

THE SOUTHERN COURIER

VOL. II, NO. 28

WEEKEND EDITION: JULY 9-10, 1966

TEN CENTS

Greensboro Marchers Ask County Judge to Approve Distribution of Free Food

BY WILLIAM W. ROBINSON

GREENSBORO--"For the first time in the history of Alabama, people have got in the streets to say they are hungry," SCLC field worker John Reynolds said here Wednesday.

Fifty Hale County Negroes led by Lewis Black, president of Hale County Improvement Association, marched to the county courthouse last Tuesday and Wednesday to protest Probate Judge Harold Knight's refusal to approve distribution of \$540,000 in federal surplus food. Wednesday's march, which began at St. Luke AME Church, was intended to get the judge's signature on a form approving the distribution.

"I know we need this food. Got to pay the rent, got to pay the insurance, what have I got left for food?" said Mrs. Florence Benn, one of the marchers who is presently unemployed.

The marches were the latest in a series of attempts made by Hale County residents to obtain food from the Federal Surplus Food Commodity Program sponsored by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

In January, 1965, Black began steps to secure government approval of the Hale County Improvement Association as a distributor of the surplus food. He received this approval, and in May of this year he applied for the food. His application was accepted and sent to the Department of Agriculture, which issues the food for distribution to poor people.

The Department of Agriculture, however, said the distribution had to be cleared through Judge Knight.



According to Black, when a committee of four local Negroes talked to Knight in May, he said he wouldn't sign an approval form because he didn't approve of the anti-poverty program. When it was explained to Knight that the food would be distributed to the poor whites and Negroes in the area, Black said, the judge argued that if people got something for nothing, this would encourage them not to work.

On Wednesday, after criticizing Black and the march and accusing the marchers of looking for trouble, Knight said he would meet with the Hale County Revenue Board (which he heads) next Monday morning to consider approving the food distribution.

Judge Knight refused to comment to reporters about his refusal to sign, or about the marches.

At a meeting held in St. Luke Church after Wednesday's march, a committee was formed to ask for permission to meet with the revenue board next Monday, and to report the board's decision back to the other residents of the county. Mrs. Elizabeth Bradley, Mrs. Teresa Burroughs, T. B. Hicks, and the Rev. L. A. Lee were named to the committee.

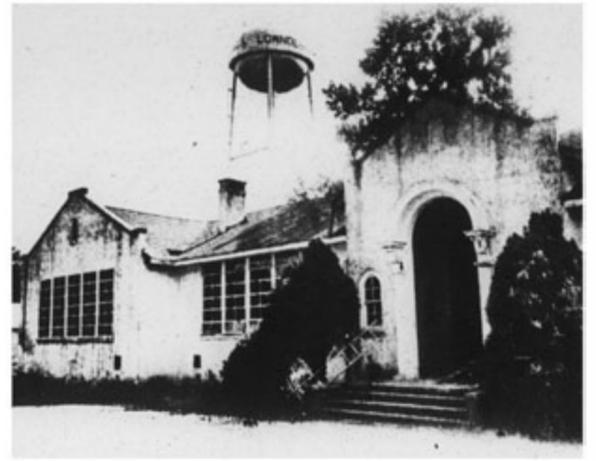
"Many people are unemployed here for the reason that mechanized farms and industries have taken away their jobs," Black explained. "Many try for jobs in other parts of the state, but most end up just going North. Hale County is mostly composed of children and old people on welfare, and the welfare just doesn't pay."

Reynolds said he may try to get the white population of the county to participate in the marches. "We've got to educate the poor white folks that they're hungry, too," he said. "One of the things I hope this march shows is that poor whites have got to join in this thing, too. It's hard to talk to whites in Hale County, but I have to try."

Asked before Wednesday's march how he thought it would come out, an elderly marcher said, "If we can't get what we want today, we'll just have to march tomorrow and the next day until we get the food and make the judge and the people here understand that we have problems. It may be hard, but we're going to try."



AUDIENCE HEARS ABOUT "BLACK POWER" . . .



. . . AND AN ALL-WHITE SCHOOL IS READIED FOR FALL

In Lowndes County

Black, White Go Separate Ways NEW PRIVATE SCHOOL

BY NELSON LICHTENSTEIN

HAYNEVILLE--White people, like Negroes, have taken steps to "go it alone" in Lowndes County. The best example is the group of white residents, headed by Ray Bass of Hayneville, who plan to open a private school this fall.

The reason for the private school? "I'm not set to have my kids be guinea pigs in a social experiment carried out by the federal government," said Bass.

The "social experiment" Bass was talking about is public school integration in Lowndes County, ordered by a federal court.

Bass and other white residents organized the Lowndes County Private School Foundation two years ago to keep their children in an all-white school.

They plan to open the school this fall in Lowndesboro with about 190 students, four teachers, and an athletic coach.

The coach is Mac Champlin, who kept Hayneville High School's football team at the top of its class in the state. He has a career record of 38 victories and one loss.

Champlin has given ten acres of his land for the school's sports fields.

Bass, who is president of the foundation, is against sending his children to desegregated schools because he doesn't think "we'll have a proper academic atmosphere in the public school system during the social revolution."

John Hulett, head of the Lowndes County civil rights movement and father of a son who attends a previously all-white school in Hayneville, said, "They are free to set up any kind of schools they want as long as they don't use our money."

Another Negro active in Lowndes County civil rights work and politics, William Cosby, said he felt the private school would make the public school system less crowded as Negroes enter formerly all-white schools.

According to Bass, the foundation has not tried to get any money from local or state public tax funds.

Miss Hulda Coleman, superintendent of education in Lowndes' system of 660 white pupils and 3,800 Negro pupils, indicated that she had had no contact with the private school foundation.

More than \$150,000 has been contributed to the school for a permanent building in Hayneville. Part of the money came from parents who are paying \$30 per month for their first child enrolled, \$20 for the second child in the family, and \$10 for the third child.



STOKELY CARMICHAEL

'BLACK POWER'

BY WAYNE HURDER

HAYNEVILLE -- The man who started the cry that Negroes should go on their own to develop "black power" returned to Lowndes County this week and explained what he means.

Until he was elected chairman of SNCC last May, Stokely Carmichael was organizing an independent third party of Negro candidates in Lowndes County.

At the Friendship Baptist Church near here Sunday, Carmichael called for Negroes to form independent parties even in areas where they are a minority. In these places Negroes shouldn't seek the white liberals' vote, he said, "because the blacks should learn their own strength."

"Black power is when we pick the person we want to represent us," the 24-year-old Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee chairman said.

The slogan "black power" has been the center of a dispute since Carmichael used it in the Mississippi march to replace the traditional cry of "freedom."

(While Carmichael was in Lowndes County Sunday, the Congress of Racial Equality agreed at its national convention in Baltimore, Maryland, that it supports the drive for black power.)

There is no real misunderstanding about black power, Carmichael told 100 members of the Lowndes County Christian Movement for Human Rights.

White people really know what is meant by black power, he said, but they distort it and call it "black supremacy," because "they know what they did when they had power."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX, Col. 1)

5 Mississippians Beaten On Kemper County Road

BY GAIL FALK

DE KALB, Miss.-- Five men were beaten here last Saturday evening after their Cadillac passed a pickup truck driven by a white man.

The men--Lonnie Chamberlain, 14, Ted Coleman, 39, Eugene Griffin, 16, and Renea Johnson, 15, of Preston, Miss., and R. G. Grady, 25, of Memphis, Tenn.--said the truck trailed them along the highway into DeKalb, where they stopped for sandwiches.

"When we were on our way home," said Coleman, "this same truck . . . came out of a side road, and blocked the path of our car. Two men jumped out. Each one had a pistol and a blackjack."

"The younger white man pointed his gun at the driver, Mr. Grady, and pulled him out of the car," said Johnson. "He started to beat on Mr. Grady with the blackjack many times till Mr. Grady fell to the ground. He picked Mr. Grady up and then beat him back down again."

Coleman said that when the man had finished beating Grady, he "pointed his gun at me and told me to get out. When

I did, he hit me twice in the head with his blackjack . . . It knocked me out, and I fell to the ground."

Chamberlain and Johnson said they too were knocked unconscious. Griffin also was beaten, and a sixth passenger escaped into the bushes.

The five injured men were treated at Kemper County Hospital, and then released.

The men think they were mistaken for civil rights workers. Their car had a Tennessee tag, and they said they heard the white men call them "freedom riders."

Justice of the Peace R. M. Harmon said Grady and Griffin filled out warrants Monday, charging Levon and Herman Breckenridge with assault with a dangerous weapon.

Bombs Over Selma



SELMA--The Edmund Pettus Bridge was the site of a spectacular Fourth of July fireworks display. No doubt every Selma resident at the historic bridge was thinking to himself: "We

hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

Law Almost Sinks the Alabama

MOBILE -- No one is going to sell the battleship Alabama.

Probably no one ever really wanted to, but for a while last week the historic ship seemed to be headed for the auction block.

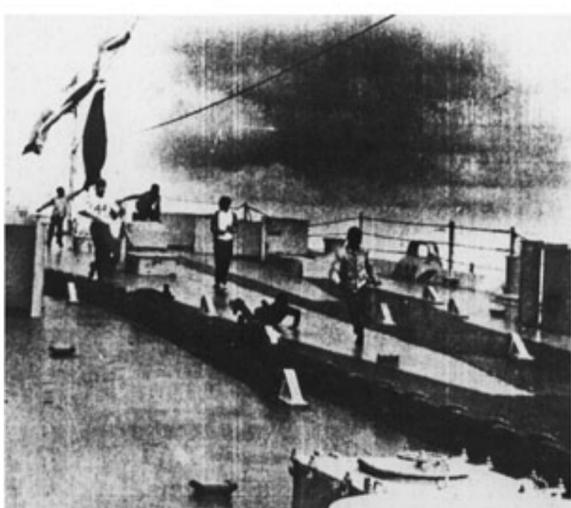
Circuit Judge Daniel T. McCall put an end to the legal "joke" just six days before the Alabama was to be sold.

General Sessions Court Judge Warren C. Finch unknowingly ordered the sale earlier--to pay off \$416 owed to a loan company by a state battleship commission employee.

Judge Finch was acting under Alabama's garnishment law. Under this law, an employer can be forced to withhold part of a worker's wages when the worker owes money to another person or company (called a creditor). The money withheld is used to pay the worker's debts.

But when the loan company tried to get the battleship commission to withhold \$416 owed by an employee, the commission refused. Its lawyers said the commission was "an arm of the state," and therefore could not be sued.

This point came up before Judge Finch last January. He ruled that the commission was not an arm of the state, and that it should withhold the money from its employee's paycheck.



'Please Don't Take Away My Battleship'

But there is more to Alabama's garnishment law. If an employer refuses to cooperate, the creditor can forget about the worker and sue the employer instead.

The state battleship commission was created back when thousands of Alabamians gave their dimes and dollars to

bring the Alabama from the state of Washington to Mobile Bay. The only thing the commission has that is worth anything is the old World War II battleship.

So the loan company decided to force the commission to sell the battleship in order to pay the \$416.

This kind of proceeding is routine when, as usual, battleships aren't involved. Such cases are handled mechanically by the staff of Judge Finch's court.

So one day Judge Finch read in the newspapers that his court had ordered a sale of the battleship Alabama. A lot of people had a lot to say about THAT.

They asked Sheriff Ray Bridges, who would have been in charge of the auction: "What the hell are you doing selling a battleship?"

Finally, Judge McCall ruled that the battleship commission was, after all, an arm of the state. So it didn't have to withhold the \$416. And it didn't have to sell its battleship.

But legal experts see two serious points in the daffy case. First, they say, it shows how rough the state's garnishment law can be.

Second, they say, it means that if a tourist slipped and broke a leg while on the battleship--something that really might happen--he probably couldn't sue anybody. It would just be his tough luck.

LEWIS QUILTS SNCC

ATLANTA, Ga. -- John Lewis, former SNCC head, quit SNCC last week. His resignation becomes effective later this month. Lewis, 26, from Troy, Ala., was SNCC chairman for three years until Stokely Carmichael replaced him in May.

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ROOM 622, FRANK LEU BUILDING
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36104
PHONE: (205) 262-3572

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Editor: Robert E. Smith
Executive Editor: Mary Ellen Gale
Associate Editor: Michael S. Lottman
Photography Editor: James H. Peppier
Layout Editor: Amy R. Peppier

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Editorial Opinion

In the Mail

Things an editor learns when he reads his mail: At least 70 out of 100 white workers have jobs within the present minimum wage law coverage; less than 50 out of 100 non-whites are covered.

Four out of 100 white men are unemployed; eight out of 100 non-white men are unemployed. Fifty out of 100 white men are high school graduates; 25 out of 100 Negro men are high school graduates.

Education isn't the whole answer: Ten out of 100 unemployed Negro men have less than eight years of school; even more--11 out of 100--of the unemployed Negroes have some high school training.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

I find nothing noble or good about narrowness of mind or the unfounded contempt which reduces any man to less than a human being because of the color of his skin, or his creed... it is wrong, wrong, wrong. And I can't understand the shallowness of a person who believes otherwise. I am unable to comprehend how any person could justify such belief unless he lives in complete conflict with the values upon which reason and decency are based.

For America's greatness comes not from the hate or narrowness of little minds. Rather is America herself a dream, a land where more than just lip service is paid to the dignity of man, and men are free to achieve through ability and merit, not contact or color. To deny that fact would be to deny the Declaration of Independence, to betray at the same time America herself. That is a tragedy I do not care to see.

Yet it is a tragedy I see here. And I am ashamed by the denials and restrictions, by the contempt for equal treatment under law and the disdain for the just and good that here make mockery of this nation's greatness. It troubles me to know that shallow minds find here fertile ground for their narrowness. The traditions and controls they have managed to establish do indeed make mockery of the American dream; that is perhaps the ultimate tragedy of the South. For America is a land of dreams, a land of freedom. And freedom is not a word to pay lip service to, a facade or lie that really has no meaning or reality, an attitude or equality and closeness that "should" exist between people. It is something very real. It has to be, no less than as an applied ideal freedom's scope must include everyone. For freedom is itself an attitude. It is a way of approaching life and therefore people. It is a way of living with people, sharing with them things common to all men: the worries, the fears, the tears. It embodies compassion, integrity, includes also concern for others and the

problems that trouble them... and this nation.

Yet it is different here. These things are reduced to facade, to a lie. That is what is so unfathomable, to have people say they are American, yet know these same people will not live by the things for which America stands.

Why? Why are human rights and human feeling segregated and narrowed to fit the color schemes of myopic minds? I have no answer. Certainly there can be no justification. When a man for association, for a choice of friends must fear not only social ostracism but social violence... what mockery of this land of the free? What disdain for the right and the just?

Our rights must be inviolable. If you can deprive a person of his rights because you disagree with him, or because the color of his skin happens not to be the same as yours, you may someday be deprived of your rights for like reason. That is why the just and the right must prevail regardless of race, color, creed, belief; why I cannot condone the very real and very tangible violations of our sense of right and wrong; indeed, our very concept of freedom and justice, that I find here.

I want an America free and just, for all men. I want never to fear because the beliefs I hold are unpopular, or friendships I cherish condemned because they're not "white." Nor do I wish to see an America overshadowed by narrowness or hate, by injustice or ostracism against any portion of American society. America is not white. She is not black. Her strength, her greatness, her future lies in one person: The American. That's you, and I, and every other American, black or white. Deny this, deny any person for any reason his right to be an American, to vote, to dissent, to choose his own friends, equality, justice... and you deny America.

William Heter
Montgomery, Ala.

Teachers, Aides 'Sell' Head Start In Birmingham

BY DON GREGG

BIRMINGHAM--When a businessman comes out with a new product, he lets the public know about it. He uses billboards, newspapers, and television to advertise the product.

It may be difficult to think of the U.S. Government using mass advertising. But now the government must tell millions of Americans about the new anti-poverty programs in their communities.

And telling about the programs is not enough. The government must get people involved. It has to "sell" its anti-poverty programs.

Operation Head Start is such a program. It is a pre-school orientation for six-year-olds who are starting school this fall. Head Start was operating in Birmingham last summer, but it still took door-to-door selling to get enough kids to fill up this year's program.

The Jefferson County Committee for Economic Opportunity is the local anti-poverty organization. Teachers hired for Head Start by this committee were the door-to-door salesmen for the program. For three days before classes began, these teachers and their aides systematically scoured Birmingham neighborhoods for pre-schoolers to participate in the program.

One teacher, who asked that her name be withheld, said that one-third of the people she interviewed had never heard of Head Start, and only one in 20 understood what it was all about.

"I hate to sell, and that's what we were doing a lot of the time. Some of the parents wouldn't give us a definite answer until we told them about the free dental and medical care their children would get. If they understood the program, this wouldn't be necessary."

Though she resented this "sales" approach, the teacher added that she didn't care why parents enroll their children in Head Start because they will benefit regardless of their parents' motives for sending them.

Sermon of the Week

Priest Links Christ, Freedom In Independence Day Sermon

BY PHILIP SAYRE

HUNTSVILLE--"If we are to undergo the renewal which is demanded by Jesus Christ, we must search for what we are today; and if we are to recapture the world of Jesus Christ, then we must start by being free men," Father Brice Joyce said here Sunday.

Father Joyce, pastor of Our Lady of Grace Church in Sheffield, delivered the Independence Day sermon at the Redstone Arsenal Post Chapel.

All too often, he said, the church has been a strict, authoritarian institution which has identified with the things it should be reforming. For example, he said, it took the Catholic Church many years to recognize the Declaration of Independence.

"The only reason authority is coming into question in the church is because the authority has been misused," said the priest. He cited Saint Peter's misuse of authority, when Peter became "un-Christ-like." It was Paul who "told him off" for such behavior.

Today, though, "as the world is becoming smaller and smaller, and as

Gray, Bullock Negro Candidates Ask U.S. Court for New Election

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

MONTGOMERY--Five Negro candidates who didn't like the taste of their defeat last week asked federal court to order them a new election. They said the old one had a flavoring of conspiracy.

Some white officials this week replied to the candidates. The officials suggested that the bad taste was only sour grapes.

The election they all were talking about was the May 31 Democratic primary run-off in the 31st house district (Bullock, Barbour, and Macon counties).

One of the losing candidates was Fred D. Gray, the attorney who came within 600 votes of being the first Negro elected to the state House since Reconstruction. The others were Bullock County candidates Henry O. Williams, who ran for sheriff; Rufus Huffman, who ran for tax assessor; and Ben McGhee and Alonza Ellis, who ran for the court of county commissioners.

They asked U.S. District Court Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr. to throw out the results of the run-off in Bullock County and to order a new election there.

They charged that election officials and boards of registrars in all three counties "conspired to... dissipate the voting strength of the Negro communities in Barbour, Bullock, and Macon counties and in Alabama house district 31."

In a 23-page suit, the losing candidates said that many white people in all three counties were allowed to cast illegal ballots to keep Negroes out of office "because of their race and color."

But election officials in Barbour and Bullock counties said the only thing that kept Negroes out of office was their failure to get enough votes.

"They don't have a leg to stand on," said Tom Parish, chairman of the Barbour County Democratic Executive Committee. "I've read the whole thing from one page to another, and I don't see where they have any justifiable complaint."

Gray was the only Negro candidate on the run-off ballot in Barbour County. A record number of voters there gave his opponent, Bill Neville Jr., a two-to-one majority in the county.

"Folks turned out to beat that nigger," Parish said, "and they just beat the slop out of him."

He said Gray should blame Negro instead of white voters for his defeat: "A lot of nigras didn't vote for him here--or in Bullock County either. They said they didn't want no nigger representing them in the legislature."

The Negro candidates' suit charged that registrars in all three counties deliberately failed to purge their voters lists, in order to provide a method "whereby numerous illegal votes of white persons were received..."

Officials in Bullock and Barbour counties said their lists had been purged.

The suit singled out Bullock County because "attempts of poll watchers to perform their lawful tasks were uniformly resisted."

Bullock County election officials threatened poll watchers with arrest, kept them out of polling places, denied them the use of paper and pencil, prevented them from properly observing the election, and denied them the use of public bathrooms and drinking fountains, the suit said.

A hearing on the suit will be scheduled after the defendant county officials have time to make written replies.

John Allen Crook, chairman of the Bullock County Democratic Executive Committee, this week indicated the tone the replies will take.

"We tried to conduct the election in a fair and impartial manner," he said. "We tried, but we couldn't please anybody."

No Macon County official had any public comment. But one white Democrat pointed out that all three Negro candidates in the run-off for Macon County offices won.

"If we were trying to dissipate the Negro voting strength," he said, "we certainly did a poor job of it."

Russell Negro Deputy?

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

PHENIX CITY--"I'm not being pressured into this thing," said Russell County Sheriff M. Lamar Murphy. "I've been planning and wanting to do it for a long time."

He looked sternly at Nathaniel Gosha and Arthur Sumbry, leaders of the Phenix City-Russell County Betterment Association, a Negro group. Gosha and Sumbry looked sternly back at the sheriff.

"You can march in the morning if you want to," Sheriff Murphy said. "You won't hurry me at all."

But before the conference was over, Murphy had promised Gosha and Sumbry that he would hire a Negro as a full-time deputy sheriff "very soon."

"This man will be in uniform as quick as possible," Murphy told the Negro leaders. He smiled and shook their hands as they left his office Wednesday afternoon.

Half an hour earlier Gosha and Sumbry had left another conference--with the Russell County commissioners and county attorney Roy M. Greene. But nobody was smiling then.

At the earlier meeting, Greene broke in as soon as Sumbry had asked the county to hire two full-time and two part-time Negro deputy sheriffs. "There's already been some hired,"

Greene said. "You're a month late." "You're talking about unpaid part-time men who wear suits and drive around on the weekend," Gosha replied. "We don't mean that. We want a man in uniform. We want everyone who sees him to know he's a deputy."

"This county is employing more colored people than white, two to one," said O. W. Taff, chairman of the county commission. Commissioner G. W. Mitchell began reading a list of county employees by race.

"I don't doubt you have more Negroes than whites in subservient positions," interrupted Vernon Mitchell, editor of the Columbus (Ga.) News, a Negro weekly. "We want to know if you will pay a Negro deputy if the sheriff hires one."

"The law only authorizes us to pay the four deputies we have," replied attorney Greene. "We can't change the law. The state legislature has to do that."

"Laws can be changed," Mitchell said. "That's why we're here--because the laws are excluding our people."

But Greene and the commissioners said they couldn't do anything unless the law is changed.

"Y'all came to the wrong place," said Commissioner M. M. Dudley. "Go see the sheriff." So Gosha and Sumbry did.



BY CAROL S. LOTTMAN

SATURDAY, JULY 9

THE COACHES' ALL-AMERICA FOOTBALL GAME -- Sixty of last year's outstanding college senior football players will appear in the annual hot-weather classic. The East team, coached by Michigan State's Duffy Daugherty, will have quarterback Steve Sloan of Alabama, the hero of the Crimson Tide's win over Nebraska in the Orange Bowl. At 8:30 p.m. on Channel 6 in Birmingham and Channel 31 in Huntsville.

GET SMART -- "The Dead Spy Scrawls." Agent Maxwell (86) Smart poses as a pool hustler in a billiard parlor because he thinks it's a front for a KAOS electronic brain that intercepts CONTROL messages. At 7:30 p.m. on Channel 10 in Mobile, Channel 12 in Montgomery, Channel 13 in Birmingham, and Channel 15 in Florence.

SUNDAY, JULY 10

SUNDAY NIGHT MOVIE -- "Tender Is the Night." F. Scott Fitzgerald's famous drama about a man torn between love for his wife and devotion to his career. French Riviera in the 1920's provides colorful background. Stars include Jennifer Jones, Jason Robards Jr., and Joan Fontaine. At 8 p.m. on Channel 3 in Pensacola, Fla., Channel 6 in Birmingham, Channel 8 in Selma, and Channel 31 in Huntsville. At 10 p.m. on Channel 4 in Dothan.

SOMETHING SPECIAL -- Pearl Bailey stars in this hour-long special, which also features Ethel Waters and the Krofft Puppets. Miss Bailey will sing many of your favorites, including "Bill Bailey" and "I'm Tired." At 9 p.m. on Channel 13 in Birmingham.

MONDAY, JULY 11

MAN CALLED SHENANDOAH -- "The Sledge." When Shenandoah reclaims a bed-roll left in a hotel by a non-paying customer, the hotel owner accuses him of being the boarder who

skipped out. At 8 p.m. on Channel 3 in Pensacola, Fla., Channel 6 in Birmingham, Channel 8 in Selma. Tuesday at 9:30 p.m. on Channel 12 in Jackson, Miss.

TUESDAY, JULY 12

ABOUT PETS -- Does your Rover chase cars, bite the postman, and run off when you call him home? This show, the first in a three-part series from the Huntsville Obedience Club, offers tips



ROVER

for training your dog. At 6:30 p.m. on Channel 2 in Andalusia, Channel 7 in Anniston, Channel 10 in Birmingham, Channel 25 in Huntsville, and Channel 26 in Montgomery. The same show is repeated on Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. The other two parts of the series will be presented at the same times in the next two weeks.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13

JOHN GARY SHOW -- New musical variety series is a treat for John Gary fans. This week's guests are Vic Damone, Tim Conway, and Joanie Sommers. At 9 p.m. on Channel 4 in Dothan, Channel 13 in Birmingham, and Channel 12 in Jackson, Miss.

Snake Spirit Haunts Montgomery



ADVENTURERS INSPECT CORPSE OF SNAKE

BY VIOLA BRADFORD

MONTGOMERY--Two boys have told this community a puzzling and unexplained tale--that is, if this mysterious happening can be called a tale.

The boys, Casby Ingram and David Tubbs, along with Fletcher Haynes, their employer, were working in Westcott Cemetery on this particular day. As they were clearing weeds from the area, they saw a five-foot black coachwhip snake. After killing the snake, the three carried it to Casby's house.

Weird, uncanny, and unbelievable events then began to happen, according to what the boys said later.

A brick fell on Tubbs' head as he looked into a hole in a hollow tree, and Casby rushed to help him. Casby said that something grabbed them both and locked them together, but they struggled and broke

loose. Then more bricks and rocks started falling.

Tubbs glanced at the tree and saw balls of fire falling from it. Then the fire started shooting all around them.

Later, strange things began to happen at Casby's home, he said--like a table turning over with no one around.

Finally Casby buried the snake in the cemetery. Although things have been quiet for Casby since then, they haven't been for some other Montgomeryans.

One boy said that "a big bird was flying around in Washington Park and he couldn't be killed." A woman was said to have been hit over the head by an invisible force while walking along the street.

The cemetery has been and still is an attraction for hundreds of people.



EXHAUSTED SPIRIT-HUNTERS RELAX

People dug holes to look for the buried snake, but couldn't find it. Someone said the cemetery looked like "Swiss cheese" after the spectators left.

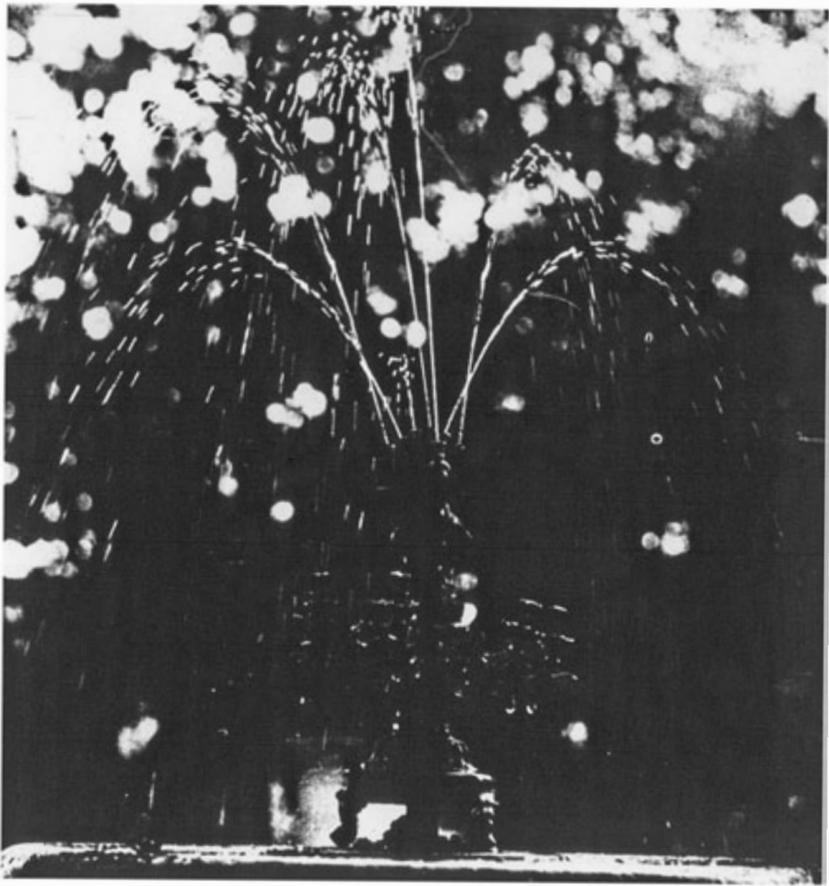
Several people--including a group from Ramer and a few Southern Courier staff members-- went to the cemetery at midnight last Friday.

They found the tree broken down, lying over three graves. Hanging from a hole in the tree was none other than a snake himself.

A full moon put the final touch to this ghostly scenery.

The visitors left with several questions on their minds, such as:

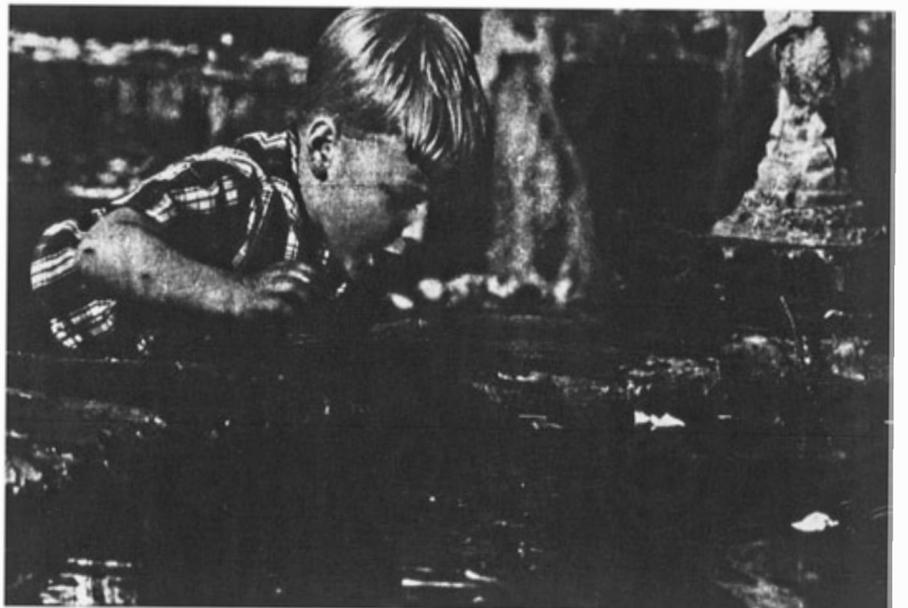
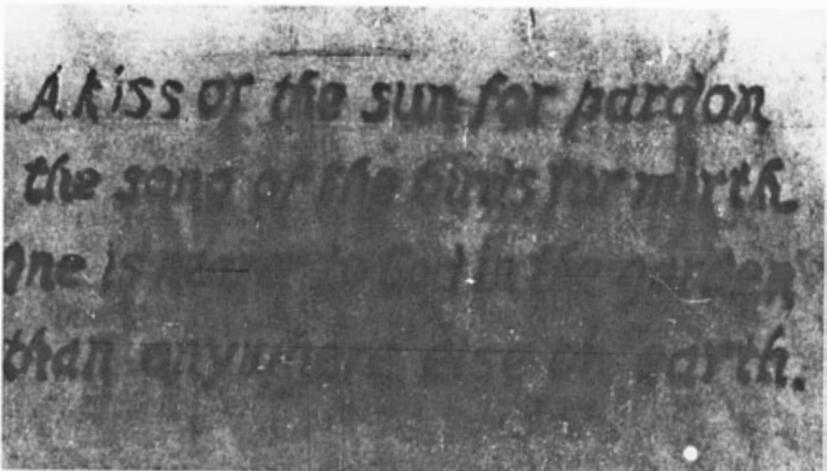
Was that the original snake that was killed and buried and that supposedly disappeared? How did this snake get into the tree?



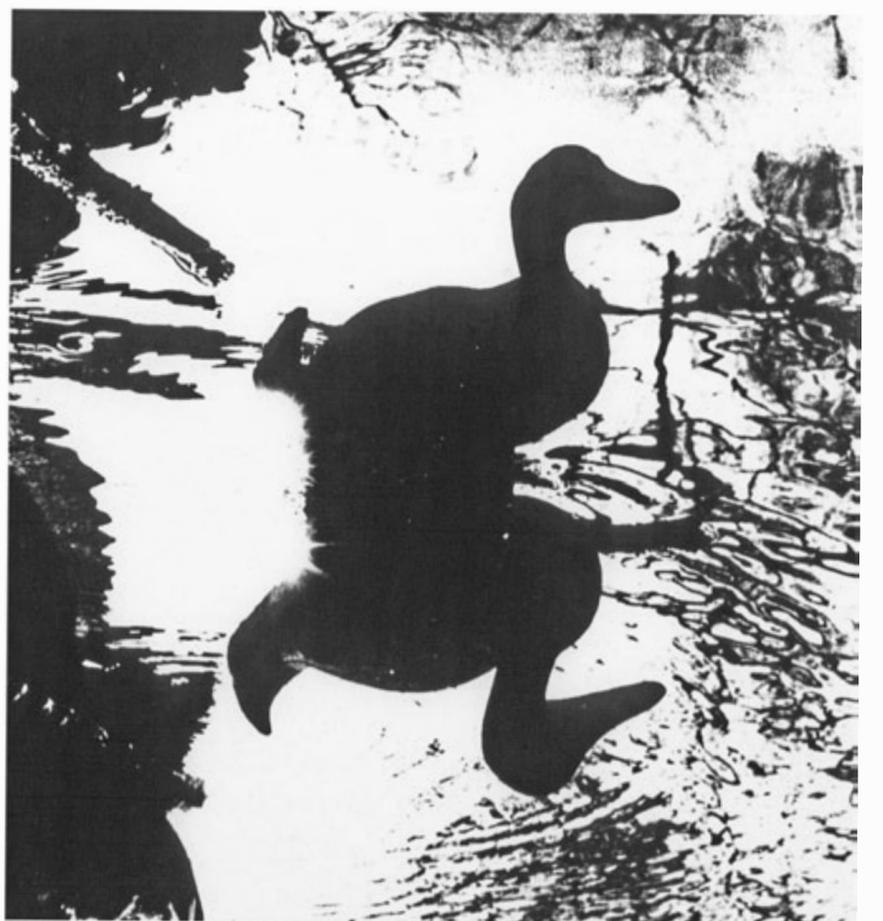
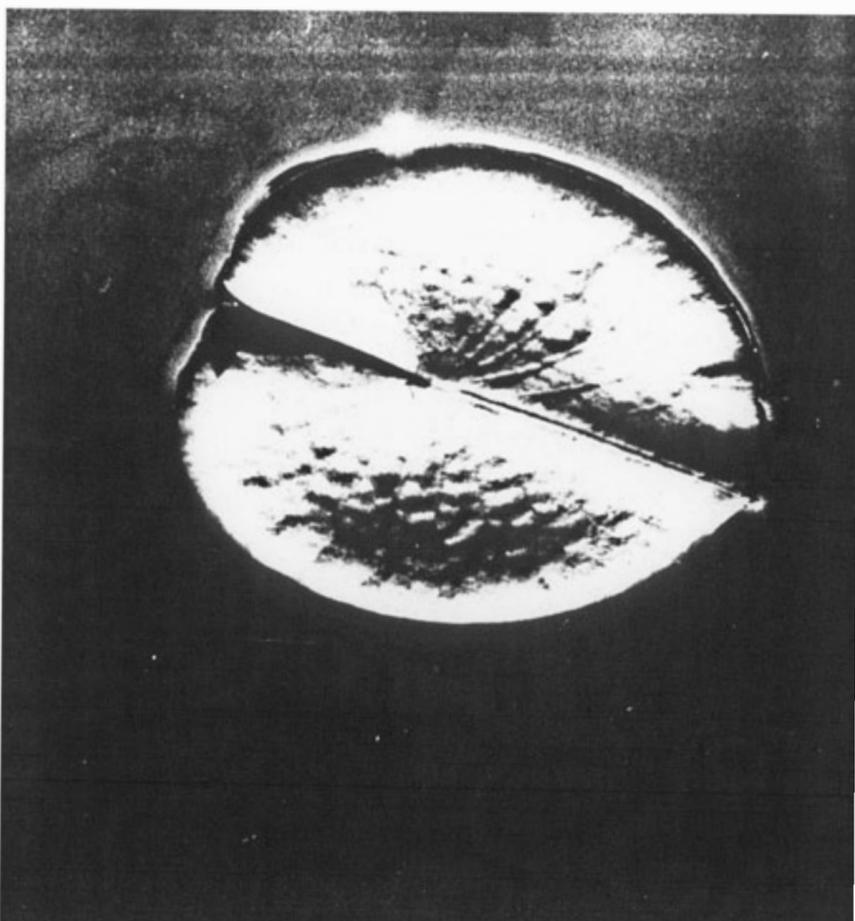
*A Garden of
Sculpture, Plants, and Ponds
North of Montgomery*



JASMINE HILL



Photographs by Jim Pepler



The Other Face of Montgomery

Poor People Struggle To Improve Homes



STATE CAPITOL IN DOWNTOWN MONTGOMERY



HOME IN NORTH MONTGOMERY, A MILE AWAY



AT PLAY IN SHERIDAN'S ALLEY ON THE WEST SIDE

BY GLORIA GERMAN
AND PAT PRANDINI

MONTGOMERY -- Like most of the cities in the United States, Montgomery has many faces. One of them is the face you see on postcards of the state Capitol buildings and large tree-shaded homes. It is clean and rich and smiling.

Less than a mile away from the Capitol, you can see another face of Montgomery. It's a face that never shows up on postcards because its features are shacks and outhouses and unpaved roads. It is dirty and poor and sad.

Some of the houses in the slums are tumbledown shacks. Some of them are row houses of two rooms each, squeezed together along a bumpy street.

The houses don't have any indoor plumbing. Water comes from a faucet down the street that serves several families. The bathroom is an outhouse.

Most of the homes have no gas for heating or cooking. The families have only old stoves that burn wood or coal. Even when there is enough wood to keep the fire going in winter, the cold and rain come in through broken windows.

There isn't any mail delivery at the houses. In some neighborhoods, a store accepts mail for the people who live nearby.

Some houses are built low to the ground. When it rains hard, the people have to move out--or get wet. When the Alabama River overflows, the houses nearby are flooded. The people have to clean mud and sticks out of their homes before they can move back into them.

In many houses, six or more people live in one room. The living room is also the kitchen, dining room, and bedroom. Beds and chairs are crammed against the sink or the stove.

With so many people crowded into a small space, the houses don't stay clean very long. Some of the people have become too discouraged even to try to keep their houses clean any more.

The dust drifts in from the dirt roads, and the people eat dirt and sand with their meals. Some areas are infested with rats.

Why are these poor sections in north and west Montgomery the way they are? Don't the people care? Or can't they do anything to improve their homes?

Mrs. Sylvia Johnson lives on the Jackson Ferry Road in north Montgomery. Five years ago she and a group of people in the neighborhood asked the city to install a sewer.

"Nothing came from it," she said. "So about two years ago we tried again."

Mrs. Rachel Fenison, another lady who believes in asking for what she wants, called up the city's sanitation department, which is in charge of putting in sewers.

"They told us we had to get a petition with property owners' names and the amount of land they had," Mrs. Fenison said.

She organized a committee. Mrs. Johnson and other committee members

took the petition around to different houses in the area. When they had several names, Mrs. Fenison took the petition down to the sanitation department. "They told us in order for us to have a sewer line, they would have to build a disposal plant and that would cost a lot of money," she said. "Now it looks like we will just have to wait to get a sewer in this neighborhood."

Mrs. Fenison said she and her neighbors would keep on petitioning the city for a sewer. She said they think they have a right to have the same facilities people have in other sections of Montgomery.



"If it had been white folks they would have put a sewer in, but since we are Negroes they just won't do it."

But O.L. Skinner, Montgomery's city engineer, said the city is putting improvements in poor neighborhoods wherever it can afford to do so. He said the city can't just decide to lay a sewer line and then do the work right away. It has to get the permission of all the property owners along the proposed sewer line.

"It's quite an involved process," he said. "Of course some people think it takes too long."

Another problem is that the city wants the people who live in a neighborhood to help pay for improvements. Jack Knight, head of the city planning com-

mission, said the city can't use its own money to pave roads and put in sewers.

"Why should my tax dollar pay for someone else's improvement?" he asked.

Knight said that when someone buys a house in a neighborhood that already has sewer and water lines, the house costs more than it would in an area without the conveniences.

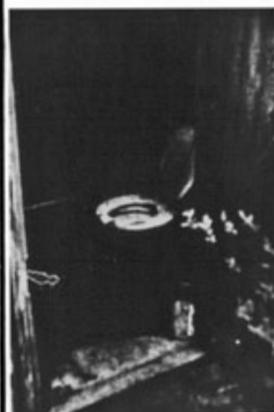
"People pay for improvements that are there when they buy the lots. Some man buys a lot on a dirt street and feels that he should have the improvements for free. Is that right?" Knight said.

Mrs. Fenison didn't answer him directly. She just frowned and shook her head and looked at the frame boards of the outhouse. "You just don't know how it feels to go in an outside toilet in the winter," she said. "And it smells bad in the summer."

There were other people in north Montgomery and on the west side who had another kind of answer for the city planners. Some sat on their rotting porches and looked blankly out at the street. Others backed away from their doors when they saw a stranger.

Often it took two or three tries to make the people understand why a newspaper reporter was there. They wanted to know why anyone was interested in what happened to them.

Outdoor Plumbing



Most of the homes along Tuttle Street near Alabama State College in Montgomery have indoor plumbing. But when the city laid a sewer line a few years ago, one white property owner didn't put in a bathroom for his Negro tenants. Instead, he installed a toilet in the outhouse.



ON A PORCH IN NORTH MONTGOMERY



OUTHOUSES NEAR WASHINGTON PARK: IT'S COLD IN THE WINTER

Radney Makes His Own Rules In Alabama Senate Campaign

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

ALEXANDER CITY -- "I'm not an outsider," said the blond, blue-eyed young man. He settled back in the big chair in his law office. "I'm not an agitator. I'm an Alabamian who loves our people and is confident we can reason together to solve our problems."

He brought his hand down on the papers that covered most of his glass-topped desk. Tucked under one uncovered corner of the glass were a card and a letter signed with John F. Kennedy's bold scrawl. "We aren't going to solve our problems overnight," said the young man. He clicked his ballpoint pen in and out. "As Kennedy said, not in 100 or 1,000 days--but we have begun."

It was a characteristic thing for Tom Radney to say. It was optimistic but cautious. It was full of the state-pride that Alabama requires of her politicians. And it suggested that Radney's solutions to Alabama's problems would somehow please nearly everybody who supports Governor Wallace and nearly everybody who supported President Kennedy.

It was the kind of statement that helped Tom Radney win the Democratic nomination for the State Senate in the 16th district (Macon, Tallapoosa, and Elmore counties).

Three cardboard charts on his office wall showed how Radney did it. He lost big in Elmore County, home of H. H. O'Daniel, his opponent in the run-off election May 31. But he won in Tallapoosa County, which years ago sent his great-grandfather (a Confederate warrior) and then his grandfather to the state legislature. And he won in Macon County, where two of every three voters were Negroes.

The Negro voters in all three counties didn't have much choice. O'Daniel advertised in Macon to as-

sure the voters that "I'm your kind of guy." But in Tallapoosa and Elmore, he passed out campaign material that made it clear what kind of a guy he really was.

One leaflet, illustrated with a cannibal stirring a pot, asked, "Who's in the stew?" and compared Radney's Macon County vote to the similar vote for a Negro candidate. "Was there a deal?" asked O'Daniel. Another leaflet pictured Radney strangely darkened and smudged, apparently to persuade whites that he was a Negro.

Eleven thousand voters found one or more of O'Daniel's arguments persuasive. But 12,200 voters didn't.

"I'm proud of my victory," said Radney, not smiling. "I made the same speeches everywhere, in all three counties. I did not appeal to or ratify any emotions. I made no slanderous remarks. I sent out no smut literature."

Then he smiled, as if remembering that, after all, he won. "I have received hundreds of letters from all over the district in support of the type campaign I ran," he said.

"Now the fight is over. The family will unite. Twenty-three thousand people voted as Democrats, and I assume they are. I intend to pull one lever in November. So will they--if they believe in the Democratic Party."

Meanwhile, Radney intends to convince them--and any Republican who might plan to run against him--that the Democratic Party is an umbrella big enough to cover their disagreements. He spoke rapidly and decisively about several issues.

"Alabama's main problem is economic," he said, sounding like the city chamber of commerce director he once was. "If we can secure enough jobs, in time we can find answers to our other difficulties."

"I'm not afraid of attacking racial problems. They can be solved. They have been solved. In our district, Macon County has shown fortitude and leadership in the manner in which it has solved them."

"The federal government has helped the South in many ways, but it doesn't always understand our local problems. I believe in states' rights. So did the men who wrote this country's Constitution."

Radney paused for a minute, as if to emphasize what was coming next.

"This state and nation are big enough for us to have differences of opinion," he said, almost slowly. "The vast majority of all the people I will represent believe in law and order. If we have a rule of law and not of men, no problems are too big for us to solve."

Radney has been trying to maintain order with law in Alexander City. He has been city judge there for four years. He was 28 years old and only three years out of the University of Alabama Law School when he was appointed to the bench. He is also a part-time teacher.

Two and a half years ago he spoke to the Tallapoosa County Teachers Association as a Southern judge, lawyer, and teacher.

He quoted a couple of "young boys from good homes" who were caught stealing hub caps and gas from parked cars. "Daddy says we don't have to obey the Supreme Court of the United States; why should I have to obey your little traffic court?"

"I wonder what would have been your reply as teachers of our children," Radney said. Then he added:

"It is time for us to take our rightful place in the days that lie ahead. It is time for us to distinguish between pride and prejudice and to become a part of the mainstream of the American system."



TOM RADNEY: ATTORNEY, CITY JUDGE, AND STATE SENATE NOMINEE

The First Day of Medicare: Business As Usual

BY JOHN SHORT

TUSCALOOSA--Druid City Hospital is the only general hospital in Tuscaloosa County. In the area it serves, there are about 9,000 people aged 65 or over.

But when Medicare went into action all over the country at 12:01 a.m. last Friday, it didn't go into effect at Druid City Hospital. A federal investigative team had refused to approve the hospital for Medicare, after it found "patterns of discrimination" in room assignments and in the cafeteria.

"I thought it was really bad that all those old people were missing out on Medicare," said Mrs. Elizabeth Daniels, a nurse's aide at the hospital.

Then, at 7:15 a.m. Friday, the administrator of Druid City Hospital, D. O. McClusky Jr., got a phone call from Atlanta. It was the U.S. Department of Health,

Mrs. Warren Has a Party For Pike County Transfers

BY ELLEN LAKE

TROY--Seventeen kids went to a new kind of party here Wednesday—a school integration party.

Mrs. Johnnie Mae Warren, president of the Pike County Voters League, gave the party to bring together all the Troy students who had applied to go to white schools in the fall.

She gave them ice cream, cookies, and a lot of advice. "You have to be friendly, regardless of how the other side treats you," she told the children. "If some of them act like they don't want to be with you, that don't mean you shouldn't go there, because Charles Henderson (the white school) doesn't belong to one child or one race.

"If someone calls you a name you don't like, you don't have to say nothing," Mrs. Warren continued. "But I don't go along with this non-violence--if someone hits you, hit back. Don't pick no fight, but if you have to do a job, do a good one."

But one girl who is going into her second year at a white school said she didn't think the warning was necessary. Miss Cynthia Hardimon, age 11, said, "I was real scared when I first went to Troy Junior High last year. Everyone was staring at me. Finally, some of the kids started to introduce themselves to me and we made good friends. I think my class was the friendliest one in the sixth grade."



MRS. JOHNNIE MAE WARREN

Miss Octavia Dix, also 11, said she had a rougher time: "Some of the kids in my room weren't so friendly. They called me 'brat' and 'burnt biscuit.' They think they can pick on you and you can't pick back.

"But I called them back names. I called them 'peck' and 'cracker,' and pretty soon they came real friendly."

But most of the students who applied to go to white schools for the first time didn't seem too worried about making friends. Miss Sylvia Taylor, 11, said she wanted to go to the white school because "I think I'll probably be friendlier."

Education, and Welfare (HEW), saying that the hospital had been put on the approved list for Medicare.

"I just think that it's one of the most wonderful things that ever happened," said an elderly Tuscaloosa woman when she heard the news.

The hospital had been at odds with the government since the investigating team's visit last December. Among its other findings, the federal team reported that the hospital staff had been using the titles of "Mr." and "Mrs." for white patients only.

In order to become part of the Medicare program, hospitals must comply with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which forbids discrimination by any agency receiving federal money.

McClusky said the federal investigators "gave us a hard time on issues that with other hospitals were glossed over. Without question, hospitals in the South find it harder to satisfy them."

Since December, McClusky had been trying to win approval for his hospital by calling congressmen, HEW, and people he knew in Washington.

How did he feel after he received the call from Atlanta last Friday? "I just want to keep the people happy," he said.

After the approval came through, there wasn't the big rush of Medicare patients that some people had expected. The first person to enter Druid City Hospital under Medicare was a doctor--Dr. Maxwell Moody, Sr., who had been practicing medicine in Tuscaloosa for more than 50 years. He checked in Friday afternoon to undergo surgery.

Only three other Medicare patients had been admitted by the end of the day Friday. During the day, nurses explained the program to 85 elderly patients who had been admitted to the hospital before the program began. Many were now eligible for the program.

HUNTSVILLE--Only two Medicare patients were admitted to Huntsville Hospital during the first 12 hours of the program. Huntsville Hospital is the largest of the city's three hospitals, and

Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights

The weekly meeting will be held Monday, July 11, at 6:30 p.m. in the New Hope Baptist Church, 1154 10th Avenue South, the Rev. H. Stone, pastor.



the only one to be certified for Medicare.

At least one of the two patients was admitted for "truly an emergency and not an 'elected' emergency," according to assistant administrator John E. Lee.

Lee said he expects there will be a gradual rise in the number of Medicare patients, but he doesn't foresee any big rush.

"I don't know of anyone who has truly needed help and not gotten it," he said. MONTGOMERY--At St. Jude's Cath-

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olic Hospital here, the opening day of Medicare brought no new problems.

According to Mrs. Eunice Bayer, Medicare supervisor at St. Jude's, the only change will be in administration, where Medicare records will be filed separately.

"All the doctors on the St. Jude's staff are going to cooperate with the program," she said.

Mrs. Julia Scott, an elderly Negro woman, was the first patient admitted under Medicare. She came in shortly after midnight--just minutes after the program began.

Mrs. Bayer said more people asked about being treated for cataracts (a growth on the eye that can cause blindness) than for any other ailment. But, she said, quite a few people did not understand that patients have to go through a doctor before they can be admitted to a hospital.

SELMA--The first day of Medicare was just another day for Good Samaritan Hospital in Selma, the only hospital

in a three-county area that is eligible for the program.

By last Wednesday, said Assistant Administrator John Wright Jr., nine new patients had been admitted under Medicare and eight patients already in the hospital were transferred to the program. Wright said the hospital had a normal number of aged patients.

The two all-white hospitals in Selma--Baptist Hospital and NewVaughan Memorial Hospital--"have not chosen to be certified," according to a spokesman for one of them.

Courier Newsboy of the Week

MELVIN STARKS JR., 13, a pupil at Hillcrest High School in Brundidge, Pike County, sells 100 papers a week.

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Helicon Honors Graduate

HELICON--Last month, just ten people showed up to honor the first Negro student to graduate from a white high school in Crenshaw County. On the second try last Sunday, the crowd was quite a bit bigger.

About 35 people gathered in the Helicon Baptist Church to honor the graduate, Miss Effie Mae Mitchell, and to talk about getting 100 new Negro applicants into Highland Home, the high school Miss Mitchell attended.

Major Robert P. King, an instructor at the Air University at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, spoke at the meeting.

"I wish we had a mountain out here and we could carve your face on it; I wish we had a million dollar scholarship and we could give it to you; I wish we had a plaque with your name on it," he told Miss Mitchell.

Collins Harris, a farmer and civil

rights leader, urged others to continue what Miss Mitchell had begun:

"We got a job to be done... It's no time to be tired, no time to be Uncle Toms or Nervous Nellies. We can't turn back, so there's no use talking about being tired," he said.

"We should be organizing tight enough so that in September, if they open the schools in Crenshaw, we all march down to Highland and be there when they open the doors."

The schools may not be open because the county may lose its federal aid for refusing to comply with the government's desegregation guidelines.

But, Harris said, "I want us to be so close together that all the drops in the river form a passage and people on the wayside say, 'That's Helicon.'"

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Poverty Program Poses a Tough Question

BY GAIL FALK

JACKSON, Miss.--The Hinds County Community Council last week sent three representatives to the executive board that will control anti-poverty money here.

This board, part of the Community Services Association (the local Community Action Program), has received Federal approval, even though its members include more businessmen and bankers than poor people.

The community council is an organization of poor people in Hinds County who want to have a say in how anti-poverty money is spent. This spring the council complained to Frank Sloan, regional director of the federal Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) in Atlanta, that the Community Services Association was a "predominantly white, political, segregationist board."

"Mr. Sloan," asked the letter from the community council, "if you were poor and black would you be happy and co-operative and trusting with a board like the present one?"

Last week the OEO told the Community Services Association it would have to ask the Hinds County Community Council to send three people to work with the board on setting up elections to choose 12 poor people's representatives.

Colonel H. F. Frank, executive director of the Hinds County anti-poverty program, said it wasn't true that the board didn't represent poor people.

However, he and the board last week extended the invitation OEO had required, "just so we can be covered from every angle."

Last Thursday afternoon, three members of the Hinds County Community Council met with the anti-poverty board.

'Black Power'

Carmichael compared the problem of the Negro with that of the Irish in Boston 100 years ago. There, he said, the Irish united to get power.

The only difference between what the Irish did and what the Negro is doing is that now everybody says the Negro is anti-white, Carmichael said.

The Lowndes County independent party is running Negro candidates for every open county office, under the emblem of the black panther. The election that will decide whether there is "black power" or "white power" in the county comes on Nov. 8, which the SNCC leader calls "black folk day."

"Lowndes County is going to be very important," Carmichael said, "All over the country, they are going to try to stop Lowndes County. To do this they will use Negro leaders."

Thursday evening, when they reported back to the council, they were confused and discouraged.

"It was the coldest, most unfeeling meeting I've been to," said Mrs. Helen Bass Williams.

So the Hinds County Community Council faced the question that has faced poor people's organizations all over the country: Should they cooperate with an anti-poverty program that, by their

standards, does not represent the interests and thinking of poor people? Or should they refuse to co-operate and block the chances for any anti-poverty program at all in the county?

At Thursday evening's meeting, James Mays reported a conversation he had with an Atlanta OEO official:

"He said, 'You're not going to get CAP (Community Action Program) boards perfect. You have to accept the best you can get, and work with it to make it how you want it as you go

along.'"
"I told him things should be as near right as you can get 'em when you start it."

"But I know a lot of people need money now. And the poverty program may

end in a few years."
A. B. Evans told the council it had two choices: "We can stay off the board and raise hell and not get very far. Or get on the board and raise hell and not get very far, but at least let them know we

know they are doing wrong."
The council voted to accept the invitation and to elect three regular representatives, R. F. Anderson of St. Thomas, and Evans and Mays of Jackson were elected.

Klansman Gives Evidence Against Fellow Knights

BY STEPHEN E. COTTON

ATHENS, Ga.--One day a little more than two years ago, "Big Tom" Stephens joined the Ku Klux Klan. The Atlanta truck-driver, a soft-spoken giant of a man, plopped \$10 in cash into the hands of Joseph Howard Sims, who swore him in at a local gas station.

It wasn't much of a ceremony. Sims handed Stephens a copy of the Klan oath, and Stephens signed. Stephens received his green and white membership card, good for six months. The gas station owner, Herbert Guest, sold him a Klan wallet--a black billfold with a "K" stamped in each corner and a torch-bearing knight on the front.

"Big Tom" was never very active in the Athens Klavern. Some of his friends were. Three of them went on trial in federal court here last week, and another three were hauled before a jury this week. The six, including Sims and Guest, may each face five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine on charges of conspiring to violate the civil rights of Negroes.

The charges stem from a series of incidents in and around Athens, including a killing two years ago. Stephens testified at both trials that on the morning of July 11, 1964, he drove into Guest's service station to pick up a boat trailer he had left there. He said Guest told him that Sims and two other Klansmen on trial had gone "chasing a car with a D. C. license with some niggers in it."

Robert Thompson, one of the two lawyers for defendant James Lackey, admitted in his opening argument Tuesday that the defendants might have "engaged in some activities that perhaps even you and I wouldn't approve of." If they had, he added, it might have been "to preserve some of the traditions of our Southland."

Jim Hudson, representing Guest and Denver W. Phillips, reflected that they may have done some "mean things" but, he pointed out, "you're not here to convict them of being mean men."

Hudson represented all three of last week's defendants--Sims, Myers, and George H. Turner. Their case went to the jury last Friday. The jury delivered its verdict the following morning. The verdict was then sealed.

U. S. District Attorney Floyd M. Buford told all-white juries last week and this week that the Penn slaying was one of several acts of violence that were part of a "broad conspiracy to intimidate Negroes."

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Lame Ducks to Meet in Capitol For Special Legislative Session

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN

MONTGOMERY--An unusual wildlife exhibition begins later this month in Montgomery. A large number of lame ducks will be on display in the Capitol building.

A "lame duck" is a politician who's nearing the end of his term in office and who already knows he is not going to be re-elected.

There are going to be a lot of them around when the state legislature begins its special session July 26--the eighth special session called by Governor George C. Wallace.

Among the lame ducks are all 14 of the state senators who voted against Governor Wallace's succession bill last fall. They either decided not to run again, or were defeated in the Democratic primaries last May.

If they want to, these 14 senators and any others who care to join them can make things tough for the governor. Last October, senators like Bob Gilchrist of Morgan County, Ed Horton of Limestone County, and John Tyson of Mobile County staged a filibuster that kept the succession bill from coming to a vote for nearly a month. When the vote finally did come, Wallace's bid for another term as governor fell short by three votes.



SEN. BOB GILCHRIST
A Lame Duck

But this session is supposed to be about another subject--education. The Wallace Administration wants to take \$44,000,000 of the state's left-over school tax money, and spend it for:

1. A pay increase of about 10 percent for school teachers.
2. Salaries for new teachers, who will be hired to reduce the average class size.
3. A boost in the budgets of the state colleges and universities, the junior colleges, and the trade schools.

The governor has said these steps will bring Alabama up to the Southern average in teacher salaries, average class size, and money spent per student.

After talking to the legislators, some of the state's top educators told the governor that this program will be approved without any fuss.

If these measures are approved, there will still be \$40,000,000 left in surplus school tax money. There might be an attempt to give some of this money to school districts that lost federal aid by refusing to obey the government's guidelines on desegregation.

Under pressure from Wallace and other state officials, at least 35 local school districts have decided not to comply.

The Wallace Administration will also ask for two other new laws. One would extend the state's GI scholarship program to veterans of the Viet Nam war. This would mean that disabled Viet Nam veterans, their dependents, and children of soldiers killed in the war could attend state-owned colleges free of charge.

The other new law would provide payments of \$10,000 to the families of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty.

Governor Wallace has said this law was made necessary by court decisions "which have actually encouraged lawbreakers to take to the streets," and "have tied the hands of officers in enforcing the law."

THE SOUTHERN COURIER

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- Yellow Springs, Ohio
- Brown, Illinois

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