

THE SOUTHERN COURIER

VOL. II, NO. 45

WEEKEND EDITION: NOVEMBER 5-6, 1966

TEN CENTS

Macon Write-In Threatens Amerson

Tuesday--Day of Decisions

HIGH HOPES IN LOWNDES

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN

MONTGOMERY--Before the Lowndes County Freedom Organization candidates went on the radio last Sunday in a one-sided discussion show, school board nominee John Hinson recalled what an opponent had said about the black panther:

"We never had any trouble until that cat came along!"

In a 15-minute show on station WRMA, the candidates told how they hoped to give their white opponents plenty of trouble.

"We have enough registered people in Lowndes County to win," said Sidney Logan Jr., running for sheriff against Democrat C. Frank Ryals. "I feel very strongly that we will win. I been moving night and day, talking to my friends and getting my friends to talk to their neighbors."

The freedom candidates "have opened the eyes of all the people," said Robert L. Logan, who is opposing Republican David M. Lyon for place 3 on the school board. "I feel the people of Lowndes County will stand behind their candidates 100% on Nov. 8."

Although all candidates for Lowndes County offices were invited to participate in the discussion, only the freedom organization nominees showed up. But John H. Ellis, chairman of the Lowndes County Republican Executive Committee, sent a written statement in behalf of the Republicans seeking re-election to the school board.

Ellis' letter charged that Governor George C. Wallace tried to get the board to shut down Hayneville School after about 100 Negroes integrated it this fall.

But, said Ellis, the board unanimously refused the governor's "insistent" request. The letter said this was "an outstanding example of the present board's concern for local autonomy and desire for good relations between the races."

But Mrs. Willie M. Strickland, running against Democrat C. B. Haigler for place 5 on the school board, said the present board wasn't concerned enough about Negro education.

"The colored schools are not up to date," she said. "There are too many students in a classroom--60 or 70 students for one teacher, and that's too many. In some schools, the children have to go out and get wood to heat the school."

The freedom organization candidates all told why they thought they deserved to be elected--and why their opponents didn't.

"When (Negro) people get killed now," said Emory Ross, opposing



FREEDOM ORGANIZATION CANDIDATES (LEFT TO RIGHT): MRS. WILLE M. STRICKLAND, MRS. ANNIE L. MOORE, FRANK MILES JR., EMORY ROSS, SIDNEY LOGAN JR., JOHN HINSON. NOT SHOWN: ROBERT L. LOGAN,

Democrat Jack Golson for coroner, "the family don't even hear of an autopsy, and they never have a doctor come in." He promised equal treatment for all people.

Frank Miles Jr., running for tax collector against Democrat Carl Sullivan, said, "Everybody thinks you've got to have a master's degree...to collect taxes." But, he said, "anybody who can count money and make out a receipt," can do the job. "I'm as much qualified as the one sitting in the seat now (Sullivan)," Miles said.

"I'll do exactly what the law says do," said Mrs. Annie L. Moore, facing

Shows Injured Dr. Robinson

'We Are Part of U.S.'

BY MARY WISSLER

BIRMINGHAM--"Martin would be even worse for this state than Wallace."

Dr. Carl Robinson, independent candidate for governor, counted off his criticisms of Republican nominee, James D. Martin. But Robinson wasn't speaking from a campaign platform. He was lying in University Hospital.

The 40-year-old doctor-lawyer is recovering from a broken back, sustained when his gyroplane crash-landed last week.

Martin's philosophy is the same as Governor George C. Wallace's. He's against the working man, and he's not competent for the job, Robinson said.

Martin voted against a decent minimum wage, Medicare, and the poverty program. Most of the other votes he

wasn't around for--he attended only about a third of the meetings of Congress."

In his platform, Robinson has proposed improving workers' compensation and unemployment laws, making college education available to everyone, and removing all taxes on food and medicine.

"The poverty program -- and other federal aid programs -- are designed to help us who are backward. Congressmen from other states are generous enough to let us get \$2 back for every dollar we pay in taxes," Robinson observed.

"They don't do that because they love us. They do it because, whether we admit it or not, we are a part of the United States."

"I'll probably be the first man in modern history to take office not owing anything to anybody," said Robinson, who places the highest value on "honest government."

Despite his injury, Robinson continued to issue daily statements from his hospital bed in the last days of the campaign.

He said his wife will be campaigning for him, in a plane similar to the one that crashed. "But," he said, "I'm afraid if she likes it too well, we're going to have to fight over who will be the governor's first assistant."

Meanwhile, Democratic candidate

for governor, James D. Martin, was chugging around the state in a campaign train--the "Jim Martin Victory Special." The unusual sight drew large gatherings at most of the towns along the way.

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE--Friends of Macon County Sheriff Harvey Sadler are quietly organizing a write-in campaign to enable him to keep his job.

They are doing it, according to a man who has been watching county politics for 30 years, "because they like Sadler and they just don't want to have a Negro sheriff."

The "Negro sheriff" is Lucius D. Amerson, the Democratic Party nominee. His only opponent on Tuesday's ballot is Bob Dawson, a white man who switched to the 3rd Party For America after running a poor third to Amerson and Sadler in the May primary.

Amerson edged Sadler in the run-off by less than 400 votes out of 6,600, when only two-thirds of Macon County's Negro voters went to the polls.

Still fewer are expected to make it on Tuesday. If the white turn-out stays at

100%, Amerson could lose his chance to become Alabama's first Negro sheriff since Reconstruction.

But it wasn't only white people who voted for Sadler last time, and--according to the sheriff--it isn't white people who are running the write-in campaign.

"It's some of the colored people," Sadler said this week. "They came to me and said they were going to do it." Asked who they are, he smiled and shook his head.

"Now, if I give the names, that might start some rasslin'. We got enough of that. We need to stop it, not start more. I'm not fightin' anybody."

The sheriff said he was "grateful" to his friends, but didn't think they had much chance of succeeding where he failed last May. "You can't hardly win a write-in. I won't say it's never been done, but seldom. It'd need a lot of ink."

But Negro volunteers who have been teaching new voters how to use the machines in the courthouse said a lot of ink was being used. One volunteer said that when he left at night, groups of white people took over the machines to learn how to write in names.

And, he said, some people asked him to show them how to do it.

Although the main emphasis is on the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE, Col. 1)

Whitley's Entry Twists Miss. Senate Race

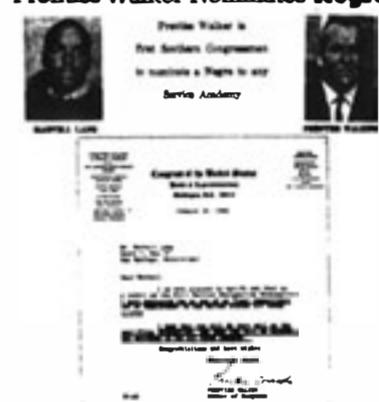
BY GAIL FALK

JACKSON, Miss.--Until last week, Mississippi Negroes disagreed about whether they would be better off voting for Democrat James O. Eastland or Republican Prentiss Walker for senator.

Some said Eastland was the only candidate who would get anti-poverty money for Mississippi, and that he was supported by President Lyndon Johnson. Others said Negroes should break Eastland's power by electing Walker, who would be "the lesser of two evils" because he would have no seniority.

Last week, a federal court ordered the name of the Rev. Clifton Whitley, an independent Negro candidate for senator, placed on ballot. But if anyone thought this would solve the question of

Prentiss Walker Nominates Negro



Get the "Black Power" View of Prentiss Walker, Negro

ANTI-WALKER LEAFLET

who would get the Negro vote in the senate race, they under-estimated the complexity of Mississippi politics.

Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party leaders were enthusiastic about Whitley's campaign. "For Negroes to show their strength on a candidate they believe in, is the best thing they could do," said MFDP worker Joe Morse.

But a Meridian Negro leader disagreed: "Getting Whitley on the ballot was the worst thing that could have happened. We could have gotten Eastland out. He's the fifth strongest man in Congress. We had a chance to show our strength by putting a man with low education and little experience into that office."

If Whitley does poorly, the Meridian leader said, "we're exposed"--because people will see that Negroes didn't turn out.

In the June Democratic primary, after a full campaign, Whitley polled 34,323 votes to Eastland's 240,711. In this election, he has officially been a candidate for less than two weeks.

Meanwhile, Eastland's press secretary, Ken Tolliver, said the senator was glad to have Whitley on the ballot. "It eliminates any possibility of a (legal) challenge," Tolliver said.

Whitley is the only candidate who has emphasized specific issues. "We need to pass laws to bring jobs for the 50,000 people put out of jobs in the cotton fields in the Delta," he said. "And we need to develop a more positive program for ending the war in Viet Nam."

Whitley also opposed the state constitutional amendment that would permit the Mississippi legislature to consolidate counties, and he promised to support the Child Development Group of

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO, Col. 3)

Voting Suits Still Pending In 4 Counties

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

MONTGOMERY--The general election will take place on schedule Tuesday in Bullock, Barbour, and Macon counties. But nobody can be sure the voters for five of the offices will count.

The offices are the ones contested by five Negro candidates, who filed suit in federal court four months ago, charging that the May 31 run-off was rigged by election officials in the three counties.

Last week, the candidates asked U.S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr. to delay the general election until their suit--which asks for a new primary--is heard.

Two days later, Johnson said no. He gave no reasons for his decision.

So the candidates--and thousands of voters--will have to go to the polls without knowing whether the right names are on the Democratic side of the ballot for the five offices.

The men whose names won't be there are Fred Gray, the attorney who ran for the state House from the 31st district (Barbour, Bullock, and Macon counties), and four Bullock County candidates--H. O. Williams for sheriff, Rufus C. Huffman for tax assessor, and Alonza Ellis and Ben McGhee for county commissioners.

In the motion to delay the general election, their attorneys reported the first results of an analysis of the voting in Bullock County.

In the first two boxes studied, at least 250 of the 490 white people were permitted or encouraged to cast ballots "illegally and by procedures at variance with the law of the state of Alabama," the motion said. "All of the said illegal ballots were cast for white opponents" of the Negro candidates.

This week, attorney Fred Wallace, of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, said civil rights workers and U.S. Justice Department officials are continuing to find evidence of fraud as they examine the records.

Wallace also said there is still the chance that the names of two Negro candidates in Greene County--the Rev. Percy McShan for tax assessor and the Rev. Thomas Gilmore for sheriff--will go on the ballot there.

McShan and Gilmore have asked the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals to reverse a lower court, and order their names placed on the ballot.

Picketing Gets Tough

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN



ROOSEVELT BARNETT (RIGHT)

MONTGOMERY--Life on downtown Montgomery's month-old picket line is getting tougher. For example, the past week has been a nightmare for Robert Sims Jr., assistant SCLC project director.

Early last week, Sims said, he was taking his turn on the picket line at the S.H. Kress & Co. department store, when a white man called him a "nasty nigger" and then ripped up the sign Sims was carrying.

Sims signed a warrant against the man, Ned Dunagan of Coffeyville, and the case was set for Oct. 27 in Municipal Court.

But the night before the trial, Sims said, Montgomery and Prattville police arrested him on an old, unpaid ticket for an improper muffler. Sims said he got the ticket while working in Prattville earlier this year, and the civil rights group there neglected to pay it.

So when Dunagan's case was called the next morning, Sims was in jail in Prattville. Judge Eugene Loe dismissed the case, because there were no wit-

nesses.

The man who had arrested Dunagan, Montgomery Sergeant Wayne Foster, wasn't in court, either. "There was nothing I could testify to," he explained. "As far as I know," he said, "Sims' arrest just before the trial was a coincidence."

Sims charged that Montgomery police "turn their heads" when picketers are abused. Once, he said, "a fellow came by and stamped his cigarette in one boy's face," but the police did nothing.

Foster said he personally had chased the attacker, but couldn't catch him. "If someone breaks the law, I don't care what color he is, he's going to jail," Foster said.

Meanwhile, SCLC project director Roosevelt Barnett said the picketing could have been ended after "two or three days," if Kress officials had met with representatives of SCLC and the Montgomery Improvement Association.

Negro demands, he said, include dismissal of some employees accused of rudeness and brutality, and hiring of

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE, Col. 2)

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A New Twist

The strange case of the disputed Bullock County primary election took a new twist last week. U.S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr. told five defeated Negro candidates who filed a lawsuit last June that he wouldn't decide whether the primary was valid or invalid until after the general election.

Last June, the candidates and their attorneys said they were acting on behalf of all the Negro voters whose ballots might have been "diluted" by illegal white votes. But since then, an unexplained and apparently inexplicable series of delays has diluted the suit itself.

First there was the court's month-long delay in denying motions for dismissal of the suit. Then there was the court's two-week delay in ordering the three counties involved to open their records to attorneys for the Negro candidates. And then there was the attorneys' five-week delay in asking the court to act before the general election.

Now that Johnson has refused to put off the election, it looks as if the suit is virtually over.

In a similar case last May, Judge Johnson refused to order a new election for the Barbour County Democratic Executive Committee, although he conceded that the original election was stacked against the Negroes. If he wouldn't throw out a primary, he isn't likely to throw out both a primary and a general election--no matter what the candidates and their lawyers manage to prove in court.

If this lawsuit becomes just another exercise in futility, the real losers will not be the candidates, but the people. Every voter who cast an honest ballot in the May 31 primary in Barbour, Bullock, and Macon counties has a stake in the suit. Every one of them deserves a new election if the old one was dishonest. But the way it looks now, the best the people can hope for is that the courts will ask the election officials to behave themselves in the future.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

To and behold! While our attention is drawn to Washington as the supposed villain, I see by the printed legal notices that the citizens of Alabama are being asked to not only give away their Constitutionally guaranteed powers but also to give away their private property rights. I refer to Constitutional Amendments 3, 4, and 6 on the Nov. 8 ballot.

This vicious action will grant a county in one instance and, two cities in the others, the right to "...acquire real property, plants, buildings," etc., and, then, to permit these same governments

to "...give and convey" this property, etc., "to any person, firm, association or corporation." And--thrown in this same "package"--an additional 2% tax will be collected to pay for this "legalized" STEALING of one man's property to give to another!

"Oh, no!" Both people and news articles tell me. "This is to bring industry to Alabama!" Hog Wash! Who wants industry controlled by government...that's socialism! And, when private property is no longer sanctified...you and me have become a slave!...

E. McAllister Davis
Montgomery

House Nominee Perry Has Unusual Platform

BY MARY WISSLER

BIRMINGHAM -- Walter Emmett Perry Jr., Democratic candidate for the U.S. House from the Sixth District, is running with a platform of unusual ideas.

Is the cost of education too high? Perry proposes tax deductions to help families educate their children.

Are bright students held back in public schools? Perry suggests special classes for the best students.

Is China a threat to the United States? Perry wants to penetrate Red China by moving UN headquarters to Peking.

"It's not fair to take money from people in taxes and then tell them their gross income is too large for their children to get scholarships," said Perry, explaining his education plan. "I believe that education to the limits of every child's ability should be free."

"If our children are going to get into the best colleges," he continued in an interview last Tuesday, "they will have to have special classes in high school."

On international issues, Perry believes that China is the biggest threat to peace. He said the United States should build stronger alliances against that threat. For one thing, he said, the U.S.

should "tear down the Berlin Wall" and unify Germany.

Domestically, Perry favors federal assistance to states and cities, as long as there are not too many strings attached. "I would be big on the War on Poverty," he said, "if we could get rid of all the boondoggling--the fancy salaries and featherbedding."

But on the question of the federal school desegregation guidelines, Perry said he stands with Governor George C. Wallace. "Technically speaking, he's right," Perry said. "The guidelines are just not within the scope of the 1964 Civil Rights Act."

And on the subject of civil disobedience, Perry is equally firm. "I think it's very dangerous to let people think they can choose which laws to obey," he said. "What if the Minutemen or some of those other people were to decide that the law against killing Negroes was foolish?"

Perry's opponent is the present U.S. Representative for the Sixth District, Republican John Buchanan. Buchanan is a strong conservative who has made a name for himself in Washington as a member of the House Committee on Un-American Activities.



WRMA
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**Issue in Ala. Senate Campaign--
Is Sparkman an LBJ Democrat?****'He's 1,000 Miles Away'**

BY VIOLA BRADFORD

WE TUMPKA--"Who put the power in LBJ's hand?" Republican State Representative Tandy Little asked last Friday.

U.S. Senator John Sparkman, that's who, Little said, as he introduced Republican senatorial candidate John Grenier to an audience of 20 (including several from the Grenier motorcade) outside the Elmore County Courthouse. So, said Little, "we plan to take Sparkman out of the Senate."

Then Grenier spoke for himself. "If you elect John Grenier, you'll be electing a senator who knows Elmore County like the back of his hand," he said. "Do you want someone who will forget Talladega, Wetumpka, Eclectic, or Alabama after six years?"

"I'll be loyal to the people of Alabama, and not the national Democratic Party," said the man who led Barry Goldwater's Southern campaign in 1964. "I care enough to vote for you, and not LBJ." For this he received applause.

Speaking of Sparkman, his Democratic opponent, Grenier said, "Your national Democrat has been rubber-stamped by LBJ. He betrayed the people of Alabama when he voted to integrate the neighborhoods in the nation."

20 Negroes Run In Mississippi

BY GAIL FALK

PHILADELPHIA, Miss.--An unusual political advertisement appeared in the Neshoba County Democrat last week.

Mrs. Mary Inez Batts, candidate for the county school board, introduced herself to voters this way:

"I was born near Forest Dale community in 1912 and have worked all my life on a farm. I love digging in that soil. I made living because that's all I had to do. I raised truck patches and sold vegetables to help out. It was sometimes hard, but we made it by the help of the good Lord...."

"Since I have been in this beat, I have made a lot of friends among white and colored. Anything I had I would share it, matter what color."

Mrs. Batts went on to say she would do all she could for all people if elected to the school board.

Mrs. Batts is the only Negro running against four white men--J. T. Hill, Floyd Jones Jr., Bernard Breazeale, and Hilton Vowell.

She didn't have an easy time becoming the first Negro to run for a Neshoba County office in modern times. At first,

MISS. SENATE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

Mississippi.

Between Eastland and Walker, disagreement centers on who is the more segregationist of two segregationists.

Eastland's campaign publicity has certainly been the more segregationist. On TV, he has boasted about blocking 127 civil rights bills that came before his Senate Judiciary Committee. One of his leaflets points out that Walker nominated a Negro, Marcell Lang of Bay Springs, for the Air Force Academy. Another quotes the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., as saying, "We have to get rid of Eastland if the civil rights movement is to go forward."

Negro voter registration in Mississippi has increased by 500% in the year since federal voting examiners first came to the state under the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

If Negroes show they will use their vote by voting together for senator," said a campaign worker in Eastland's office, "they'll show that they're not sleeping--and even Eastland will have to start listening to them in the next election."

"During the (Selma-to-Montgomery) march," Grenier told his audience, "a national newspaper reporter asked your present Democratic senator, 'What's happening in Selma?' and do you know what his answer was? 'How should I know? Selma is 1,000 miles away.'

"That national Democratic senator will always be 1,000 miles away," Grenier said. "I pledge to be with the people that elect me, the people of Alabama."

"We don't say one thing in Alabama and another in Washington," said Grenier. "If somebody's got any doubt about who stands where, ask yourself why is it that of all the campaigning you have seen, the national Democratic junior senator (Sparkman) isn't on the same platform with the governor?"

"It is because the national junior Democratic senator won't get on there with the governor, or is it because the governor won't get on with the national junior Democratic senator?"

A Louisiana native, Grenier has been a Birmingham attorney since 1957. According to his campaign literature, he and his wife, Lynne, "share their Birmingham home with their son, Bo, and Linus, the family dog."

she said, county officials told her she couldn't run at all. Then they delayed approval of her nominating petition for two weeks, telling her the signatures had to be checked with Mississippi Attorney General Joe Patterson.

But finally, on Oct. 21, Mrs. Batts was informed that her name would be placed on the ballot. Since then she has campaigned by speaking in mass meetings and talking to friends in the time she can spare from picking her cotton.

Mrs. Batts is one of nearly 20 Negroes running for public office, in the first 20th-century Mississippi election to have a significant number of Negro candidates. Most of the Negro candidates (in Issaquena, Holmes, Jefferson, Claiborne, Wilkinson, Jasper, Marshall, Carroll, and Madison counties) are running for Beat 5 school posts, like Mrs. Batts.

In Claiborne and Jefferson Counties, where Negro congressional candidates polled a majority of the vote in the June 7 primary, the Negro candidates are given a good chance of winning.

Negro candidates are also running for U.S. Representative from the First and Third Congressional Districts, Madison County constable, Holmes County justice of the peace, and Le Flore County supervisor.

The number of Negro candidates isn't the only unusual thing about this election. In the past in Mississippi, all a candidate needed--once he got past the primary--was the Democratic party label.

But in the race for Prentiss Walker's seat as U.S. Representative from the Fourth District, it's the Republican candidate, L. McAllister, who's been boasting about his party. You can't find the word "Democrat" on Democratic candidate G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery's campaign literature.

The reason isn't hard to find. In the last congressional election, more than 88 percent of the voters in Lauderdale County--the home of both candidates and the largest county in the district--voted Republican.

McAllister's campaign concentrates on attacking "the LBJ way--a new leech on life." Montgomery apparently doesn't want to take a chance on being identified with the national Democratic party.

'Nothing but Criticism'

BY ROBIN REISIG

TUSCALOOSA--"My opponent is running on a basis of negation and criticism," U.S. Senator John Sparkman said last Friday. "I'm running on the basis of my record in Congress--30 years of positive accomplishment."

Sparkman, a Democrat and a former candidate for vice president, said his seniority in the Senate and his positions on important congressional committees enable him to do more for Alabama than a new senator could.

Sparkman cited his achievements as a supporter of the Small Business Administration and as chairman of the powerful Senate Housing Subcommittee which, he said, "has been instrumental in providing housing for millions of Americans."

"I've always been troubled by the cost of so-called low-cost public housing," Sparkman said at a press conference. He then talked of a way to get private industry to "provide housing that could be rented at low cost."

This can now be done, he said, under a 1965 rent-subsidy law which he helped write. Under this program, a private investor builds housing under a contract with the government, and rents part of it to low-income families. Part of these families' rents are paid by federal money.

"The first such project in Alabama, in Ozark, was just authorized a few days ago," Sparkman said.

Explaining why he voted against the War on Poverty, Sparkman said, "I was afraid it was too hurriedly thrown together and wouldn't work." He then commented on the success of some Youth Corps and Head Start programs.

Turning to international events, he said that he has long "thought we ought to bomb the sources of supply (in Viet Nam), wherever they are."

Meanwhile, Julian Elgin, the 3rd Party For America candidate for the U.S. Senate, has proposed a "plan for perpetual prosperity."

Under Elgin's plan, every family in America with an income of less than \$12,000 a year would get \$100 a month from the government. He said this would cost the government \$2 billion per month, but it would also save money by lowering the crime rate.

The other major part of Elgin's platform is his support of a Wallace-for-President campaign.

PARTY LINE

Hayneville

Bailey, Miss.

John Hulett, head of the Lowndes County Freedom Organization, was recovering this week from a painful chest injury. Hulett was hurt by a bolt that fell on him while he was repairing a truck.

Abbeville

Augusta Griffin Sr. served two days on the Henry County grand jury last week. (From James J. Vaughan)

Mobile

Mobile Chapter No. 3 of Licensed Practical Nurses held their sixth annual fashion show, "A Day in the Life of Florence Nightingale," last Saturday at the Elks Club. Against a background of wild music by the Continentals, chapter members modeled the latest in hospital, lingerie, casual, after-five, hostess, and bridal wear.

"We must succeed in bringing peace to our peoples before we can succeed in bringing it to the world," Archbishop Thomas J. Toolen told the thousands of men, women, and children who marched for peace in honor of Christ the King last Sunday. The march was designed to impress Mobilians that to love God "is to bring him into the hearts of all men."

Abbeville

The Rev. L.R. Warmack is in the hospital in Tuskegee. He is seriously ill. (From James J. Vaughan)

On Nov. 8

Pull the Lever**For the Black Panther--
And Then Go On Home****PULL THE LEVER**for the **BLACK PANTHER**and then **GO ON HOME**

(Pd. Pol. Adv. by Lowndes County Freedom Organization, J. Hulett, chmn.)

Radio Station WAPX
HAS INSTITUTED **The Pastor's Study**
BROADCAST DAILY
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY, 9:00 to 9:15 AM

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MONTGOMERY



BLACK PANTHER STALKS LOWNDES VICTORY



To Be or Not To Be?
Black Power in Office in Lowndes
County-- Nov. 8 Will Decide



Photographs by Jim Peppler





THIS SMALL BUILDING AT 625 N. 16TH ST., BIRMINGHAM, IS A BLACK ISLAM AND REJECT CHRISTIANITY. THEY FAVOR SEPARATE BUT EQUAL RIGHTS FOR NEGROES IN AMERICA.



MINISTER JAMES SHABAZZ, FORMERLY A RADIO REPAIRMAN, HAS BEEN THE LEADER OF THE BIRMINGHAM MOSQUE FOR MORE THAN FIVE YEARS.

Leader of Birmingham Muslims Says, 'Islam Made Me a Man'

TEXT BY JAMES CRAIG AND MARY WISSLER; PHOTOGRAPHS BY CHRIS McNAIR

BIRMINGHAM -- The place is very small. As you approach the door, you knock, and a man looks out and lets you in. No man is allowed inside unless he is wearing a coat, no lady unless she is wearing a dress that reaches to her feet.

As soon as you enter, the man tells you to step into a room that is a little larger than a closet. Curtains cover the door of the room, and inside there is another man waiting to search you. When you've been searched, he lets you step out to where a girl is sitting with pencil and paper. The girl takes your name and address and lets you into the lecture hall.

Five rows of chairs with five chairs in each row face the pulpit at the front of the room. To the right of the pulpit are two rows of chairs for the ladies.

The pulpit is about two feet high and covered by an old carpet. Beside it are two old chairs that look as if they'd be very uncomfortable to sit on.

On the wall are two blackboards. One blackboard has a picture of the American flag with "Christianity" written under it and a picture of the Muslim flag with "Islam" written under it. Beneath the two flags is written, "Which one will survive the war?"

Under this question are a picture of a tree with a Negro hanging from it, and a cross. On the other blackboard is written the subject for the evening: "Open Your Mind."

"Open your mind" is what Minister James Shabazz says all Negroes must do before they become Black Muslims and accept Islam as their true religion. Minister James is short and wears square-rimmed glasses. He is 40 years old and has been the leader of Birmingham's Black Muslims for the last five and a half years.

Most Muslims replace their last names with X since they say their names were passed on to them by slaveholders before the Civil War. But Minister James took the name Shabazz, which stands for "prophet."

Ten years ago, Minister James was a radio and television technician in Atlanta. He had been in and out of jail on minor charges. He had never heard of Islam or of the Black Muslim leader, Elijah Muhammad. Even when a friend told him about the religion of Islam, he didn't think he was interested. The way he tells it, it was the FBI that made him take the final step and become a Muslim.

"I fought Islam within my mind because it made me look foolish," Minister James recalls. "Everything I had been taught, according to the Messenger (Muhammad), was wrong."

Later, after he had been to some of



MINISTER JAMES SAYS NEGROES NEED MONEY AND UNITY.

Elijah Muhammad, who lives in Chicago and is the leader of the Muslim movement, Muslims try to draw other Negroes away from Christianity, which they consider the white man's religion. They designed to keep the Negro a slave.

Muslims also try to rid their communities of "vices which contribute to our early deaths," according to Minister James. Muslims don't smoke or drink. They don't eat certain foods, such as swine, that they consider unhealthy. They fast once a month for 72 hours.

The Muslim movement tries to bring money into the Negro community. As much as possible, Muslims spend their money among themselves. In some cities, like Chicago, the Muslim movement owns businesses. All over the country, Muslims try not to trade in the establishments of white men.

Muslims favor some of the things that Negro civil rights groups fight for. The "Muslim Program" calls for an immediate end to police brutality and mob

attacks against Negroes. It demands equal employment opportunities and equal education.

But, unlike most civil rights groups, the Muslims are against integration. They want their equal education in separate schools. In fact, they want the United States government to give them "a complete state or territory of our own."

"It made all the Bible's history clear to me," Minister James says of these teachings. "For the first time I could find myself in the Bible. Islam restored my manhood."

But the beliefs and demands of the Muslims are not so easy for others to accept. The group of Brothers and Sisters that gathers at Birmingham's 16th Street Mosque on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays is small, less than 70.

have come to the Birmingham Mosque, threatening to kick the door down. And the FBI has not forgotten him.

For about six months, Minister James has been writing a weekly column for a local Negro newspaper, the Birmingham Times. A few weeks ago, after he had written a column on black power, he said, FBI agents tried to convince the publisher of the paper to fire James. When the publisher refused, the FBI went to the advertisers. Advertisers were shocked that the paper employed a Muslim, and James is out of a job.

James thinks people are scared of the Muslims because they don't understand what the movement is all about. "They think we're going to start a war," he said, "but one of the Muslim rules is that we don't carry weapons."

Once a week Muslim Brothers attend a Fruit of Islam class, but far from preparing men to fight a war, James said, these classes teach the brothers to "be themselves, stop arguing and bickering, work hard, and save their money."

The Muslims' stand on integration, James said, has been deliberately misunderstood by "middle-class Negroes and liberal-minded whites who are bent on exploiting our people." If complete integration were ever achieved, he reasons, many of these whites would be out of work "because there wouldn't be a need for the do-nothing organizations that are led and controlled by whites and white-minded Negroes."

Most followers of Islam would probably say the same thing. But Minister James adds a few thoughts of his own to the Muslim creed. Muslims don't vote because they say there is no real choice between two look-alike parties, but James has a passion for practical politics.

"You got to hand it to the man," James says of Governor George C. Wallace, "he's smart. And look at all the money he has in that campaign. Where does he get all that?"

Of President Johnson, James admits, "I admire the man, he's a real politician." And of gubernatorial candidate Carl Robinson, "he's too sincere, really. People don't get elected in this country on sincerity."

James blamed the division among civil rights groups on two things. "Personal ambition is what turns groups against each other. Personal ambition and the press."

One of Minister James' strong convictions is that white writers have too much to say about Negroes. "The white press has blown up the issue of black power until it's gotten out of hand. Those words need to be clearly defined." He also holds writers responsible for the bad reputation of Muslims.

Like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and many other Negro leaders, Minister James says Negroes need unity more than anything else. He called marching and riots "senseless," because they add to bitterness in the South against Southern Negroes.

Instead of marching or rioting, James said, Negroes have to face reality. Besides unity, they need "economic stability." They should boycott stores to get better jobs, and Negroes who have money should build factories and department stores and hire Negroes to work in them. The way it is now, James added, "people in the North are rioting, but it's the people in the South who are catching hell for it."



MALCOLM X WAS MURDERED SHORTLY AFTER HE BROKE AWAY FROM MUSLIM LEADER ELIJAH MUHAMMAD, BUT MALCOLM'S WORDS LIVE ON.



ELIJAH MUHAMMAD, WHO RULES THE BLACK MUSLIMS FROM HIS CHICAGO MOSQUE, IS BELIEVED BY THEM TO BE GOD'S MESSENGER ON EARTH.



JAMES AT CIVIL RIGHTS RALLY

Letter Blasts Dem. Ticket

SELMA--A fiery letter put out by the Dallas County Independent Free Voters Organization has condemned nearly all the nominees on the Democratic ticket as "racists and segregationist candidates."

The free voters organization asked all Dallas County ministers to read the letter to their congregations.

The letter said the voters organization was still "in great shock and pain" because the Dallas County Voters League had endorsed the straight Democratic ticket, from Mrs. Lurleen Wallace on down.

"We hate to think of the reasons why they did this and for what advantage," the letter said. "We certainly know it is NOT in the interest of MOST of the Negroes in Dallas County or Alabama. NO OTHER NEGRO GROUP in Alabama or elsewhere has dared to endorse voting for Wallace and other segregationists--most would not even consider doing such a terrible thing."

"The Wallace Machine needs to be BROKEN . . . not built. It is a threat to the whole and best interests of our state and our entire country. Wallace and his group plan to continue a racist campaign all over this country."

Besides attacking Governor George C. Wallace, the letter also branded as "racists" such Democratic candidates as Albert Brewer (lieutenant governor), MacDonald Gallion (attorney general), and John Sparkman (U.S. senator).

It said Walter C. Gibhan, Democratic candidate for re-election to the state Senate, "has been preaching against and acting against 'niggers' for over 27 years."

The letter urged Dallas County Negroes to cast their ballots for the eight independent candidates for county office, who are supported by the free voters organization.

An anti-Democratic leaflet, similar to the letter, has been circulated in the county by SCLC, SNCC, and the Confederation of Alabama's Political Organizations.

Macon Write-In

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

Sheriff's race, the write-in campaigners also are teaching people to insert the name of James L. Braswell for tax collector. Braswell, a white man, was named tax collector by Governor George C. Wallace when the office became vacant last summer. L.A. Locklair, a Negro, is the Democratic nominee for a full term.

Some of Amerson's supporters are worried about the write-in campaign. "They're out to get that boy," said the Negro voting instructor.

But Amerson said he isn't upset. "They had a chance to do it with the levers," he said. "Not many people have heard of it (the write-in effort for Sadler), so not too many are going to be writing his name in."

"I'm not talking about it, I'm just going to go on and campaign. The most important thing is to be sure all the people get to the polls."

All Quiet in Race for Attorney General

BY ROBIN REISIG

TUSCALOOSA--"The biggest legal problem in Alabama right now is Governor George C. Wallace's anti-guidelines bill. It should never have been



DON COLLINS

passed," said Don Collins, Republican candidate for state attorney general.

As James D. Martin, Republican candidate for governor, shouted to a whistle-stop audience that Alabama must "cut loose from Lurleen and Katzenbach," Collins spoke quietly of the state's legal problems.

Collins has been speaking quietly

PICKET LINE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

qualified Negroes.

Barnett said the picket line was "killing" Kress by keeping Negro shoppers out. Store manager J.C. Spikes refused to comment.

throughout the campaign. And his Democratic opponent, MacDonald Gallion, has been even quieter. Infact, Gallion--who served as attorney general once before, under Governor John Patterson--has hardly campaigned at all.

Wallace's anti-guidelines law is the "most unconstitutional bill that's ever been passed in the history of the South," Collins charged last Tuesday. "It's a political farce, an absolute fraud and fake on the people of Alabama.

"If you're going to test the guidelines in Washington, the only way you test administrative rulings and laws is through the courts."

As attorney general, Collins said, he thought he would test the guidelines, "because I believe they go beyond the authority of the '64 Civil Rights Act." He did not mention "states' rights" or the question of integration.

"The real issue (in the attorney general's race) is crime in Alabama," Collins said, as he talked of the law-enforcement duties of the office. "Crime is on the increase on a spiraling rate. The latest FBI report shows that Birmingham, Ala., leads the nation in murders per 100,000 people."

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Collins said he is the candidate best qualified to combat crime because of his ten years' experience as a trial lawyer and his 12 years in the state legislature.

"My record in the legislature indicates that I have introduced and have been successful in passing bills to make penalties more severe for assaults on

women and children, and it shows my fights on hard-core pornography," he said.

The second issue in the campaign is the "partisan issue," Collins said. "My opponent cannot say that he's an Alabama Democrat, because he was Lyndon Johnson's campaign manager in Alabama."

Collins said that the civil rights trials of Eugene Thomas and Thomas Coleman were "mishandled." Attorney General Richmond M. Flowers "should have stayed out of Lowndes County and let the local district attorney handle it," he said. "The local district attorney would have been closer to the feelings of the people."

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Program Schedule

Monday thru Friday

Sign On 6:00 AM	Morning Reveries (Gospel)	T.J. McLain
6:00-7:00 AM	Jordan Ray Show (R&B)	Jordan Ray
7:00-9:00	The Gospel Hour (Religion)	Rev. Greene
9:00-9:30	Dorothy Jo's Pantry Shelf (Women's News)	Dorothy Jo Stanley
9:30-10:00	Gospel Train (Gospel)	Dorothy Jo Stanley
10:00-12 Noon	Ruben Hughes Show (R&B)	Ruben Hughes
12:00-3:00 PM	Jordan Ray Show (R&B)	Jordan Ray
3:00-Sign Off		

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD (Church & Social News)--On the Half-Hour
NEWSCASTS--5 Minutes Before the Hour

Saturday

Sign On 6:00 AM	Morning Reveries (Gospel)	T.J. McLain
6:00-7:00 AM	Jordan Ray Show (R&B)	Jordan Ray
7:00-9:00	The Gospel Hour (Gospel)	Rev. Greene
9:00-9:30	Gospel Train (Gospel)	Dorothy Jo Stanley
9:30-12 Noon	Ruben Hughes Show (R&B)	Ruben Hughes
12:00-3:00 PM	Jordan Ray Show (R&B)	Jordan Ray
3:00-Sign Off		

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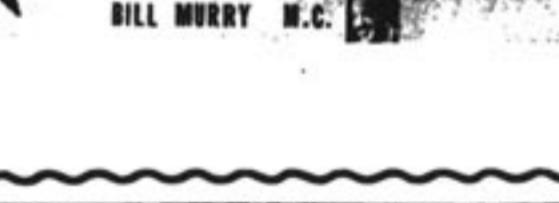
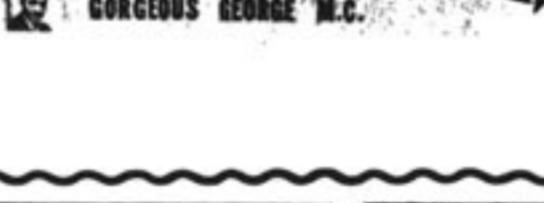
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WANT ADS

TUSKEGEE--A distribution manager and newsboys are needed to sell The Southern Courier. Call 727-3412.

BAHAI STATE CONVENTION--Bahai's from all sections of Alabama will attend their state convention on Sunday, Nov. 6, in Birmingham. The purpose of the convention is to elect a delegate to the national convention, to be held in April at the Baha'i Temple in Wilmette, Illinois. These delegates will then elect members of the National Spiritual Assembly.

RECEPTIONIST--Glamorous position for African-oriented young lady in AFRICAN cultural center. Requirements: typing, high-school diploma, willingness to pursue further business training. Write M. B. Olatunji, 875 West End Ave., New York, N.Y. 10025.

GOOD JOB--Wanted: Agent and managers to earn up to \$500 per month in their spare time, with Merlite Lifetime guaranteed light bulbs. If interested, contact T. L. Crenshaw, 923 Adeline St., Montgomery.

TITUSVILLE CIVIC LEAGUE--The meeting will be at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 8, at the Westminster Presbyterian Church. All residents of this area are invited. The Rev. L. Williams, president.

BEAUTY PAGEANT--The Uniontown Civic & Business League will sponsor its first beauty pageant, at the Robert C. Hatch High School gymnasium Nov. 25 at 7:30 p.m. The pageant is open to all girls between the age of 16-21. All contestants must be residents of Uniontown. All contestants must submit applications on or before Oct. 25. Contestants may be sponsored by any club, organization, church or social group.

Application blanks can be obtained at Moore's Grocery, Robert C. Hatch High School, or from any member of the civic league. The purpose of the pageant is to establish a scholarship fund for some deserving student who has the potentials of making a good college student.

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

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3. LOVE IS A HURTIN' THING-- Lou Rawls (Capitol)
4. WHISPERS-- Jackie Wilson (Brunswick)
5. TOO MANY TEARDROPS-- Joe Simon (Snd, Stage)
6. IT TEARS ME UP-- Percy Sledge (Atlantic)
7. IF I HAD A HAMMER-- Willie Hightower (Fury)
8. WHAT BECOMES OF A BROKEN HEART--Jimmy Ruffin (Soul)
9. YOU KEEP ME HANGIN' ON-- Supremes (Motown)
10. HYMN NO. 5-- The Mighty Hannibal (Josel)
11. I'M READY FOR LOVE-- Martha & the Vandellas (Gordy)
12. DON'T ANSWER THE DOOR-- B. B. King (ABC)
13. I WANNA BE WITH YOU-- D. D. Warwick (Mercury)
14. REACH OUT I'LL BE THERE-- Four Tops (Motown)

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6-9 AM Sam Double O MooreGOSPEL SHIP
9-11 AM Trumon PuckettNOON SPECIAL
11-1 PM Rick UpshawAFTERNOON SESSION
1-3:30 PM Willie McKinstry**Saturday**WEEKEND SPECIAL
6-12 Noon Sam Double O MooreSATURDAY SESSION
12-6 PM Johnny JiveSATURDAY EXPRESS
6-12 Midnight Willie McKinstry

All-Nite Show--Midnight to 6 AM

Johnny Jackson - Lewis White - Rick Upshaw

News at Twenty-five and Fifty-five Past the Hour

BIG D RADIO**Game of the Week****A&M Tops State in College Clash**

BY ALONZO CHANEY

BIRMINGHAM--The Alabama A & M Bulldogs downed the Alabama State Hornets 36 to 19 last Saturday in college football's Magic City Classic.

At first the teams seemed evenly matched, but then Oree Jackson passed to Maurice Coleman for a 29-yard touchdown that tilted the match for A & M, 6 to 0.

In the second quarter, A & M's defense was red-hot, Melvin Hines of the Huntsville Bulldogs blocked a State

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punt, picked it up, and ran for a 25-yard touchdown. Joe Haugabrook scored the two-point conversion with a right-end sweep.

The Hornets struck back after they recovered a fumble on A & M's 36-yard line. After a series of short plays, Charles Mitchell passed to Jerry Allen for the score.

But Bulldog quarterback Jackson was on target all afternoon. He tossed a 50-yard pass to Thomas Jones for one TD. Then he connected on two consecutive 35-yard passes, before scoring on a two-yard run. Haugabrook passed to Terry Bates for the extra point, making the score 28 to 6 at halftime.

In the third period, State started to come alive. After eight plays, the Hornets scored on a five-yard run by Willie Wilkinson, but the extra point failed.

Still fired up, State's Harry Scott intercepted a pass and returned it to A & M's 33-yard line. Then Johnny Pleasant ran 33 yards for the touch-

Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights

The weekly meeting will be held at 7 p.m., Monday, Nov. 7, at the Galilee Baptist Church, 1013 N. 23 St., the Rev. R. H. Thompkin, pastor. This is the kick-off for 1967. Speaker will be the Rev. F. L. Shuttlesworth.

The full day's activities started in the morning with a parade of marching bands that circled the northern part of the city.

Then, in an afternoon struggle in Prichard Stadium, Toulminville upped its record to 4 and 3 by putting down the Pensacola Wildcats.

A pass from Jerome Bettis to Percy Smith gave Toulminville the lead.

Homecoming queen Miss Sharon Elaine Sims and the rest of the Toulminville

fans looked pleased.

But Oscar Abner of Pensacola scored

from the five-yard line in the second

period, to tie the game. And a six-yard

pass from Wildcat Walter Williams to

James Duckworth gave the visitors the

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