

## Judge Godbold Speaks at Auburn

# 'Don't Recognize Right To Break Laws of U.S.'

BY MARY ELLEN GALE  
AUBURN, Ala.--"I do not recognize the right of any citizen to break the laws of the United States," said U. S. Circuit Judge John C. Godbold of Montgomery.

"But in a great many instances, what we define as civil disobedience is not disobedience at all--but the exercise of important and vital rights in a cause which happens to be unpopular."

For example, said Godbold, the Selma-to-Montgomery civil rights march in 1965 was "not disobedience at all, but compliance with the law."

At times, the judge noted, people disobey one law to affirm another--or to test the constitutionality of a law they believe is unjust.

"As a judicial officer of the United States, I cannot accept this procedure as appropriate," said Godbold.

But, he said, he sees a distinction between such law-breakers and people who simply violate the law for private reasons.

There is "a difference, at least, in the quality of the wrong" when a violator still recognizes the "supremacy of the law" and willingly accepts the consequences of his action, the judge said.

Godbold is one of 15 judges on the U. S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, which interprets federal law for six Southern states, including Alabama. He came to Auburn University last Monday to discuss the legal history of the civil rights movement.

Godbold's visit was intended to help prepare the students for this year's Auburn Conference on International Affairs. The three-day conference--to be held Feb. 21-23--will center on "human rights." Civil rights leader Whitney Young, national head of the Urban League, will be one of the main speakers.

Judge Godbold told several hundred students and faculty members that the right to peaceful protest is an important constitutional guarantee.

"Suppose 50 people march to City Hall," he said. "To many Americans, this is illegal conduct."

"But it is not illegal because the participants are Negroes, or Negroes and (CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX, Col. 1)



STUDENT QUESTIONS JUDGE GODBOLD

## Viet Nam Soldier Claims Jackson Police Beat Him

BY ESTELLE FINE  
JACKSON, Miss.--Robert Wells--a Negro soldier who recently returned from a year in Viet Nam to be treated for malaria--has charged Jackson policemen with beating him after a minor auto accident.

Wells recalled this week that the incident occurred early Jan. 20, as he was driving his cousin, Miss Claudia Wheaton, back to Tougaloo College, where she is a student. Wells said his car was struck by a newspaper truck, and the police were called.

When Wells tried to explain the accident to the two white officers, he charged, one of them told him, "Wait your turn, boy." Wells said he told the police he was on his way to Tougaloo, and Officer O. C. Pace remarked, "So you're one of those smart Tougaloo niggers."

"I'm not a nigger," Wells said he replied. Then, he said, he was hit. The soldier said he told Pace, "Isn't it a shame, I fought in Viet Nam, and have to get treatment like this." He said the officer answered, "They should have killed you there."

Then, said Wells, he was hit in the stomach, handcuffed, and taken to police headquarters, where he was thrown to the pavement and beaten.

Wells said he was beaten until he admitted, "Yes, I'm a smart Tougaloo nigger."

At a hearing Jan. 22, Wells pleaded not guilty to charges of improper passing, resisting arrest, abusive language, assaulting Officer Pace, and assaulting Officer W. B. Inman Jr. Assistant City Attorney Charles Brewer produced eye-witnesses to back up these charges, but the case was continued to last Friday when time ran out.

On Friday, Wells said he was changing his plea to guilty, on the advice of his lawyer, Clarence Scales. Then, after several conferences, city Police Justice J. L. Spencer announced the sentence:

"The prosecution, needless to say, has made a strong case which assures certain conviction on all five charges. However, the law and the courts of this land favor adjustment and settlement of controversies whenever possible.... (CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE, Col. 2)

# DCVL Not Backing Anderson for Mayor

BY BETH WILCOX  
SELMA, Ala.--The all-Negro Dallas County Voters League (DCVL) this week named six candidates to run for City Council seats in the March 5 Democratic primary. But the Rev. L. L. Anderson, a Negro who has qualified as a candidate for mayor, will be running without DCVL backing.

"We said in (our) first meeting we would not recommend a Negro for mayor or president of the city council or for ward 1 on the council," the Rev. W. N. Kemp, chairman of the DCVL nominating committee, told a meeting last Sunday in Brown's Chapel.

"We must keep our word. The first foundation is to get a Negro sitting on the city council. Then we can move on to more."

Anderson--who sat on the stage with the DCVL-backed council candidates--remarked, "You're suggesting that they not support me. That's what you are suggesting."

Then the Rev. Ernest Bradford--one of many people in the meeting who are not DCVL members--asked:

"What does running for mayor have to do with running for city council? If the other man (John Day, a white chiropractor who has also qualified for mayor) were to run, this would take some votes from the incumbent (Mayor Joseph Smitherman). What is the problem in Negroes supporting a man who is unquestionably qualified?"

There are not enough Negroes registered, Kemp replied: "If every Negro went downtown to vote on March 5, we would still be 2,000 votes short."

Kemp said the Rev. F. D. Reese, chairman of the DCVL, "can go down to City Hall and be heard. But if we put someone up for mayor, then (after the white man wins) he'll say 'You didn't put me in.'"

"Ain't no use trying to get to the top --they already said if you give a Negro an inch, he'll take a mile. We ain't ready to take it over yet--because we ain't got the strength. If we had the power, we'd get him in there. The man who doesn't want him (Anderson) is the white man."

"City Hall don't belong to white peo-



REV. L. L. ANDERSON

ple," shouted someone in the audience. The Rev. P. H. Lewis--the DCVL's candidate for ward 4, place 2 on the council--predicted that Day will not run for mayor if a Negro enters the contest.

"Whatever little we got is because Negroes sit around a conference table bargaining," said Lewis.

Lewis said Smitherman had asked him why he and Reese haven't run for a "big office." "The only thing the mayor had in mind was to keep Negroes from getting anything," the minister said.

"In Wilcox County they ran Negroes, not one won. In Lowndes County they ran some, they got nothing. But I'll tell you--we (in Dallas County) do have one or two (Negro) policemen, one or two deputies, a few people working in the telephone offices, people working as clerks or cashiers in stores downtown."

"If my mother were running, I would vote against her," Reese added. "But anybody who feels disposed to can vote for Rev. Anderson--this is not a personality clash."

Besides Lewis, the DCVL recommended the Rev. C. E. Lett, for ward 1, place 2; Edwin Moss, for ward 3, place 1; the Rev. L. R. Harrison, for ward 5, place 1; and Marius J. "Ace" Anderson, for ward 5, place 2.

L. L. Anderson said he is still going to run for mayor.

"We have gone around here for five years whooping and hollering about Negroes in office," he said, "and now we crucify the one who runs."

# SE Ala. Faces School Crisis

BY MARY ELLEN GALE  
TUSKEGEE, Ala. -- A public-school teacher in Tuskegee lost his temper the other day, after his principal said the school would have to "go easy" on heat this winter.

"There's only two good schools in this community--Macon Academy and St. Joseph's," the teacher said angrily.

And one reason for that, he said, is that all-white Macon Academy and mostly-Negro St. Joseph's Parochial School are private schools that don't have to depend on public funds.

The teacher isn't the only person who has noticed that the public schools are desperately short of money this year. Last month, 14 school superintendents from seven counties in Southeast

Alabama became so concerned that they wrote a letter to Governor Lurleen B. Wallace and State Schools Superintendent Ernest Stone.

In the letter, the superintendents said they all face similar problems:

1. The loss of teachers to better-paying systems nearby--such as Muscogee County (Columbus), Ga.
  2. The high cost of busing. "Each county finds it impossible to operate its transportation system on the state allotment," the letter said.
  3. Rising wages for non-teaching employees--such as lunchroom workers--who are covered by federal minimum-wage standards.
- "We are concerned... that if there is not immediate relief, we will have our teachers affiliated with the labor unions rather than with professional organizations," the superintendents wrote.
- And they added, "We feel that the public schools of the state are not now getting a proper share of taxes now collected for schools."

Lee County Schools Superintendent Francis Marshall--who wrote the letter--explained what that means.

In recent years, he said, colleges, trade schools, and junior colleges have taken a large bite out of state funds. The elementary and high schools--which used to get 88% of the money--are now getting about 65% of it, Marshall said: "We think it's as low as it can go."

Marshall said he has received a satisfactory reply to his letter from State Schools Superintendent Stone.

"He said that he's familiar with the problems, and will help any way he can," said Marshall. "That's all he can do. He doesn't call the Legislature together."

Marshall's letter was signed by county and city schools superintendents from Bullock, Chambers, Lee, Macon, Randolph, Russell, and Tallapoosa counties.

Although Marshall said the schools' problems haven't reached a crisis yet, one signer--Macon County Schools Superintendent Joe C. Wilson--said the crisis isn't very far away.

"It's my understanding that it's gonna push some of them (the school systems) to get through this year," Wilson remarked. As for Macon County, he said, "we'll make it by the skin of our teeth--but unless we get some help, I don't know about next year."

One problem, Wilson said, is that "the Legislature didn't put on any additional taxes, but they added all these junior colleges. They raised the teach-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO, Col. 2)

# When It's Raining Hard in East Selma, You Can Go Down the Street in a Boat

BY BETH WILCOX  
SELMA, Ala.--"When it rains, you can't even get out the door," said Leon Russell, looking through a window at the sea of mud outside his house.

"You know, when it rained last time, I saw a man go out of his house in a boat. There were four or five boys in there--my boy and some others--and they paddled clear around the corner in it."

"Water makes so many mosquitoes you can't even set out on the porch in summer," his wife added. "Makes you sick, all this water standing."

Russell, Mrs. Sarah Benjamin, and others asked Mayor Joseph Smitherman for better streets and sewers more than a year ago. Mrs. Benjamin said the people's petition was never answered.

"It's terrible how they do us," she

said. "The road man came out here--you can always tell it's going to rain when he comes--and then the street is just messed up more. Seems like something should be done. You can tell where colored people live--there's no gravel even on the street."

"We're going to vote again for mayor this year," Mrs. Benjamin continued. "We're citizens, you know, and we're supposed to be treated like citizens."

According to Carl Morgan, president of the Selma City Council, street work is planned for the Negro areas of East Selma. But Morgan couldn't say when the work will begin. Bad weather, he said, has held it up until now.

"People don't realize--especially people who live in blighted areas--that most of the work is done on an assessment (tax) basis, Morgan said. "Prop-

erty owners decide what kind of street they want, and are assessed. But if a man (landlord) is only getting \$25 a month rent for a house he owns, he doesn't want to pay \$3 a foot to pave streets in front of that house."

There are other ways streets could be paid for, though, Morgan agreed. Money can be raised by a bond issue, he said, or taken from the city's share of the state gasoline tax.

A survey is now under way, to detail a plan for East Selma, Morgan said. "Go look on Eugene St. and Franklin St.," he said. "That's what we're going to do." (Eugene and Franklin streets run through predominantly - Negro neighborhoods--although the city offices partly face on Franklin.)

"Rev. Reese (F. D. Reese, head of the all - Negro Dallas County Voters League) lives on Eugene St., and some people say that's why we resurfaced that street, but I didn't even know he lived there," Morgan added.

Morgan said two white city council members from East Selma "voice complaints loud and clear about the streets, in council meetings and to the mayor."

Clarence Williams, a local leader, said, "We did organize the Negroes of East Selma to talk with the city council representatives about the open ditch that runs through East Selma. We asked for some lights and signs, too. We did a survey of this area, and found only 97 street lights in a 200-and-some-block area. We did get a few lights--one here and one there."

But on streets, said Williams, there have been no results. "They (city officials) have always said it would cost something," Williams noted. "But then why don't they get together with some of the people, and tell them? They were talking about getting the federal government to finance streets here, too. We got them down to \$1.50 a foot on that. But nothing ever came of it."



STREET IN EAST SELMA



RESIDENTS STAND IN MUDDY ROAD

## Back on ADC

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--Alabama mothers who were cut off Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) because of the "substitute father" rule must be put back on the welfare rolls, according to an order by U. S. Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black.

Civil rights lawyers here said that mothers who think they lost ADC because of a man in the house should check with their local welfare office.



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**'Even an Animal Would Fight for His Children'**

BY ESTELLE FINE

COLUMBIA, Miss.--Two weeks ago, Marion County Attorney Michael Lawless prosecuted Willie Daniel, a Negro farmer, for calling a white man "a goddam white son of a bitch." Daniel was convicted, and fined \$25.

Last Friday, Lawless was prosecuting the white man, high school principal L. L. Autry, on an assault and battery charge brought by Daniel.

Before a jury of six white men, Autry did not deny that he had struck Daniel when Daniel visited him in his office. But, he said, he hit Daniel only after Daniel swore at him.

The jury acquitted Autry after five minutes of deliberation.

Before the jurors began deliberating, County Attorney Lawless sent them out of the room. He said he wanted to say something to Justice of the Peace M. R. Broom and the audience: "This is going further than I've ever seen to five Willie's hurt feelings."

When the jury returned, Lawless summed up, "This man (Daniel) has as much right before this court as anyone in Marion County. I've seen stronger cases, but he is a parent, and even an animal in the woods would fight for his children."

(The incident occurred after Daniel went to Improve High School to find out why his son had been suspended.)  
"Be fair to Willie, and Mr. Autry too,



WILLIE DANIEL

and do what you promised to do," Lawless told the jurors.

Despite the verdict, local Negroes said they were glad Daniel brought the charge. "It's the first time a Negro did such a thing here," said community leader W. J. McClendon.

**School Crisis**

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

ers' salaries 10%, but they didn't include the staffs. We had to raise them too--on our own."

Another problem is the state's method of allotting each school system a number of "teacher units" based on average daily attendance, Wilson said:

"They don't allow you a teacher unit for the principal, the librarian, or the band director. You just have to have some extras." In Macon County, he said, "the state is paying 192 teachers. We have 216." (The "extra" teachers are paid from county property taxes.)

So far, Wilson said, Macon County hasn't had to cut back on its school program. But the school board has agreed not to replace teachers who leave.

"We haven't asked anybody to turn off the heat," Wilson said. "We have asked them to be conservative with lights and heat. That runs a pretty big item."

**Clark's Committees**

JACKSON, Miss. -- Robert G. Clark, the only Negro member of the Mississippi Legislature, has been appointed to the House committees on education, agriculture, pensions and social welfare, livestock and poultry, and mileage.

Clark said each House member submits a list of six committees he would like to serve on, and the House leadership then makes the assignments. The education, agriculture, and welfare assignments were ones that he wanted, Clark said, and he feels that three out of six is "a very good percentage."

**In Rulings on Choice Forms, Faculties**

**Gadsden, Fairfield Schools Win**

BY BOB LABAREE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--U. S. District Judge H. H. Grooms has ruled against Negro parents and the U. S. Justice Department in two school-desegregation cases.

Despite objections by Gadsden Negroes, Grooms agreed to modify the desegregation order he issued last summer against the Gadsden school board. He granted the request of Gadsden school officials, who claimed they could greatly reduce the expense and bother of desegregation if two details of his order were revised.

Gadsden Schools Superintendent I. J. Browder said it had cost more than \$600 in "unbudgeted" school funds and approximately 700 man-hours of labor last year to send out the freedom-of-choice forms and letters of explanation required by the judge's order.

Instead of mailing the forms and paying for first-class postage, school officials wanted permission to send them home with the students.

The officials also asked to have the student's race put back on the freedom-of-choice forms. Grooms' desegregation order requires the schools to prepare yearly reports by race, officials said, and they can't comply with the re-

quirement unless they have a way of telling the race of the students.

But lawyers representing Gadsden Negro parents objected strongly to both requests.

If any parents fail to receive choice forms, said attorney Harvey Burg, the board can easily place the blame on the students. This would mean using young children as "pawns in the delicate process of school desegregation," he said. Burg said he thinks \$600 is a "small price to pay" to break down the system of segregation.

Asking children to put their race on choice forms was attacked as unnecessary and even "dangerous." "Because of past racial practices," the Justice Department argued, a Negro student might think he has to attend a Negro school.

But in his decision last week, Judge Grooms said the Gadsden board can send the choice forms home with the students, and put race on the forms. Next fall, the judge added, the board must report to the court on the expense and convenience of the new system, compared to the old.

Later, in a hearing on the Fairfield schools, the question was the speed-up of faculty desegregation. But everyone

was talking about the difference between a school "term" and a school "year."

Last November, Judge Grooms had ordered Fairfield school authorities to take "affirmative steps" to desegregate their faculties and staff. He said the steps had to be taken "between now and the beginning of the next school term."

At that time, Grooms told Schools Superintendent G. Virgil Nunn and members of the Fairfield Board of Education that he was not satisfied with the steps they had taken so far. However, he refused to order the transfer of Negro and white teachers in November, because he felt it would "unduly disrupt" the operation of the schools.

So last Friday, Justice Department lawyers argued that the new "term" had begun on Jan. 22, and the school board still had not carried out the judge's order.

But school officials said that, as far as they are concerned, the new "term" doesn't begin until next September. "We operate on a completely annual basis," said Nunn. "Fairfield has been off the semester promotion system since the early 1950's."

Kenneth Johnson of the Justice Department wanted to show that Nunn had

**After Emotional Five-Hour Hearing**

**Mrs. Johnson Fired Again**

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE, Ala.-- At the close of an explosive, five-hour hearing last week, the board of the Macon County Community Action Program once again voted to fire its paid director, Mrs. Beulah C. Johnson.

It was the fourth time in five months that the CAP board has sought to dismiss Mrs. Johnson from her \$12,000-a-year job. This time, the vote was 18 to 3.

The Southeast regional branch of the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) voided the other three dismissals, saying the CAP board had failed to follow proper procedures.

But this week, board chairman B. D. Mayberry received a telegram indicating that the regional office is now willing to accept the board's decision.

"This office is satisfied that Mrs. Johnson was afforded an opportunity to be fully heard," wrote Ralph A. Phelps Jr., regional director of OEO.

"If the procedural standards are observed, OEO policy is not to inquire into the merits of the case," Phelps said. "Therefore, it is not necessary to obtain approval of the merits of the dismissal."

According to Mayberry, the CAP board agreed "to terminate the services of the director as of Feb. 1." But early this week, Mrs. Johnson said no one had officially told her of the decision.

"I have received no notice," she said. "No procedures have been properly followed, as far as I'm concerned."

Her attorney, Charles S. Conley, said he is planning "a direct appeal to the regional (OEO) office. I will send them a transcript of the entire hearing."

The hearing--held Jan. 25 at the Macon County courthouse--drew an audience of 150 people. They laughed, gasped, and occasionally applauded as witnesses attacked--or praised--Mrs. Johnson's performance as CAP director for the last 2 1/2 years.

Several times, board chairman Mayberry and attorney Conley tangled sharply.

"You are willing to get rid of Mrs. Johnson at the expense of the entire program being destroyed!" Conley shouted at one point.

"No, that is not true," shot back Mayberry, "and the assumption is not correct. We got along without Booker Washington. No one is indispensable. Getting rid of Mrs. Johnson will not destroy the program."

One of the CAP board's charges against Mrs. Johnson was "failure to recognize the board as the governing body." Mayberry said she had ignored the board's policies--and sometimes its specific orders--on employment and other matters.

Other charges included "inability to communicate with disadvantaged people" and to get along with CAP office employees.

"She'll tell you to do things--and then if it looks like it's going wrong, she cannot remember," said Mrs. Lottie F. Esau, who quit last summer as the office bookkeeper and accountant. "She'll get on the phone, talk so loud, talk about you to somebody else till you couldn't work there."

Conley counter--charged that Mrs. Esau became "displeased" after Mrs. Johnson ordered her to "get to work on time."

Mrs. Bernice Carter said Mrs. Johnson insulted her during a job interview. "She hurt me so bad I couldn't help but



CHARLES S. CONLEY QUESTIONS WITNESS

Dr. Luther C. McRae Jr.--a white man who recently joined the CAP board--warned that among "prominent peo-

ple" to cry," Mrs. Carter recalled.

Until then, she added, "I only knew Mrs. Johnson through civic affairs. I had looked upon her very highly--I admired her."

Other CAP employees also told of differences with the director.

Although Mrs. Johnson attended the hearing, she did not testify. But several witnesses belittled the charges against her.

"So many decisions have to be made on the spot," observed P. B. Phillips, former director of the Tuskegee Institute Community Education Program (TICEP), a private anti-poverty effort. He said that, sometimes, "the auditors and the approved proposal differ."

And John Brown Jr., who recently became TICEP director, said employees often don't get along with their boss: "We've had people--gee--even go so far as to threaten us."

Several witnesses said the board--not Mrs. Johnson--is at fault. "The kinds of levels we've descended to tonight don't augur well for this county--which is supposed to be a leader," said Phillips.

**What Caused Searcy Riot?**

BY JONATHAN GORDON

MT. VERNON, Ala.-- "We got nothin' to live for," said a patient at Searcy Mental Hospital. "We may as well take those bastards with us."

The patient was talking about last Saturday night's riot at the state's mental hospital for Negroes. Two hundred policemen from neighboring communities had to be called in to stop the four-hour riot, staged by 150 patients in the hospital's criminal ward.

"If help hadn't arrived, the whole place would have gone up," said Dr. Harry S. Rowe, assistant superintendent of the 138-year-old hospital. Rowe blamed the disturbance on about a dozen "ring-leaders," who he said have been transferred to the state prison at Atmore.

But, Rowe added, there was overcrowding where the riot took place: "There were 281 people in a building with a capacity of 172."

Patients also complained this week about low-quality food, and brutality from white attendants. "They's always beatin' us, and encouraging fights," said one patient.

Rowe said these protests come from patients "who complain about everything."



Tuscaloosa, Ala.

The Rev. T. Y. Rogers is taking a year's leave of absence from Tuscaloosa, to work as director of a special SCLC project. The project, called the Urban Leadership Training Program, is intended to teach Negro ghetto ministers new methods of dealing with



REV. T. Y. ROGERS

problems in housing, jobs, education, politics, and police-community relations. "If the black churches in the cities can transform the ghetto--restructure it so that Negroes have control of the political and economic power--they will be destroying the ghetto," Rogers said. The project begins this month, with workshops and seminars in Miami, Fla. Then Rogers will work out of Atlanta, Ga. He will return to Tuscaloosa each weekend, to conduct services at the First African Baptist Church. But the Rev. T. W. Linton and W. L. Scott will take his place as leader of the Monday night meetings of the Tuscaloosa Citizens for Action Committee.

**New York City**

Ed Gray of Prattville, Ala., attended a business and educational conference for Mutual of New York's top insurance men last week in the Park Sheraton Hotel. The company chose 100 field under-writers to attend the special three-day conference. The participants were picked for the professional excellence, sales ability, and policy-holder service they have shown during their first year with Mutual of New York.

**Birmingham, Ala.**

Mr. and Mrs. George Walker celebrated their 47th wedding anniversary last Thursday. Walker is an active member of the Alabama Christian Movement, and a regional circulation manager of The Southern Courier.

**Meridian, Miss.**

The Cloverleaf Toastmasters Club of Meridian is conducting a youth leadership training program for 20 local junior high and high school students. In the program, students will learn how to run meetings, and they will be taught the elements of parliamentary procedure and public speaking. Houston Kendrick is the co-ordinator of the program. The Toastmasters Club meets every Tuesday morning at 6:45 a.m. in the Lamar Hotel. Officers are B. L. Sykes, president; C. R. Moore, executive vice-president; Obie Clark, educational vice-president; Reuben R. Little, secretary; Eugene Henderson,

ple" in Macon County, "the general opinion about this board is that it's the kind of thing to stay away from." "To change directors when you haven't even gotten started would be a disaster," he said.

Mrs. Della D. Sullins charged that the board is too "emotional," and is "more concerned with personalities than with programs." Many members, she added, are "parrots who are told what to say."

A board member--the Rev. Lawrence F. Haygood--joined in the criticism. Another member--the Rev. Robert Smith--then observed that the regional OEO office delayed the firing of Mrs. Johnson on the basis of "charges against this board by a member... and we still do not know who it was." "I'm happy to say before this audience and this board that I wrote that letter," Haygood replied.

Several board members disputed angrily with Mrs. Johnson's witnesses. Most of the speakers were leaders of the campaign to remove Mrs. Johnson.

But one of them--James Veal of Notsulga--has been silent through most (CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX, Col. 2)

**Tuskegee, Ala.**

Memorial services for Willie James McCorvey, a third-year student in the School of Veterinary Medicine, were held Jan. 17 at Tuskegee Institute. Mr. McCorvey died of a brain hemorrhage Jan. 16 in Montgomery. Funeral services were held Jan. 21 in the Antioch Missionary Baptist Church in Peterman. Mr. McCorvey, who was 22 years old, had entered Tuskegee Institute in 1962. He had the highest scholastic average among freshman veterinary students in 1965, and was an Eminent Scholar in 1967. He also won several awards and scholarships. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie McCorvey, he is survived by his wife, Gloria, and a six-week-old daughter.

**Wetumpka, Ala.**

The Friendly Five and the Gospel Messengers of Wetumpka entertained last Sunday with two big programs--one at 3 p.m. in Auburn, and one at 7:30 p.m. in Opelika. The members of the groups said they had a wonderful time. (From Mrs. Cornelious Peavy)

**West Point, Miss.**

Donovan E. Smucker was installed as the tenth president of Mary Holmes College in a ceremony held last Friday. Smucker--who has studied at Bluffton College, Yale University Divinity School, Princeton Theological Seminary, and the University of Chicago--was on the faculty of Lake Forest (Illinois) College for eight years before coming to Mary Holmes.

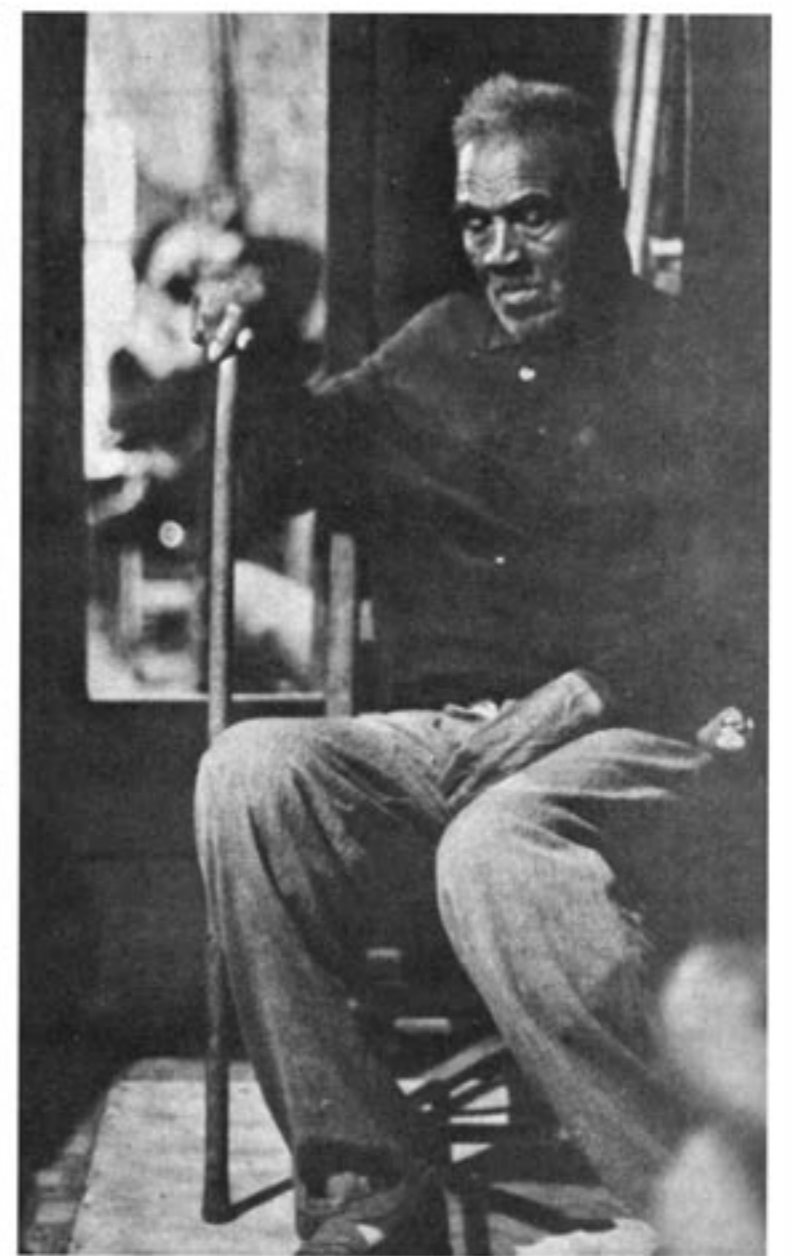
**Troy, Ala.**

Mrs. Juanita Grandberry and Mrs. Carrie Belle Wilson are the first employees of Operation Face Lift, a new project of the Area 23 Community Action Program (Bullock, Pike, and Coffee counties). In the new project--recently approved by the Atlanta, Ga., branch of the Office of Economic Opportunity--people work 14 hours a week on "face-lifting" jobs in hard-core poverty areas. Under the supervision of field counselors from the Rural Resource Service Program, the workers fix up selected homes, so that other people in the area will see what can be done.



MRS. GRANDBERRY, MRS. WILSON





ABOVE: In January, 1967, MRS. ANNIE BERTHA CONLEY--who was receiving \$51 a month in Aid to Dependent Children (ADC)--was laid off her job. Her case-worker in Itta Bena turned down her request for an increase in her check. But Mrs. Conley asked for a fair hearing, and won. Now she and her seven children get \$82 a month.

RIGHT: JOE HODGES, 84, is deaf and severely crippled. He must take insulin daily for diabetes. He and his 77-year-old wife must live on a total of \$112 a month from Social Security and Old Age Assistance.

BELOW (CENTER AND RIGHT): R. C. WILLIAMS' right hand has been amputated, and he suffers from severe sickle-cell disease. The Greenwood welfare office told him he wasn't sick enough to keep getting Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled (APTD). Williams asked for a fair hearing, won, and got his APTD restored.



# Mississippi Welfare in Action



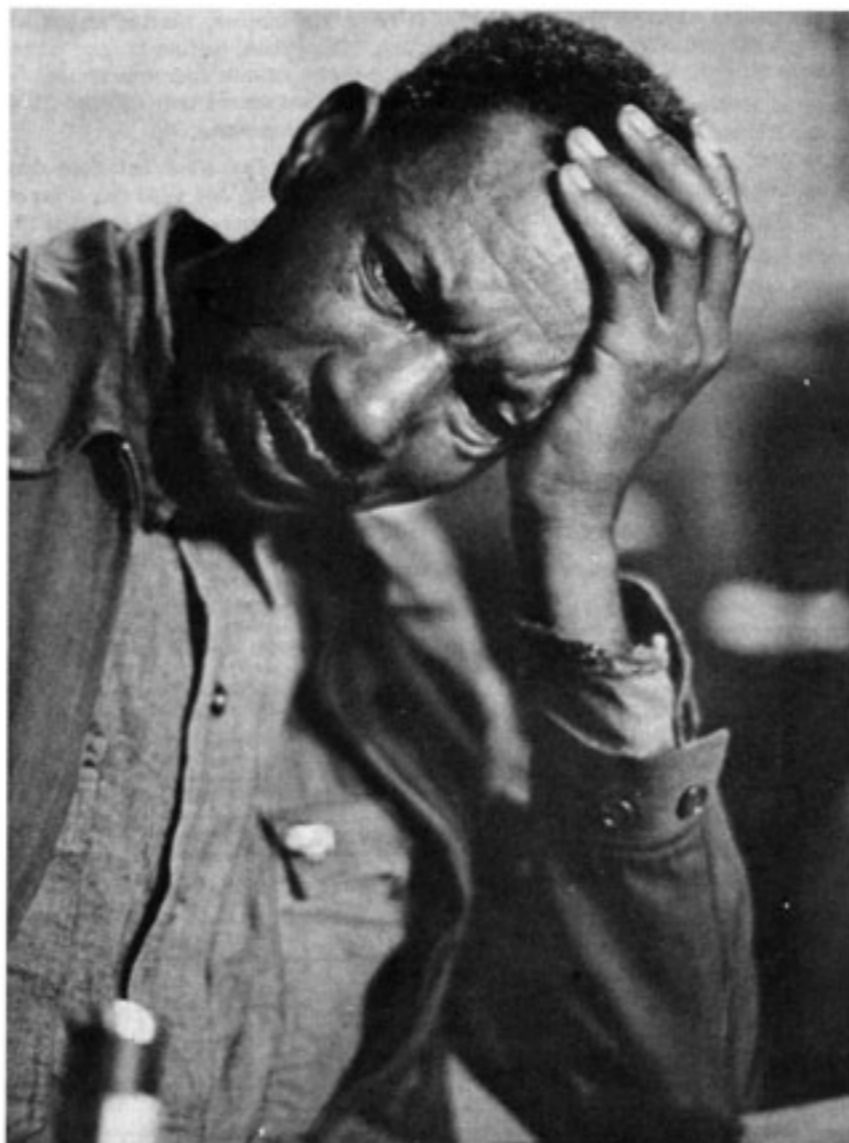
LEFT: WILLIAM FRANKLIN has been unable to find work in Quitman County for two years, because of his involvement in civil rights. He isn't old enough, sick enough, or blind enough for welfare, and unless he deserts his family, they can't get ADC. He said Mrs. Annie Duke--"the welfare lady"--told him that if he couldn't get a job, he ought "to be digging a hole and going in the ground."

Photos  
by Jim Pepler  
Text  
by Laura Engle

BELOW: LONNIE COLEMAN can't work because of a back injury. He has a wife and children to support, but he can't get on welfare, because by Mississippi standards, he isn't totally disabled. The family tries to get by on \$81 a month from Social Security. But there are bills--\$40 owed in rent, \$145 owed to one doctor, \$110 to another, \$287 to the hospital.

BELOW: MRS. BESSIE CAMPBELL, crippled from polio and rickets, had to leave the plantation when the owner bought cotton-picking machinery. In Marks, unable to qualify for APTD, Mrs. Campbell must try to live on the \$25 a month ADC she gets for her son.

BELOW: In February, 1967, a Chicago court gave ROBERT HARRINGTON and his wife custody of the five children of Mrs. Harrington's deceased sister. Under Mississippi law, the children aren't eligible for welfare until they have lived in the state for a year.





There's a Form for Everything

# How to Figure Out Your '67 Income Tax

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN

The federal government has a form for everything, and half the battle in figuring out your income tax is deciding which form to use for what.

The average, uncomplicated tax-payer should only have to worry about three forms--the W-2, the 1040, and the 1040A. The W-2 is the form you get from your employer, showing the amount of wages he paid you in 1967, and the amount of income tax he withheld.

(You should have received a W-2 from everyone you worked for by the end of January, 1968. If you didn't get one--or if the one you got was incorrect--contact your employer right away.)

Forms 1040 and 1040A are the "long" and "short" versions of your federal tax return. Form 1040A is much simpler, and for incomes under \$5,000, it uses a Tax Table that gives you a pretty good deal.

You CAN use 1040A if your income for 1967 was less than \$10,000, and if not more than \$200 of it was for things like interest or dividends. You SHOULD use 1040A if your income was less than \$5,000--especially if you didn't have any unusual expenses during the year.

If you did have high expenses--like a costly operation and hospital stay--then you may want to "itemize deductions." This means you reduce your taxable income by listing your "deductible" expenses. To do this, you must use the "long" form, 1040.

The best way to understand this gob-

bledyook is to fill out a sample return. Let's say our sample tax-payer, Joe Blow, is filing a joint return with his wife Jane. Joe is an Alabama truck-driver, earning \$60 a week--\$3,120 a year.

He and his wife have two kids--Joe Jr. and Geraldine. Geraldine was born during 1967, and the pregnancy cost the family \$100 for drugs and medicines and \$400 for the doctor and hospital.

Aside from business, Joe drove his own car 10,000 miles in 1967, and he paid \$10 property tax on it when he bought his auto tags.

Actually, Joe's income is so low that even with the family's high medical expenses, he is better off filing on 1040A. But let's see how he comes out on 1040, anyway.

On line 4, Joe claims four exemptions--one each for himself, his wife, and their two kids. If either Joe or his wife were 65 years old or blind, Joe could claim extra exemptions, by checking the boxes on lines 2a and 2b. (Each exemption removes \$600 from Joe's taxable income.)

There is no question that Joe Jr. and Geraldine are Joe's "dependents," since they are his children, earn less than \$600, get more than half their support from Joe, and live in the family home.

In general, any close relative who lives with you, gets more than half his support from you, and earns less than \$600 can be claimed as a dependent. Furthermore, you can claim children who earn MORE than \$600, if they are under 19 or if they are students.

Joe can claim a full exemption for Geraldine, even though she was born late in 1967. He could also claim an exemption for a child who died during the year.

On line 5, Joe enters the amount of wages shown on his W-2 form--\$3,120. Neither he nor his wife had any other kind of income, so lines 7 and 9 will also say \$3,120.

At this point, Joe could stop, and figure his tax from the Tax Table. This would be the same as using Form 1040A. Or, if his income were \$5,000 or more, Joe could take the "standard deduction"--10% of his income, or \$200 plus \$100 for each exemption.

The Tax Table takes account of normal deductions in working out your income tax for the year. If your income is over \$5,000, the standard deduction does the same thing--allowing you to reduce your taxable income by a reasonable amount, without making you

**1040 U.S. Individual Income Tax Return** for the year January 1-December 31, 1967.

First name and initial (if joint return, use first names and middle initials of both): **JOE AND JANE** Last name: **BLOW** Your social security number: **123 45 6789**

Home address (Number and street or rural route): **123 45th St.** City, town or post office, and State: **Anywhere, Ala.** ZIP code: **00000**

Your present employer and address: **Crashem Delivery Service, Box 0, Anywhere, Ala.**

Your Filing Status—check only one:  
 1a  Single  
 1b  Married filing joint return (even if only one had income)  
 1c  Married filing separately. If spouse is also filing a return, enter her (his) social security number in space provided above and give first name here  
 1d  Unmarried Head of Household  
 1e  Surviving widow(er) with dependent child

Your Exemptions Regular 65 or over Blind Enter number of boxes checked  
 2a Yourself    **2**  
 2b Spouse     
 3a First names of your dependent children who lived with you: **Joe Jr., Geraldine** Enter number **2**  
 3b Number of other dependents (from page 2, Part I, line 3)  
 4 Total exemptions claimed **4**

Income (If joint return, include all income of both husband and wife)  
 5 Wages, salaries, tips, etc. If not shown on attached Forms W-2 attach explanation **3120 00**  
 6 Other income (from page 2, Part II, line 6)  
 7 Total (add lines 5 and 6) **3120 00**  
 8 Adjustments to income (from page 2, Part III, line 5)  
 9 Total income (subtract line 8 from line 7) **3120 00**

10 If you do not itemize deductions and line 9 is less than \$5,000, find your tax from tables in instructions. Do not use lines 11a, b, c, or d. Enter tax on line 12.  
 11a If you itemize deductions, enter total from page 2, Part IV, line 17. If you do not itemize deductions, and line 9 is \$5,000 or more enter the larger of: (1) 10 percent of line 9; OR (2) \$200 (\$100 if married and filing separate return) plus \$100 for each exemption claimed on line 4, above. Deduction under (1) or (2) limited to \$1,000 (\$500 if married and filing separately). **514 20**  
 11b Subtract line 11a from line 9 **2605 80**  
 11c Multiply total number of exemptions on line 4, above, by \$600 **2400 00**  
 11d Subtract line 11c from line 11b. Enter balance on this line. (Figure your tax on this amount by using tax rate schedule on page 11 of instructions.) Enter tax on line 12. **205 80**

12 Tax (from either Tax Table, see line 10, or Tax Rate Schedule, see lines 11a-11d) **28 81**  
 13 Total credits (from page 2, Part V, line 4)  
 14a Income tax (subtract line 13 from line 12) **28 81**  
 14b Tax from recomputing prior year investment credit (attach statement)  
 15 Self-employment tax (Schedule C-3 or F-1)  
 16 Total tax (add lines 14a, 14b, and 15) **28 81**  
 17 Total Federal income tax withheld (attach Forms W-2) **119 60**  
 18 Excess F.I.C.A. tax withheld (two or more employers—see page 5 of instr.)  
 19 Nonhighway Federal gasoline tax—Form 4136, Reg. Inv.—Form 2439  
 20 1967 Estimated tax payments (include 1968 overpayment allowed as a credit)  
 21 Total (add lines 17, 18, 19, and 20) **119 60**

22 If payments (line 21) are less than tax (line 16), enter Balance Due. Pay in full with this return **90 79**  
 23 If payments (line 21) are larger than tax (line 16), enter Overpayment  
 24 Amount of line 23 you wish credited to 1968 Estimated Tax  
 25 Subtract line 24 from 23. Apply to:  U.S. Savings Bonds, with excess refunded or  Refund only

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief it is true, correct, and complete. If prepared by a person other than taxpayer, his declaration is based on all information of which he has any knowledge.

Sign here: **Joe Blow** Date: **2/1/68**  
**Jane Blow** Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of preparer other than taxpayer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

JOE BLOW'S FORM 1040 (THE "LONG" FORM)

prove you actually spent that much.

But Joe has decided to itemize his deductions, since he thinks he can save money that way. So he turns to Part IV, on the back of Form 1040, and goes through the arithmetic there. He enters the \$100 for drugs and medicine on line 2, and \$31.20 (1% of his income) on line 3. Then he subtracts, leaving \$68.80 on line 4.

On line 5, Joe puts the \$400 he paid for the doctor and the hospital. More arithmetic follows, before he arrives at a total of \$375.20 (line 9).

If you itemize deductions for one thing, you should itemize them for everything. Joe didn't save his gasoline receipts, but he can refer to a table that comes with the 1040 instructions and claim \$51 for state gasoline taxes. Another table allows him \$78 for state sales taxes. He can also deduct the \$10 he paid on his car, and any other property taxes.

Although Joe doesn't qualify for them, there are other kinds of deductions that a tax-payer may claim. For instance, if your home, clothing, or car was damaged or destroyed by fire, you can deduct everything this cost you after the first \$100. (Of course, you can't deduct it if it was paid back by insurance.)

Now, back to the front side of 1040, Joe puts the total of his deductions--\$514.20--on line 11a, and then subtracts it from his income, leaving \$2,605.80 (line 11b). Then, on line 11c, he takes the benefit of his four exemptions--\$2,400. That leaves only \$205.80 (line 11d) to pay taxes on.

Under the Tax Rate Schedule that comes with 1040, Joe must pay a tax of 14%, which amounts to \$28.81 (lines 12, 14a, and 16).

But according to his W-2 form, Joe's employer has already withheld \$119.60 in income taxes during the year. (This

is because Joe didn't claim Geraldine as an exemption on the form he filled out for his employer.) Joe enters \$119.60 on lines 17 and 21.

Since he has paid more than he owes, Joe subtracts line 16 from line 21, giving him an overpayment of \$90.79 (line 23). He is entitled to a refund in this amount.

As it happens, Joe can do even better on Form 1040A. After providing the same information about himself and his exemptions, Joe enters his income on lines 5 and 7. Under Tax Table B--which comes with Form 1040A--his tax is shown to be just \$18. He lists this on line 8, and the amount already withheld (\$119.60) on line 9. On line 11, he enters the amount of his refund--\$101.60.

There are many ins and outs to figuring your income tax, and no one explanation can cover them all. Be sure to read all instructions carefully, and ask your local Internal Revenue Service office for help if there's something you don't understand.

## Farmers Can Save on Tax

Farmers who use a lot of gasoline for their tractors and machines may be missing out on a big tax saving.

The owner, tenant, or operator of a farm is entitled to a tax credit of 4¢ for every gallon of gas he used in tilling the soil, raising crops or livestock, and planting and cutting timber.

Furthermore, farmers can claim a credit of 6¢ a gallon for oil used to lubricate their tractors and other non-highway vehicles.

The gas tax credit doesn't apply to gasoline used away from the farm, even for things like hauling livestock or crops. And the oil credit doesn't apply to oil used in a truck or other highway vehicle, even if the vehicle is used on the farm.

You can figure your credit on Form 4136, and claim it on line 19 of 1040.



Taxes—Real estate . . . . .	
State and local gasoline . . . . .	51.00
General sales (see page 15 of instructions) . . . . .	7.80
State and local income . . . . .	
Personal property . . . . .	10.00
<b>14 Total taxes . . . . .</b>	<b>139.00</b>

ON FORM 1040, JOE BLOW DEDUCTS HIS STATE TAXES...

**Part IV Itemized deductions—Use only if you do not use tax table or standard deduction.**

Medical and dental expense (not compensated by insurance or otherwise)—Attach itemized list.

1 One-half (but not more than \$150) of insurance premiums for medical care . . . . .	
2 Total cost of medicine and drugs . . . . .	1.00 00
3 Enter 1% of line 9, page 1 . . . . .	31 20
4 Subtract line 3 from line 2 (not less than zero) . . . . .	68 80
5 Other medical, dental expenses (include balance of insurance premiums for medical care not deductible on line 1) . . . . .	400 00
6 Total (add lines 4 and 5) . . . . .	468 80
7 Enter 3% of line 9, page 1 . . . . .	93 60
8 Subtract line 7 from line 6 (not less than zero) . . . . .	375 20
9 Total (add lines 1 and 8) . . . . .	375 20

... AND HIS MEDICAL EXPENSES

# If You Want a Refund, You Must File a Return

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN

Between now and April 15, some 80,000,000 Americans will fill out and file their 1967 federal income tax returns. Every year, many people make mistakes on these forms--cheating either the government or themselves. And every year, some people don't file a return at all. If these are poor people--with low incomes or large bills--they are probably cheating themselves, not the government.

The law says that everyone--adult or child--must file a federal income tax return if he made \$600 or more between Jan. 1, 1967, and Dec. 31, 1967. (If you are 65 or over, you don't have to file a return unless you made \$1,200 in 1967--not including veterans, Social Security, or other such benefits.)

But no matter how much you earned, you can't get a refund unless you file a return. People who earned less than \$600--and had income tax withheld from their paychecks--are entitled to get back everything that was withheld. They can get this money back only by filing a tax return.

If you earned more than \$600--say, between \$2,000 and \$3,000--you have nothing to gain by not filing a return. The

law says you must, and besides, the chances are good that you will qualify for a refund. One small family filed their first return last year, and learned to their surprise that the government owed them \$225!

Tax returns should be filed as soon as possible, and not later than April 15. (State income tax returns--which work about the same way as federal returns, though with much lower tax rates--are usually due at the same time.)

If you didn't get a federal tax return in the mail, you can pick one up at your local Internal Revenue Service office, and at most banks and post offices. Free advice is also available at Internal Revenue offices.

Tax-payers in Alabama and Mississippi should mail their federal returns to Internal Revenue Service, 4800 Buford Highway, Chamblee, Ga. 30006. If you owe some tax to the government, you should include a check or money order with your return.

You should make--and save--duplicates of your tax returns, in case any questions come up. You should also save your personal records--especially if you claim any unusual credits or deductions on your return.

**1040A U.S. Individual Income Tax Return** for the year January 1-December 31, 1967.

1. Name (If joint return, use first names and middle initials of both): **Joe and Jane Blow**  
 Home address (Number and street or rural route): **123 45th St.**  
 City, town or post office, State and ZIP code: **Anywhere, Ala. 00000**

2. Your social security number: **123 45 6789**

3. Spouse's social security number: **987 65 4321**  
 a return, enter her (his) social security number in item 3 and give first name here

4. Check one:  
 a. Single;  
 b. Married filing joint return (even if only one had income);  
 c. Married filing separately--if spouse is also filing a return, enter her (his) social security number in item 3 and give first name here

5. Enter total wages, salaries, tips, etc. Enclose Forms W-2, Copy B. If not shown on enclosed Forms W-2 attach explanation. Yours: **3120 00**  
 Spouse's: \_\_\_\_\_  
 6a. Interest: Yours: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's: \_\_\_\_\_  
 6b. Dividends: Yours--before exclusion \$ \_\_\_\_\_ After: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse's--before exclusion \$ \_\_\_\_\_ After: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Total income (add items 5, 6a, and 6b) **3120 00**  
 8. Tax from Tax Table or tax computation schedule **18 00**  
 9. Total Federal income tax withheld (from Forms W-2) **119 60**  
 10. If item 8 is larger than item 9, enter Balance due **90 79**  
 11. If item 9 is larger than item 8, enter Refund **101 60**

If your income was \$5,000 or more, you must compute your tax. If income was less than \$5,000, you may have the Internal Revenue Service compute your tax by omitting items 8, 10, and 11 (but complete item 9). If you compute your own tax, pay balance (item 10) in full with your return.

Apply refund to:  U.S. Savings Bonds, & excess refunded; or  Refund only.

LIST YOUR EXEMPTIONS AND SIGN ON OTHER SIDE.

JOE BLOW'S FORM 1040A (THE "SHORT" FORM)



People Wait for Food Program

# Free Clothes in Autauga County

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN  
 PRATTVILLE, Ala.--Last Monday, the store-room of the Autauga County Improvement Association office was packed full of shoes, shirts, sweaters, dresses, and underwear.

By Tuesday afternoon, the room was almost bare. The ACIA had given away nearly \$2,200 worth of clothing to needy families.

The clothes were for distribution to "unfortunate peoples--white or colored, it doesn't matter," Houser said.

"We have so many peoples in Autauga County layin' out of school, because they don't have clothes to wear," he said. "We're trying to keep them in school."

Mrs. Carlenia Hall said the ACIA's clothing drive will be a big help to her. She said she has three school-age children, and "I haven't been able to send them to school like I should."

On Tuesday--the first day clothes were distributed--about 150 people showed up at the small ACIA office. Several ACIA members and a white lady from Montgomery kept busy helping them find clothes that fit.

Houser said the ACIA is asking for more donations of money or clothing,



MISS GENEVA JONES SORTS SHOES to take care of other needy families. "We're trying to give people hope," he said.

Another thing giving people hope, said Houser, is the county's free surplus food program, scheduled to begin soon. But, he said, "a lot of people don't know nothing about it. We're really go-

ing to work on that."

Houser noted, though, that only two Negroes--Frank Gipson and Mrs. Vera Mae Brown--have been hired to work in the food program. "I don't think we're going to accept that," he said.

"Negroes worked to get the program in the county. Negroes are the most victims. I think there should be more Negroes on the staff--and I don't mean unloading trucks, either."

Probate Judge E. A. "Bud" Grouby said, however, that Gipson, a warehouseman, is one of only four full-time employees in the program.

And, he said, Mrs. Brown is one of two certification workers hired for 60 days. If another permanent certification agent is hired, said Grouby, the job will probably go to a Negro.

"I think we were pretty fair about it, myself," said the judge. "We were determined to put some colored people on that thing. It's kind of hard to find somebody with the qualifications."

Grouby said the program will begin taking applications for free food next Monday, in the "old chicken plant" on Walnut St. He said food distribution should begin by March 1.



## Laurel Batters Sylacauga

# Dragons of Druid Take 17th Straight Victory

BY EMILY ISRAEL  
 TUSCALOOSA, Ala. -- Suffering through a cold night from the floor, Druid High's Flying Dragons finally breathed a little fire in the second half of last week's basketball game.

The Dragons edged the Parker (Birmingham) Thundering Herd, 55 to 52, for their 17th victory without a loss. Parker hung on to the ball with its well-controlled offense. And the Herd's tight zone defense held the Dragons to a 33.8 field goal percentage--well below their usual 52.7%.

Hot-handed Eugene Murphy of Parker was the game's high scorer with 17 points. Lester Dent and Alfred Baker, each with 14, led the Dragons. The outstanding ball-handler was Druid's smallest man, Ossie Blevins--"the one who generally sparks the team," according to Coach Hugh Martin.

Druid's fine record has been due to several factors--its defense, its outside shooting (except for the Parker game), and its discipline, pride, and determination.

Although the Dragons have lost a lot of the height that got them to the state championship finals last year, they have gained in speed, Coach Martin said. He said the game with Coach William Brown's Herd was the closest one the Dragons have played in two years--with the exception of the 68-64 squeaker they lost to Booker T. Washington of Montgomery in the 1967 state finals.

Before Druid beat Parker, the Drag-on junior varsity--coached by Martin's brother, Tom--won its 14th game, against one loss.

Les "Speedy" Duncan--a former Druid great and now a star defensive back with the San Diego Chargers of the American Football League--returned to his alma mater to watch the game with Parker.

BY WILLIE ALBERT GOGGEMS  
 ALEXANDER CITY, Ala.--It's becoming almost routine for the Laurel High Hornets to beat the Indians of East Highland (Sylacauga). They did it again last week, 76 to 56.

Laurel's first and last baskets were the most interesting. After the Indians took a 2-0 lead, Herschel Godfrey came down court and hit on a 30-footer to tie the score. The Hornets led, 35 to 30, at halftime.

Laurel ran away with the game in the last two periods. Then, with three seconds to go, Horner L. M. Hunter connected on a 45-ft. heave for the final two points of the game.

The Indians got some revenge when their B team downed Laurel, 58 to 48.

## Jackson Incident

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)  
 "It was brought out that the officer called him (Wells) 'boy,' and it is unfortunate that the defendant looks young. "In my opinion, the defendant became enraged as a result of the accident. He was just home from Viet Nam, he was with friends and was driving a brand-new car."

Wells' sentence was 60 days in jail and a \$300 fine, but the judge suspended the punishment--as "a lesson to him for the future."

## Ave. F Seafood Market

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Baby Bed Quilt 38"x50" \$ 12.00  
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Pot holder 1.50  
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## The Freedom Quilting Bee

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 Alberta, Alabama 36720

## Radio Station WAPX

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THE PASTOR'S STUDY is a daily devotional prepared under the auspices of and in conjunction with the Montgomery Ministerial Alliance. Listen to your favorite minister in our Pastor's Study.

Also, for your continuing listening, our GOSPEL PROGRAMS, 4:00 to 6:00 AM and 9:15 to 11:00 AM, and with Gretchen Jenkins from 11:00 AM to 12 Noon, Monday thru Friday.

### WAPX Radio

1600 k.c. 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.

**BAHA'IS--**The Baha'is of Montgomery invite you to their weekly fireside at 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 3, at 3222 Santee Dr. in Montgomery. For transportation, call 265-4394. Meet Baha'u'llah.

**ARTS FESTIVAL--**The South's first Festival of Afro-American Arts will be held Monday through Sunday, Feb. 12-18, at Dillard University in New Orleans, La. Sponsored by Afro-Americans for Progress, a Dillard student group, the festival will feature the work of amateur and professional Negro artists. It will be open to the public, free of charge.

**ALL STUDENTS--**All high school and college students in Alabama are urged to attend a state-wide meeting Friday through Sunday, Feb. 9-11, in the Bell St. Baptist Church, Oak and Robinson streets, Montgomery, Ala. The topic will be "Have Elected Officials Represented Us in the State of Alabama?" Objects of the meeting will include state-wide unification of students; organization of a political arm to resist such "movements" as ex-Governor George Wallace is advocating; and election of our own candidates to represent us in Alabama and Washington. Sponsored by the Alabama Action Committee.

**TALENT SHOW--**The Friendly Five, Peace and Goodwill, and the Gospel Messengers will perform in a Talent Program at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 4, in the Tabernacle Baptist Church, Wetumpka, Ala. Come and bring a friend.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED --**Student volunteers are wanted to help Welfare/Rights groups get started, and to work for welfare rights. Write to Poverty/Rights Action Center, 1762 Corcoran St. NW, Washington, D. C. 20009, for more information.

**MONTGOMERY REGISTRATION--**The Montgomery County Board of Registrars will be in session to receive applications for voter registration during January and February as follows: Jan. 29 (all precincts), 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at the courthouse; Jan. 30 (precincts 5W and 5E), 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Capitol Heights Community Center; Jan. 31 (5E and 5W), 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Goodwyn Community Center; Feb. 6 (21), 10-11 a.m., Mt. Meigs Post Office; Feb. 6 (17), 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Pike Rd. School; Feb. 6 (20), 1:30-2:30 p.m., Catholic High School; Feb. 7 (15-1 and 15-2), 10-11 a.m., Ramer School; Feb. 7 (14), 11:15 a.m.-noon, Hicks Store, Dublin; Feb. 7 (13), 12:30-1:30 p.m., Pine Level School; Feb. 7 (12), 2-2:45 p.m., Teasley's Mill; Feb. 12 (all precincts), 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at the courthouse; Feb. 13 (23N and 23S), 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Cloverdale Community Center; Feb. 14 (23S and 23N), 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Floyd Community Center; Feb. 26 (7W and 7E), 9 a.m.-noon, S. McDonough St. Fire Station; Feb. 26 (7E and 7W), 1-3:30 p.m., Highland Ave. Fire Station; Feb. 27 (16), 10-11 a.m., Fred Sellers Store, Flota; Feb. 27 (10), 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Pintala School; Feb. 27 (9), 1-2 p.m., McGeehee & Davis Store, Hope Hill. The board will meet at the courthouse Feb. 5 and 19 for the purpose of registering Montgomery County citizens in the armed services, Merchant Marine, Red Cross, and affiliated organizations who are stationed outside the county. Under the law, only those persons who live in a precinct will be registered when the board is in that precinct. Barbara R. Dent, chairman; Bettie P. Neel and D. H. Guy, members.

**BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT--**The 15th annual Gold Medal Tournament will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 3, at Georgia Washington High School, Mt. Meigs, Ala. Consolation game at 7 p.m., finals at 8:30 p.m. Entrants include Carver of Union Springs, North Highland, Autauga County Training School, Sandtown, Southside of Greenville, Lomax-Hannon, Dunbar, and Georgia Washington.

**MACON COUNTY CITIZENS--**The West Macon Improvement Association voter education project will hold a mass meeting at 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11, in the Second Baptist Church, Shorter, Ala. Attorney Fred D. Gray will be the principal speaker.

**COLLEGE CONCERT--**The St. Olaf College Band, from Northfield, Minnesota, will perform at 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 4, in Dansby Hall Auditorium on the Jackson State College campus, Jackson, Miss. The concert is sponsored by the Tougaloo College Concerts and Lectures Committee and the Jackson State Lyceum Committee. Tougaloo and Jackson State students can be admitted by showing their ID cards. For others, tickets at the door will be \$1 for students and \$1.50 for adults.

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# MONTGOMERY, ALA.



Sumter Families Start New Life in Macon County

# 'I'm Glad to Be Out'

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

MITCHELL VILLAGE, Ala. -- "He wanted his house and his land, so I give it to him," said Roy Thomas. "I have no regrets. I'm glad to be out of it." "I feel fine about leavin'," said Woodrow Baker. "I was a farmer. After they took my farm, they taken my living. No use to me settin' there till the last day, doing nothing."

Thomas and Baker are two of seven Sumter County farmers who packed up their families and their belongings last Jan. 2, and left their life-long homes on the sprawling Rogers plantation near Panola.

With the help of the NAACP, they came to Macon County to start a new life.

If things go as planned, some time next June they will be joined by another 34 farm families evicted by Barnes A. Rogers, the white man who owns the Sumter County plantation.

Before then, the NAACP hopes to get the U. S. Department of Labor to provide funds for a re-training program--including basic education and pre-vocational classes for men, home management for women, tutoring for school-children, and counseling for adults.

Meanwhile, the NAACP is paying the rent for all 41 out-of-work farmers, and trying to find them enough food and clothes.



CHILDREN AT PLAY IN MITCHELL VILLAGE

And, said Thomas, Rogers did something else--he ordered all the Thomases to get off his land by the first of the year.

Thomas said the four Thomas families didn't argue about leaving. And three other farmers--Baker, Artis Stanton, and Mrs. Sallie Mobley--decided to come along.

"I'm 57. I was born there. I lived there all my life," said Thomas. "I built a house there, put \$1,500-\$1,600 of my own money in it. But if it wasn't one thing, it was another. We was ready to go."

Thomas' home in Sumter County had nine rooms. His new home in Macon County is three rooms in an old barracks. There's no hot water, and some of the windows and wall-boards have gaping holes.

But Thomas said, "I'm satisfied in a way. I ain't worried about gettin' a letter to move."

The farmers, their wives, and a total **MRS. JOHNSON FIRED**

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWO)

board meetings. He spoke out after Mrs. Lillian H. Harvey, dean of the Tuskegee Institute School of Nursing, testified that Mrs. Johnson often talked about the needs of the rural poor.

"Do you think the (CAP) program has been helping rural people, as in Beat 9 (Notasulga)?" asked Veal.

"Yes," replied Mrs. Harvey. "I live in Beat 9," said Veal. "She (Mrs. Johnson) hasn't been out there yet."

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## Alabama Council On Human Relations Annual Meeting

Saturday, Feb. 3 Stafford Hotel Tuscaloosa, Ala.

9:30-11:30 a.m.

1:30 p.m.

Panel

Speaker

PAUL ANTHONY -- executive director of the Southern Regional Council, Atlanta, Ga.

DONALD A. JELINEK -- civil rights attorney, director of Southern Rural Research Project, Selma, Ala.

THE REV. T. Y. ROGERS -- director of affiliates for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Atlanta, Ga., and pastor of the First African Baptist Church, Tuscaloosa, Ala.

ALLEN BLACK JR. -- director, Southern office, legal information division, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc., Memphis, Tenn.

DR. RAY FOWLER -- chairman, department of psychology, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Ala. (moderator).

the dirt road nearby.

Standing outside in the warm January sunshine, Thomas said he was glad to come to Macon County: "I was going to Chicago, but I didn't want to go. I heard the people up there are as bad as the weather."

And Baker said, "One mistake I made, I didn't come here years ago. It's just better peoples here, more civilized. Peoples help you, here."

Thomas said he will never go back to Sumter County. After the re-training program is over, he hopes to sell his old farm machines, "buy me a couple of acres around here, and build a house on my own land. I'm through with running. I want somewhere I can stay."

### Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights

The weekly meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 5, in St. James Baptist Church, 1100 Sixth Ave. N., the Rev. C. W. Sewell, pastor. W. C. Patton will be the speaker.



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