

THE SOUTHERN COURIER

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First Negro Team Competes In Alabama Legion Baseball

BY BOB LABAREE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.-- The Middle Area play-offs for Alabama's American Legion baseball teams were held last week in Tuscaloosa.

James Franklin, baseball commissioner of the Legion's all-Negro Tenth District, reported unhappily this week that his team lost.

"This year is the first year, to my knowledge," answered Stencil Skelton, the white man who is Legion baseball commissioner for all of Alabama.

But Vernard Thomas, Tenth District commander, said there are other reasons why Negro teams haven't previously competed in Legion baseball.

Since Legion teams compete only against teams in their own district during the regular season, Thomas said, "we would have to be running all over the state to play games."

"Other teams in other districts are confined within a given area," he pointed out.

The Negro officials also charged that Skelton and other state Legion heads stalled when Negroes tried to enter the baseball program.

At the state convention last Decem-



JAMES FRANKLIN AND HIS BASEBALL TEAM

ber, Franklin said, he was turned away from the baseball commissioners' meeting, although he was the newly-elected Tenth District commissioner.

Then at a Legion convention last month in Montgomery, Franklin said, he discovered that he hadn't been invited to another baseball meeting held in May.

But now, said Franklin and Thomas, they are happy with the situation. "Now that we've broken the ice," said Franklin, "the others will be more willing to come in next year."

planning to enter the Legion competition.

Thomas said he is pleased about more than just baseball. At last month's convention, he said, the delegates agreed to grant the Tenth District full voting rights.

Since the change required an amendment to the Legion's constitution, and since the motion hadn't been submitted 30 days ahead of time, the vote had to be unanimous, Thomas noted.

But despite these recent developments, the Tenth District is still separate, and its baseball teams will still have to travel all over the state to play their games.

Franklin said he also wants Negroes to get a chance in the Legion's oratory contest and beauty pageant, which offer scholarships as awards.

But after what happened this year, Thomas said, he thinks other changes will follow. "The seeds have been sown," he said.

Nabisco Hires 8

BY BOB LABAREE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--After about a month of negotiating with local Negro ministers, the National Biscuit Company announced earlier this week that it had found eight more jobs for Negroes on all levels of its employment scale.

In addition, the company promised that two out of three summer positions for next year and all regular openings in the next 12 months will be filled by Negroes.

The team that negotiated with the company was led by an organization called the Ministerial Leadership Training Program (MLTP), which was brought to Birmingham by SCLC only five months ago.

In their agreement with Nabisco, the 20 or more ministers who make up the new organization have required the company to notify them immediately whenever a Negro employee leaves the company.

MLTP listed other actions taken by Nabisco as a result of the agreement:

- 1. Placing a long-term advertisement in the Birmingham World, a Negro-owned and -operated newspaper.
2. Making bank deposits of \$10,000 each in The Citizens Federal and The National Bank of Commerce--both owned and operated by Negroes.
3. Establishing a \$1,000 annual scholarship to mostly Negro Miles College.

The Nabisco agreement is not the first to be made by MLTP, said the Rev. Calvin Woods, head of the new organization.

Several months ago, Woods said, a similar arrangement was made with another national firm, Merita Bread. Merita promised to hire 35 Negroes, and did so, he said.

Woods explained that MLTP is meant to do other things besides pressuring companies to hire Negroes.

"We try to get more jobs, yes," he said, "but we also want to teach--teach black preachers to be sensitive to what the people want."

The people want jobs now, said Woods, "so that's where we are."

Klan on Trial In U.S. Court

BY JAMES M. FALLOWS

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--The USA and the KKK met in court last week, as Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr. heard the federal government's suit against the Crenshaw County chapter of the United Klans of America.



JAMES KOLB

The government charged that the Crenshaw Klan--and specifically, nine alleged Klan members--had "interfered" with school desegregation in Crenshaw County.

In the hearing Aug. 1, the government called 20 witnesses, Negro and white, to show just what kind of interference it wanted the judge to stop.

Five Negro witnesses--Wilbert McGee, Silas Henderson, Willie Williams, Charles Bryant, and James Kolb--described five separate cross-burning incidents that occurred near Negro homes in 1966 and 1967.

McGee and Williams said they had seen a car belonging to M. O. Bodiford--one of the alleged Klansmen--at the cross-burnings. And, said Henderson, he saw Bodiford and two other men "kneeling on the ground, hammering something together" in the same spot where a cross was burned a few hours

later. Justice Department Lawyer Frank D. Allen also asked several white witnesses about a petition that was circulated in the county in 1967.

"There was a list of names at the top of the petition," Helms said, "and Mr. Furr said those people was going to be boycotted." He said that everybody should sign the bottom part of the petition, and the ones that didn't sign would be boycotted too, and nobody would trade with them.

"Did you recognize any of the names at the top of the petition, or did you ask Mr. Furr why they were being boycotted?" Allen asked.

"Yes sir," Helms replied. "And Furr said that they were colored folk sending their kids to the white school, and that we weren't supposed to trade with them."

The defendants' lawyer--Ira DeMent of Montgomery--used a single approach in cross-examining most of the government's witnesses.

"Tell us, Willie," DeMent said to Williams, "hasn't Mr. Bodiford lent you money? Hasn't he given you money to send your daughter to college?"

The lawyer also asked each Negro witness whether Bodiford had extended credit to Negroes, and whether he had "always spoken kindly to Negroes."

But DeMent leaped to the attack when G. T. Miller, a white businessman from Luverne, took the stand. Under questioning by Allen, Miller testified that he had rented a building to three of the defendants for Klan meetings.

Miller claimed that his speech was only about "the plenty that Crenshaw County has to offer, and how we all have

Ole Miss Drops Legal Services; Teachers Can't Work in Project

BY PERRY WALKER

OXFORD, Miss.--The North Mississippi Rural Legal Services program and the University of Mississippi Law School are no longer working together.

The federal Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) has renewed the grant for the legal aid program for another year. But the program will be administered by mostly-Negro Mary Holmes College in West Point--which does not have a law school.

Alton Bryant, vice-chancellor of the university, said Ole Miss' contract with Legal Services was terminated because the program "had gotten beyond the educational goals of the university."

But that wasn't the only contract that was severed. The university has also refused to permit three of its instructors--Luther McDougal, Michael Trister, and George Strickler--to split their time between the law school and the Legal Services program.

McDougal left his position as director of Legal Services to stay on full-time with the university. But Trister and Strickler have left the law school to work full-time with the legal aid project.

Vice-Chancellor Bryant denied that the instructors' work with Legal Services had anything to do with their not being allowed to teach part-time. "It was their decision not to accept the (full time) contract--not the university's," he said.

But Trister charged that the school "originally offered us part-time contracts," which were later changed to "full-time or nothing." Trister said the university "denied us part-time

contracts because of the nature of Legal Services." Trister and Strickler have filed a federal-court suit against the university over the contract dispute. A hearing is scheduled for Aug. 21.

In the recent session of the Mississippi Legislature, the law school and Legal Services both were subjects of strong criticism. In June, the state House passed a bill removing the law school's diploma privileges--by which Ole Miss law graduates were automatically admitted to practice. The House also repealed Ole Miss' apprenticeship program, under which a number of law students were working part-time with Legal Services.

Representative Ney Gore of Marks, who steered these measures to passage, read to the House a letter from an Ole Miss law student.

Loyalists Locked Out in Greenwood

Election on the Grass

BY MARION SYMINGTON

GREENWOOD, Miss. -- "Ain't it somethin'!" said the Rev. William Wallace. "When the judge orders us to come up to the courthouse, the doors are open. Then when we want to use it ourselves, they close those doors."

The Loyal Democrats of Mississippi had scheduled a meeting here at the Leflore County courthouse the night of July 31.

They planned to hold precinct and county elections, as part of the statewide process of electing a "loyal" delegation to challenge the regular Mississippi delegation at the Democratic National Convention.

But the day before the meeting was scheduled, the Rev. Nathaniel Machesky--who, like Wallace, is a leader of the Greenwood Movement--said he was notified by the sheriff's office that the meeting could not be held in the courthouse, due to a "previous commitment."

And the next day, the local newspaper--The Greenwood Commonwealth--quoted a statement that "until the major repairs, which will include stopping the seeping of water which is causing the courthouse to sag, are made, all night meetings will be suspended."

Leaders of the Greenwood Movement--acting as co-ordinators of the Loyal Democrats' meeting--decided to go to the courthouse anyway, to make sure it was closed and to decide on another place to meet.

As the bell in the courthouse tower rang out 7 p.m., a crowd of more than 200 voters gathered on the broad stone steps of the courthouse. Some spilled over onto the well-kept lawn on either side of the crowded walkway.

The Rev. M. J. Black, another movement leader, opened the meeting as temporary chairman, and suggested finding a more convenient place to con-



LOYAL DEMOCRATS MEET IN GREENWOOD

duct business. "We not goin' to let the white man push us out on the streets," one elderly woman said. "Let's go some place where we can sit down."

But then a young student said loudly, "Are you comfortable in that kitchen? Are you comfortable in that field?" "No!" was the unanimous response. "Then why you got to be comfortable here?" the student demanded. "Last night, we decided to have the meeting here on the lawn. Now we want to run. We ain't actin' like black folks."

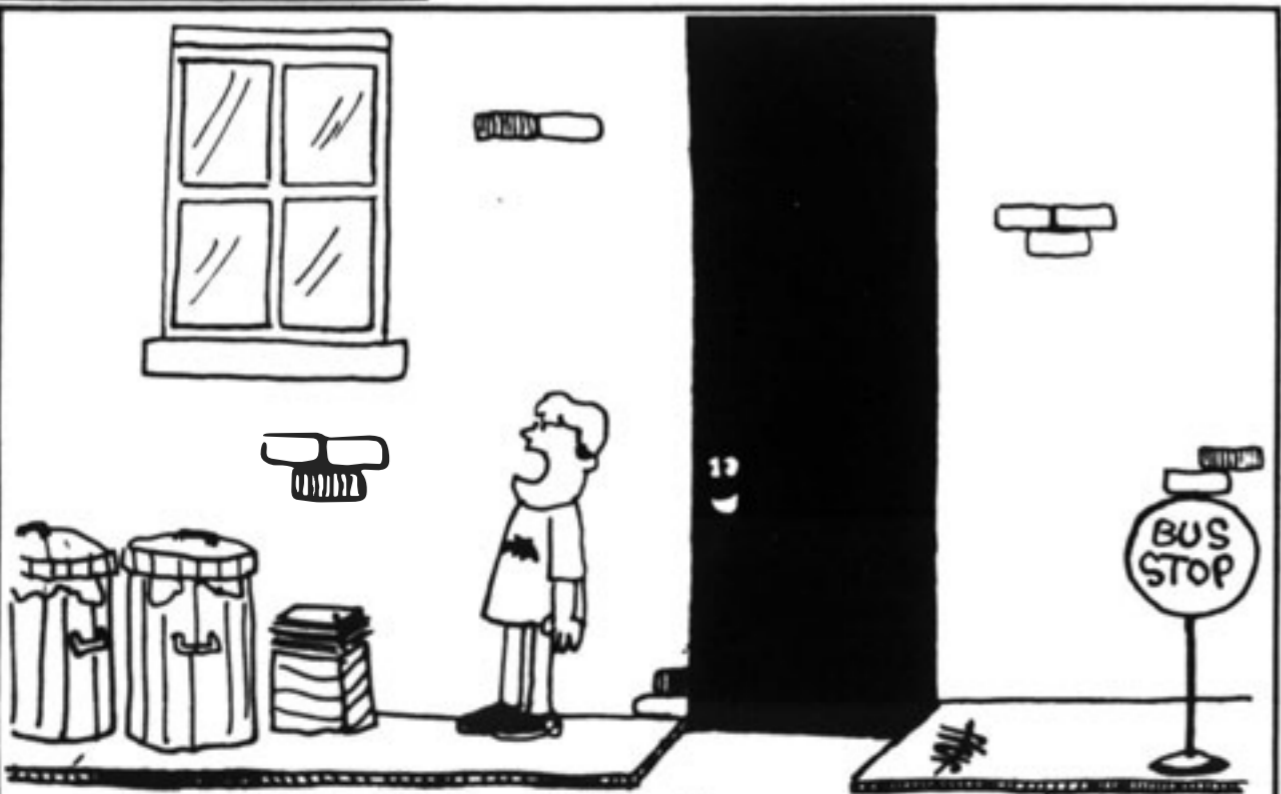
The crowd hesitated, and then decided to stay. Precinct elections were held under darkening skies. White faces peered down from second-story windows of the locked courthouse. "Too bad there aren't any black birds up there," said

Wallace, looking up. By the time the precinct meetings had been completed and delegates had been elected, it was dark. The delegates moved to the St. Francis Center auditorium to hold their county convention.

Wallace, a Negro, was elected chairman of the county meeting, and Miss Kathleen Feyen, a white lady, was elected secretary. Twenty delegates and five alternates were chosen to cast Leflore County's five votes at the First Congressional District caucus, held last Wednesday in Winona.

Similar Loyal Democrats' meetings were scheduled in all counties--except Washington and Scott, where the regular Democratic executive committees voted to back the loyalists. District caucuses are being held in all five congressional districts, and the state convention will be at 1:30 p.m. this Sunday, in the Masonic Temple on Lynch Street in Jackson.

Heine-Sight



(John Heine, a 17-year-old native of Birmingham, Ala., is The Southern Courier's new cartoonist. He will take a humorous look at people and events every week or so in this space.)



Birmingham Jazz Festival

The Ham Jams



BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--"Hey, baby . . .
"Give the drummer some!
"Give Momma and Daddy some!
"Give little sister and brother some!
"Give the cops some, too!
"Give everybody some!"

And everybody gets some at Birmingham's annual jazz festival--some good "soul" music, that is. Momma, Daddy, little brother and sister, Catholic nun, preacher and teacher--they all come to hear it. Soul music is also known as "sole" music here, because it stimulates not only the heart and mind, but also the soles of your feet.

Photos and Text

By Melvin I. Todd



'Nothing's Changed at All' Marks After the Campaign

BY STEVE VAN EVERA

MARKS, Miss. -- One day last spring, the Poor People's Campaign began with a march from Memphis, Tenn., to Marks. Later, several Quitman County residents climbed aboard mule-drawn wagons here, to begin a grueling trip to Washington, D. C., and Resurrection City.

The last of these people returned from Washington in late July--tired but wiser. After their return, they talked about their experiences in the Poor People's Campaign.

"We did not get anything out of those people (Washington officials)," said Mrs. Mary Jones of Marks. But, she said, "I'm glad I went. I learned something from it. I found out they's just as bad there as these people down here."

"Nothing's changed at all," said Mrs. Jones, "and it made things worse back here, because now people pick at us. The so-called (police) patrol makes it so you can't hardly walk the street. Some people lost their jobs who went."

Nelson Taylor was one of those who lost their jobs. His 16-year-old son participated in a demonstration in Marks last April, and then left for Washington to join the Poor People's Campaign.

The day after the demonstration, Taylor said, he was "laid off" from his job with the Marks sanitation department, where he had worked for nine years.

"I didn't expect to get fired," he said. "It wasn't fair for them to do it. But I'm still happy my son went. He was doin' something for our poor class of

*Photos by
Bob Labaree*



MARKS NEIGHBORHOOD FLOODED AFTER RAIN

people." Local leader William Franklin said he was bitter and disillusioned over the way the campaigners were received in Washington.

"We went all the way to Washington and didn't get a damn thing," Franklin said. "Ain't NOthin' changed! We feel like those people up there did us wrong...."

"They kept the only promise they made--with tear gas."

"We asked to get a factory here in Marks, schoolin' and milk and stuff for

the children, and we got nothin'!" Franklin continued. "A fellow from CBS News just came by, askin' did we think we accomplished anything. I told him no, not a damn thing...."

"I thought we'd get something out of Washington. I honestly did. I thought if we would go and tell 'em face to face what it was like down here, if they had a heart in their body they'd help feed us, anyway. But we was just wastin' our time."

"In a way it was worth it, though," Franklin said. "You know the way up

until now they always tell us, 'It's just them white folks in Mississippi that doin' it to you.' Well, now we know it ain't so. It's Washington--they's just as bad."

Franklin was particularly critical of Orville Freeman, U. S. Secretary of Agriculture, and of U. S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark.

"We went into Orville Freeman's office, told them what we wanted, and they just sat an' looked at us," he recalled. "Finally, we said we'd give 'em ten days to give us an answer. They said they'd write us. We ain't heard from one of 'em yet."

"We went to Ramsey Clark," Franklin added, "and I swear he is as bad as ANYONE down here!"

Mrs. Lee Dora Collins went with Franklin to Washington. All she has to

show for it, she said, is a \$23 hospital bill and a bruised back.

"About the fourth day after we got into Washington, we were protesting around the Department of Agriculture," she explained. "Just standin' and prayin', not doin' anything, no profane language, not throwin' anything. Then the police come in, hittin' everybody with the clubs."

"We had the little children there with us, and we had to get them out of there, so they wouldn't get hurt. I got struck across the back, went to the hospital. It was a cop who hit me."

Was the campaign worth it?

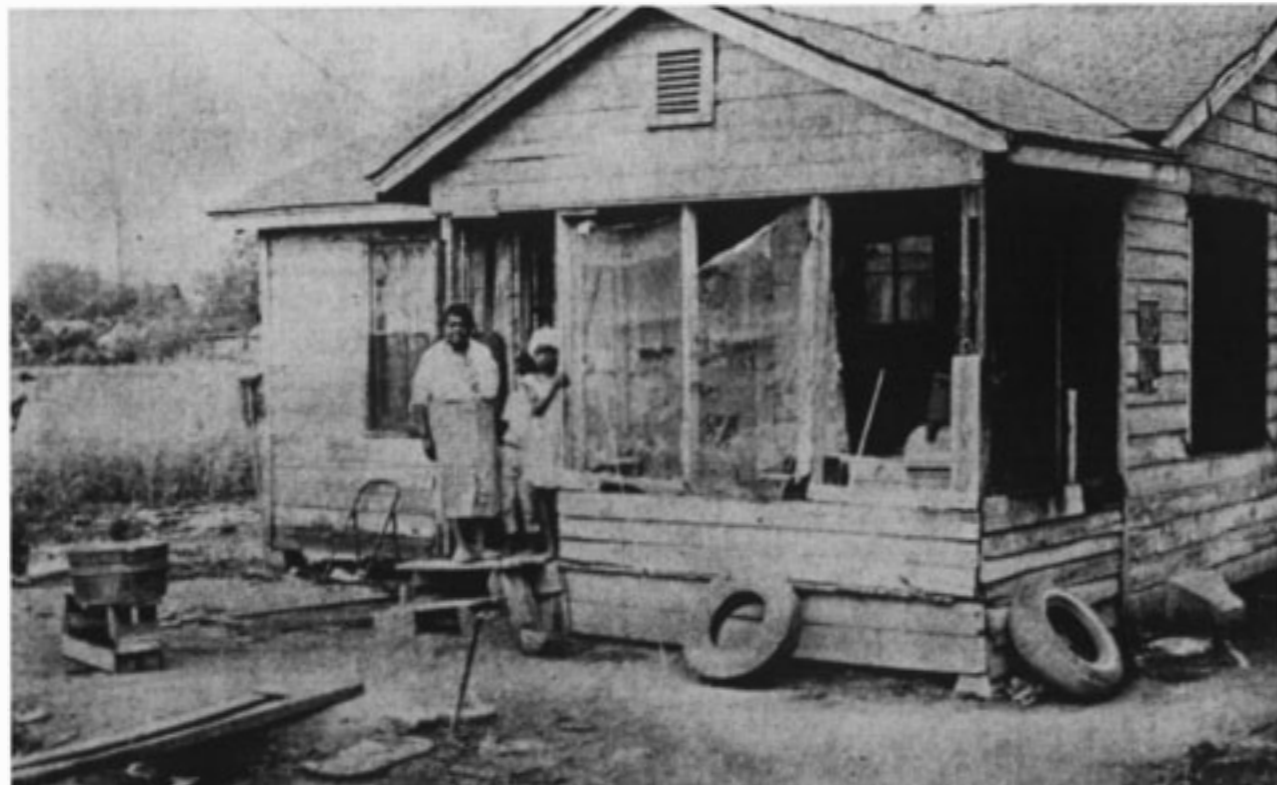
"Well, I'm glad I went," said Mrs. Collins. "But I sure ain't pleased with the results. I was goin' for a purpose, to try to do all in my power to better conditions in my county. Hundreds and

hundreds of people have no jobs here in Quitman County."

"We ought to give them one or two years, and if they still haven't done anything, we ought to go back to Washington and do the same thing," she said. But Franklin disagreed. "We shouldn't go to Washington again," he said. "We got to do work right here in this town--get rid of these damn city commissioners, start polittickin' against them the same way they polittick against us."

"We got more than half colored folks in this town, so we can do it. We got to use politics on them. We got to get these Negroes together and decide what to do, and do it."

"Our conditions are just gettin' poorer and poorer," Franklin said. "We got to find some solution."



LIFE'S STILL THE SAME FOR MARKS PEOPLE

Popular Game at Talladega

Anyone for Tennis?

BY FRANKLIN HOWARD
TALLADEGA, Ala.-- The summer staff of Talladega College's Upward Bound program has discovered the game of tennis.

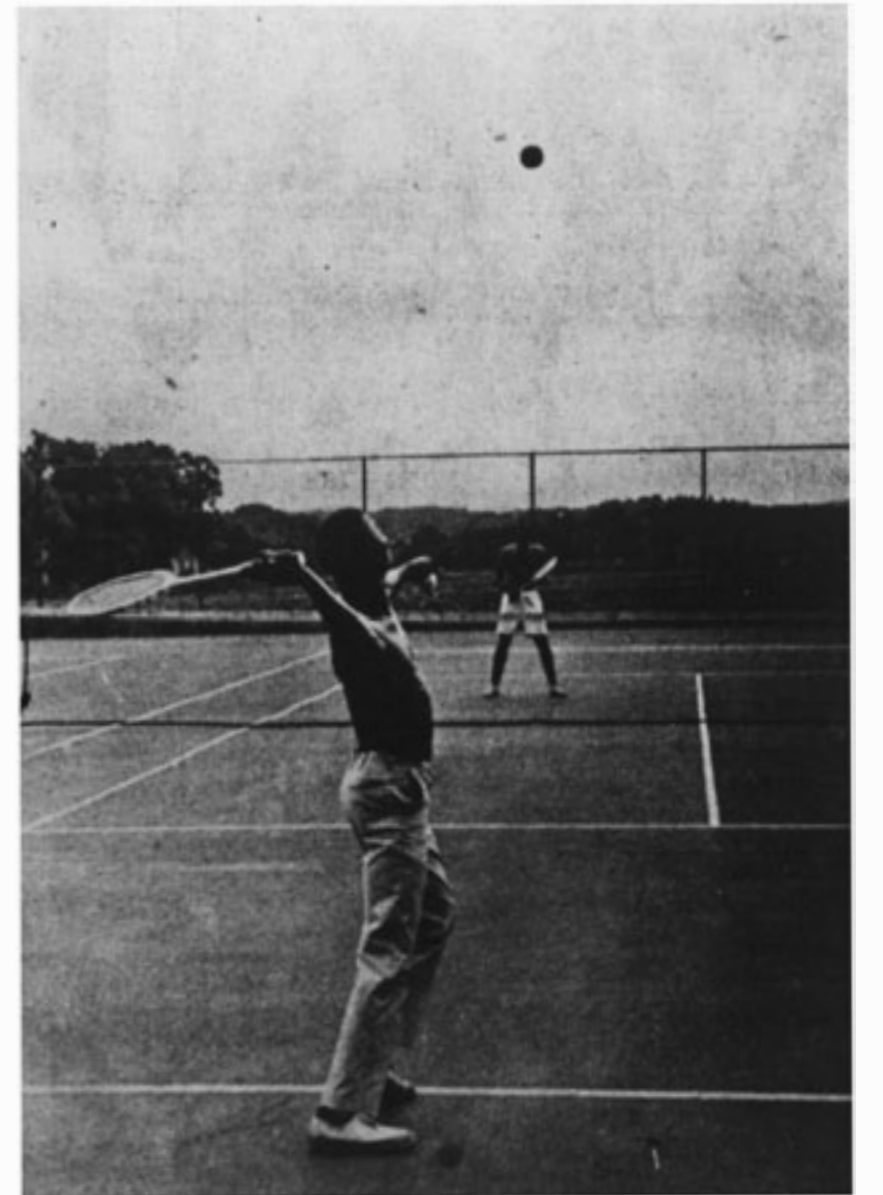
"Tennis is a most effective way to release tensions and thwart frustrations," said one enthusiast. "It is a wonderful feeling to let go with a hard drive across the nets, instead of letting go at a fellow worker."

The tennis courts at Talladega College are constantly filled with off-duty staff members, who play as many as four and five sets per day.

You don't usually see much tennis played in Alabama. But the staff workers from Talladega and nearby areas seem just as interested as the volunteers from Colby College in Maine and Dartmouth College in New Hampshire.



MAKING A RETURN



HERE COMES THE SERVE

Negro Policemen Win Fla. Suit

But Sgt. Jones Is Always S-3

NEW ORLEANS, La.--For purposes of patrolling St. Petersburg, Fla., the local police department divides the city into 16 zones.

None of the zones overlaps any other zone, and all the zones get an equal number of police calls, said the U. S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals--"except for zone 13."

"Zone 13," the appeals court noted last week, "is unique in shape and

area," because it is designed to include all the principal Negro neighborhoods and business districts. Every part of zone 13 is also included in another zone, and zone 13 has twice as many police calls as the others.

"Zone 13 is also unique in its patrol force," wrote Circuit Judge John Minor Wisdom. "No white officer is ever assigned to zone 13, (and) no Negro officer is ever assigned to any other zone."

Then, said Wisdom, there is the case of St. Petersburg's only Negro police sergeant, Samuel Jones. Normally, said the judge, two sergeants--designated S-1 and S-2--are in charge of each daily shift.

But "one circumstance disturbs this otherwise regular pattern," Wisdom noted. "Sergeant Jones, when he is working, is always designated S-3. No one else in the department is ever designated S-3, and Jones is never given the duties or designation of S-1 or S-2."

"Sergeant Jones' duties are vaguely defined," the judge said. "The chief of police testified (in a district-court hearing) that (Jones) 'more or less' sets his own hours."

Wisdom made his observations in a Fifth Circuit decision on a discrimination suit brought by 12 of St. Petersburg's Negro policemen. Reversing a lower-court decision, the Fifth Circuit ruled that St. Petersburg's assignment of policemen only to Negro areas is illegal and unconstitutional.

The lower court had ruled that the assignments were made solely for the purpose of police efficiency.

But, said Judge Wisdom, "arbitrary racial classifications cannot be condoned because of the often delicate and sensitive nature of police work. . . . Of course, if police efficiency were an end in itself, the police would be free to put an accused (person) on the rack. Police efficiency must yield to constitutional rights."

What the police department did, Wisdom said, "was to superimpose on natural geographic zones an artificial zone that rests on the department's judgment of Negroes as a class. "The department concluded that Negroes as a class are suitable only for the zone appropriately numbered 13. This is the kind of badge of slavery the 13th Amendment condemns."

Jeff Davis Ruling OK

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN MONTGOMERY, Ala. -- The U. S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals has upheld a tough desegregation order against the Montgomery County school system. The appeals court did make some changes, however.

The order--handed down last spring by U. S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr.--said, among other things, that the school board must honor the choices of all Negroes who want to go to the new Jefferson Davis High School.

The Fifth Circuit approved this requirement--noting that 150 Negro students have chosen to attend Jeff Davis, which has a capacity of 967. The appeals court pointed out, however, that Johnson said Negroes' choices can be denied in "compelling circumstances."

"We cannot be certain as to (Johnson's) intended meaning of the term 'compelling circumstances,'" said the Fifth Circuit. "We interpret the term to embrace those reasons which are inherent in and are supported by proper standards of sound school administrative procedure, giving due consideration to all factors and circumstances which are proper to be considered in passing upon such choices."

The Fifth Circuit opinion--written by Circuit Judge Walter Gwinn--said there is "some evidence" to support Judge Johnson's conclusion that the Montgomery County school board was trying to make Jeff Davis an all-white institution.

The appeals court also upheld Johnson's ruling that one out of every six teachers in white schools this fall must be Negro, and one out of every six teachers in Negro schools must be white.

However, Gwinn went on, "because of the difficulties inherent in achieving a precise 5-to-1 ratio, this part of (Johnson's) order should be interpreted to mean SUBSTANTIALLY or APPROXIMATELY 5 to 1." And the court threw out various other strict numerical requirements that Johnson had made. The Fifth Circuit said Judge Johnson was correct to order assignment of teachers across racial lines, "since efforts to achieve faculty desegregation by voluntary means have failed."

Gwinn praised the Montgomery school system for its record on desegregation, saying this is the "very first time" the appeals court has had to handle the case.

FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

In Alabama all our yesterdays are marred by hate, discrimination, injustice, and violence. Among the organizations working for a better tomorrow on the principle of human brotherhood is the Alabama Council on Human Relations. Membership in the Council is open to all who wish to work for a better tomorrow on this principle. For further information, write the Alabama Council, P.O. Box 1310, Auburn, Alabama.



Thomas Reed Says:

- 1. The patient load at the Tuskegee Veterans Administration has been reduced. It is alleged that the outlook is for a reduction in the number of patients. In the last four years, not a single new industry has come to Tuskegee. Additional jobs must be provided. Thomas Reed can, and will, bring industry to the Tuskegee area to provide jobs for our people.
2. People on Colbert Street were told that they must pay \$125 or more to run a sewer line from the center of the street to the property line. Why such a high fee for such a short distance of about 24 feet? Thomas Reed, as your mayor, will work out a lower fee on the running of a sewer line.
3. One of our leading contractors was told that he must pay \$6 a running foot for the same type work that other contractors were charged \$1.50 to \$2 per foot. Why?
4. Do not trade your vote for a load of dirt or a street paved in a hurry.
5. People in some sections have free street lights, while people in

- other sections must pay for street lights. We ask why.
6. People in Mitchell Heights were told that they must pay for streets to be paved. Why?
7. The dirt is ours already. Do not be misled by a street being paved. They are being paved with our money.
8. City trucks and men are being used to do jobs that cost thousands of dollars, while people on Brickyard Hill and other sections are within hollering distance of city water but do not have it.
9. Four years is a long time to keep people waiting for a drink of water.
Thomas Reed spoke for free food for the poor and low-income people; worked to get the city limits extended; worked on voter registration; worked with the group that was responsible for keeping the Macon County Hospital open; has provided jobs for people of our community; and has always worked for a better relationship between our communities.

Please Vote Thomas Reed for Mayor
May God Continue to Bless Us All

(Pd. Pol. Adv. by Thomas Reed, Tuskegee, Ala.)



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

G. I. BILL STUDENTS--Veterans who plan to enter school this fall under the G. I. Bill should apply now for their Veterans Administration Certificate of Eligibility, and avoid the fall rush. Veterans already in training under the G. I. Bill who plan to change programs or schools this fall must also obtain new Certificates of Eligibility from the V. A. Veterans entering school for the first time should contact their nearest local V. A. office, and veterans who are changing programs should contact the V. A. regional office which maintains their records.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS--"Spirit" is the subject of the Lesson-Sermon to be read in all Christian Science churches Sunday, Aug. 11. Among Bible selections included in the Lesson-Sermon is a verse from II Timothy: "For God hath not given us the Spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

COAST GUARD ACADEMY--The annual competition for admission to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut, will begin with the College Entrance Examination Board test next Dec. 7. Applications to take this test must be sent to the Education Testing Service in Princeton, New Jersey, before Nov. 2. Appointments to the Coast Guard Academy are made solely on merit--there are no congressional appointments or geographical quotas. To qualify, an applicant must have reached his 17th--but not his 22nd--birthday by July 1, 1969. Applicants must have a high school education, and must be in excellent physical condition. Additional information and application forms can be obtained from your high school guidance counselor or by writing to Director of Admissions, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, New London, Conn. 06320.

WANT ACTION?--Come to Shelby, Miss., for some real action. The Shelby Education Committee wants you. We are conducting a very successful boycott, but we need you to help with the picketing. And we need people to help with Operation Black, teaching African culture and crafts. Food and housing will be provided. Call Mrs. L. C. Dorsey at 324-7393 in Shelby, or Mrs. Lucinda Young at 324-7373.

SWAFCA JOBS--The closing date for applications for employment with the Southwest Alabama Farmers Cooperative Association (P. O. Box 956, Selma, Ala. 36701) has been extended until Aug. 15. SWAFCA hires its personnel on the basis of qualifications, regardless of race, color, creed, or national origin.

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 265-9992. Meet Baha'ullah.

VETERANS--If you are retired from the armed forces because of a disability, and you have not filed a claim for compensation from the Veterans Administration, you may be losing money. You cannot receive military retirement benefits and disability compensation at the same time. But you CAN choose the benefit that will pay you the most. And severely disabled enlisted men will usually get more from V. A. disability compensation than they will from retirement pay.

WELFARE RECIPIENTS--Welfare recipients and other poor people seeking to defend themselves against injustices in the welfare system--and to change that system--have organized into the National Welfare Rights Organization (NWRO). NWRO's 171 groups in 31 states have more than 6,000 members, who directly represent the 25,000 welfare recipients in their households. Together they fight for adequate income, dignity, justice, and democracy. There are presently welfare rights groups in the South in Mississippi, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. Anyone wishing to join a group or help form one in his community should write to National Welfare Rights Organization, 1762 Corcoran St. N. W., Washington, D. C. 20009.

HELPING THE POOR--The Neighborhood Organized Workers (NOW) are trying to help deprived people obtain needed income, jobs, and medical treatment. We assist citizens by writing up and filing job complaints and racial-discrimination complaints with the federal government. Equipment, office supplies, and volunteers are desperately needed to aid the poor. To get help, to volunteer, or to make contributions, contact NOW Inc., 1100 Davis Ave., Mobile, Ala. 36603, phone 432-3252.

TRAINING JOBS FOR VETERANS--Government agencies can now hire Viet Nam-era veterans for jobs under special, non-competitive "transitional appointments." These jobs--paying from \$3,776 to \$5,565 a year--are for veterans with less than one year of training beyond high school, who have the required qualifications for the jobs. The veteran must also agree to take at least the equivalent of one school year of education or training under the G. I. Bill. Veterans must have had at least 181 consecutive days of active duty--some part of it after Aug. 4, 1964--to be eligible for these jobs. Veterans remain eligible until one year after their discharge or Feb. 9, 1969, whichever is later. Interested applicants may contact any government agency they prefer, or any office of the Veterans Administration or the Civil Service Commission, or the Veterans Assistance Center in Atlanta, Ga., or New Orleans, La.

DRIVE DEFENSIVELY--Safe driving requires the adoption of an attitude known as defensive driving. The defensive driver is not timid or over-cautious, but he is determined to take every reasonable precaution to prevent traffic mishaps. Every 11 minutes, someone dies in an automobile accident--six die every hour, 134 die every day. In one year about 52,000 people, the population of a medium-sized town, are wiped out in traffic accidents. One out of every two people living today either has been or will be involved in a crippling or fatal traffic accident. Please remember that daily practice in defensive driving techniques will help prevent your being one of these statistics. Wallace W. Haire, safety director, Montgomery Traffic Commission.

Prof. Val Palmist, Crystal & Psychic Reader WILL TELL YOU EVERYTHING YOU WISH TO KNOW!!!
Would You like to know?
Who and when you should marry? How to always get your wish?
Who your friends and enemies are? Why you are so unlucky?
If the one you love loves you? How to make a person at distance think of you?
If you loved one is true or false? How to win the one you love?
How to restore lost nature? See me!

WHY WORRY! WHEN IT IS ALL SO UNNECESSARY BISHOP GAYLOR
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But It's Only Make-Believe

National Guard Crushes 'Riot'

BY BOB LABAREE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--Visitors at the Air National Guard openhouse last Saturday learned first-hand that there will be nothing to worry about if a civil rights or peace demonstration ever gets out of hand.

Several hundred people--including a handful of Negroes--lined the air-strip at Birmingham's Municipal Airport, and watched as a dozen long-haired, ragged men staged a protest.

The men carried sticks and rocks, and held signs saying "Make Love, Not War," "Rats Eat Free, Why Can't We?" and "Where's My Welfare Check?"

"We want those guys downtown to know we're sick and tired of living the way we are," the protest leader yelled over a bull-horn. "The federal government hasn't been doin' enough for us, and if we don't get what we want, we're gonna take it!"

When three Guardsmen approached with billy-clubs to disperse the demonstrators, the officers were immediately beaten to the ground and robbed.

"Don't you worry about them," the protest leader said, pointing down the strip to where a squad of gas-masked Guardsmen, with bayonets drawn, advanced in an orderly column. "They won't do anything to you. They're scared of you."

The two sides clashed a few feet in front of the onlookers. Bricks and rocks bounced off the Guardsmen's helmets, and for a minute it looked like the mob of demonstrators might win.

But the tide of battle turned when a helicopter swept low over the demonstrators and sprayed them with tear gas. The crowd laughed and applauded enthusiastically as the mob fled.

Major General G. Reid Doster, Alabama Air National Guard commander, had explained the day before that the "riot" was just a part of Saturday's program to highlight the Air Guard's many activities.

The rocks and tear gas were just rub-



GEN. G. REID DOSTER

ber props and harmless smoke, he said, and the "mob" was just some Guardsmen wearing costumes.

The "demonstrators"--like the Guardsmen who opposed them--were all white. Some of them were dressed up to represent hippies.

But Doster made it clear that it's not white people he expects to cause the kind of riot the Guardsmen put down on Saturday.

"It's mainly the ngra community we're talking about," he said. "It's here that most of this kind of trouble has

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(CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWO)

to work together to get it."

But DeMent took a different view. "Didn't you say that nigras should rob, riot, and burn to get what they want?" he asked. "Didn't you urge Negroes to burn and steal? Didn't you bitterly denounce your police department and sheriff?"

"I certainly did not," Miller replied. "I said that some folks was so poor you could hardly blame them for rioting."

been coming from."

To Doster, riots are an economic problem. "They've been promised so much that it's impossible to fulfill," he said. "This is the cause of a lot of your trouble."

Then, too, he added, "a lot of this is communist--inspired. It's well-known that people are being trained in Cuba for this sort of thing."

Doster commands Task Force India, a specially-trained riot-control group that can be called in if local police need help. But because "great strides have been made here in Birmingham," Doster said, he doesn't think his men will have to be used. He also credited peace in Birmingham to "an extremely intelligent ngra leadership."

The general said he numbers A. G. Gaston--Birmingham's millionaire Negro banker and insurance man--among his friends. "He's the wealthiest and probably the most responsible leader in the ngra community," Doster said.

Doster admitted that the Alabama National Air Guard--"a 100% volunteer organization"--has few Negroes in it.

"Not many (Negroes) volunteer," he said. "In fact, we discriminate against the whites. We accept every one of them (Negroes) who qualifies, but not all the whites."

Why don't more Negroes volunteer? "I don't know the answer to that," Doster replied. "Of course, we expect a lot around here--it's hard. Maybe they don't like law and order. Maybe they don't like to wear a uniform. I don't know."

Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights

The weekly meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 12, in the First Baptist Church, Kingston, the Rev. G.W. Dickerson, pastor.



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(Pd. Pol. Adv. by C. M. Keever, Tuskegee, Ala.)