

How 'Dry' Is Demopolis?

# Negroes Angered by Searches for Liquor

BY ROBIN REISIG

DEMOPOLIS, Ala. -- "Most everybody in Demopolis drinks whiskey," said Mrs. Georgie Sullivan.

However, Demopolis--like the rest of Marengo County--is "dry" by law. So for some of its residents -- Negro residents in particular--even a suggestion of liquor means trouble.

Last month, Mrs. Lucile Irvin came home from work to find her house filled with policemen, looking for bootleg liquor. They didn't find any, but they left Mrs. Irvin angry.

"I don't think it's right for them to pull off my hooks on the door, break the lock on my cedar chest, ransack my

stove, mess my clock up, and keep breaking into my house," she said this week. "If I go breaking into their house, they goin' to put me in jail."

Mrs. Sullivan also was angry after the police tore her door open and arrested her on a liquor charge a month ago. "I didn't have anything in the jug but a little bit of water," she says now.

"She poured a gallon down the sink," charges Demopolis Police Chief A. E. Cooper. "I was standing at the window watching. I told her we were coming into the house if we had to come through the wall."

After the police entered, he added, "she made the statement that there wasn't any liquor 'cause she'd poured it all down."

In court, Mrs. Sullivan recalled, "at first the judge gave me 60 days and \$200 and some. Then my lawyer (Orzell Billingsley of Birmingham) objected, and the judge gave me 90 days and \$300 and some." Mrs. Sullivan is appealing

her conviction. Mrs. Irvin and Mrs. Sullivan both said they never saw a search warrant. But Cooper said, "We always have a search warrant. The search warrant gives you the right to break and enter, but we try not to destroy any more property than we have to."

Mrs. Sullivan, Mrs. Irvin, and other Negroes are also angry because they feel the liquor laws are used chiefly against Negroes.

"This county's dry, but the white people's got it wet," said Mrs. Lena Frost. "I have worked in white people's houses, and I see beer, whiskey, all kinds of drinks. You name it, they got it. But if a Negro has a can of beer, they drag him to jail."

"Anybody that's got one drop of whiskey is breaking the law," said Chief Cooper. But, he added, "we have a policy that we do not bother anybody, white or colored, if they keep a reasonable amount--some cans of beer and one or

two 'fifths' from the state store--as long as they do not sell it."

Does the county profit from Negroes by staying dry?

Mrs. Frost charged that white folks want the county dry so they can arrest and collect fines from Negroes. "They make a living off their Negroes," she said. And Mrs. Irvin--who has paid three fines totalling \$244 in the past three years--thinks it's unfair that "I pay \$115 if I have a 50¢ drink."

According to the police, this year's liquor fines total about \$2,000.

Mrs. Annye Braxton, assistant secretary of the Demopolis Civic League, complained that "the dry counties share the revenue from the wet. I think this is what's helping to keep the police force as large as it is."

According to the chief accountant for the state Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, \$2,115,217.11 of the state's \$30,000,000 in revenue from legal liquor sales is divided among all Alabama



MRS. GEORGIE SULLIVAN cities. He said they can "use it any way they want to."

Even more money goes to the counties. And whether a city or county is wet or dry does not influence the amount of money it receives, the ABC accountant said.

In other words a dry county receives money from the 25 wet counties' liquor taxes, as well as from its own fines on its own wet residents.

Many Demopolis Negroes hope the county's laws will change. "We are going to ask for an election for a wet county," said Mrs. Frost.

Mrs. Sullivan said she feels that most Negroes will vote wet, but the white folks "ruling Demopolis" want it dry. A year ago, the county voted to stay dry.

One woman who has been arrested on charges of selling bootleg liquor blamed much of her trouble on "Uncle Toms telling on the Negroes. They send somebody to your house, and you sell them a drink, and they go straight to the police."

# THE SOUTHERN COURIER

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TEN CENTS



PICKETING AT BRUNO'S GROCERY STORE

## Picketing of Bruno's Brings Job Agreement

BY BOB LABAREE AND BOB DINWIDDIE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--After a little more than a week of picketing, the Alabama Christian Movement has negotiated a job agreement with Bruno's Food Stores.

James Baldone and Pat Vacca of Bruno's came to the Christian Movement office last Friday, to meet with the Rev. Edward Gardner and seek an end to the boycott of Bruno's stores.

The Bruno's representatives agreed to hire about 32 new Negro employees immediately, and to hire more as soon as openings are available. These new employees will work as security guards, checker-cashiers, cashiers, and sack boys.

Baldone and Vacca also promised to keep "lines of communication" open between Bruno's and the Christian Movement.

One day last week, before the protest was called off, Negroes were carrying signs in front of one Bruno's store. "Down With Tokenism, Up With Justice," said one sign. "Don't Shop Where We Are Not Hired," said another.

Inside the nearly-empty store, a Negro cashier and several Negroes in white aprons were leaning idly against the counters. "Are they crazy?" said

one Negro, shaking his head. "I'm here, aren't I?"

The white store manager said he was puzzled, too. "We've got Negroes in just about every position in the store."

Gardner, vice-president of the Christian Movement, later explained why the pickets were there. "One or two Negroes here and there isn't enough," he said. "We're asking that Negroes have an appreciable amount of jobs for the business they give. If we give 50% of the business, then we should have half of the jobs."

Gardner said no one expected the change to occur overnight, but Bruno's had first been approached about hiring Negroes in 1965.

"We saw him (one store manager) three times this year," added Tommy

Wrenn, another Christian Movement leader. "Each time he said he was going to hire--but he didn't."

Earlier this month in nearby Bessemer, three large food stores agreed to job demands made by the Federated Leadership Organization. In two cases, no picketing was necessary.

The Fourth Ave. Super Market, which already had eight to ten Negroes working part-time, hired a Negro girl for training as a full-time cashier. The next day, Hill's Super Market hired its first Negro employee as a stock boy and cashier trainee.

At Bruno's in Bessemer, where pickets had been walking for three weeks, a Negro stock clerk was promoted to cashier, and two more Negroes were hired.

### In Monroe, They Say 'See Mary'

## People Ask About CAP

BY BETH WILCOX

MONROEVILLE, Ala.--Ezra Cunningham of Beatrice, a local leader, says he has been trying for several months to get some answers about the Little River Community Action Project.

Cunningham said a delegation from Beatrice met last August with Miss Mary Y. Grice, director of the three-county anti-poverty program, to request a Head Start center for their community.

Although Cunningham wasn't in that meeting, he said, he was told that Miss Grice had promised the people a center in Beatrice. However, said Cunningham, Beatrice still doesn't have one.

A member of the CAP board said this week that there wasn't any place in Beatrice with the proper kitchen facilities for a Head Start center. "There was, though," Cunningham replied. "There's half the school where there was summer school--empty."

Cunningham said he is no longer able to discuss matters like this with Miss Grice. "Before August, I could leave word and she'd call me--I could go in there and get an answer from any staff

member or her," he recalled. "Now she's just incommunicado."

A group from Beatrice made an appointment to see Miss Grice on Dec. 18, Cunningham said, but the CAP director canceled the meeting.

"You can't get any information from any of the board members or workers in the program," Cunningham charged. "Everyone just says 'See Mary.'"

Cunningham--who is now doing surveys for the Southern Consumers Co-operative--said Miss Grice might not want to talk to him because he has supported SWAFCA (the Southwest Alabama Farmers Co-operative Association). Miss Grice has often spoken out against the farm co-op.

Cunningham isn't the only person who can't find out what's happening. Harry Lazenby Sr., CAP board chairman for Monroe County, said, "There's a lot I don't know anything about. There's a lot I don't know a damn thing about. But when I ask about it, they say the information is withheld in Washington or Atlanta (Ga.)."

"Mary Grice knows a lot more about Atlanta and Washington than we do," said Lazenby, who is also the Monroe

## Incorporation Fails Again in Hayneville

BY BETH WILCOX

HAYNEVILLE, Ala.--The continuing battle over Hayneville's incorporation took some new twists last week.

When the ballots were counted Dec. 19, there were 90 votes in favor of incorporation, and 77 against. An additional 23 ballots--all cast by Negroes, and all against incorporation--were challenged, on the grounds that the voters live outside the proposed city limits.

Later, Lowndes County Probate Judge Harrell Hammonds decided to count the challenged ballots. That made the final tally 100 to 90, against incorporation.

A similar incorporation move was defeated last August, when 50 challenged ballots were counted. But on the Dec. 19 ballot, the wording of the proposal was changed, to keep people living outside the boundaries from voting on the incorporation.

Last Saturday, after counting the challenged ballots, Judge Hammonds served with a complaint charging that his action was illegal.

The complaint, a civil suit, was signed by several supporters of incorporation--including Thomas Coleman, who was acquitted last year on charges of killing a white civil rights worker.

"Most of those people don't care about incorporation," said Hammonds. "All they want to do is make a fuss."

But Frank Hawthorne, lawyer for the Lions Club committee favoring incorporation, said there are good reasons for the move. "Hayneville is the only county seat in the United States which isn't incorporated," he said. "That's my understanding, anyway. Of course, I haven't been around to all the states to check."

(Incorporation is necessary to make a community into a legal city, with power to form a police force and collect taxes.)

In a letter distributed to Hayneville voters, the Lions Club committee said incorporation would mean better police and fire protection. Also, the letter said, the new city would get a share of the state's gasoline tax revenue, which could be used to build and improve Hayneville streets.

Hawthorne said it isn't just white people who favor incorporation: "About 50 or 75 colored residents signed the petition asking that Hayneville be incorporated."

On the other hand, both white and black residents of the county expressed disapproval of incorporation.

The letter distributed by the Lions committee admitted that merchants might not favor incorporation, because it would mean increased taxes and license fees.

But one white resident gave a different reason for his opposition. "Just

look at the boundaries on the map--you'll see how unfair they are drawn," he said. "Just drive around and see where the boundaries end. It's unfair."

Bennie Yelder, a member of the all-Negro Hayneville Community Organization, agreed, even though his house is included within the proposed new boundaries. He said the entire Negro section southwest of Hayneville--below his house--is left out of the proposed town.

"Not more than 10 Negro families are included in the new boundaries," added John Hulett, head of the Lowndes County Freedom Party. Hulett has pointed out that Negroes would have to pay traffic fines and sales taxes to the proposed city, but they would not get any services in return.

Many of the supporters of incorporation are county employees, Judge Hammonds noted, and the county is 85% Negro. Hammonds said the supporters should realize that "it's these (Negro) taxpayers who are paying them."

### Miss. Strike Helps Scabs

BY MERTIS RUBIN

LAUREL, Miss.--By the time the nine-month-long Masonite strike was settled in early December, one man had been killed and a great deal of violence had taken place.

But Negro "scabs"--workers used to replace striking union members--said some good had come out of the bitter strike.

"We're working at jobs we never had a chance to work at before," said one scab, Sam Simmons, a Masonite employee for 16 years. Another scab

said the management had sent out a letter promising that no scab would be fired.

The International Woodworkers Union Local 5-443 called the strike last April, after the firing of a union steward. The union later accused the company of unfair labor practices.

On Aug. 14, Robert Billiot--a private security guard hired by the company--was killed by a shotgun blast. The Jones County grand jury later indicted Andre Henry and Vanden L. Lee for the slaying.

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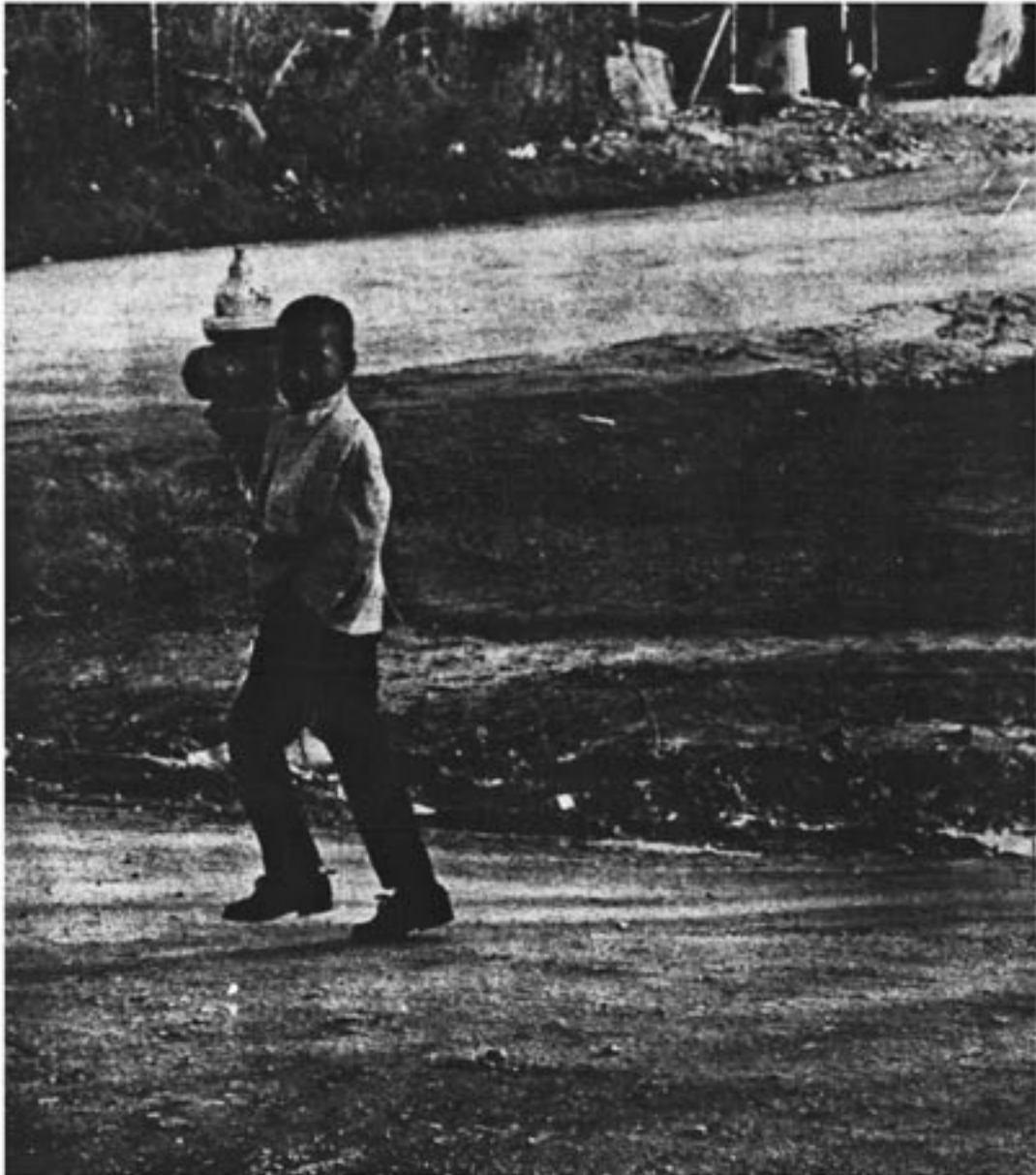
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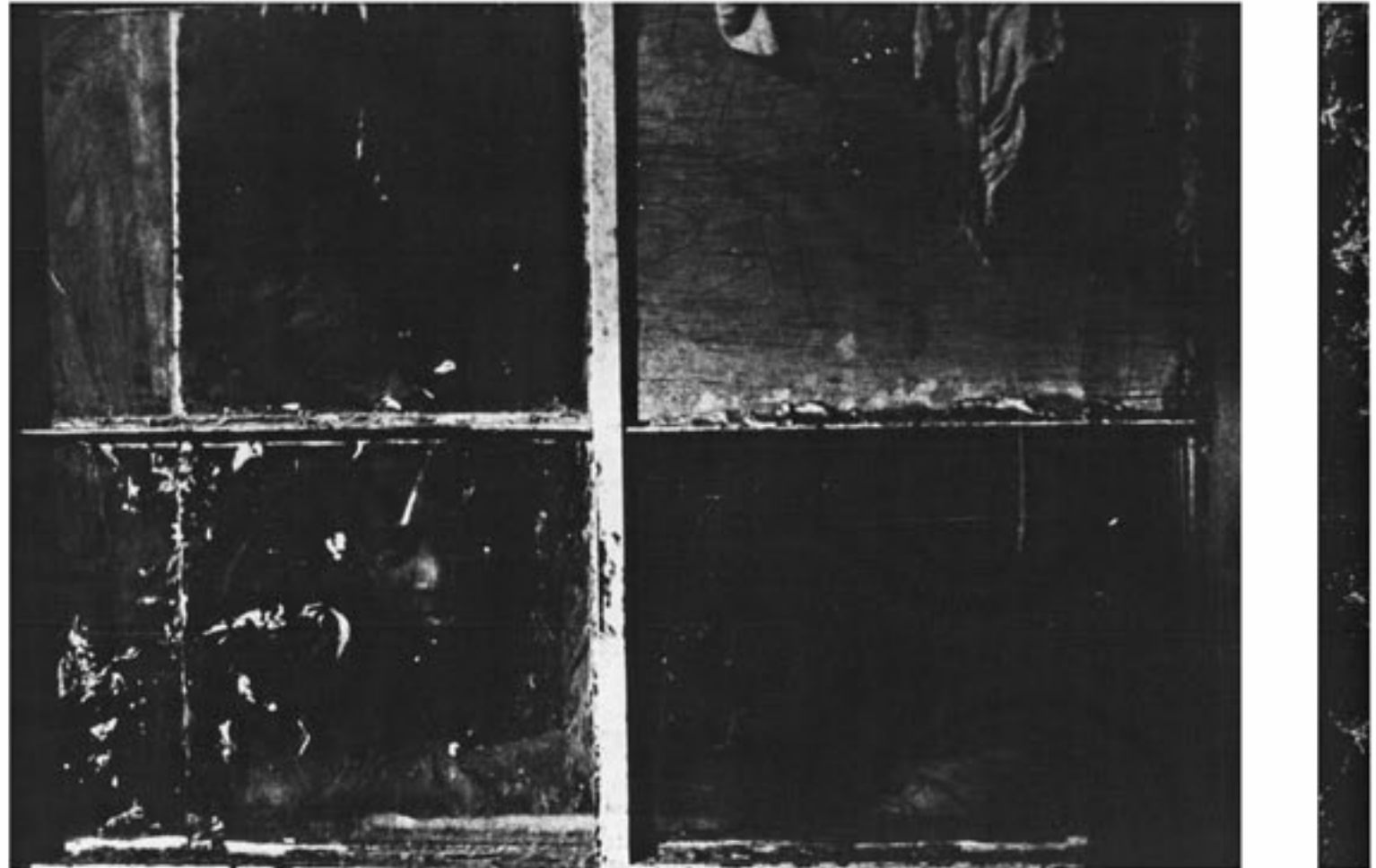


See Pages 2-3





BOY ON STREET WATCHES AS OTHER CHILDREN PLAY WITH THEIR NEW TOYS (ABOVE)



CROWD LINES UP FOR FREE FOOD AT BELL ST. BAPTIST CHURCH (BELOW)



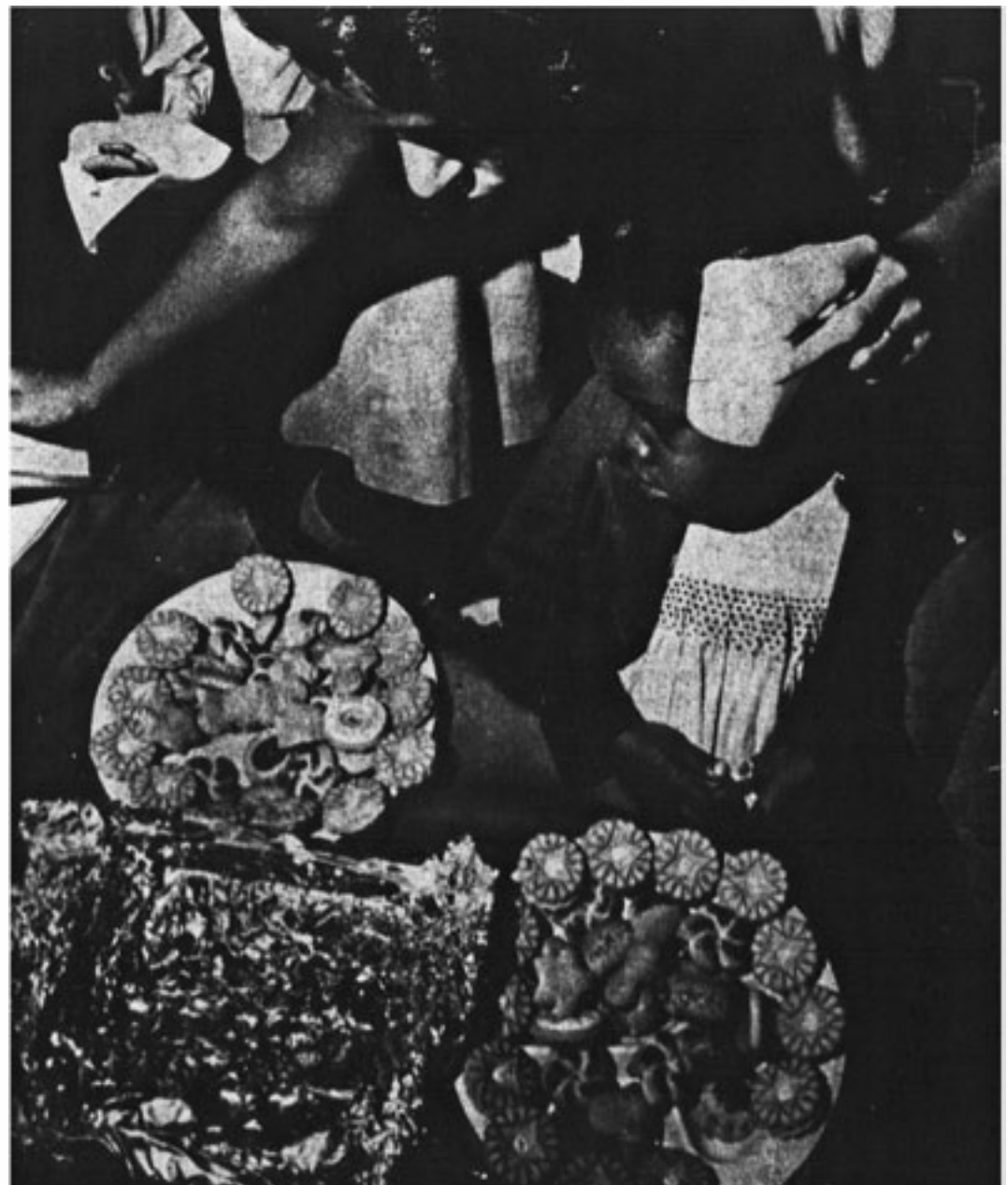
LADY REMOVES BAG OF FOOD (ABOVE)



"BUDS OF PROMISE" OF MT. ZION A.M.E. ZION CAROL FOR PARISHIONER (BELOW)



CHILD IS TOO SHY TO TAKE COOKIES AT HEAD START PARTY (BELOW)



## Dreams and Nightmares Black

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--There's more to Christmas than ho-ho-ho. Black people know this--especially poor black people. Here is what Christmas was like for some people around Montgomery.

"I am disheartened here," said Mrs. Rose L. Turner as she waited for Christmas in her home in one of Montgomery's West End neighborhoods.

Mrs. Turner cooks meals for her family on a hot plate, because the gas has been shut off. When it rains, she has to put pots and pans everywhere. "Rain comes right in the house through so many leaks in the roof."

Mrs. Turner said her children (seven still live home) would be with her on Christmas Day. "They may not have no new clothes for Christmas, but I guarantee you they'll be clean," she said.

On Christmas Day, one of the Turners' older sons came home on leave from the Army. The child returned riding in a new, shiny, red wagon given by a friend of the family.

"Some relatives gave the girls a doll," Mr. Turner said as she hung out the family's laundry. After Christmas, when the prices go down, she said she might be able to buy something for the children. But if not, she said, "they'll understand, because I tell my children about our financial situation."

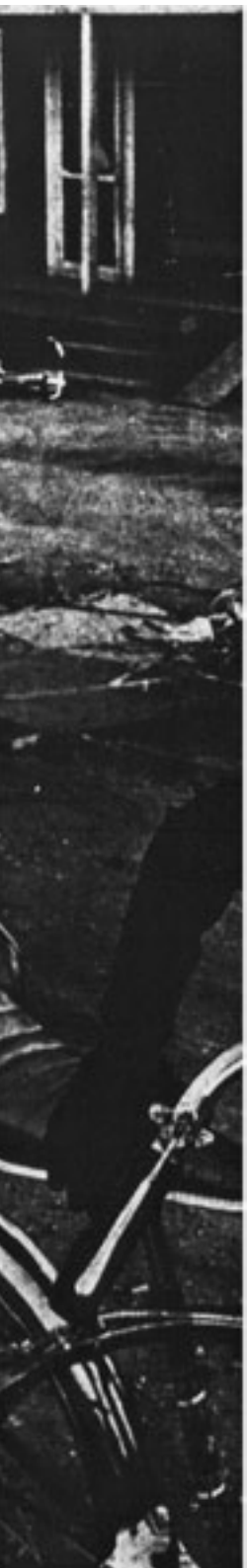
The Turners were one of the families to receive free food from the Alabama Action Committee (AAC).

On Sunday, Christmas Eve, AAC distributed bundles of food to needy families who came to the Bell St. Baptist Church.

Much of the food had been collected from grocery stores all over the city. But, said Roosevelt Barnett of AAC, "of all the Negro-owned stores we went to and asked for help, only one contributed"--Oakland Ave. Grocery.

Text

Photos by  
Jim Pepler







BLACK SANTA CLAUS AT HEAD START CHRISTMAS PARTY (ABOVE)



PEOPLE WAIT FOR FREE FOOD (ABOVE) CHILDREN SORT THEIR FIRECRACKERS (BELOW)

# Christmas

Mrs. Mary Thomas Derico of Waugh and her five children passed Christmas Eve in three separate homes. They expected no Christmas presents the next day, and had no clothes but the ones they were wearing.

They didn't even have a house of their own. It had burned down four days earlier.

But on Christmas Eve, the children laughed and played. And Mrs. Derico said she was thankful, because the whole family was together for Christmas.

The day of the fire was Tony Derico's fourth birthday, and his birthday cake burned up inside the house.

A week-old electric stove, two television sets, three sets of bedroom furniture that had just been paid for, and the money Mrs. Gertrude Thomas (the grandmother) had hidden under her bed also went up in flames. So did the Christmas tree.

The Derico family was one of the ones that got free food from AAC.

The children from the St. Jude Head Start center had a Christmas party Dec. 21, and Santa Claus paid them a surprise visit. Santa, who was black, listened to the children's gift requests, and gave them fruit and cookies.

Then he left, saying, "Well, I've got to go now. I have to get back to Gaylord's."

Some people said Santa bore a close resemblance to Henry Coffield, a Head Start bus driver.

Mrs. Bertha D. Howard--superintendent of the Buds of Promise, the youngest missionary group at the Mt. Zion A.M.E. Zion Church--went Christmas carolling last Friday with 17 "Buds."

"We went into about nine homes where the people were shut in or ill," said Mrs. Howard, "so that we could bring a little Christmas cheer into their homes."

by Sandra Colvin and Robin Reisig



MRS. MARY THOMAS DERICO (BELOW), WHOSE HOUSE BURNED DOWN DEC. 20



FOR MRS. ROSA LEE TURNER (BELOW), CHRISTMAS IS STILL A MONDAY





# A&M Survives Rally, Dows Miles, 80-78

BY PAUL MOSES  
BIRMINGHAM, Ala. --The Alabama A&M basketball team rode the scoring and rebounding of Otis Brafton and Charles Moore to a 80-78 victory over Miles College Dec. 21 in the Parker High School gymnasium.

Two 5'11" sparkplugs, George Julkes and Charles Wesley, led a second-half rally that kept Miles in the game. When the Golden Bears again fell behind, Julkes and J.C. Wesley led another charge that just fell short.

During the first quarter, Miles took a brief 13-9 lead. But by the time the first half was over, A&M had pulled up from behind into a 45-36 edge over the Bears.

After intermission the scoring of Julkes and Charles Wesley put the spirit back into the students, faculty, and alumni of Miles College.

But then there came a sudden switch that brought sorrow to the eyes of the Golden Bears' fans, as the Bulldogs pushed their lead to 15 points.

Three minutes later, however, Julkes and J. C. Wesley brought the Bears within two points of A&M. But Miles couldn't go any further, and the game ended with the Bulldogs ahead, 80 to 78.

Brafton scored 20 points for A&M, and Moore was just behind him with 17. For Miles, Julkes and J. C. Wesley scored 26 points each.

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I specialize in all case work. Write for my special selected Bible verses--send \$2.00 and a self-addressed, stamped envelope at once. Call or write:

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# Ralph Featherstone



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**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**--The Montgomery Head Start needs all the volunteers help it can get to work in the classrooms. Men, women, and teen-agers (minimum age 16) can all be of use. Volunteers will assist as teacher's aides and cook's helpers, and will take children on field trips in the area. A volunteer can choose his or her own hours between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. on a convenient day Monday through Friday. Transportation and lunch will be furnished. If you are available, apply to the Rev. E. W. McKinney, volunteer director at 419 Madison, call 263-3474, or go to the nearest Head Start center.

**FEMALE HELP WANTED**--Interviewer wanted for part-time telephone survey work after Christmas. Must have private line. Not a selling job. Air-mail a letter including your education, work experience, and names of references to American Research Bureau, Field Staff Department, 4320 Ammendale Rd., Beltsville, Maryland 20705.

**FEDERAL JOBS**--The Interagency Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners for South Alabama and Northwest Florida is holding examinations for general machinist, general machine operator, supply processing deliveryman, tool crib attendant, material processor, warehouseman, aircraft electrician, aircraft mechanic, aircraft engine worker, aircraft oxygen equipment worker, aircraft sheet metal worker, airframe worker, and aircraft instrument and control systems mechanic. These examinations provide applicants with career employment opportunities in the federal service in the 28 counties of South Alabama and the 20 counties of Northwest Florida. Starting salaries range from \$1.85 to \$3.41 per hour. Interested applicants must file Standard Form 57, CSC Form 5001-ABC, and Standard Form 15 (documentary proof required if the applicant is claiming ten-point veteran preference). The forms are available at any board of U. S. civil service examiners, and at most main post offices. Additional information may be obtained by contacting any post office, or the Federal Job Information Center, Room 105, 107 St. Francis St., Mobile, Ala. 36602.

**FEDERAL JOBS**--The Interagency Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners for South Alabama and Northwest Florida is holding examinations for deputy U. S. marshals. The list of successful applicants will be used to fill future vacancies at Mobile and Montgomery, Ala., and Pensacola, Fla. Starting salary is \$5,867 per year. Interested applicants may obtain necessary application forms and copies of the examination announcements at any board of U. S. civil service examiners, and at most main post offices. Additional information may be obtained by contacting any post office, or the Federal Job Information Center, Room 105, 107 St. Francis St., Mobile, Ala. 36602.

**TEACHER EXAM**--Alabama State College (Montgomery, Ala.) has been designated as a test center for administering the National Teacher Examinations on Saturday, Feb. 3, 1968. College seniors preparing to teach--and teachers applying for positions in school systems that encourage or require applicants to submit National Teacher Examination scores--are eligible to take the tests. Bulletins of information describing registration procedures and containing registration forms may be obtained from Council Hall 235 at the college, or directly from the National Teacher Examinations, Educational Testing Service, Box 911, Princeton, New Jersey 08540. Prospective teachers planning to take the tests should obtain their bulletins promptly.

**BAHA'IS**--The Baha'is of Montgomery invite you to their weekly fireside at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 30, at 3222 Santee Dr. in Montgomery. For transportation, call 263-6938 or 265-4394. Meet Baha'u'llah.

**MAKE FRIENDS, MAKE MONEY**--Sell The Southern Courier.

**CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS**--"Christian Science" is the subject of the Lesson Sermon to be read in all Christian Science churches throughout the world this Sunday, Dec. 31.

**AUTAUGA COUNTY NAACP**--The Autauga County branch of the NAACP will hold its regular meetings from 4 to 5 p.m. on the first and third Sunday of each month. Our motto is "Let every member get a member." Mrs. Sallie Hadnott, president.

**WANTED**--1. Assistant director for a community service agency. Qualifications desirable: more than a liberal arts education, experience in managerial work, record of community service. 2. Secretary. Qualifications desired: typing skills, 60 words per minute; stenographic skills, 100 words per minute, with a maximum 3% error in transcription; at least one year experience; personal qualities, good verbal facility, intelligence, reliability, courtesy, and integrity. 3. Field representative. Qualifications desirable: experience in development of community programs and reporting of management information. Ability to express thoughts clearly and to work in community leadership. 4. Clerk-typists (2). Desired qualifications: typing skills, at least 60 words per minute; personal qualities, neat, courteous, and intelligent. Duties and salary will be discussed when granted an interview. Apply to Coosa-Elmore Community Action Committee, P. O. Drawer H, Wetumpka, Ala. 36092, or telephone 587-9377 in Wetumpka between 3 and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and ask for Mrs. McDonald. The Coosa-Elmore Community Action Committee is an equal opportunity employer.

## PATRONIZE COURIER ADVERTISERS

**Alabama Christian  
Movement for Human Rights**  
The weekly meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 1, in St. James Baptist Church, 1100 Sixth Ave. N., the Rev. C. W. Sewell, pastor. Dr. John W. Nixon will be the speaker.

## 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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Bishop Gaylor warns you of these wandering Gypsy parasites who operate on trailer wheels and downtown slum districts, who are here today and gone tomorrow!  
I do not give advice outside my office--those claiming to be Bishop Gaylor, going from house to house, are impostors, and I personally offer a REWARD OF \$100 for the arrest and conviction of any person representing themselves to be Bishop Gaylor. Bring this card for special reading!  
NO LETTERS ANSWERED--CALL IN PERSON  
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