meaningless to the ridiculous. Such an order is legally worthless--whatever its political value.

But the governor's speech was more tragic than comic. She accused the federal judges of "malice" and "animosity," and called the school-desegregation order "the final step toward a complete takeover of (our children's) hearts and minds--this is what Hitler did in Germany." Words like this can only encourage violence and hate.

The first casualty of Alabama's new battle against school desegregation was the voice of reason. But before the battle is over, the whole state will suffer--and the schools will still be desegregated.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Mrs. Idessa Williams, you will not split another election. People are talking. Shame on you, I told you you would not be a drop out of the bucket against Mr. Nelson Malden.

You talk like you are the only one done something for the movement. How much bond money did you put up? I mean cash money of your own.

I deal close with the little people. Everywhere I go, people are talking and asking me about you. If you have any reason to doubt what I am saying, follow me. I will let you hear it from the people mouth through out Montgomery.

Instead of building yourself up in the eyesight of the people, you are building Coach Rufus Lewis up in the eyesight of the people by writing such letters as people read in the Courier. (This apparently refers to statements made by Mrs. Williams in a front-page story in the March 25-26 issue.--THE EDITOR)

All I can get out of the letter you have a personal grudge against Coach Lewis. Mrs. Williams, instead of writing that type of letter I would have went to Rufus Lewis, and cursed him out if he was doing something that I dislike.

No one is perfect. Coach Lewis have done some things I did not go along with in the past. I did not let the public know it. I was man enough to go to him and curse him out. I am sure he will not deny this. We are not angry with one another. I will help him or anyone else when they are working for the people. A divided house cannot stand.

A. D. S. Harris
Montgomery

To the Editor:
I read the Courier. What is Mrs.

Williams driving at? Is she power hungry? Is she struggling for prestige?...

How can do two jobs? Are you keeping the doors of the MIA open as they should be? (Mrs Idessa Williams is assistant secretary of the Montgomery Improvement Association.--THE EDITOR) Are you running the MIA at night? Are you really interested in the people or the dollar? Do you think you handled the MIA's election fair?

I was not with Mr. Lewis, now I am with him. I will follow him from now on. Mr. Malden is more qualified for what you all was running for than you are. He is educated in that field. Why didn't you disqualify yourself?

You have done some good things. Do more. THANKS.

W. Dean
Montgomery

To the Editor:

In reply to South Floridian's letter in your March 25-26 issue:

I have a more optimistic view of the 21st Century. Race hatred will become old-fashioned and go "out of style." Negro children will gain greater confidence in themselves--more than their ancestors ever had. More and more will finish high school and college, and become successful citizens. Skin color will become unimportant, as it really always has been.

I fully expect my descendants to have both white and Negro "blood," and it doesn't bother me at all. This form of "mongrelization" will harm America no more than the inter-marrying of Europeans that has taken place here since the country was founded.

A White Central Floridian
Titusville, Fla.

A White Central Floridian
Titusville, Fla.

Legislators, Students Plan Fight To Get the Vote for 18-Year-Olds

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

MONTGOMERY -- Teen-agers are better educated than their parents were at the same age. They are interested in public affairs and government. They fight wars, pay taxes, are tried in adult courts, and may marry without their parents' consent.

For all those reasons, said the overwhelming majority of nearly 200 students who met here this weekend, Alabama's voting age should be lowered to 18.

The high school and college students from all over the state were called together by State Senator Tom Radney of Tallapoosa County and State Representative Eugene M. McLain of Madison County.

The two law-makers pledged to introduce a bill calling for a constitutional amendment to allow 18-year-olds to vote. But, the legislators said, the students will have to do the rest of the work themselves.

"The responsibility is yours if you want to do something about it," Radney told the gathering in the Jefferson Davis Hotel. He urged the students to write their local legislators and their local newspapers in support of the bill.

Radney said that Governor Lurleen B. Wallace has already endorsed the plan to lower the voting age. "If there was ever a time this bill can pass, the time is now," he said.

Pettus Randall Jr., a University of Alabama senior and chairman of the state-wide Committee To Obtain the Rights of the 18-Year-Old To Vote, said passing the bill would be only the first step.

Next, he said, "you and I will have to



DISCUSSION DURING MONTGOMERY MEETING

do some campaigning," to turn out the voters in favor of the constitutional amendment, which must be approved in a state-wide election.

Members of the group--which included about 180 white students and a dozen Negroes--gave many different reasons for supporting the 18-year-old vote.

If young men are old enough to die in Viet Nam, said Radney, they are old enough to have a voice in the government that sends them there. But Steve Acuff, president of the Lanier High School (Montgomery) student body, said

that wasn't the "main issue."

"Young people are more articulate and educated today than ever before," he said. "They are more interested--and more qualified--than the average adult that votes now."

Benny James, president of the Tuskegee Institute Student Government Association, pointed out that most Alabama laws treat 18-year-olds as adults. "I'm concerned about the hypocrisy and double standard in this country," he said. "We have taxation without representation."

James was one of several people who argued that teen-agers will "become more responsible through participation" in their government. But there were a few dissenting voices.

"The teen-agers here are more capable than most," said Phil Hardee, president of the Auburn University student body. "But the majority are not serious enough thinkers to vote."

People in Greensboro Holding Their Noses

BY ROBIN REISIG

GREENSBORO--"I can't sit out here in the afternoon when the weather's warm," Mrs. Bina Love said last Monday from the porch of her large, modern, red-brick house. "It's just awful. It just smells, you know."



MRS. BINA LOVE

"It's deplorable," added Mrs. Theresa Burroughs. "You can hardly raise your windows."

Mrs. Love pointed across the street and shook her head. "The cesspool in that neighbor's yard overflows into the next yard, and the cesspool in that yard overflows into the next..."

Her hand over her nose, she walked across and pointed to the murky pools where water drains from the houses.

That morning, Mrs. Love--who lives in the Baptist Hill area of Greensboro--and Mrs. Burroughs--who lives in the Depot area--had led a group of 15 Negroes to meet with Mayor William Christian. They asked him for sewers for the two neighborhoods.

According to the women, Christian said he would send some men to inspect

Neshoba Case

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

untary on their part."

But the parents who kept their children home from the elementary school last week said there wasn't anything voluntary about the decision.

Mrs. Valera Culverson, mother of a fifth-grade girl, said, "I hated to pull her, but I'm through with Central. They just have me wore down with worrying, on account of those big boys on that bus didn't do a thing but beat on her."

Freedom-of-choice forms for next year have been mailed out to Neshoba parents. But after Judge Cox's decision, just about all the Negro parents who enrolled children in Central last fall said they would send them back to all-Negro Carver next year.

Said Mrs. Luevertis Lyons, whose sons Dennis and Matthew were among the students who withdrew from Central last fall: "It's just nonsense to send them out to Central."

the conditions, and he promised that Baptist Hill would get sewers eventually.

But that didn't satisfy Mrs. Love. When she moved in seven years ago, she said, the mayor promised her that the neighborhood would soon get sewers, when the main sewer pipe went through the area to reach Hale County Training School and a housing project.

Then, she said, "every time I'd go, he'd say nothing could be done--the money had been exhausted."

Three years ago, Mrs. Love gave up and paid \$217 of her own money to connect her house with the sewer pipe that passes a block away. But her house is one of just a few that are connected.

In Monday's meeting, said Mrs. Love, Mayor Christian complained that "even if the sewers run by the door, people buy these \$2,000 cars and don't pay to connect."

"I told him these same children who've been contaminated are going to be in white schools next year," said Mrs. Burroughs. "An epidemic could start."

The mayor later refused to comment on the meeting or the sewer problem. He pointed out, however, that some white neighborhoods also lack sewers.

Monday night, at a mass meeting, Mrs. Burroughs introduced a petition asking for sewers. She also suggested that Negroes might picket to get them.

B'ham March

BIRMINGHAM--"White folks shoot you down like rats, kill you like flies. We're too high-minded and proud-hearted. No lip battles! Some action!" shouted the Rev. Johnnie Burrell, as the marches protesting killings by police went into their seventh week last Monday.

Keeping up the action was the topic of the Alabama Christian Movement meeting Monday night. The Rev. Edward Gardner told a full house in St. John Baptist Church, "The problem is Negroes get mad and cool off again, get mad and cool off again. Let's keep the heat on."

See Pictures, Page Three

"Seven weeks ago, there were six weeks in the year and five Negroes killed," said the Rev. F. L. Shuttlesworth. "If we've been doing nothing but marching to keep from getting killed, we've been doing a good job."

On Monday afternoon, the marchers had wound through the Powderly neighborhood, where Robert Lacey was killed by a sheriff's deputy last Jan. 27.

During the previous week of marching, trucks had broken through the march line, and a little girl's hand had been hit--but not hurt--by a car coming out of a parking lot.

"If anyone gets hurt in the streets, we're going to march and lie down till they pick us up," Shuttlesworth said Monday night. But he said police protection for marchers is much better now than it was in the movement's early days.



Tuscaloosa

Troy

Mrs. Odessa Warrick, Miss Patricia Day, Miss Dorothy Lee, Miss Barbara Taylor, and George Crummie represented the Tuscaloosa Citizens for Action Committee (TCAC) at an SCLC citizenship training workshop March 13 to 17 in Dorchester, Ga. They attended sessions on how to teach people about reading, Negro history, and government. Mrs. Warrick said everyone "had a wonderful time."

Abbeville

Mrs. Elizabeth Vaughn Johnson has become the first Negro woman ever selected to serve on the Henry County grand jury. Mrs. Johnson is a graduate of Alabama State College, and she was

John McClure, who had 50 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren, died in a Troy hospital March 21 at the age of 78. Funeral services were held March 26 in the Oak Grove Baptist Church. Mr. McClure lived in McClure Town, a mostly-Negro community about two miles from Troy. The town was named after the McClure family, which owns the land, the houses, and also the church. Surviving Mr. McClure are his widow, 12 children, the grandchildren and great-grandchildren, three sisters, six sons-in-law, and four daughters-in-law. Two children preceded him to the grave. (From J. M. Warren)

Philadelphia, Miss.

A young Negro man recently told his boss at a company in town that he wanted his pay because he was quitting. One of young man's white co-workers overheard the conversation and asked where he was going. The young man answered that he was going to Chicago. Wasn't he afraid those Yankees were going to trick him up there? the white man asked. The young Negro answered he didn't guess they would kick him, but if they did at least he would see who did it. But if he stayed around Philadelphia, he said, the Klan would kick him for sure, and he wouldn't even be able to see them. (From a Philadelphia reader)

Ozark



MRS. ELIZABETH V. JOHNSON

an elementary school teacher for three years with the Henry County Board of Education. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Vaughn of Abbeville, and the wife of Arthur J. Johnson of Cairo, Ga. Mrs. Johnson may not be able to serve on the grand jury, because she has been living in Georgia with her husband. At present, she is teaching the first grade at the Speight Elementary School in Ft. Gaines, Ga. (From James J. Vaughan)

Iuka, Miss.

Miss Sammie Inez Long, a freshman at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, has received a \$1,000 scholarship from the National Medical Association.

Abbeville

Funeral services for Sam Craddock were held March 30 at the new Mt. Zion Baptist Church. (From James J. Vaughan)



SMITH, PALMER, BUFORD



When Shuttlesworth

In Birmingham

This Week

Stokely Carmichael addressed students at Miles College. The Rev. Fred L. Shuttlesworth spoke at the mass meeting in St. John Baptist Church.

Photographs by
Jim Pepler



and Stokely Spoke



THE EDMUNDITE MISSION IN SELMA

Good Samaritan Hospital Lives Up to Its Name

BY ROBIN REISIG

SELMA--The Fathers of St. Edmund came to Selma 20 years ago, long before there was a civil rights movement.

The Fathers--a group of Catholic priests--saw the need for better health and educational facilities in Selma's large Negro community. They decided to do something about it.

The beginning was small. There were only two priests and a tiny hospital clinic to serve the many people who drove up in mule carts.

But today the Edmundite Southern Mission in Selma is big and growing bigger. The center of operation is Good Samaritan Hospital, a large new building that also houses a nursing home for elderly people and a school of practical nursing.

The Edmundites also founded St. Elizabeth's Elementary School to give Negro children a better education than the public schools did. And a Mission shop sells used clothing for nickels and dimes--or gives it away free to people with no money at all.

The Mission's institutions are open to people of all races and religions. Less than half the children at St. Elizabeth's--and only a small percentage of the patients and staff at Good Samaritan Hospital--are Catholic.

Good Samaritan Hospital was founded for poor people who would otherwise go without medical care. Dr. Isabel Dumont, who has been treating Selma Negroes for 20 years, remembers that Father Frank Casey, who started the Edmundite Missions, "had a heart as big as a cabbage."

"When he opened the hospital, he said if you have one paying patient and one 'free' patient and only one bed left, take the charity patient and let the other go home," said Dr. Dumont.

Today, about seven of every ten patients in the 69-bed hospital come from families with incomes below \$2,400 a year. These patients can pay only a fraction of their hospital expenses, which run about \$35 a day.

As a result, Good Samaritan relies on federal funds and private gifts to keep operating. Sometimes the money problems seem overwhelming.

"Last summer we almost closed the hospital," said Sister Michael Ann, Good Samaritan's energetic administrator. Just in time, the hospital was approved for Medicare.

"The Lord directed all these people here, and if the Lord wants it (the hospital) to continue, He's not sitting up there doing nothing," said Sister Michael Ann, with a smile.

But she doesn't leave the hospital's daily administration to luck or providence. Every day, she walks briskly through the hospital, stopping to chat with patients--and sometimes to persuade them, in a friendly way, to follow their doctor's orders.

Sister Michael Ann is a member of the Sisters of the Society of St. Joseph of Rochester, New York. The Society has staffed the hospital and school since the beginning, 25 years ago.

"In the very early days," Sister Michael Ann recalls, "you did everything. You sewed up wounds and gave anesthesia and delivered babies because there was no one else around. You were like a doctor yourself. It was amazing what you did."

The sisters now wear modern habits--white or gray skirts, blouses, and scarves. But for many years they dressed in white robes from head to toe.

The sisters' clothing sometimes confused patients. One man caught sight



LOCAL PEOPLE FIND JOBS AT GOOD SAMARITAN

of Sister Michael Ann and shouted, "Save me, Mary, save me." Another patient woke up, looked at her, and said, "Thank you, Jesus, I made it." "He thought he was in heaven," Sister Michael Ann explained.

Two other early arrivals at Good Samaritan Hospital were Dr. Dumont, a native of Germany, and Miss Joan Mulder, a native of Holland. They came to Selma in 1944 to open a clinic for Negroes.

Miss Mulder, who spent six years as Good Samaritan's medical technician, remembers that it was hard to convince people to give blood.

"They were very scared of giving blood then, and I had to go find all the donors myself," she recalled. "Sometimes I'd go to the Negro cafes, where the nice big strapping men, truck drivers, were. I'd ask, 'Are there any Christians here?' They'd all say, 'Sure.'"

"I'd say, 'Good. You go to the Good Samaritan to give a pint of blood to save somebody's life.' They'd come, shaking and all."

Dr. Dumont and Miss Mulder originally wanted to work in Africa. But World War II changed their plans, and they came to Alabama instead.

They are glad that they came to Selma. "We found out here we had Africans who were worse off than the people in Africa," said Miss Mulder.

She now helps Dr. Dumont treat an average of 50 patients a day. The most common illnesses among adults are anemia, high blood pressure, heart disease, and diabetes.

About 80% of the children they examine have worms. Miss Mulder formerly ran a "puny baby" clinic to give shots and vitamins to undernourished children and advice to their parents.

People who are too sick to be treated as outpatients are admitted to the hospital. Many are poor people who suffered in silence for months without realizing they could get help at Good Samaritan.

As a result, one nurse said, "people are a lot sicker when they come here than when they come to other hospitals. They're in the advanced stages of diseases."

But the atmosphere at Good Samaritan isn't gloomy. The patients seem relaxed and happy. "In here you get the best care from the doctors and nurses," said Mrs. Vinnie Henry, a patient. "It's better than home."

Nearly all white babies born in Dallas County are born in hospitals. Most Negro babies are born at home. But nearly all the Negro babies that are born in hospitals are born in Good Samaritan.

The hospital treats many children for burns. Most of them were burned when they fell into or got too close to open fires used for cooking or heating.

Treating burns is expensive. Although the Alabama Crippled Children's Service helps out, the hospital gives thousands of dollars worth of care that it is never paid back for.

In addition to the regular hospital, Good Samaritan operates a 26-bed nursing home. More than 300 elderly patients have stayed there since it opened in 1943.

"They're not permitted to vegetate," Sister Michael Ann said. "They must get up and around, participate in recreation, bingo games."

For many of the patients, the pleasant surroundings and the three good meals a day combine to provide the best living conditions in a long life of poverty and hardship.

Good Samaritan's school of practical nursing is the oldest one in the state. Since it began training nurses in 1950, it has graduated more than 300 people. About 30 of them now work at the hospital in Selma.

There is a new "medical cadet" program to give high school students an idea of what hospital work is like. A ladies auxiliary, including some white women, mostly from Craig Air Force



THE HOSPITAL TRAINS PRACTICAL NURSES

Base, also helps out.

More than 100 of the hospital's 130 employees, and three of its 35 doctors, are Negro. Good Samaritan is one of very few places in Selma where Negroes and white people work side by side at the same skilled jobs.

"This was probably the first time a profession in this area was open to Negro boys and girls," said John L. Wright Jr., an administrative assistant at the hospital. "Young people who couldn't afford to go away to school didn't have to pick cotton or be maids."

"The Negroes in Selma can now look at the hospital and see Negro people coming into positions of prominence," said Sister Michael Ann. "This motivates them to go on. I tell the medical cadets that 'You can be anything you want to be,' and prove it to them by looking at the people here."

John Crear, an administrative assistant, is one of the Negroes who work at Good Samaritan. As a boy in Selma, he was a member of another organization run by the Edmundite Southern Missions--the Don Bosco Boys Club.

The boys club sponsors sports and recreation for youths aged six to 17. It has obtained financial aid for more than 200 boys who wanted to go to college but didn't have the money.

"I was 16 and had finished high school," Crear recalled. "I had no idea I would ever go to college because my family couldn't afford it." But Father Nelson B. Ziter, then director of the boys club, convinced Crear that he should continue his studies--and then persuaded Xavier University to give him a football scholarship.

Crear, now 30, returned to Selma in 1960. He spent four years as director of the boys club, trying to give other youths what he calls "a sense of direction."

Crear thinks the boys club has helped

meet one of the South's major problems--the loss of talented Negro youngsters to other regions which give them more opportunity to use their skills in well-paid jobs.

Crear explained his own return by saying: "Knowing about the racial problem, which seemingly is getting to be resolved a bit, I thought, 'Somebody's got to stay here.'" And now, he said, "a lot of other young fellows seem to be coming back."

In his job at Good Samaritan, Crear supervises some Southern whites and works with others as an equal. "There's an unusual relationship between the white and Negro employees in the hospital," he said. "I think it's gradually reaching out into the community."

Sister Michael Ann also thinks there has been progress toward racial harmony in the last two years. She cited the bi-racial ladies auxiliary and a slow increase in the number of Good Samaritan's white patients--from less than 1% to 3%.

"I think people were so overwhelmed and humiliated by the march (the Selma-to-Montgomery civil rights march in 1965) and what happened at the bridge," she said. "A segment felt, 'This happened because we let it happen.' A segment moved forward."

After the civil rights marchers were stopped by club-swinging state troopers at the Edmund Pettus Bridge, most of the injured people were treated at Good Samaritan Hospital. The hospital also offered food and sleeping space to many marchers.

Some people criticized the Edmundite Mission for getting involved with the civil rights movement. But Sister Michael Ann, the hospital administrator, had a quiet reply.

"A hospital is not meant just to admit and discharge patients," she said. "It should be a part of the community."



THE HOSPITAL MASCOT



SISTER MICHAEL ANN



MANY BABIES ARE BORN AT GOOD SAMARITAN



SISTER MICHAEL ANN SHOOT8 MARBLES WITH SCHOOLCHILDREN



NURSING HOME CARES FOR THE ELDERLY

Carmichael at Miles: Libel Case Results in Fine of \$1

'We Don't Get Scared'

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

pled. "I'm trying to get hunkies off my back."

"Talking like that, they're gonna stay on your back," said the reporter.

"That's what you think," Carmichael responded, very coolly and very slowly. "You don't have the guts to face the Klan because maybe they're part of you, and you don't have the guts to destroy that part of you."

This was the roughest exchange in an evening of no-holds-barred discussion. During the evening, one student called Carmichael "black supremacist" and a "damned fool" for wanting an all-black faculty at Miles. But another Negro stood up to say, "You have two damn fools."

A student said Carmichael seemed to believe in segregation.

"To be a segregationist, I would pick up a gun and run these white people out," Carmichael answered. "I am for free association, and I want to associate with black people."

Earlier, in his brief speech, he spoke of "the impossibility of self-condemnation." "If white America admitted her atrocities," she'd have to commit suicide," he said. Then he spoke of "definition":

"Black people in this country have never had a chance to define themselves. When we say 'black power,' they say 'You mean violence?' They want us to say, 'No, no, no.' But we will be masters of our own terms."

In the past, Carmichael said, in every civil rights discussion, a white man would stand up and ask, "You want to marry my daughter?" This, he said, would put Negroes on the defensive. Mimicking a scared, shaky whisper, he said they'd reply, "We don't want to be your brother-in-law. We just want to be your brother. We don't want to sleep in your bedroom. We just want to sleep next to you."

When SNCC people are asked this

question, "we don't get scared," Carmichael said, letting his words sink in. "We just tell 'em: Your daughter, your sister, your mama. The white woman's not the queen of the world. She can be made, just like anything else. Let's move on to something important."

The day after Carmichael's speech, the news director of a Mobile radio station filed a federal suit charging the SNCC leader with advocating the violent overthrow of the U.S. government. The radio man, Art Keeney, said he was acting because the federal government would not.

Big Fuss Over SWAFCA

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

ities and technicalities." She said SWAFCA reaches people who have never before been involved in any organized farm program.

Three Edmundite fathers--the Rev. John Crowley, the Rev. Edward Leary, and the Rev. James Holden--bought an advertisement in the Selma Times-Journal to express their support.

"SWAFCA is democratically organized and operated, and is a model of self-help endeavor," they said. "Any community could be proud of its efforts--and the added skills it will develop and dollars and economic activity it will bring."

But some prominent Alabama Ne-

groes spoke against the program. At a meeting in Selma last Monday night, local attorney Bruce Boynton was critical of the program.

Miss Mesher charged that Birmingham attorney Orzell Billingsley was trying to form a cooperative of his own. "This new thing looks like it arose out of what we organized," Billingsley said this week. He said his group--the Alabama Farmers and Rural Development Council--was formed in Montgomery more than a year ago.

"I can't see any visual evidence that (SWAFCA) has organized anybody," Billingsley added, "especially as far as the leadership of those counties is concerned."

had belonged to the White Citizens Council. Reynolds was found guilty of criminally libeling Adams, and was fined \$250 and court costs.

He came to Circuit Court here Monday to appeal his conviction. But when

court fined him \$1.

"I wasn't guilty of trespass," Reynolds said afterwards. "But I wasn't guilty of the first charge, either."

Several defense witnesses had been in the courtroom, in case Reynolds and Adams decided to re-try the case. They were going to testify that they had seen a "KKK" emblem on Adams' station wagon.

"They got it mixed up," Adams explained later in the day. He produced his radio operator's license, and pointed to the three letters that begin his radio number--KKN.



JOHN REYNOLDS

names were called for jury service, only six or seven of the 70 prospective jurors were Negroes.

"We felt if there were more Negroes on the jury rolls we would have a better chance to win," said Oscar Adams, Reynolds' attorney. So rather than risk a new trial, Reynolds pleaded guilty to a lesser charge of trespass, and the

FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

In Alabama all our yesterdays are marred by hate, discrimination, injustice, and violence. Among the organizations working for a better tomorrow on the principle of human brotherhood is the Alabama Council on Human Relations. Membership in the Council is open to all who wish to work for a better tomorrow on this principle. For further information, write the Alabama Council, P.O. Box 1310, Auburn, Alabama.

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CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS -- "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving-kindness and tender mercies." This verse from Psalms is the Golden Text of this week's Christian Science Lesson--Sermon, "Are Sin, Disease, and Death Real?"

BAHA'IS--"God Is One, Religion Is One" will be the topic for this week's informal, public discussion by the Baha'is of Montgomery. These gatherings will be held at 8 p.m. in the Chambliss home, 1925 Kenny St., in Montgomery, on Thursday; the Brook home, 33 Callard in Tuskegee, on Friday; and the Featherstone home, 3222 Santee Dr. in Montgomery, on Saturday. No contributions, no obligations.

EASY MONEY--Sell The Southern Courier in Huntsville, and make \$20 for a few hours of work. If interested, call 262-3572 in Montgomery.

ECUMENICAL SEMINAR--The Ecumenical Institute of New Orleans, La., is sponsoring a spring seminar for clergy and laymen April 24-28 at the Gulfside Assembly Grounds in Waveland, Miss. Information on courses and costs is available from the Toulminville Methodist Church in Mobile, or from the Ecumenical Institute of New Orleans, 3404 Louisiana Ave. Parkway, New Orleans, La. 70125.

CHURCH SERVICES--The Bayside Church of Christ in Mobile, 713 Bayou St. at Mallin, 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, pastor.

LEARN TO READ -- Learn how to read, or improve your reading. No charge for lessons. For information, call Mrs. Chambliss, 265-4394 in Montgomery.

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

MOBILE ROBBERY WITNESS--If the man who witnessed the robbery of Hermann & Hynde Realty, 257 St. Francis, on the afternoon of Feb. 3 is still in the Mobile area, he should get in touch with the office of District Attorney Carl Booth.

JOB OPEN--The Interagency Board of U.S. Civil Service Examiners will examine applicants for positions as mess attendants and tray service attendants. This examination provides applicants with career employment opportunities in the federal service. The positions are located in the Montgomery area, and throughout South Alabama and Northwest Florida. Interested applicants may obtain additional information and application forms by contacting Alex Culver, Examiner in Charge, 413-A Post Office Building, Montgomery, Ala. 36104.

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. 72206.

CHOICE OPPORTUNITY--For medical records librarian or technician. The challenging task of directing the medical records department of a modern 95-bed hospital awaits the "challenger" at Good Samaritan Hospital in Selma, Ala. Exceptional working conditions, fringe benefits, salary open. Letter of application should include character references, work experience, and educational background. Send to Good Samaritan Hospital, P.O. Box 1053, Selma, Ala. 36701.



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Co-Op Planned For Tent City Few Witnesses Oppose Governor



WHERE TENT CITY USED TO BE

BY GAIL FALK

GORDONSVILLE--Tent City is empty now. All that remains on the land along Highway 80 where six Lowndes County families lived for more than a year are rusty tin cans, a dead automobile, and a rickety wooden outhouse with a faded "black panther" sticker still decorating the side.

Three weeks ago, the last families moved out of their tents and into houses. They had been living in tents since January, 1966, when they were evicted from the plantations they worked on. Albert Scott, head of one of the families that lived in Tent City, says the plantation owner didn't give him any reason for the eviction, but "I think it was because of registering to vote."

Medical Aid Is Postponed

FT. DEPOSIT -- Poor people in Lowndes County will have to wait at least another year for a federal program that would have given them free medical care.

Dr. Robert P. Griffin, secretary of the Lowndes County Medical Society, said the program would have to be delayed, because "we didn't get the application filed on time."

The deadline was last Saturday, he said, and the next deadline won't be until next year, "unless they change something," Griffin said he thought the people working on the application could "probably make it" by next year at this time.

"Eight weeks ago, we didn't know this program existed," Griffin said. He said paper work, "the little decisions that had to go with the paper work," and "government red tape" delayed the application.

He said work on the program was "not hindered by any tension or feelings in the county." Three Lowndes County churches were burned last month, and Dr. W. L. Stagers--another physician involved in the medical program--attended one of them.

"We worked right through that period," said Griffin. "We just ran out of time."

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(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)
accreditation. They said that faculty integration would mean a lowering of educational standards.

But Reed, the ASTA president, warned that "the passage of any proposal to dilute the powers of the (state) superintendent may well cause the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

to withdraw accreditation from Alabama's entire school system--from the state's largest university to the smallest grade school."

The only white witness who opposed Governor Wallace was Mrs. Norma Brewer of the League of Women Voters of Alabama.

A MONTH IN JAIL

BY MERTIS RUBIN

MONTICELLO, Miss.--Arthur Ray Mikell, a 19-year-old boy who had integrated the Lawrence County ASCS office, spent a month in jail recently on a charge of making nasty phone calls.

Mikell had been measuring cotton acreage once or twice a week for the ASCS (Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service). He had just finished a training program, and was due for a promotion.

But on Feb. 24, Sheriff N. S. Lambert arrested Mikell and charged him with making nasty calls to a white woman. Three days later, the youth was tried without a lawyer in a justice of the peace court. After pleading guilty, he was sentenced to six months in jail and fined \$500.

Until March 22, Mikell just sat in the Lawrence County jail, because no one knew how to help him. (There is no civil rights organization in Monticello or

Lawrence County. And Mikell's grandmother said she was afraid to bail him out, because he might get mobbed outside the jail.)

Mikell's stay in jail ended when the Rev. John Perkins of Simpson County came back to visit Lawrence County, where he grew up. Perkins immediately called the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law.

B. E. Bergesen of the Lawyers Committee got bond set for Mikell at \$1,000. County authorities later agreed to reduce this to \$500, and Bergesen got a professional bonding company from Jackson to put up the money.

Mikell's case will be heard again in August in the Lawrence County Circuit Court.

Friends described the defendant as the type of young man who often spoke his piece, no matter to whom. "I feel like he's getting a dirty deal," said Perkins. "Every time some of our people move up on a job, something happens,"

"Can we again sanction the use of our schools as a battle-ground?" Mrs. Brewer asked, warning against the consequences of a "political take-over of the schools."

When Senator Goodwyn asked her,



STONE



REED

"Would you rather have a take-over by federal courts or state officials?" Mrs. Brewer replied, "I really don't see where we have a choice. The courts have spoken."

But Alton Crews, president of the Alabama Education Association, said

he preferred state control of the schools to following the federal court order.

The only school official who failed to attack the court order was State Superintendent Ernest Stone, who explained that the court had given him some "rather peculiar responsibilities." "While I am under court order, I will do my best to obey that order," Stone said.

Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights

The weekly meeting will be at the First Baptist Church, Kingston, 4600 Ninth Ave., the Rev. G. W. Dickerson, pastor.

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Rosco Robinson (Wand) | 9. PUCKER UP BUTTERCUP--
Jr. Walker (Soul) |
| 3. MERCY MERCY MERCY--
Cannonball Adderly (Capitol) | 10. YOU ALWAYS HURT ME--
Impressions (ABC) |
| 4. BERNADETTE--
Four Tops (Motown) | 11. ONE HURT DESERVES ANOTHER--
Raelettes (Tangerine) |
| 5. THE LOVE I SAW IN YOU--
Miracles (Tamla) | 12. WHEN SOMETHING IS WRONG
WITH MY BABY--Sam & Dave
(Stax) |
| 6. SWEET SOUL MUSIC--
Arthur Conley (ATCO) | 13. IT TAKES TWO--
Gayle & Weston (Tamla) |
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6-9 AM Sam Double "OO" Moore

OLE GOSPEL SHIP

9-11 AM Willie McKinstry

NOON SPECIAL

11 AM-1 PM Sam Double "OO" Moore

AFTERNOON SESSION

1-3:30 PM Rick Upshaw

MOVIN' HOME SHOW

3:30-6 PM Sam Double "OO" Moore

EVENING SPECIAL

6-8 PM Rick Upshaw

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 Rick Upshaw

SATURDAY SESSION

Noon-6 PM Johnny "Jive" McClure

SATURDAY EXPRESS

6 PM-Midnight "Little Walter" Anglin

Sunday

ALL-NIGHT SHOW

Midnight-10 AM Johnny Jackson

FAVORITE CHURCHES

10 AM-4 PM "Little Walter" Anglin

SONGS OF THE CHURCH

4-6 PM Willie McKinstry

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