

To Oppose SEASHA?

CAP Heads Go To Washington

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

MONTGOMERY, Ala. --Why did half a dozen Community Action Program (CAP) directors from Alabama go to Washington last week?

Members of the group said they went to ask the federal Office of Economic Opportunity for local control over anti-poverty programs.

But a leader of the South East Alabama Self Help Association (SEASHA) said the CAP directors were trying to block SEASHA before it has a chance to get started.

"This is their primary motive," charged Rufus C. Huffman, treasurer of SEASHA--a new, mostly-Negro organization formed to fight poverty in 12 Alabama counties.

"SEASHA is meant to touch the people the CAP programs do not touch--the very poorest," said Huffman. If SEASHA has to check every program it plans to sponsor with CAP directors in the 12 counties, Huffman said, "the programs that would be most beneficial wouldn't be allowed to come in."

But Miss Mary Grice, president of the Alabama CAP directors association, said the group wants all "single-purpose agencies"--including SEASHA--to follow a "check-point procedure" for another reason: to maintain "racial harmony and equal opportunity at the local level."

"The South has many problems which must be worked out at the local level by local people," Miss Grice said. "It is the local people of all races who carry the burden of solving our problems, and I am tired of seeing local people treated as if they were the enemy."

"Some people... are simply concerned with creating 'poverty wardens' and turning over to them large sums of money to use as they please,"



RUFUS C. HUFFMAN

Miss Grice charged.

She said the CAP directors oppose single-purpose agencies in counties where community action programs are under way.

"SEASHA, for example, overlaps at least seven on-going CAP programs," she observed.

But some of the seven CAP directors in SEASHA counties said they don't object to SEASHA--if it avoids duplicating local CAP programs and checks with local officials.

"Our main concern is to know what's going on in our counties," said Montgomery CAP director Charles R. Sheldon, a member of the group that visited Washington. "The SEASHA people stopped in at my office once and invited me to a meeting. But they never told me where it was--and they haven't been back since."

Two CAP directors who didn't go to Washington--Charles L. Weston of Barbour-Dale-Henry and Gene Schroeder of Bullock-Pike-Coffee--said they are ready to approve any worthwhile (CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO, Col. 3)

All Negro Candidates Lose; Miss. Voters Pick Williams

BY MERTIS RUBIN

JACKSON, Miss.--Almost every Negro leader has been asked at one time or another, "Where did the Negro vote go in the state-wide races?" There have been no solid answers.

The Mississippi Voters League was formed last June, with representatives from most of the counties, for the purpose of screening state-wide candidates and deciding whom to support.

In the Aug. 8 primary, the voters league supported William L. Waller for governor, as a favor to the NAACP's Charles Evers, a member of the league's executive committee. Waller twice prosecuted Byron de la Beckwith for the 1963 slaying of Evers' brother, Medgar.

But last Monday night in Fayette, Evers endorsed William Winter for governor in the run-off.

The Negro vote was probably more of a factor in the lieutenant governor's race. The voters league supported Roy Black in the first primary, and without Negro votes Black might have lost his place in the run-off to Paul Johnson.

After the Aug. 8 election, however, the voters league found out that Black had moved into Johnson's campaign headquarters. The league felt that Johnson must have been supporting Black, and would influence him if he got elected. So the voters league supported Charles Sullivan in the run-off.

But there may well have been some dispute about this among Negro leaders. Evers, at the rally in Fayette, was still supporting Black.

The Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party, which is strong in Holmes County and some others, urged black voters to stay away from the polls until the general election Nov. 7. But observers feel that some Negroes in Holmes County must have voted, because Mrs. Hazel Brannon Smith, a white liberal, got into the run-off.



JOHN BELL WILLIAMS

'A Case of Life Vs. Watermelon'

BY ALAN BOLES

WEDOWEE, Ala.--"What this case really boils down to is whether or not a life is worth more than a watermelon," Lewis Hamner told a jury of 12 white men last Monday in Randolph County Circuit Court.

Hamner was one of the lawyers prosecuting J. W. Watkins, a one-eyed, 63-year-old Negro, on charges of second-degree murder. Watkins was charged with fatally shooting James Burks, a 19-year-old white man, last July 1.

According to the testimony, Burks and a companion were carrying off Watkins' watermelons at the time of the shooting. Ninety-eight shotgun pellets were found in Burks' torso and head.

Watkins testified that he meant to scare Burks, not kill him. He said he thought he was aiming above the victim's head.

Watkins said he still suffered from a stroke he had two years ago. He said he sold watermelons to get money for medicine.

The major point of dispute in the trial was how much warning Watkins gave before firing. Burks' companion testified that Watkins merely said, "Wow!" But Frank Goess, Watkins' grandson, said the defendant shouted "Halt!" and then asked, "Have you boys planted any watermelons in this patch?"

Watkins himself testified that he yelled, "Hey, boys, what y'all doin' here?" and then carried on a brief conversation with the white men. He claimed that he fired only when Burks moved toward him.

Five white residents of Rock Mills, near Roanoke, told the jury that Watkins' reputation for peace and quiet was excellent.

R. C. Wallace, Watkins' attorney, argued to the jury, "I don't care if one

Food Plan Approved, But Boone Loses Job

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--This was the week that the Rev. Richard Boone got a food stamp program and lost a job. Boone had requested a stamp plan for the county several weeks ago. Last Monday, the Board of Revenue approved the plan--provided the Montgomery City Commission agrees to share the cost.

But that night at a mass meeting, Boone told the people that he was "without a job." Later, he explained that he had been removed from the SCLC payroll. He said he had spent \$500 of his own money taking a survey to demonstrate the need for a food program.

In Atlanta, Ga., Hosea Williams of SCLC said Boone was fired because "we just had to cut the staff--we didn't have the money to pay people." Williams said Boone was never "authorized" to come to Montgomery: "You just don't go off and start a movement,"

of their skins is as black as midnight, and one of their skins is as white as a lily. It doesn't make a bit of difference."

"You have a right to protect your property," Wallace continued. "It's not a question of a watermelon against a life. . . To old J. W., out there working on his farm, his watermelon patch was just as dear as your car might be to you out in your front yard."

"He did just exactly what you or I or anyone else would have done."

The jury returned a verdict of guilty--not of second-degree murder, but of second-degree manslaughter, which usually applies to accidental deaths. Watkins' one-year sentence was suspended.

Pool Closed In Roanoke

BY ALAN BOLES

ROANOKE, Ala. -- Last summer, Roanoke's swimming pool was integrated. This year, it is closed.

Mayor J. P. Phillips said the pool is closed because of a broken-down filter system. "At the beginning of last season, we patched (the filter) up, and thought we might be able to go through the season without spending too much on it," he said.

"After about three weeks, the filter broke down, and the way I remember it, it costs a minimum of \$2,400 to fix."

"We discussed the problem at City Hall, and decided that the expense, plus the salary of a coach and three lifeguards, wasn't warranted. The indications were that no white children would use the pool."

But Wilkie Clark, an officer of the Randolph County Improvement Association, said the problem was more than a broken filter. "I say they closed (the pool) to keep the Negroes and whites from using it together," Clark charged.

"The city kept it in first-class condition every year before it was integrated. The filter had been torn up before, and they fixed it."

Last summer, integration of the pool began without incident. But later, someone contaminated the pool with chemicals, and on two nights, it was completely drained.

According to city councilman Robert Ford, two or three Negro children were the only people regularly using the pool after a few weeks of integration. "I don't think anybody with any business sense would have opened it," Ford said.

"When you had only a few swimming, it just wasn't feasible," Phillips explained.

Yet last year, the bonds that were issued to build the pool were completely paid off. And according to the city clerk, while the pool has been running on less than \$4,000 a year, a cigarette tax to support the pool will yield more than \$11,000 in 1967.

Strikers in Selma Ask Recognition of Union

BY BETH WILCOX

SELMA, Ala.--"I went on strike to get a union in here, because I felt it would help out a whole lot," said Robert Nunn. "There were a lot of unfair things going on."

Nunn is one of the people on strike against the Laura Industries raincoat plant in Selma. The goal of the strike--now in its fourth week--is to force the company to recognize the International Ladies Garment Workers Union at the plant.

Why are the workers striking for recognition, instead of going through regular channels and appealing to the National Labor Relations Board?

A union organizer said it might take from nine months to three years to get recognition through official procedures. "By that time, everyone is scattered to the four winds," he said.

The organizer said 95% of the workers had signed cards to join the union. Strike leaders claimed last week that 375 employees--85% of the work force--were staying away from their jobs.

Nunn and other workers talked about the company practices they considered unfair. "For instance," said Nunn, "when people would run into real trouble in the morning getting to work, and they'd be a few minutes late, they'd just be fired."

Mrs. Leona Bowden, another striker, said the company doesn't pay compensation when a worker is injured. "I burned my hand around June or so, and in September a roller fell on my ankle," she said.

"They called me into the office to sign a paper to get money for the injury. I ran on down there and signed that paper, but they never paid me a thing."

Other workers complained of being called by their first names over the loud-speaker system, and of hearing announcements over the speaker that people had been fired.

The company has an incentive system--paying a worker more if he went over his production quota--but the system is meaningless, the strikers said. Mrs. Bowden said the quotas were so high that "no one could ever make production anyway."

Company officials refused to comment on the workers' charges, or on how the strike was affecting busi-



PICKETERS IN SELMA

ness. But the strikers said the walk-out was hurting the company.

"If they don't start making some raincoats soon," said one worker, "that place goin' to start losing a whole lot of money."

"I heard from a girl yesterday that they barely get out production at all over there any more," said Nunn. "There were labels sewed on the wrong side, facings on the wrong side, everything."

The strikers said they think the company is at least a month behind on its government contract to make military raincoats.

Last week, a group of people went to Washington, carrying a petition to a subcommittee of the U. S. House of Rep-

resentatives. The petition noted that the workers had asked David Wallace, Laura Industries' president, to engage in collective bargaining.

"In cynical disregard of the law and tangible evidence before his own eyes, Mr. Wallace stated that he doubted that we constitute a majority of the employees," the petition said. "Since then, we have remained away from work, in a continuing effort to convince Mr. Wallace of the obvious fact that we do constitute a majority of his work force."

The petition noted that Laura Industries gets its business "exclusively" from government contracts, and asked the government to force the company to bargain.

BY MERTIS RUBIN

FAYETTE, Miss. -- The night before last Tuesday's Democratic primary run-off, Will T. Turner told about 600 Negroes here, "Make up your minds if you want to be black or white." Evidently, a lot of them decided to be white.

Turner, a Negro running for sheriff of Jefferson County, went down to defeat. So did all the other Negro candidates in this predominantly-Negro area. And so did Negro candidates everywhere else in the state.

Meanwhile, Congressman John Bell Williams, a conservative and a segregationist, won the nomination for governor by a wide margin over State Treasurer William Winter. Some people considered Winter to be a moderate--though he denied it again and again during the campaign.

"I always felt confident I would win," said R. T. Pritchard, who defeated Turner in Jefferson County. When asked about hiring Negro deputies, he said, "I've got one now."

Charles Evers of the NAACP said later that there is no Negro deputy, and that the man Pritchard referred to is a school-crossing guard.

Evers and others charged that the elections were stolen by white officials. "We sent a telegram to President Johnson, telling him about the election," said Evers.

"I think he should take time out and send someone, or come see for himself, how wrong elections are for Negroes in Mississippi. Instead of fighting for free elections in Viet Nam, he should fight for free elections in Mississippi."

Mon C. Allen, the unsuccessful candidate for sheriff in Wilkinson County, said there was a lot of intimidation of Negro voters. "A week before the election," he said, "a church was burned in Perrytown, and the Klan went around in the Negro areas and put 'KKK' on all the (campaign) signs."

In Jefferson County's district 2--where a Negro was killed after the Aug. 8 primary--poll watcher Percy Turner said white men sat around the polling places with guns and knives this time, while the ballots were being counted.

Although there were several federal observers in southwest Mississippi, many people said the observers just sat around, observed the wrong-doing, and did nothing.

In Simpson County, where no Negroes were on the ballot, people said the voting in one precinct was done out in the open, on a table in a white man's dining room. And, they said, Negro voters were not allowed to use sample ballots.

When they complained to a federal observer, the people said, he told them, "It's not my problem--it's your problem."

In state-wide voting, Charles Sullivan was nominated for lieutenant governor.

Free!



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THE SOUTHERN COURIER

ROOM 1012, FRANK LEU BUILDING
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36104
PHONE: (205) 262-3572

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Editor: Michael S. Lottman
Executive Editor: Mary Ellen Gale
Photography Editor: James H. Pepler
Layout Editor: Lillian R. Irwin
Compositors: Barbara H. Flowers, Mary Corbin
Technicians: Gloria Bradford, H. O. Thompson
Advertising Manager: Lawrence Johnson
Regional Circulation Mgrs.: George Walker, Norman Warren
Benton Colvin, Cassie King
Subscription Manager: Margaret H. Dabney

Reporters:

Birmingham, Ala.	324-7704
Huntsville, Ala. (Bob Dinwiddie)	536-0404
Mobile, Ala. (Franklin Howard)	478-0327
Montgomery, Ala. (Patricia M. Gorence)	262-3572
Selma, Ala. (Beth Wilcox)	872-5248
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Jackson, Miss. (Kerry Gruson)	362-7989
Mendenhall, Miss. (Mertis Rubin, Tony Gam)	6247
Meridian, Miss. (Patricia James, Bettie Manuel)	465-9555

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Editorial Opinion

Mind Your Own Business

The group of Alabama Community Action Program (CAP) directors that went to Washington last week was not acting in the best interests of the state's poor people. The CAP directors' claim--that they were just trying to extend local control over run-away anti-poverty programs--shouldn't fool anyone.

What the CAP directors really meant was that they don't like the growing number of Negro-run agencies which are forming across Alabama in response to the inaction of white-controlled CAP programs. The CAP directors want to keep the power where it is now--in the hands of the white people who have so long ignored the needs of poor Negroes (and often, of poor whites).

Few--if any--of the CAP directors even bothered to get clearance from their boards before taking off for Washington. They had no business going there without the knowledge and consent of their board members--who probably would not have approved.

The federal Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) should pay no attention whatsoever to the CAP director's self-serving requests. Instead, OEO should continue supplying money and help to the independent projects--the most imaginative, far-reaching, and worthwhile part of the federal government's war on poverty.

And in the future, the CAP directors should stay home and do their jobs. They don't need to worry about "competition" from other agencies. There's more than enough poverty to go around.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:
Why is it that your reporter in an article Aug. 5-6, 1967, titled "Poverty Fight in Wilcox," reported a false twisted facts, and failed to report the whole truth? The statement is false that says, "Smith also protested the quality of the instruction." The reporter failed to tell the whole truth, and these words were lifted out of the context when Smith was reported as saying, "We learned to do that in Wisconsin."

The facts were twisted in the statement, "Now, said Smith, he would take a job." The fact is I wanted a job ever since the Wilcox County Board of Education took my job in August of 1965. I helped to work up the Anti-Poverty Program in this county so that I could get a

job. Every since I resigned from the board of directors I have been pushed back. I applied to work in the youth program in May, but the Educational Director suggested that I not be hired in the youth program, and the Project Director said in a speech to the board that to hire Rev. Smith is "unwarranted, uncalled for and unnecessary." My black brethren on the board voted against me, and five of them were school teachers. After I yelled loud and long, the staff attempted to offer me a pacifier.

I would like to know how much that reporter was paid to twist the facts.

Rev. Frank Smith
Lower Peach Tree, Ala.

Attack New Welfare Proposal

Mothers March on Washington

BY GAIL FALK
WASHINGTON, D. C. -- "That stuff cost money, baby," said Mrs. Johnnie Tillmon of Los Angeles, California, as she looked up at one of the huge crystal chandeliers in the U. S. Senate caucus room. "That could have cost enough to furnish welfare to 200 or 300 families for ten years."

"So there is money here somewhere," she continued, "and we're going to find it."
Mrs. Tillmon--whose children have lived on welfare since she got sick four years ago--was speaking as chairman of the new National Welfare Rights Organization.

As she spoke last Monday, hundreds of other poor people shouted agreement. They had come to the nation's capital from as far away as Seattle, Washington, and McComb, Miss., to tell the U. S. Congress that welfare recipients need "more money now."
"We're mad, and we want to be heard," said Mrs. Gertrude McCall of Hartford, Conn.

The Senate is now considering a bill passed last month by the U. S. House of Representatives. This bill changes the present welfare system in several ways, by:

1. "Freezing" the number of children who can get assistance. This means that only the number of children



MRS. JOHNNIE TILLMON who were on welfare rolls last January will be able to receive Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) in the future.

2. Requiring mothers--and children over 16 who are not in school--to go to work or face loss of welfare assistance.
3. Setting up stricter eligibility requirements.

All day Monday, delegations of poor people visited senators and asked them to vote against this bill. They told the senators to support another bill, sug-

Amerson Request OK'd--Too Late

BY MARY ELLEN GALE
TUSKEGEE, Ala.--Eight months after Sheriff Lucius D. Amerson first asked the Macon County Board of Revenue to raise his deputies' salaries, the board has done something about it.
At a special meeting Aug. 18, the revenue commissioners unanimously approved a resolution asking the state Legislature to permit the county to pay higher salaries.

But the day the board held its meeting, it was already too late in the Legislature's regular session for any new bills to be presented.

"We didn't know it couldn't get through," claimed Harold W. Webb, a Negro member of the bi-racial revenue board. He said Macon County's three legislators--State Senator Tom Radney and Representatives Bill Neville Jr. and James Faulk--met with the board Aug. 14, and "some things were done on their advice."

"But there was no promise that this was going to be it," Webb added. "We acted on the possibility."

Radney said he told the revenue commissioners it was too late to get a local law through the regular session. "They felt there would probably be a special session," the senator recalled.

Radney said he would introduce the Macon County bill "whenever I get a chance." Will he have to wait until the Legislature's next regular session in 1969?

"We're going to meet a lot sooner than that," Radney replied.

Amerson -- Alabama's only Negro

sheriff -- said the revenue board should have acted more quickly if the members want adequate law enforcement in Macon County.

"They ought to have went on and done it when I first asked for it," he commented. "We could have gotten it then."

But Radney said that board chairman Harry D. Raymon did call him "about six weeks ago," to ask him to meet with the board. "I wasn't told what it was about," Radney added. "If I had known, I could have introduced the bill right away."

There were a few differences between Amerson's requests and the revenue board's resolution.

The commissioners went along with the sheriff's recommendation to raise his chief deputy's salary from \$300 to \$400 a month. The board asked for permission to pay other deputies \$375 a month--\$5 more than Amerson suggested.

But the commissioners requested the authority to hire only one more deputy than the three the law already provides. Amerson had requested three new deputies.

And while the commissioners were at it, they passed two other resolutions. One would allow the county to pay its inferior court judge \$250 a month and its solicitor (attorney) \$225 a month--raises of \$50 apiece.

The other resolution would raise the salaries of the revenue commissioners--and of the board chairman--from \$250 to \$350 a month, after the present terms of office are over.

Independent Agencies Get in Way--CAP Head

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)
program that doesn't interfere with their efforts.

"If it was good and we weren't going to do it, I would give SEASHA my endorsement 100%," Schroeder said.

But Mrs. Elizabeth Edwards, director of the Coosa-Elmore CAP, said single-purpose agencies get in CAP's way even when they don't intend to. The Tuskegee Institute Community Education Program (TICEP)--which organized SEASHA--"was already in Elmore when we were funded," she said. "I was trying to get centers for nothing, while TICEP was already there--and could pay."

"It put us in a real hard spot," Mrs. Edwards said. "TICEP may be very noble, but we were trying to get white people and nigger people together for the first time in the history of our community."

Mrs. Beulah C. Johnson, Macon County's CAP director, said she has "no opposition to SEASHA."

Were any of the CAP directors authorized to go to Washington by their boards of directors?

B. D. Mayberry, chairman of the Macon County CAP board, said last week, "I don't know who authorized it (Mrs. Johnson's trip), but I know who didn't."

"I don't think it was put before any board of directors," said Weston, the Barbour-Dale-Henry CAP director. "It was not practical to do it. This was a quickly-arranged affair."

And Claud Young, director of the Chambers-Tallapoosa CAP, said his board has never discussed SEASHA--the only single-purpose agency in Tal-

lapoosa County. "I never thought it was serious enough to mention," he explained. "It's not a reality."

Miss Grice, the head of the CAP directors association, said the local CAPs now "don't know anything about a single-purpose group until we read about it in the newspaper. Single-purpose agencies cannot act in that manner, and then in good faith claim that CAP groups are not cooperating with them."

But a TICEP official who did much of the ground-work for SEASHA said local organizers made repeated efforts to get local cooperation.

"We went to mayors and CAP directors and everything," he said. "We have continuously informed them about our activities."

SEASHA, he said, "has no intentions of doing anything but helping the CAP directors. We don't want to fight them. We hope they would do more than they're doing now--find out what lower-income people feel their problems to be and get them involved in decision-making."

Did the CAP directors' trip to Washington produce any results? Miss Grice said that national CAP director Theodore Berry "told us he thought our requests were reasonable."

But H. P. Coale, director of the Crenshaw-Covington-Butler CAP, said, "we asked for a little consideration, and all we got was the run-around."

And Montgomery CAP director Sheldon said the group got nothing but polite assurances of "understanding" from congressional leaders. "Those guys are not going to commit themselves," he said.

RUBBER TALKING BUSINESS  **NECK SUE FOLKS AND HERS TOO**

Meridian, Miss.

The St. Joseph Alumni Association met in the home of Mrs. Alma Lloyd on Aug. 20. The purpose of the association is to help out St. Joseph Catholic School. The group was started in January, 1966, and in the past year, it has donated \$600 to the school for rebuilding and other needs.



ST. JOSEPH ALUMNI Abbeville, Ala.

It seems like everyone in Abbeville is visiting or being visited. Jimmie Glover is visiting his children in New York. Mrs. Ethel Mae Culver has just returned from a Maryland vacation. The Rev. L. O. Bryant and Mrs. Bryant are visiting their daughter and son-in-law in Tennessee, and their trip will also include Chicago. Comer Baker and his wife and children have just come back from their vacation in Indiana. The Rev. O. L. Gamble and Mrs. Gamble have recently returned from their vacation in Miami, Fla. Mrs. Jeanette Knight is visiting her children in Ohio. Ned Stephens, from New York City, is here visiting his sister, Mrs. Hortie Mae Vaughan. Mrs. Ernestine Adams, from Atlantic City, New Jersey, is here to visit her father, Johnnie Hardaman, and her sister, Mrs. Ophelia Brown. (From James J. Vaughan)

Selma, Ala.

Sister Michael Ann was given a farewell reception last Sunday at Good Samaritan Hospital. She has been reassigned to Elmira, New York, where she will help in developing a community



SISTER MICHAEL ANN mental health center. For the past three years, Sister Michael Ann has served as administrator at Good Samaritan. During that time, Good Samaritan has grown from a mission hospital to a general hospital and skilled-nursing home. She will be succeeded by Sister Evelyn.

Marks, Miss.

Quitman County Negroes met Aug. 21 in Marks, to get moving on problems with welfare, employment, and schools. Representatives from the county's five beats related many complaints against the county welfare department. "This morning, one family had nothing to eat, children naked and barefooted," said the Rev. C. C. Cole of Lambert. "So I stopped and gave what I could." The food stamp program was also blasted by a number of speakers who complained that many people don't have the money to buy stamps. Mrs. Henrietta Franklin and Mrs. Ruth Figs of Marks said they are organizing a sewing co-op, to produce articles for the Poor Peoples Corporation. The Rev. L. C. Cole-

man of Marks talked about the Mississippi Freedom Labor Union, and urged everyone to sign a petition demanding the withdrawal of federal funds from the Mississippi Employment Security Commission. Details about how parents can use the new choice period to send their children to white schools this fall were given by Alex Capron, a law student. (From Presley Franklin)

Montgomery, Ala.

Mrs. Bertha D. Howard recently received two trophies at the National Beauty Culturist League's annual institute and convention in Atlanta, Ga. The trophies were awarded to Mrs. Howard as the best student in the hair-styling and hair-coloring classes at the institute.

Greensboro, Ala.

Mrs. Theresa Burroughs is home after a stay of about 15 days in the Good Samaritan Hospital in Selma. While she was at the hospital, she said she "sent for one or two gowns and housecoat" from the I. Kayser department store in Selma. "I told the nurse to call and have them sent to MRS. Theresa Burroughs, and she did," Mrs. Burroughs said. But she said, when the package arrived, "it was addressed to 'Theresa Burroughs.' I told the boy I wouldn't accept it, because it didn't have MRS. Burroughs. This is important--that when we buy and give our money, they give us title." Seymour Palmer, the store's manager, said Mrs. Burroughs "is listed on our charge account as 'Mrs.,'" and "we always send packages as requested." He said Mrs. Burroughs hadn't requested the title of "Mrs."

Abbeville, Ala.

Otis Jones and his wife, Rheutilla, and his son, Mike, enjoyed their trip to Montreal and Toronto, Canada. While in Montreal, they visited Expo 67. (From James J. Vaughan)

Tuskegee, Ala.

"I've been in there six years," said W. P. Mangham, chairman of the Macon County Board of Registrars. "I know some things people don't think I know." And so, continued the white-haired, 80-year-old man, "in the little time I've got left, I'm working for a clean voting record in Macon County. That's what I hope to do while I'm livin'." Mangham spoke at the monthly meeting of the Board of Revenue. He was accompanied by Mrs. Martha Witt Smith, voter registration consultant for the Alabama State Sovereignty Commission. She said the Board of Registrars will soon be under a federal court order outlining procedures for keeping the county voting list accurate and up-to-date. The new system will be good, Mrs. Smith said, because "no names can be added except by registration--that'll save anyone from dipping back into the old records and adding the dead ones again."

Millers Ferry, Ala.

A program commemorating the end of the youth program of the Wilcox County anti-poverty program was held Saturday at Malden Park and the Wilcox County Training School. In the morning, a group of consultants--including the Rev. Ralph Galt of Miles College and Raymond Bridges of Southern University--held a career workshop for youths from all the centers. Baseball, food, and a crafts display were featured at the park. A play given by the Yellow Bluff center concerned a harassed bride and her ne'er-do-well groom--who carried a bottle in his inside breast pocket. There were contests in watermelon-eating and bubble-blowing. The director of the anti-poverty program, the Rev. Thomas Threadgill, said, "I am so glad the program has been such a success, and I thank each of you here who has helped to make it so."



WILCOX COUNTY CELEBRATION



BLACK PEOPLE'S FREE STORE

SAN FRANCISCO, California--"I don't believe it, I don't believe it," said an astonished and bewildered Negro mother as she left the Black People's Free Store with an armful of bread.

At the Free Store in San Francisco's Fillmore district, bread is free for the taking. So are books, clothing, furniture, and appliances.

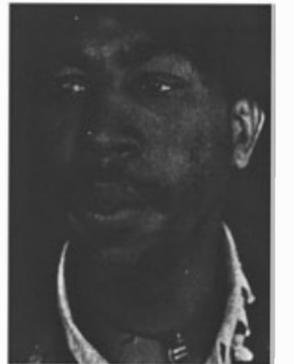
Roy Ballard--unofficial leader of the "family" of black men who operate the Free Store--said the store will even provide a truck to help people pick up the things they need.

The merchandise for the store comes from all over the city. A nightclub re-designs its interior, and sends in the used furniture. A family moves, and donates an entire household of furniture and appliances. Clothing arrives from the hippie free store in the Haight-Ashbury district. Bread is sent in huge bags from a

bakery across the street.

Barely a summer old, the store is already a stabilizing factor in an area where riots have occurred and threaten to occur again. In fact, the store has become a community center. While some visitors choose supplies, others gossip about local events. A mother feeds her baby. A father plays with his son. Old friends hug when they meet. A young woman plays a piano and sings.

Hard to believe? Sure, But the Black People's Free Store is where it's happening in San Francisco.



ROY BALLARD



Photos and Text by Bob Fitch



Getting Ready to Make History

Birmingham Kids Prepare For Integrated High School

BY ROBIN REISIG

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--"I went to an integrated high school in Oklahoma," said Vincent Dunn. "When they'd speak of the Negro in slavery, I'd tremble and want to get it over with.

"These kids can go to the white schools and fill in the gaps in the white kids' education. Maybe they can teach those white kids something."

Dunn helped run a summer program that gave a "Head Start on High School" to some 60 Negro ninth-graders who will attend integrated schools for the first time this fall.

The teen-agers studied English--composition, reading, and grammar. They played Scrabble--a word game--to build their vocabularies. They visited the library regularly. And they spent a lot of time studying Negro history.

Negro history classes are vital preparation for a black student entering a mostly-white school, explained Miss Mary Lynn Buss, director of the summer program. She said the classes gave the students "background to know when

they're hearing lies and distorted history."

For example, she said, the classes paid special attention to what happened in the South in the years just after the Civil War.

"We want you to have a more realistic picture of Reconstruction than the mythology the South perpetrates and that you will be taught," she told a student.

The classes also gave the teen-agers a chance to hear about the contributions Negroes have made to American history. For instance, they learned the story of Jean Baptiste Pointe du Sable, a Negro explorer who helped found the biggest city in Illinois.

Miss Buss told her students that du Sable used to say, "The first white man to settle in Chicago was a Negro."

One reason why the history classes were important, said Dunn, is that "the white schools are almost sterile of Negro history. Before anyone can have any pride in being American, he has to know the part his race played."

But the students didn't stop with the history of the Negro in America. They also studied the history of black people in Africa.

And they learned about the present as well as the past. "We had a map of the war and kept track of the war every day," Miss Buss said.

The map was of the United States, because Miss Buss was talking about "the American Civil War of 1967"--the race riots that broke out this summer in cities across the nation, including Birmingham.

The 60 students attended classes at two centers--Birmingham Baptist Church in Powderly and St. Paul's Lutheran Church. The Head Start on High School Program was sponsored by the Lutheran Church, American Friends Service Committee, and Birmingham Council on Human Relations.

About 20 unpaid volunteers taught at the centers. Although some tutors were white, most of them were Negroes who recently attended integrated high schools and could talk about the problems from experience.

Miss Sandra Rucker, who graduated last spring from Jones Valley High School in Powderly, told her class that



the white students "looked upon Jim Crow as their idol."

A number of teen-agers didn't know exactly what "Jim Crow" meant. So Miss Rucker's class studied the South's old Jim Crow laws.

They learned that a Birmingham city ordinance formerly made it illegal for Negroes and whites to play checkers together; that New Orleans, La., once segregated its prostitutes; and that At-

lanta, Ga., formerly had a "Negro" Bible and a "white" Bible in each courtroom, to be used by people taking oaths.

What did the program accomplish? "We're living in a period where these kids are making history themselves," said Miss Buss. "As they study their past history, so long denied them, they realize the important roles they're playing in the present history of America."



"WAR MAP" PINPOINTS RIOT-TORN CITIES

'Attitudes Have Changed' In Head Start Classes

BY KERRY GRUSON

OZARK, Ala. -- When Head Start classes began this summer at the National Guard Armory here, several children didn't know what to make of their puzzling new experiences.

"One girl did not eat the first day because she was afraid of the fork," said Mrs. Kathleen Caldwell, a teacher in the Head Start program. "Another child ran out of the building when he first heard the toilet flush."

And, she said, so many of the children had never used toothbrushes before that the Head Start teachers had to show them how. The program bought each child two toothbrushes--one to use at the center and one to use at home.

Although Head Start is over now, Charles L. Weston, director of the Barbour-Dale-Henry Community Action Program (CAP), said he thinks the youngsters in all three counties are still getting the benefit.

"These children came to school with pot-bellies from hunger and improper food," he said. "They had no energy. After two months of good hot food, their stomachs are down and their pep has picked up.

"Their teeth are fixed, they have new eyeglasses and all. We think Head Start did a wonderful job getting them ready for first grade."

Kenneth Ward, director of the Head Start program, said the community benefited as much as the children.

For instance, he said, Mrs. Mary Lou Thornton, a cook at the Henry County Head Start center at the Union School, supported eight children on her Head Start salary.

"To get the people who needed these jobs, we had to go and seek them out," Ward said. "They didn't come to us--because so many doors have been closed in their face."

Many people worked for Head Start without pay. Mrs. Ethel Stovall drove 17 children to the Union School every day. "I traveled 90 miles each way to bring them in from the rurals," she said. She also helped out around the center.

At the Head Start center in Ozark, Mrs. Caldwell said, "help has come from all parts of the community." Ozark Mayor Douglas Brown lent a piano, Dale County Probate Judge Kirk Adams supplied chairs, and the Holiday Inn contributed packets of soap.

Head Start director Ward said the staff was "integrated 50-50," and worked hard to get white children to come to the centers. There were 18 white children and 36 Negro children at

the Ozark center.

"I had four white children in my class," said Mrs. Caldwell. "And none of them played with each other. They all made Negro friends."

"People's attitudes have changed" because of the program, Mrs. Caldwell said. A parent who didn't want to send his child to Head Start later provided transportation to a Head Start hay-ride. Although no doctors would participate in the program at first, she said, "by the end we had four."

The teachers at the Ozark armory said their only problems were minor ones. Because the center was right above the county's jail facilities, said Mrs. Shirley McCall, "we couldn't let

the children run around too much. The sheriff sent a prisoner up to tell us when the pounding on the floor got too bad."

Even people who criticized the program before it began said it had worked out well. The Rev. G.H. Cossey of Eu-faula listed only one real complaint--that one Barbour County doctor wouldn't see the children in bi-racial groups.

When parents mentioned the problem to CAP director Weston, Cossey said, "he told us it would be better for the program not to change. I think we should have taken the children somewhere else."

But "all in all," said Cossey, "Head Start has been a success."



'HEAD START CLASS IN EUFAULA



VINCENT DUNN (RIGHT) TEACHES HISTORY CLASS

Study Mixed With Fun In Talladega Program

BY ALAN BOLES

TALLADEGA, Ala.--"It's nice," said Donald Thomas. "Here people take the time to help you learn. In school they usually don't."

Thomas was one of 174 high school students and recent high school graduates from throughout Alabama who spent eight weeks at Talladega College this summer.

The students were participating in "Upward Bound," a course of study and fun designed to stir enthusiasm for learning.

"The whole point of the program is to make the kids want an education, to make them see the opportunities an education can open," said John McCarthy, assistant director of Upward Bound.

"The kids we're trying to reach are the ones who are suffocating in the structured atmosphere of the schools."

Each student was required to take three courses--math, English, and humanities. In addition, the teen-agers each chose one or two other courses from a long list--chemistry, biology, computer science, music, art, and typing.

Thirty-six college students and a dozen local high school teachers acted as instructors. They stressed what McCarthy called the "inductive method--the asking of open-ended questions, the avoidance of rigorous lesson plans."

"It's a learning process instead of a teaching process," McCarthy explained.

The classes studied a wide variety of topics. Humanities students took a scholarly look at subjects ranging from "black power" to Jewish culture and religion. English classes read books by modern Negro-American authors like James Baldwin and 19th-century English poets like Alfred Lord Tennyson.

When the weather was good, classes often met outdoors on the college lawn. One humanities class sometimes held its sessions at the High Pockets Cafe, a restaurant near the campus.

Many tutors did their best to do the unconventional. During one English class, Bob Tharinger, a student from Dartmouth College in New Hampshire, sang part of a

poem by Robert Frost--"Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening"--to the show tune, "Hernando's Hide-away."

The purpose, Tharinger said, was to show his class that the poem had strong rhythm.

Another time, Tharinger asked, "If a tree falls in the woods when no one is around to hear it, do you think that it makes a sound?" The class said it would.

Tharinger taped the under-side of his desk so lightly that no one heard it, and then told the class what he had done. The high school students began to re-examine their idea of what a sound is.

Tod Peterson, another Dartmouth College student, spent a week and a half teaching his humanities class about the blues. He talked about the places and things that inspired some famous blues songs, and then put on the records for the class to hear.

The teacher and the kids swayed, sang, and tapped along with the music, thinking about Highway 61 or the "Panama Limited."

"You can use the authority of the teacher in exciting ways," Peterson said, "in ways which you missed when you were in high school. You can be a friend as well as an instructor. Some kids are very unresponsive in class, but outside you can tell you've been getting through."

Upward Bound wasn't all academic. Two movies or shows were presented every week, and dances were held. The students formed a softball league with team names like the Grapes of Wrath and the Hard Corps.

There was nothing really unique about Upward Bound at Talladega. Some 235 similar programs were held across the United States this summer, including several in Alabama.

But Thomas Parsons, who visited dozens of such programs as a consultant to the Office of Economic Opportunity, said Talladega's Upward Bound was special. "It's rough, it's messy, it's unprofessional, it's unconventional," Parsons said. "And for these reasons the Talladega program is very effective. The points of roughness are what engage the kids. They are being awakened and challenged as never before."

Montgomery Shopping & Service Guide

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Alabama Teams Fight It Out

B'ham on Top in Southern League

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN
MONTGOMERY, Ala.--The Southern League's dramatic, all-Alabama pennant race came to an end here this weekend, as the mighty Birmingham Athletics won three straight games from the Montgomery Rebels.

When the weekend series began, the Rebels were only 2 1/2 games out of first place. But after the A's won by scores of 3 to 2, 2 to 0, and 3 to 1, the Rebs were an impossible 5 1/2 out, with just a week left in the schedule.

The Rebels had tried to make it with a magnificent pitching staff and eight guys named Joe. But three times during the season, the Rebels' best pitcher of the moment--Jim Rooker, then Fred Lasher, then Bob Reed--was promoted to a higher league. (Lasher is now mowing them down for the parent Detroit Tigers in the American League.)

Even so, the Rebs have the Southern circuit's top winner in Dick Drago (15-10), and two of the top relievers in Bob Dostal (1.71 ERA) and Fred Scherman (2.30). But they have little else--and the

A's are loaded.

Birmingham had three,300 hitters in the lineup last Sunday--Reggie Jackson (.305), Joe Rudi (.301), and Stan Wojcik (.309). And Jackson, the Southern League's best bet for the majors, has clouted 26 doubles, 17 triples, and 14 home runs.

Anything hit to the left side of the Birmingham infield this season has been an out. Shortstop Art Miranda (.222) and third-baseman Hoss Bowlin (.230) don't hit much, but with their defensive skills, they don't have to. And the A's pitching is nothing to be ashamed of. George Lazerique (13-4),

Marcel Lacheman (2-1), Mike Olivo (13-7), and Rollie Fingers (6-4) all were tough in the series here.

The Rebels, on the other hand, have one .300 hitter--Ron Woods, who accounted for the only Montgomery run Sunday with his 11th homer. Barry Morgan, the solid left-fielder, has driven in 80 runs, and Brant Alyea, the beefy first-sacker, has socked seven homers since joining the club less than a month ago.

But beyond these three, the hitting has been of the banjo variety. And the Rebel infield--featuring Junior Lopes at short and Larry Rojas at third--does some-

thing spectacularly bad at least as often as it does something spectacularly good.

Still, the Rebels gave their fans some exciting moments this year--Les Cain's no-hitter, Rojas' feat of hitting for the cycle (single, double, triple, and homer in the same game), and even a double play now and then.

And who can forget the night that Drago gave up 11 hits--but still won, largely because he (a pitcher, remember) hit a double and two triples?

But now it's all over, except for the Dixie World Series between Birmingham and the Texas League champion,



LADIES WAIT TO APPLY FOR FREE FOOD

Wilcox Folks Complain About Food Program

BY BETH WILCOX
CAMDEN, Ala.--"I think this place is just awful," said a man waiting to sign up for the commodity food program at a warehouse in Camden. A woman with a cane said, "I have been waiting here all the morning, and I still haven't signed up."

Mrs. Valerie Watts of Coy thought there were enough things wrong with the program to list them and give them to J. D. Workmore, who is in charge of food distribution in Wilcox County. "Mr. Workmore was surprised we had any gripes," Mrs. Watts reported. "We have had 1,500 applications for food so far," Workmore said last Saturday. "We expect to have 3,000 applications. I am just new at this job, and we have so many applicants."

"We ordered some food which was supposed to arrive three weeks ago," he went on. "It hasn't arrived yet. We were hoping to have the program started by the middle of September. Now we think it will be Oct. 9."

But Mrs. Watts charged, "Surplus

means something extra that is on hand. Then I don't know why it's taking so long to get surplus food. They don't have to grow the food, or manufacture it."

Mrs. Watts outlined the grievances she had presented to Workmore. "When I arrived at the warehouse on Aug. 21, the first day of signing up, there was a crowd of people standing in muck and mire," she said.

"They just regard us as animals. Why, most of the people were 50-60-70 years old. One man was 92. People as old as that should not be standing out in the rain all day."

Mrs. Watts said she volunteered to help take applications on the first day. "I thought they would brief us on what to tell people and how to fill out applications, but they didn't," she charged.

Mrs. Watts said she didn't see any white people signing up the first day. "There's something fishy going on, or they'd have everybody registering together," she said.

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Unpleasant Day At the Capitol

Jim Clark's Platform: Do Away With Welfare

BY SANDRA COLVIN

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--James Kolb, Crenshaw County civil rights leader, paid a visit to the state Capitol last week, along with three white students from the American Friends Service Committee.

They did not enjoy the visit at all, Kolb said this week.

Kolb said he and the three students sat in the gallery, watching the state Legislature in action. "Some plain-clothes officials of George Wallace sat next to me, and to the left of one of the three boys," he said.

When one of the white students, Fred Aubrey, walked out into the hall, Kolb said, "two officers marched out behind (Aubrey) and asked, 'What in the hell are you doing down here?'"

According to Kolb, Aubrey told the men that he and his companions were there to listen to the discussion in the Legislature. Kolb said Aubrey was

Negro, 18, Shot; 2 Whites Sought

BY ALAN BOLES

ANNISTON, Ala.--State, county, and city police are continuing their search for two white men in connection with the Aug. 12 shooting of an 18-year-old Negro man.

The victim, Gary Redding, was shot in the stomach on Highway 431, about seven miles from Anniston. He was on the critical list for a week at Anniston Memorial Hospital, and is still too weak to talk to visitors.

According to the Anniston police report, Redding was shot as he and three other Negro men were pushing their broken-down car to a gas station. They flagged down a blue Chevrolet pickup truck, the report says. The truck circled around, and when it returned, one of the men inside fired a pistol, hitting Redding.

Sergeant Roy Riddle of the Alabama state troopers said the investigation is proceeding slowly because no evidence was left at the scene.

Last week, Mayor Claude Dear of Anniston reprimanded city police for a delay in reporting the shooting to county authorities.



JAMES KOLB

told, "I want you to take your nigger friend and go to hell with him."

"When we started out," Kolb recalled, "four officers followed us around everywhere we went in the building. When Tom Cronin (another student) asked for their names, they refused."

Kolb said the group protested to Capitol officials, but nothing was done. The Crenshaw leader said he was speaking out because he thought people in his county and the rest of Alabama should know "what is happening in this democratic country."

"We've got a man here in the Senate (Alton Turner) that some of my tax money supports. How can one expect me, a tax-payer, to go to Viet Nam to fight a war for democracy, when I am denied the right to sit in the Senate gallery?"

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.

BY BOB DINWIDDIE
HUNTSVILLE, Ala.-- Jim Clark, former sheriff of Dallas County, said last week that he is very definitely a candidate for the U. S. Senate seat now held by Lister Hill.

Although he is a Democrat, Clark said the party label he runs under isn't important. "We have too many Democrats and Republicans in Washington now," he said. "What we need is more Americans."

Clark was invited to Huntsville by the Alabama Conservative Party. The party is looking for a man to run if neither of the two major parties puts up an "acceptable" conservative candidate.

If elected, Clark said, he will oppose school integration, open housing, and all anti-poverty and welfare programs. He said he favors all-out war in Viet Nam, and thinks SNCC leaders Stokely Carmichael and Rap Brown should be charged with treason.

The only way to solve the poverty problem, Clark said, is to stop all anti-poverty and welfare payments, and force people to work. "I would cut off the poverty payment," he said. "It encourages laziness and illegitimacy. It creates a new illegitimate child every year. Having an illegitimate child is a criminal act."

At a press conference Aug. 24 and later in a speech to the Conservative Party, Clark spent most of his time talking about Selma during the time when he was sheriff.

"Martin Luther King brought the Nazi, George Lincoln Rockwell, to Selma with him to create tension," Clark said. "They both stood in the street outside the courthouse, and asked to be arrested."

Clark said he and his deputies could only see nine local Negroes among the people who marched from Selma to Montgomery in 1965. He said an investigation revealed that each of the nine had been paid to march.

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