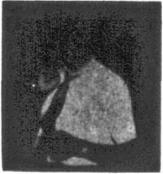


Wrenn Runs For B'ham Council

BY BOB DINWIDDIE
BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--Tommy Wrenn of the Alabama Christian Movement is running for City Council in Birmingham. He thinks he can be the first Negro on the council.
"My chances are 99 to 1 to win," he said last week. "They have put up 25

FOR GOOD CLEAN HONEST GOVERNMENT



VOTE FOR THOMAS "Tommy" WRENN
The People's Candidate
CITY COUNCILMAN
WIN WITH WRENN

WRENN'S CAMPAIGN LEAFLET people for five seats, it never happened before. They know I can win."
The city election will be held Oct. 10. Five men are running for mayor, and 25 are running at large for the city council. All of Wrenn's opponents are white.
"Running at large is an advantage for me right now," Wrenn said. He said Negroes make up 59% of the population in Birmingham, and 51% of the voting-age population.

With 24 white candidates splitting the white vote, Wrenn said, a heavy Negro vote will put him on the council.
But Wrenn isn't seeking just Negro votes. He said he's campaigning in some poor white areas, too, in the belief that these white people haven't been served by the present council members.
"We're going to have street-corner and block rallies, corner to corner,

neighborhood to neighborhood," said Wrenn. "In the white community, too. Baby, I'm coming."

Wrenn appeared with four other candidates last Saturday at a rally in Ensley. A rally with band music is planned for this Saturday in Kelly Ingram Park. Wrenn said he expects help from SCLC in the final days of the campaign.
In a campaign leaflet, Wrenn outlined a ten-point program to improve conditions for Negroes and poor whites.
He said he will work for "an immediate end to police militarism, abusive language, intimidation, brutality, and unnecessary killing."

And, he said, "I will use all my power and resources to rid our community of bootlegging and pep-pill pushing. This is a must."

Other points in Wrenn's program include enforcement and strengthening of the city housing laws, and opposition to new taxes.

What's in a Name?

TUSKEGEE, Ala. -- The people won a victory over the bureaucracy at this week's City Council meeting.

The people were residents of Calloway St.--until last month, when the city re-named it Calloway Ave. A group of petitioners told the council that they wanted the old name back, because that is the name they used on all their legal papers.

Mayor Charles M. Keever said he changed "street" to "avenue" because the post office and the police and fire departments were confused. He explained that Tuskegee has two Calloway streets.

But Councilman Stanley H. Smith said the people should have been consulted. And a Washington St. resident added that the post office frequently confuses his street with Washington Ave., "so you don't have much of a point there, Mayor."

The council then voted unanimously to give the people what they want. Now, they live on North Calloway St.

Abernathy Comes to Montgomery

AAC, MIA Discuss Bus Cases; Driver Loses Job After Trial

BY SANDRA COLVIN AND SARAH HEGGIE

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--The newly-formed Alabama Action Committee (AAC) and the 12-year-old Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA) held meetings last Monday night--in different places at the same time.

The AAC, meeting in the Bell St. Baptist Church, presented Milton Hall, the 22-year-old Prattville Negro wounded in the city's first bus incident Sept. 13.

Hall was shot in a scuffle with J. H. Duke, a white passenger, after Mrs. Joyce Rogers, a Negro lady, tried to take a seat between the two men on a city bus.

Speaking on the topic "From Vlet Nam to the City Bus," Hall said it disturbs him that he fought in Vlet Nam to "defend the American democracy, and (I) have to come back to something less."

The Rev. Richard Boone, leader of AAC, said people will be "hitting the streets again," if the city bus company doesn't take "favorable" action by the end of this week. Boone didn't say what "favorable" action would be.

The manager of the Montgomery City

Bus Lines, Homer Cummings, said this week that J. P. Mobley--a driver involved in the second bus incident--"was permitted to resign, and he will never be able to get another job with the company."

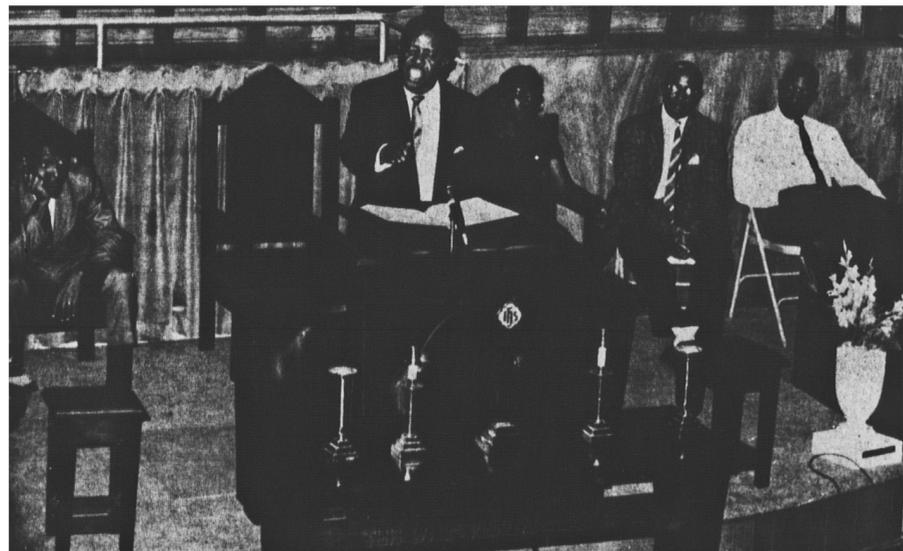
Mobley was convicted of assault and battery last Monday for pushing and kicking two Negro youths who were riding a special city bus to formerly-white Sidney Lanier High School Sept. 19. Municipal Court Judge D. Eugene Loe fined Mobley \$50 and costs.

The amount of the driver's fine was the subject of remarks at last Monday's MIA meeting.

"He got off light," said the Rev. H. T. Wilkins. "If a Negro had done the same thing to some white boys, he would have been thrown in jail, and the key would have been put on a cat's back, and turpentine would have been put on the cat."

Mrs. Johnnie R. Carr, president of the MIA, urged members to attend Duke's trial, scheduled for last Wednesday in Municipal Court. Duke was charged with assault with intent to murder in the Sept. 13 shooting.

About ten MIA members and friends were present in court last Wednesday.



REV. RALPH ABERNATHY ADDRESSES MONTGOMERY MEETING

Most Negroes Lose in ASCS Vote

'No Way to Win It'



COUNTING BALLOTS IN MACON COUNTY

Not Even an Alternate

BY BETH WILCOX

SELMA, Ala.--After all the ASCS community committee ballots were counted this week, Dallas County no longer had even the one Negro alternate it had last year.

Lowndes County farmers elected three Negro community committeemen and three Negro alternates.

Few people showed up to observe the Dallas ballot-counting last Monday and Tuesday in the county courthouse. Marlon Green, the county's one Negro alternate, stayed out in his field in Sardis, picking cotton.

"I received a notice about the balloting, inviting me to participate on Oct.

4," he said. "I wasn't even thinking about the counting being today, because I received the notice."

Sam O'Hara, the county ASCS (Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service) office manager, said, "The notices that were sent out told about the convention to elect county committeemen. The day of ballot-counting never was changed."

Besides Green, defeated candidates also included Mrs. Mary Lou Harrison of Tyler. She was required to run as a write-in candidate, after the ASCS office determined that she is not a farmer.

In Lowndes County, three Negro farmers were elected to the committee in community C, along with one Negro alternate. Three Negroes had been elected last year, too.

How do Negroes get elected in community C?

"In this community, most of us own our own farms," said R. C. Mays, who won re-election. "In other communities, they are tenants--the man says, 'Vote for me or you're off the land.'"

Mays and Eugene Peoples--who was also re-elected--pointed out that 15 white men were elected in the other communities. "I doubt if we'll have any Negroes on the county committee this year," said Peoples. (The community committeemen elect the county committee.)

Willie James Stringer, an alternate last year, exclaimed when he was elected a regular member, "I'm gonna worry those folks at the office this year--ask a whole lot of questions."

Mays said things had improved in the county ASCS office. "I would say that people are treated all right at the office now--much better than they used

'Wasn't of Too Much Importance'

Campaigns Fail in Miss.

BY ESTELLE FINE

LXINGTON, Miss.--

"It wasn't of too much importance," said a Holmes County community leader, even before he

learned the results of the ASCS (Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service) election.

And the results seemed to confirm the impression that the election wasn't important to many Negro farmers.

Only three Negroes were elected to community committees in the county--one regular member and two alternates, all in the Acona community. The three Negro winners--Clarence Brewer, Essex Brown Jr., and Henry Carey--were put on the ballot by the county ASCS committee, not by petitions from the community.

Two Negro farmers active in civil rights had won last year's election in the South Lexington ASCS community. But both of them--Jessie Williams Jr. and Lee H. Lewis--were defeated this year. Lewis was five votes short of being an alternate, and Williams missed by seven.

Holmes County Negro leaders said the Negro farmers' poor showing was



MAY (upper left)



PEOPLES (upper right)



STRINGER (lower right)

to be, anyway," he said.

But, said Mays, farmers are "up against it" in the county.

"Take for instance the cotton this year," he said. "It was black from the start. As soon as it came up, it started to rain. I planted cotton three times, and I still don't have a crop at all."

"Most farmers depend on cotton," he added, "and this year, if they have any, it's pretty sorry cotton."

John A. Gilliam was the Negro alternate elected in community C.

In community A, Negro alternates Matthew Jackson and Percy Johnson missed being elected regular members by margins of one and six votes out of 110 ballots cast.

The state ASCS office in Montgomery said this week it did not yet have a tabulation of the number of Negroes elected in other counties.

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE, Ala. -- "There's just no way to win it," said a discouraged civil rights worker, after the Macon County ASCS election results were announced.

"No matter what we do, the white folks have the power to defeat us," he continued, shaking his head.

Once again, Macon County's 5-to-1 Negro majority had failed to name a significant number of black people to the county's five ASCS (Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service) community committees.

Despite two months of campaigning by local Negroes and staff members of the Alabama Council on Human Relations (ACHR), the county's farmers elected 11 white men--and only four Negroes.

What happened? Dr. Ellis Hall, a Tuskegee Institute veterinarian who helped run the campaign, said there were two main reasons why most Negro candidates were defeated.

"The (Negro) vote was split," he said. "And then there were extra (white) votes recruited. . . . We just have to get more Negro women on the voting list."

Bob Valder, the ACHR's executive director, explained that some white wives voted along with their husbands in three communities--Tuskegee, Little Texas-Society Hill-Roba, and Shorter-Milstead-Franklin.

If the wives are co-owners of the farms, Valder said, their ballots are legal. But if the county ASCS office staff actively recruited those wives' votes, he added, there might be grounds for asking the state ASCS committee to hold new elections in the three communities.

Valder and Hall said they will challenge the vote on that basis. And state ASCS committee chairman Jack M. Bridges--who observed the ballot-counting Monday--said the state committee would consider such an appeal.

But Leary Whatley, Macon County ASCS office manager, indicated that he would defend the election results. He said he and his staff could and did encourage people to vote--but not for any particular candidates.

He also said he doesn't remember whether a large number of white wives qualified to vote in this year's election.

But in at least one community--Little Texas-Society Hill-Roba--the turnout was much higher this year than last year.

In 1966, the area elected two Negroes and one white man to the ASCS community committee. Modchia Sims--a Negro--had the top total of 107 votes.

This year P. T. Godfrey--a white man--led in the community balloting with a total of 156. Another white man, R. F. "Bobby" Walters, was second with 141 votes. Sims came in third with

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO, Col. 5)

People said one land-owner visited four of his tenants during the voting period, and made them mark ballots while he watched.

But despite the defeat, Kemper County Negroes said the organizing effort gave them a start in mobilizing the county for future ASCS elections and other political activities.

"They (the whites) didn't do anything illegal, because they didn't want trouble from Washington," said one farmer. "We kept them on their toes."

A write-in effort for 15 Negro candidates in Grenada County was also unsuccessful.

Across the state, there were reports of votes cast by white absentee landlords, by school districts that own land, and by hunting clubs.

In at least one county, white farmers spent large sums of money to get their wives' names added to their deeds--making the wife an owner. This, too, meant extra white votes.

Members of ASCS community committees elect the members of the more powerful county committees. The county committees administer federal farm programs, and decide who gets the benefits.

The county committees also decide how much cotton each farmer is allowed to grow.

THE SOUTHERN COURIER

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Editorial Opinion

Bigotry Runs Deep

One of the nation's most reliable newspapers--the New York Times--reported last week that Secretary of State Dean Rusk had offered to resign because of his daughter's marriage to a Negro. Rusk has refused to confirm or deny the story.

According to the Times, Rusk made the offer because he thought President Johnson might find the marriage "politically embarrassing." The story said President Johnson considers the resignation a mere formality, and isn't taking it seriously.

But it is incredible to us that such an offer was made at all. We can't imagine what the Secretary of State's daughter's choice of a husband has to do with Rusk's competence--or incompetence--in his job.

And further, we can't think of any legitimate reason why the marriage should "embarrass" anyone, other than rabid racists. (In fact, enlightened foreign countries may be vaguely reassured to know that despite this summer's riots, some kind of inter-racial communication is still possible in the United States.)

We doubt that the President will offer to resign in the event that pacifists object to HIS daughter's planned marriage to a Marine captain. The President would be right to think these critics couldn't tell the difference between public policy and private taste.

But Rusk's reported "resignation" is something worse than absurd. It is depressing evidence that the black militants may be right when they say America is fundamentally racist. If bigotry so pervades this country that a high-ranking official feels he must apologize for his family's LACK of prejudice, then we are all deeper in trouble than we knew.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:
I feel it incumbent upon me to respond to your editorial regarding the (NAACP Legal Defense) Fund's defense of Negro professional athletes.

I agree that filing complaints on behalf of high-salaried athletes should not be one of our prime functions. It should be pointed out, however, that the Legal Defense Fund feels a responsibility to attack discrimination wherever it exists--be it in ghettos, on the plantations, or in the mansions of millionaires.

It should come as no surprise to you that the Legal Defense Fund has initiated major programs to bring equal protection of the laws to millions of Americans whose economic dependence precludes their effective participation in society. We have, for example, filed at least three suits alone in Alabama against low-rent housing projects.

Our involvement in matters of public welfare is well known (I'm sure you are aware of the educational program along these lines culminating in the regular column in your paper). This office is deeply involved in employment and education projects throughout the South, attempting to advise the disadvantaged of their rights and working with them to see that they are secured.

The Fund has, over the last five years, defended over 13,000 individuals. We don't think it's quite fair to ask them for their credit rating, for we feel that all people who are discriminated against should be defended.

This we have done and shall continue to do to the limit of our capabilities.

Allen Black Jr.
Regional Director
NAACP Legal Defense Fund
Memphis, Tenn.

To the Editor:
I have been reading your Southern Courier for a year or two but never have written you all before.

I have lots of problems here in Troy, Ala., but didn't see how you all could help any. But I will tell you some of

them.
First we need some colored doctors here in Troy. We need some streets fixed. . . .

We need a man to come and get our rags. We have a lot of rags that we could spend the pennies that we use to get for them. But no rag man comes around now like they use to come.

And we can't sit out on the front porch unless we make a smoke. No one ever comes and spray for them (bugs). The septic pools stinks, the outdoors toilets stinks.

We need a lot done to help the poor peoples here in Troy, Ala. Now what can you all do to help? Wish you could.

I won't give my name because I am colored and I have to be careful because I live here.

(Name withheld)
Troy, Ala.

To the Editor:

I am a friend to all the girls in the State of Alabama, that's why I am writing this note.

Telling them the price of men's because they don't seem to know.

Here in Alabama there are four to five girls on one man when there is no cause for all of that, when they can just go out and buy a man for ten cents. He would be that easy to get.

So come down girls and be cool. Don't be a Tom, Dick, or Harry's fool, let them be your fool. As a friend of yours I am telling you to let your dear friend or best friend's boyfriend alone and get one of your own.

Take it from me. I am cool and no one's fool, cause I know the price.

Perrie J. Scott
Enterprise, Ala.

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

Talent Hunt Offers Chance To Go to Better Schools

John T. is the tenth of 11 children in a Southern Negro farm family. Neither of his parents got through elementary school, and the family's yearly income is \$2,200.

In the eighth grade of an all-Negro rural school, John was first in his class, with all A's except for a B in arithmetic.

John's parents wanted him to go to college, but it was clear that after four years in a segregated rural high school, John would not be able to get into a very good college.

Then John came to the attention of the ABC (A Better Chance) Independent Schools Talent Search. This is a program that takes students from poor families and send them to some of the country's top private and public high schools. The goal of the program is to prepare these kids for whatever colleges they wish to attend.

The ABC program found John a place at one of the best--and toughest--boys' schools in the country. After attending a summer program at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire, he made the honor roll his first year at the new school.

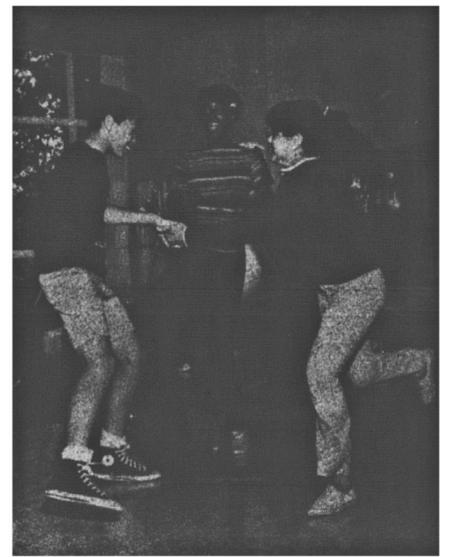
In the past two years, John's grades have dropped slightly--but only because he is taking so many hard courses. Last year, he studied six major subjects, including three foreign languages.

No one doubts that John will go on to a good college. His English teacher says, "He continues to be a source of inspiration to us all."

This experience will be open to about 230 boys and girls again this year. And the ABC program is looking for poor but talented students from the South--especially from Alabama.

Who can qualify for the program? You are eligible if:

1. You will be entering the tenth grade in the fall of 1968. In other words, you should be in ninth grade now, or you should be a tenth-grader who is willing to take an "extra year" at a tougher school. There will also be a few spots



STUDENTS AT ABC SUMMER PROGRAMS

for students entering the ninth or 11th grades in the fall of '68.

2. You are an A and B student, or a C student with a good attitude and other qualifications. The ABC program is looking for students who could do better under better conditions.

3. You come from a poor family. ABC says it is seeking students "from the poorest possible circumstances." This means your family income should be less than \$4,000, and your parents' educational opportunities should have been "limited."

Students selected for the ABC program will attend private boarding schools in New England, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, California, or Arizona, or public schools in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Minnesota.

Their tuition, room, meals, books, and transportation will be paid for, although their families will be expected to help out with expenses as much as possible.

ABC points out that students selected

for the program "will have to make some sacrifices." Students at boarding schools will live in dormitories, and will be able to visit their families only on holidays and during the summer. Most of the schools are not co-educational, so there is not much social life.

But the schools are the best. They have small classes, expert teachers, and good libraries and laboratories.

ABC also warns that most of the schools involved are for boys, so girls will have a harder time getting into the program.

Preliminary applications for the

1968-69 school year are due by Oct. 15. Guidance counselors at many schools in Mississippi can provide application forms. So can counselors at the following Alabama schools:

Parker High, Ullman High, Hayes High, Western-Olin High, and Westfield High in Birmingham; Central High in Mobile; and Chambliss Children's House in Tuskegee.

In Montgomery, applications are available at the Southern Courier office.

If you are not near any of these places, you can write direct to ABC, 376 Boylston St., Boston, Mass. 02116.

Farmers in Macon Ignore CR Slate in ASCS Vote

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

Besides Sims, the Negro winners this year were Rasberry Johnson, Green Elmore, and I. J. Hill. All three are from the Fort Davis-Hardaway ASCS community in southern Macon County.

There is a slight chance for a Negro to replace one of the three white men elected to the Tuskegee community committee. James H. M. Henderson, a defeated Negro candidate, challenged the ASCS committee's decision to throw out 13 Tuskegee ballots.

The ASCS county committeemen--who counted the ballots--ruled that the 13 in question were not properly signed. Henderson said they were. He estimated that nine or ten of them were cast by Negroes.

If the state ASCS committee upholds Henderson's complaint--and if most of the disputed votes are for Negro candidates--the results could be changed. Dave Fitzpatrick, a Negro farmer, received 117 votes--just seven less than S. T. Sege Jr., the white man who won the third seat on the community committee.

But the election challenges wouldn't have been necessary if Negroes throughout the county had voted together the way the white farmers did.

In each of the four ASCS communities where civil rights workers campaigned, there were three white men and nine or ten Negroes on the ballot.

The civil rights people worked for

slates of five Negro candidates (three regular committeemen and two alternates) in each community. But Fort Davis-Hardaway was the only area where black voters went down the line for the ticket.

In the other three communities, several Negro voters ignored the slate, and voted for three black and two white candidates of their own choosing. The white farmers, meanwhile, voted in a bloc.

But Hall pointed out that the Macon County results weren't all bad. "We elected three Negroes last year, and for this year," he said, "We're getting there."

Candidates Told to Hit

'What Whites DON'T Do'

BY ESTELLE FINE

EDWARDS, Miss.--Workshops were held at Mt. Beulah last weekend for Negro candidates running for "policy-making" jobs.

About 15 candidates for county supervisor, county clerk, state senator, and state representative attended the sessions held last Friday night through Sunday afternoon. The participants included Democratic primary winners and independent candidates.

"You've got to hit the white folks in office on what they DON'T do," the Rev. Harry Bowls of the Delta Ministry told a session on campaign strategy.

It is important to get all the black people in the community involved in movement politics, said Lawrence Guyot of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party. Guyot said candidates should use the news media, leaflets, and meetings and home visits to reach these people.

Alvin Bronstein of the Lawyers Constitutional Defense Committee said Negro candidates must win over the people who are used to voting for "the man." One candidate agreed, saying Negroes who vote for whites "don't know what that vote means."

There was a lot of discussion about the recent attempts to disqualify independent candidates for voting in the Democratic primary. The Mississippi Legislature last year made it illegal for people who vote in the primaries to run as independents.

This week, Bronstein filed a federal-court suit attacking the law. The suit charged that the Mississippi law violates the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965.

It was also brought out that white people in Carroll County and other places are saying that if Negroes voted in the primary, they can't vote for independents in November. The candidates were told that this is not true.

Workshops are being held at Mt. Beulah this weekend for candidates for law-enforcement offices. Many candidates for sheriff, coroner, constable, and justice of the peace were invited to attend.

FDP Causes Stir

JACKSON, Miss.--People in Jackson are talking about a recent issue of the Hinds County FDP News, which included instructions on how to make a Molotov cocktail and an article entitled, "Black Power is Fire Power!"

"The white man in America and in Mississippi and Hinds County has so many guns because he wants to kill you and me whenever he gets a chance," said the FDP News. "As Rap Brown stated, the white man has been a bloody killer ever since he wiped out the Indians and stole their country."

"And this is why the white man does not want us to know of the true meaning of the Bill of Rights. It is your Constitutional right to have as many guns as we need, and to use those guns to PROTECT OURSELVES, OUR FAMILIES, AND OUR BLACK COMMUNITY."

"What are we waiting for?" the article asked. "The time is now to get as many guns as we can, to organize shooting clubs, to train every Black man, woman, and child how to protect our community with violence when necessary."

Tax Collector Takes Office Monday

Locklair's Working Hard

BY MARY ELLEN GALE
TUSKEGEE, Ala.--For the last month, L. A. Locklair and Mrs. Odessa Graves have been hard at work at the big desk in the sheriff's old office in the Macon County courthouse.

Heads bent over a huge stack of books and papers, they have been copying the county's tax assessments from the tax assessor's books into the tax collector's books.

But on Monday, Locklair and Mrs. Graves will move their records down the hall into the Macon County tax collector's office.

On that day, Locklair will formally take office as the county's first Negro tax collector. And Mrs. Graves will become his full-time secretary.

Locklair was nominated by the Democratic party in May, 1966, and easily won the general election.

Since then, he's been learning about his new job--with help from Mrs. J. H. Reynolds, the white lady who ran the tax collector's office for the five years preceding her husband's resignation in July, 1966.

"She assisted us on how to make reports and gave us a lot of advice," said Locklair. He said James A. Braswell--the white man who has been tax collector for the last year--and tax assessor Harold E. Hendon were also "very cooperative."



L. A. LOCKLAIR AND MRS. ODESSA GRAVES

The tax collector's six-year term of office begins on Oct. 1, because the county's yearly budget begins on that day. Locklair's busiest time will be the next six weeks, when hundreds of county residents will pass through his office to pay property taxes and auto tag fees.

He said he expects to handle about \$300,000 or \$400,000 a year, and will be paid on a commission basis.

"That's not so bad," Locklair admitted. But he promised to earn the money. "I'll be here five days a week, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., for the next six years," he said.



OKRA FOR SWAFCA

MARION, Ala.--Mrs. Sonnie Lou Walker of Perry County picks okra three times a week. From her acre of okra, Mrs. Walker gets seven or eight baskets a week to sell at the SWAFCA grading station.

Joseph Richardson of Perry County brings his mule-drawn carrier out to the road three times a week, to load a truck with the okra he and his family have picked. Richardson relies on his okra and corn crops to support a wife and seven children.

These are two of the farmers who sell their produce to the Southwest Alabama Farmers Cooperative Association. Earlier this year, the co-op sold cucumbers, and now it is selling okra. SWAFCA marketing specialist Ben Fink said people now should be planting greens--mustard, turnips, collards, spinach, and kale. Business manager Calvin Osborne suggested planting sweet potatoes, too.

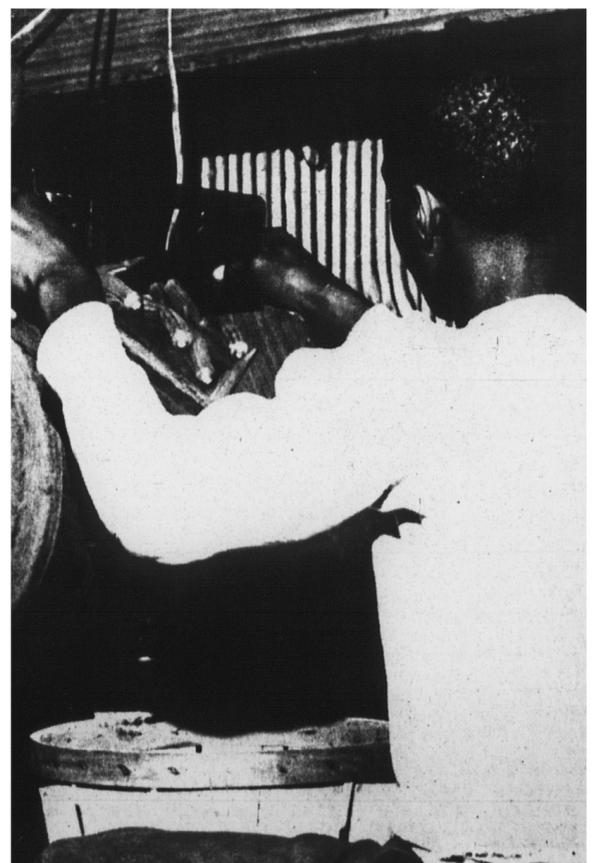
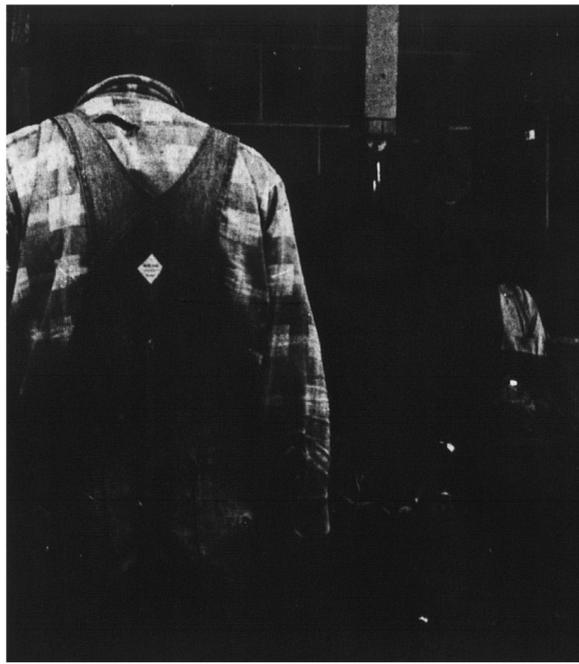
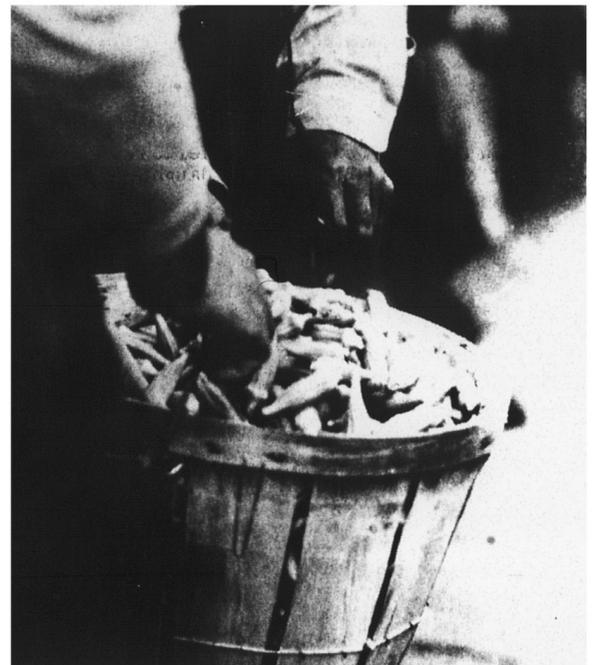
Fink drives from Selma to the Perry County grading station every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, to supervise the weighing and sorting. (At other times, the grading station serves as a social hall.)

After grading, okra is brought to Selma by truck. It then is sent to markets in Alabama and other states. Fink said he has no trouble finding markets for anything SWAFCA farmers might want to grow. "In fact," he said, "we have more markets than we can supply."



Photos by James E. Lytle

Text by Beth Wilcox



'Nothing Wrong With Scratching Backs'

Successful Negro Politicians Trade Advice On Winning Elections, Getting Things Done

BY KERRY GRUSON

ATLANTA, Ga.--"This is an historic meeting," Vernon Jordan of the Southern Regional Council told 36 Negro men and women gathered in a big room at Clark College.

"A few years ago there were areas in the South where few if any Negroes were even allowed to vote," Jordan continued. "Now you are here from every Southern state. And you are only the trickle before the flood."

The people Jordan was speaking to had very different backgrounds. A few of them could just barely read and write. Others were educators and bank presidents.

But they all had three important things in common: they were Southerners, they were Negroes, and they were elected politicians.

They came from half a dozen states for a three-day workshop on local government, sponsored by the Southern Regional Council's Voter Education Project and the Clark College Center for the Study of Southern Public Policy.

Since they are practical politicians and not theoreticians, they came to discuss the problems a Negro official faces in the South, and to try and find common solutions to some of those problems.

For all of them, the first difficulty was winning the election.

"How do you get elected to the board of aldermen if you're a Negro?" asked Q. V. Williamson, the only Negro on Atlanta's board of aldermen, the city governing body. Then he answered his own question.

"To win, you have to get a substantial share of the white vote, because the elections are city-wide," he said. "I discovered that there were a substantial number of whites who would vote for a Republican even if he were Negro."

"So," said Williamson, a big, burly man with a self-confident air, "I ran as a Republican."

But Henry Marsh, a city councilman in Richmond, Va., said he wouldn't have had a chance if he had run on the Republican ticket. And he didn't get the chance to run as a Democrat.

Although Richmond already had two Negro city councilmen at the time he ran for office, Marsh said, he didn't win the endorsement of the Democratic party.

Instead, he ran as an independent--and received more votes than a Negro opponent who had the support of the



VERNON JORDAN

city's political leaders. "I got 18,000 votes, and 4,000 of these votes were white," said Marsh.

How did he do it? Marsh--an attorney who has done legal work for the NAACP--didn't campaign on his civil rights leadership. In fact, he said, he didn't mention the race issue very much.

"I talked about people's problems--like sewage, garbage collection, (street) lighting," Marsh explained, "and some whites identified."

But some Negro politicians--from

states and cities where the Democratic party still has a firm control of local government--said they didn't think Williamson's or Marsh's strategies would have worked for them.

They agreed with Louis Martin, the top-ranking Negro on the Democratic party's national committee. Martin said that the best way for Negroes to win a voice in local politics was to run candidates in the elections for party officials--like the county executive committees in Alabama.

Then, he claimed, the Negroes could influence the state party and the national party. "That's the way every minority group has done it," he said.

The Negro politicians also talked about what to do after you win the election. Some of them said that Negro office-holders have trouble taking the initiative because white politicians are resentful instead of co-operative.

"We get pushed into a corner when we introduce legislation," said Mose Riddick, a member of the board of supervisors in Suffolk, Va.

"That's politics," replied Bayard Rustin, a long-time national civil rights leader who spoke to the workshop. "There is nothing wrong with scratching backs."

"But I have to scratch twice, and I get scratched once," Riddick shot back. "And then people on the outside come up to me and say, 'Mose, they've turned you into an Uncle Tom. You're even saying 'nigra' now.'"

John Stewart, a city councilman from Durham, N. C., agreed with Riddick that a Negro politician has special problems. Although a conscientious Negro representative will have to consider what his white supporters want, Stewart said, Negro office-holders must be careful to keep in touch with their main political base--the Negro people.

"The Negro cares just as little for a 'briefcase Negro' as he does for Whitey," Stewart observed.

Rustin admitted that Negro politicians are likely to be accused of "Uncle Tomism," and said they will just have to live down the criticism.

"But that must not stop you from politicking," he insisted. "Backscratching is inevitable."

The Rev. E. B. Turner, a city councilman from Lumberton, N.C., told the group how backscratching can work to benefit Negroes.

"The fire chief came to me and asked me to support his budget," said Turner. "He was trying to slip in an enormous increase."

"I told him all right: If it goes through, get me Negro firemen. Then I went to other councilmen and kept telling them how important the fire department was. Of course, they didn't know about my bargain with the chief.

"He got his budget--and I got Negro



BAYARD RUSTIN MAKES A POINT

firemen. Before that, no Negro had ever passed the test, and it was the chief who graded it."

"Now," Turner added, "the police chief is slipping around to get his budget. We made the same kind of agreement. And all my fellow councilmen were so surprised to hear a Negro say how good the good the police department was."



MISS MARIAN WRIGHT

"These birds want their budgets passed," concluded Turner, to appreciative laughter from his audience. "If you make them obligated to you, you have them right there."

Marsh, the city councilman from Richmond, Va., also had some practical tips. He told the other politicians to:

1. Understand who has the power, and deal with him if you can.
2. Sit down and figure out the most important issues in your community as soon as you decide to run for office.
3. Once elected, get on as many committees as possible. Often, Marsh said, the committees--not the full council--really make the city policy.
4. Talk to the heads of the departments about their problems, as Turner did.
5. Develop the young people's talents. Marsh said he meets every month

with youth groups in Richmond.

6. Work with the press. Use the competition between radio, television, and newspapers to your own advantage.

7. Use your vote carefully. Marsh said he was one of very few councilmen who voted against liquor sales by the drink. "I'm not against it," he said, "but I knew that it would pass anyway. So I made a protest vote to represent all the people who were against it." Now he hopes those people will vote for him in the next election.

Several speakers at the workshop told the Negro politicians that the best way to get re-elected was to get results--to improve their communities as much as possible.

It won't be easy, warned Miss Marian Wright, a young civil rights lawyer: "White people spend all their time figuring out how they can outsmart us--and they are outsmarting us."

But, she said, it's a lot harder to outsmart people who know the facts. She gave the politicians a lesson in little-known welfare laws, and urged them to write the U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare to ask for more programs to help poor people.

As the elected representatives of the Negro poor, Miss Wright said, the politicians were the people who should be doing the asking.

The workshop also heard from Robert Thompson of the new U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, John O. Boone of the Southern Regional

Council discussed crime and criminal law.

Miss Jean Fairfax of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund spoke about school integration. Peter Edelman, a legislative assistant to New York Senator Robert F. Kennedy, talked about the U. S. Congress. Samuel DuBois Cook, a professor of political science from Duke University, explained the differences between various kinds of local governing bodies.

What did the workshop accomplish? Jordan said he hopes all the participants got some new information--and some new ideas--they could use at home.

During the year, he said, the Voter Education Project will provide additional information to any politician who asks for it. Next year, he plans to hold another workshop.

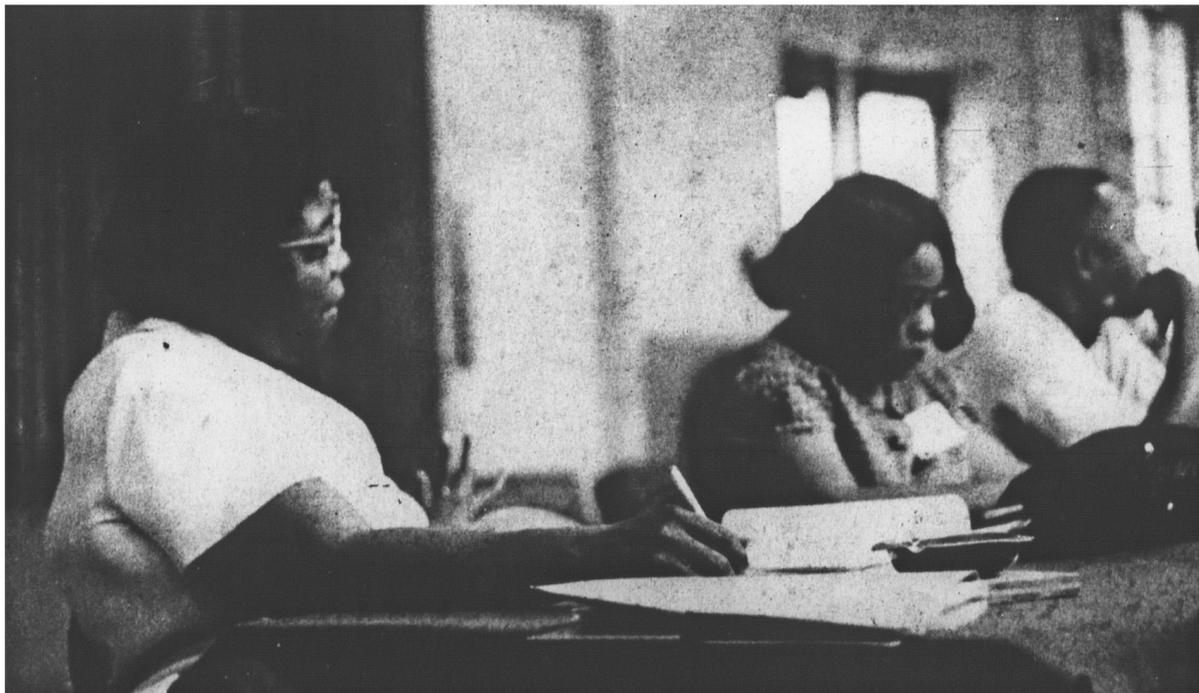
"This was our first, and we have learned a lot," said Jordan. "The next one will be better. For instance, we see now that we should have concentrated more on rural problems instead of urban problems."

Rustin, the national civil rights leader, said the workshop signaled the beginning of a new direction in the movement.

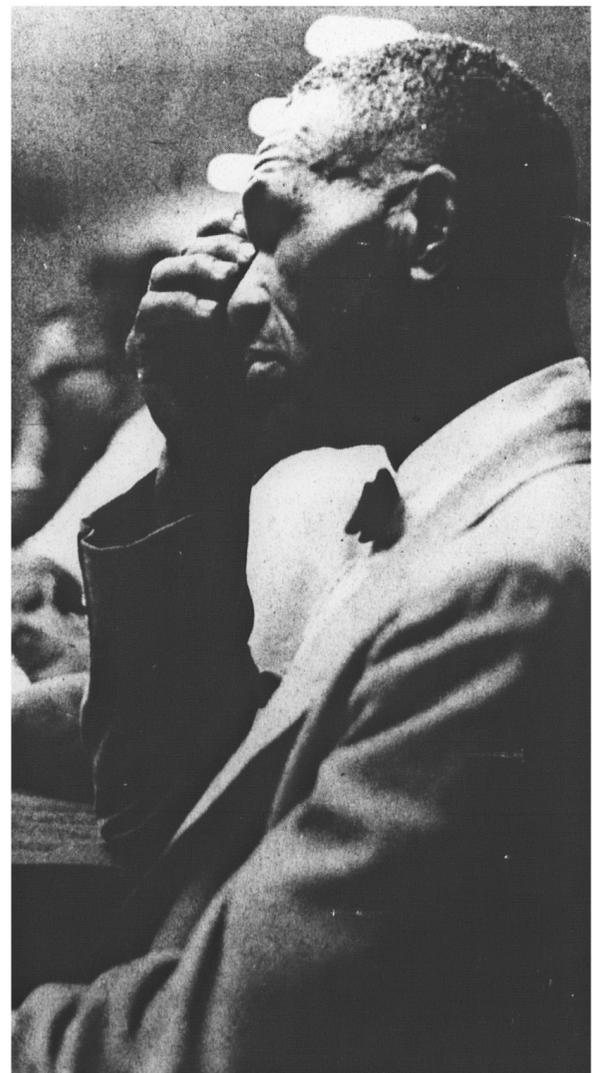
From the time of the Montgomery, Ala., bus boycott in 1955-56 to the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Rustin said, "we had a movement based by necessity on protest. But now we are in a period of politics."



HENRY MARSH



POLITICIANS (ABOVE AND RIGHT) AT THE WORKSHOP IN ATLANTA



OEO Says Program Discriminates

Barbour-Dale-Henry CAP Fight Goes On



OZARK MAYOR BROWN (LEFT) AND CAP BOARD CHAIRMAN MONEY

2 Students Suspended At Marks High School

BY PRESLEY FRANKLIN
 MARKS, Miss.--Jerome and Nathaniel Brown, Negro students at formerly all-white Marks High School, were suspended from school last week.

Nathaniel Brown, the younger of the two brothers, was later expelled by the Quitman County school board. But after a phone call from a lawyer for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, Nathaniel got his books back. He is now back in school.

Jerome Brown said he was suspended because he didn't get his lesson out.

Food Stamps For Autauga?

BY SARAH HEGGIE
 PRATTVILLE, Ala.--The Autauga County Improvement Association (ACIA) has been trying to get city and county officials to approve a food stamp program.

The program would enable the people in Prattville and the rest of the county to get a large amount of groceries by paying a small price for food stamps. Mrs. Sallie Hadnott of the ACIA said no conclusion was reached when the all-Negro group met with the county board of revenue earlier this month.

"We estimate that it will cost \$20,000 to put the program into effect, one-third of which the Office of Economic Opportunity will pay," she said.

But Autauga County Probate Judge E. A. Grouby said it would cost "about \$25,000" to get the program started. "We are giving it serious consideration, and are trying to get the city to share the expense," Grouby said.

However, said Mrs. Hadnott, "it seems as though the city is evading the issue."

C. M. Gray, the mayor of Prattville, replied that the ACIA has never discussed food stamps with city officials. "We were supposed to meet with them (Sept. 19)," he said, "but no one from their group showed up."

"Nothing can be done until we meet with the group, or until we know whether or not Prattville's budget can stand to pay the cost of the program," Gray added.

Dan Houser of the ACIA said he had to go to the hospital Sept. 19, so no one came to the meeting. Houser is still being treated for injuries suffered in a beating in Prattville last June.

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BY MARY ELLEN GALE
 ABBEVILLE, Ala. -- A five-month battle over the Barbour-Dale-Henry Community Action Program (CAP) mounted toward a climax last week at an emotional three-hour meeting.

The session heated up when CAP Director Charles L. Weston announced that federal anti-poverty officials had found the program guilty of discrimination against Negro job applicants.

Weston read the CAP board members a sharply-worded letter from the Southeast regional branch of the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO).

The OEO letter said that the CAP board must immediately "re-organize" its personnel (employment) committee, and must hire Negroes to fill about 40% of staff jobs.

The letter also directed the board to "declare vacant" all jobs connected with three new projects--neighborhood referral centers, health-aid training, and surplus food distribution.

In effect, this would have meant firing the white people who were hired last month to run the projects.

But Weston read the board members another letter--from state welfare officials--announcing that surplus food had already been ordered from the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

"Ladies and gentlemen, we got food on the way," said Weston. Unless the three county food supervisors could continue working, he said, the food might wind up "sitting on the railroad track," instead of inside hungry people's stomachs.

The board members then voted unanimously to keep the food supervisors on the CAP pay-roll for the present.

But that was the only matter settled at the turbulent meeting. At the end, the weary board members finally agreed to come back late this week with recommendations for action on the OEO demands.

The OEO letter supported charges made public last month by several Negro board members. The Negroes said Weston and some white board members

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were ignoring OEO rules, and were giving all the high-paid jobs to white people--without even considering qualified Negroes.

But at the CAP meeting, Weston and several white board members called the charges "completely false."

In an hour-long speech, Weston denied the complicated accusations one by one.

The Negroes had claimed that Weston "hand-picked" the personnel committee at a meeting last April. They said he selected a majority of white segregationists who were "unsympathetic" with OEO's fair-employment rules.

But Weston insisted that the committee members were chosen--and given full control of employment--by a majority vote of the board. The CAP director said that 26 of the 36 board members have signed a statement confirming the vote.

In reply to charges that job requirements were deliberately set too high for Negroes, Weston said the board has "lowered educational qualifications to get the poor involved."

"Deep down, I can't see that it matters who gets (the surplus food jobs)," Weston said. "The important thing is we have 5,000 hungry people in each of these counties. We need to get the food to them."

At one point, Weston said that the CAP board could comply with all of OEO's demands. But on several other occasions, he suggested that the requirements are unworkable.

"They tell us not to hire persons unsympathetic with the objectives of the

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Economic Opportunity Act," the CAP director observed. "I presume we have to ask, 'Do you agree in toto (totally)?' and if a man says no, we can't hire him."

"And if he says yes, he's lying," called out a white board member.

The Negro board members who have opposed Weston were mostly silent during the meeting. But several white people--and a few Negroes--defended the director.

"These accusations are vicious and malicious lies," said Billy Ray Fralish, superintendent of the Ozark city schools.

"It looks to me like some of the minority group wants to kill the (anti-poverty) program," added Dale County Commissioner T. Merlyn Borland, one of several white board members who were attending their first CAP meeting.

Ozark Mayor Douglas Brown argued that Negroes were getting as many CAP jobs as they could expect. "You cannot say that anyone who does not have the experience or training can occupy the top job," he explained.

Brown warned that white people may withdraw their support from the anti-poverty program, if the militant Negroes continue their attack.

"This stuff is driving us away from trying to help you," he said. "We're

not going to be put in a position where we take abuse when we're trying our very level best to do what's right."

But one white man--CAP board chairman W. T. Money--supported the charges against Weston, in a letter that was read aloud to the meeting by the CAP director himself.

Money accused Weston and Mrs. Alliegene Farmer--the head of the personnel committee--of having a "Wallace philosophy." "Equality of opportunity is not being carried out," wrote Money. He demanded "equal rights for Negroes and whites" on the CAP board and staff.

"The board is tired of Mr. Weston taking the bull by the horns," Money added. He said the director should give the board "co-operation," not "dictatorship."

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MERCHANT MARINE -- The United States Merchant Marine Academy desires to inform qualified young Negro men of the opportunities available to them at the academy and in the United States Merchant Marine. The academy is located on Long Island Sound at Kings Point, New York, about 20 miles from New York City. The academy educates and trains young men for careers as licensed deck or engineering officers in the Merchant Marine, through a four-year college curriculum leading to the bachelor of science degree. In addition to receiving a degree and a license as third officer or third assistant engineer, graduates may be granted a commission as ensigns in the United States Naval Reserve. Candidates for admission must be nominated by a U. S. congressman or senator, but appointments are made on the basis of candidates' competitive standing within the state from which they are nominated. Competitive standing is determined by College Board examination scores, high school rank in class, and evaluation of candidates' leadership potential and motivation. Men desiring admission to the academy with the class entering in July, 1968, should request nomination by a senator or congressman as early as possible, and not later than Jan. 31, 1968. Information concerning the academy program, requirements for admission, and procedure for requesting a nomination can be obtained by writing to Admissions Office, United States Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, N. Y. 11024.

EQUIPMENT NEEDED--Kairos-Mobile needs file cabinets, typewriters, office equipment, and books for its central city grass-roots headquarters. Help the central city by giving items you don't need. Call Kairos, 478-1504 in Mobile.

MISSISSIPPIANS UNITED--Mississippians United to Elect Negro Candidates will hold a meeting at 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 1, in the Summerfield Church, off Highway 35 between Valden and Carrollton. Mississippians United has just distributed \$625 each for independent candidates' campaigns in Sunflower, Madison, Yazoo, Issaquena, Carroll, Bolivar, and Hinds counties--a total of \$5,000.

BAHA'IS--The Baha'is of Tuskegee will have as the subject of this week's informal, public discussion, "The Baha' Faith and Baha'u'llah." Jess Chambliss of Montgomery will be the speaker. This gathering will be held at 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 29, in the home of Mr. & Mrs. David Gordon, 33 Gaillard in Tuskegee. No collections, no obligation.

FRANCES PRICE -- The Southern Courier has received your letter about selling the paper in your community. We would like to have you sell papers, but you did not send us your return address. Please write again.

RALLY FOR WRENN--A campaign rally for Tommy Wrenn will be held from noon to 4 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 30, in Kelly Ingram Park in Birmingham. Sponsored by Friends of Tommy Wrenn.

FOR A BETTER ALABAMA--The Alabama Council on Human Relations has active chapters in Birmingham, Mobile, Montgomery, Huntsville, Florence-Tuscumbia-Sheffield, Auburn-Opelika-Tuskegee, Talladega, and Tuscaloosa. It has a staff that works throughout the state. The Alabama Council is integrated at all levels: its staff officers, staff, and local chapters all have people of both races working side by side. The Alabama Council wishes to establish local chapters in every county in the state. If you wish to join the Council's crusade for equal opportunity and human brotherhood, write The Alabama Council, P. O. Box 1310, Auburn, Alabama.

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SOCIAL SECURITY -- Many people think of Social Security just as something for those over age 62. But Kenneth W. Jennings, manager of the Montgomery Social Security office, says many middle-aged people, young people, and even infants also are benefiting from Social Security. Jennings emphasizes that young people, in particular, should be sure they get Social Security credit for the work they do. Disability or death could deal a severe blow to the young family. Jennings suggests that you check your Social Security record every three years. Your local Social Security office has cards you can use to do this.

HELP WANTED -- Interviewer wanted for part-time survey work. Must have private line. Not a selling job. Air mail a letter--including your education and work experience and the names of your references--to American Research Bureau, Field Staff Department, 4320 Amundale Rd., Beltsville, Md. 20705. Give phone number when applying.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS -- "In the multitude of dreams and many words there are also divers vanities: but fear thou God." This verse from Ecclesiastes is the Golden Text of this week's Bible Lesson on "Unreality," to be read in all Christian Science churches this Sunday, Oct. 1.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED--The Montgomery Community Action Committee needs all the volunteer help it can get to work in Head Start class rooms. 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 and 11:30 a.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, phone 262-6622. Or you can offer your services to St. Jude's Center, 2048 W. Fairview Ave. If it is more convenient, go directly to the neighborhood Head Start location nearest you.

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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Star Service Station
Superior Shoe Shop
Taylor Flower Shop
The Best Gal
White's Studio
Yates Beauty Shop
York's Barber Shop



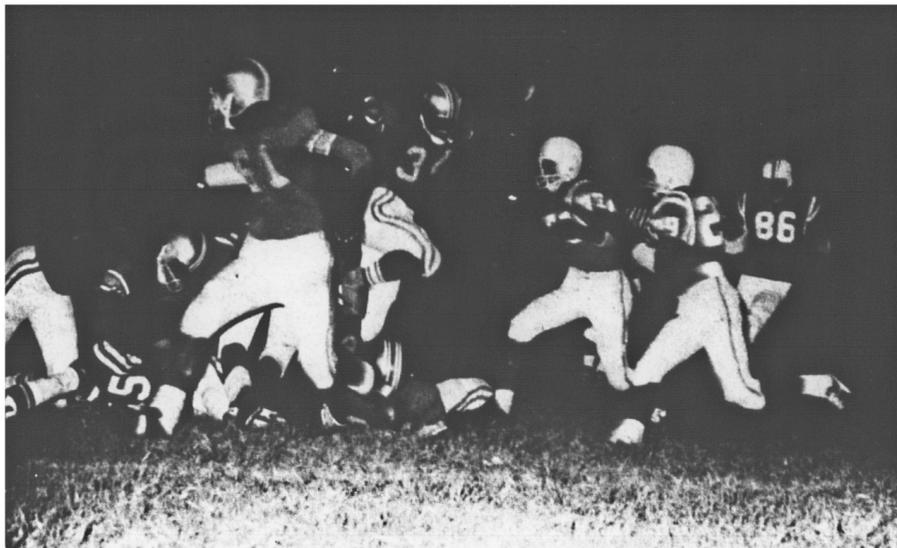
Prichard--St. Stephens Rd. Area

Banks Beauty Shop
Big Shell
Dandy Burger
Korner Kreme
Landrum's Garage

Langham's Auto Parts
Mr. 19
Modern Shoes
Standard Oil—Stanton Rd.
Stanton Pharmacy

Thornton's





MONTGOMERY, Ala. -- The Carver High Wolverines whipped Tuscaloosa's tough Druid High eleven, 14 to 0, last Friday in Hornet Stadium.

James Harris, Carver's flashy halfback, put the Wolverines in front to stay with a three-yard TD run in the third period.

In the final period, defensive end Johnny Burney picked up a Druid fumble and took it in for the second Carver touch-

down. Center Thomas Mitchell kicked both extra points--something Carver has rarely done in recent seasons.

The Wolverines had two touchdowns called back because of penalties--one scored by Robert Randall and one by Ruben Timmons.

Henry Mays (number 34, running with ball above) shared ball-carrying duties with Harris. Tackles Terry Gray and Eddie Evans were stand-outs in the Carver line. And end Donald Vinson--now ineligible because of age--made his last game a good one.

Five-Year Plan In Mobile Area

BY EDWARD RUDOLPH

MOBILE, Ala.--"People in the ghetto are looking for someone to help them to get out of the bag that they are in," said Jerry Pogue.

Pogue is co-ordinator of a new group called Kairos, organized to deal with the problems of people in an 83-block area of Mobile's Central City.

"We will deal with all the political, economic, and cultural problems of all people in the area," said the Rev. Dallas Blanchard, director of Kairos. He explained that "Kairos" is the Greek word for "now."

Blanchard, a pastor of the Toulminville Warren St. Methodist parish, said Kairos is now beginning a five-year project in Central City. At the end of five years, he said, "we expect every structure we establish in the community to be self-supporting."

The project, which Blanchard calls a "community reformulation program," grew out of sessions held here last year by the Chicago-based Ecumenical Institute. In the sessions, church people were urged to take a more active part in solving community problems.

Kairos has just finished a survey of Central City, Blanchard said, and the results are being tabulated by computers.

Meanwhile, he said, Kairos has been working with three neighborhood gangs, made up of youths "from six to the older teens." Eventually, he said, these gangs will participate in community service projects.

Also, he said, gang members will be involved in an "imaginal education program," to give them "a self-image and an image of the world." A "key problem" in Central City, said Blanchard, is that people don't know about themselves or their possible role in the world.

Besides its five-year project, said Pogue, Kairos is also helping people to file discrimination complaints, and to take advantage of existing programs, like Social Security and Railroad Retirement.

"I think Kairos, as far as Central City is concerned, is good, if Kairos intend to do what they said," said Henry McCloud, a Negro resident.

McCloud said he pays \$27 rent per month, "and the owner won't even fix my bathroom." He said he needs help on this kind of problem.

"I think not only that Kairos will help in the community, but train and educate wayward boys and girls," said one lady. "This is a very good thing, because there is no one else concerned about helping the community in which we live."

Besides Blanchard and Pogue, other Kairos officials are the Rev. John W. B. Thompson of the Church of the Good Shepherd Episcopal, associate director; Mrs. James Kennedy, secretary; and Clem Laurence, treasurer.

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Negro Speaks to Tuskegee Lions

A Color Barrier Falls

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE, Ala.--The manager of the largest business in Macon County spoke to a well-attended meeting of the Tuskegee Lions Club last week.

In doing so, he broke one of the strongest color barriers in town.

Dr. J. W. Giles, director of the huge Veterans Administration Hospital here, is a Negro. The members of the Tuskegee Lions Club are all white.

Don D. Allison, president of the Lions Club, said this week that, as far as he knows, Giles is the first Negro ever asked to attend--or speak to--a club gathering.

But, Allison added, "there was no hint of trying to break any tradition."

The club's program committee invited Giles to speak "because he runs the largest business concern around--and we're interested in knowing what businesses are in the city," Allison explained.

Giles was reluctant to discuss his visit to the Lions. But he did call it "a milestone and a breakthrough."

"The whole problem is there's been no communication" between Negroes and segregationist whites in Tuskegee, said Giles. "Now we're beginning to

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communicate." Allison confirmed that some "communication" had taken place. He said "both factions for and against (racial integration) were represented at the meeting."

In fact, Allison said, attendance was "a little better than normal--we had about 35 people, and we only have 30 members."

Since the meeting, a few Negroes have criticized Giles, on the grounds that he shouldn't have spoken to a segregated group.

But Allison said that--although the local Lions Club has never had any Negro members--"no rule or regulation restricts the membership" to white people.

Giles agreed that "the real achievement will be the day you have members

from the minority group invited to join the club."

But, he added, "we've crossed a hurdle we couldn't have six or eight months ago."

Giles said race relations in Tuskegee "will continue to improve if people are not subject to criticism for what they do--and if there's not too much publicity when something is done."

Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights

The weekly meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 2, in the Metropolitan CME Church, 1600 Ave. K, Ensley, the Rev. L. H. Wheelock, pastor. The speaker will be the Rev. W. J. Sankey.

WJLD Radio Top 14 Hits

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. HYPNOTIZED--Linda Jones | 8. EVERYBODY NEEDS LOVE--Gladys Knight & Pips |
| 2. COLD SWEAT--James Brown | 9. YOU'RE MY EVERYTHING--Temptations |
| 3. SHOUT BAMALAMA--Mickey Murray | 10. FUNKY BROADWAY--Wilson Pickett |
| 4. BABY I LOVE YOU--Aretha Franklin | 11. THAT DID IT--Bobby Bland |
| 5. GET ON UP--Esquires | 12. MORE LOVE--Smokey & Miracles |
| 6. ITS GOT TO BE MELLOW--Leon Haywood | 13. NINE POUND STEEL--Joe Simon |
| 7. HEARTACHES, HEARTACHES--O. V. Wright | 14. HEART BE STILL--Lorraine Ellison |

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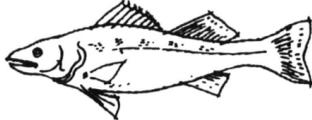


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