

# THE SOUTHERN COURIER

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TEN CENTS

In Aug. 8 Primary

## Negroes to Work At Miss. Polls

BY GAIL FALK

JACKSON, Miss.--Mississippi's Aug. 8 primary will not only have large numbers of Negro candidates and voters. It will also have large numbers of Negro poll officials.

Last Tuesday, Democratic executive committees met around the state to appoint poll workers for their counties. After the meetings, committee chairmen in nearly every county with black candidates said Negro poll officials would be hired.

In Coahoma County, for example, committee chairman F. H. Cannon said there would be at least two Negro poll officials in every precinct with Negro residents. In some precincts, he said, three of the five poll workers would be black.

Since early in the campaign, civil rights leaders around the state had been pressuring Democratic party officials to appoint Negro poll workers. The leaders claimed that Negro voters would not have full voting rights unless they could get help from other Negroes at the polls.

In Jefferson, Copiah, Claiborne, and Wilkinson counties, Negro candidates told the Democratic executive committee they would block the election, if Negro poll managers were not appointed "in proportion to the number of qualified Negro electors."

In Jefferson County this week, Democratic chairman Farrar M. Truly said his committee had selected Negro poll workers in every precinct, from a list submitted by the county's eight Negro candidates.

Wilkinson County chairman J. F. Rollins said 25 to 30 Negroes had been hired--one on each voting box. But James Joliff Jr.--a candidate for supervisor--said he wasn't satisfied with the people chosen.

"Some of them are Toms," he said, while others "don't know anything about elections--and that's just as bad." Negroes were also appointed in several counties around the state where there are no Negro candidates in the primary.

Lauderdale County will have at least 40 black poll workers, said C. D. Shields, the Democratic chairman.

W. F. Gordon, the chairman in Rankin County, said Negroes had been appointed there for the first time. "We did it," he explained, "because we had instructions from the (U.S.) attorney general that they were to be chosen."

## Incident 'Embarrasses' Ladies and Bar Official

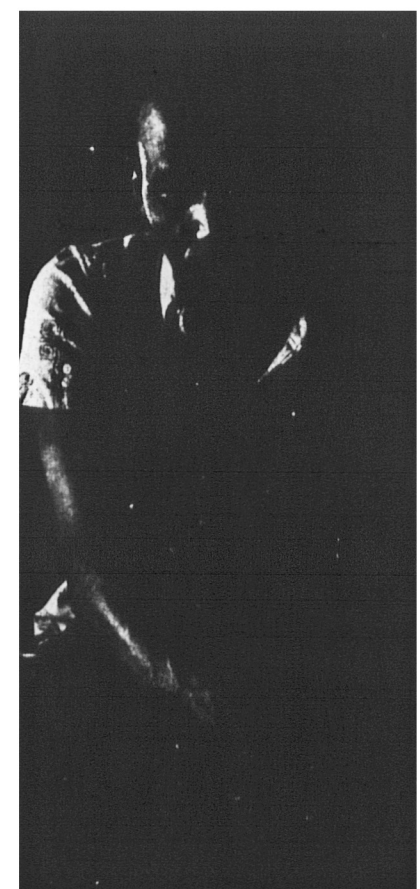
BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN

MONTGOMERY, Ala.-- "Ladies will meet in the lobby of the Whitley Hotel," said the invitation.

"They will be transported by buses to the Country Club, where cocktails and a luncheon will be served. After the luncheon, the buses will take them for a tour of the Blount Home and Garden and the Thigpen Garden. This will be followed by a Tea at 4 p.m. in the Governor's Mansion."

The invitation described the luncheon and tea given last Friday for wives of

## Percy Jones



His Life -- Page Three



GAINES



ALLEN

BY MERTIS RUBIN

FAYETTE, Miss.--Negro candidates from four southwest Mississippi counties met here last Monday night to discuss the duties of poll-watchers.

The candidates were from Jefferson, Wilkinson, Claiborne, and Copiah counties. Negroes are a majority in all four counties.

Workshops on poll-watching were led by members of the President's Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. Questions included:

Can a poll-watcher challenge an election manager? (No, but the poll-watchers can tell the manager he is breaking a law.)

Do poll-watchers have the right to assist illiterate people? (No. Only election managers are supposed to help illiterates, but in many places clerks or the voters' friends give assistance anyway.)

The candidates asked many other questions about the role of the poll-watcher. They also told what they were trying to accomplish.

Ferd Allen, candidate for supervisor Jefferson County's district 3 (where Negroes outnumber whites 3 to 1), said he decided to run because he "saw the need."

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INJURED IN SCUFFLE

## Sunday At The Beach

BY FRANKLIN HOWARD

MOBILE, Ala.-- Six of us myself, four other Negroes, and a white friend -- were enjoining ourselves last Sunday afternoon on Dauphin Island.

Then the five Negro fellows decided to go get a soda. One of us asked a white fellow nearby where we could get one. The white fellow said, "I'm from Mississippi I don't know."

Nothing happened right away, but one of the Negroes in my group said, "The look as though they are planning something." So we walked toward our equipment and clothing, intending to gather it up and leave. But about nine white fellows crowded around us in a circle.

We gathered our clothes and started toward the car, when about 1 white fellows started kicking sand and throwing bottles toward us.

Our white friend was out about 30 yards from the shore, on a raft. Three of the white teen-agers swam out toward him, and asked him, "Are you a nigger-lover?"

After pulling the raft to shore, they knocked his glasses off, hit him in the back with their fists, kicked him, and rammed his knee up against a wall. Finally, two white fellows stopped them.

I left the beach, thinking "If Dauphin Island's beach is integrated, I'd hate to see one that isn't."

## Tallapoosa Juries

MONTGOMERY, Ala.-- Two Tallapoosa County men have asked a federal court to end discrimination against Negroes in the selection of juries.

In a suit filed last week, the men--Leon Banks and the Rev. S. C. Perryman, both Negroes--asked the court to order county officials to throw out their old jury list and make a new one that includes a fair proportion of qualified Negroes. They said the county now limits the number of Negroes on the list to "a token figure."

## Montgomery Survey Aims to Find Out

# How Many People Need Free Food?

BY PATRICIA M. GORENCE

MONTGOMERY, Ala.-- "Other counties in Alabama have free food programs," said the Rev. Richard Boone of SCLC. "Many families here could certainly use some help too."

So SCLC workers are trying to find out how many families would be eligible for the surplus commodities (free food) program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

"So far the canvassers have contacted over 600 people who are interested in the commodities program," Boone said. "We plan to get 2,000 people." He said he plans to present these names to the Montgomery County Board of Revenue, and ask the board to approve the free food program.

It is up to the county to request the program from the federal government. Last Tuesday, Boone, Roosevelt Barnett, and Mrs. Idessa Williams spoke to the chairman of the board of revenue, William Joseph.

"He seemed, to me, to be pretty acceptable to getting one or the other program (surplus commodities or food stamps), but was leaning more toward the food stamp program, I think," Boone said afterwards.

Boone wants the free food, not the stamps. He said many people have told the SCLC canvassers that they favor the commodities program.

During the survey, a 92 year old woman who supports her 13 year-old granddaughter said, "We could use free food. I don't get no welfare, and the only money I get is \$75 a month from the Veterans Administration."

## Outbreak in B'ham Stirs Police Debate

BY ROBIN REISIG

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.-- "They were laughing. I reckon they take it for fun," said Negro barber Ezell Dickerson. His store on Fourth Ave. N. escaped without broken windows last Saturday evening, while his neighbors' windows were shattered.

"They were angry, because the detective shot the Negro fugitive," said Paul Dudley White--"Tall Paul" of radio station WENN. "They thought they should have let him escape, rather than touch off a riot."

Angry or laughing, or both, several hundred Negroes roamed through part of downtown Birmingham last Saturday, throwing bottles and garbage at white motorists, policemen, and store windows. Some stores were robbed.

The violence was sparked by the police shooting of Tommy Mathews, a 23-year-old Negro wanted for burglary and grand larceny.

As Police Captain J. M. MacDowell tells it, police officers "saw and recognized and arrested (Mathews), and started to handcuff him, and he broke and ran, and he was getting away, and they asked him to stop, and he wouldn't, so they shot."

The policeman's bullet left "a superficial wound in the left side," said MacDowell.

But, charged Tommy Wrenn of the Alabama Christian Movement at a meeting this week, "you know and I know (officers Harry) Hayes and (A.B.)



DAMAGE IN BIRMINGHAM

Swindle known Tommy for years. He (Swindle) shot to kill, baby."

Police officials said about 10 or 15 people were arrested after the shooting, mostly on drunk and disorderly charges. Eight Negroes and three whites were treated for injuries at University Hospital.

Among the injured were Miss Juanita King, whose hand was cut, and Miss Gloria Hanaway, whose forehead was hit by a rock. Miss King is Negro, and Miss Hanaway is white. Both are eight years old.

## Nixon Calls Negro Leaders 'Old, Stale, Weary, Tired'

BY ALAN BOLES

GADSDEN, Ala.-- Dr. John Nixon, president of the Alabama NAACP, strongly criticized Negro leadership in Alabama and Gadsden during an address before the annual men's day celebration at the Sweet Home Methodist Church last Sunday.

"We have the urgent task of cultivating a new breed of Negro leadership in the state of Alabama," Nixon declared. "We are in need of a more aggressive, direct, firm, and straight-forward Negro leadership."

He called many Gadsden Negro leaders "old, stale, weary, and tired."

"Mississippi is not the only place we find a closed society," he said. "We have a closed society within the Negro community of Gadsden. It is very diffi-

cult for young Negro leaders to break into this closed society. Old men dream dreams and young men have visions. We need both dreams and visions to reach our goals...."

"Let me say publicly to the Negro community of Gadsden," Nixon continued, "that you are as much to blame as is the white community for those conditions which you consider morally wrong. You have too many times shirked our responsibilities and allowed our problems to mount to explosive dimensions."

Nixon blamed many riots in cities across the U. S. on incidents involving the police. "There is an urgent need for better police-community relations in every state," he said, and such improvement is "a responsibility of law enforcement officials."

What caused Saturday's outbreak? This was the subject of heated discussion last Tuesday night, as the Birmingham Council on Human Relations heard a talk from Captain Glenn V. Evans of the police-community relations division of the Birmingham police department.

First, Evans gave a talk on "the dual responsibility of citizen and police in the fight against crime." He asked for "cooperation and courtesy" from citizens.

Then came the questions--or rather, complaints about lack of police cooperation and lack of police courtesy. Evans didn't even try to answer most of them. When people complained of police threats, or of being called "nigger," he told them they should make their complaints through the "proper channels," instead of just shouting angrily.

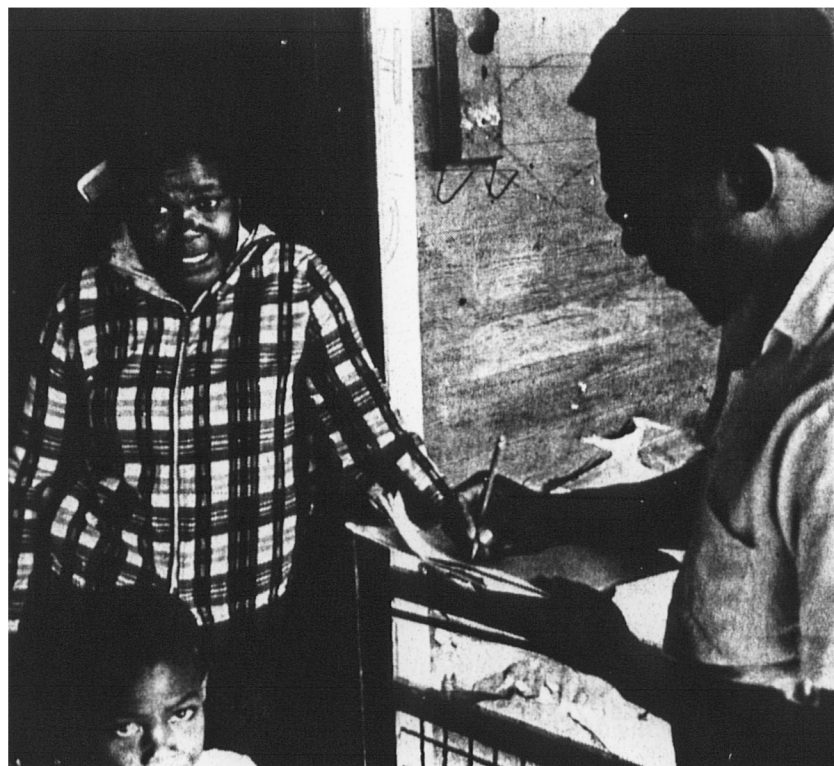
Finally, the Rev. Joseph Ellwanger, as moderator, tried to explain the audience's attitude to Evans. "We can't trust law enforcement because it really does -- uh -- stink," Ellwanger said.

Mrs. Willa Adams, a Negro housewife and ECHR officer, said policemen recently cursed her and called her "Gir!" when the light over her auto tag was out. "If they talk to me like that, how do they talk to someone in a rat-hole?" she added.

Referring to Saturday's incident and other shootings, a white man said people are concerned "with the growing habit of shooting people who are running away."

"Let me disagree with you that these

(CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT, Col. 1)



REV. RICHARD BOONE TAKING FOOD SURVEY

A middle-aged woman told the canvassers she had been unable to work since January, because she had to care for her disabled husband. "I went to the welfare department and they said they would send somebody out," she said. "Still ain't been here, and that was about two months ago. That free food would come in handy."

But according to Henry Suddath, clerk of the board of revenue, "the need is so small in Montgomery County that it

spokesman, "the county normally is required to provide a warehouse for storing the surplus food and the funds necessary for local administration."

"There has been some discussion of a food stamp program for the county," Suddath said.

"Under the food stamp program, you still have some cost but not as much," said Suddath. "You don't have the cost of warehousing and distributing the food."

But Boone said "the food stamp program is a means of further exploiting the poor. If the people can get money for food stamps, they can get money for food. Besides, the merchants are impressed with food stamps because they can make a lot of money."

Boone said he plans to attend the next meeting of the board of revenue.

But at the weekly meeting of the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA) last Monday night, Boone ran into opposition from the Rev. Samuel McGhee, an MIA board member.

"You don't get anything for nothing," McGhee said of the commodities program. He also objected to Boone's using the MIA's name. "The policy of the MIA is that only one person can speak for the organization, and that person is the president," McGhee said.

But Boone replied, "When 30% of the city's population live on less than \$350 monthly and 10% live in dilapidated houses and make less than \$1,000 a year, instead of people saying 'We need to check these things before we speak in the MIA's name,' we need to get the program started."



# Percy Jones Jr.

## 'I Live Just Like I Can'

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--"I live just like I can," said Percy Jones Jr., a part-time construction worker. "I just wanna do the best for my family." Jones, 39, lives with his wife, Josie Mae, 32, and their seven children in a three-room house on Clayton Alley.

Born in Montgomery, Jones got to the eighth grade in school. After serving in the Army and being wounded in Korea, he came back and earned the equivalent of a high school diploma.

For the past five years, Jones has been doing just part-time work--roofing and painting for construction companies. He earns \$1.45 an hour when work is available.

"Some weeks we have good weeks, some we don't," Jones said. "Two weeks ago I didn't do any damn work. This week I worked 2 1/2 days."

The Jones family is poor by almost any standard. But Jones is not eligible for any type of assistance--unemployment compensation, Aid to Dependent Children, or other welfare.

Because no money comes in when Jones doesn't work, he applied for unemployment compensation two weeks ago. He was told he was ineligible, be-

cause "insufficient wages were reported for base employment." In other words, he did not make ENOUGH money to qualify for aid.

"Unemployment compensation is based on wages for the first four of the last five calendar quarters," explained a spokesman for the state unemployment compensation office. "A person must earn at least \$468 in two quarters--otherwise he wouldn't qualify."

The most Jones earned in any two calendar quarters in 1966 was \$266.42 (a quarter is three months).

But even with this uncertain income, Jones is not eligible for welfare, either. The State Department of Pensions and Security gives aid to the aged, the blind, the permanently and totally disabled, and dependent children--but Jones is none of these.

Under the Aid to Dependent Children program, assistance is provided only "upon the death or physical disability of one or both parents," said Mrs. Elizabeth Bryan of the state welfare department. "If the father is able-bodied, we do not give aid." But under the law, if Jones were not living at home and trying to support his family, his children could get ADC.

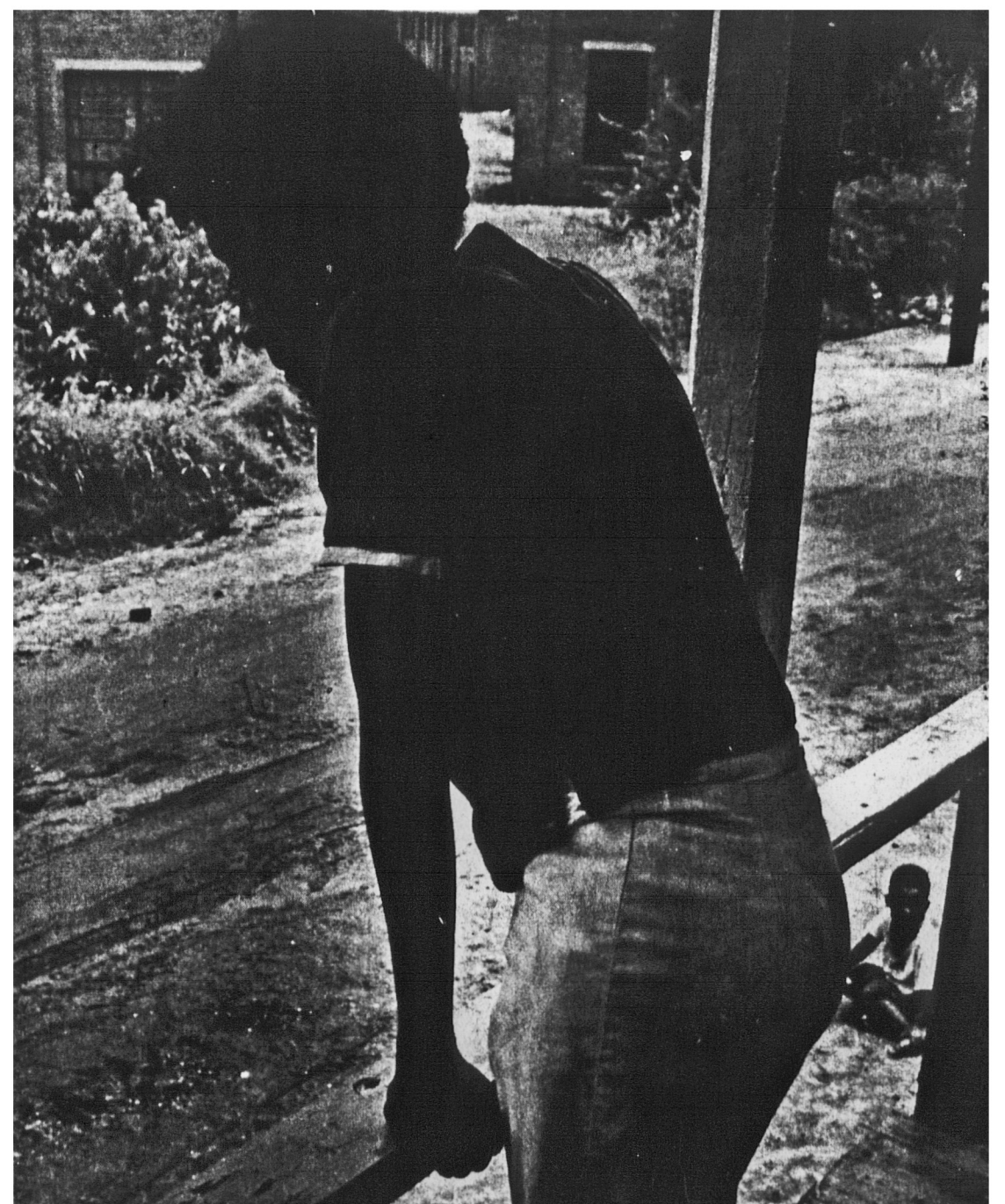
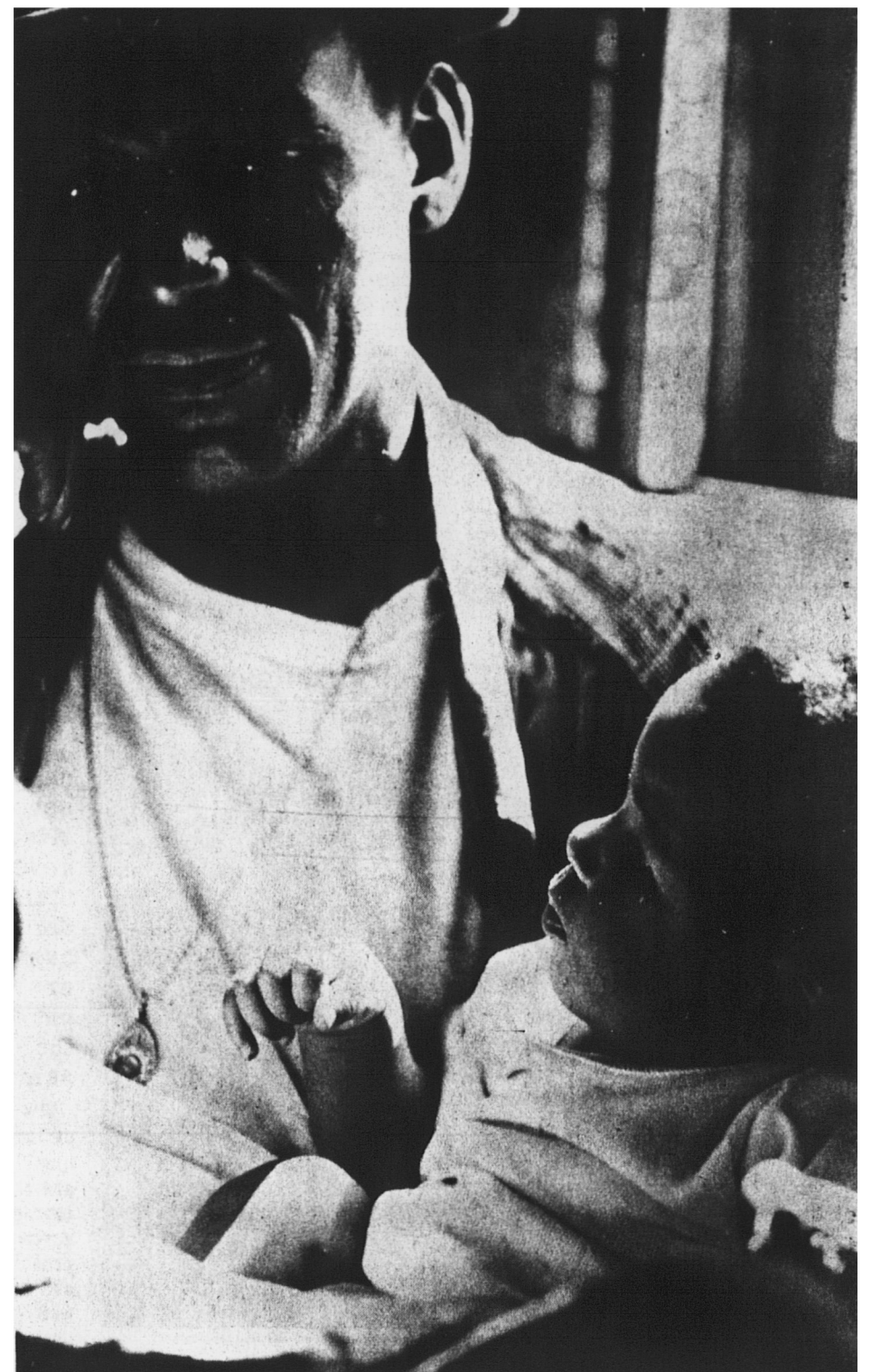
In addition to providing food and clothing for his family, Jones pays \$25 a month rent for his three-room home. The house has no running water, and no indoor toilet. Until a week ago, there was no electricity, either.

"The lights were cut off about a year ago because of fire hazard," said Jones. "Then, two or three weeks ago, a man looked at it (the electrical wiring) and said the whole house had to be re-wired."

Doug Smedley of the city electrical inspector's office said the electricity was shut off because of "non-payment of bills." "Our office did check the house, and it does need re-wiring," he said.

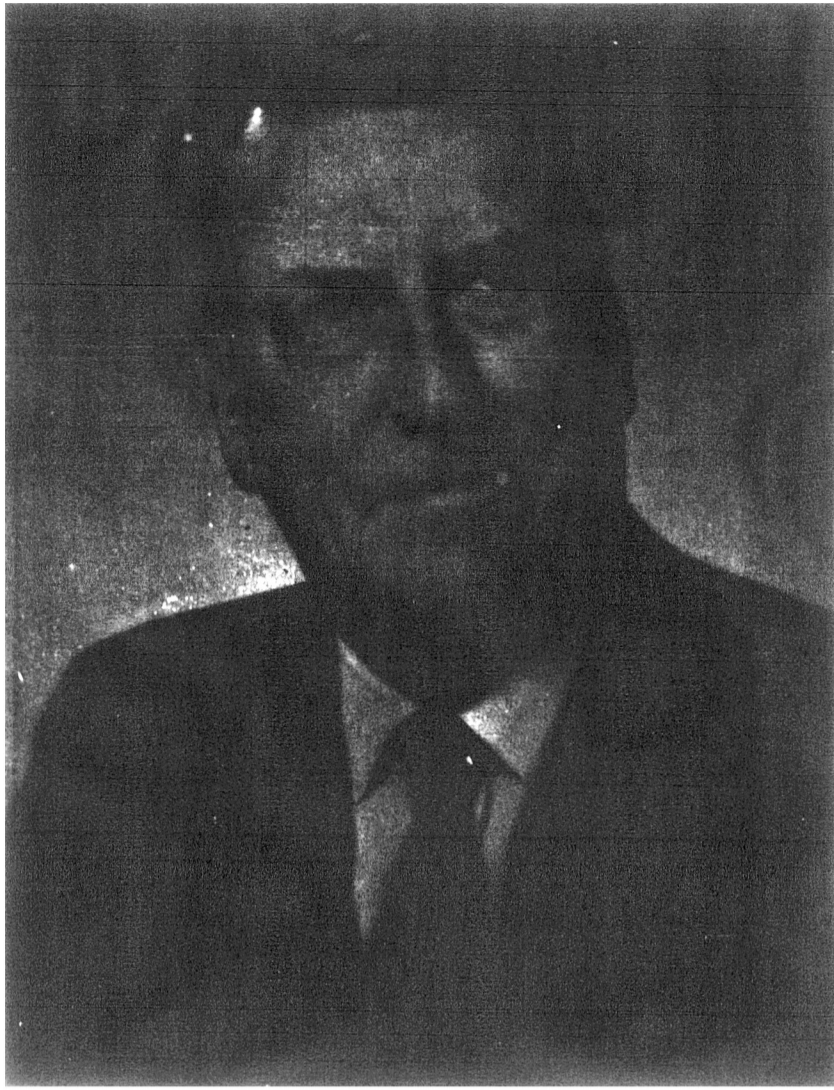
A spokesman for the Baird Realty Company said last week that the company had asked the city electrical inspector to check the house. He said re-wiring would then be done--after the landlord approved. "We just collect the rent," he explained.

But regardless of whose responsibility it was, the whole house was re-wired last week. All Jones has to do now is to get the power company to hook up his meter.



Photos by Jim Pepler; text by Patricia M. Gorence

# 'Moderate' Segregationists Lead Barnett In Quiet Race for Governor of Mississippi



ROSS BARNETT

JACKSON, Miss. -- Most Mississippians would have a hard time recalling when Ross Barnett wasn't in the governor's mansion or trying to get there. He ran for governor in 1951 and '55, won in '59, and led the state through four of its stormiest years of battling civil rights and the federal government.

His proudest moment came when he stood in the school house door at Ole Miss. And if Mississippi governors could succeed themselves (the state constitution says they can't), satisfied supporters would no doubt have put him back in office in '63 to do more of the same.

It's election year again in Mississippi, and once more red, white, and blue "Roll With Ross Barnett" banners are fluttering across main streets in towns around the state. The former governor, now 69 years old, is crisscrossing the state, pumping hands, and rasping in his gravelly voice, "I was a segregationist in '59, I'm a segregationist today, and I'll be one the next time you see me."

For 10 or 12 hours a day he drives from rally to barbecue, stopping off at every gas station and general store he passes, asking for votes in the Aug. 8 Democratic primary. His friends say he's never been healthier or happier; he says he loves to campaign and that he's going to win this one. But this time around, things just don't seem to be rolling Ross's way.

Most observers agree that Barnett is running third in a contest where Number 3 doesn't count for much--only the top two will get into the run-off Aug. 29, if there is one. The front-runners now seem to be State Treasurer William Winter and Congressman John Bell Williams.

Both have decided that their best bet is to persuade voters that they are far more reasonable than Barnett. Williams--who was punished by the Democratic Party for supporting Barry Goldwater in 1964--says he is a middle-of-the-roader. And both Williams and Barnett insist that Winter--who is apparently out in front of the seven-man pack--is so far gone he's a liberal.

That charge may be a bit wild. Winter declares he is a segregationist, adding, "A liberal is just a good old solid Mississippi conservative who's running for an office that some demagogue wants."

But just about everyone agrees that this is the quietest race that Mississippi has ever seen. As one campaign worker for Congressman Williams puts it, "No one is hollering 'nigger, nigger, nigger.'" In fact, even Ross Barnett has been heard to say "knee-grow." One reason, of course, is the Negro

vote. There are now something like 185,000 registered Negro voters (some civil rights leaders put the figure at 200,000), and that is six times what the registration was in 1963.

No one knows for sure how much difference it will make. For one thing, the Freedom Democratic Party in some counties is hoping that Negroes will stay away from the polls during the primary. And no major Negro group in the state is endorsing any of the candidates for governor.

But, says the NAACP's Charles Evers, "They want the Negro vote--every damn one of them wants it."

If they are shy about asking for it, it is because the white vote has jumped by almost exactly the same amount over the last four years. But the mood of white voters seems to have changed a bit. At least, that is what Williams and Winter are counting on.

"You can't make the old promises," explains one Williams campaign worker. "People know the federal government won't let you keep 'em." Even Barnett has toned down his running battle with the federal government. He told one rally, "I could get federal money where some of my opponents couldn't get a drink of water."

Those are strange words coming from the man who blocked the path of federal marshals at the entrance to Ole Miss. But even Barnett figures that most Mississippians would rather avoid a repeat of that sort of hoopla. Barnett, Williams, and Winter are betting that under Governor Paul B. Johnson, Mississippians have gotten used to keeping things comparatively quiet.

The charge is enough to upset Klansman whites. "I voted for him (Johnson) in 1963," snarled one voter, "and I ain't done nothin' but crawl with Paul ever since." The top three candidates figure that some voters feel that way--but not enough to elect a governor.

The "dark-horse" candidates, for the most part, have also left the race issue alone. One of them, William Waller, is known for his two unsuccessful but dedicated prosecutions of Byron de la Beckwith, accused killer of Medgar Evers.

In fact, only one candidate has been



WILLIAM WINTER

waging an all-out racist campaign, and he doesn't seem to have much of a chance. He is James E. ("Little Jimmy") Swan, a 54-year-old radio station owner and disc jockey from Hattiesburg.

Swan promises a "free private segregated school system," and says that if federal officials try to tamper with any of his programs once he becomes governor, "I'll slam their Communist pink hide in jail as fast as I can. These so-called federal judges turn them out, and I'll slam them right back in." Robed Klansmen once passed out his campaign literature in Jackson.

Swan has been cutting deeply into Barnett's support. As far as Swan backers are concerned, Barnett didn't go far enough in the Ole Miss crisis. Barnett had a lot of telephone conversations at the time with Robert F. Kennedy, who was then attorney general. Kennedy has said they agreed that Barnett could make a short stand and then get out of the way. Said one Swan supporter, "A lot of the people I hang around with been talkin' about it, and the way we figure, Ole Ross let us down."

That isn't Barnett's only sore spot. Williams charges that Barnett used the governor's office to line his pockets. "He kept telling you to roll with Ross," says Williams, "and by the time he was through, Ross had the whole roll."

Winter concentrates on Barnett's opposition to Negroes and civil rights. "I think you're tired of having your intelligence insulted," Winter tells his mostly white audiences. "I think you're tired of hearing the same old political hacks using the same old dog-eared phrases that they've been using as long as I can remember." He says, "I will speak for Mississippi in a way that will command respect."

Winter's slogan is "I will win for Mississippi." He hopes it will appeal to segregationists who think "winning" means keeping things the way they are, and to moderates who figure "winning" means changing things peacefully. Whatever Winter means, most voters seem to feel that Ross Barnett lost at Ole Miss and he is losing now.



JOHN BELL WILLIAMS

## 25 Counties Get Money to Help Register and Educate New Voters

BY MERTIS RUBIN

LEXINGTON, Miss. -- Negroes in nearly one-third of Mississippi's 82 counties are registering to vote--and learning how and why their votes are important--in a drive sponsored by the Southern Regional Council of Atlanta, Ga.

Vernon Jordan, director of the voter registration and education project, said the council has funded 26 programs in 25 counties.

Holmes is one of the counties where the drive is under way. Negroes outnumber whites in three of the five beats, and more than 500 people were registered in an eight-week period earlier this summer.

John Malone, project director for the Holmes County program, said that civil rights groups in Holmes have held voter registration drives before.

"But this is the first time we've had funds for it," he said. "I think it really helped in encouraging people already

working to work harder."

The people already at work on voter registration were members of the local Freedom Democratic Party (FDP).

"If it hadn't been for the organization in the county, we might not have been as successful as we were," Malone said. The FDP members "really gave us a lot of help. They saved our task workers a lot of time by having the names of people known to be unregistered."

Other workers drove people to the courthouse to register, or knocked on doors, looking for eligible voters. "I feel like we got good cooperation from everyone involved," said Malone.

At the end of each month, he said, the Holmes County circuit clerk gives him a list of the people who have registered that month. (The clerk is under a court order to report on voter registration every month to the U. S. District Court.)

Last spring, some of the reports were pretty discouraging to the voter-registration workers. One problem was that many Holmes County Negroes live on

plantations, and could not get time off to register to vote.

According to a study made by the Holmes County Voter Education Project, May was a bad month for voter registration because of the weather.

"The weather was very bad in May, which has considerably slowed registration through lengthening the spring farming season," the report explained. "In many cases cotton had to be replanted several times," and the Negroes had to stay on the plantations to do the planting.

Project workers have talked to about 2,620 people in Holmes County. Although many of them have since registered for the first time, some were already registered but not on the FDP list. And--as in all counties--some people simply refused to register.

The voter registration drive in Mississippi will come to an end around Aug. 8--the day of the state's Democratic primary election.

BY PATRICIA JAMES

MERIDIAN, Miss.--The Meridian Independent Voters Educational and Registration League is holding a six-week drive to register Negro voters.

A five-man "task force" is compiling a list of all the Negro citizens in Meridian and Lauderdale County.

Volunteer precinct workers have obtained lists of registered voters in their districts from the county board of supervisors.

The volunteers are visiting the unregistered Negroes to try to persuade them to register. The workers are also trying to encourage the registered Negroes to vote.

One of the main problems, the volunteers report, is that many Negroes say they are registered but their names do not appear on the county's poll lists.

Another problem is that the people who register now can not vote until after Mississippi's Aug. 8 Democratic primary election.

## Book Review

# Stories of Famous Negroes

BY SANDRA COLVIN

"She was black and little. She was hungrier than any seven-year-old ought to be. No wonder. Since early morning she had sat on the floor holding Mistress Sarah's baby in her lap, crooning, whispering, scolding, jiggling. If

the baby cried, she was whipped."

Slowly the little slave girl moved her hand over the tablecloth to the sugar bowl. "If she made it, she would know for the first time what real sugar tasted like. It didn't happen. Miss Sarah turned around--and saw!

"Don't you dare, you little black wretch!" The mistress reached for a rawhide strap. Harriet ran, crying, "Show me a hiding place, Lord. Show

me a hiding place."

This story is told in a new book called "Four Took Freedom," by Philip Sterling and Rayford Logan. The authors paint very vivid pictures of life for the Negro around the time of the Civil War. The book tells of the lives of Mrs. Harriet Tubman (the seven-year-old girl in the story about the sugar), Frederick Douglass, Robert Smalls, and Blanche K. Bruce.

The powerful and moving story tells how Mrs. Tubman, often called "Moses," led more than 300 Negroes over the "Underground Railroad" from slavery to freedom. "For those who wanted to turn back, she had a pistol and a word of advice, 'Live North or die here.'"

Frederick Douglass escaped from slavery disguised as a sailor. He campaigned for "the slaves' right to freedom and the free Negroes' right to full equality" as a newspaper editor and a stirring public speaker.

"Alongside slavery, which remained his number one target, he would often line up another one--prejudice against Negroes in the free states.... He would talk about the separate church pews, the Jim Crow railroad cars, and the job discrimination in the free states.

"You degrade us," he would say, "and then ask why we are degraded. You shut our mouths, and then ask why we don't speak. You close your colleges and seminaries against us, and then ask why we don't know more."

Through simple but effective illustrations by Charles White, and a remarkable choice of words, the book tells

how Robert Smalls, a 23 year old Negro slave, took over a Confederate ship during the Civil War and sailed it to join the Union Navy. He became a war hero, and one of the Navy's best pilots.

After the war, Smalls was elected to the U. S. House of Representatives from Beaufort County, South Carolina, four times. As a Republican legislator, he continued to fight for federal protection in the South until the local white politicians conspired to steal his votes and defeat him.

The book ends with the story of Blanche K. Bruce, the only Negro ever to be elected and serve a full term as a United States Senator.

Bruce began his political career in 1871, when he was elected sheriff and tax assessor of Bolivar County, Mississippi. Three years later, Mississippi's predominantly-Negro legislature sent him to the Senate.

Bruce was an eloquent spokesman for Negro rights, although he sometimes kept silent when he might have spoken. After he left the Senate, President James A. Garfield appointed Bruce register of the United States Treasury--an important position which required his signature on all paper money issued by the U. S. government.

"Four Took Freedom" really acquaints one with four outstanding figures in Negro history. The book is well written and informative along with being exciting and humorous. I found it challenging, and definitely recommend that it be placed on every individual's reading list.



MRS. HARRIET TUBMAN



ROBERT SMALLS

# Victim's Family Tells Of Clarksdale Killing

BY RUBEN PATES

CLARKSDALE, Miss. -- "I only had two children. Now I have one. I hope they punish that policeman. I hope he goes to a penitentiary for the rest of his life."

Mrs. Bertha Hale was speaking about the death of her 18-year-old son, Joe Lee Hale.

According to witnesses, Hale was shot down July 16 by a Negro patrolman, Jesse Wright. Wright tried to give Hale a ticket as the youth was moving his father's stalled car off a busy street in Clarksdale, the witnesses said.

The victim, his father, and his younger brother had set out a few minutes earlier to visit friends.

"How was I to know when my son left home that he was going to be killed?" asked Mrs. Hale. "I never saw him alive again. A woman who was there when it happened called some of my friends, and they told me Joe had been shot. He was dead before I got to the hospital."

Fifteen-year-old Roger Hale, who watched his brother die on a concrete sidewalk, described the incident this way:

"We were going up the street in Clarksdale, and the car went dead. My daddy was trying to start it, and my brother told him to let him try and crank it up. . . .

"This policeman, who was behind us, came up and asked my brother if he had a driver's license. When my brother said he didn't, the policeman told him to pull up at a service station there."

Then, said Roger Hale, the officer ordered his brother into the patrol car: "My brother kept asking 'For what? For what?' He gave his name, and then the patrolman caught him by the arm and tried to put him into the police car."

That started an argument and an exchange of blows, said Roger Hale. He said the officer "hit Joe with his black-



JOE LEE HALE'S FUNERAL

jack two or three times" before they were pulled apart. "My brother backed off, and then the patrolman shot him in the chest," he said.

"My brother fell down. Me and my daddy stretched him out on the concrete, and about a minute after that, he died. Then the policeman called an ambulance, and they took him to the hospital."

Clarksdale city officials suspended Wright for 30 days, and have agreed to "re-examine" his position at the end of this time. Negro leaders are demanding that Wright be suspended indefinitely.

The officer could not be reached for comment at his home on a farm outside Clarksdale. His family said he was not in town.

Joe Lee Hale was a tenth-grade student at the Riverton Junior High School

in Clarksdale. "He had never been in any trouble before," said his mother, who does domestic work.

"He was very smart in school and very keen--I never had any trouble getting him to school. He liked to play golf better than anything else."

They buried Joe Lee Hale in Clarksdale last Sunday, a week after he was killed. More than 300 people mourned with the Hales.

## In Gadsden Meeting

# Merchants Promise Jobs

BY ALAN BOLES

GADSDEN, Ala. -- Gadsden Negro leaders met with white downtown merchants last Friday, to discuss job opportunities for Negroes.

About a dozen retail firms and the Alis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company were represented in the meeting in the Chamber of Commerce office. The eight Negroes present spoke for the Gadsden Community Service Center (GCSC), the NAACP, and the local voters league.

The meeting was private, and the merchants later refused to say what had been discussed. "It's not that we're trying to keep anything secret," explained William Haller, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce's retail merchants division. "It's just that we feel it's best to go about this quietly."

However, local NAACP President Joseph Faulkner said most of the merchants agreed to hire two or three Negro employees per store in the near future. These new employees will be trained and eventually promoted to full-time jobs, said Faulkner.

He said most of the merchants also said they are willing to speak before groups of Negro high school students, describing the jobs available and explaining the principles of salesmanship. Faulkner said the NAACP offered to recruit qualified Negroes and send them to the stores.

The meeting was part of a job campaign being conducted by the NAACP and GCSC. Faulkner said the downtown stores are "the major sore point--along with the banks and the telephone company."

The Rev. William Flemming, director of GCSC, said the two groups had previously sent qualified Negroes to ap-

ply for jobs downtown. None was successful, he said.

"They (the merchants) said that the shopping centers are cutting into their business, and that some of their long-time employees are being put on part-time," Flemming recalled. "I sympathize with their problems, but I hope that they sympathize with our problems."

At last Friday's meeting, Flemming distributed a strongly-worded statement warning that frustration among Negroes over jobs could result in rioting.

"Whether or not anything comes out

of the meeting, time will only tell," said Flemming. "But we have ways of letting them know if nothing happens." He mentioned picketing and selective-buying campaigns as possible "ways."

Flemming said the NAACP and GCSC have filed about 200 job-discrimination complaints with the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission. Forty to 50 of these were filed against Gadsden's Goodyear plant, he said.

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# Montgomery Shopping & Service Guide

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In the future, The Southern Courier will publish shopping guides for other areas. Lawrence Johnson of the Courier staff will soon be visiting merchants in all parts of Alabama and Mississippi. To make sure he includes you, write him at 1012 Frank Leu Bldg., Montgomery, Ala. 36104

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### Tuskegee Nine Tops Opelika, 13-11

# A Fight to the Finish

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN

OPELIKA, Ala.--In a wild game that seemed like it might never end, the Tuskegee Eagles outlasted the Opelika Blue Sox, 13 to 11, last Saturday night.

About 100 spectators looked on at the Recreation Center, as the two Southeast Alabama Baseball League teams battled back and forth for more than three hours.

The game--marked by 24 runs, 28 hits, 14 errors, 18 strikeouts, and five prolonged arguments--was finished in a steady drizzle shortly before midnight.

Hours earlier, the game had shaped up as a pitchers' duel. John Oscar Grady of Opelika struck out the side in the top half of the first inning, and Roger Cox of Tuskegee fanned two Blue Sox in the bottom half. Both pitchers were throwing bullets.

But Tuskegee broke the ice in the third inning, when William Kennebrew singled, and his brother Alfonso followed with a home run.

This blast produced the best of the game's five arguments, as players and umpires took two trips down the right-field foul line to debate whether the ball had landed fair or foul.

In the fourth inning, Opelika came back, scoring four runs to take a 5-3 lead. But Tuskegee staged its own four-run rally in the sixth inning, and went ahead, 7 to 5.

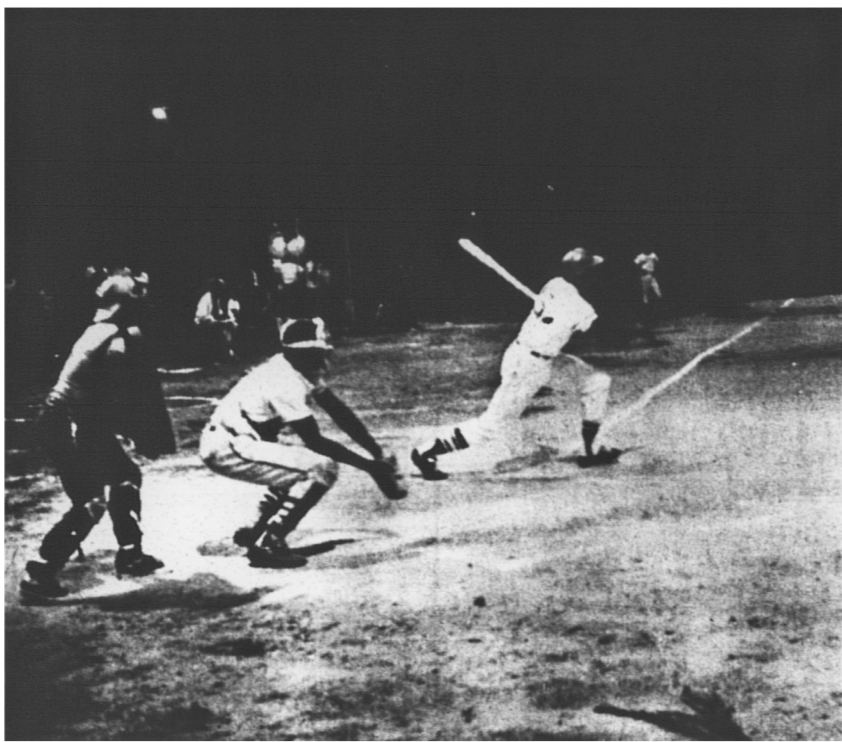
With one out in the top of the eighth, the roof fell in on Opelika. Jonas Bowers came to the plate with Tuskegee runners on first and second, and hit a bouncer to Opelika shortstop Bennie C. Ruff. Ruff tried to force the runner coming into second base, but he missed the bag, and one run scored.

But the Blue Sox still had Bowers trapped between first and second. That is, they did until Opelika catcher James Stephens heaved the ball into the stands in an effort to get the lead runner, Tommy Hart.

When the dust settled, Hart had scored, and Bowers was on third. Bowers then scored on an error by Dock Johnson, who had replaced Grady on the mound.

Opelika, now trailing by 11 to 7, got two runs back in the bottom of the eighth. But Tuskegee added two more tallies to its lead in the top of the ninth.

The big Tuskegee hit was a double to left by Bowers, who laughed hysterical-



ALBERT CARLISLE OF OPELIKA LINES A SINGLE TO LEFT

ly all the way to second base. On the next play, however, Bowers was brained by Bobby Stephens' rifle-like throw while trying to score on an error. He fell to the ground half-conscious, and was tagged out, ending the inning.

In the bottom of the ninth, the Blue Sox had two runs home and men on first and third, when Cox got Earlie Dowdell for the game's final out.

The Southeast Alabama Baseball League is nearing the end of its second season. Both Tuskegee (managed by Marshall Moore) and Opelika (managed by Robert Flournoy) have ranked in the middle of the eight-team amateur league most of the year.

Recent standings showed Alex City on top with a 14-4 record, followed by Mt. Olive (13-5), Tuskegee (11-10), Tallassee (12-11), Lanett (8-10), Ope-

lika (9-14), Auburn (9-15), and Lafayette (5-12).

A spectator Saturday night was Clarence Bass of Auburn, commissioner of the league. Bass is also the Auburn third-baseman, because, he said, "I had to play, or watch my home-town team go to the dogs."

The league has attracted a lot of good young players this year, said Bass. "In our first year, everybody out there looked like my daddy," he said. "Now the game's going back to the young fellows."

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE IN THE COURIER

## Planning Will Begin For Medical Program

BY BETH WILCOX

HAYNEVILLE, Ala.--As soon as a \$53,055 federal grant arrives, planning will begin for Lowndes County's new medical program. When the plans are made and approved, the program will bring free medical care to the poor people in the county.

Dr. H. Howard Meadows, the newly-recommended director of the program, said the planning grant should arrive in about two weeks. But, cautioned Dr. Robert P. Griffin of Ft. Deposit, "we won't be able to begin patient care for three to six months, at least."

Griffin and five other doctors--including Dr. W. L. Stagers of Benton--will participate in the first year of the program, if the plans are approved. Meadows--who was a U. S. Navy doctor for 12 years--will be the administrator.

"This is all in the dream stage now," said Meadows, "but we hope to have two first-aid stations in each beat. I would like each to be staffed with a registered nurse, so she could go out and see the patient and give the symptoms to the doctor when she calls him."

"Each doctor will have a two-way radio, and there will be a radio at each station," he explained. And, he added, "if a mother wants to go to the doctor, we might be able to provide baby-sitting services."

Since there are no hospitals in the county, Meadows said, "we will refer the patient to a specialist in Montgomery, who will then send him to a hospital. The hospital will send us the bill." But first there will be a survey, to

find out how many people need medical care and how much it will cost. Forty-two people will be hired for the survey, said Griffin, and "we will start taking applications for survey workers next week."

The board of directors for the medical program includes seven Negro residents of Lowndes County and ten whites. They met together for the first time last week.

"Before that, we met separately, and often called Dr. Griffin while we met," said Mrs. Robert Strickland, a Negro board member. She said D. Robert Smith, director of the county's adult-education program, "met with the white members of the board and told us what they said."

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The 40-voice choir of the Free University of West Berlin will present a concert of sacred songs at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 2, in the Sixth Ave. Baptist Church, Sixth Ave. and 16th St., Birmingham.

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### Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights

The weekly meeting will be at 7 p.m. Monday, July 31, in the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, 401 52nd St., Fairfield, the Rev. R. E. Avery, pastor. The speaker will be the Rev. J. A. Salary of Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Fairfield.

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