

Police Trial Tough on Negro Witness

BY BOB LABAREE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--Mrs. Lilian Sanders--an elderly Negro woman and the state's key witness against a former Birmingham police officer--was on the stand in Circuit Court.

It was on the basis of Mrs. Sanders' complaint that Officer William J. Davis and his partner, Spencer Hardy (who is scheduled for trial in the fall), were first accused of accepting a \$17 bribe.

Mrs. Sanders sat with her head lowered, and fussed nervously with her pocketbook, as Roderick Beddow Jr., Davis' lawyer, cross-examined her.

about what happened at her home the night of April 25, 1966.

"All right, Lilian," said Beddow. "Now what happened after Officer Hardy and Officer Davis found the jug with the water in it?"

"I already done told you," answered Mrs. Davis. "They said I had to give 'em some money or they'd take me to jail."

The officers accused her of possessing and selling un-taxed whiskey, she said, so she gave them \$12 then, and promised to leave them \$5 a week in a tobacco can inside her front gate.

Not long after that, Mrs. Davis said, she called Captain Glen Evans at the police department, and told him that the two policemen had taken the money from

her.

From time to time on the witness stand, Mrs. Sanders contradicted herself, causing disputes between her and the opposing lawyers.

At one point, 78-year-old Circuit Judge Alta L. King broke in and reprimanded the lawyers for the way they were treating her.

"Now you boys know as well as I do that this witness is an ignorant witness," King said, pointing to Mrs. Sanders. "We don't want to put this witness in a position of saying what she didn't mean to say."

Captain Evans later added to Mrs. Sanders' testimony, by telling how he and Captain Jack Warren visited her on three different occasions and gave her

\$5 to leave in the tobacco can.

On one or two occasions, Evans said, he and Warren waited for a few hours to see if anyone picked up the money. No one did, he said.

But about an hour or so after they gave her money for the fourth time, on the night of May 28, Evans went on, the two captains stopped Hardy and Davis as they were driving away from Mrs. Sanders' house.

Neither of the men had the money on him, said Evans, but five \$1 bills were found lying in the street under the driver's side of the officers' car. The serial numbers on the bills matched the ones which had been left with Mrs. Sanders, Evans said.

Judge King broke in again late last

Friday afternoon, when it began to look like the trial was going to have to go into another week. He presented the 12 white jurors with the choice of continuing on Saturday or waiting until Monday.

"Now I myself prefer Monday," King told them. "I'm like a nigger. Niggers don't like to work on Saturdays, and neither do I."

They voted for Monday.

In his summation Monday afternoon, Deputy District Attorney Russell T. MacDonald--the prosecutor--told the jury that there were only two ways of looking at the evidence--either the officer is guilty as charged, or he is a victim of a conspiracy by his superior officers.

"Do you really think these two cap-

tains conspired with this darky?" MacDonald shouted.

Davis' other attorney, George Rogers, suggested that the answer was "Yes."

He referred to Evans' and Warren's testimony that they told Mrs. Sanders to call the police department May 28 and ask for Hardy and Davis to be sent to her home.

And he recounted Hardy's testimony that there were bad feelings between Evans and the two patrolmen.

"He himself (Evans) admitted that the only way to get rid of a man (on the police force) they don't want is to bring charges against him," Rogers said.

Beddow also pointed out that there (CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX, Col. 2)

THE SOUTHERN COURIER

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TEN CENTS

Dialogue Is Goal In Greenwood Big Wind-Up for Campaign: Arrests, Tear Gas, & Mules

BY MARION SYMINGTON

GREENWOOD, Miss.--"For the first time, we are meeting the issue of social justice face to face," said the Rev. Nathaniel Machesky, co-chairman of the Greenwood Movement.

For nine weeks, the people of the Greenwood Movement have been conducting a boycott of local stores owned by white merchants, in hopes of obtaining a "dialogue" with members of the white community.

The movement was organized in late November, 1967, and now claims a membership of 1,000 people, mostly from the black community. The goals of the movement include fair hiring practices, use of courtesy titles for Negroes, equal city services, and hiring of Negro policemen and firemen.

A boycott in December, 1967, failed to produce a discussion of Negro grievances, Machesky recalled. In February, he said, the movement was re-organized, and regular meetings began to be held every Sunday. Along with Machesky, the Rev. M. J. Black and the Rev. William Wallace became co-chairmen.

After the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated on April 4, Machesky said, "it seemed that panic seized the movement." A letter to all the citizens of Greenwood was drafted three days later. "This letter made one simple plea--that plea was for dialogue," said Machesky.

Frank Long--editor of the Greenwood Commonwealth, the local newspaper--would not print the letter as a paid advertisement, and did not choose to print it as a news item, movement leaders said. So, they said, 3,000 copies were printed and delivered by hand.

After meetings with Mayor Charles P. Sampson and the Chamber of Commerce were put off or denied, Machesky said, committees were formed to organize a boycott.

From the beginning, the leaders of the re-named Greenwood Movement in honor of Martin Luther King Jr., emphasized non-violence. James Moore, chairman of the picketing committee, recalled, "We told them they couldn't participate in the picketing if they didn't believe in non-violence."

In response to the letter of April 7, certain merchants on Johnson Street negotiated with leaders of the movement. They agreed to institute fair hiring practices and the use of courtesy titles. But most of the other merchants refused to negotiate, and the boycott was put into full operation against them.

In reaction to the loss of business brought on by the boycott, 64 merchants filed a suit against the movement and 12 members of its executive committee.

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White Minister Loses Post After Marching

BY JOHN SINGLETON

MOBILE, Ala.--The Rev. George "Ned" Milner--a white civil rights worker and pastor of Holy Cross Lutheran Church--has been forced to resign by his all-white congregation.

Milner said his troubles began after he was the only white person arrested in the June 12 march in Prichard. The night he was released from jail, he said, he began getting phone calls threatening his life and his home.

Then, he said, his congregation told him to "give it (his civil rights work) up or get out." He said only one of the church members showed any concern about the pastor's being out of a job, with a wife and family to support.

At first, Milner said, he planned to leave town, but now he wants to stay.

The Rev. J. J. Phillips of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance said his group will pool enough money to support Milner for a year.

Phillips told listeners at a mass meeting last week that they have to support Milner and his cause, to "let these people know that you can't run every decent person out of Mobile."

The Rev. Arnold Voigt, pastor of the Faith Lutheran Church, has offered Milner a non-salaried job as assistant pastor at his church. Voigt's congregation is composed largely of Negroes.

Local Negroes have come to Milner's aid, and have helped him in his search for employment. Civil rights leaders are planning a Ned Milner Day.

David J. Jacobs of the Neighborhood Organized Workers said, "We must get behind Rev. Milner, and prove to the white power structure what can be accomplished through unity."

"This was a white man who got out

there--he didn't have to do it," Jacobs said. "Maybe this will bring about a transition in the civil rights movement--who knows what this will mean, or how it will look in the history books 100 years from now?"

The Rev. John Thompson--a white minister and a close friend of Milner in the civil rights movement--said Milner is "one of the white people who woke up and exposed the wrongs and injustices in America, like all white men must do. He stood up and completely exposed himself, and he got the axe."

"This can be expected by any white man who stands up in the revolution for human rights."

Youths Asked to Leave Class at YMCA

All-White Speed-Reading

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--Mark A. Foster may have started something with a letter he wrote to the Montgomery Advertiser last week.

In the letter, Foster told how three Negro youths were asked to leave the introductory session of a speed-reading course at the South Montgomery YMCA, one of the city's three all-white "Y" branches.

"During the course of the class, the instructor left the classroom for a few minutes," Foster said. "Some while after the instructor returned, the person in charge of the building came to the door and indicated he wanted to see the three Negro students."

"He later returned to re-assure us that the program at the South Y wasn't going to be integrated."

"The three Negro youths were not 'demonstrating,'" said Foster, a white man. "They were not out on the street looking for trouble, they had not caused any disturbance or discomfort in the classroom...."

"They were there for the opportuni-



FLAG, BANNER DROOP AS CAMPAIGN NEARS END

WASHINGTON, D. C.--Members of the Poor People's Campaign marched at the U. S. Department of Agriculture again June 20, leading the way for much activity in the days that followed.

When marchers attempted to block the entrances to the USDA building, policemen arrested many of them.

Then about 200 policemen lined up just outside the north entrance of Resurrection City, armed with billy-clubs, guns, and tear gas. Residents of the city were urged to come inside.

However, young blacks stood immediately outside the city, with sticks and bottles in their hands. One black youth threw a stick at a policeman, but did not hit him. A second stick was thrown, and it did hit one of the policemen. At that time, the officers began to throw tear gas.

A white man was badly beaten by residents of Resurrection City, who "thought he was with the police" and didn't know that he was a member of the Poor People's Campaign and a resident of the city.

Many people left Resurrection City that night, with or without their belongings. An old lady looked very frightened while the tear gas was being thrown. She walked around inside the city, despite pleas by Hosea Williams and the Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy for women and children to get in their huts.

The lady spoke very sadly and to no one in particular about her fears. Then she looked up and said, "Lord, do you reckon they're comin' in here? I jest don't want to be killed."

A young black man from Baltimore, Maryland, paused briefly by the woman and said, "Sister, don't you worry. You won't die. It will be some brother like me to die instead of you." Then he walked quietly away.

Despite the problems, things went pretty much the same that night inside Resurrection City. The dinner lines were very long, and service was handled as efficiently as ever.

Black and white people alike walked around with large plates of barbecue ribs. And some folks even took time out to wash their hair.

Another common sight during the troubled hours was young black men giving black women the "Afro," or natural, haircuts.

Last Friday, about 35 black residents of Resurrection City sat on a bus just outside the SNCC office to meet and talk with former SNCC Chairman Stokely

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO, Col. 6)



TIRED CAMPAIGNERS LISTEN TO SPEECHES

INSIDE
Pictures of last week's Solidarity Day march in Washington, D. C., are on Page Three.
New developments in the life of rural Alabama's Freedom Quilting Bee are told on Page Four and Page Six.

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Table with 2 columns: City, Alabama and Phone Number. Includes Alexander City, Birmingham, Enterprise, Huntsville, Mobile, Montgomery, Selma, Talladega, Tuscaloosa, Tuskegee, Greenville, Hattiesburg, Holly Springs, Jackson, Meridian, Natchez.

Vol. IV, No. 26 June 29-30, 1968

Editorial Opinion

Warren's Last Ruling

Alabama's "substitute father" welfare rule last week brought together a poor black lady from Selma, Ala., and one of the greatest figures in our country's history. In the last opinion he will ever write, retiring Chief Justice Earl Warren spoke for the U. S. Supreme Court in upholding Mrs. Sylvester Smith's challenge to the substitute father regulation.

Mrs. Smith's challenge began in December, 1966, when she filed a suit in federal court to get Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) for her four children. Her ADC had been cut off under a rule that said a man was presumed to be supporting a lady's entire family if he lived with her or saw her frequently.

Mrs. Smith was trying to support four children on the \$16 a week she earned by working in a Selma restaurant. The man who was supposed to be the substitute father of her children had nine kids of his own to support.

Last November, a three-judge federal court said the state of Alabama could not use its substitute father rule to cut off ADC to Mrs. Smith or others like her. And last week, the U. S. Supreme Court agreed with the lower court, and extended the ruling to the 18 other states that have substitute father rules.

"Immorality and illegitimacy should be dealt with through rehabilitative measures, rather than measures that punish dependent children," wrote Chief Justice Warren. "We hold today that... destitute children who are legally fatherless cannot be denied federally-funded assistance on the transparent fiction that they have a substitute father."

Warren's path to this final opinion started in California, where he was a crusading district attorney and a popular, incorruptible governor. He was named chief justice by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953.

One year later, Chief Justice Warren spoke for a unanimous court in the famous case of Brown v. Board of Education, which said that segregated schools were illegal and unconstitutional. In numerous decisions over the years, the Supreme Court and lower federal courts fought to enforce this decision, and to expand its declaration of racial equality to other areas.

Under Warren, the Supreme Court also set forth the rule of "one man, one vote"--giving the vote of a city-dweller the same weight as that of a rural resident. And the court gave individual citizens--especially those charged with crimes--greater protection in their scrapes with governmental authority.

We are sure that future historians will see Chief Justice Warren as the one man in this troubled era who accepted responsibility for the direction America was taking, and who cared enough to try to steer the country down the road to justice and equality.

It is altogether fitting that the concerns of Mrs. Sylvester Smith--who cared about her four children--and of Earl Warren--who cared deeply about all the poor and oppressed people in America--were united in the chief justice's final opinion.

Hayes Corp. Wins Suit

BY BOB LABAREE
BIRMINGHAM, Ala. -- Since 1965, three different suits charging racial discrimination have been filed in federal court against one of Birmingham's largest employers--Hayes International Corporation, a manufacturer and reconditioner of aircraft.

Last Friday, U. S. District Judge Seymour H. Lynne ruled against the Negro plaintiffs in one of the suits, saying the company had actually provided "unequal advantages" for Negro employees wishing to advance.

Lynne made special reference to a recent union contract that he said was being negotiated at the time the suit was filed early this spring.

The new contract, he said, merged lines of progression that were formerly predominantly-Negro or predominantly-white. And, he said, it up-graded the wages of certain jobs that had tradition-

ally been all-Negro. Under the new contract, wrote Lynne, a transfer program was begun that offered Negro workers "opportunities for transfer, training, and advancement (which) have not been extended to white employees."

Lynne said Hayes had a reason for creating its many lines of progression. "The different lines of progression reflect the necessity for different skills and for extensive on-the-job training in each type of work," the judge said.

Lynne noted that Hayes does a great deal of work for the government. If less experienced workers were assigned to certain jobs, he said, the company would run the risk of disturbing "the efficiency and economical performance of the government contracts," and of endangering the "operating safety of critically important military aircraft."

By Tax Hike, Brewer Says

Ala. Education Hurt

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN

MONTGOMERY, Ala. -- Governor Albert P. Brewer this week expressed concern that the 10% tax increase recently approved by Congress will hurt the cause of education in Alabama.

At his weekly press conference, the governor said the tax increase will annually eat up about \$70,000,000 that would otherwise go into the Alabama economy.

The increase--called a "surcharge"--means that each tax-payer will figure his federal income tax, pay that amount, and then pay an additional 10% of that amount at the same time. If the taxpayer's income tax is \$100, for example, he will pay the government \$110.

Since the amount of federal tax can be deducted from the income taxed by the state, Brewer said, the 10% surcharge will deprive Alabama of about \$3,000,-



GOV. ALBERT P. BREWER

000 in state income taxes. Also, he said, since less money will be in circulation, the state stands to lose about \$2,500,000 a year in sales taxes. He said the surcharge will also affect other state consumer taxes, such as those on gasoline, tobacco, and beer.

"The first \$5,500,000 comes out of education directly," Brewer said, "since it is ear-marked for the state educational trust fund." He said this "makes more critical our situation in education."

"The picture's dark indeed for pro-ration," the governor added. This means education budgets may have to be cut across the board, to make the money last as long as it's supposed to.

Brewer was not the only Alabama politician to speak out against the bill passed by the U. S. Congress. Besides imposing the 10% surcharge, the bill required a \$6 billion cut in the federal budget.

U. S. Senator Lister Hill of Alabama said this week that he voted against the bill because of its "meat-axe approach to cutting the budget." The bill doesn't specify what expenditures will be reduced, Hill said, and he fears that hospital construction and health programs may suffer.

One reason for the budget cut, ac-

JULY FOOD BARGAINS

ATLANTA, Ga.--Each month, the U. S. Department of Agriculture issues a list of "plentiful foods"--foods that are likely to be cheaper during the month because so much is being produced.

Likely food bargains for July include eggs, turkeys, summer vegetables, watermelons, fresh peaches and plums, and vegetable fats and oils.

Job Petition In Talladega

BY FRANCES STUBBS

TALLADEGA, Ala. -- Mayor J. L. Hardwick and other members of the city commission this week were asked to sign an agreement breaking down racial barriers in the city government.

The proposal was submitted by the College City Elks Lodge No. 1171, and was endorsed by the Talladega Improvement Association (TIA) and the Alabama Council on Human Relations.

Among other things, it asked "that the city government, immediately, adopt and publish a policy of hiring Negro workers in City Hall and all other departments above the menial worker."

Frank Strickland, a member of the Elks, presented the petition at the city commission's meeting last Tuesday.

Strickland said the people chosen to serve on public committees were not the Negroes' choice, and were not in a position to represent them. He pointed out that there are no Negroes on the Talladega hospital board, even though Negroes contribute to the hospital.

Mayor Hardwick replied that he has no authority over the hospital board--that it is elected by the Citizens Hospital Association, which anyone can join by contributing \$250 a year.

TIA President Milton Hurst noted that there are no Negroes on the city library board or the urban renewal board. He said the people are not satisfied with the Negroes on the recreation board, because the city appointed those who are able to take vacations.

The commission didn't sign the agreement, but promised to study it.

Arrests Approved In Prattville

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

MONTGOMERY, Ala. -- "The use of firearms as a means of social protest is NOT a constitutionally protected form of expression," three judges reminded a group of Negroes last week.

And therefore, the court ruled, Autauga County officials may go ahead and prosecute ten men arrested for "unlawful assembly" following a night



HOUSER and JOHNSON of racial tension in Prattville a year ago.

The men had challenged Alabama's "unlawful assembly act" as unconstitutional. They said it was guilty of "vagueness and overbreadth."

But, the court ruled, the law "as construed by the Alabama courts precludes conviction of those participating in a peaceful assembly" and is definite enough so that its meaning is clear.

And, the judges said, some of the meetings in Prattville on June 11 and 12, 1967, were not very peaceful.

From 3 p.m.--when former SNCC Chairman Stokely Carmichael shouted "Black power!" at a passing police car--to 2 a.m.--when the ten men were arrested outside Dan Houser's home in Prattville--"there had been considerable gunfire," the court observed.

For instance, the judges said, a "shotgun blast" was fired at an Autauga County sheriff's deputy, a Prattville city policeman, some "tracking dogs," and an "unarmed dog handler."

"The state of Alabama has an obvious interest in the preservation and protection of peace and good order within her borders," the court observed.

In an earlier case stemming from the same incident, the Prattville city police force and Negro civil rights activists

traded accusations. And, the court recalled, U. S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr. ruled that "the fault lies on both sides."

But in last week's ruling on the second case, the three-judge court--U. S. District Judges Johnson and Virgil Pittman and Circuit Judge Walter P. Gevin--also quoted another section of the earlier ruling.

That section said there was no evidence that Autauga County Sheriff Phillip Wood violated "any rights" of the arrested Negroes.

When the second case went to court several months ago, civil rights attorney Solomon S. Seay challenged Wood's reasons for making the arrests.

"How did you determine which ten to charge with unlawful assembly?" Seay asked.

When "you have a small compound and a large army," Sheriff Wood replied, "the best way to handle the situation is to get the officers."

Wood said he singled out ten of some 40 people who emerged from Houser's home on the basis of "dress or lack of dress," "actions," "aggravations," "motions," and "words."

But when Seay asked Wood to specify the "aggravations" committed by the various defendants, Wood answered, "I don't recall right offhand."

In last week's opinion, the three federal judges said "the affair was ended about 2 a.m." on June 12, 1967, with the arrests. But Prattville Negroes say it ended a little later--when Houser was released from the city jail with severe cuts and bruises on his head, hands, and body.

The opinion didn't mention Houser's charge that he was beaten by Prattville police. And at the hearing, Wood said that "as far as I know, nobody beat Dan Houser."

THE SOUTHERN COURIER welcomes letters from anyone on any subject. Letters must be signed, but your name will be withheld upon request.

Campaign

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

unlimited food stamp program, 26 to 4. But SCLC was successful in securing a 20-day camping permit for its mule train, which arrived in Washington Tuesday from suburban Virginia.

When the mule train arrived at the Capitol grounds, Will Rogers of SNCC was leading the train, riding ahead on a horse. Rogers, an Alabama SNCC staff member, said he was in Washington because "I just wanted to be with my people."

Meanwhile, the Rev. Andrew Young of SCLC announced that the Poor People's Campaign is moving from its "educative" phase to the "re-distribution of pain."

Early in July, he said, the Rev. James Bevel will begin leading a series of non-violent but "disruptive" demonstrations in Washington. And, he said, the Rev. Jesse Jackson is setting up plans in 40 cities to boycott whole areas of the economy.



Montgomery, Ala.



MRS. HOWARD AND TROPHY

Mrs. Bertha Howard's artistic comb-out won the Miss Victory trophy June 19 at the Hairstyle Show and Dance sponsored by Chapter No. 6 of the Alabama Association of Modern Beauticians. The program also featured music by The Professionals and The Blue Notes, a creative dance by Miss Carol Donnett Walton, and a parade of hair styles by students of the H. Council Trenholm and Butler County Area trade schools. The show was the climax of the beauticians' three-day Annual Educational Clinic.

Jackson, Miss.

The NAACP held memorial services for Medgar Evers, the martyred Mississippi field director, here and in Savannah, Ga., on June 12, the fifth anniversary of his assassination. In Jackson, more than 200 mourners marched 2 1/2 miles from the NAACP state headquarters to the New Hope Baptist Church, where the services were held. NAACP Executive Director Roy Wilkins sent a telegram saying that the "stalking horror must be banished from our land, and the violence in thinking and action which spawns it must be rooted out." In Savannah, a city-wide memorial service was held at the Pilgrim Baptist Church, under the sponsorship of the Savannah NAACP.

Albany, Ga.

Benjamin J. Allen Jr., a student at Monroe Senior High School in Albany, won the U. S. Department of Agricul-

ture's third prize at the 19th International Science Fair in Detroit, Michigan. Allen was awarded a certificate of merit and a \$25 savings bond for his project on the chemical composition of peas grown under either white or yellow light. He also accepted the offer of a job with the USDA's Agricultural Research Service, and will work in the ARS Market Quality Research Laboratory in Albany.

Midway, Ala.

Charlie Johnson, a native of Midway and a teacher of vocational agriculture at Woodford Avenue High School in Luverne, recently received his master's degree in agricultural education from Tuskegee Institute. Johnson's wife, children, mother, father, sister, and friends attended the commencement ceremony. Johnson graduated from Merritt High School in Midway, and received his bachelor's degree from Alabama A&M College in Normal. (From Julie Brown)

Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Kendal Foster, 13-year-old son of Dr. and Mrs. M. V. Foster of Mobile, found a golf cart to be the answer to his



KENDAL FOSTER'S SOLUTION

problem while attending Music Camp at the University of Alabama. His problem was how to carry around his cello--which he has been playing for 3 1/2 years. Foster plans to enroll in the Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan this fall.

New York City

Philip Hutchins, New Jersey co-ordinator for SNCC, has been named to SNCC's top office, now known as program secretary. The title of chairman--previously held by H. Rap Brown and Stokely Carmichael--has been done away with.



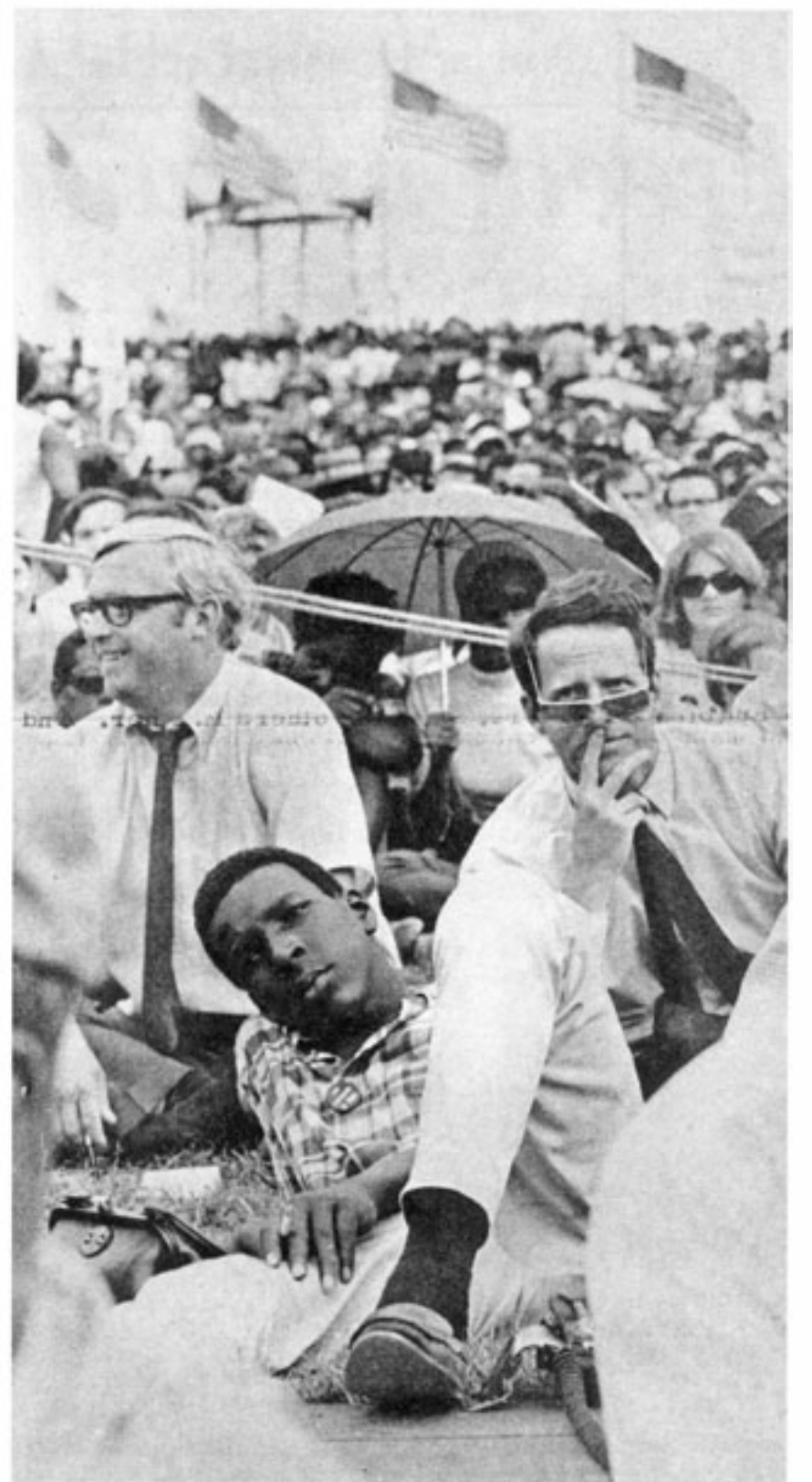
Tuskegee, Ala.

Fourteen students from the division of nursing at Albany (Ga.) State College began an eight-week period of instruction in psychiatric nursing June 3 at the Veterans Administration Hospital here. Mrs. Della Sullins, the hospital's psychiatric nursing specialist, is the instructor, and her assistant is Miss Gloria L. Johnson of Albany State. Miss Thelma Henderson of Albany State is the resident counselor. Shown in the above picture are front row, left to right, Miss Johnson, Miss Betty J. Bush, Miss Mary F. Dixon, Miss Brenda Denefield, Miss Heloise Williams, and Miss Henderson; second row, Miss Elva Washington, Miss Alfretha Gibson, Miss Shirley Johnson, Miss Patricia Brown, and Miss Margaret Horne; third row, Miss Brenda Crawford and Miss Mary Peterson; fourth row, Miss Daisy McAfee, Mrs. Sullins, and Miss Nancy Harrell. Not shown: Miss Myrna Thomas.



The Last March On Washington

Solidarity Day--June 19, 1968



Photos by Jim Pepler





MRS. LUCIE WATSON AT WORK IN ALBERTA



PRODUCTION LINE IN SELMA

Not a 'Gossip Circle' Any More

Freedom Quilting Bee Finds New Markets

BY ESTELLE FINE

ALBERTA, Ala.--When the Freedom Quilting Bee was organized in March, 1965, nobody really knew how long it was going to last.

It wasn't a very big business. And most of the people who worked for it were farmers' wives, who had spent their lives raising cotton and children.

But now--more than three years later--the co-op is selling its quilts to people as far away as Berkeley, California, and New York City. Lord and Taylor, a big department store in New York, recently ordered a batch of quilts.

And Mrs. Sarah Stine, a consultant from New York, is talking about exporting quilts to other countries.

The quilting bee began with \$300 borrowed from an Episcopal civil rights group in the North. The Rev. Francis X. Walter spent many hours convincing local ladies that the skill they took for granted could be turned into a paying business.

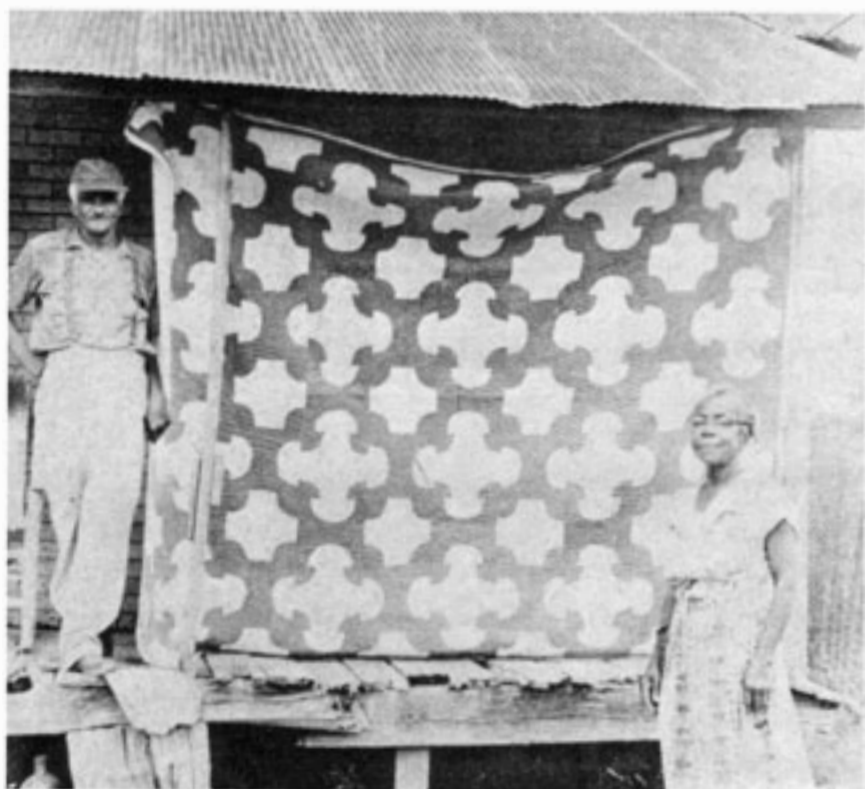
"I drove around the counties with the \$300 in my pocket, paying \$10 for each quilt," he recalled. "Then I sold them for \$15 each."

With that money as a backlog, the quilting bee went into operation. At first, it employed about 150 women on a part-time basis, with each lady getting paid according to the amount of work she did.

Women became members of the co-op by bringing in quilts they had made at home. If a lady's quilt was sold, she paid her \$1 membership fee and was ready for further work.

Most of the quilts were sold at auctions, through mail-orders, and to religious groups in the North. Last year, the average worker earned \$250. The least productive worker made one quilt--the minimum required for membership. The most productive member--Mrs. Pollie Bennett of Alberta--made many quilts, and earned \$500.

But the quilting bee wasn't satisfied with being a little business in the country. Its members wanted the co-op to expand. And now--with a new grant of \$7,000--they are getting ready to do so.



MANY QUILTS ARE MADE AT HOME



WORKER DISPLAYS A FINISHED PRODUCT

Ezra Cunningham, a field representative for the Southern Cooperative Development Program, is helping the ladies re-organize the Freedom Quilting Bee.

"It used to be a gossip circle--women getting together whenever they felt like it and sewing quilts," he said. But last month, the co-op's advisory board took steps to change all that.

A five-woman planning committee outlined duties for the staff members they decided an efficient business would need--a manager, an assistant manager, a bookkeeper, and transportation workers.

Mrs. Stine--the consultant from New York--came to the three-room factory in Alberta for ten days to teach new designs and better methods to 33 ladies. The trainees were selected by the members of the quilting bee.

Now the ladies are working eight hours a day, five days a week, at four "demonstration centers" in Alberta, Boykin, Gastonburg, and Beatrice. As each group of eight works on a particular quilt, the members keep a careful record of cutting time, piecing time, and quilting time.

Cunningham hopes the new production-line method will raise the average hourly wage from the present 25¢ to \$1. If the women can work together at a faster rate, he explained, they can make more quilts--and more money.

The co-op is also conducting another experiment. Mrs. Annie Jones of Selma has hired eight unemployed women, and is training them to make quilts with special designs for special orders.

The quilting bee faces some unusual problems in modernizing its business. Many of the members have never worked off their farms, and have no experience in making decisions in a group. And some ladies face opposition from their husbands--who don't want their wives to work, even though the family can use the extra money.

So, this week, the Southern Cooperative Development Program sponsored a two-day session to help the women learn to manage their own business.

Meanwhile, orders are increasing. Mrs. Estelle Witherspoon, formerly assistant manager and now manager of the quilting bee, said she received 18 orders from Berkeley, California, on one day, after a student wrote a letter about the co-op to his college newspaper.

Because the quality of the quilts has been improving with experience and new training, Mrs. Witherspoon said, some of the old quilts are no longer being sold at regular prices.

As an example, Mrs. Witherspoon displayed a quilt with a bright red-and-white pattern. Although the quilt looked perfect, she said some of the white sections were made with different fabrics,

"The old woman who made it didn't realize the standards," Mrs. Witherspoon explained.

A few of these "rejected" quilts are sold for as little as \$5 to \$10--even though they cost \$15 to make. The rest sit on the co-op shelves and collect dust.

The new quilts cost the buyer about \$25 each. Of the total, \$6.50 pays for the material, 20% or \$5 goes to run the co-op, and \$13.50 pays for the labor. It takes an average of 126 hours to make each quilt.

Because of the new emphasis on quality, the quilting bee's membership has dropped from the original 150 to 84. But 50 members are still sewing at home part-time.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX, Col. 1)



REV. FRANCIS X. WALTER



PROSPECTIVE BUYERS EXAMINE QUILTS AT AUCTION



MRS. ESTELLE WITHERSPOON MAKES A SALE

Once Home of Eufaula Movement

Center St. Stays the Same

BY MARY ELLEN GALT

EUFULA, Ala. -- A group of kids played in the hot dust on Center Street one afternoon last week. Most of them were barefoot, but one or two wore ragged tennis shoes. A little girl carried an even littler baby--dressed only in earrings and diapers--on her back. Dogs slept in the shade, with flies buzzing around their ears. On the sagging porches of Center Street's rickety frame houses, people fanned themselves and spoke about the heat. There was nothing much to show that, three years ago, Center Street was the headquarters for Eufaula's new civil rights movement.



KIDS ON CENTER STREET

In the summer of 1965, SCLC workers took over the house at 348 Center St. For about nine months, they helped lead Barbour County citizens to the voter-registration office, the polls--and, often, to jail.

Last week, Mrs. Mildred Massey--a young woman with a tiny baby on her lap--sat on the porch at 348 Center St. She said she didn't know her home used to be the local "freedom house."

Like many homes on Center Street, 348 has just one source of running water--an outdoor spigot. But Mrs. Massey didn't complain about the difficulty of keeping her four children clean.

"I reckon I'm kinda used to it," she said with a shy smile. "I never had nothin' else."

Mrs. Rosie Jordan, her husband, and their seven children live next door to Mrs. Massey. Even after SCLC left Barbour County, Mrs. Jordan stayed active in the civil rights movement--taking people to the polls and sending her children to formerly-white schools.

But, she said, there's never been much point in trying to improve things on Center Street itself.

"I'll be frank with you--peoples down here don't want to pay for paving or sewers," she said. "They give you so many years to pay for it, but most of us just don't have the money. If they put pavement out there and you don't pay for it, they gonna take your house and put it up for sale."

Fred M. Clark, the Eufaula city councilman who heads the streets department, said everyone who wants a paved street has to pay for it. "Nobody here has gotten free paving--no one class of folks--no sir!" he said.

But Mrs. Jordan was a little skeptical. "Some (white) people got yards larger than that house," she said, pointing down the street. "I don't believe they paid for all that paving. If they did,

the city wouldn't have nothin' to worry about."

Clark--a banker with the First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Eufaula--also said there are "ample funds for repairing for those people who have a job. We make many loans to colored people for home improvements."

But Mrs. Jordan said, "Don't nobody much get 'em but the white nohow." The Negroes who have enough property to obtain a loan, she said, are the ones who don't really need it.

There is an anti-poverty program in Barbour County. But Miss Barbara Ann Burks, clerk-typist at the local neighborhood referral service office, said it has no money for home repairs.

Mrs. Mary Hunter--the lady in charge of the office--is surveying all the families in Eufaula, to find out what their problems are. "Then we'll go back to the low-income people and try to help them," Miss Burks said.

Meanwhile, the people on Center Street are doing what they can for themselves. Mrs. Jordan is getting ready to add a bathroom to her house. And down the street, in the last house on the bluff overlooking Lake Eufaula, Mrs. Myrtle Daniels said her husband is building a room on the back.

The work goes slowly because money is scarce and her husband has no help, Mrs. Daniels said. Her son--Willie J. Daniels, who used to participate in all of Eufaula's civil rights demonstrations--has left home to get a job in Miami, Fla.

"I told him to go on," she said, frowning at the deep ruts in Center Street. "Ain't nothin' for him here."

City Councilman Clark said the best thing to do with Eufaula's many substandard homes is tear them down--and re-locate people in one of the new hous-

ing units being built with federal funds.

"We have a big urban renewal program," he said. "We're getting into slum clearance." The people whose homes are taken will have "first call on the new apartments," he said.

But that doesn't help the people on Center Street. Most of them own their homes, and want to stay where they are.

On Jan. 15, 1966, Mrs. Daniels was one of seven people arrested for violating a city parade ordinance during a boycott of local stores. "I talk about it so much, people laugh at me till I can't help but cry," she sighed.

Negroes in Eufaula--and Barbour County--have tried and failed several times to win public office. But Mrs. Daniels said she isn't discouraged. "I'd do everything I could do" to elect a Negro, she said. "I think it would help."

Meanwhile, she admitted, life on Center Street is just about the same as it was three years ago, before the civil rights movement came to town.



FOR A BETTER ALABAMA--The Alabama Council on Human Relations has active chapters in Birmingham, Mobile, Montgomery, Huntsville, Florence-Tusculumbia-Sheffield, Auburn-Opeleka-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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED--The Montgomery Head Start needs all the volunteer 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.

ADCI MEETING--State Senator Tom Radney, who represents Bullock, Macon, and Tallapoosa counties in the Alabama Legislature, will address the semi-annual session of the Alabama Democratic Conference, Inc., at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, June 30, in the L. R. Hall Auditorium, Birmingham, Ala. Officers and members of the conference will hold their business meeting at 10 a.m. in the auditorium. Registration of delegates will begin at 9 a.m.

SWAFCA JOBS--The following positions are open at the Southwest Alabama Farmers Co-operative Association, P. O. Box 955, 1315B Jeff Davis Ave., Selma, Ala. 36701: economic development specialist, co-op education specialist, procurement and equipment manager, assistant marketing specialist, assistant co-op manager, secretaries, clerk-typists, administrative assistants, field-station supply foreman, field-station clerks, mechanics, truck-drivers, yard crews, and assistant project director.

WELFARE RECIPIENTS--Welfare recipients and other poor people seeking to defend themselves against injustices in the welfare system--and to change that system--have organized into the National Welfare Rights Organization (NWRO). NWRO's 171 groups in 31 states have more than 6,000 members, who directly represent the 25,000 welfare recipients in their households. Together they fight for adequate income, dignity, justice, and democracy. There are presently welfare rights groups in the South in Mississippi, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. Anyone wishing to join a group or help form one in his community should write to National Welfare Rights Organization, 1762 Corcoran St., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20009.

ARTS SEMINAR--The Alabama Art League will hold a Seminar on the Visual Arts Friday through Sunday, June 28-30, at Huntingdon College in Montgomery, Ala. Meals and dormitory facilities are available on the Huntingdon campus. For reservations, contact James Nelson, 3118 Woodley Terrace, Montgomery, Ala. 36111.

REVIVAL--The pastor and members of the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Enterprise, Ala., are asking the following churches and citizens to worship with them in a series of revival meetings. Monday, July 1--Shady Grove, Pleasant Shade. Tuesday, July 2--John Chapel, New Zion. Wednesday, July 3--Friendship, St. Mary, Pea River. Thursday, July 4--Beulah, Mt. Zion. Friday, July 5--Union Grove, Triumph Holiness. Prayer services each night will begin at 7:30 p.m. The evangelist for the week will be the Rev. C. A. Lett of Selma, Ala.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS--"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death," This verse from Romans is part of the Lesson-Sermon to be read in all Christian Science churches Sunday, June 30. The title of the Lesson is "Christian Science."

VETERANS' PENSIONS--Needy veterans with war-time service who are 65 or older may qualify for a Veterans Administration disability pension without proving that they have a specific disability. For pension purposes, war-time veterans are automatically considered to be permanently and totally disabled at age 65. A veteran without dependents can qualify for a pension if his annual income is less than \$1,800. The income limit for veterans with dependents is \$3,000. Pensions range from \$45 to \$104 per month. These pension benefits have nothing to do with disability compensation, which is paid to veterans of any age for injuries suffered while in service. For more information, contact your local V. A. office.

TRAINING JOBS FOR VETERANS--Government agencies can now hire Viet Nam-era veterans for jobs under special, non-competitive "transitional appointments." These jobs--paying from \$3,776 to \$5,565 a year--are for veterans with less than one year of training beyond high school, who have the required qualifications for the jobs. The veteran must also agree to take at least the equivalent of one school year of education or training under the G. I. Bill. Veterans must have had at least 181 consecutive days of active duty--some part of it after Aug. 4, 1964--to be eligible for these jobs. Veterans remain eligible until one year after their discharge or Feb. 9, 1969, whichever is later. Interested applicants may contact any government agency they prefer, or any office of the Veterans Administration or the Civil Service Commission, or the Veterans Assistance Center in Atlanta, Ga., or New Orleans, La.

NEED MONEY?--Be a sales representative for a socio-political-satirical new poster line. Ideal for individuals and organizations. For complete poster profit kit, write to Gross National Product, Box 427, Wayzata, Minn. 55391.

HOME LOANS--A new law permits the Veterans Administration to guarantee 60% of a home loan for an unmarried serviceman's widow, up to \$12,500 of the loan amount. The widow's husband must have died on active duty or from a service-connected disability, and the veteran's service must have been during World War II or after June 27, 1950. World War II widows have until July 25, 1970, to obtain a G. I. loan. Korean War widows have until Jan. 31, 1975, and post-1955 widows have as much as 20 years. Widows who think they qualify for G. I. home loans can call the V. A. office in Montgomery, Ala. (263-7521), or their local V. A. office.

Gleaners for Christ are offering prayers for anyone who is sick, in trouble, heartbroken, or distressed. Whatever your problems are, send them to The Gleaners for Christ, 411 S. Lowe St., Dowagiac, Mich. 49047. **This Service is Free**

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Black Delegates News Report Causes Headache for Co-Op Named in Miss.

BY MARION SYMINGTON

GREENVILLE, Miss.--Dr. Matthew Page of Greenville was chosen as a delegate to the National Democratic Convention at the party caucus for Mississippi's First Congressional District.

Although the choice must be still ratified at the state convention, the process is usually automatic. Page--one of four delegates named at the June 13 caucus--will be among the first Negroes chosen for Mississippi's national delegation in more than 60 years.

Dr. Gilbert Mason, another Negro, was named in the Fifth District caucus, and Charles Evers is expected to be selected at the Third District meeting. Two or three more Negroes may be among the 24 remaining delegates selected at the state convention Tuesday in Jackson.

The delegation from Washington County went to the First District caucus with the intention of pushing for adequate representation, Page said this week. But when they arrived, he said, they found that "Governor John Bell Williams had the whole thing sewed up."

The governor knew that one Negro would have to be selected, Page said: "And they knew that Washington County was going to be pushy, so they took me."

"My being elected as a token does not for the moment stop me from fighting for adequate black representation," Page said. "I'm fighting on the inside."

The Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party is fighting for adequate representation too, said an MFDP spokesman, but the group is "fed up" with the political machinery.

In its June 22 newsletter, the MFDP stated its intention "to challenge the racist Democratic Party of Mississippi." The party said it hopes to unite with the NAACP, the Young Democrats, the Mississippi AFL-CIO, and the Mississippi Voters' League, to "present the (Mississippi Democratic Party) with one strong convention challenge" at the national meeting in Chicago, Illinois.

A meeting of all these groups will be postponed until after the state convention.

Greenwood

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

tee, for "illegal conspiracy to bring ruin to merchants" by "force, violence, coercion, threats, abusive language, intimidation, and other unlawful means."

A hearing on the suit began June 12 in Lefflore County Chancery Court before Judge William H. Bizzell.

In three days of testimony, witnesses for the merchants told of store windows being broken, and of threats being made to enforce the boycott.

Jonathan Shapiro of the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, representing the movement, questioned the direct connection of some of the incidents to the boycott.

Judge Bizzell indicated in court that he will not grant a blanket order against all forms of picketing. But, he said, some relief for the merchants seems to be required.

Quilting Bee

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR)

If the demonstration projects work out as hoped, more of these ladies will move into full-time jobs. But the Freedom Quilting Bee has already made a lot of difference in the lives of many women in Wilcox and Dallas counties.

For instance, Mrs. Mamie Warren--who works at the Selma factory--couldn't get a job previously because she can't work standing up. Another employee, Mrs. Martha Williams of Brandis, formerly hoed cotton until her sore knees forced her to quit.

"I used to pick in the fields all day," said Mrs. Annie Lou Square, who has been employed at the Alberta center since January. "Now I can go home at 4 p.m. and work in the fields a little, too."

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EVERS WILLIAMS

tion, to see if anything is done in response to the demands made there.

But Hodding Carter III--editor of the Delta Democrat-Times in Greenville, co-chairman of the Young Democrats, and also a delegate to the state convention, said he doubts that any action will be taken.

Carter said he hopes that a single challenge delegation will be formed.

Joe Harris, manager of the head office of the MFDP, said he, too, wants a united delegation, because its effect in Chicago will be greater.

Bribe Case

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

was never any proof that Mrs. Sanders had sold liquor. If she wasn't giving the money to gain protection, he said, the money was a gift.

Both officers claimed that the five marked bills which Evans found were payment on a loan, and 17 other Birmingham policemen who testified for Davis said that it was common for police to "loan" money to people on their beat to get information.

Toward the close of his summation, Rogers emphasized that on the several occasions when the two captains left money with Mrs. Sanders, they only watched her house for a few hours, and then went home.

"But THEY didn't go home," Rogers said, pointing to Davis and then to Hardy. "These boys were out there in this predominantly-nigger section, protecting your community."

The jury deliberated less than 45 minutes before returning a verdict of not guilty. The jurors also recommended, in an informal statement after the trial, that Davis be re-instated to his job and be paid in full for the money he lost since he was relieved of duty.

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 MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. -- An item in a Northern newspaper has caused a lot of trouble for the Freedom Quilting Bee. And the uproar has "infuriated" the Rev. Francis X. Walter, advisor to the sewing co-operative.

A story in the New York Times earlier this month noted that a New York designer is selling the co-op's quilts for curtains at top prices. The story also reported that some members of the quilting bee may be making \$1 an hour.

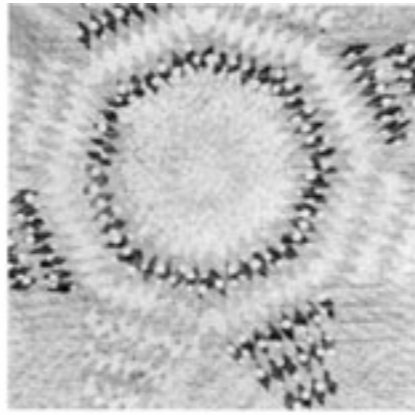
At this, said Walter this week, "the liberals of New York City rose up in wrath." Not understanding how co-operatives work, he said, the New Yorkers decided that the quilting bee members were being exploited.

"All those cats," said Walter, "they're not going to come down here and help." But, he added, these critics were quick to say "it's wrong for people who are hungry, and whose children are sick, to make \$1 an hour with their own business."

Walter explained that in the quilting bee--as in other co-ops--many members work when they can, at home, and get a share of the profit made on their quilts. Most of them, he said, had little or no income before joining the co-op.

With \$7,000 in grants and loans from the Southern Cooperative Development Program, Walter said, the quilting bee is working on a plan that may allow a few skilled co-op members to make as much as \$1 per hour a year from now.

"All the people who created the structure in which (people like the co-op members) couldn't participate," Walter said, "they all get angry when they



PRODUCT OF SLAVE LABOR?

hear people are making \$1 an hour... It proves they really don't believe that people are poor."

The story in the New York Times drew complaints from the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, among others.

Though the union is protesting treatment of the co-op members now, Walter said, it didn't seem so interested in the past. "We came to them for help," he said, "and they couldn't care less."

Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights

The weekly meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Monday, July 1, in the Zion Star Baptist Church, 2611 Fourth Ave. S., the Rev. J. H. Callaway, pastor.

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Beach Becomes a 'Club'

BY BOB LABAREE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--A federal court judge ruled this week that a white man, Neil Friedman, had been discriminated against when he was not admitted to a public recreation area last summer.

Friedman claimed that he and his family were turned away from the gate of the Holiday Beach near Woodstock a year ago, after the ticket agent told them that "certain people aren't allowed."

When questioned, Friedman said, the agent explained that "certain people" meant the two Negro girls in the car with the Friedmans.

A month later, Friedman's lawyer, Oscar Adams, filed a suit against the Bibb County beach, saying it had discriminated against Friedman because he associated with Negroes.

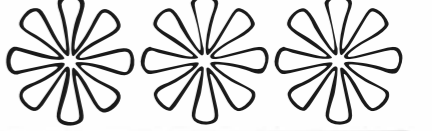
In a decision issued last Friday, U. S. District Judge H. H. Grooms ordered the beach not to discriminate in the future. He also ordered the beach to pay Friedman \$1,000 for his lawyer's fees. Grooms disagreed with lawyers for

Holiday Beach, who had argued that the recreational area was not public. (Under the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other laws, private facilities, such as membership clubs, cannot be kept from discriminating.)

But on May 23--shortly after the case was tried and about a month before Grooms' formal decision--Holiday Beach became the Holiday Beach Swim Club.

Representatives of the club said this week that people who wish to use the facilities may now apply at the gate for a membership. All memberships are subject to a vote by the membership committee, they said.

When asked if Negroes could become members, the representatives answered that "they'll have to be considered by the committee, just like everybody else."



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