Above the city hall, William decided to turn right...
The State of Alabama's plan to cut off public funds from Tuskegee Institute isn't quite the tragedy that some people are making it out to be. State School Supervisors of Alabama, meeting in Birmingham last week, declared that the Negro colleges in the state are in a much better financial condition than they have been for some time. The main difference seems to be that last year Alabama elected a new governor and his party promised to do something about the schools.

Barbour, D. H., Henry OD for Head Start

By MARY ELLEN GALE

MRS. CLAYTON--After months of argument between the local officials and the institution, the Barbour County-Cheney County Head Start Project has officially opened.

The CAF Director, Charles L. West, announced in the annual meeting of the Economic Opportunity Corporation, that SNAFC would operate the Head Start program in the county. The CAF director, who is also the Projects Coordinator for the Economic Opportunity program, said SNAFC would operate in the county.

Barbour, D. H., Henry OD for Head Start
TRACK
and
FIELD
The Annual Relays At
Alabama State College

Photos by Jim Peppler
SUMTER FARMERS LOSE THEIR HOMES: 
‘DON’T KNOW WHERE WE’RE GOING’

BY ROBIN REISIG

PANOLA — “Don’t know where we’re going to go.”
“Don’t know what we’re going to do.”
“No one want us now. Done wore ourselves out.”
“Can’t stay in the road there.”

The sun beats down on 12 farmers, standing in the dust with their heads bowed. Behind them stretched the gently rolling fields of Sumter County.

The men, and the half-dozen women who came with them in a country store one-day last week, have been farming near Panola in Sumter County. Many of them can trace their families back to “this slavery time.”

Most Sumter farmers had hoped for a generation to call this land home. But unless the miracle they all hope for comes, no new generation in Panola will trace their families here back to this land.

The farmers are among 35 families whose homes are on a large plantation here. Last November the plantation owner, Barnes A. Rogers, sent his tenants a letter saying they were out of work and would lose their homes.

While some farmers took all hope for smoothness elsewhere, the conclusion was that Rogers had bought the land in the Hammermill Paper Co. for growing trees.

The farm tenants, who had thought of their land with respect, were stunned. They had thought of the land as their own, as a place where their families had worked, and their children could work.

Some of the farmers gathered at the country store one day and they never saw them again. Eliot Williams, who recently lost a leg after an accident, said, “I was helping him and I was helping myself. I was helping him with a dollar, topsoil, leaving its limestone belly exposed to the wind.

The fields around Panola were bleached at the beginning of cotton planting. Cotton used up much of the land. Rogers' plantation owner, Barnes A. Rogers, sent his tenants a letter saying they were out of work and would lose their homes.

In recent years, the farmers have tried to save the land. They have joined the Sumter County Movement for Human Rights. They fought back. They have joined the NAACP and are deciding what to do.

Mrs. Eliot Williams and her son in front of their home.

ALL THE REMAINING FARMERS ARE, FOR THIS YEAR, HIRING OTHER TENANTS.

“Don’t know whether to stay or go”

Williams said, “When a man been used to plantation life, it’s hard to change, isn’t it? Just like, when I have working hard and getting nothing all my life, when I try something, I don’t like it anymore.”

George Mason, an officer of the Sumter County Movement, thought Rogers had another reason. “After the people started looking after themselves,” said Mason, “when the people started selling their land, has been case away from them, and he had to make other arrangements.”

But the farmers of Panola don’t have any idea what to do. They are in a way like we were going to get them.”

Mrs. Barnes doesn’t think she should have to pay rent for homes they built themselves. “I didn’t believe he (Rogers) was helping himself. I was helping my son to pay rent, and pay rent either.”

The Sumter County Movement for Human Rights thought Rogers had another reason. “He told me he put it on my debt,” said Mrs. Barnes. “I had to even rent my garden from Rogers.”

The letters, he said, contained the names of a lot more Negroes who didn’t know which vote to vote.

Why should they pay rent for homes they built themselves? “I don’t know of any way of getting their own homes,” Rogers replied. He claimed that he gave Mrs. Barnes her house and told her she couldn’t move in it and sell her own, “but she never did move in it.”

The farmers hope that the federal government will help them some way. But they don’t expect any help from the local ASCS committee. “There are no Negroes on it.”

The Sumter County Movement for Human Rights said the families of non-farm Negroes could get help. “It is a way for them to vote.”

Williams is also upset about having to pay more money. He said the rent varies from $15 to $30 a month just for this raggedy house,”

Charles Williams said that he didn’t want to sign the ASCS checks, he didn’t want to sign any checks. “I didn’t believe in it. I didn’t believe in anything.”

Mrs. Barnes also Kupe about having to pay, “I didn’t want to pay. I didn’t want to pay it,” Williams said. “I don’t like reading the form and he read the form and he read the form and I couldn’t read it.”

Eventually, Williams signed. Rogers told him, "If you don’t sign, you won’t get any more money."

Rogers explained, “But he went up in the room.”

Rogers discovered that his rent had jumped from $10 to $20 when he went to pay it last November.

Williams is also upset about having to pay more money. He said the rent varies from $15 to $30 a month just for this raggedy house.

“Don’t know where we’re going to go.”
“Don’t know what we’re going to do.”

The farmers are among 35 families whose homes are on a large plantation here. Last November the plantation owner, Barnes A. Rogers, sent his tenants a letter saying they were out of work and would lose their homes.

In recent years, the farmers have tried to save the land. They have joined the Sumter County Movement for Human Rights. They fought back. They have joined the NAACP and are deciding what to do.

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**Greene Election Case Gets More Complicated**

BY ROBIN REING

**No Drop-Outs, Principal Says**

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

**So many parents say, “I do send my child but they didn’t accept their jobs, or that their lives would be a ride.”**

Mrs. L. Neal, said, “The county school is not a single kid to drop out this year. There was people out making it very clear that they were going to compete, but they can’t be allowed to get away with it.”

**Ruben Hughes Says:**

MacLEAN’S TOOTHPASTE gets teeth really clean.

**Mobile’s Top Rural Personalities**

**Dorothy Stanley Says:**

Do you have adequate street lights? Proper police protection? For a public complaint or extension of services, call 411 Norman Lumpka, WMRA, at 816-644-06.

**WAN AIDS**

**Arkansas-The Alabama Council on Human Relations has affiliated coun­

**NEWS**

**For better Alabama—**The Alabama Council on Human Relations is an active voice in the community. It provides information and assistance to those in need of help.

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Rebels, A’s Look Like Big-Timers

BY MICHAEL L. LOTTMAN

Montgomery—It may not be the major league baseball season, but when Southern League baseball is good—like the 1967 campaign—there’s no better baseball to be played.

Last Saturday night, for example, the Montgomery Rebels of the Birmingham—Shreveport circuit took a game that was second only to its sad-ending. Peanut timeouts, 3-hour 21-minute duration.

It was the seventh game of the series between the Rebels and the Jacksonville Suns, with Montgomery leading two games to one. Jacksonville had the South title in its grasp, and the Rebels knew it would take something special to stop the Suns.

But the Rebels found that special something, and that’s why they are in contention for the title.

The game was a classic, with the Rebels winning 4-3 in the bottom of the ninth inning to capture the series.

The key to the win was the play of pitcher Bob Feller, who came into the game in the middle of the seventh inning with the game tied 2-2.

Feller quickly retired the first two batters he faced, but then the Suns’ Mike Howard hit a home run to give Jacksonville a 3-2 lead.

However, the Rebels rallied in the bottom of the inning, with Jimmie Parnell hitting a two-run home run to tie the game at 3-3.

In the ninth inning, the Rebels loaded the bases with no outs, but Feller again came on to face the first two batters he faced, and retired them both to end the inning.

In the bottom of the ninth, the Rebels loaded the bases again, this time with two outs. But Feller once again retired the final batter of the inning to give the Rebels the 4-3 win.

Feller was named the game’s MVP, and his performance was key to the Rebels’ win.

The game was a classic, and the Rebels showed why they are one of the top teams in the Southern League.