

Be My Valentine, Hosea



BY MARY ELLEN GALE

EUFALA -- Valentine hearts were pasted all over the front of the speaker's stand at the Eufaula Baptist Academy.

The white paper hearts were colored with red crayon letters. They said things like, "The Truth Shall Make Us Free," "Equal Jobs," and "Black and White Together."

The heart in the middle said, "I love Hosea Williams."

Red, white and blue crepe paper outlined a big heart on the front wall. Inside the heart were pictures of local and national civil rights leaders, including Dr. Martin Luther King and Williams, both of SCLC.

Heart-shaped pictures of Negro leaders throughout American history also hung on the wall. The Eufaula Voters League put up the decorations for a combined celebration of Valentine's Day, Negro History Week and a scheduled visit by Hosea Williams last Friday

night. It was the second time this month that Williams had told local SCLC workers that he would come to Eufaula. He didn't make it the first time. He didn't make it the second time either.

Some 200 people sat in the Baptist Academy for more than three hours, waiting for Williams to show up. While they waited, they sang freedom songs and listened to poetry and speeches. And they paid tribute to all the people who have died in the struggle for civil rights.

While SCLC workers called Birmingham to try to find out whether Williams was on his way, Mrs. Mary Marshall, president of the Voters League, spoke to the patient audience.

"It's a sad thing to have to have a special speaker to get this many people at our meeting," she said. "This is our struggle. We just can't let other people lead us. We've got to step up and see what we can do to help."

"There's something each of us can do," said John Kelly Jr., league vice president. "If you can't pull the cart, then push. But please--don't ride."

The SCLC workers came back and said that, as far as they knew, Williams was still coming. But Mrs. J.D. Battle, league secretary, didn't believe them. "I spoke to him earlier on the phone," she said. "And I told him, 'Now, you can't lie to us again.' But it's beginning to look like a lie to me."

John Davis of SCLC suggested that maybe Williams was in jail. "He drives pretty fast." Then he spoke more seriously.

"Hosea's a busy man," he said, "but he gave his word. He may not get here till midnight but he'll be here. Of course, you may not be."

But it didn't work out like that. The audience was still there a few minutes after 10 p.m., when SCLC workers got word that Williams was in town.

Mike Bibler stood up and introduced Williams. The door opened and everyone looked up expectantly.

In walked Benjamin Van Clarke, one of Williams' assistants. "I'm sorry we're late; Clarke said, smiling and straightening his vest. "There was an emergency meeting tonight in Selma, and Hosea asked me to substitute for him here."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE, Col. 5)



BENJAMIN VAN CLARKE WAS A LITTLE LATE TO EUFAULA'S VALENTINE'S DAY MASS MEETING, BUT ONCE THERE HE WAS SURROUNDED BY HEARTS AND FULL OF GOOD WORDS IN HOSEA'S PLACE.

THE SOUTHERN COURIER

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Weekend Edition: February 19-20, 1966

TEN CENTS



IT WAS A LONELY AND WET MARCH IN YORK LAST SATURDAY, WITH THE MAYOR BRINGING UP THE REAR IN HIS AUTOMOBILE, THE MARCHERS WALKED FOUR MILES, THEN WERE TURNED BACK.

A Rainy March Ends in York

BY JOHN KLEIN

YORK--A week of civil rights demonstrations here ended last Saturday with an unsuccessful attempt to march to the county seat at Livingston, nine miles northeast.

Fifty demonstrators from the Rev. Felix Nixon's NAACP chapter walked four miles through pouring rain to the city limits. But they turned back when state troopers told them they would have to walk the rest of the way beside the road instead of on the edge of the pavement.

Three days of rain had left pools of muddy water along the roadside and turned many ditches into small streams.

Back at the community center where the march had begun, the marchers talked of holding more demonstrations. But NAACP activity was later suspended pending talks with York Mayor Warren Grant.

Mayor Grant showed up at a meeting of civil rights groups Wednesday night and told them, "I feel you have carried your point to the people of both races...I don't mind telling you your picketing has hurt the merchants."

The Mayor urged them to approve a five-county anti-poverty plan that they had previously blocked because of the make-up of its board.

The Negro groups agreed to do so that night, and also vowed to halt demonstrations and boycotting if Sumter County merchants' associations said in writing they would give better job opportunities to Negroes.

After the march Saturday, Mr. Nixon told the marchers that their effort was worthwhile because it showed them where they stood with local officials.

"We didn't have no protection," said Mr. Nixon, who complained that several

cars had driven back and forth along the highway splashing mud on the marchers.

Mayor Grant followed the march in his car but did not intervene. Mr. Nixon complained, and did nothing when state troopers turned the march back. "It's worth getting wet for," he said. "If you hadn't got wet, you wouldn't have known."

Mr. Nixon's NAACP chapter had already held three demonstrations that week in York, marching from the community center to city hall on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. On Friday afternoon, they also picketed a dozen local stores.

Mr. Nixon has said that the demonstrations are intended to dramatize the chapter's demands for better job opportunities, better housing, a voice in local government, and "taking down the signs of segregation."

Mr. Nixon said the NAACP would continue to demonstrate despite the fact that the York City Council had only that week hired the first Negro policeman in the town's history.

Lovell Moore, 54, of York, was hired to begin work March 1. He is an Army veteran and a native of Mississippi.

The action was taken on the recommendation of the bi-racial Sumter County Human Relations Committee, but Mayor Grant said it was done independently and not in response to NAACP demands.

Friends and Voters Praise Ryan DeGraffenreid

TUSCALOOSA -- Hundreds of Alabamians lost a friend last week, and thousands lost a candidate.

Ryan deGraffenreid, candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor and runner-up to Governor Wallace four years ago, was killed last week when his light airplane crashed into a mountain in the northwest part of the state.

More than 1100 people braved the rainy weather last Saturday to pay their last respects to the candidate. The rain continued to pour down as they filled the main sanctuary of the First Presbyterian Church here.

The mourners included the known and the unknown. Governor George C. Wallace was there, surrounded by police. So were former Governor Jim Folsom and former Governor John Patterson, both of whom are candidates in this year's election.

Two elderly Negro men took their seats in the church with the local dignitaries.

Following the service by Dr. Simral Bryant, a procession of about 400 cars went to Tuscaloosa Memorial Park for the burial.

The late Tuscaloosa attorney was (CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE, Col. 1)

Negro Candidates Plan Races in Many Counties

Four Start Try For Legislature

BY ROBERT E. SMITH

Several Negroes have joined the rush to qualify as candidates for county offices and the state legislature.

And those who aren't running for office are badgering local officials for lists of precinct committeemen, qualifications for office, voting information, and names of present officeholders.

Alabama's political year is in full swing.

Negro leaders, aware of the increasing number of colored voters, seemed to be working not so much to influence state-wide races but to organize local campaigns.

Leaders were bewildered after the sudden death of Ryan deGraffenreid, a gubernatorial candidate who could have counted on thousands of Negro and white "moderate" votes. And they were waiting for another "moderate" Richmond Flowers, to announce his candidacy for governor.

At least four Negroes have started campaigns for the state legislature.

The first to file his papers was Fred D. Gray, a Montgomery and Tuskegee attorney who will run for the House. Gray's district, a new one created by a Federal court order that reapportioned the House, includes Macon, Bullock and Barbour counties.

Negroes are in the majority in the district. But Gray has planned a campaign to get white and Negro support. He will be running against a white man, Neville Fletcher of Eufaula.

Another Tuskegee Negro, restaurant owner Thomas Reed, will run for the other House seat in the same district, B. D. Mayberry, dean of Tuskegee Institute's agriculture school, had qualified to run for the spot but withdrew this week.



C. H. MONTGOMERY



FRED D. GRAY

C.H. Montgomery, a long-time member of the Mobile County Democratic Executive Committee, became the third Negro to file for a House of Representatives seat with Secretary of State Agnes Baggett. Montgomery, a barber and vice president of the Alabama Democratic Conference, Inc., is running for place No. 10 in Mobile's 10-member House delegation.

The only Negro Senate candidate thus far is Lonnie N. Brown, a Wilcox County insurance salesman.

Negroes of voting age are in the majority in only one Senate district. This is not Brown's district but the district of Choctaw, Marengo, Sumter and Washington counties. And the Negro majority there is slight. Dr. Martin Luther King, in speeches throughout Alabama in December, urged that a Negro state senator be elected from those counties.

Sumter County will have Negro candidates for at least local offices, according to the Rev. Felix Nixon, of the NAACP there. He thought that they would run as Democrats and not as members of a third party.

The "black panther" third-party effort is expected to present candidates

in Lowndes County, and possibly in Macon, Dallas, and Sumter counties.

Perry County expects to have Negroes running for sheriff, county commission, and school board in the Democratic primary election May 3.

Negroes plan to run for the Board of Education in several counties, notably Barbour and Autauga counties thus far.

H.O. Williams, a television repairman, plans to run for sheriff in Bullock County; SCLC member Patt J. Davis will run for sheriff in Perry County, and Walter J. Calhoun will run for the office in Wilcox County. All are Negroes and Democrats.

Calhoun, a grocer in Lower Peach Tree in the far southwest of Wilcox County, said this week that he was asked to move from his rented home by his landlady after he announced his political plans.

WASHINGTON--The Department of Justice reported this week that federal examiners have qualified 49,492 Negro voters and county registrars have registered 46,700 Negroes in Alabama since the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was passed in August.

Lowndes Ordered to End Separate Schools by 1967

HAYNEVILLE--Lowndes County has said that it can comply with a federal court order to desegregate its schools and close most of its Negro schools if Washington pays the bill.

One day after the federal court decision last week, the Lowndes County Board of Education applied for up to \$1.5 million in federal funds.

"The board wants every penny it can get," said Murray D. Smith, attorney for the board. "We feel Lowndes County is eligible for a considerable amount of federal assistance."

"This would be to upgrade the whole school system--to get new teachers, pay higher salaries, offer remedial reading and tutoring for Negro pupils."

Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 provides federal money for technical help in desegregating schools.

Smith said that integration has not worked in Lowndes County because only five of 41 Negro applicants for white schools last fall were accepted, and only two of the five are getting passing grades.

Miss Hulda Coleman, superintendent of schools in Lowndes County, has taken steps to line up architects and land sites in expectation of getting money from the

B'ham Examiners

BIRMINGHAM--Federal voting examiners opened two new offices in the city this week despite a drop in applicants during the past two weeks. Examiners are now in the library of the Birmingham Baptist College and in the post office at 2003 41st Ave. North.

The U.S. Civil Service Commission also announced that it is cutting operations in Selma from six days a week to Saturdays only.



THIS IS THE SCENE OF THE PLANE CRASH LAST WEEK IN DEKALB COUNTY THAT TOOK THE LIVES OF RYAN DEGRAFFENREID AND THE PILOT OF HIS TWO-ENGINE PLANE, ON A WINDY AND RAINY NIGHT THE CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR WAS FLYING TO HIS LAST STOP IN A LONG DAY OF CAMPAIGNING.

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Editorial Opinion

Winners All

The federal court decision that women must be allowed to serve on juries is one more example of how the legal battles of the civil rights movement bring victories for all people, not just Negroes.

Trouble is, most white folks in the South haven't taken full advantage of such victories.

The decision to assure Negroes the right to serve on juries in Lowndes County also granted that right to women of both races all over the state.

And the decision, if its effects are far reaching, will free hundreds of lawyers throughout the state who will no longer have to preach white supremacist rot to win over all-white juries.

If the court outlaws Alabama's poll tax, the order will free not only poor Negroes, but poor whites all over the state who have been discouraged by the \$1.50 fee.

Last fall, the federal court's enforced reapportionment of the Alabama House of Representatives was a victory not for Negroes but for all folks who have not been fairly represented in the legislature.

And the Voting Rights Act of 1965 not only cleared the way for thousands of Negroes to vote, but it has lately inspired voting drives among whites as well. And the presence of federal examiners can clear the way for whites as well as Negroes to register in a quicker, simpler way.

In turn the large number of Negroes on the voting rolls will free many politicians who will now be able to talk sense to the people of Alabama and still stand a chance of winning an election. (One such politician who talked good sense was lost to the state in a plane crash in north Alabama last week.)

Court-ordered school desegregation will improve education for all children by eliminating duplicate facilities and inferior teachers.

One thing about federal court orders and laws: They give a good excuse to people who want to do the right thing, but are afraid the neighbors would talk--or do something more drastic.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

I have been a subscriber for less than a month but I am very pleased with the news reporting in The Southern Courier. It's about the only place I can find out what is really happening in the South. It's exciting to read about what PEOPLE are doing rather than about what bureaucrats and big businessmen are fussing over.

Al Compaen
Chicago, Ill.

Jaycees Push Registration

BIRMINGHAM--The Junior Chamber of Commerce started an eight-week drive to push voter registration here last Monday.

The Jaycees will make use of the telephone to remind people to register and will use buses to carry them downtown.

The goal of the drive is to register at least 20,000 to 25,000 of the unregistered residents in Jefferson County.

But the drive ran into a problem on the first two days. Operations have been slowed down a great deal to determine from registration lists who had not registered earlier and who is eligible.

The Jaycees have setup their main

To the Editor:

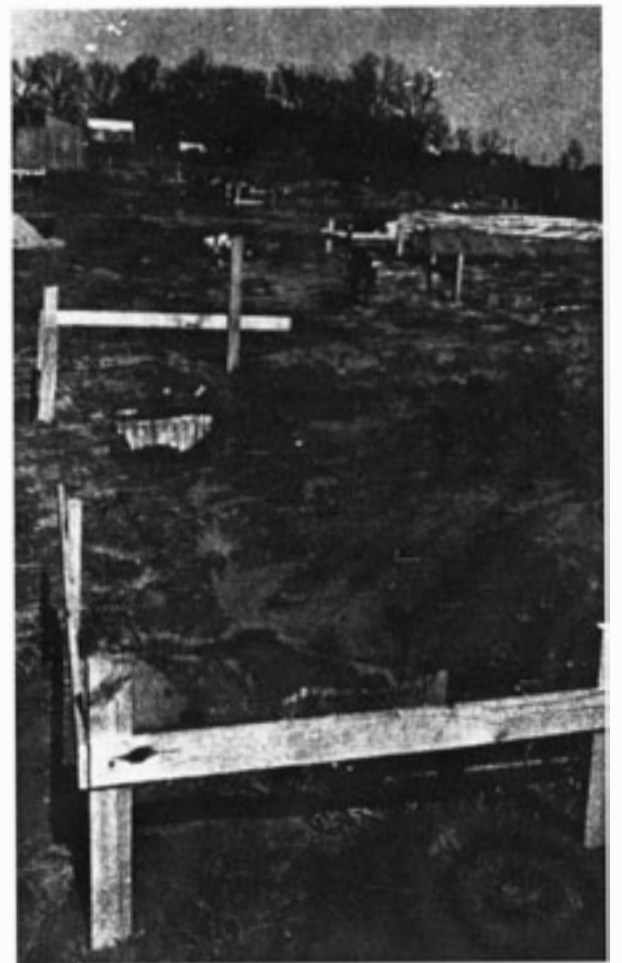
I would like to thank you for the excellent job that you are doing with The Southern Courier. It is so much help to those of us who are earnestly trying to keep informed on the current happenings in the racial revolution, so that we may more earnestly struggle to break the chains of oppression on all of us in Alabama and in our nation.

Miss Sheila McCurdy
Huntingdon College
Montgomery



TRIBBETT, MISS.--THE EIGHT FAMILIES WHO LIVE IN "STRIKE CITY, MISSISSIPPI" IN THE FAR WEST CENTRAL PART OF THE STATE PLAN TO MOVE OUT OF THE TENTS THEY HAVE OCCUPIED SINCE LAST SUMMER (ABOVE), A CHARITABLE GROUP HAS BEGUN WORK (AT RIGHT) ON EIGHT HOUSES OF

FOUR TO SIX ROOMS, THE EIGHT FAMILIES WERE EVICTED FROM A PLANTATION NEAR TRIBBETT LAST SUMMER WHEN THEY WENT ON STRIKE FOR WAGES OF \$1.25 AN HOUR. SOME OF THE PEOPLE WHO TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO SETTLE AT NEARBY GREENVILLE AIR FORCE BASE LIVE HERE.



Invitation Upsets Mobile Church

BY DAVID R. UNDERHILL

MOBILE--The quiet service led by AME Zion Bishop William H. Smith Sunday night at the Spring Hill Avenue Methodist Church followed months of uproar in the white congregation.

Last fall, the Rev. O. Vance Mason decided he would ask Bishop Smith to speak at the church on Race Relations Sunday. This Sunday comes early in February each year in the Methodist churches around the country. Many churches have a sermon or special classes that Sunday on race relations.

But Mr. Mason wanted to do more than just talk about the problem: "Too many of our people know Negroes only as musicians and maids." He wanted an outstanding local Negro minister to preach the sermon at the 11 o'clock service.

Mason had known Smith for some time and asked him to do it. Smith agreed.

In Methodist churches, the minister has the authority to invite anyone he chooses to be a guest preacher at any time. But Mason knew his choice of Smith for Race Relations Sunday was a great change from normal practices, and so he asked the church's governing board for its approval.

Mason says his proposal "caused a great deal of disagreement." The board postponed a decision until its meeting the next month.

Jury Board In Macon Co. Walks Out

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE--Justice has put down her scales and gone fishing.

That, at least, is the way it looked in Macon County this week, after the revelation that the county jury commission had resigned.

The commission thus evaded a federal court order to empty and refill the county jury box in time for the spring term of court.

In late January, U.S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson, Jr., ordered the jury commission to end discrimination against Negroes in the selection of names for the jury rolls.

He declared the present jury list illegal and told the jury commission to make a new one within 30 days.

The 30 days ended the middle of this week with no word from Gov. George C. Wallace on the appointment of three new jury commissioners to take the place of the three old ones.

There wasn't even a jury commission clerk to fulfill Judge Johnson's order to use the current voters list, tax assessor's list, and telephone directories in making a new jury list.

The commission clerk, Miss Grace Youngblood Hall, made it unanimous by resigning along with commission chairman Edgar T. Johnson and members Ed Wilson and E.P. Livingston.

But whether or not Justice has gone fishing, she'll be back.

Judge Johnson's ruling says: "Failure of the defendants (the jury commission) to comply immediately and in good faith with the requirements of this opinion and order will necessitate the appointment by this court of a master or panel of masters to recompile the jury roll and to empty and refill the Macon County jury box."

In plain English, that means that if Gov. Wallace doesn't appoint someone to do the job, and soon, then Judge Johnson will.

Fred D. Gray, the attorney who argued the case against the jury commission, said there is still plenty of time for the jury box to be refilled before the spring grand jury meets in mid-April.

During the weeks between the meetings, the members of the church discussed Mason's proposal. Many of them objected to it strongly, he says, but they realized their objections couldn't keep Smith away, if Mason wanted him to come.

So at the next board meeting, the board voted "by a comfortable majority" to support their minister in whatever he decided to do. Then, immediately after the vote, a member of the board asked Mason what he intended to do.

Mason answered that he would do what he had proposed. The man who had asked the question walked out of the meeting.

He later canceled his pledge and said he was withdrawing from the church until Mason was replaced.

Mason says that three or four others did the same thing and that attendance at Sunday morning services dropped from an average of about 300 to an average of about 200.

The chairman of the church's finance committee came to Mason and said, "Vance, this is going to rip the church from top to bottom." He asked Mason to have Smith speak at the young adults' fellowship meeting in the chapel Sunday evening instead of at the main service in the sanctuary Sunday morning.

He said that if this were done, then he would come to hear Bishop Smith and would try to get all his friends in the church to come. And he offered to support Mason next year in having Smith, or some other Negro minister, give the morning sermon on Race Relations Sunday.

Mason talked to Smith, and Smith said he would rather speak at the evening meeting than disrupt the church. So Mason accepted the compromise.

Last Sunday evening, about 100 people came to hear Bishop Smith, but the head of the finance committee "didn't come, and none of his friends did either," Mason said.

Mason thinks their absence means that the trouble still isn't over, but he does not regret what he has done. "Gradualism won't work." But neither will it work to "knock all the props out from under people's prejudices at once." That can "too easily cause a Holocaust," he says. He believes in taking a middle road between gradualism and extremism.

And he believes the church is moving along that road.

A member of the church who supports Mason says that the efforts of Mason and others are having an effect: "There were some people at that meeting who would never have gone to such a thing just two or three years ago."

Mason says he intends to continue with what he is doing, whether he meets with success or failure. "Christ showed us true brotherhood. There can be no stopping until we get from here to there. . . . This is the Gospel."

Bond to Run Again For Georgia House

ATLANTA Ga.--Julian Bond will be the only candidate for the Georgia House of Representatives in a special election Wednesday in the 136th district in Atlanta.

For Bond, the territory is familiar. He won election to the House from the 136th last June 16. But the House voted last month not to seat the 26-year-old official of the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee, because he approved SNCC's policy against the war in Viet Nam.

A federal court in Atlanta, in a 2-1 vote, ruled last week that the legislature had a right to refuse Bond.

The young man said immediately after the decision he planned to ask the U. S. Supreme Court to overrule the federal court in Georgia.

Bond still will not serve in the present session of the Georgia legislature. It ended this week.

Sermon of the Week

'Creative Minority' Can Save Community, Says AME Bishop

BY DAVID R. UNDERHILL

MOBILE--"The social order must be built for all if it is to survive," Bishop William H. Smith of AME Zion Church told a largely white congregation at a special Race Relations Sunday service in the chapel of Spring Hill Avenue Methodist Church.

Mr. Smith said that "a creative mi-

nority" can be "the saving force on any community, city, state, nation," because it can take the lead in building a righteous society.

But when a minority of people takes the lead, this doesn't mean that everyone else can just ignore what's going on. "There must be one funeral right now--the innocent bystander's funeral. He is dead. We are all involved."

This involvement may not always be calm, Mr. Smith warned. For that reason we need "people in whose life God is a power." The church can give us these people, he said, and history shows that "when the church has risen to her greatest heights, she has involved herself in the affairs of men."

We also need people who are able "to keep the mind over the emotion. . . . Hitler said, 'I think with my blood.' This is the kind of thinking that leads straight to bloodshed," he said.

In Mobile, Mr. Smith said, "we need to thank God for leaders with cool, objective thinking. . . . This is the only city I know of in this area that hasn't had demonstrations. . . . It hasn't happened that way by accident."

Mr. Smith said it happened because "we have had lines of communication open a long time now in Mobile" and also because the Negro leaders have done their best to prevent demonstrations.

"Some of us have had to stay up around the clock for the safety, the image of our city today. . . . I went out in these dives and pool halls and begged with these peoples not to demonstrate." Leaders succeeded, but "there were times," Mr. Smith admitted, "when the leadership was almost wrestled from us."

"This could happen in the future," Smith said and "once the responsible Negro leadership loses its position. . . we all get hurt."



SPRING HILL AVE. CHURCH

nority" can be "the saving force on any community, city, state, nation," because it can take the lead in building a righteous society.

But when a minority of people takes the lead, this doesn't mean that every-



BY MARY MOULTRIE

Comes Saturday morning kids all over the country from ages eight to 80 climb out of their beds and gather around their TV sets to watch the great line-up of kiddie shows:

Several hours of animated cartoon shows, featuring that champion of justice, "Mighty Mouse." It's a half hour show in which the cats don't stand a chance.

At the same time on another channel, the smallest fighter of them all, the "up, and at 'em, Atom Ant." Things just don't go wrong when this little fella's on the job.

Then along come the Beatles, in their cartoon images. With the girls on their heels as usual, The Beatles sing some of their hit songs.

Also on Saturdays are many new characters, plus old favorites like Porky Pig, Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, and Casper the Friendly Ghost.

Aside from the Saturday line-up, there are also week-day children's shows. Specials for the kids this week come from CBS: The Young Peoples Concert with Leonard Bernstein, and the beloved fairy tale, Cinderella.

All it takes to join in the fun and stretch the imagination is an easy chair, a broad outlook, and a good sense of humor, plus for good measure, a lot of snacks.

TUESDAY, FEB. 22

LEONARD BERNSTEIN'S YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERT--His last show of the season is dedicated to young per-

formers. Making their debuts are four young, gifted pianists, 6:30 p.m. Channel 4 in Dothan, Channel 19 in Huntsville, and Channel 20 in Montgomery.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 23

CINDERELLA -- This beloved fairy tale about Cinderella, her mean old stepmother, and the two selfish stepsisters, comes to life on CBS. In musical form, starring Ginger Rogers, Walter Pidgeon, and Lesley Ann Warren, who plays the role of Cinderella. Written for television by Richard Rogers, and the late Oscar Hammerstein, 6:30 p.m. Channel 4 in Dothan, Channel 13 in Birmingham, Channel 19 in Huntsville, and Channel 20 in Montgomery.

THURSDAY, FEB. 24

GIDGET -- "Ring-a-Ding-Dingbat." Gidget and Larue set out on a search-and-find operation when the teen-age idols, the Dingbats, come to town and go into hiding, 7:00 p.m. Channel 3 in Pensacola, Fla.; Channel 6 in Birmingham, Channel 8 in Selma, Channel 13 in Mobile, Channel 31 in Huntsville, and Channel 32 in Montgomery.

FRIDAY, FEB. 25

GOMER PYLE--Gomer gets an unexpected surprise when a pay phone mistakenly returns \$41.75, 8:00 p.m. Channel 4 in Dothan, Channel 19 in Huntsville, and Channel 20 in Montgomery.



PHOTO EDITOR JAMES H. PEPPER WAS LET LOOSE AT THE CONSTRUCTION SITE OF THE INTERSTATE HIGHWAY THROUGH MONTGOMERY, AND THIS IS WHAT HE FOUND UNDER A NEW BRIDGE.



Lights

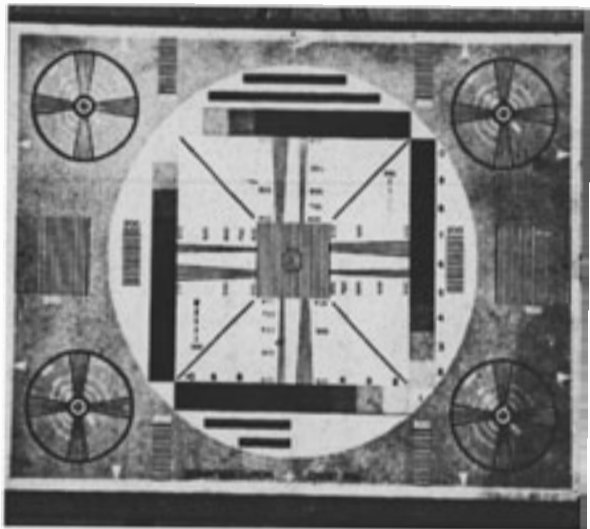


Camera



Action?

INSIDE A TELEVISION STUDIO



Photographs by James H. Pepler



One County Takes a Look at How it Picks Juries

Jury System on Trial in Calhoun County

BY ALAN BAUGHMAN

ANNISTON--"The people of Anniston would tremble in their boots if they knew their lives and property were in the hands of the kind of juries we have," a prominent attorney said recently.

Juries in Calhoun County, like juries everywhere else, are meant to be a citizen's best hope for justice in the courts. Juries are supposed to be made up of ordinary but honest people who will weigh the law in human terms and decide a case on its merits.

The jury system doesn't work out quite that way in Anniston.

"Never again do I want to sit on a jury in Calhoun County," said a man who served last year on a jury too frightened to agree on a verdict.

Some jurors suspected others of being Ku Klux Klan members, he said. The case they had come to try ended up in a hung jury.

That jury may not be typical of Anniston or the rest of Calhoun County. But some of the county's best-known and most-respected citizens have avoided jury duty, while some convicted criminals have had the chance to sit in judgment on other men.

And the county jury roll--the list of names from which jurors are chosen--includes less than one-fifth of the citizens eligible by age for jury service.

When the Calhoun County Grand Jury met for the first session of the new year, the members decided it was time to do something to improve the county's juries.

The 17 men on the grand jury investigated the county's jury system. They summed up their recommendations in a resolution that Hayden T. Ford, Sr., jury foreman, presented to the presiding judge, Circuit Court Judge William C. Bibb.

The resolution was a revolutionary document. It called for a complete shake-up of the county jury roll. It urged a new jury list with at least 10,000 names to replace the old list of 4,000 names.

The grand jury asked for a purge of the present jury list "in the near future." The members said the Calhoun County Jury Commission should go over the present list, remove duplications, and drop the names of dead people, disqualified people, and people who had moved away.

The grand jury called for sweeping changes in the procedure used by the county jury commission to find qualified jurors. The jury recommended use of city directories, voter lists, telephone books, poll tax records, tax assessor's lists, and civic club and church membership lists to get names for the roll.

The Calhoun County Jury Commission's three members are appointed by

the governor on the recommendation of the county's legislative delegation. One high state official called the system "a peanut political appointment."

Head of the Commission is Frank Sewell, who was blinded in an auto accident in the 30's. He owns the concession stand in the lobby of the court house and was appointed in 1955 by Governor Jim Folsom. Governors John Patterson and George C. Wallace reappointed him.

The second member is Jack Bates, a retired mechanic who was a city councilman from 1932 to 1936, representing the Glen Addie district. Wallace appointed him in 1963. Bates was an incorporator of a violently white supremacist newsletter, "The Keyes Report, Incorporated." According to county records, Bates is secretary-treasurer of the newsletter, which is headed by Charlie Keyes.

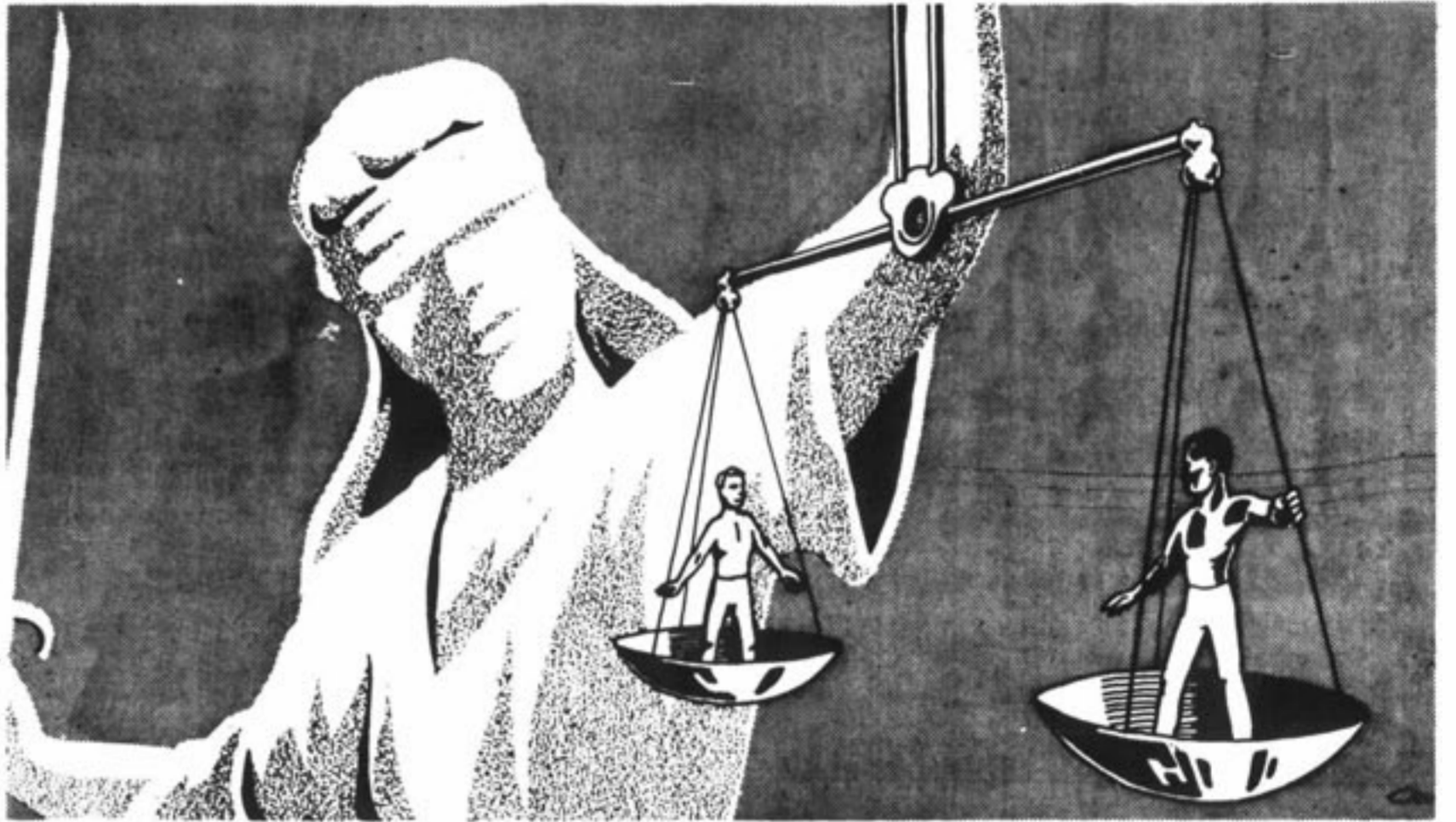
The third member of the team is Lyman Woolf, a textile worker at the Standard Coosa Thatcher Company. He was also appointed by Wallace in 1963.

The jury commissioners work 10 days a month for \$10 a day.

Sewell and Woolf said they use voter registration lists and consult "reliable citizens" to get names for the jury roll.

The Alabama Code, however, says that, "The commission shall require the clerk of the commission to scan the registration lists, the lists returned to the tax assessor, any city directories, telephone directories, and any and every other source of information from which he may obtain information, and to visit every precinct at least once a year to enable the jury commission to properly perform the duties required."

The 1960 census shows 22,765 males eligible for jury service in Calhoun County. Of the 4,000 names on the jury roll, many are duplicates, many others ineligible.



The Alabama Code states that, "The jury commission shall place on the jury roll and in the jury box the names of all male citizens of the county who are generally reputed to be honest and intelligent men and are esteemed in the community for their integrity, good character, and sound judgment; but no person must be selected who is under 21 years of age or over 65 years of age or who is an habitual drunkard, or who, being afflicted with a permanent disease or physical weakness, is unfit to discharge the duties of a juror; or cannot read English or who has ever been convicted of any offense involving moral turpitude."

"If a person cannot read English and has all the other qualifications and is a free holder or house holder his name may be placed on the jury roll and in the jury box."

A random check of 338 potential jurors in 1965 revealed 16 with criminal convictions, one of whom had served two terms in Kilby Prison. He was convicted in 1951 and 1957 on charges of transporting illegal beverages, and received two terms of a year and a day. He was also convicted in city court 15 times for violation of probation law, once for vagrancy, and once for reckless driving.

Another of the 16 was convicted six times of violating the probation law. He was also found guilty of paying no tax on his business, larceny and resisting arrest.

An Anniston attorney who makes a habit of checking the police records of possible jurors said about 10 per cent of a jury list called before 1960 had records. He said one had been arrested 32 times.

A check of his files showed a 1962 list with four men who had a total of 14 arrests, one for a felony.

While some criminals get called, many good men are overlooked.

Of the 248 men who demonstrated concern for law and order by offering a reward for the killer of Willie Brewster, only 45 had ever served on a jury. Sixty-three had never received a summons at all. Forty-two of the 63--two-thirds of them--were willing to serve. "Who, me?" is a common attitude about support for Calhoun County's judicial system. The prospective jurors called to try Hubert Damon Strange for Brewster's murder displayed the usual reluctance to serve.

There were 100 men on the venire lists, from which the final 12-man jury was to be chosen. But one-third, 33, rose when Judge Richard Parker asked who wanted to be excused. The one third looked like a miniature "Who's Who" of Calhoun County.

An Anniston attorney said this was typical. "About 60 per cent of what might be called 'the better citizens' ask to be excused. They argue that they are never accepted as jurors. But what they don't realize is that it isn't possible to strike everybody, and the longer they remain on the venire, the better the jury will eventually be."

Thirty-seven percent of last year's veniremen, 106 of 286, were excused or exercised exemptions. They numbered a bank executive, an architect, an accountant, four businessmen, and several merchants.

One Anniston man who has never been called said, "I would like to take my turn, but I would not like to serve under the present system where they call you too frequently." He had never been called, though he said, "I've been a registered voter in Anniston for 21 years."

"I'm not asking for it, but I would be glad to, if called," a minister said.

The Alabama Code says that all qualified men must be listed, and strict application of the law could make the Calhoun jury commission liable for legal action. But the same law that demands a big jury roll also works against commissioners who try to build one.

The law says that commissioners are not required to place men who are "legally exempted" on the roll. No less than 32 trades and professions can beg off duty.

The Alabama legislature has added to the number without much discussion and in one case, as something of a joke. Newspaper reporters joined the exemption list on a lazy day in the legislature several years ago when two reporters were looking for something to do.

"Let's write a bill," they decided. They did, and got a friend in the legislature to introduce it. The bill passed, and a good gag became state law.

The exemption list includes judges of the several courts; attorneys at law; officers of the United States; officers of the executive department of the state government; sheriffs and their deputies; clerks of the courts and county commissioners; physicians, dentists and pharmacists; optometrists; teachers; officers and licensed engineers of any boat plying the waters of the state; passenger bus driver-operators and driver-operators of motor vehicles hauling freight for hire under the supervision of



the Alabama public service commission.

Also, railroad engineers, locomotive firemen, conductors, train dispatchers, bus dispatchers, railroad station agents and telegraph operators; newspaper reporters; regularly licensed embalmers while actually engaged in their profession; radio broadcasting engineers and announcers; the superintendents, physicians, and all regular employees of Bryce Hospital in Tuscaloosa County and the Searcy Hospital in Mobile County; officers and enlisted men of the national guard and naval militia of Alabama; prison guards; and every person who "shall have served an aggregate of 21 years in the active national guard or naval militia of Alabama."

And a new one, just tacked on this legislative term: veterinarians.

Any member of these professions can easily be excused from jury duty. All he has to do is ask.

Despite the long list of exemptions, there has been little effort to add new names to the jury rolls. In 1964, when 1,400 names were drawn, 198 were dead, had moved from the county, or just couldn't be found.

The jury box, which is supposed to hold one card for each name on the jury list, has many duplicates. In one case, two cards on the same man were drawn the same day. In another, a card listed a man's job as "deceased."

One circuit judge says there should be 15,000 names on the roll. It's not impossible to build such a list, as Etowah County, Calhoun's next-door neighbor, has proved.

In 1951 the Etowah Jury Commission,

backed up by local civic organizations, decided to improve its jury roll. The commission purged the list, and raised the total from 1,500 to 9,000 in three years.

The state courts have begun to consider deficient jury rolls as a bar to justice. The Alabama Supreme Court has overturned verdicts from counties where the number of eligible jurors is much larger than the actual list.

And that isn't all. Like many Alabama counties, Calhoun hasn't paid much attention to Negro citizens who are qualified to serve as jurors. A circuit judge estimated that only about six per cent of the present list, 240 or less, are Negroes.

In two separate cases this year, the federal courts ruled that such a small number of Negroes is sufficient evidence of racial discrimination. Macon and Lowndes counties are under court order to make new jury lists.

Even if Calhoun County follows the recommendations of the grand jury, there will probably be more reforms to come.

In the meantime, there are people who think things aren't so bad the way they are. One of them is Forrest (Hoss) Dobbins, the circuit court clerk, who has seen juries come and go for many years.

"There are men summoned who are unqualified," he said, "and there are those summoned who serve unwillingly. But I have always found the majority of our jurors, both white and Negro, to be courteous and attentive to the court and judges. These sincere men honor their oaths as jurors."



Law Bars A Million Women From Jury Duty in Alabama



IN THE FUTURE, JURIES IN ALABAMA WILL LOOK LIKE THIS, WITH BOTH NEGROES AND WOMEN SERVING.

BY ALAN BAUGHMAN

ANNISTON--There are about 24,000 adults in Calhoun County who can't serve as jurors although they meet every legal qualification but one.

They're women. And Alabama law says that only men can serve on juries.

As far as jury duty goes, women are lumped in with convicted felons and the insane--the only other groups barred by state law from jury service.

There are 965,349 women in Alabama who would be eligible jurors if Alabama decided to give them a chance.

In 1965 the state legislature ignored a plea from several Alabama women's groups to change the law. The women lost another round in their 23-year fight to exercise their rights as first-class citizens.

But the battle isn't over. And in a history-making decision last week, three federal judges said the women are going to win after all.

The judges ruled that after June, 1967, women may serve on Alabama juries.

People who want women jurors have several arguments on their side. They say:

Alabama is starved for possible jurors. Why not women? Women control most of the money spent in the state. Why shouldn't they have something to say about money in the courts, especially in civil cases where huge sums often hang on a jury's decision?

Some of the crimes our society most condemns, such as rape, are committed exclusively against women. Shouldn't they have the right to participate in judging those accused of such crimes?

The federal judges put it this way: "Jury duty is a form of participation in the processes of government, a responsibility and a right that should be shared by all citizens, regardless of sex."

Two Young Men With Big Plans

Auburn

AUBURN--"It's no place to go if you want to get married or if you want a great time. But if you want an education this is the place."

That sales talk is from Anthony Lee, an Auburn University sophomore who is running a sort of one-man recruiting drive for Auburn.

Lee is interested in seeing more Negro students at the university, and he has spent a good deal of time this school year urging Auburn admissions people to go out to Negro high schools to get good students.

The admissions officers say they will go any where they are invited by school counselors, Lee says.

Lee, a graduate of Macon County schools, is one of two Negro undergraduate students at Auburn. There are a few more colored graduate students.

Each spring Auburn holds a "Village Fair" to attract interested high school students to the campus. "I am quite sure that the Village Fair will be integrated this year (April 2) for the first time," Lee said.

"I keep telling other students that this college is not as hard as they think. Being a state school, it has to be geared to the average state student," he says. "Graduates of Negro high schools can



ANTHONY LEE

do the work here."

"I tell them that I am much better off at Auburn, and they will be too."

Lee hopes to go to University of Alabama School of Law after graduation from Auburn and then to practice law in Alabama.

"I would go to some county where they don't have a lawyer for Negro clients. There just are not enough lawyers to go around."

Greensboro

GREENSBORO -- Lewis Black is a man with ideas. Five years ago he worked on one of his pet ideas--setting up a credit union.

Negroes were never able to get credit in Hale County banks. So Black set up the Greensboro Citizens Federal Credit Union in September 1961. Since that time the union has loaned out \$400,000.

Another of Black's ideas is to establish a "reverse Peace Corps" in Alabama.

"The U. S. Agency for International Development already pays money for foreign students to go to college in this country," he says. "Why not send some of them to schools in Alabama? I know that all the colleges would like to get their hands on some of that money."

"The colleges could train the students in money management, and agriculture and budgeting. Then the students could spend time to work in the counties of the South," Black explained.

"This would bring revenue to Alabama--and it might serve to integrate some of our colleges," he added.

Black would also settle for a less formal program. He wants colleges in Alabama to train local people to set up farm cooperatives and credit unions.

Until recently Black was a farmer and



LEWIS BLACK

teacher in Hale County. Still a farmer in Hale County, he is now the Alabama Council on Human Relations' man in charge of its rural advancement project.

To begin his new job, Black wants to help communities set up cooperatives and credit unions; he is working on a pig program; and he hopes to organize four Black Belt counties to get some anti-poverty money.

SCLC Advises Workers, Start Politics in Precinct

BY RICHARD J. VAUGHN

BIRMINGHAM -- Members of SCLC from the Black Belt and from key cities around the state met here last week with SCLC leaders from Atlanta to plan political action in 1966.

What came out of the meeting was advice on where to start working.

Most of the county representatives stressed the need for people to go to their precinct meetings to elect precinct officers. These officers, it was

said, are the ones who choose who will go to the state convention from the county.

"If you don't go to the precinct meetings and vote," said one person, "we're not going to have any Negro officers."

In county reports given at the meetings, several people said apathy and political ignorance are their biggest problems.

About 100 people showed up for the meeting last Saturday, and talked politics from 9 in the morning to 5 in the afternoon.

Attorney Randolph T. Blackwell, program director of SCLC, and Robert L. Greene, director of SCLC's citizenship educational project, led the meeting.

In the afternoon, people from Mobile, Perry, Autauga, Dallas, Barbour and Wilcox counties announced that they would have Negroes running for offices there this year.

Later, Greene announced a statewide school desegregation meeting next month.

"I feel that by June we'll have to lead kids over to the white schools and say, 'If we can't go here, we're not going to let you go here.'"

Green said the meeting would set up county committees to train from 200 to 400 school children by fall for sit-in demonstrations at white schools. He said similar meetings would be held in at least Louisiana, Mississippi, and Georgia.

EUFULA

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

"Our message to you tonight is: Hold on to what you've got--and keep on pushing. Change will come." The audience murmured approval. When Clarke said 25,000 Negroes had registered to vote in Birmingham, the group applauded.

Clarke didn't talk very long. He said he believed in action rather than words.

"We were looking for one message and we got another," Mrs. Battle said, as Clarke left. Most of the audience seemed to feel the message was a good one.

"Clarke isn't Hosea Williams, but he's all right," said one teenager. "I'm disappointed. But I'm not very disappointed."

"We'll keep trying for Williams," promised Kelly. "We'll get him eventually."

Mobile School Operation Pride in Birmingham: Staff Joined A Chance to Fix Up the House

MOBILE--Mobile County School system made one advance and two retreats during the last week and a half.

On Monday morning the administrative staff was integrated. Until Monday, only white administrators worked in Barton Academy, the main office building. Six Negro administrators had offices in all-Negro Central High School, about 12 blocks away.

The Negro administrators apparently will work along side their white coworkers, rather than being placed in an all-Negro office inside Barton Academy.

A week ago the school board voted down a proposal for a Neighborhood Youth Corps. The anti-poverty program would have provided about 100 boys summer jobs cleaning and maintaining the school property at almost no cost to the school system.

And the board also voted not to let the anti-poverty committee use its school building after school hours to give basic education classes for poor farm workers. The committee said it would pay for utilities and other costs connected with the use of the buildings.

Dr. R.W. Gilliard, the head of the committee, said the school board gave no reason for turning down the requests.

CANDIDATE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

considered a "moderate." In a statement made about two weeks ago, deGraffenreid said that, if elected, he would tolerate neither discrimination nor demonstration.

"It's just too terrible," said State Senator Bob Gilchrist, upon hearing of his close friend's death.

"He was a very fine gentleman," said Orzell Billingsley, chairman of the Alabama Democratic Conference. "He was progressive in his ideas for the improvement of Alabama."

"DeGraffenreid was a good strong middle-of-the-roader," said another Democratic Conference member.

Voters looking for a "middle-of-the-roader" in 1966 were left bewildered by the sudden loss of the candidate.

In the week after his death, attention centered on Gilchrist as a possible substitute as the "moderate" man for governor. DeGraffenreid's father and brother were briefly mentioned as possibilities.

Negroes and "liberal" whites were debating where to lend their support. Some looked to former U.S. Representative Carl Elliott, others to Attorney General Richmond Flowers. Patterson would gain some support in south Alabama from deGraffenreid enthusiasts, politicians said.

BY RICHARD J. VAUGHN

BIRMINGHAM -- "There's a lot I would like to do to my house," said a lady who lives on 17th St. North, near 13th Court North. "The outside of the house has to be painted and some of the ceilings need to be done over as well as the light fixtures."

The woman lives in a three-story, white wood house. The paint is peeling. Shingles on the roof are loose. The living room has a pasteboard ceiling with a light dangling from it.

Many of the houses in the area are in the same condition. Some are a lot worse. But most of the home owners and tenants in that area will be able to improve their homes under Birmingham's "Operation Pride."

Operation Pride is a 172-block improvement program in Birmingham's North Side. It is the first project of its kind in the nation.

Senator John J. Sparkman announced the project to a meeting of the Downtown Action Committee at the Parliament House last month.

Sparkman told the committee that the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announced a \$800,936 to help the city carry out the program. The federal grant covers nearly 2/3 of the program's estimated \$1.2 million cost.

The area covered by the project is between the new interstate highway and the Southern Railway on the east, and 11th Ave. North on the south and Village Creek and 20th Ave. North on the north.

Homeowners and tenants who have incomes under \$3,000 per year can receive grants up to \$1,500 and loans up to \$4,500. Those who have incomes over \$3,000 per year can receive loans up to \$10,000. Interest is three per cent.

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Most of the money will be spent on street repairs and the construction of new streets and the demolition of 46 buildings in the area.

However, this is not a slum clearance project, emphasized the Jefferson County Bureau of Sanitation. It is rather an attempt to clear up pockets of deterioration, it said.

According to residents of the area, the part of the city to be improved was inhabited at one time by middle-to-upper-class people. Now lower-to-middle-class people live there.

Nearly a third of the houses in the area do not meet minimum housing standards, said the City Health Department. The department said that it hopes to bring the area up to minimum housing standards.

Most of the repairs needed to meet minimum requirements include the fixing of roofs, walls, porches, windows, and chimneys. Also, there are houses that need toilets, sinks, bath tubs, and hot water heaters to meet the requirements.

About two-thirds of all the buildings in the area need minor repairs and about 250 of the existing 3,020 residen-

tial buildings need major repairs to meet project requirements.

Most of the people in the area who know of the project are enthusiastic about it.

"When I first read about it in the paper, I was really excited," said one young woman. "My income is only \$2,600 per year."

The project will be under the direction of Robert Reese, the housing supervisor of the Health Department.

It will be several months before the project really gets going strong, he said.

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Veteran Tuskegee Rights Leader Answers Back Militant Critics

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE -- "Our way is not the only way," said Charles G. Gomillion, president of the Tuskegee Civic Association (TCA). "But we have been able to accomplish many of our goals."

"Dr. Gomillion has called himself a worker not a fighter," said Mrs. Frances Rush, a member of the Macon County Board of Education. "I say to him, 'That's the secret of your success.'"

With those words TCA, Tuskegee's oldest civil rights group, ended a long silence in the face of sharp criticism from the town's newer and more militant civil rights organizations.

The reply came at a TCA meeting this week, 42 days after the murder of a student civil rights worker.

Students from the Tuskegee Institute Advancement League (TIAL) and workers from SNCC demonstrated in the streets for three weeks after the killing. The faculty-based Ad Hoc Committee for Justice in Macon County pressured city and county government for new laws and policies.

But TCA remained publicly -- and

conspicuously -- quiet until its Sunday meeting.

Gomillion answered his critics indirectly, with a 15-point description of TCA's approach to social action. He said the group always asks, "Who should do what?"

"It isn't easy to answer," he said. "Many times some persons want to do what is not wise for them to do in terms of the consequences."

"If you tell them they are not wise, their answer is, 'I have a right, don't I?'" We say, "Yes, but it isn't always intelligent or sensible to do what you have a right to do."

"Many TCA members have asked me to make a statement," Gomillion said in explanation of his remarks. "I hope it will not be taken as an attempt to justify what we have done or an apology for what we have not done."

"TCA as an organization has tried to refrain from telling other civil rights organizations what they should or should not do."

Gomillion denied that TCA has ever called Tuskegee a model community.

"I have said it could become one," he said. "I still think it could. If I didn't

I wouldn't have stayed here."

"Maybe our goals haven't been high enough or comprehensive enough. But there are many of us who believe that by working together, by making necessary compromises, we can make Tuskegee a better place to live."

TCA chose Race Relations Sunday, which comes once a year in early February, to deliver a double-barreled reply to the student demonstrators. Mrs. Rush, who serves on Macon County's bi-racial school board with Gomillion, also spoke to the integrated audience.

"Our strength lies in quietness, not in frantic challenges and hysterical efforts," said Mrs. Rush to some 150 listeners, including Tuskegee Mayor Charles M. Keever.

Mrs. Rush said that for those who listen to God's voice, there is a "right way" to do things, "even if we cannot achieve the perfect will of God in a single generation."

"Of all the qualities that make a person or a nation respected," she said, "self-discipline is the most important. If we as individuals fail to meet our responsibilities, no laws can do it for us."

"The white man does not have a monopoly on prejudice. All of us are guilty. It is there and we can't make it go away by wishing it were gone."

Mrs. Rush urged the audience to dedicate their lives to "good will," and said, "There is no time like now to begin."

SNCC and TIAL members who attended the TCA meeting said they had no comment. But then a SNCC worker reconsidered.

"Bless them," he said, and grinned.



Mobile Panel Discusses Problems

BY JOHN DIGIULIO

MOBILE -- A panel organized to discuss "Mobile's most pressing problems in civil rights" ended up debating the effectiveness of the city's Negro leadership.

The panel Tuesday night included three of the most prominent Negro leaders in the city. Their effectiveness was questioned by David R. Underhill of The Southern Courier.

From left to right above are THE REV. ALBERT S. FOLEY, chairman of the sociology department at Spring Hill College; DR. R. W. GILLIARD, head of the local NAACP; THE REV. JOHN W. B. THOMPSON, rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd and panel moderator; JOHN L. LEFLORE of the Non-Partisan Voters League; and UNDERHILL.

Another panel member, AME Bishop William M. Smith of the city's bi-racial committee, replied to Underhill that the lack of "individual responsibilities" was the problem.

The people should give ideas and support freely to leaders, he said.

Answering the panel topic in opening remarks, Underhill said Mobile's leadership is "out of date" and too restricted by the influence of white leadership "downtown."

The Southern Courier correspondent mentioned instances in which, he said, the leadership was reluctant to participate in aspects of the civil rights movement.

As a member of the audience put it, LeFlore and Gilliard were not "ruffled" by what Underhill had to say. They concentrated mostly on problems in job opportunities.

LeFlore suggested that Negroes refuse gas and electric service until the two utility companies remove alleged barriers to integrating their offices.

PRATTVILLE ATTACK

PRATTVILLE -- A Negro youth said he was beaten by at least a dozen white boys at a service station here last Saturday.

The FBI said Wednesday it is investigating the alleged attack and will make its report available to the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice.

Willie D. Leon, 18, was treated at Prattville General Hospital for cuts and bruises on his head and forehead.

Leon said he was repairing his car during the afternoon at the Rebel Service Station in Prattville when a group of white boys accused him of trying to run them off the road earlier in the day. He said he was attacked by the group, and was able to hold off the youths with tools he had in his hand.

Afterwards, Leon was placed in a police car. While in the car, Leon recalled, he said that someone would get even with his attackers.

The next thing he knew he was belted over the head again.

The youth was rushed to the hospital, treated, and released.

His mother, Fannie Mae Leon,

said the boy was charged with resisting arrest and released on bond.

Autauga County Sheriff George A. Grant refused to talk about the case.

The Negro community of Prattville was angered by the incident and asked the Federal Bureau of Investigation to make a report.



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