

A City Without Blackness

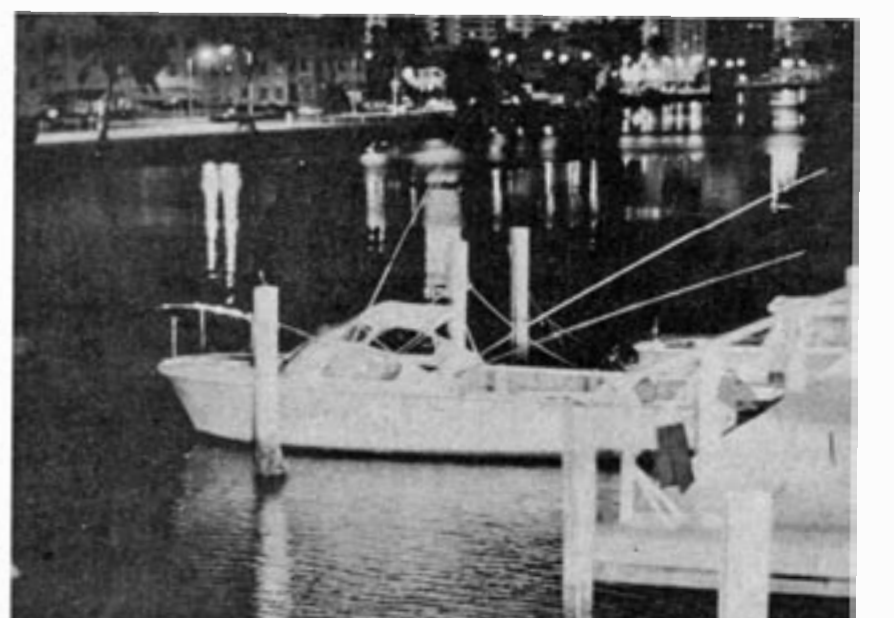
MIAMI BEACH, Fla.--The site of the Republican National Convention is sometimes called a "magic city," because of its elaborate beach resorts and luxurious hotels.

As you enter this year-round vacation-land, you notice its skyscrapers towering high above palm trees, broad avenues, and pleasant blue waters. You can only feel that this is a city of vivid beauty.

But this is also a city that brushes aside the problems of black people in America. It can easily be seen that this was a perfect site for the Grand Old Party's overwhelmingly-white convention.

In this city, there is no unemployment problem, there are no ghetto problems, there are no slums. Because in this city, black faces are only sought to entertain the rich. This city can truly be thought of as a city without blackness.

Text & Photos by Kenneth Lumpkin



Politics, Politics, Politics

And the Beat Goes On

3 Delegations Trying To Represent Alabama

GCW Keeps Talking

BY VIOLA BRADFORD
HOUSTON, Tex. -- George C. Wallace brought his third-party presidential campaign to Houston earlier this month, and told his supporters the things they apparently wanted to hear.

The crowd entering the Rice Hotel in downtown Houston was greeted by men in white straw hats trimmed with red, white, and blue ribbons. The men wore white jackets with red, white, and blue handkerchiefs in the pockets, and blue ties with Wallace's name on them. While these American Independent Party supporters bounced around downstairs, the Wallace girls--looking just as patriotic--worked upstairs, directing the crowd to the main ballroom. "On behalf of the Wallace campaign, I welcome you to the fastest-growing political movement in the history of America," said Dick Smith, a Wallace volunteer, in opening the evening's program.

There was silence during the opening prayer, and then suddenly a burst of whooping, whistling, and clapping as Wallace arrived. Taking his place at the front of the ballroom, he saluted his audience three times--to the right, the center, and then the left.

Another former governor of Alabama -- John Patterson, who defeated Wallace in 1958--introduced the presidential candidate.

"I know that his word is good," Patterson said of his old enemy. "If he tells you that he'll restore law and order, let you operate your own schools, and stop the looting and burning, he means it."

And later, at a rally in Delmar Stadium, Wallace repeated what he has said over and over again--that he intends to do just that, even if he has to "put 30,000 policemen on the streets, five feet apart, with three-foot bayonets in their hands."

Wallace's speech at the \$25-a-plate dinner in the hotel ballroom was just a thank-you-for-showing-up and a recitation of his victories in getting on the ballot all over the country.

He saved his big ammunition for his appearance at the stadium, where he was cheered by a crowd of more than 11,000, that filled the place almost to its capacity.

When he is elected, Wallace told the crowd, he will "take every communist



WALLACE ANNOUNCING HIS CANDIDACY

of every defense plant in Texas and in the United States." The crowd roared and hollered as he promised to "turn back, lock, stock, and barrel, the right for states to run their own schools."

As for the new open-housing law, Wallace said, "I'm going to ask that the law be repealed (that puts you in jail for not selling your house or property to whoever you don't want to sell it to)."

Wallace boasted of building fine roads, as well as schools "for all the people," during his term as governor of Alabama. He didn't mention that people in Alabama are still paying for his highways, and that some of the schools he helped to build are segregated private schools.

The former governor condemned draft-card burners, and the people who collect money, clothes, and food for the

draft-resisters. Wallace said these activities raise Hanol's morale, and he called them unpatriotic. But the evidently didn't see anything unpatriotic in the Confederate flags flying in front of him.

Many of the people who came to see Wallace may have been just curious, but most of them seemed to be die-hard supporters--those he considers to be the grass-roots people, who "want to change a lot of things in this country."

They appeared to be poor, plain, ignorant people, who just don't know which way to turn--except to Wallace and his "American way of life."

Above the heads of the crowd in the stadium was a sign that said, "Sock it to 'em, Gov. George." And that is what he did. The crowd left the stadium in a jubilant mood, with Wallace's promises ringing in their ears.



DISCUSSION AT NDPA STATE CONVENTION

BY BOB LABAREE
BIRMINGHAM, Ala.-- At the Democratic National Convention that began this week, the issues for Alabama are George C. Wallace, racism, and political change.

These issues have come up before, in one place or another. But they are coming up again at the convention--in new and sharper form--because of the three-way fight over who will cast Alabama's 32 votes.

The long fight began with the realization that the traditional Alabama Democratic Party (ADP) this year is bound to and controlled by George Wallace.

The ADP has already nominated a slate of presidential electors pledged to Wallace--instead of the eventual national Democratic candidate. And the ADP convention delegation, if it is seated, may still put Wallace up for the Democratic nomination--even though he has said he doesn't want to be the national party's candidate.

Many people think this dedication to Wallace--a third-party candidate--should be enough to disqualify the ADP delegation, if its members are required to take an oath of loyalty to the convention's candidate.

The racism issue was revived earlier this year, when the ADP seemed likely to send an all-white delegation to the convention in Chicago, Illinois. In late February, though, the ADP moved to head off the racism charge, by including Negroes in the delegation for the first time since Reconstruction. In last May's primary, two Negro delegates and five Negro alternates were allowed to run unopposed.

In fact, this year's convention fight--on the surface at least--will probably not be over the racial composition of the delegation, since all three of the competing delegations will have black people on them.

But to the two "challenge" delegations--representing the Alabama Independent Democratic Party (AIDP) and the National Democratic Party of Alabama (NDPA)--the "racist" label still applies to the ADP, if for no other reason than its Wallace sympathies and its long history of segregation.

"Wherever you've got a candidate like George Wallace," said an NDPA speaker this summer, "racism is going to be an issue."

Both of these new groups were

formed at least partly to give Alabamians a way to vote for the national Democratic candidate in this year's presidential election.

Only once since 1948, both groups point out, have electors pledged to the Democratic national candidate appeared on an Alabama ballot. The other times, the Democratic electors have been pledged to Dixiecrats like Strom



DAVID VANN

Thurmond of South Carolina and Wallace.

On the issues of Wallace and racism, the AIDP and NDPA generally agree. Neither party wants Wallace to be a candidate at the convention (and many people in the regular party, including Wallace himself, agree). Both the AIDP and the NDPA say they want an end to racist politics, and both are running "loyalist" elector slates in November.

Then why are the two groups fighting each other? Attorney David Vann--noting that the AIDP's charter papers were filed last December, about a month before the NDPA was formed--said the existence of two loyalist parties in the state threatens the effectiveness of either one.

"I don't call a person loyal if he's dividing the opposition," said Vann, laying the blame for the division on the NDPA.

Since Vann's chief interest is in the November presidential election, his AIDP consists only of party officers, a slate of ten presidential electors, and a list of convention delegates and alternates--all chosen by a committee.

But for Jack Zylman, NDPA executive secretary, the convention fight is about more than Wallace, party loyalty, or even racism.

"Political change for the state of Alabama--that's what it's all about," he

said. "We're not challenging the delegates themselves. We're challenging the whole Democratic Party of Alabama--the same party which has been perpetuating racist politics here...and which has been helping to oppress the poor black and white people of Alabama for so long."

To implement this challenge, the NDPA held a convention last month in Birmingham, where 126 delegates from all 67 counties chose candidates--most of them black--to run for local, state, and national offices against ADP and Republican candidates in November.

"We're out to change the politics of this state," said Zylman. "If he (Vann) were out to change anything, he would be doing the same thing."

The detailed, ten-page platform adopted by the convention clarified the NDPA's differences with the ADP (which has no platform and held no convention).

In the platform, the NDPA called for such reforms as tax revisions to benefit the poor, aid to the small farmer, state backing for school integration, training in race relations for local police, replacement of the draft with a volunteer army, and re-channeling of military spending for domestic needs.

Some People Are Asking

Who Needs Conventions?

BY JOHN C. DIAMANTE

CHICAGO, Illinois -- Every four years, more and more people become disenchanted with the convention as a way of choosing the major parties' presidential candidates. Many people found the Republican convention's windy speeches and phony demonstrations especially offensive this year, in view of the serious questions facing the nation.

Back in the days when people traveled by rail and communicated by telegraph, the national convention brought politicians from different regions together, so they could decide on their party's nominee for the White House.

At these conventions, the writing of the platform served as the definition of common interests. The hours of oratory, the staged demonstrations of support for different candidates, and the conferences in smoke-filled back rooms--where the party's most powerful men balanced their regional interests--all played a real part in the selection of a nominee.

Now, however, the platform is a gesture that is quickly forgotten in the campaign. Politicians (or anyone else) can cross the country in four hours, and modern communications enable party leaders from New York, San Francisco, and all points in between to keep up to date on each other's problems.

Furthermore, television coverage is gradually forcing private arrangements out of the back rooms and into the living room. TV also emphasizes the absurdity of endless favorite-son nominations, and of manufactured demonstrations. The Republicans looked so bad, in fact, that the Democrats have banned all floor demonstrations at their convention here.

The power of television is so great that Richard M. Nixon--asked if he won't be handicapped by the fact that his GOP running mate, Spiro T. Agnew, is virtually unknown--replied that Agnew will be a familiar national figure in a matter of weeks, mainly because



IS THIS REALLY NECESSARY?

of TV. So why, people are asking, do we need conventions? Why not replace the convention with something like a national primary?

This would involve campaigning across the nation, chiefly through television, by those who want their party's nomination. Then, instead of the state primaries and the convention, each party would have a nation-wide primary, where party members in all 50 states would decide directly who they want to run for the presidency.

But others say conventions are necessary, because the party system would fall apart if representatives of state and local branches couldn't get together every four years to meet and talk with one another (along with whooping it up for five days). Senator Eugene J. McCarthy has even proposed holding conventions every two years--in election

years to nominate candidates, and in other years to discuss national issues. Still others propose a combination of convention and national primary. Under this plan, the convention would merely narrow down the choices for the nomination. Then the two or three top choices would run in a national primary. If such a system were in use now, the Republicans would have run Nixon, New York Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller, and California Governor Ronald Reagan in the national primary. And the Democrats would probably have run McCarthy, Vice-President Hubert H. Humphrey and South Dakota Senator George McGovern.

But attempts to modernize politics have traditionally met with little success in the United States.

For example, a bill introduced in Congress this year would have financed presidential elections out of taxes, with

all major candidates getting the same amount of campaign funds.

Under the bill, private contributions would not be allowed. Thus, every candidate would be more or less equal, and political success would no longer depend--as it often does now--on how much money is available.

The bill's supporters said it would encourage men of principle to enter politics, and would cut down on high-priced advertising gimmicks and on the practice of making promises in return for campaign contributions.

But in spite of the fact that black people, young people, and others--disgusted with the "old politics"--are groping toward a new system, too many politicians still think they have too much to lose by changing the way the world's most powerful office is filled. The campaign-fund bill--like most other attempts at change--got nowhere.



NDPA LEADERS AT STATE MEETING

John Cashin at Lectern--Congressional Candidates Boone and Branch at Right

Though Accuser Fails to Appear

White B'ham Officer Fired



By BOB LABAREE
BIRMINGHAM, Ala. -- Early in the morning last April 28, two Birmingham policemen arrested Clarence Marble, a Negro, for drunkenness in the coffee shop of the Municipal Airport. Five days later, Marble signed a complaint charging the two arresting officers and several others with brutality.

Without Marble's personal testimony, Beddow said, the case against Batson depended mainly on the second-hand testimony of two police officers.

about such a small thing, when so many big things were going on."

Beddow's defense lasted only a few minutes--just long enough to offer as evidence Batson's personnel file, Marble's record of past arrests, and statements by people who saw the April 28 arrest. No defense witnesses were called, and Batson never testified.

But where was the main witness, Clarence Marble?

Captain Jack Warren, head of the internal investigations division, said

Marble left town a few days before the hearing, to get a job in Tennessee. But neighbors said Marble was visiting his ailing sister in Nashville, Tenn., and had not returned for the hearing because she took a turn for the worse.

Marble's employer at the Birmingham News said Marble had resigned from his job in late July, after another arrest for drunkenness. Beddow claimed that Marble had been fired.

If he wishes to, Batson can now take his case to Circuit Court.

"No sir, it wasn't," Gullion replied.
"Were there any witnesses to the conversation?"
"No sir."
Sergeant Frank Horn of the internal investigations division said Batson gave him a similar answer on another occasion, also without witnesses. Horn also testified that Batson said "he didn't know why such a fuss was being made

The complaint began an investigation by the police department's Division of Internal Affairs and Investigations. And on May 9, a young policeman named William Batson was dismissed from duty, charged with putting an empty gun to Marble's head and clicking the trigger.

On Aug. 12, Batson's appeal of his dismissal was denied by the Jefferson County Personnel Board, by a vote of 2 to 1.

In a hearing before the personnel board Aug. 1, Oden Hamm Jr. and John DeLoach--the officers who arrested Marble--testified that they were in the coffee shop when Marble entered, staggering and mumbling incoherently.

They said Marble sat down at a table with a white woman who immediately moved away, but they didn't arrest him until a waitress complained to them that he had been in the shop earlier, causing a disturbance.

"They called me a black smart nigger, talking to a white woman," Marble said in his complaint. "They took off my glasses, and beat me with their fists."

In the car on the way to the Eastlake police station, Marble said, "they hit me on the side with their sticks." After that, he said, "when we got to another place, they took me out of the car and stood me up, and some other officers came and somebody snapped a gun at my head, but it wasn't loaded."

Marble never definitely identified Batson as the officer with the gun.

Later, at the police station, Marble said in his complaint, one of the officers brought out a white female prisoner, and said, "Nigger, here's a white woman. You want her in there with you?"

But at the hearing, Marble's testimony was offered only on paper. He never appeared in person. Several times during the hearing, Roderick Beddow Jr., Batson's attorney, pointed this out.

"We haven't had anybody come before the personnel board and say that this man (Batson) held a gun to his head," Beddow argued. "This man has a right to be confronted by his accuser."

Alabama Christian
Movement for Human Rights
The weekly meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 26, in the St. James Baptist Church, 1200 St. N., the Rev. C. W. Sewell, pastor. This will be the second annual Youth Night, featuring the Rev. Robert Smith Jr.

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Troy CAP

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWO)
this going for two or three years--it's not like it's something new."

Another program that Dickinson worked on--a \$72,000 legal-services project--has run into opposition from local attorneys, Schroeder said.


So, said Schroeder, the CAP board has voted to use the \$72,000 for Operation Face-Lift instead. In this program, the CAP trains "hard-core" unemployed people in basic skills, and then pays their salaries while they learn job skills from a private employer. When the people are trained, the employer puts them on his own payroll.

Convention

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)
taxi-drivers' strikes, which have considerably disturbed the convention already.

Daley has lined up 26,000 officers to handle demonstrations or riots--including more than 5,000 National Guard troops. The convention hall area has been sealed off with barbed wire, and Army jeeps cruising through the city are covered with the wire, to keep demonstrators from climbing on them.

Despite these measures, protests are still planned by many groups--including the Poor People's Campaign, which is bringing a mule-train and several demonstrators to Chicago.



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'Run-Around' On Hospital Board?

BY FRANCES STUBBS
TALLADEGA, Ala.-- The Talladega Improvement Association is trying to get black representatives on the Citizens Hospital trustee board. But, charged TIA President Milton Hurst, "they're going to try to give us the run-around."

A TIA committee met Aug. 1 with George Wooten, a hospital trustee, and Jack Hethcox, an administrator. The TIA demands were to be presented to the hospital board this week.

Frank Strickland, a member of the TIA committee, said an earlier meeting with Hethcox had not gained very much. After that meeting, he said, Hethcox had reported to the hospital board that the TIA wanted further explanation of the board's composition and operation.

"That is not what we wanted," Strickland said. "We want Negroes placed on the board--and we do mean Negroes. We think our objective is fair and reasonable."

The board is made up of seven people, elected from the ranks of the Hospital Association by the members of the association. It is said that it costs \$250 to join the association.

Some Negroes might pay that much to join, said Strickland, but no one has ever solicited them.

But even if Negroes get into the association, Hurst said, he is afraid of a "run-around, so we'll end up on the association, but not on the board. We want special concessions, and we're not ashamed to say it."

"If Negroes join the association," Strickland added, "I doubt that any would be elected to the board, unless new rules are written or the rules are revised to allow Negroes to be placed on the board. A few Negroes in the association can't beat the white majority otherwise."

"We feel that we are deserving of a place on the trustee board of the hospital," he continued. "We also feel we are deserving of some choice as to which Negroes are placed on the board--not let the whites select whom they think is representative."



MILTON HURST

Judge Strikes Down Indianola Picket Law

BY J. SMITH
CLARKSDALE, Miss.--U. S. District Judge William C. Keady has ordered the city of Indianola to stop enforcing an ordinance that forbids groups to parade or picket without a permit.

Judge Keady ruled that the parade ordinance is in conflict with the First and 14th Amendments to the U. S. Constitution.

Carver Randle, president of the Sunflower County NAACP, had filed a suit against the city when he could not get a permit for a march to dramatize the economic boycott in Indianola. Three consecutive requests for a permit--two of them in writing--were denied.

When Judge Keady threw out the ordinance, Randle said, "Our (NAACP) branch is overjoyed and ready for more action," indicating that the boycott will continue.

"I feel that the achievement by our branch during the past week is definitely one the black man can cherish for many years to come," Randle said.

Coach 'Real Nice Guy' 3 'Soul Men' Star For Formerly-White School

ALEXANDER CITY, Ala.-- Last year, Charles Lee was the coach of a 9-1 football team that won the Border Conference championship for Benjamin Russell High School.

And he was also the man who wholeheartedly welcomed three Afro-American athletes (as they prefer to call themselves) to the formerly all-white school. With his inspiration, these athletes led the freshman football team to an undefeated 6-0 season, and the freshman basketball team to a respectable 11-11 mark against Montgomery junior high competition.

Actually, these three student-athletes--James Berry, Sheryl Oliver, and Charley Thomas--planned to leave Russell after last year. But mainly because of the kindness and fairness shown them by Coach Lee, they said, they found it impossible to leave.

Oliver, one of the "soul men of Russell"--as the three athletes have come to be known--said the coach is "a real nice guy." Oliver and the others agreed that Lee's apparent blindness as to the color of a boy's face--and his eagle eye for spotting athletic ability--will attract other black athletes to Russell.

This year, Coach Lee expects Berry, Oliver, and Thomas to be three-sport letter-men as sophomores--Berry in football, basketball, and baseball, and Oliver and Thomas in football, basketball, and track.

At the annual football award banquet last year, freshman Coach Danny Hyatt said, "Three years from now, Coach Lee expects these boys to be state champions."

"There's not a man alive that deserves a state football champion more," Thomas said afterwards. "And if I had to play my heart out for anyone, I'd rather do it for Coach Lee."

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Q. My friends and I think the feminine look of ruffles, ruffles, ruffles is yummy. But the inside of the collars get dirty in just a few hours. Can we get around washing them every time we wear them -- and then ironing all those ruffles? Ugh!

A. Ugh is right! Keeping those pretty pastel ruffles clean is a problem for everyone. Carry a Kleenex tissues purse pack. Whenever you get the chance, pat the back of your neck firmly. Some of the oils and perspiration and the dirt will be absorbed -- before they're absorbed on your clean collar! An additional trick: after wearing the blouse or dress the first time, "wash" only the inside of the collar with a tightly wrung out washcloth or sponge. Hang the garment on a plastic hanger; and stuff Kleenex paper towels in the shoulders. Not only will the collar dry quickly, but you won't have to get out the iron at all!

Q. Is there any way to keep clothes with wide necklines or thin straps from falling off the hanger? Especially the groovy

new thin-strapped sun dresses. It's really frustrating.

A. It is frustrating, but the solution is easy. Coat a hanger with glue. Wrap yarn, in a color that blends or contrasts with the color of your room, around the entire hanger. Zany, isn't it? But it works beautifully.

Q. I love the Pow-color patent shoes this year! I must have five pairs! But, how do I polish them -- or do I polish them?

A. You're right! "Powy-patents" are great accents for all the mod minis -- and maxis and midis -- and the accompanying wild hosiery. Before you even wear them, apply a thin coat of Vaseline with a Kleenex paper towel. Leave it overnight. Wipe off any excess in the morning, and they're already partially protected from dirt! When the shoes do become dirty, use a Kleenex paper towel with soap 'n water to wash and rinse them. A soft brush might be needed for stubborn scratches. Last step: a dry lint-free paper towel can be used to buff back the natural glow and color.

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