

But Judge Denies Request for Food

A Long, Long Trip

BY ESTELLE FINE

WASHINGTON, D. C.-- Mrs. Mary Irma Lee took her 14 children to Washington this week. Mrs. Mary Harrison and Mrs. Henry Mae Turner came along too, with eight kids each.

They were among the 130 poor people who traveled from Alabama to Washington, to be present when two civil rights lawyers asked a federal court for more and better food programs for hungry families.

The people piled into three chartered buses last Saturday morning, to begin the 850-mile trip to the nation's capital. They arrived on Sunday morning, following an 18-hour drive.

After attending a court hearing on Monday and seeing the sights on Tuesday, they left for home in the same three buses Tuesday night.

So far, the people had not seen any great victory in the court fight for better food stamp and free food programs. On Monday, U. S. District Judge George L. Hart Jr. refused to order the government to grant the civil rights lawyers' three main demands:

1. Offer food stamps at lower cost, or even for nothing, to families that can't afford to pay.
2. Offer a diet of surplus commodities that at least meets the government's own minimum nutritional standards.
3. Force every county in the state to provide either free food or food stamps--and both programs in emergency situations.

At first, Judge Hart did not want to hear the case at all. He told the lawyers -- Donald A. Jelinek of Selma and Edgar S. Cahn of Washington--that they should have filed their suit in Alabama.

The judge accused the lawyers of "traipsing" into court with the 130 poor Negroes, "for what I strongly suspect to be purely political purposes, rather



ALABAMA CHILDREN OUTSIDE COURTHOUSE

than to seek quick justice."

"I don't believe I can get justice anywhere but in the capital of the United States," Jelinek replied.

Jelinek and Cahn said poor people could not get the help of lawyers or doctors in Alabama.

"If that is true," said the judge, "that's about as heavy an indictment of the bar as I have ever heard." And, he asked Jelinek, don't white doctors in Alabama take the Hippocratic oath?

"Yes," Jelinek replied, "they take a segregated Hippocratic oath."

After Nathan Dodell--the government attorney representing the U. S. Department of Agriculture--admitted that it was easier for the USDA to have the trial in Washington, Hart agreed to hear the case.

Jelinek put in evidence the results of a study made by his Southern Rural Research Project last summer. The results showed that 25% of the people studied eat no fresh meat, 30% get no fresh milk, and 50% have to borrow money to pay for food stamps.

When the suit was filed March 1, Jelinek said, four counties in Alabama had no food programs at all. But on March 13, he said, Elmore County--which had been refusing the programs for a year--agreed to distribute surplus food.

Dodell argued that the food programs, as created by Congress, are not intended to provide full and adequate diets, but rather to supplement people's regular diets and dispose of surpluses. Under the law, Dodell said, food merchants can challenge the program in court, but the people who get the food cannot.

Judge Hart told the lawyers he agreed that the food programs are inadequate. "I agree that there is not sufficient food, and that there is an improperly balanced diet that does irreparable injury to the persons involved," he said.

"If you say the act has defects, I couldn't agree with you more," the judge remarked. But, he said, the courts can't do anything about it: "The remedy, I believe, is with the Congress, and the sooner the better."

In Prattville Murder Case

White Jury Frees Negro

BY BOB LABAREE

PRATTVILLE, Ala.-- For three days last week, James Huffman, a 43-year-old Negro, was on trial for his life in Autauga County Circuit Court.

Huffman was charged with the murder of William Cranmore, a white man who was killed in a shooting at Huffman's home on Feb. 14, 1967.

Two white men who were with Cranmore that night testified that Huffman shot first, in an exchange of bullets that left Huffman wounded and Cranmore dead.

When the all-white jury retired last Friday afternoon, it took just an hour and a half to reach a verdict. The 11 men and one woman had decided that Huffman was innocent.

The prosecution's case depended mainly on the testimony of two brothers, J. D. Parrish and William Parrish, who accompanied Cranmore to Huffman's house the night of Feb. 14, to see about a car Huffman had bought from Cranmore.

The Parrish brothers said Huffman called them "dirty names" after Cran-

more asked, "James, what are you going to do about that car?" In the argument that followed, they said, Huffman went back to his house, where his neighbor, Charles Rasberry, handed him a gun.

The two white men testified that Huffman shot at them and Cranmore from his porch with a .22 rifle before they shot at him. As they were fleeing in their car, the men said, Rasberry shot at them, too.

State Toxicologist Guy Purnell, who performed the autopsy on Cranmore, told the jury that there were four wounds on the dead man's body. But he said that the single, badly-damaged bullet he found in Cranmore's brain was the one that killed him.

Purnell testified that he thought the bullet "could have been fired from a .22 rifle," but he said he couldn't be certain.

Huffman's account of what happened on the night of Cranmore's death differed sharply from the Parrishes' story.

Between 9 and 9:30 p.m., the defendant said, J. D. Parrish came to his door and told him, "Billy (Cranmore) wants to see you." He said that when he went

zaga High School, where they all took showers after the long ride. Some of the people said they were afraid, because they had never taken showers before, only baths.

The people stayed in the parish clubhouse of St. Martin's church--where beds had been set up for them, and where the girls' glee club entertained them with a songfest Sunday night.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE, Col. 2)

Who's Negative?



TUSKEGEE, Ala.--Macon County's chief law enforcement officers talked about their responsibilities and their problems at a public meeting March 14.

Sheriff Lucius D. Amerson and Tuskegee Police Chief Eugene Harrison agreed that their biggest needs are more public cooperation--and more money.

"Many people throughout the country have developed a negative attitude toward the police--not only in the Negro community but white people too," Amerson noted. "The police should initiate (good) relations with the community."

But the 60 people who showed up at the meeting seemed to think police-community relations in Macon County are pretty good already. The only real argument concerned parking regulations.

Harrison said he wants to put up no-parking signs on narrow streets, but the Tuskegee City Council won't let him. Some people took his side, and some people took the council's side.

Above, Mayor C. M. Keever and Harrison listen to a question.



WILLIAM CLARK ADDRESSES STUDENT GATHERING

Revolution At Tuskegee

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE, Ala.--"We want our education to be relevant to us--that's what this is all about," said Warren Hamilton, president of the Tuskegee Institute Student Government Association.

Hamilton was speaking to some 1,000 people in front of the administration building, at the height of Tuskegee Institute's student revolution.

With him was William Clark, senior class president and leader of the week-long series of class boycotts and protest demonstrations.

"Five students are on disciplinary and social probation for doing just what I'm doing now--speaking out at a Tuskegee Institute gathering," Clark said. "They were disciplined for exhibiting their constitutional right--freedom of speech."

If the college won't permit student dissent, Clark continued, "then we ought to close up shop. But we don't want to close up. We are having a peaceful protest to demand our rights."

And those rights, said Clark and several other student leaders, are "quality education" and an effective voice in governing the campus.

By the middle of this week, it looked as though the administration was going to grant many of the students' requests.

In a message to the student body late Monday night, college President Luther H. Foster agreed to increase student representation on policy-making boards, seek better-qualified teachers, extend library hours, and clarify course requirements.

He promised to present student demands for voluntary (instead of compulsory) ROTC training and full (instead of partial) athletic scholarships to the board of trustees at a meeting next Saturday.

But Foster did not agree to an immediate revision of the much-criticized restrictions on campus meetings--under which a total of ten students have been charged with violating Institute rules.

He said only that the matter is being studied, and "will be acted on by the faculty" before the trustees' meeting.

Foster also refused to halt disciplinary proceedings against the ten students. But he did restore the student judicial system--which he had suspended a few days earlier.

Following Foster's statement, the students called off a campus-wide boycott of classes which had been in effect all day Monday. They also canceled plans for a repeat of Monday morning's sit-in, when hundreds of students blocked the entrances to the administration building and classrooms for several hours.

But the student leaders warned that the protest may begin again if they are not satisfied with the progress made by the administration, faculty, and board of trustees.

"We're going to keep ourselves together and just watch this thing," promised Hamilton. As one of the students facing disciplinary action for his part in the protest, Hamilton said, "we're not going to let them do us this way."

And over at the engineering school, students remained out of class to continue battling for a more competent faculty, better-organized courses, fairer examinations, and an adequate supply of textbooks and laboratory equipment.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX, Col. 1)

'Can't Suppress Dignity of Man'



THE REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. (RIGHT) ON TOUR

BY BOB LABAREE

BESSEMER, Ala.--When the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. finally arrived in Bessemer the night of March 20 to talk about his Poor People's Campaign in Washington, he was greeted just as warmly as if he hadn't been six hours late.

But many of the people who had come to hear Dr. King at the scheduled time of 3 p.m. had gone home by the time he walked to the pulpit of the crowded New Zion Baptist Church about 9:30.

(People in three other Alabama towns --Lisman, Camden, and Linden--said they waited several hours last week before learning that Dr. King wouldn't be coming at all.)

In a voice that was hoarse from many speeches across the country, Dr. King apologized for being late, and then turned the meeting over to other SCLC leaders.

The campaign will begin April 22, the Rev. Ralph Abernathy told the crowd. And, he said, it will involve hundreds

of thousands of the nation's poorest people--of all races. "We'll begin with 300 from each state," he said, "but that'll be just the first wave."

Abernathy said buses will start from Mississippi and pick up poor people in each state on the way to Washington. When the people get to Washington, he said, they're going to "plague Congress" to pass legislation to help the poor.

Hosea Williams told the people that they will be camping in city parks if they go to Washington.

"We're gonna take up some of those shacks y'all are living in and bring 'em up with us and build a shanty-town right here in Washington," he said.

He pointed to the balcony where three white men were sitting with a tape recorder. "Believe me, white man, you better listen to this," he said. "If this march doesn't get what the people want, this country's gonna burn down. You can pass all the riot laws you want, but you cannot suppress the dignity of man."

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Miss. Schools Repay Tuition

JACKSON, Miss.--In 1965, many people had to pay tuition to the public schools for children whose parents or guardians were not residents of Mississippi. If the tuition was not paid, the children were not allowed to attend the public schools.

This requirement was later ruled unconstitutional--but not before many people had paid tuition for several months.

Now a federal court has ruled that school boards and superintendents must return these tuition fees to the people who paid them. On March 4, Circuit Judge J. P. Coleman and District Judges Dan Russell and Harold Cox ordered school officials to "refund any and all moneys collected."

Melvyn R. Leventhal, one of the lawyers who handled the case, said the school boards are supposed to return the money without waiting for people to ask for it. But, he said, "if any person believes that money is due him, and he has not received it by the end of August, he should contact the superintendent."

If that doesn't work, said Leventhal, people should contact the Jackson law office of Miss Marian E. Wright.

Birmingham Folks Want Water, Better Streets

BY BOB LABAREE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--Since 1957, people in the Lincoln Heights region of North Birmingham have been asking for things that city officials say they can't provide.

Many of the people say they still need running water, paving for their streets, fire protection, and recreation areas. And as tax-payers, they say, they feel they should get what they want.

"We've taken care of five or six out of a total of about 12 (requests)," said Neal McRae, superintendent of the city's Street Department. "I admit we've done the easy ones, but we have no money for improvements like they want. It would take ten times the value of those homes to upgrade them the way they want."

"We actually haven't done enough of this kind of improving," admitted Sam Hill of the city engineer's office.

Why hasn't the city done more? "Money," said Hill. "It's all we can do to keep up with the everyday jobs."

But Henry Slaughter and other members of the Lincoln Heights Civic League (LHCL) think there are other reasons besides money that the improvements they want haven't come. "City Hall is full of prejudiced people," said Slaughter. "The system is designed to help the fat cat--the white man--and to discriminate against the Negro, especially the low-income Negro. They put all that money into Legton Field, the Botanical Gardens, and the zoo, and we can't get a ball diamond."



HENRY SLAUGHTER

In his past year as president of the LHCL, Slaughter said, he has written to and been in nearly every office in City Hall, including the mayor's office. They all say the same thing, Slaughter recalled--"If you want improvements, you have to pay for them."

The trouble is, said Slaughter, many of the people in Lincoln Heights can't pay for them. He cited one particular section where three-fourths of the homes don't have water, and only one or two people have regular jobs.

One answer to the problem, he said,

would be to subsidize the people who can't pay for improvements, with money from the federal government.

"I see them (the government) sending money everywhere else in the world but here," said Slaughter. "Don't take my money and send it over there, while my brothers here are looking at poverty every day."

Slaughter's special concern is streets. He estimated that in the past ten years, more than a dozen houses in Lincoln Heights have burned to the ground because the streets were so bad that fire trucks couldn't get to them in time.

And when the trucks did arrive, he said, there was no fire plug near enough.

What can people do if they can't afford the improvements they need? Nothing, said Hill, the man in City Hall: "If they want to live there and they don't have money, there's nothing they can do. I guess a housing project is the only answer."

But Slaughter and other LHCL members say Lincoln Heights has been a part of Birmingham for 17 years, and city officials could have done something by now if they really wanted to.

"See, I don't care about how much it costs the city," Slaughter said. "Damn the costs. I care about me as a human being. We want our 17 years of taxes back, or we want some action."

Singleton Charged Again

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE, Ala.--A second charge of mistreating a prisoner was brought against Nottulsa Police Chief Bobby Singleton late last week.

Ocie Devance Jr., a young Negro man arrested for disorderly conduct the night of March 16, earlier accused Singleton of holding a gun on him while State Trooper James Howard Bass beat and kicked him.

In the second case, a white man--Robert H. Bedford of Carrville--swore out warrants against Singleton and a Nottulsa patrolman, Joe W. Barnes, for assault and battery.

According to Macon County Sheriff

Lucius D. Amerson, Bedford said Singleton and Barnes beat him up with a flashlight after arresting him for highway drunkenness.

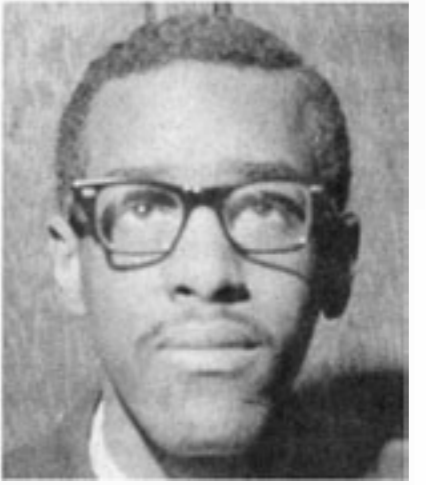
"He had a knot on his head," Amerson recalled. "He said they (the law enforcement officers) gave it to him." Bedford told the sheriff that the incident occurred at a cemetery near Nottulsa, on the same night that Devance was arrested.

Singleton and Barnes were freed on \$300 bonds. The two charges against Singleton, and the single charges against Bass and Barnes, are scheduled for hearings Monday in Macon County Inferior Court.

ask the federal Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) for help in financing a six-month program to train young men to operate heavy machinery. Under the plan approved by LEAP's board of directors, OEO would put up \$27,000 and the Lauderdale County Board of Supervisors would contribute \$58,682 in in-kind services. LEAP is also applying to OEO for a \$32,000 program to help senior citizens in Lauderdale County. (From Patricia James)

Atlanta, Ga.

Benjamin Ward Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Ward of Montgomery, Ala., has been designated as "one of the best future college teacher prospects on the continent" by the Woodrow



BENJAMIN WARD JR. Wilson Fellowship Foundation. Though only 19 years old, Ward is a senior at Morehouse College, and he plans to attend graduate school next year at Yale University in Connecticut. Ward entered Morehouse from the tenth grade, and spent his junior year at the University of Paris in France.

Wetumpka, Ala.

Fourteen ladies began a course in home nursing and first aid this month. The course is sponsored by the Coosa-Elmore Community Action Committee, and taught by Mrs. Martha Meyers of the American Red Cross. "Our goal is good health," said Mrs. Bea Glenn, the CAC's activity coordinator and one of the ladies in the class. "Parents need to understand family health needs." Besides Mrs. Glenn, the class members include Mrs. Bessie Brand, Mrs. Martha Washington, Mrs. Ann Traywick, and Mrs. O. M. Bratton of Wetumpka, Mrs. Julia Maxie of Millbrook, Mrs. Lula Thomas of Eclectic, Mrs. Peggy Gamble and Mrs. M. L. Mitchell of Goodwater, and Mrs. Florine Brown, Mrs. Sandra Mitchell, Mrs. Sara Ponder, and Miss Erie Hyatt of Rockford.

Atlanta, Ga.

Hallum's Grocery of Dyersburg,

Washington, D. C.

Two Alabama ladies--Mrs. Sallie Hadnott of Autauga County and Mrs. Thelma Craig of Choctaw County--attended the March 17 meeting of the National Committee to Support Public Schools. Mrs. Hadnott--who represented the Autauga County NAACP--said the conference delegates discussed whether parents or teachers should control local schools. She told the meeting that the parents should have more say than they do now. "We agreed there is a time to think and a time to act," Mrs. Hadnott reported.

Charleston, Miss.

Baddour's Bargain Center Store hired two Negro employees here, less than a week before the NAACP had planned to start demonstrations protesting job discrimination at the store. The new employees started work the evening the boycott was scheduled to begin. Although the employees--both students--are working part-time, the NAACP said, a management representative has promised to hire a full-time sales-person within three months.

Troy, Ala.

The Bethel Baptist Church held its annual youth revival March 11 to 15. The Rev. C. R. Nobles Jr., was the evangelist, and the Rev. L. C. McMillian is pastor of the church. Both ministers are natives of Troy. (From Mrs. J. M. Warren)



NOBLES (LEFT) AND McMILLIAN

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Clay Musselman was The Southern Courier's Birmingham reporter in 1965, until he was seriously injured in an auto wreck while on a trip in the North. He was near death for some time, and though he survived, he was partially paralyzed and unable to remember many events in the past. Since the accident, Musselman has slowly relearned how to do things like eat and type, and he has regained much of his lost memory. About a year ago, he typed his first letter to the friends he left in Alabama. Here is a recent letter from him to Mr. and Mrs. George Walker of Birmingham.--THE EDITOR)

me. I don't know when it will be, but some time we will come to see you. We lived in Philadelphia when I knew you, but about a year ago both my wife Margaret (Peggy) and I moved to a city 70 miles west called Lancaster. Our families are here (her two sisters and my own brother and two sisters). . . . Because I was in a wreck and in the hospital a year, the state of Pennsylvania pays my way to get an education again. They have a school in Johnstown for all the handicapped (the cripples) to go to. There you learn the things that all of us do--sell pencils, make cloth, and weave rugs.

I hope you are doing well. I do not know if now is the time in Alabama for lawn-mowing, but if it is the time I guess you will be hard at it.

The way I hear those cops act makes me ashamed to be the same color. I guess that most any cop makes me feel the same, no matter what color. Here we have a blanket of snow. It is cold and white and low, next to the ground. I guess it is like the white man. From his actions I would say that he is cold to most human friendships, and near the ground because he acts pretty low most of the time.

It was a treat for me to see the name of your grand-daughter in the newspaper this week. I know that with her work goes some on your part, too. Though I have no connection to the paper, THANKS to you people for it from me, an onlooker. I remember when I came to your house often. It was good to have you people for friends.

You know less of us who are white. In writing this to you, I hope you do not put me with the others, but if you do I guess I deserve it with the rest. In fact it is hard for me to change my skin color. Take it easy.

Right now, I am a helper in a camera studio, and type envelopes for the Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors in Philadelphia. It takes up time and gets me used to the "click" of cameras.

Clay Musselman Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

How is the (Alabama Christian) Movement now? If it still is, I guess the cars are still parked well. I think now that some day if a job can get used to me and come along, I will come to see you.

Right now, I have a new friend from Sierra Leone, West Africa. Like your saying "Come to our house," he said the same thing, and soon I might be going with my wife to West Africa. It excites me. "Once in B'ham and then in Africa," they will say when they bury

To the Editor: Admiring the good job you do journalistically, and respecting the need for The Southern Courier, I have been and will remain an avid reader.

I hope, however, that you don't carry certain tendencies to their logical conclusion, although the present drift could suggest that one of these days the Courier would segregate its classified advertising according to whether black or white respondents were desired.

The Georgia State Senate has passed a unanimous resolution honoring the late "king of soul"--Otis Redding of Macon. The senators praised Redding as one "who rose from poverty and obscurity to become one of the most famous entertainers in the United States." Redding died last Dec. 10 when his private airplane crashed in Lake Monona, Wisconsin.

Tuscaloosa Discusses U.S. Food Programs

BY ETHEL THOMAS AND EMILY ISRAEL

TUSCALOOSA, Ala.--Representatives of the U. S. Department of Agriculture met with city and county officials here last week, to outline a food stamp plan for people with low incomes. But the local officials said they haven't decided to enter into any type of food program as yet. Probate Judge David Cochran said after the meeting that any program will have to be a joint effort of three governing bodies--the city of Tuscaloosa, the county, and the city of Northport (which was not represented at the meeting).

surplus food program, but it was dropped. A federal official said last week that Tuscaloosa is one of three counties in Alabama that have no food program at all.

Tuscaloosa County once had a federal Huffman Freed

Last month, the Tuscaloosa County Ministerial Association--an integrated group of ministers--passed a resolution asking local officials to support a food program for poor people.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

At the ministers' meeting, Mrs. Marcus Whitman, director of the Tuscaloosa welfare office, said 15,000 people in the county would be eligible for a food program. She said the surplus food program would cost the county about \$20,000 a year, while the stamp plan would cost \$33,000.

But in his final argument, defense attorney Solomon S. Seay suggested that the three white men didn't mean well when they visited Huffman.

But one lady criticized the free food plan, saying that "all the recipients were really getting was starch, starch, starch."

"Which of you goes to other people's houses to talk to them with a .38 revolver?" he asked the jurors. "I suggest to you that when he (Cranmore) went there, he used it."

Joseph Mallisham, a local leader and a member of the Tuscaloosa anti-poverty board, said he favors surplus food, because "there will always be poor people who do not have the money to put up for the stamps."

After Huffman was freed, Mrs. Sallie Hadnott--a leader in the local NAACP, which helped get Seay to represent Huffman--praised the jurors for their verdict. "We feel now that we can have a little more confidence in the system in Autauga County," she said.

Later, at a meeting of the Tuscaloosa Citizens for Action Committee, the Rev. T. W. Linton said both food plans are "pacifiers." "Giving those people food keeps 'em like pigs in a slum-pen," Linton said.

Still, Linton said, he was encouraged by the ministers' discussion: "Those white folks were new in the fight, and they needed to learn some sense, but I do admit they were beginning to talk our language."

RUBBER TALKING BUSINESS

NECK SUE FOLKS AND HERS TOO

Atlanta, Ga.

The Georgia State Senate has passed a unanimous resolution honoring the late "king of soul"--Otis Redding of Macon. The senators praised Redding as one "who rose from poverty and obscurity to become one of the most famous entertainers in the United States." Redding died last Dec. 10 when his private airplane crashed in Lake Monona, Wisconsin.

Birmingham, Ala.

Two members of the James Armstrong family are now doing well in college. Miss Denise Armstrong is in her second year at the Massey Junior College in Atlanta, Ga., and James Armstrong Jr. is a freshman at Tufts University near Boston, Massachusetts. These students--whose father is now



THE ARMSTRONG FAMILY third vice-president of the Alabama Christian Movement--were in the midst of the court fights over school desegregation several years ago. So was their father, who wanted to see his children free and well-educated. Two other Armstrong sons--Dwight E. and Floyd D.--are members of the ROTC program at Enslay High School. (From the Rev. R. J. Norris)

New York City

NAACP Executive Director Roy Wilkins this week praised a recent U. S. Supreme Court ruling on the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The court ruled that

restaurant owners who discriminate must pay all lawyers' fees if Negroes take the case to court and win. Wilkins said the decision "makes it possible for poor persons denied service to file suit without fear of having to pay legal fees beyond their means."

Montgomery, Ala.

Ernest Lee Brown, Reginald M. Hatcher, and Larry Johnston, life insurance specialists with Mutual of New York's Montgomery agency, have won company honors for their sales performances in 1967. According to the year-end tabulation, Brown and Hatcher ranked in the top 1% in sales results among MONY's 4,000-man national field force. This qualified them for membership in the President's Council, the company's highest sales honor organization. Johnston qualified for the company's Summit Club by ranking in the top 3%. MONY's Montgomery agency serves policy-holders in 28 Alabama counties.

Troy, Ala.

Mrs. Voncie Copeland has been ill at her home on Mulberry St. Her doctor, Ross McBryde, advised her to go into St. Margaret's Hospital in Montgomery. Mrs. Copeland, a member of the Shiloh Baptist Church, said she appreciates the thoughtfulness of the many people who have sent her cards and gifts.

Tougaloo, Miss.

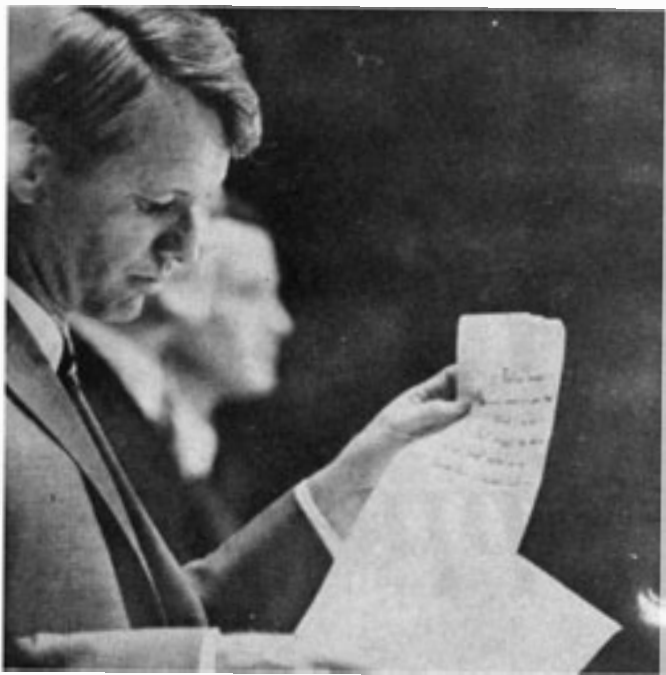
Harvey C. Russell, a vice-president of the Pepsi-Cola company, has been elected to the Board of Trustees of Tougaloo College. Russell, who has been vice-president for corporate planning at PepsiCo, Inc., was recently named to the newly-created job of vice-president for community affairs.

Abbeville, Ala.

Mrs. Minnie Danzie and her brother, Hugh Craddock, attended the funeral of her nephew, A. C. Danzie, on March 11 in Atlanta, Ga. (From James J. Vaughan)

Meridian, Miss.

The Lauderdale Economic Assistance Program (LEAP) has agreed to



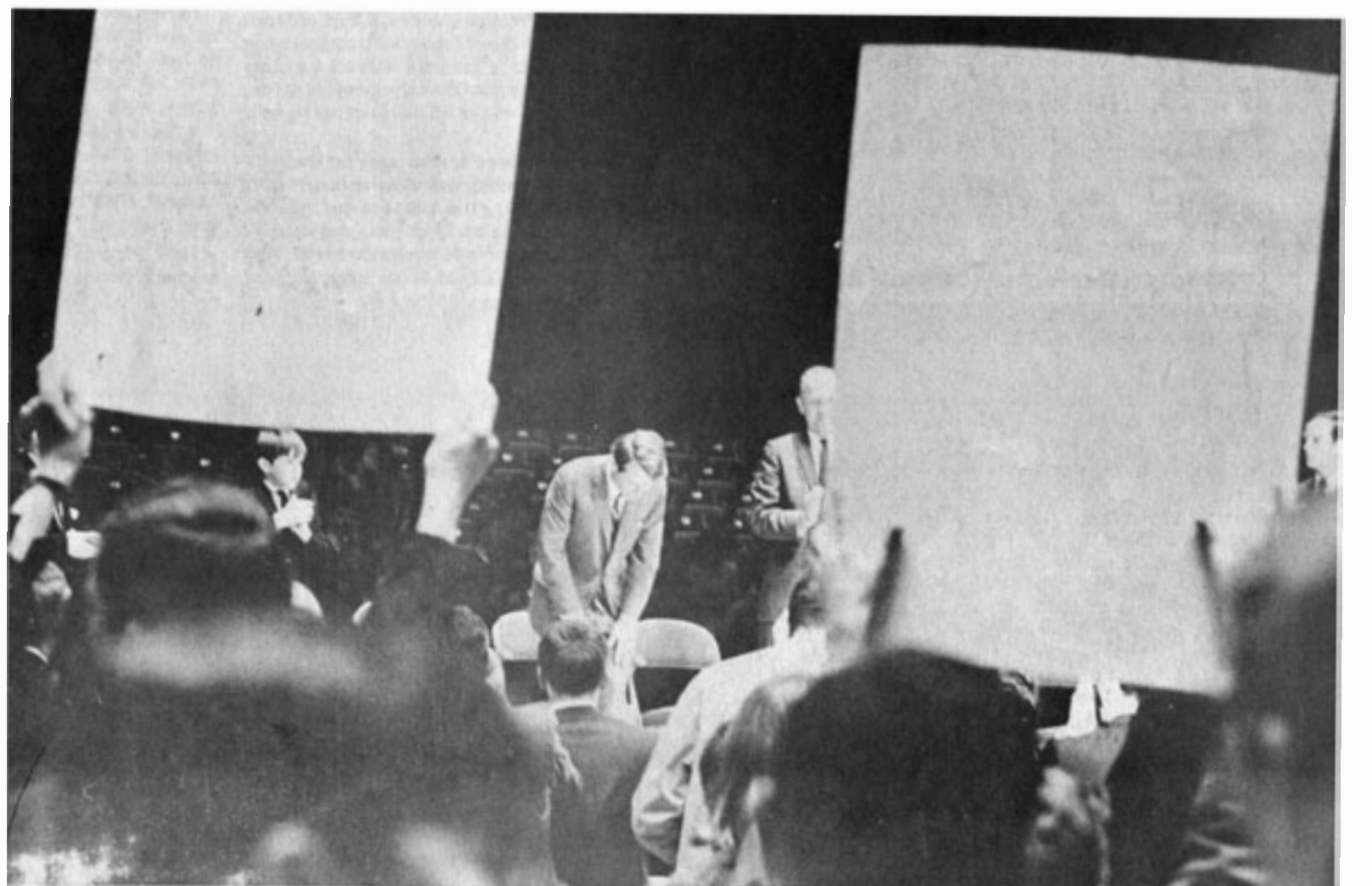
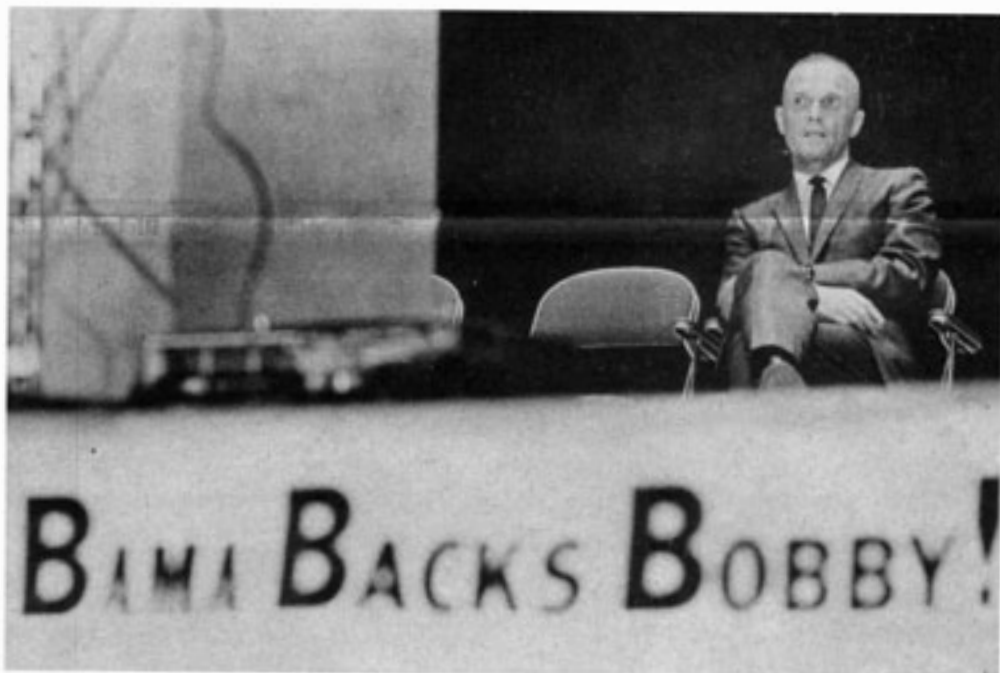
R. F. K. at the U. of A.

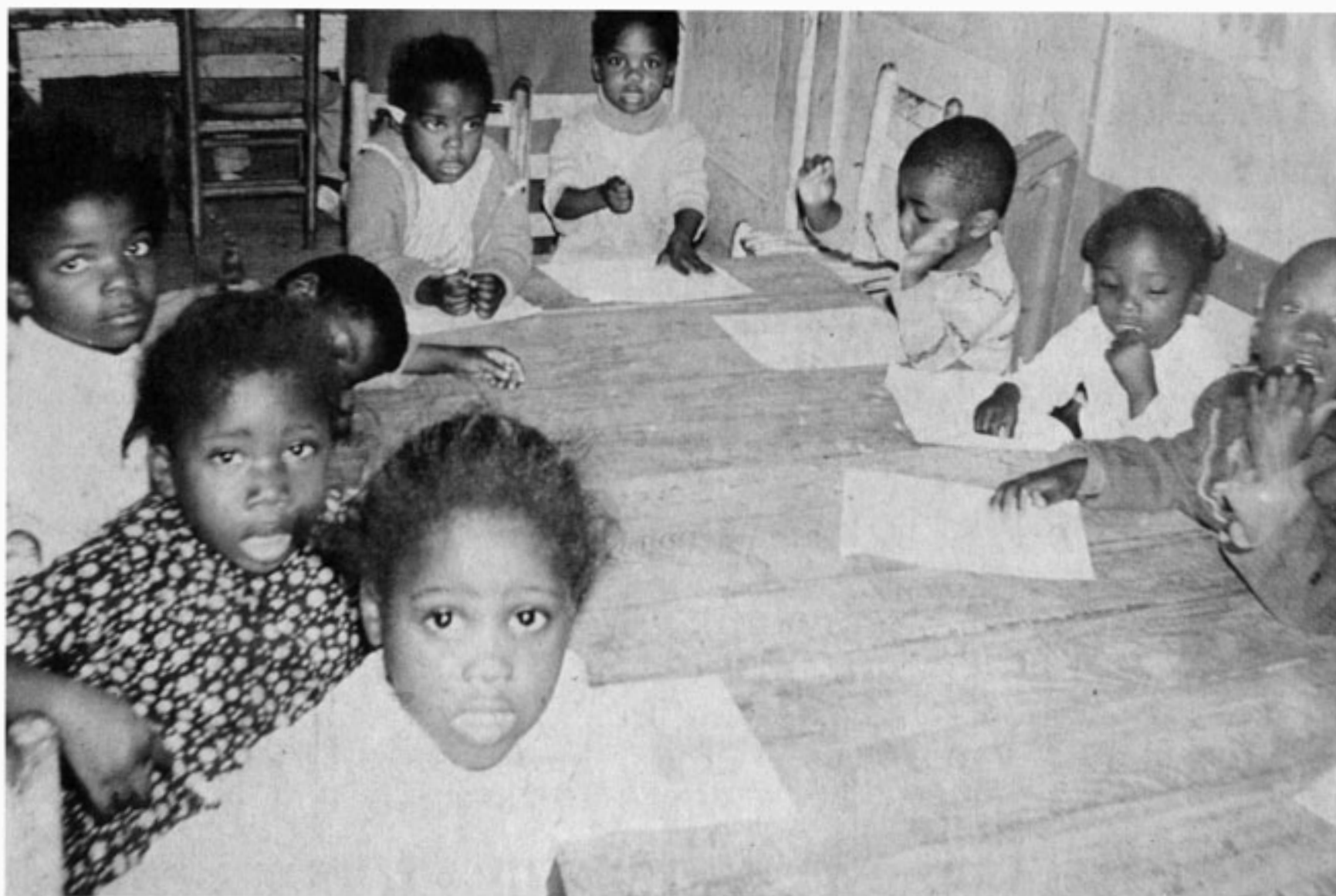
TUSCALOOSA, Ala.--Almost 10,000 enthusiastic University of Alabama students and faculty members turned out to see and hear U. S. Senator Robert F. Kennedy, the first speaker in last week's student symposium, "Emphasis '68."

The New York senator, a candidate for the Democratic nomination for President, arrived two hours late for his speech. He was accompanied by Colonel John Glenn, one of the first U. S. astronauts.



*Photos by
Jim Pepler*





CHILDREN AT THE BELZONI HEAD START CENTER

'So Much We Could Do -- If We Had Some Money'

FCM Volunteer Workers Fight to Continue Head Start Program for Mississippi Kids

BY ESTELLE FINE

BELZONI, Miss.--"If we lose this fight, we'll be back 100 years," said a worker at the Belzoni Head Start center operated by Friends of the Children of Mississippi. But, she added, "I like having something to fight for."

FCM--a six-county, privately-financed Head Start program--has been struggling to keep its centers open for more than a year.

In December, 1966, federal anti-poverty officials refused to re-fund CDGM (Child Development Group of Mississippi) Head Start centers in the six counties--Humphreys, Leflore, Clarke, Neshoba, Wayne, and Greene.

But, at a meeting in Jackson, the parents decided not to give up. They formed FCM to continue operating the Head Start centers in their counties.

Despite a desperate shortage of money, FCM is still alive. But, said director Fred Mangrum, it can't continue much longer without federal money.

Originally, he said, the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) told Friends of the Children to negotiate with Mississippi Action for Progress (MAP), a Head Start group which receives OEO funds.

Then MAP's grant was decreased from \$10,000,000 last year to \$7,200,000 this year--and FCM was told it probably couldn't get any money from

MAP. Last month, when talks with MAP still seemed to be getting nowhere, FCM applied to OEO for \$2,300,000.

"We've tried (negotiating with MAP) since July," said Mangrum. "Now we have to get money directly from OEO."

FCM's 417 employees teach Head Start classes for 1,600 children in 29 centers. At the center in Belzoni, Mrs.

Bessie Thurman said, "We're downhearted and disgusted, but we have nothing else to do.

"We're the type of people that just don't get hired for anything else. We're fighters."

The full-time staff members at the Belzoni center are paid \$15 a week for three weeks per month. The part-time employees get \$12.50 a week for three weeks per month.

The full-time workers used to get \$25 a week, Mangrum said, but "we just didn't have the money to pay that much."

Over 100 children are enrolled in Head Start at Belzoni, and the center is crowded and noisy. But, said the workers there, the kids are learning.

"When they first came here, they all cried," recalled one lady. "Now they know how to play with other children."

The kids--aged three to five--learn the alphabet and numbers, sing songs, draw with crayons, and paste pieces of colored paper together to make pictures. Since there is no money to buy children's scissors, the teachers cut and the children paste.

The "action game"--a kind of bingo in which the children match pictures on cards--is a favorite with all the kids. But the center has only one set of cards, so each unit of 15 children has to wait its turn.

Since there are no mats for the children to nap on, they sleep on their wooden chairs. The kids are fed lunch--meat, dried beans or peas, and water--but they very seldom get any milk. And they can't all eat at one time, because



SIMON SAYS, "THUMBS UP"

there aren't enough plates. During the summer, the center had the use of another building. But it had no heat or electricity, so the children were all moved into one building when winter came.

"There's so much we could do for the children if we had some money," said Mrs. Veoria Goss, administrator of the center. "We're tired, but we plan to keep fighting."

Last December, she said, many teachers decided to quit. But they re-

turned after a few days. "We had to come back," she said. "If you don't come here, there's something missing from your life."

FCM has focused national attention on the problems of poor children in Mississippi. Last year, FCM invited a team of six doctors to examine the Head Start students and other children in the six counties.

The doctors later reported, "We saw children whose nutritional and medical condition we can only describe as shocking--even to a group of physicians whose work involves daily confrontation with disease and suffering. . . . We saw children who are hungry and who are sick--children for whom hunger is a daily fact of life, and sickness, in many forms, an inevitability."

FCM workers knew beforehand what the doctors would find. But there isn't anything the Head Start program can do to improve the conditions. FCM has no funds or staff for medical help.

"We were the catalyst because the condition of children in Mississippi became a national issue (after the doctors' report was issued)," Mangrum said. "But somehow FCM got lost in the shuffle."

Late last month, FCM joined a coalition of Mississippi Head Start groups. The organizations will fight the U. S. Congress' move to put anti-poverty programs in the hands of local governing bodies. And the groups will also seek fair and adequate funding from OEO.

The Head Starts say that OEO has ignored Southern poverty this year, giving most of its money to Northern programs--especially for job training in big-city ghettos. And, the groups say, what money there is has been divided unequally. For example, CDGM's budget was cut 42% from last year, while MAP's was cut 28%.

Besides FCM and CDGM, the coalition includes community action programs from Sunflower, Bolivar, Panola, Tallahatchie, Holmes, and Washington counties, and the independent Tri-County Community Association which operates in southwest Mississippi.

Neither Tri-County nor FCM has ever received federal funds. But, said Mangrum, FCM is serving more children in its six counties than the federally-financed MAP Head Start program does.

Some FCM workers also claim that MAP takes the names of FCM children and adds them to MAP's list of enrollees.

Asked about the number of MAP centers and children in the six counties, Mrs. Helen Whitfield, assistant to the MAP executive director, said the figures are not available.

OEO's first reply to the FCM application was to tell the group to keep trying to negotiate with MAP. But FCM still hopes to get a more favorable response. "Our main objective is to get some money--on honorable and acceptable conditions," said Mangrum. "The children of Mississippi need help."



TEACHER APPROVES A FINISHED DRAWING



GETTING READY TO CUT AND PASTE



MRS. ICY CONNER AT WORK IN THE KITCHEN

AHSAA Still Thinks It's 'Dangerous'

White-vs.-Black Games--Maybe

BY MARY ELLEN GALE
MONTGOMERY, Ala.--In the Alabama High School Athletic Association, it isn't how you play the game that counts --it's whether you win or lose.

That's what Herman L. "Bubba" Scott, executive secretary of the formerly all-white AHSAA, told three federal judges last week.

Opposing teams are "always built up in the eyes of each other as being enemies," Scott said, and in many communities "careful supervision" is needed to prevent post-game riots.

But despite the "intense feeling," Scott assured the court, "you always have respect for your opponent, as long as you can decide who your opponent is going to be."

Scott was testifying against the U. S. Justice Department's request for court-ordered desegregation of high school athletics in Alabama.

The government--and a group of Negro plaintiffs--want the court to merge the AHSAA with the all-Negro Alabama Intercollegiate Athletic Association

Sports Draw Negro Kids

BY PATRICIA JAMES
MERIDIAN, Miss.--The freedom-of-choice forms have been mailed out to the parents of public school students here, and many people think that more Negro students than ever before will choose formerly all-white Meridian High.

The attraction for many Negro students will be Meridian's excellent football program--and the success some Negro athletes have had in it.

A Negro student was one of the outstanding defensive players on the Meridian High Wildcats last fall, as the football team won its second state championship. And several other Negroes also participated in football.

It is a common expression here that Harris (the Negro school) has a football team, while Meridian High has a football program. About 35 boys played football at Harris last year. But more than 500 boys participated in football at Meridian.

Another problem for Negro athletes is that the program in the junior high schools is very different from the high school program at Harris. Therefore, junior high athletes have to start all over again when they come to Harris.



FRED D. GRAY

(AIAA), and to order formerly-white schools to play some games against Negro schools.

In arguing against the idea, AHSAA attorney Oakley W. Melton Jr. said, "Compulsory scheduling is the most dangerous thing that has ever been advocated in the field of athletics in America."

And, he said, the government itself doesn't do what it is asking Alabama to

Washington

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

At the courthouse on Monday, the people took over several jury and conference rooms at noon, and ate sandwiches made from bread and bologna sent over from St. Martin's.

Some Negro jurors in another case were so impressed by the unusual sight that they collected \$30 among themselves to give to the people.

Later that evening, the adults went on a bus tour of Washington, taking in the Capitol, the Lincoln Memorial, and other sights. Most of the people--from rural Dallas, Hale, Autauga, and Greene counties--had never seen Washington before.

While the adults were gone, about 20 students from the Catholic University theological seminary gave a party for the children, complete with balloons, cake, games, and flags.

On Tuesday, the people went back to see the one sight they had missed the night before--the grave of President John F. Kennedy. Then they had dinner and left, taking along big boxes of candy that the St. Martin's glee club had prepared for them.

do. "The three major U. S. military academies have not competed with Negro schools," Melton said he had charged in a written brief.

"The government replied that the U. S. Naval Academy has competed against Howard University in crew," Melton snorted. He asked Scott to tell the court what crew is.

"Several men get in a long boat and row," Scott responded. He noted that the U. S. military academies all have full schedules in football, baseball, basketball, and track--but play only traditionally-white schools.

In reply, Justice Department lawyer Charles Quaintance remarked that "these defendants have been waving a red flag--I might almost say a red-ber-

ring."

Actually, he said, "the races play each other all over the nation," and "incidents are rare."

But the AHSAA had another defense ready. Scott revealed that on March 13, the AHSAA's board of control voted to

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX, Col. 4)

Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights

The weekly meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 1, in the Metropolitan CME Church, 1600 Ave. K, Ensley, the Rev. L.H. Whelchel, pastor.

Harness Horse Racing



A harness horse race will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 30, at Oliver's Farm on Fleming Rd., Montgomery, Ala. This is the first event of its kind ever to be held in Central Alabama.

Earnest Oliver, a native Montgomerian, has been training horses since he was a boy on his father's farm. He began racing horses as a hobby years ago, while operating an automobile maintenance shop. After several successful races on Northern and Eastern tracks, he struck his own colors with his family stable.

Oliver's horses will be seen in action Saturday.

Oliver's Farm--Fleming Rd. Montgomery, Ala.

2 p.m.

Saturday, March 30

Help Wanted--Either Sex

a. ASSISTANT DIRECTOR for home-health services. Desirable qualifications are: Graduate of an accredited school of nursing, currently licensed in the State of Alabama as a registered nurse, or currently licensed as a practical nurse with a proven record of managerial ability; or a graduate of a four-year college with a major in sociology, psychology, social service, dietetics, or home-economics with emphasis on home nursing; or any combination of the aforementioned.

b. AREA SUPERVISOR, health-homemaker services. Desirable qualifications: High school graduate is desirable. Applicant should have experience as a licensed practical nurse, currently registered in the State of Alabama, should have experience record that proves ability to supervise others and to plan work; or a combination of education and work experience will be considered in lieu of the foregoing. For example: a person who has received formal classroom and in-service training as a home nursing aide or as a nursing aide or orderly in a hospital or nursing home and who is literate will be considered, provided experience record demonstrates ability to work with others, to use initiative, and to plan work.

c. HEALTH-HOMEMAKER AIDE. Desirable qualifications are: Applicant must have been graduated from the Health-Homemaker Aide Program, or must be able to present a record of equivalent training in a hospital or nursing home. In addition, applicant must be literate and able to comprehend simple written and oral instructions, must be in good physical and mental health and free of contagious diseases, must be willing to serve in homes where an active communicable disease may be present, must be willing and able to serve irregular hours and willing to accept changes in tour of duty.

d. CLERK-TYPIST. Desirable qualifications are: Type accurately at rate of 40 words a minute. A high school graduate who has studied commercial courses is desirable; ability to use acceptable English and to spell correctly is required. In addition, applicant needs to know how to operate simple adding machines, and must have aptitude for learning to operate other simple office machines.

e. ACCOUNTS CLERK. Desirable qualifications are: Ability to use touch-typing system--speed is not essential but accuracy is a must. Must be able to compute simple mathematical problems, including addition, multiplication, percentages, division, subtraction, and ratio. Familiarity with double-entry bookkeeping system is desirable. Experience in keeping accounts receivable or payable ledgers would be an asset.

f. HOME NURSING SUPERVISORS. Desired qualifications are: Applicants for home nursing supervisors should have experience in home nursing or be a licensed registered or practical nurse or be a graduate of a four-year college or a major in home-economics or a similar subject.

Apply by letter or in person to Coosa-Elmore Community Action Committee, 101 1/2 Commerce St., Wetumpka, Ala. (across from Courthouse). An Equal Opportunity Employer.

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For information, write to 1012 Frank Leu Bldg., Montgomery, Ala. 36104, or call 262-3572 in Montgomery.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED--The Montgomery Head Start needs all the volunteer help it can get to work in the classrooms. Men, women, and teen-agers (minimum age 16) can all be of use. Volunteers will assist as teacher's aides and cook's helpers, and will take children on field trips in the area. A volunteer can choose his or her own hours between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. on a convenient day Monday through Friday. Transportation and lunch will be furnished. If you are available, apply to the Rev. E. W. McKinney, volunteer director at 419 Madison, call 263-3474, or go to the nearest Head Start center.

FOR A BETTER ALABAMA--The Alabama Council on Human Relations has active chapters in Birmingham, Mobile, Montgomery, Huntsville, Florence-Tusculumbia-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, Ala. 36830.

ART EXHIBIT--Alabama State College is now showing the works of Dick West, the painter-sculptor whose powerful impressions of the American Indian have won national awards. The exhibition is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday until March 31, in Kilby Hall on the Alabama State campus, Montgomery, Ala.

PHOTOGRAPHERS--The Southern Courier is now accepting applications for the position of staff photographer. Candidates should be willing and able to travel. They should have a driver's license, imagination, and ambition. Experience will be considered, but it is not a necessity. Salary: \$30 a week plus expenses. Write to Jim Peppler, The Southern Courier, 1012 Frank Leu Bldg., Montgomery, Ala. 36104.

REGISTRATION CAMPAIGN--The Alabama NAACP will kick off a statewide voter registration campaign at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, April 7, with a mass meeting at the Clinton Chapel AME Zion Church, 1128 Thurman St., Montgomery, Ala. The campaign is co-sponsored by the East and West Montgomery branches of the NAACP.

FEDERAL JOBS--The Interagency Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners for South Alabama and Northwest Florida is holding examinations for general, structural, and airfield fire-fighters. Starting salaries range from \$86 to \$107 a week. This examination provides applicants with career employment opportunities in the federal service in the 28 counties of South Alabama and the ten counties of Northwest Florida. Send applications to the Interagency Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners for South Alabama and Northwest Florida, 107 St. Francis Street, Mobile, Ala. 36602. The forms are available at any board of U. S. civil service examiners, and at most main post offices. Applicants must indicate Fire Fighter as the title of the examination, and AA-8-18 as the announcement number. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Federal Job Information Center, Room 105, 107 St. Francis Street, Mobile, Ala. 36602, or any U.S. post office.

PHOTO EXHIBIT--The art department of the University of Alabama is showing a selection of "Pictures from The Southern Courier" from 2 to 5 p.m. every day through March 31, in Garland Hall on the university campus, Tuscaloosa, Ala. Also featured are paintings by Carl Holtz.

BAHA'IS--The Baha'is of Montgomery invite you to their weekly fireside at 8 p.m. this Saturday, at the Community House, 409 S. Union St., Montgomery, Ala. For transportation, call 265-4394. Meet Baha'u'llah.

ELMORE NAACP--The Youth Branch of the Elmore County NAACP will meet at 3 p.m. Saturday, March 30, in the Elmore Rehoboth District Center, Wetumpka, Ala. Officers will be elected and the Rev. K. L. Buford of the Alabama NAACP will be present to give information on getting a charter. C. M. George, president.

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN--Hosea Williams and Albert Turner want to discuss the Poor People's Campaign (Washington, D. C.) with YOU. Come to a meeting at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 6, in the St. Paul CME Church on Tremont St. in Selma, Ala.

SPRING CLEAN-UP--Ray Gary of the U. S. Public Health Service will address the public and the Elmore Policy Advisory Committee of the Coosa-Elmore Community Action Committee at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 4, in the county courthouse, Wetumpka, Ala. The speaker will show slides of health conditions in Wetumpka, and will explain how the community can rid itself of breeding places for mosquitoes and other insects.

TUSKEGEE SUBSCRIBERS--You have TWO local post offices: Tuskegee 36083 and Tuskegee Institute 36088. Your Southern Courier will arrive on time if it is sent to the correct one. Please check your mailing label, and let us know if it should be changed.

JOB SERVICE--The Coosa-Elmore Community Action Committee is now locating jobs for unemployed people in Coosa and Elmore counties in Alabama. Federal jobs are available for construction, maintenance, manufacturing, and supply helpers, custodial workers, store sales checkers, surveyor's aides, warehouse workers, laundry workers, stenographers, typists, and messengers. Salaries run as high as \$4,776 per year. The CAC will help people in applying for these jobs, preparing for interviews, and studying for examinations. Appointments for help can be made at the nearest Coosa-Elmore rural service center, or by telephoning the CAC office, 567-4361 in Wetumpka. More information may be obtained at the following rural service centers: 204 E. James St. in Tallassee, City Hall in Eclectic, 207 Osceola St. in Wetumpka, the old Health Department building in Goodwater, and the Health Department building in Rockford.

REGISTERED NURSES--Lee County Head Start needs a registered nurse for part-time employment, beginning in early April. For more information, write P. O. Drawer 1632, Auburn, Ala. 36830, or call 887-6536.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS--"Reality" is the subject of the Lesson Sermon to be read in all Christian Science churches this Sunday, March 31. The Golden Text which sets the theme for this Bible lesson is from Isaiah: "Since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him."

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Would School Integration Cut Costs?

'You'd Save Peanuts'

BY MARY ELLEN GALE
TUSKEGEE, Ala.--A civil rights leader and a state official disagreed last week over the cost of segregated education.
The civil rights leader was William H. Harrison, associate director of the Alabama Council on Human Relations (ACHR). The state official was H. Bascom Woodward Jr., director of the new Alabama Education Study Commission.
Woodward told about 100 people at a meeting of the ACHR's East Alabama chapter that they could improve their schools by raising city and county taxes.
The people agreed that more local tax money would help. But several questioners also said that lack of funds isn't the state's only educational problem.
"If you abolished the dual school system, how much money would you save?" asked Harrison. "How much could you upgrade the schools? Wouldn't it be quite a lot?"



H. BASCOM WOODWARD JR.



WILLIAM H. HARRISON

For instance, he said, Alabama has spent thousands of dollars for "overlapping school bus routes" because of segregation.
Woodward admitted that integrating the schools would lower busing costs. But aside from that, he said, "you'd save just peanuts."
"We have coined this term 'dual school system,' but it's incorrect," he argued. "Actually, we have practiced separate housing. You have only one board of education for each (city or county) school system."
Whether or not the schools are integrated, Woodward said, "you still have got to house the same number of children, and hire the same number of teachers to teach."
"What about these junior colleges--and this Auburn University branch in Montgomery?" Harrison replied. "Segregation is the obvious reason it's being built."
"We're not so sure it's going to be built," remarked Woodward, apparently referring to a federal-court suit challenging the proposed college.
But he conceded that the state may have trouble financing two new junior colleges, scheduled to open next fall in Fayette and Andalusia.
"It's beyond my imagination why

you'd put one in Andalusia, when you got one in Brewton and one in Monroeville," Woodward said. "The superintendent (State Schools Superintendent Ernest Stone) told me yesterday he's going to try to delay opening until 1969 or '70. I don't know how much he can do, but he will try."

Another questioner, Jerry Roden of Auburn, criticized state laws which allow teachers to a school according to "average daily attendance" figures.
"Isn't there something unrealistic and discriminatory in basing teacher units on ADA?" Roden asked. "The poor attend school less--but they need enrichment programs more."

"That's a very, very excellent point," Woodward said. "I've been advocating for years that (teacher units) be based on class membership--not attendance."

Mrs. Elizabeth Yamaguchi of Tuskegee said the state could raise more money for education by enforcing the property-tax laws already in existence.

"If a community wants property taxed at 20 to 25%, how do you go about it?"

she asked.
"Lady," answered Woodward, "if I knew that, I'd be the smartest man in Alabama."

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE FIVE)

accept schools as members "without regard to race," and to end its ban on games between AHSAA and AIAA members.

At the same meeting, he said, the AHSAA enrolled its first two Negro schools--Nancy Oden Junior High of Caddo and Calvary III Junior High of Huntsville.

B. E. Lee, president of Patrick Henry Junior College in Monroeville and an officer of the Alabama Junior College Conference, gave similar testimony. Two weeks ago, he said, the AJCC voted to admit the state's only Negro junior colleges--Wenonah State of Birmingham and Mobile State.

The government said it is satisfied with the AJCC's action, and it also dropped a request for desegregation of the state's college athletic associations.

But high school sports are another matter, civil rights attorney Fred D. Gray told the court.

"Opening the door isn't enough," he said, because the burden of desegregation still rests on Negro principals and coaches "employed by local boards of education."

And since the AHSAA is the only nationally-recognized high school athletic association in Alabama, Gray noted, an AIAA member "can never be certified as a national champ."

Gray also criticized Scott's promise that if enough Negro schools join the AHSAA, "we would employ a nigger man to head up this operation." "It won't solve the problem to have two associations in one," Gray said.

Severne Frazier, executive secretary of the Negro athletic association, added that the AIAA doesn't want its member schools "to be picked off one by one."

The AIAA--a defendant in the case--joined the government in asking for a merger of the two athletic groups, with guarantees of "proportionate" AIAA

representation on the new governing board and the paid staff.

Scott testified that AHSAA athletic contests "have to make money." But Frazier said the AIAA has tried to provide an interscholastic sports program for as many Negro schools as possible. He asked the court to make "some provision" for athletics at Negro schools which are unaccredited--and ineligible for sports--because of past racial discrimination.

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Tuskegee

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

While several young men held a study-in on the engineering school lawn Wednesday afternoon, Lawrence Slater, a first-year graduate student, explained why the students are prolonging their week-old class boycott.

"We have gone through proper channels," he said. "We presented our requests to the dean and the college president several months ago. We have gotten no satisfaction."
So far, the only response from Dean of Engineering Z. W. Dybczak has been a complaint that "outside agitators" are trying to disrupt the campus and lower academic standards.

Tuskegee's week of protest began March 20, when students gathered on campus to discuss their grievances. Following a march to Foster's home, someone in the crowd threw a piece of concrete through an upstairs window.

The next day, Foster issued a statement blaming the unrest on "a small but vocal group" and warning that the college might be closed down if the students refused to maintain an "orderly campus."

In the midst of the dissension, Dean of Student Affairs P. B. Phillips sent a letter of resignation to President Foster, citing the "actions, inactions, and reactions of the students, faculty, and administrators over the past few weeks." He declined to explain further.

Last Friday, classes were called off for a day-long series of meetings between students, faculty members, and administrators. But after a relatively quiet weekend, the protest resumed with the sit-ins Monday morning.

Over the last several months, black-power advocates have won a following on the campus. And Clark--the senior class president--was cheered loudly when he told one student gathering, "Viet Nam is someone else's war--our war is here!"

But the student leaders agreed that these issues--although important--are not the main point of the current protest. "Tuskegee Institute is supposed to be a first-class institution," said one young man. "We think it's time it lived up to its reputation."

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