



JOHN KELLY JR. (LEFT) AND MARVIN E. EDWARDS

At Eufaula Voters' Meeting

Hot Time for White Candidate

BY MARY ELLEN GALE
EUFULA, Ala.--A roomful of outspoken Negro voters confronted a white candidate for mayor last Tuesday night at the Eufaula Baptist Academy.

The candidate--former Mayor Marvin E. Edwards--was the last of three white opponents to appear before the Eufaula Voters League. The other two--present Mayor E. H. "Hamp" Graves and Dr. Willard Smith, head of the city Chamber of Commerce--met with the Negro civic group earlier this month.

Edwards promised that if elected, he will support the anti-poverty program, seek new industry and low-rent housing, and improve schools, streets, and playgrounds.

And, he said, he will face up to difficult problems like race relations. "When you get afraid of a controversial

subject, you better sit down," he commented.

In a question-and-answer session, the voters took him at his word.

Several people asked why he favors the federal food stamp program--which requires poor people to put up some money--over free surplus food.

"It (the stamp program) keeps the grocers in business," Edwards replied. "I feel like the merchants of Eufaula--who provide numerous jobs and pay taxes--deserve our support."

In addition, he said, surplus commodities are "whatever the government has to get rid of--you might get black-eyed peas one week and something else the next."

"We would probably get more black-eyed peas that way than from taking the stamps downtown," shot back Mrs. Essie Grooms.

She pointed out that poor people pay

taxes too--and don't have much money left over. "A lot of little hungry children are walking up and down the street," she said.

"Stamps are YOUR choice," added a minister. "If the poor people make another choice, what are you going to do?"

"If the majority wants it (surplus food), I would not stand in the way," said Edwards. The audience applauded.

Another voter asked whether Edwards would "do away with this common-name business." "Down through the years, this has penetrated," the man said. "When a lady of 45 or 50 is stopped by a city cop, she gets the name 'Aunt' or 'Mary Sue.'"

"Legally, I don't think there is (any way to stop it)," Edwards replied. "It's something people have to be educated to."

"You're saying we have uneducated people on the police force?" the questioner asked. When Edwards said he didn't mean to imply that, the man pointed out that policemen are public officials.

"Now I see what you're getting at," Edwards said. "The mayor could insist that proper respect be shown to all citizens."

Edwards said he would name Negroes to city boards if he can find qualified people. "I would not appoint any colored person just because he or she is colored," the former mayor noted. "That's racism in reverse."

Some questioners wondered if Edwards would really pave streets and provide sewers in Negro sections of town. One lady asked why he didn't get around to her street during his first (CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX, Col. 3)

THE SOUTHERN COURIER

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TEN CENTS

Dahmer Trial On In Miss.

BY JONATHAN GORDON
HATTIESBURG, Miss.--The widow of slain civil rights leader Vernon Dahmer took the stand last Tuesday in the trial of her husband's accused killer, Cecil Sessum.

Mrs. Ellie Dahmer told the jury of 12 white men how the Dahmer home was attacked and burned early on Jan. 10, 1966--and how her husband died hours later in a hospital.

"I was awakened about 2 a.m. by our car's horn blasting away," said Mrs. Dahmer. "There were shots coming into the house. I heard something crash through the living room window and fall on the floor. I looked out the window, and could see the front eave of the house was burning."

"I got our ten-year-old daughter, Bettie, and tried to get her out. She kept crying, 'We can't make it out.'"

Mrs. Dahmer said her husband stood in the heat of the flames, returning the attackers' gunfire. "He told us to get out, while he held 'em off," she said.

Mrs. Dahmer testified that she tried to break the wooden frame in the rear bedroom window, so she and her daughter could escape. She fell through the window, she said, and her husband passed Bettie out of the house to safety. He then came out of the window himself, and went to the front to continue firing, she said.

"Vernon was dressed in a pajama top and underwear," Mrs. Dahmer told the jury. "We all had night-clothes on. Vernon's arms were burnt, and his face was all sooty."

Later, in the hospital, "Vernon seemed to be getting on fine, resting well," Mrs. Dahmer said. But, she said, she was by his side when "he started having trouble breathing. I sent Bettie to get the nurse. He rose up, said things were getting dark, and he died."

Hospital officials have said Dahmer died from prolonged smoke inhalation and breathing of "super-heated" air. If convicted in Circuit Court here, Sessum faces a possible death sentence for participating in what the state calls a Ku Klux Klan raid on Dahmer's home.

Mobile Ordered To Use Zones

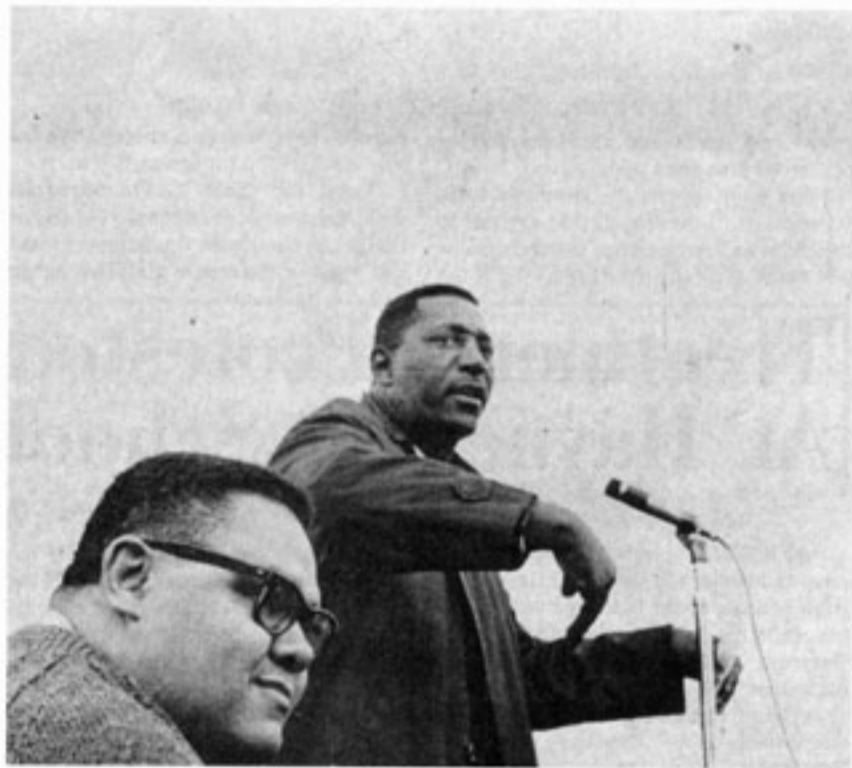
NEW ORLEANS, La.--The U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals this week ordered the Mobile County school board to start assigning students to schools on the basis of "non-racial" zones. The court struck down the county's limited freedom-of-choice plan.

Mobile County--the state's largest school system--is using a zone plan this year. But, the Fifth Circuit said, it is not clear whether the zones have been drawn without regard to race. And in the city of Mobile, it noted, many students are still permitted to attend the nearest formerly-white or -Negro school outside their zone.

As a result, the court found, only 692 of the system's 31,000 Negro students are attending predominantly-white schools.

Therefore, said the court, "the student's option to attend the nearest formerly-white or formerly-Negro school outside his zone must be eliminated." This is not a "full-scale change," the court said, but merely a step to make Mobile's zoning plan work.

The court said the school board can (CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO, Col. 6)



CAMPAIGN MANAGER LAWRENCE GUYOT (LEFT) AND EVERS

JACKSON, Miss.--On a cold, damp day last Tuesday, U. S. House candidate Charles Evers went down to the defeat nearly everybody had predicted for him. Evers--on leave as state NAACP field secretary--lost to his white opponent, Charlie Griffin, by a 2-to-1 margin--87,761 votes to 43,083. At stake was the House seat formerly held by Governor John Bell Williams.

Despite the bad weather, the total vote of 130,000 was about 15,000 higher than the vote in the first-round election on Feb. 27. Evers--who had led the field of seven candidates in the first election--picked up about 10,000 votes this time.

But apparently, nearly all the people who had voted for any of his white opponents in February cast their ballots for Griffin in Tuesday's run-off. Evers carried only three counties Tuesday--Wilkinson, Jefferson, and Claiborne. In Hinds County, largest of the 12 counties in the Third Congressional District, Griffin out-pollled Evers, 37,037 to 15,512.

When Evers learned that he had lost, he went to Griffin's headquarters and congratulated the new congressman.

Then the veteran civil rights leader went on television, and called the election "a history-making event."

"The men who have given their lives--like my brother Medgar--haven't given it in vain," he said, adding that he considered his showing a victory.

Griffin--who was Williams' assistant in Congress for 18 years--said in a statement that he will "provide all the people with honorable representation at the national level."

Although Griffin was thought to be the most moderate of Evers' white opponents, he has promised to vote against the open-housing law now pending in Congress.

'We're Proud of That,' Says Dothan Banker

No Renewal or Poverty Program

BY VICTORIA ENGLISH
DOTHAN, Ala.--Studies have shown that more than a third of the Dothan area's housing units are sub-standard, and nearly half of Houston County's families have incomes below \$3,000.

But the city of Dothan has no urban renewal project, and there is no anti-poverty program in Houston County.

On E. Troy St., Negro families watch the city garbage truck as it passes by twice a week--but the truck does not stop to pick up their garbage. So a miniature garbage dump lies along the street.

"It used to be worse," said Mrs. Johnnie Mae Rubb. "But peoples who dig for bait have scattered the trash so it don't look so bad."

E. Troy St. has no sewage line. Hure Ward was able to build a cesspool, but Isaac Baldwin and Mrs. Rubb say the refuse holes outside their homes are overflowing.

The Baldwin and Rubb families use indoor buckets, and empty them into the over-running outdoor toilet. When the Rubbs complained to their landlord, said Mrs. Rubb, "he told us, 'Y'all just use the bathroom too much.'"

But urban renewal in Dothan has been dead since 1965, when the Alabama Legislature passed a local law requiring a vote of the people to approve any renewal project in Houston County.

When the law was passed, Dothan was mid-way into a General Neighborhood Renewal Plan. Plans were being drawn up to improve the city's water, sewage, recreation, and traffic facilities.



E. TROY ST. IN DOTHAN

In October, 1965, the city was asked to hold a vote on a \$90,319 urban renewal project that the government had already approved. The City Commission said no.

"It being the consensus of the commission that a substantial majority of the people who have expressed any opinion at all... were opposed to it, and no referendum was needed," the commission's minutes explained.

Organized opposition to urban renewal has been led by the Dothan Homeowners Protective Association and its

BY BOB LABAREE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--A Negro family last week accused city police officers Edward M. Cousins and Kenneth W. Rich of beating up two boys on Birmingham's south side.

Mrs. Ophelia Holmes charged that on the night of March 3, police handcuffed and beat her 19-year-old son, Clifford, and his 20-year-old friend, Jerry Tillman, in her own back yard, while she and her family looked on.

Police say the youths--and three others with them--were drunk. When the officers tried to take the youths in, police say, the boys resisted and had to be subdued.

Holmes and Tillman were both charged with being drunk, resisting arrest, and failing to obey an officer.

Police Chief Jamie Moore said only that the incident is being investigated. But the Holmes family--and neighbors who also saw the incident--had a lot to say.

Holmes and his friends said the incident began between 10:30 and 11 p.m., as five teen-agers--four boys and a girl--were sitting in an old car parked in the Holmes' back yard.

When a police car pulled into the alley a few feet away, Holmes recalled, he and his friends ran away.

"I guess we shouldn't have ran," Holmes said later. "But some things you just do without thinking."

(Holmes admitted to being arrested several times in the past few years on charges of drunken driving and assault and battery. His family said he is also awaiting trial as an accessory in an incident in which someone was killed.)



CLIFFORD HOLMES

One patrolman caught and handcuffed Holmes on the front porch of his house, the youths said, and Tillman was caught a block away.

Mrs. Holmes said that when she and her daughter ran to where the boys were being held in the back yard, one of the officers kept her away.

"I couldn't see him (Holmes) because he was down behind the car," Mrs. Holmes said. "I could hear him being beaten and him crying out. . . . I asked him (one of the policemen), 'What are you doing to my boy?' and he told me to get back to the house. He said, 'These niggers run from us.'"

"If you'd been standing up at the corner, you could have heard the licks," added Mrs. Lois Martin, Holmes' sister. "He (the policeman) said he was going to stop the boys on the south side from running from Eddie."

After the beating, Holmes charged,

"he (the policeman) drug me down the alley, and he spat on me."

Both Holmes and Tillman displayed wounds on the head and face. Holmes said one of the officers struck him on the side of the face and the chin with a pistol, and on the head with a stick. "His head was swole out to here," said Mrs. Holmes, holding her hand several inches from her son's head.

Mrs. Holmes said the family gave its version of the incident to the police department early the next day. Later, she said, the FBI photographed Holmes' wounds, and the story was told again.

"We called 'em (the FBI) that night when it was happening," she added, "but they said they couldn't do nothing then and we should come around in the morning and make a statement."

People on the south side are angry about the incident, said Mrs. Holmes.

"We can't let this go by," she said. "They call these 11 to 7 (night shift) police 'head-hunters,' and they're right. Somebody better stop it. They gonna kill somebody, or somebody gonna kill them."

Fire Kills Four Kids

BY EMILY ISRAEL
GREENSBORO, Ala.-- Last Valentine's Day, one of the worst fires in the history of Greensboro took the lives of four Negro children. They were three-year-old Douglas Tubbs, two-year-old Kent Tubbs, one-year-old Michael Tubbs, and eight-month-old Willie George Hammond.

The children had been living with their grandmother, Mrs. Annie Laura Hammond, on Wabash St. But both Mrs. Hammond and another occupant of the building, Jack Jackson, were away at work when the fire broke out.

A 12-year-old girl, Miss Marjorie Wilson, was taking care of the children. When the fire started, she was in the kitchen, washing dishes. She tried to run into the blazing front room, where the children were, but a neighbor pulled her back.

The mother of three of the children, Mrs. Dorothy Hammond Tubbs, said she had gone to New York before the fire, in order to find suitable work. At the time her children were killed, she was caring for someone else's baby in White Plains, New York.

Mrs. Tubbs said she didn't like the idea of leaving her children in the care of a 12-year-old girl, but she knew of some mothers who had to leave their kids with six-year-olds.

There was no phone in the house on Wabash St. By the time the fire department arrived, the house was already a mass of flames.

A white lady who drove by during the fire later wrote to a local newspaper, "I was under the impression that Greensboro had fire protection, but I was wrong. What good is a big, shiny red fire engine if you don't have trained personnel to operate it? What good are fire hydrants if you don't have adequate water pressure to supply the need?"

Mrs. Theresa Burroughs, a local Negro leader, commented that the Greensboro fire department is famous for one thing--"saving chimneys."

The fire department blamed a gas heater for the fire, but Jackson--who lived in the house--said he disagrees. "The ceiling caved in first," he said. "Faulty electric wiring would be responsible for something like that."

which has turned it down, and we're proud of that."

The anti-poverty program has a similar history. In June, 1965, Barbour, Dale, Henry, and Houston counties joined together to form a community action committee, but Houston pulled out after a squabble. Another anti-poverty effort died in 1966.

In 1967, Dothan citizens approached Rufus Davis, owner of the Martin Theatre, and asked him to lead a third attempt. This most recent group, the Houston County Community Action Committee (CAC), has drawn up an application for an anti-poverty program covering areas from job-training to legal assistance.

"I think Dothan needs a poverty program," said Davis, "but the interest is just not there." A year ago, he said, only eight people came to an important meeting of the CAC.

"This thing must go through the city officials," Davis added. "We haven't been able to get a legal endorsement from the mayor."

Dothan Mayor Earle Moody has attended no CAC meetings since he was appointed as the city commission's representative in November, 1966. Last Feb. 26, he promised Davis that he would look into the anti-poverty program when he goes to Washington in April.

"I haven't come to any conclusions," Moody said last month. "But just to give money away--I'm agin it. The hell with it."

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People 'Disappointed' After Barbour Drops Free Food

BY MARY ELLEN GALE
CLAYTON, Ala.--"People are very much disappointed all over the county," said the Rev. G. H. Cossey, president of the board of the District 24 Community Action Program. "This hurts all the needy families--white and Negro." Cossey and other Negro leaders spoke out sharply this week, after the Barbour County Board of Revenue suddenly decided not to participate in the federal surplus food program. By a vote of 4 to 2 last week, the white revenue commissioners agreed to seek food stamps instead. In doing so, they broke a two-year-old contract with the community action program--just as the CAP was preparing to distribute the first load of surplus commodities. CAP staff members were taking applications for the free food when they learned of the board's action. They had already signed up 1,176 poor families, with 4,500 hungry people. Staff members said waiting applicants reacted to the news with confusion and dismay. And a few hours later--at a mass meeting called by the Eufaula Voters League--250 Negro citizens voted unanimously to ask the board to re-consider its decision. Since then, the Barbour County branches of the NAACP have joined in the protest. The groups have arranged to meet with the board of revenue late this week.



APPLYING FOR SURPLUS FOOD LAST MONTH
board two years ago about the merits of the surplus food program. "It's been abused," Dismukes said, "People (in other counties) are out in their yards feeding rice to the chickens and dried milk to the hogs. With the stamps, people have a choice. They can buy what they want to eat." Under the local CAP's agreement with the board of revenue, the federal Office of Economic Opportunity was to pay most of the cost of distributing surplus food. Barbour County's only expense would have been salaries for two warehouse workers. The county will have to pay the entire cost of operating the food stamp program, but Dismukes said that won't be a problem. "The cities has told us they'd make it up to us through a 1¢ sales tax," he explained. But the mayors of Barbour County's two largest cities denied making any such promise. "Good night, no sir!" exclaimed Mayor E. H. "Ham" Graves of Eufaula. And Clayton Mayor A. B. Robertson Jr. said that although he favors stamps over free food, "this is the first I've heard about a tax." Robertson suggested that Negroes ought to prefer the stamps, too. "These stores run by colored merchants in rural areas will get left out completely if their customers have free food," he said. Some Negroes blamed State Senator James S. "Jimmy" Clark of Barbour County for the board of revenue's unexpected switch to food stamps. But Clark said he didn't try to influence anyone's vote. "I don't mess with county affairs," he said. "There's two sides to this--and I just really don't know which program is better." CAP director Weston refused to comment on the situation this week. But staff members said people have been coming by their office every day to complain. "We finally just stuck the board of revenue's letter on the door," said one CAP worker. "If it was put to a vote of the 6,000 people eligible for commodities, I think there wouldn't be any doubt. They all want the free food."

Quitman County Movement Slips

BY PRESLEY FRANKLIN
MARKS, Miss.--The Quitman County civil rights movement is slowing down. On Feb. 21, the Freedom Democratic Party called a meeting. Everybody was invited to voice opinions on current issues.

white student will be able to attend the same school next September, if a site for it is agreed upon. (So far, there has been no agreement.) Many Negroes in mostly-white Marks High said they have noticed a vast change in the relation between white teachers and Negro students since the consolidation was approved. The students said three white teachers have been heard making fun of Negro students' clothes--most of the Negro kids come from poor families--and of their classwork. Of the 33 Negro high school students, only seven students got passing grades for the first semester, and only two made the honor roll. Most of the students now say they want to go back to a school where they can pass. They also say they are afraid to go into the consolidated white school next year. However, Marks High will have its first Negro graduate this spring--Presley Franklin.

But during a lengthy speech by the Rev. L. C. Coleman, many listeners got restless, and one lady finally asked him to curb his remarks. Consequently, Coleman's supporters walked out of the meeting, leaving the William Franklin faction of about five members. Some people have charged that Coleman wants complete control of the civil rights movement in Quitman County, because he has been saying that he joined the movement at the beginning and that his recognition is long overdue. Coleman said later, however, that he only wants complete unity of the Negro people. He said the February meeting really broke up over the issue of boycotting Negro- and Chinese-owned stores.

In the case of the Negro-owned store, Coleman claimed that the manager, Mrs. Estella Nelson, threatened him. (Mrs. Nelson had no comment on the charge.) After the alleged threat, Coleman called a boycott, which lasted about ten days. Coleman said Franklin called the boycott off. But Franklin said the people themselves decided to call it off, after the police put pressure on them. The Chinese owner of another store was accused of "roughing up" a young Negro boy. A boycott of this store also lasted about ten days, before the boy's father told the boycotters that he wasn't recognizing their protest. Neither boycott was effective. Meanwhile, local Negroes have also been having trouble with schools.

John Kelly Jr., a leader of both Negro organizations, said they oppose the food stamp program because it won't help the hungriest families--the ones with no income at all. "So many poor peoples need the commodity foods," he said. "They don't have the money for stamps." And Cossey charged that the board of revenue gave in to pressure from white merchants who complained that free food might put them out of business. John M. Dismukes, chairman of the board of revenue, said the commissioners voted for the food stamp program because "we thought it would be better for the county economically. It's like a new industry coming in."

"We'll be glad to hear from anybody," he added, "but I don't think the board of revenue is going to change its mind." Dismukes accused CAP Director Charles L. Weston of misleading the

it." But Pinkard and Mrs. Moore still weren't satisfied. They went to see the Macon County Board of Revenue. Only two commissioners--Harold W. Webb, a Negro, and W. R. Godfrey, a white man--were still in the meeting room. They told Pinkard to see the chairman--J. Allan Parker--who wasn't there. "I'm sorry something like this happened," added Godfrey. "I didn't know the room was locked."

Lucius D. Amerson became the county's first Negro sheriff in January, 1967. At the same time, a second Negro joined the four-man board of revenue. But, said Pinkard, the ladies' restroom has stayed locked--and Negroes are still using a "hole in the ground" behind the court house. "He gave me the key," Mrs. Moore recalled. "I went and showed it to the lady in the circuit clerk's office and she said, 'I'm glad you got it.'"

Richard T. Rives said each other--and this spring's high school track championships would be a good place to start. Justice Department lawyer Chad Quaintance said segregated athletics--including separate high school associations--is a violation of the court order abolishing the dual school system. But he said, there are other reasons, too, why athletics should be desegregated. One result of segregated sports, said Quaintance, is an "inadequate" athletic

Key Problem in Macon

BY MARY ELLEN GALE
TUSKEGEE, Ala.--Mrs. Beatrice Moore, a Negro lady, brought several people to the Macon County Court House last week to register to vote.

While she was there, a white lady went into the circuit clerk's office and got a key to the women's restroom. A few minutes later, Mrs. Moore went to the same office and asked for the same key. "I didn't get it," she said. So she told Otis Pinkard, head of the West Macon Improvement Association's voter education project, and the two of them visited Probate Judge Preston Hornsby. "He gave me the key," Mrs. Moore recalled. "I went and showed it to the lady in the circuit clerk's office and she said, 'I'm glad you got it.'"

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Treatment Protested At Hayneville School

BY BETH WILCOX
HAYNEVILLE, Ala.--Arthur Jackson, an 11th-grade student at Hayneville High School, spent last week working on his father's farm in Whitehall, while Bertram Pickney plowed the land near his father's house in Tricuum. Jackson explained that he had been suspended from formerly all-white Hayneville High School because the principal said he was writing on a lunch table.

Pickney--who was suspended for the same reason--recalled, "The principal said I was writing my initials on the lunch table. But from the position I was sitting, the initials were upside down to me. He (Principal McKelly Pringle) said we could take our six-week tests, but we were suspended after we finished."

Jackson and Pickney are two of the ten black students in the 11th-grade class at the school. There are 150 black students and no white students attending Hayneville High this year, he said. "Last year, we had all white teachers and a white principal," said Jackson. But this year, he said, the white principal left, and Pringle--who had been the assistant--became principal. The teachers and principal are all black this year, except for one white home economics teacher, the students said. "It's sad but true that when there was white people in the school, it was better," Pickney concluded.

Both Pickney and Jackson said their parents went to ask about the reasons for their sons' punishment. "They (school officials) just said they could prove we wrote on the tables, even though they didn't see us," Jackson said. "The initials weren't carved, just in pencil."

Recalling the incident leading up to the suspension, Jackson said, "Pringle called us school-kickers, and used profane language. He told me to shut up or he'd have my damn ass black-balled. That meant I (would not be able to) go to another school in the county." Why would the principal act that way? "They're trying to drive us away," Jackson charged. "We're not allowed in the halls during recess. We have no teams whatsoever. We wanted a student council, but he said don't cross his mind with a student council."

Both students said there are few activities at Hayneville High, and that school rules are not posted. "We've asked him to post rules," Jackson said, "and he refused. We're supposed to have full use of the football equipment the white kids left behind, but we haven't seen it."

Pringle refused to comment on the suspension, or on the charge that he is trying to discourage black students from attending Hayneville High.

Mobile Schools

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)
continue to operate a freedom-of-choice plan in the rural areas of the county. But, it said, any such plan must comply with previous Fifth Circuit rulings. The judges also noted that out of the county's 2,700 teachers, just 12 Negroes and three whites are teaching in schools of the opposite race. Therefore, the court said, the school board must assign teachers to bring about greater desegregation. "We enter a decree along these lines because faculty integration has been recognized as the key to integration of all phases of education in a school system," the court said. In athletics, the judges observed, all-Negro teams have not been scheduled to play all-white teams. "Such a distinction based on race is no longer tolerable," said the court. "The integration of activities must be complete."

Businessmen Urged To Hire CEP Graduates

day, however, CEP Deputy Director Newstell Dowdell said more than 100 jobs had turned up, and others were on the way. CEP aims to train and find jobs for at least 1,400 people in the northern and western sections of the city by this summer. About 90% of CEP's 500 current enrollees are Negroes, Dowdell pointed out, and 80% are women. "That's one of our problems--most of the available jobs are for men," he said. All of the enrollees have at least a tenth-grade education, and 25% are high school graduates, said Dowdell. When CEP enrollees finish their training period, Dowdell said, they have not been trained in a specific skill. But, he said, they have learned about the importance of promptness, politeness, and good grooming. "We're going to give you a good productive worker that you can depend on," Dowdell said.



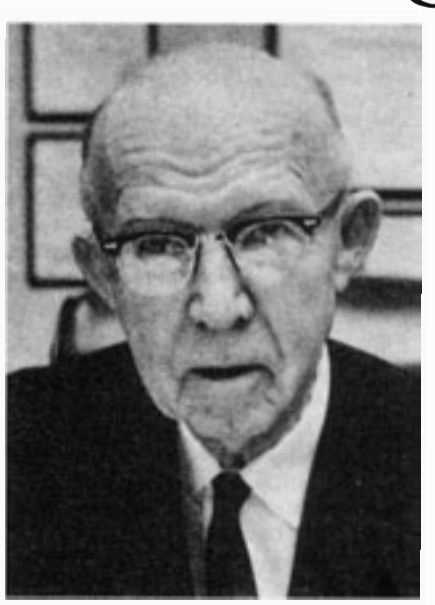
GEORGE SEIBELS (LEFT) AND NEWSTELL DOWDELL BY BOB LABAREE BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--More than 200 of Jefferson County's leading businessmen gathered at City Hall last week to hear that it can be profitable to hire the unemployed. When a person is out of work for a great length of time, said Mayor George Seibels, he is "living off taxpayers' money." But put this person to work, and "he becomes a useful citizen," Seibels pointed out. "I need not tell you of the urgency of this," Seibels added. The reason for the three days of meetings was a problem with the city's six-month-old, \$3,500,000 Concentrated Employment Program (CEP). City and county officials revealed that CEP, funded by the U. S. Labor Department, had already spent \$500,000 to train 250 people--but had been able to find jobs for only 47 of them. At the close of the meeting last Fri-

U.S. Asks Integrated Athletics

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN
MONTGOMERY, Ala.--Why doesn't Alabama want white and Negro schools to compete against each other in athletics?

Because, said attorney Oakley Melton, such competition might hamper school integration. "If by order of the court, formerly all-white schools are forced to compete in athletics with formerly all-Negro schools," said Melton, attorney for State Schools Superintendent Ernest Stone, sports will become "a matter of racial pride or racial prejudice." And when this happens, Melton argued, Negro athletes will be "urged to come back to their formerly all-Negro schools."

Melton was opposing the U. S. Justice Department's motion asking a three-judge federal court to desegregate high school, junior college, and collegiate athletics in Alabama.



RICHARD T. RIVES each other--and this spring's high school track championships would be a good place to start. Justice Department lawyer Chad Quaintance said segregated athletics--including separate high school associations--is a violation of the court order abolishing the dual school system. But he said, there are other reasons, too, why athletics should be desegregated. One result of segregated sports, said Quaintance, is an "inadequate" athletic

The Justice Department said the court should make one organization out of the Alabama High School Athletic Association (white schools) and the Alabama Interscholastic Athletic Association (Negro schools). At present, each association has a rule preventing its members from playing members of the other association. Further, the government said, white and Negro teams should begin to play

program for Negro schools. For instance, he said, Carver High of Montgomery--with 1,000 students--has no baseball team, because there aren't any nearby Negro teams it can play. Another result is that Negro high school athletes are ignored by the daily papers and by college scouts, Quaintance said. This means that Negroes get neither recognition nor athletic scholarships, he said. Regarding the merger of the high school associations, Circuit Judge Richard T. Rives said, "It would be so much more appropriate if this matter were handled on a voluntary basis." But Quaintance said this isn't likely to happen. And though civil rights lawyer Fred D. Gray told the court that the Negro association is willing to cooperate, Melton said the white association "would not like a merger." Attorneys for the state said the associations are necessary to maintain scholastic standards and eligibility rules. But the judges did not appear satisfied with the lawyers' explanations of why there must be two different associations. Maury Smith, another attorney for Superintendent Stone, told the court that Negro athletes have been well-accepted and well-treated at formerly-white schools. At Clements High School (Athens), he said, a Negro athlete has been voted "most outstanding student" by his classmates. Eight of the 12 players on the Ramsay (Birmingham) basketball team are Negroes, Smith said, and so were seven of 11 starters on the Tuscaloosa High football team. Coaches say Negro athletes have been "good-will ambassadors," he told the court. That's just the trouble with the present system, Quaintance replied later. "Good-will ambassador" is an appropriate term," he said, "Negro athletes are 'ambassadors from a foreign country--the foreign country of the Negro schools.'" At one point, District Judge H. H. Grooms asked, "Won't it become a racial contest if we decree that all-Negro schools must play white schools?" "I do not believe," Quaintance replied, "that race relations in this state have reached that sorry point." But Melton later took up Judge Grooms' question, warning that "competition is so keen," and "the players and students get so enthusiastic," that it is important to "keep the game under control--keep it a sport, rather than a conflict of some type." "Enthusiasm is a great force," said Judge Rives, "either for good or for evil."

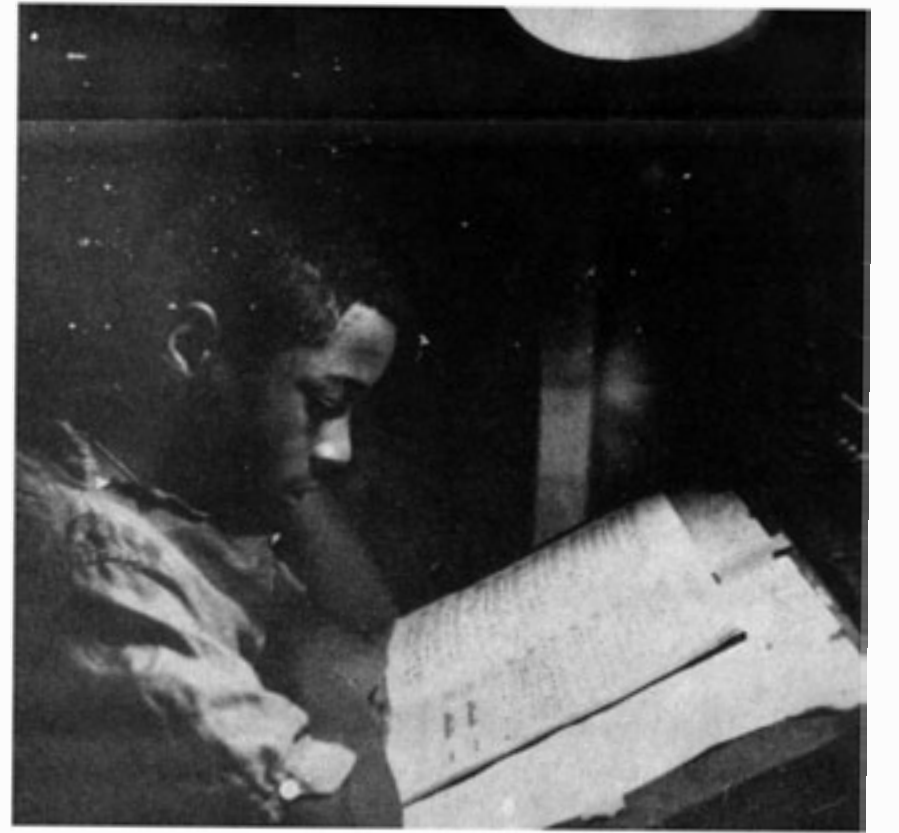


Karamu House

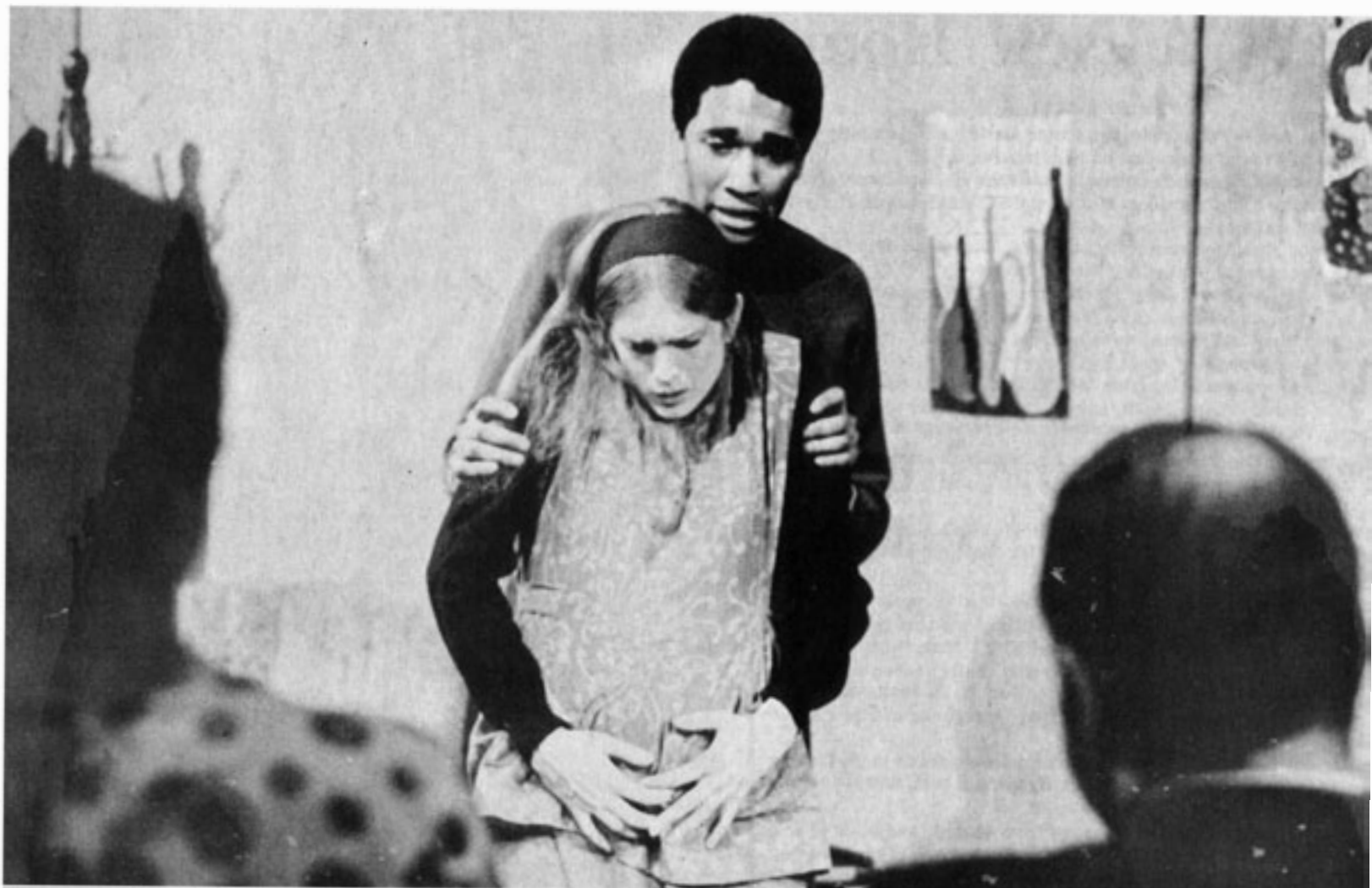
**'A Center Of
Enjoyment for All'**

CLEVELAND, Ohio--Karamu House is an integrated community center, dedicated to the arts and humanities. Started 50 years ago by Russell and Rowena Jelliffe, a young couple recently out of college, Karamu has turned out such people as poet Langston Hughes, TV actor Ivan Dixon, and Cleveland Mayor Carl Stokes.

Currently, 820 people of all racial and ethnic backgrounds participate in art, dance, drama, and music activities, as well as classes in everything from physical science to fencing. Karamu follows the advice once given by Negro actor Charles Gilpin: "Learn to see the drama in your own lives, and the world will come to see you,"



Photos by Jim Pepler



Hard Times for Poor Folks

BY JONATHAN GORDON

MOBILE, Ala.--"Sure we're gonna move. We're just gettin' ready," said the slender old lady, standing on her porch. "We work for Mr. Meaheer, so we're the last to go."

Only seven Negro families still live in "Meaheer's quarters" in the Plateau community. Once, there were more than 250.

But Augustine Meaheer Jr.--the man who owns the land the families used to live on--has leased his property to the Scott Paper Company.

For the last several months, the families have been leaving. Their "shotgun" houses have been knocked down, or moved elsewhere.

Forty-two of the wooden shacks wound up in "our community in Saraland," said Meaheer. "If we hadn't moved them, the city would have made us install plumbing in them."

Meaheer said he couldn't afford to do that, because he only gets \$3 a week rent. Since the houses had neither plumbing nor foundations, it was easier --and cheaper--to move them by truck.

Many people in Plateau come from families that have lived there for nearly 100 years. Some of Meaheer's remaining tenants wish they didn't have to leave their life-long homes.

"I don't know where I'll go," said one

man, "We're old, but it sure is hard on children in school and men with jobs in town. All this changing."

But Meaheer said most of his tenants don't feel that way. "These people don't mind," he said. "Saraland is like Magazine Point (another Negro community near Plateau).

"You know, that's the way with niggers. They'll be happy in a community--everybody together. They try and go back to African tribal life.

"He don't need garbage service--a darkie will feed it to his pigs. He don't need a bathtub--he'd probably store food in it. Wouldn't know how to use it."

Meaheer said he persuaded the City of Mobile to annex Saraland--formerly an unincorporated settlement--so his houses would not be taxed by nearby Satsuma.

And the new community will also avoid building inspection. "Saraland was annexed last December," Meaheer said. "The annexation agreement gives us ten years to bring the houses up to the (minimal housing) code.

"Of course," he added, "we may sell the land to industry by then."

Other problems face the new Saraland residents. The area is 12 miles from the nearest Mobile fire station. Last Jan. 5, a house in Saraland burned down before the Mobile fire trucks replied to an emergency call.



"THE DITCH" IN NORTH MOBILE

Mobile Squatters Told to Move

'It's Progress'

BY JONATHAN GORDON

MOBILE, Ala.--Things have gotten worse for the poor people who live in "the Ditch," a shanty-town in North Mobile. They have received eviction notices from the Alabama Power Company.

The company owns the land the shacks stand on. William Hesser, land manager for Alabama Power, said the company plans to build a power sub-station on the property.

Hesser said the company has known squatters were living on its land for some time. But, he said, officials decided to let the people stay for "humanitarian reasons."

Now, however, the company wants to have a new power station operating by July, to meet the extra demand caused by the increasing number of air-conditioners.

So, said Hesser, the shanties must go by the end of this month. "It's progress," he said. "Those shacks are sub-standard housing, anyway."

The six shanties on Alabama Power's land are home to about 25 people. They sit right behind Mobile's public housing project on S. Broad St.

But "those people can't get into public housing," said James Alexander Jr., executive director of the Mobile Housing Board. "We have no housing for single people, which these people are."

In addition, he said, rents in the projects begin at \$18-\$23 a month, and go up from there.

The squatters "just haven't got that kind of money," Alexander said. "There just is no provision for them. I don't see how they'll get by."

Last May, the Mobile City Commission cut a federally-financed \$12,000,000 public-housing project out of its urban renewal plan. The project would have provided homes for 805 families.

'Ain't Gonna Get Nothing'

BY JONATHAN GORDON

MOBILE, Ala.--"I said so," murmured the old lady in the welfare office. "We ain't gonna get nothin'."

Three scavengers from "the Ditch"--a section of North Mobile--were sitting in the lobby of the Mobile Pensions and Security office. With them was Mrs. Dorothy Williams of the Mobile Council on Human Relations.

Mrs. Williams has been taking Ditch residents down to the office to "register for benefits" for more than a month. But so far, she hasn't been very successful.

"They ain't signed me up, and I've been here three times," said Lucius Jones.

Mrs. Williams charged that the welfare office is asking people to fill out the same forms over and over again. "We had full information data on each person we brought down," she said.

"But everybody gets the same run-around."

Miss Doris Bender, director of the Mobile welfare office, said that isn't true. "It takes time," she explained. To speed things up, she said, "we now have a case worker at the Ditch."

But Miss Bender admitted that the Ditch residents may not get much help. She said the welfare office cannot give them aid unless they enroll in a rehabilitation program.

The only exceptions to that rule, she said, are people who are "totally disabled or partially disabled with dependents. Few Ditch residents are either."

Miss Bender said many Ditch residents don't want to join rehabilitation programs, because they think they are too old or have other problems. And, she said, "many (poor people) drop out after they enroll."



A RESIDENT OF "THE DITCH"



SHANTIES ARE BEHIND A PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECT

A Poverty Story With a Hopeful Ending: Family in Tuscaloosa Gets a New Home

BY EMILY ISRAEL

TUSCALOOSA, Ala.--Two months ago Frank McNeal and his family were struggling to live, with no money and no help from anyone.

But now--thanks to Operation Outreach, a branch of Tuscaloosa's anti-poverty program, and the Tuscaloosa Ministerial Association--the McNeals are getting a new start.

When Operation Outreach found the McNeals, they were living along a dirt road in a lonely rural area called Moody Swamp.

Mr. and Mrs. McNeal and their 11 children were jammed into a four-room shack. Their only water came from an outdoor pump. Since there was no plumbing, they had to make do with an old out-house. They got heat by burning whatever wood they could find.

Although McNeal was suffering from tuberculosis, he was not in a hospital. Two of the children were also ill, but none of them had received medical treatment. The McNeals had no income and were not getting welfare.

Then Mrs. Minnie Lee Thomas, a worker for Operation Outreach, learned about the McNeals and their problems. The anti-poverty program began to help the family.

McNeal and the two sick children were admitted to Hale Memorial Hospital. A truck took the other children to a health clinic for medical check-ups and shots.

That was the way things were when the newly-formed Tuscaloosa Ministerial Association heard about the McNeals. Although the anti-poverty program "was doing a good job," said the Rev. T. W. Linton, "they were not able to get to the root of this thing. The family really needed to move." And so, last week, the ministers--led by the Rev. W. L. Scott--arranged for the McNeals to leave Moody Swamp. They are now living in a new home in Tuscaloosa.

Until the family can get on welfare, the ministers group is paying the rent. There are plans to install plumbing, lights, gas heat, and household appliances.

At first, the McNeals didn't want to move from Moody Swamp, or to accept the ministers' help. They wanted to take care of themselves. But now they feel that coming to Tuscaloosa was a step in the right direction--toward a better life for their children.



THE MCNEALS AT THEIR OLD HOME



SCAVENGING FOR SCRAP

Lowndes Class Gets a Teacher

BY BETH WILCOX
HAYNEVILLE, Ala.--For more than a month, the Lowndes County office-practices class was 15 ladies in search of a teacher.

"I taught the course myself for six weeks," said Louis H. Anderson, director of the county's anti-poverty program. "We had pretty much started on bookkeeping, basic English, and a little typing."

Anderson--who was the program's finance officer before he took over the director's job last September--said he taught a veterans' class in 1946, but had no other teaching experience.

To find a teacher for the office-practices class, he said, "I had to take a couple of trips to Alabama State College and Tuskegee Institute."

"Finally, I complained at Alabama State," he said, and the teacher he needed "just wandered into the placement office there."

So now Edward Williams, a young Alabama State graduate from Clanton, teaches the ladies at the center in Calhoun.

"I'm crazy about it, really," said Williams with a smile. "I was in business administration, and graduated in January." Williams said he never planned to be a teacher, but he heard about the job and applied.

"All of the (students) are trying and

willing to try," he said. "It's not like there's a lot of confusion in the class. They're really interested. It makes a big difference."

Anderson said the ladies will be placed in office jobs when the six-month course ends in June.

"We're trying to get them hired in the county," he said. "We're hoping to get them hired by the Community Health Program." The health program is a federal project to improve medical services and living conditions in the county. It is scheduled to be funded by the time the office course is over.

Some of the ladies in the course were also in last year's adult-education program in Lowndes County. "This is the first time I've had any business courses," said one, Mrs. Bessie McMeans. "I am taking the courses so that I can do better by my children--get a better job."

"I have nine children. Maybe at the end, there will be something better for me."



LOWNDES COUNTY CLASS



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.

ART EXHIBIT--Alabama State College is now showing the works of Dick West, the painter-sculptor whose powerful impressions of the American Indian have won national awards. The exhibition is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday until March 31, in Kilby Hall on the Alabama State campus, Montgomery, Ala.

SPARE-TIME INCOME--Write orders for hosiery. Earn up to \$10 an hour servicing racks in stores. Recruit other agents (easily done by mail), and receive up to \$2 for each \$5 they earn. Franchise, complete outfit provided. NO FEE. Write Joe N. Ross Jr., Agent Manager, 101 University Blvd., Tuscaloosa, Ala. 35401.

MONTGOMERY REGISTRATION--The Montgomery County Board of Registrars will be in session to receive applications for voter registration during the month of March as follows: March 5 (all precincts), 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at the courthouse; March 6 (precinct 3), 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Bellingrath Community Center; March 25 (all precincts), 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at the courthouse; March 26 (precincts 2S2, 2S1, 2N), 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Davis School; March 27 (precinct 11), 10-11:30 a.m., Chesser Community Center; March 27 (precinct 22), 12:30-2 p.m., Snowdown Community Center. The board will meet at the courthouse March 4 and 18 for the purpose of registering Montgomery County citizens in the armed services, Merchant Marine, Red Cross, and affiliated organizations who are stationed and serving outside the county. Under the law, only those people who live in a precinct will be registered when the board is there.

IMPORTANT MEETING--H. Bascom Woodward Jr., director of the Alabama Education Study Commission, will be the featured speaker at a very important meeting of the East Alabama Council on Human Relations at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 21, in the Tuskegee Public School auditorium, Tuskegee, Ala.

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, Ala. 36830.

PHOTOGRAPHERS--The Southern Courier is now accepting applications for the position of staff photographer. Candidates should be willing and able to travel. They should have a driver's license, imagination, and ambition. Experience will be considered, but it is not a necessity. Salary: \$30 a week plus expenses. Write to Jim Pepler, The Southern Courier, 1012 Frank Leu Bldg., Montgomery, Ala. 36104.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES--Last year, more than 5,000,000 students were involved in home-study courses. A directory of accredited private home-study schools, listing 95 accredited schools with quality courses, may be obtained without charge by sending a postcard to National Home Study Council, 1601 18th St. NW, Washington, D. C. 20009.

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

PHOTO-JOURNALISM--Jim Pepler, photo editor of The Southern Courier, will speak about photo-journalism at 3 p.m. Thursday, March 21, in Garland Hall on the University of Alabama campus, Tuscaloosa, Ala. The talk is in connection with a showing of "Pictures from The Southern Courier," sponsored by the university's art department from 2 to 5 p.m. every day through March 31.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS--"Substance" is the subject of this week's Lesson Sermon, to be read in all Christian Science churches Sunday, March 17. The Golden Text is from Matthew: "If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you."



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Help Wanted--Either Sex

a. ASSISTANT DIRECTOR for home-health services. Desirable qualifications are: Graduate of an accredited school of nursing, currently licensed in the State of Alabama as a registered nurse, or currently licensed as a practical nurse with a proven record of managerial ability; or a graduate of a four-year college with a major in sociology, psychology, social service, dietetics, or home-economics with emphasis on home nursing; or any combination of the aforementioned.

b. AREA SUPERVISOR, health-homemaker services. Desirable qualifications: High school graduate is desirable. Applicant should have experience as a licensed practical nurse, currently registered in the State of Alabama, should have experience record that proves ability to supervise others and to plan work; or a combination of education and work experience will be considered in lieu of the foregoing. For example: a person who has received formal classroom and in-service training as a home nursing aide or as a nursing aide or orderly in a hospital or nursing home and who is literate will be considered, provided experience record demonstrates ability to work with others, to use initiative, and to plan work.

c. HEALTH-HOMEMAKER AIDE. Desirable qualifications are: Applicant must have been graduated from the Health-Homemaker Aide Program, or must be able to present a record of equivalent training in a hospital or nursing home. In addition, applicant must be literate and able to comprehend simple written and oral instructions, must be in good physical and mental health and free of contagious diseases, must be willing to serve in homes where an active communicable disease may be present, must be willing and able to serve irregular hours and willing to accept changes in tour of duty.

d. CLERK-TYPIST. Desirable qualifications are: Type accurately at rate of 40 words a minute. A high school graduate who has studied commercial courses is desirable; ability to use acceptable English and to spell correctly is required. In addition, applicant needs to know how to operate simple adding machines, and must have aptitude for learning to operate other simple office machines.

e. ACCOUNTS CLERK. Desirable qualifications are: Ability to use touch-typing system--speed is not essential but accuracy is a must. Must be able to compute simple mathematical problems, including addition, multiplication, percentages, division, subtraction, and ratio. Familiarity with double-entry bookkeeping system is desirable. Experience in keeping accounts receivable or payable ledgers would be an asset.

f. HOME NURSING SUPERVISORS. Desired qualifications are: Applicants for home nursing supervisors should have experience in home nursing or be a licensed registered or practical nurse or be a graduate of a four-year college or a major in home-economics or a similar subject.

Apply by letter or in person to Coosa-Elmore Community Action Committee, 101 1/2 Commerce St., Wetumpka, Ala. (across from Courthouse). An Equal Opportunity Employer.

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McIntosh Wins in Class A

Druid Edges BTW For State Basketball Crown



DRUID'S OSSIE BLEVINS (14) SETS UP A PLAY

BY FRANKLIN HOWARD
MONTGOMERY, Ala.--The undefeated Druid High Dragons of Tuscaloosa won the state AA basketball championship last Saturday in a battle to the finish with Booker T. Washington of Montgomery. The score was 60 to 59.

Last year, the Yellow Jackets topped Druid on their way to the 1967 state crown. But last Saturday, Druid led at every quarter--16 to 9, 31 to 29, and 47 to 45.

Lester Dent and Alfred Baker, with 17 points apiece, led the Dragons to their 31st win without a loss. Larry McTier had 24 and Willie James 13 for the Yellow Jackets, who finished at 23-5.

In the Class A finals, the Demons from McIntosh nipped Kinterbish of Cuba, 70 to 68, in overtime.

Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights

The weekly meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 18, in the Macedonia 13th Ave. Baptist Church, 1405 13th Ave. N., the Rev. A. D. Blackmon, pastor.

Eufaula Voters

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

three terms as mayor--from 1952 to 1964.

"If I go back in (office), will you call me about this the first day?" Edwards replied. "I sure will," the lady said.

Other people gave answers as well as asking questions. When Edwards said he couldn't give free houses to poor people, a man told him no one would need free houses if "you put in more industry and get us some jobs."

And John Kelly Jr., president of the voters league, said Eufaula needs a biracial committee "to help solve our problems."

Kelly--who is running against J. J. Jaxon, a white man, for a seat on the city Democratic Executive Committee --urged everyone to vote in the Eufaula primary next Tuesday.

Although Negroes are now about 45% of the city's registered voters, he said, the struggle for equality will be lost if they don't use their hard-won political power.

16 Kids Win Scholarships

EVANSTON, Ill.--Sixteen boys and girls from Alabama and Mississippi will be going to the college of their choice next fall, thanks to their National Achievement Scholarships.

The students from Alabama and Mississippi were among the 280 winners announced last week by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

National Achievement Scholarships --worth from \$250 to \$1,500 per year-- are awarded each spring to outstanding Negro students across the country.

The winners, and their high schools:

BESSEMER, Ala.: Miss Helen F. Giles (Holy Family) and Jerry Leeotis Moore (Wenonah).

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.: Tyree Barefield-Pendleton (Parker), Miss Sarah Joyce Richardson (Ullman), and Robert

Benjamin Thornton (Parker).

MOBILE, Ala.: Miss Debra M. Butler (Most Pure Heart of Mary) and Miss Mary Elizabeth Valree (Most Pure Heart of Mary).

MONTGOMERY, Ala.: Miss Janice Eileen Caple (Lanier) and Miss Carolyn Taylor (St. Jude).

SELMA, Ala.: Miss Donna Yvette Brown (Hudson).

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.--Miss

Deborah McGregor (Tuskegee Institute High).

IUKA, Miss.: Miss Lena Sue Mitchell (Iuka Public).

GULFPORT, Miss.: Miss Judith Alma Green (M. F. Nichols).

JACKSON, Miss.: Miss Barbara Lynn Buckley (Lanier) and Emmett Thompson (Lanier).

UTICA, Miss.: John Willie Williams (Hinds County Agricultural).

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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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I have been in business for two years for the purpose of making more jobs for my people, and the way we do this is, we manufacture church robes. Therefore, we have to hire seamstresses to do the work. As a result of this, we have to get business from the churches. The only churches that we get business from are the smaller churches. So, this gives me an idea just how much unity we have among each other.

The only thing that our people know to do is that which is taught to them by our preachers and school teachers. I cannot understand how anyone cannot see that what I am doing is good for our people, but they must not understand it, for the preachers and the school teachers are not telling them to come in and give us more business in order to give our kids more hope in life. This would stop a lot of juvenile delinquency, and would give all of our people more hope in life.

I feel that the poor people are more interested in this business than the Big Cats are. It is proven because we have never had a chance to make robes for the big churches yet. We also have a clothing store, in which these Big Cats have not traded with us. It seems as though we are serving two Gods. The poor is for the poor and the rich is for the rich. This seems to be all because we do not have enough love for each other, and where there is no love, there cannot be any Unity.

We are in too big of a hurry trying to get ahead of each other, instead of trying to help each other get ahead. We must realize that we are all God's children, and we must learn to love as He loves. There are a lot of things that we are asking for and fighting for, that we can get for ourselves if we learn to love one another.

Remember, we have a clothing store and have to have the Negro business in order to continue to give our people jobs and continue giving them hope in life, and in order that we may become economically strong, we must Unite.

If you want to place an order, call collect to 251-7639 in Birmingham.

Carlisle Variety Shop

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Personally Yours

... answers questions about Junior Miss etiquette, grooming and interests.

Q. I'm giving a sweet sixteen luncheon party for my best friend, Marge. I want to enjoy the luncheon -- I don't think hostesses should be kitchen-kept during their own parties. Any suggestions for organizing?

A. You're quite right -- no one enjoys a party when the hostess is huffing and puffing between kitchen and table. So be the hostess-with-the-mostess. Prepare foods that require little or no work the day of the party. This way you can greet guests at the door instead of putting frantic last-minute touches on your food. A relish tray, for instance, and cold hors-d'oeuvres makes more sense than fancy hot canapes. Have fun with the luncheon. Try informal, gaily colored paper plates with matching or contrasting Kleenex dinner napkins -- in avocado green, Persian blue, or antique gold. And ask a couple of the girls to pitch in and help -- they'll be flattered that you asked.

Q. Is there any help for a Skinny Minnie? If Twiggy's fashionable, I'm even more so! The worst part is my storklike legs. What can I do?

A. Stop worrying! Remember the old saying, "Fat people are jolly!" Well it's true. Fat people aren't burning calories through nervousness or worry. If you can't eat at mealtime or if you're stuffed after one bite, try eating more often. Have a snack every few hours. Prescription for those legs: Exercise! Stand straight, weight distributed evenly over both feet. Raise yourself on the balls of your feet, then back down. Repeat this 50 times each day. Good for muscle tone!

Q. My hands are so red and calloused I'm ashamed to let them show. I encase them in gloves, or sit on them, or hold them behind my back. Mom says I must do my share of the housework and this includes doing dishes. Speed advice -- please!

A. Your hands will be creamy smooth for dreamy dances if you remember to use hand lotion whenever you do dishes, before bed, and first thing in the morning. Thin-skinned hands receive more wear and tear than any other part of our bodies -- because they're washed more often. To make life easier for hands, use Handgard disposable gloves while you're doing the dishes or giving nylons their nightly washing. An extra dollop of lotion before you put on the gloves makes for smoothness too!

(Be confident of your table manners and dining etiquette. Ask your home economics teacher to write for the free film, "A Date for Dinner" from Kimberly-Clark Corp., Dept. 551-P, Neenah, Wis. 54956)

