

# Choices Denied Because of 'Bad Words'

BY DOD LABAREE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--U. S. District Judge H. H. Grooms sat with his chin in his hands while two lawyers--one white, one black--summed up their cases. The issue was the dismissal of two Negro youths from their formerly all-white school on the ground that they used vulgar language.

To attorney John Carlton, defending the Fairfield school board, it was a matter of morals.

"This case has nothing to do with civil rights--it has to do with common moral decency," Carlton said. "The school

board is entitled to maintain discipline. . . . the school system cannot be allowed to degrade into the vilest form of anarchy."

Demetrius Newton, the lawyer for the two youths, saw it as a civil rights matter.

"The school board shouldn't be allowed to deny a child's constitutional rights to go to what school he wants to because he uses vulgar language," Newton said.

Earlier in the day G. Virgil Nunn, superintendent of Fairfield schools, had supported Carlton's view from the wit-

ness stand.

"I try conscientiously to keep order in the Fairfield school system," Nunn said, "and I have approved the expulsion of more white students from Fairfield High School than colored."

"If it had been a white student involved, would you have taken the same action?" asked Carlton.

"I would," replied Nunn.

One of the accused youths, Donald Overstreet, was suspended from the sixth grade of the Donald Elementary School last April, after a teacher reported him for saying a "bad word" in

front of some of his school-mates.

The other youth--Roderick Johnson, a tenth-grade student at Fairfield High School--was suspended last December, when a teacher discovered a similar word in a sentence he had written as an exercise.

The parents of the two boys testified that at first, they were told the boys were suspended. It wasn't until they filed choice forms for the next year, they said, that Superintendent Nunn told them the boys were permanently expelled from formerly-white schools.

Nunn said that Overstreet was denied

his first choice, Fairfield Junior High, for a completely different reason--because he had not passed the sixth grade. "When I receive a choice form for Donald Elementary," he said, "I'll act on it."

But Newton also referred to the letter Nunn had written to the Overstreet family. "Because of the seriousness of this offense," Nunn wrote, "I do not feel that your son should be permitted to enroll in a school where the opposite race is in attendance."

And on the witness stand, Nunn added, "In my opinion, this child has not and

will not adjust to a situation with children of the opposite race."

In all of his experience as a school superintendent, Nunn said, he has never had cases like these before. "You mean that you've never had white children use this kind of language?" Newton asked.

"Words like these, no," said Nunn. "We just don't have that type of thing from white students."

At the end of the 2 1/2-hour hearing, Judge Grooms ordered the boys to file new choice forms within a week. He gave the school board ten days to decide what to do with them.

# THE SOUTHERN COURIER

VOL. IV, NO. 27

WEEKEND EDITION: JULY 6-7, 1968

TEN CENTS

## While Congress Cuts Welfare Spending

# PPC Plans Huge Boycotts

BY JOHN CREIGHTON

WASHINGTON, D. C.--"As long as the Department of Agriculture declares farm land as 'holy ground,' by paying farmers not to grow crops, it will continue spending billions of dollars to make the rich richer," said the Rev. Jesse Jackson, a leader of the Poor People's Campaign.

"While poor people are neglected by America's greed, we must declare the major shopping areas of . . . 40 cities 'unholy ground,' where we refuse to spend our money until the hungry are fed," Jackson said.

"While the 'holy ground' does not yield fruit, we shall declare the 'unholy ground' off-limits for our dollars."

The mass boycotting of "downtown America"--which is planned to start this weekend in some locations--is one thrust of the PPC's projected second phase.

The PPC is now spread over Washington in more than six offices. Some offices are planning the boycotts, and organizing churches to help with this nation-wide effort.

Other offices, under the direction of the Rev. James Bevel, are mobilizing Washington residents and out-of-town support groups for continued demonstrations and mass arrests at the Capitol.

This week, a poor people's coalition was formed here, to assemble delegates for a poor people's convention before the national political conventions are held in August.

The coalition's executive board includes Reies Lopez Tijerina, a Mexican-American leader; Anibal Soliban of the New York Puerto Ricans; Clifton Johnson from white Appalachia; Cornelius Givens, representing poor blacks from New York; and Hank Adams, an



REV. ANDREW YOUNG

Assiniboine Sioux from the state of Washington.

SCLC is not represented on the coalition's board, but the Rev. Andrew Young--speaking for SCLC because the Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy is in jail--said the new group is a welcome development.

Forty-five campaigners--most of them mule-train participants--were arrested at the Capitol last Friday, along with 35 white Quakers who had come to express solidarity with the campaign.

And a procession of 700 Washington clergymen and nuns marched around the Capitol last Sunday, in the first of a series of weekend "prayer marches"--without incident or arrest.

But generally, people were busy planning this week, rather than doing. But Congress remained active, handing one defeat after another to the poor people.

The House did reach into the Agriculture Department's \$220,000,000 surplus, to increase the free and low-cost school lunch program by \$100,000,000 for each of the next three years.

On the other hand, a House-Senate negotiating committee arranged a \$9 billion supplemental appropriations bill (spending money not requested in the administration's budget) that did the following:

1. Provided \$6 billion more for Viet Nam war costs.
2. Chopped \$20,000,000 from the \$25,000,000 that the Senate had approved for summer Head Start.
3. Reduced from \$75,000,000 to \$13,000,000 a measure for hiring ghetto youths in special summer employment programs.
4. Slashed from \$32,000,000 to \$10,000,000 a new program for feeding poor children in day-care centers.
5. Added \$1.3 billion to welfare, and \$373,000,000 to Medicare.

In recent days, Congress has also:

1. Discussed raising Congressmen's pensions from \$16,000 to \$24,000 a year.
2. Prepared to allocate \$12.1 billion for interstate highways.
3. Agreed to provide \$1.9 billion worth of surplus commodity foods to foreign nations under the Food for Peace program.
4. Tried to choose a form of legislation that would prohibit any future Resurrection City on any federal park land.

SC' C has promised that the campaign, in whatever form, will be in Washington for a long time--both to get results on campaign issues and, as Young stressed this week, to keep alive a "legitimate tradition of non-violent protest in this society."

burn old car tires--fires as tall as this house sometimes."

Last Saturday--for the first time in 12 years--Johnson said, somebody finally did show up to keep the tire-burners away.

But Johnson was skeptical about the city government's long-range intentions. "This is the first administration that has listened to us," he said, "but I doubt seriously if they will maintain this dump. They haven't in the past. Everybody on the city council knew about the dump. The city is making a mistake having to wait for citizens to come to them."

In particular, Johnson said, the council's apparent willingness to move the dump may have something to do with the city elections next month. Several councilmen are running again, he noted, and what they say probably has "political overtones."

As for Peterson's explanation of the delay in locating another site, Johnson said, "I think it's absurd to say they can't find any land to move a city dump out of a residential area."

"We'll give them (the city council) time," he said, "but we plan to pursue it further if they don't move it."

## Says Prattville Company Official

# 'Heavy, Smelly' Work Available

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN

PRATTVILLE, Ala.--An official of the Union Camp paper plant last week invited local men to apply for some "heavy, smelly, hot, dirty work."

"What we need are young men who are qualified, and who are eager to make their life ambition in the paper industry," said Larry Langford, the plant's director of public and industrial relations.

The work is hard and simple at first, Langford said, but employees are regularly promoted to more complex and better-paying jobs.

In fact, he told an audience of about 20 Negroes June 27 in Prattville's Masonic Hall, working at Union Camp is "kinda like a high-priced poker game."

"The stakes are high" in processing 800 tons of board a day, Langford said: "Every little goof, every little mistake, every little snafu, is very costly." And, he added, "most mistakes cause the entire paper machine to go down," usually for half an hour or more.

So, said Langford, "it requires a

pretty good stake (for an employee) to get into the game." Then he outlined some of the qualifications required for a beginning job (at \$2.54 an hour) on a production crew.

First, he said, applicants must have a high school education or the equivalent. Then "basic mechanical aptitude" is determined by a series of tests.

For instance, said Langford, there's a "little arithmetic test--I'm convinced it's not very difficult if you have paid attention to your eighth-grade arithmetic." The hardest questions on the test, he said, involve addition of fractions like 1/2 and 1/8, and computing percentages like 20% of 80.

"We don't look for Einsteins, we don't look for egg-heads," Langford said. "Egg-heads don't do well in our industry. There's a little too much know-how involved for the professor-types to do well."

If a man--black or white--does well on these tests and is physically fit, Langford said, Union Camp will hire him when vacancies occur. The company also wants to hire Negro women,

## CROWD AT COUNCIL MEETING

FAIRFIELD, Ala.--About 150 Negro residents of Fairfield packed the City Council chamber last Monday night for a public hearing on residential zoning.

The subject of the hearing was a new zoning ordinance, which local Negroes felt would keep their community from having some of the best residential areas in the city.

After listening to about half an hour of discussion, the council quickly approved the ordinance, and then turned to other business. But following the meeting, Fairfield Mayor Claude Smithson said he sympathizes with the Negroes' concern.

"They've got a legitimate gripe," Smithson said. "There are very few places left for people to build in this town. I wish we had some place for them to go."

But the mayor insisted that the new ordinance isn't going to make the problem any worse, and Council President Lawrence Sides agreed. "It's not going to change anything there on the Hill (the Negro section) that's there already," Sides said.

According to Smithson, the dispute over zoning began at the May 20 council meeting, when the council was scheduled to approve re-zoning of the all-Negro Interurban Heights region of the city from R-2 (single-family dwellings and duplexes only) to R-4 (multi-family dwellings).

But after nearly 200 people from the Hill attended the meeting and protested the change, the council voted to change the zoning back to R-2, Smithson said.

The vote on the ordinance last Monday night formally restored the Interurban Heights region to its original R-2 status.

In addition, said Smithson, the vote Monday night made certain areas that were R-4 before the May 20 meeting into R-2.

But during the meeting, several Negro leaders told the council that they object to more than just the new ordinance.

Demetrius Newton, the lawyer for a group of Negro citizens, said there are almost no places left in Fairfield where Negroes can build a house on a prime residential lot (classified R-1).

"In effect," said Newton, referring to a zoning map, "this map leaves no area for single-family dwellings (R-1). The bulk is R-2, at the very best."

"That's not true," replied Council President Sides, pointing to an area several blocks square near all-Negro Miles College, marked R-1.

But Bernard F. Thomas, a Negro resident, pointed out that in the area Sides indicated, there are no lots more than 50 feet in width. The lots, he said, are actually too small to fit the city's requirements for an R-1 residence.

"That means if we can't make a deal or something with our neighbor for a piece of his property, we're out of luck," said another man.

Later, Smithson claimed that R-1 land is scarce for everyone in Fairfield. "We're land-locked," he said.

Sides also talked about a shortage of space. "But what are you going to do?" he asked. "The lots were determined before Fairfield had any zoning. You can't come in and start changing the lots."

But the new zoning map on the wall of the council chamber still showed more R-1 and R-2 areas in all-white districts than it did in Negro districts, even though Negroes in Fairfield outnumber whites.

Then too, the largest area left for residential expansion in the city limits is all-white Glen Oaks.

But Smithson said that under the recent U. S. Supreme Court ruling against discrimination in housing, "I can't see any reason why" Negroes shouldn't begin to buy property there.

When the meeting broke up, it was clear that the people who came to protest weren't any happier. Newton called the council's vote "appeasement," and the Rev. J. A. Salary described the city's 25-year "master plan" as "a scheme to run the Negroes out of Fairfield."

# Down at the City Dump, A Dog Can Find a Meal

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE, Ala.--An enterprising dog found himself a meal at the Tuskegee City Dump last Monday afternoon. In the 99-degree heat--apparently too much for the dump's population of cats, rats, and flies--he nosed through the rotting garbage.

Every time the city's landfill machine dumped a load of dirt over the day's accumulation, the dog leaped out of the way.

Eventually, he turned up a large chunk of meat and settled down to his dinner. Up on the hill--in one of several pretty, spotlessly-clean homes overlooking the dump on South Gautier Street--Willie C. Johnson watched in disgust.

"All the people in this community want the dump moved," he said. "It's too close to a residential area."

Last month, Johnson took a petition signed by about 40 people to a Tuskegee City Council meeting. The bi-racial council agreed that the dump is an unpleasant neighbor, and promised to look for another site.

But Councilman William Peterson disputed Johnson's charge that the dump is infested with rats and vermin.

"I am all for moving this thing as soon as we find some land," he explained this week. "But the health inspector said the dump is Number 2 (in cleanliness) in the state of Alabama."

And, Peterson said, it's not so easy to find an alternate site: "People won't

sell any land around here (in the undeveloped area just outside the city limits)."

Another defender of the dump is the man who operates the landfill machine, Herman L. Robinson. "Mr. Johnson is all the time gettin' on me about it," he said, "but it's not no city dump any more. Ain't nothing he can smell except those old cars--the garbage do be buried every day."

What about the pungent--although not over-powering--odor at the moment? "I ain't got all that covered yet," said Robinson, looking at the dog's meal. "Fore I leave here tonight, it'll be completely covered."

Robinson conceded that there are rats at the city dump. But, he said, it's "not like it was" six months ago, before the landfill operation got under way.

Robinson suggested that Johnson really wants to get rid of the dump to use the land for a Little League ballfield.

But Johnson said all he wants right now is to move the dump. "It's fairly clean now," he admitted. "I'll say it's improved 400% in the last six months. But I still think it's a health hazard. There are rats the size of your shoe. Used to go down with a shotgun, kill 50-100 rats there a day. You don't see them as much now, but they're there."

On Saturdays--when no one was around to guard the dump--"people used to come from the gas stations, everywhere," Johnson said. "They'd



DOG, LANDFILL MACHINE CONTENT FOR GARBAGE



CROWD AT COUNCIL MEETING



**THE SOUTHERN COURIER**

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THE SOUTHERN COURIER is published weekly by a non-profit, non-share education corporation, for the study and dissemination of accurate information about events and affairs in the field of human relations.  
Price: 10¢ per copy. \$3.50 per year in the South, \$10 per year elsewhere in the U. S., patron subscription \$25 per year used to defray the costs of printing and publication. Second-class postage paid at Montgomery, Alabama.

Editor: Michael S. Lottman  
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- Birmingham, Ala. (Bob Labaree, Melvin I. Todd).....324-1397
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Vol. IV, No. 27

July 6-7, 1968

**Editorial Opinion**

**Non-Partisan?**

NAACP Executive Director Roy Wilkins produced a new definition of the word "non-partisan" last week. First, Wilkins denied that there was anything political about having U. S. Senator Fred Harris of Oklahoma address the NAACP's convention in New Jersey --even though Harris is a co-sponsor of Hubert H. Humphrey's campaign for President. Then the NAACP leader said he would blast Senator Eugene J. McCarthy--Humphrey's opponent for the Democratic presidential nomination--if McCarthy came to the convention. And Wilkins did blast McCarthy--not just for trying to contact NAACP convention delegates, but also for some of the senator's campaign stands.

Wilkins' explanation for this curious behavior was that he is trying to keep the NAACP non-partisan. But Wilkins has made no secret of his fondness for Humphrey, and he has jumped through hoops for President Johnson for the past five years. (Humphrey, as vice-president, is running on Johnson's record.)

If Wilkins wants to campaign for Humphrey, we believe he should take a leave of absence from the job that makes him the spokesman for the NAACP. And we think that Wilkins and the other fat cats in the NAACP ought to realize that a lot of poor and angry people don't agree with them about what's best for the country.

**Lady's Suit Accuses Florence Policemen**

BY JOEL ROSEN

FLORENCE, Ala.--Mrs. Audry Miller of Florence has filed a \$150,000 suit charging two city policemen with violating her civil rights.

The suit, filed in federal court in Birmingham, names Florence officers Virgil Wilson and Ronald Hurn as defendants.

The incident that led to the suit occurred last Jan. 20, several blocks from the Miller home. Mrs. Miller's son, Charles Wayne, 17, had been drinking and swinging a knife around.

Neighbors called the police, and a patrol car arrived at the scene. An officer kicked the knife out of Miller's hand, but the Negro youth was able to retrieve it. Then a motorcycle policeman managed to get behind Miller, and knocked him down with a black-jack.

**March Boosts Shelby Protest**

BY MARION SYMINGTON

SHELBY, Miss.--"Do you realize who's our enemy?" asked Mrs. L. C. Dorsey. "It's not the white people, it's us. The black people are our problem."

Mrs. Dorsey spoke at a rally June 22 after a march held in sympathy with the Poor People's Campaign in Washington, D. C. "We also want (the march) to be a show of strength," she said.

She said members of the Shelby Educational Committee and the King Memorial Student Organization wanted to show that they are still on the move, and that their selective-buying campaign--now legally sanctioned by the May 31 decision of U. S. District Judge William C. Keedy--will continue.

About 125 people--including some from Indianola, Mound Bayou, and Winstonville--took part in the march. They went first to Shelby School, to pray for members of the all-white school board.

Mrs. Dorsey said the march was intended to show the white community that the protesters don't plan to give up. Some powerful white people who haven't been hurt by the campaign believe "the niggers will give in after a while," she said.

At this point, another squad car arrived, and the officers in that vehicle joined the police already at the scene. One of them started "stomping the hide off his (Miller's) foot and arm," Mrs. Miller recalled this week. "The other policeman was just kickin' at him."

Mrs. Miller said she pleaded with the police to stop kicking her son. "He was already passed out drunk," she said. "They kept on kicking him anyway."

Mrs. Miller then tried to hit an officer with one of her son's shoes. She was arrested for interfering with an arrest.

Officer Hurn, she charged, "shoved my head against the door of his car. He could see that I was pregnant, I was wearing a smock."

Miller said that when he arrived at the jail, he was taken to a room in the rear of the station for "questioning." With his hands cuffed together, he said, Hurn repeatedly struck him with a black-jack.

Mrs. Miller spoke bitterly of her attempts to get justice at the local level. She said she was laughed at by police officials and a city judge when she tried to lodge complaints against Hurn and Wilson.

Further, she said, she was unable to get a Florence lawyer to handle her case. The firm of Bedford and Bedford, from Russellville, is now representing her.

Miller is now preparing to go to Germany as a member of an Army supply unit. After the incident, local authorities gave him a choice between a jail sentence and the Army.

The Millers said they are not concerned with the money involved in the suit. "We are just plain sick and tired of certain policemen who think they can do anything to certain people around here," said Mrs. Miller.

The Millers' suit is the second in the past month to charge Florence police with civil rights violations. On May 22, Charles Staggs of Florence filed a \$375,000 suit against a number of officers.

The police department had nothing to say about these charges.

**Policies Hit in Public School Protest**  
**Is Coach Leaving Tuskegee?**

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE, Ala. -- Ever since a group of Negro students held a protest demonstration on the last day of the semester, people have been saying that Tuskegee Public School Principal Condon Campbell and Coach Jimmy Carter were going to resign.

This week, Macon County Schools Superintendent Joe C. Wilson said that half of the rumor is true. Although Campbell is staying, Wilson said, Carter is planning to leave at the end of the summer.

Campbell said the same thing Wilson did. "I have to field that rumor three times a day," the principal noted with a grin. "This is the only job I've got." But, he added, "I think Coach is leaving."

Carter, however, refused to confirm or deny the report. Although he has written out a resignation and has "several opportunities" elsewhere, he said, "I haven't decided what I'm going to do yet."

**Evers Pulls Out Of Delegation**

BY STEVE VAN EVERA

JACKSON, Miss.-- Charles Evers, field secretary of the Mississippi NAACP, resigned this week as a member of Mississippi's regular delegation to the National Democratic Convention.

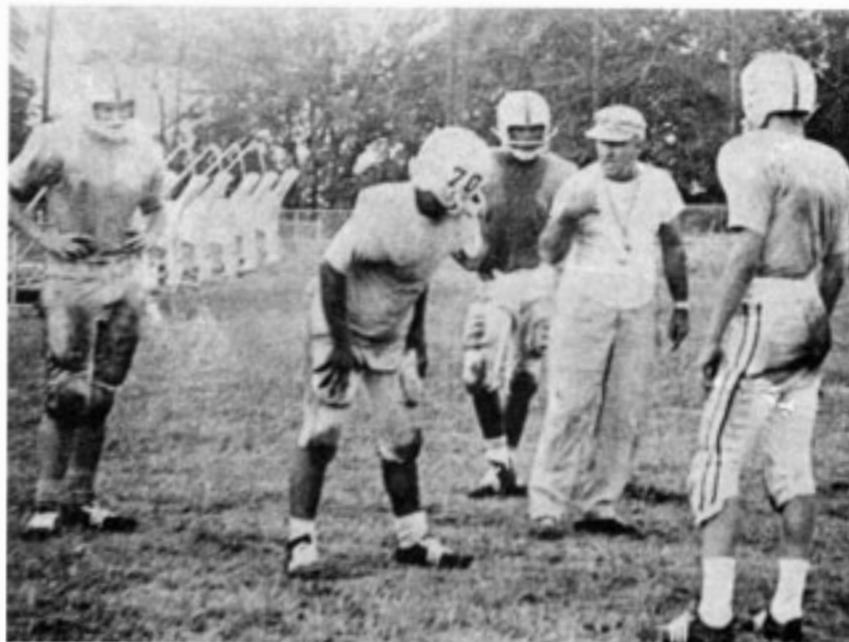
His resignation came last Tuesday, shortly after the state Democratic convention, meeting here, elected him as a delegate.

Announcing his resignation on the convention floor, Evers said, "I cannot and I will not be used to deny full representation to any people of this state."

Evers had drawn up a list of five demands, and had said he would resign if they were not met.

"We (Negroes) have not been heard or been accepted all day--and we have no alternative but to lead a challenge delegation to Chicago," Evers said.

He said the challenge will be organized by a "coalition of loyal Democrats." And, he said, he expects this coalition to include the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party, the NAACP, the Mississippi Young Democrats, the Delta Ministry, and the Negro Elks and Masons.



COACH CARTER DIRECTS TUSKEGEE PUBLIC FOOTBALL PRACTICE. Isn't it a little late to be undecided? snapped Carter in reply. "I don't have to tell you or anyone."

Campbell and Carter--both white men--came to Tuskegee Public two years ago. Under their administration, it has become one of the few truly integrated schools in Alabama. The student body is about 60% Negro, and white and black youths play side by side on all athletic teams.

But many of the Negro students--and some white ones--aren't satisfied with the education they get at Tuskegee Public. A group of outstanding Negro students--top scholars and athletes--interrupted the school's final award assembly to dramatize their grievances. Among other things, the students asked for improved courses, a handbook of clearly-defined rules, a more powerful student council, and a school year-book and newspaper.

When Coach Carter first came to Tuskegee Public, some Negro students said he was discriminating against them. But leaders of the protest demonstration said that isn't the problem any more--if it ever was. Lawrence F. Haygood Jr.--a former member of the basketball team--said the students object to the school's unusually strict athletic rules.

"We wanted changes so that everyone wouldn't have to play all three sports--or none," he said. "I had to quit the

of Coach Carter," he said, "but he could have stayed as far as the Board of Education was concerned. I hate to see Coach Carter leave. He has done a lot of good work."

For instance, Wilson said, "I don't think he was discriminatory. The first Negro to participate in a (white) track meet in the state of Alabama rode in his car to get there. He took the track team all over the state."

The real problem, Wilson suggested, is that Carter is "tough as nails," and has "a coaching philosophy of strict discipline. He wants to win."

Wilson pointed out that Tuskegee Public's inexperienced football and basketball teams have scored a few upsets in the last two years. Coach Carter deserves most of the credit, Wilson said: "It really was a miracle."

Right after the student protest, the superintendent refused to discuss any of the demands. This week, he was still reluctant to comment. "I have children in the school," he said, "I don't want to tell the principal what to do."

"It was unfortunate the thing that happened the last day of school happened," Wilson added, "But I don't think any of those things is unreasonable. A newspaper and yearbook--that's just normal procedure."

As for social activities--probably the most explosive issue--Wilson said he doesn't oppose them.

If the students request--and plan--some social events, the superintendent indicated, his office will not stand in the way.

**Eight on a Line**

BY JOEL ROSEN

HUNTSVILLE, Ala.--The people of the New Jerusalem community in the city of Huntsville say they're not satisfied with their telephone service. As many as eight parties are on one line in this rural area, they say. "People in New Jerusalem feel that the whites have better telephone service than the Negro residents in the area," said Joe Sledge, a New Jerusalem leader.

When Sledge spoke to a representative of Southern Bell (now South Central Bell), he said, he was told that plans are being made to give better service to the community. But, Sledge pointed out, "this is what he

told me one year ago." Sledge said he is trying to form a citizens committee to investigate further, and to approach the phone company as a group.

"Sometimes when I have to make a call, I have to get in my car and go find a pay phone," Sledge said.

Cleave Ernest, a spokesman for the phone company, said an eight-party line is not unusual for rural areas of Alabama. He said the company plans to eliminate such service, but he gave no date when this would take place.

Ernest also denied any racial discrimination in providing phone service.

**RUBBER TALKING BUSINESS**  
**NECK SUE FOLKS AND HERS TOO**



Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Mrs. Sylvia Cheatham has become the first Negro hired at the Shelton Vocational Technical Institute, where she will teach business education. For the past two years, she has been teaching at another formerly all-white school, in the Tuscaloosa city system. Mrs. Cheatham has been participating in a



MRS. SYLVIA CHEATHAM

training program before assuming her teaching duties at Shelton next Monday. Previously, Mrs. Cheatham taught in Birmingham for 12 years, worked at an insurance company, a bank, and a college in New York, and was a secretary for Tuscaloosa's Head Start program.

**Shorter, Ala.**

The first rural Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC) in the nation is being organized in Alabama this month. The proposed program is to have a technical job skill center and feeder in Montgomery, and feeders in the surrounding counties of Macon, Bullock, Lowndes, Elmore, Crenshaw, Pike, and Autauga. The program is designed to train the unskilled, the unemployed, and the under-employed on a massive scale, and to find jobs where these people can use their new skills. The OIC idea was originated in 1952 by the Rev. Leon H. Sullivan of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Today, there are OIC's in 56 cities, as

well as interested groups in Africa and South America. OIC meetings are now being held in various churches and restaurants in Alabama, and Sullivan is coming here this month to meet with interested people. Mrs. Consuello J. Harper (Rt. 1, Box 197, Shorter, Ala. 36075, phone 727-0439) is the local OIC co-ordinator, and Rufus Huffman is her assistant.

**Montgomery, Ala.**

Mrs. Carol Lottman, wife of Southern Courier Editor Michael S. Lottman, gave birth to a 6 lb., 3 oz. boy last Monday at Montgomery Baptist Hospital. The baby was named Andrew Martin Lottman. Meanwhile, back at the office, a holiday from work was declared in honor of the birth--about six hours before it took place.

**Tutwiler, Miss.**

The opening of the Tutwiler Education Center for Black Cultural Enrichment was celebrated June 20 with punch, cookies, and guitar music. More than 30 people--including the Rev. Solomon Gort Jr. and the Rev. Rims Barber of the Delta Ministry--came to the open house at the new center next door to the Church of Christ. Parents and children wandered through the two-room building, admiring posters of James Baldwin, Stokely Carmichael, and Muhammad Ali on the newly-painted purple and green walls. Michael Smith, a native of Chicago, Illinois, is director of the center. This summer, he said, the center will teach black drama, music, and history, as well as volleyball, baseball, and soccer.

**Troy, Ala.**

Troy held a second memorial service for the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy June 16 at the First Baptist Church. Participants included the Rev. Albert McCorvey, the Rev. H. A. Duncombe, Miss Gloria Money, Miss Geraldine Thomas, Miss Ethel Money, Miss Juliet Pearson, and Miss Armilla Money. Mrs. Juanita Farrow, president of the NAACP, sponsored the program.

**Huntsville, Ala.**

Twenty-two members of the Sisters

of Concern Club (SOCC) have been graduated from a 12-week training program designed to up-grade the skills of domestic employees in the Huntsville area. The graduation ceremonies at Oakwood College were attended by about 200 people. The training program covered such topics as first aid, home nursing, home management, and baby-sitting. Its object is to enable SOCC members to earn at least the legal minimum wage for their work in private homes. Mrs. Margaret Hayden and Mrs. Lucille Gaines, two graduating students, received special recognition at the ceremonies for their exceptional achievements.

**Atlanta, Ga.**

Negroes have won Democratic nominations for the legislatures in two states whose present legislators are all white. Joe Lang Kershaw, a Miami high school teacher, was nominated for the Florida House of Representatives, while two other Negro candidates in Florida were unopposed. In North Carolina, the Negro nominees were Henry Frye of Greensboro and William R. Crawford of Winston-Salem. All five nominees face Republican opposition in November. (From VEP News)

**Atlantic City, New Jersey**

The Rev. William M. Smith of Mobile, Ala., president of the Alabama NAACP, was the speaker at the traditional ministers' breakfast at the 59th annual NAACP convention. "We have called for a city called Freedom," Smith said, "and we are determined to make it our home." Another Alabama delegate at the convention was Mrs. Juanita Farrow, president of the Troy NAACP.



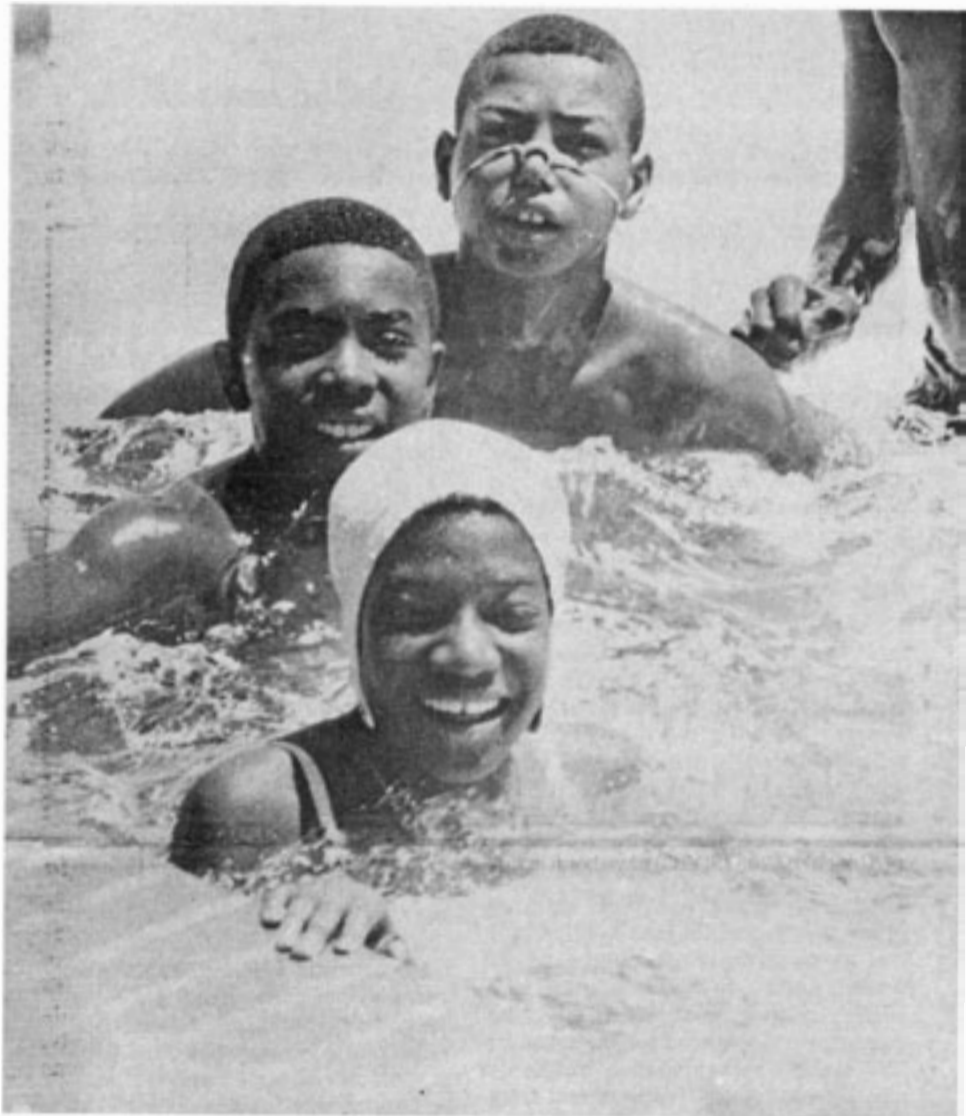
"TRAINING CLASS" IN TROY





# Swimming At the 'Y'

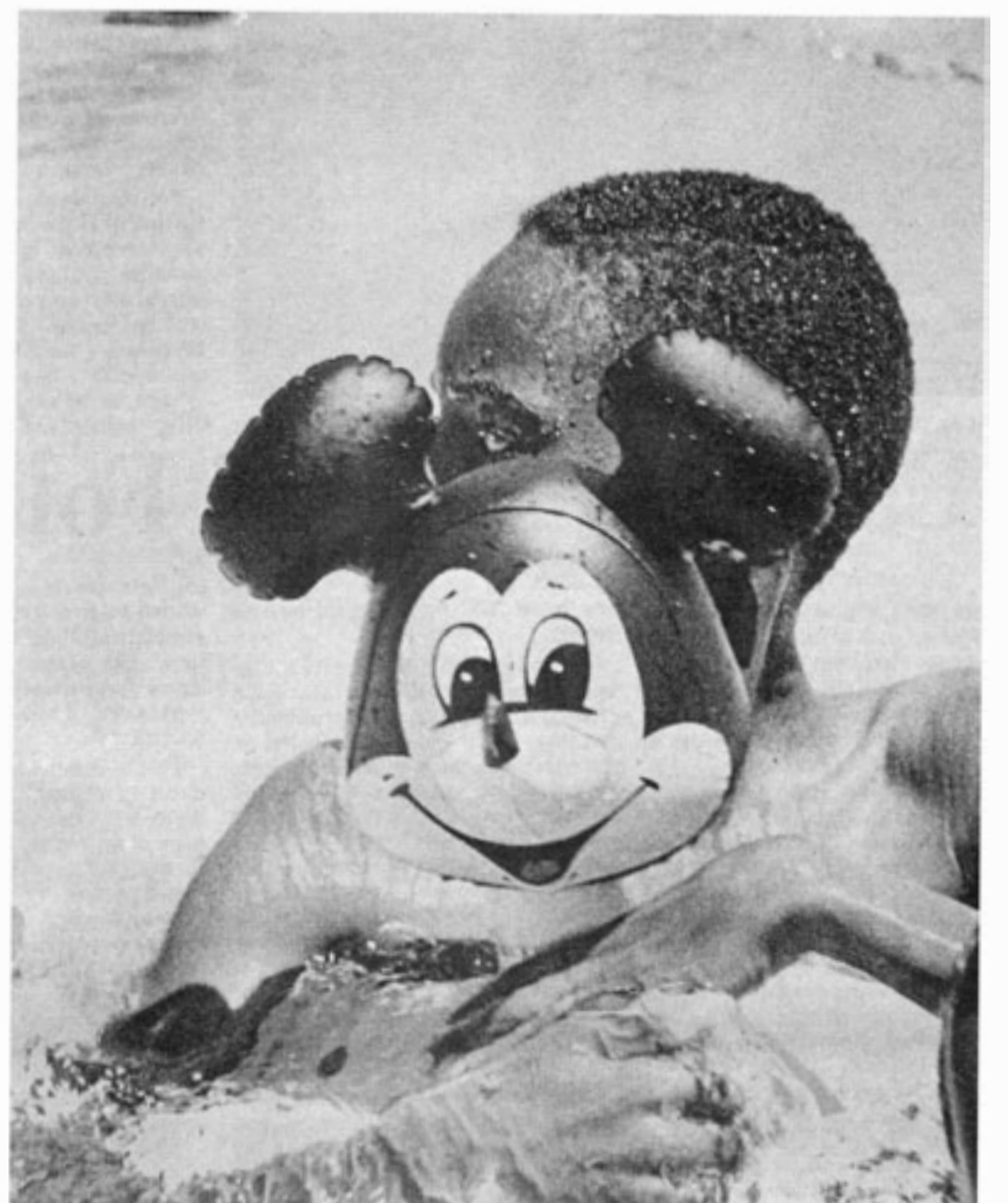
*Photos by Kenneth W. Lumpkin*



MONTGOMERY, Ala.--Each day, about 75 people participate in the summer swimming program at the Cleveland Avenue YMCA.

Under competent instruction, boys and girls learn beginning and advanced techniques, as well as the fundamentals of water safety.

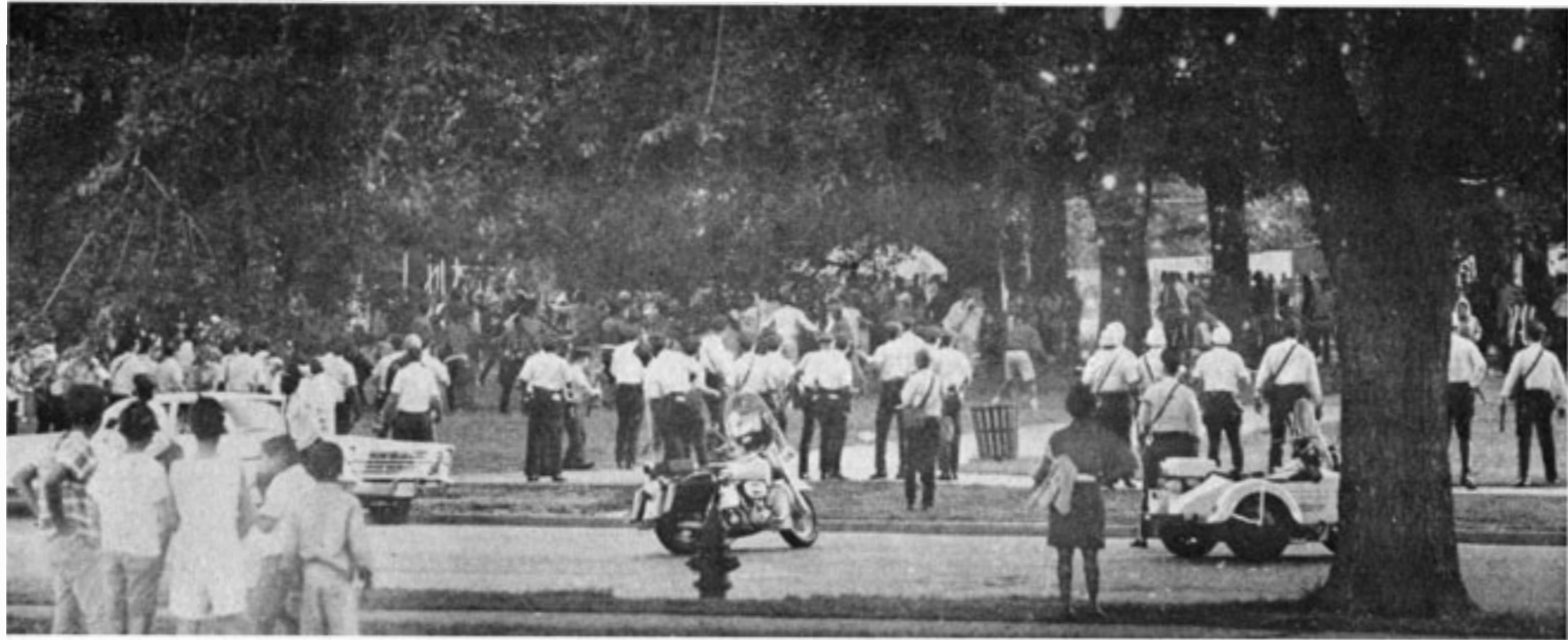
Then each kid adds his own personal touch. Some of the strokes and dives you see at the 'Y' don't look like anything taught in the classes.





## Police Clear Resurrection City

# 'We Came Up to Stay--Now It's All Gone'



POLICE MOVE IN ON CAMPAIGNERS RETURNING FROM AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

TEXT BY JOHN C. DIAMANTE AND PHOTOS BY KENNETH W. LUMPKIN  
 WASHINGTON, D. C.--Once you could walk from Newark to the Mississippi Delta, Boston to Tallahassee, or Milwaukee to Oakland--all on the streets of Resurrection City, the shantytown for poor people from all over the nation.

But now Resurrection City is just a trampled, heavily rutted area of muddy ground next to the Reflecting Pool.

Here and there, half-buried in the mud, lies a run-down shoe, the head of a broken brown doll, a fragment of a Kennedy-for-President poster, a discarded guitar string, or a lost "I have a dream" button.

In the trees on the south side of West Potomac Park, there are echoes--of joyful drumming, of voices that sang freedom songs and debated economics far into the morning hours, and of loud-speakers summoning people for demonstrations, concerts, and emergencies.

But the government wrecking crews have moved with fierce efficiency, dismantling the homes and municipal buildings, and trucking away posses-

brothers and sisters, and eat with 'em and be with 'em.

"My son and I--we came up to stay, and now it's all gone. I feel so sad and now I--we don't know where we want to go."

Representatives of the American Indians had granted the Poor People's Campaign permission to stay in Resurrection City indefinitely. But the federal government refused to renew the camping permit beyond June 23.

Although some campaign leaders had vowed that the government would have to carry them away, many people had come to the conclusion that the burden of maintaining Resurrection City was taking too much time and effort.

"Resurrection City was a very powerful symbol," explained the Rev. Andrew Young, executive vice-president of SCLC. "Tremendous interest (in poverty) emerged, and most of the people who support us will not be affected by bad publicity and rumors."

"But you can always get caught up in that kind of show-business. . . . In one sense, whoever closed us down may have done us a favor."

But there was also trouble with violence--from within the city and from Washington police--leading up to the destruction of the campaign's most powerful symbol.

"We didn't bring saints to Resurrection City," Young explained to newsmen who were concerned about the harassment and occasional beatings and robberies that they as well as others were encountering in the shantytown.

"We brought the people who were most affected by poverty--people so scared by the system that their minds don't always rule their emotions," Young said. "America usually does not see the poor. So Resurrection City gave them a chance to see the hostility, violence, and anti-religious feelings of the poor--this is it!"

Some campaigners wondered whether events during Resurrection City's last days had been planned in advance to make everyone nervous about violence and eager to send the poor people packing home.

The Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy, in fact, specifically charged that "paid infiltrators" had been sent into the city to disrupt its non-violent activities and provoke police and public reaction.

But the final act really started on Thursday, June 20, when police and demonstrators at the Agriculture Department clashed over the blocking of streets during rush-hour traffic.

For the first time since an early demonstration at the Supreme Court, police used their long billy clubs on demonstrators. Although two young campaigners provoked them, the police--both nervous and angry--flayed nearly 20 people, including several elderly campaigners, and arrested over 70.

Then, on the way back to Resurrection City, police and marchers scuffled

again as traffic was blocked. Already upset by the confusion at the Agriculture building, some young campaigners engaged in rock- and bottle-throwing.

So the police--including Captain Jerry Wilson, who has received widespread praise for reining in police during tense situations--responded by throwing tear gas.

Following these beatings and gasings, it was touch-and-go all night as SCLC staff members argued with young militants who wanted to give the police a violent reply. By a narrow margin, SCLC won the debate.

"Understand me, brothers!" cried an angry campaigner. "They (SCLC) love non-violence when it comes to the man. But when it comes to black identity, they turn us around. . . . So those brothers who want to be black men, you come to our meeting (to form a self-defense unit)."

But campaign leaders accused the militants of wanting to provoke mass violence from the police by hiding in Resurrection City, "behind women and small children."

"Most of the people who sit around woofin' won't go out and help organize high school kids not to go into (President) Johnson's army," argued the Rev. James Bevel. "That's being serious about revolution. . . . by building a base."

"But when an Eastland (Senator James O. Eastland of Mississippi) . . . a Mendel Rivers (a South Carolina congressman) . . . a Chicago judge can walk around without fear for their lives--when brothers and sisters in the ghetto pass by a power plant to burn down a pawn shop, you don't have revolution. . . . We're not going to let white folks with sick-minded Negroes set us to violence."

"You use violence to set up certain syndromes in people," Bevel said. "Black people would turn you in if you went to the black ghetto tonight--you got to determine where your people are. . . . I'm not concerned about taking over Mississippi. I'm working on taking over a continent (using economics), because Johnson doesn't have a single plan for the cities or education."

But other spokesmen kept disagreeing. "Bevel said some beautiful things, but Bevel's thing is in trouble too," said one.

"I don't know how to act when I go outside Resurrection City--they'll kill me," remarked another speaker. "I happen to know that people at the top can't speak to people at the bottom."

Finally, the militants were assigned to guard the gates of the city. But the disorganized security force, which had gone through several shake-ups, was unable to find or evict people who continued to provoke small incidents during a tense Friday and Saturday.

Then--late Saturday night, following several reports that a Molotov cocktail had been thrown into the city from a passing police car--there was more rock-throwing at cars on almost-de-



MASK PROTECTS POLICEMAN FROM TEAR GAS

serted Independence Avenue.

But instead of sealing off the streets and approaching Resurrection City officials about arrest of the offenders, the police launched a barrage of about 30 tear gas canisters into the city--where a thousand men, women, and children were sleeping in their huts.

Abernathy later called the gassing the most brutal police action he had experienced in his 15 years in the civil rights movement. In the ensuing panic, choking, weeping residents had to be evacuated temporarily while SCLC staffers worked all night to prevent armed retaliation against the police who had surrounded the city.

Late Sunday night, June 23, federal officials--spurred on by an alarmed press, public and Congress--told SCLC that its camping permit would not be extended. And so, in the clean, calm, and eerily quiet mist-shrouded city, the campaigners prepared for the eviction. The leaders separated those residents who agreed to non-violent arrest from those who might try violent resistance with guns and their own tear gas.

Early Monday, Abernathy marched off to the Agriculture building with about 200 campaigners to protest starvation. They proceeded to Capitol Hill--defying a law against demonstrations on the Capitol grounds--and were arrested without incident.

Meanwhile, Hosea Williams assembled many of the remaining Resurrection City residents in the Many Races Soul Center for a final workshop and singing session. Other city-dwellers went about their business, working on construction and other daily functions of the community such as communications, sanitation, and registration.

Nearly 2,000 police surrounded the

bealmed city, under threatening thunderclouds. After reading a violation notice, a heavily armed riot squad of 250 police broke down the fence and moved in. It took them an hour and a half to sweep the city, hut by hut, and arrest the last 114 residents and some small children for "camping without a permit."

No weapons were found. The only incident occurred when a booby-trapped hut triggered a tear gas canister that affected several of the police.

That afternoon, as workmen began dismantling what the late Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. called a "City of Hope," police moved in on campaigners elsewhere in Washington.

In the days that followed, the Poor People's Campaign--struggling to launch a "second phase" including civil disobedience in Washington and national economic boycotts--found the nation's capital an increasingly hostile place.

The campaign's second most powerful symbol--the mule train--rolled past the Capitol only to be impounded by the local humane society. The mules "had to be in excellent condition to walk from Mississippi to Atlanta," Rev. Young of SCLC said later, in protest.

In addition, a local, privately-owned school was ordered to evict campaigners because of neighbors' complaints, although the owner said that the neighbors had been turning out to help instead of complaining. Even the parking privileges near SCLC office locations were withdrawn.

"More and more we realize that. . . a link between the Justice Department and the White House is making the real decisions," commented Young.

"These decisions are clearly not in the interest of First Amendment (CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE)



OUT-OF-TOWN VISITOR SUPPORTS CAMPAIGN (Photo by Jim Peppler)

## 'Easy to Live If Folks Let You'

BY CANDY ROBINSON

(Miss Candy Robinson, a native of Biloxi, Miss., worked with the Freedom Democratic Party and COFO during the summers of 1964 and 1965 in Harrison and Jackson counties. She is now working with the Poor People's Campaign in Washington, D. C.)

RESURRECTION CITY, U. S. A.--When I left Atlanta, Ga., with the Southern caravan of the Poor People's Campaign, I had no idea that I would be in charge of a group of women and children. I spent the whole ten-hour trip to Washington cleaning up vomit and diarrhea.

Many of the women had never been to a doctor, and the children had never had a decent meal. They didn't even know what a doctor was.

The spirit was beautiful--women, children, and old folks with smiles on their faces. Just hearing the folks talk about President Johnson wishing that the poor folks wouldn't come to his capi-

tal and bring their dirt and sickness was proof that no one could turn us around.

The greetings in Resurrection City were a story in itself. First folks would greet you by saying, "Hey, brother," and then, "Are you on the case?" As your face became a familiar sight around the city you were asked the ultimate question, "Do you have your stuff together?"

For many people Resurrection City was a home, for some it was a chance to be seen, and for others it was a social gathering place. It was a place to talk what you wanted to talk, wear what you wanted to wear, and smoke what you wanted to smoke. Many said it was a "free city" with a lot of soul.

Then the rains came, the tents leaked, the food wasn't hot, and many times people didn't get a chance to eat. It was interesting to see folks doing some of the same things that they had been doing at home--old women sitting

on their porches, men finding other women to jive around with, and people complaining about the system. But this time the system wasn't the United States government, it was the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

People didn't have clothing and they didn't have food. They didn't see that the federal government had not given them equal rights, and had put them into a higher form of slavery--a thing called welfare.

Many folks packed the clothes they had gathered while in Resurrection City and left. But one woman said, "The conditions here are no different than those at home--so why should I leave?"

Did SCLC fail in explaining to the people where the problem was? Maybe the folks should have built their own houses, and cooked their own food.

What will happen now to the plastic plumbing? And what will happen to the ideas that many folks had? What will

happen to the dream of a better America, with justice, equality--and food--for all? Many of those questions were asked by the citizens of Resurrection City.

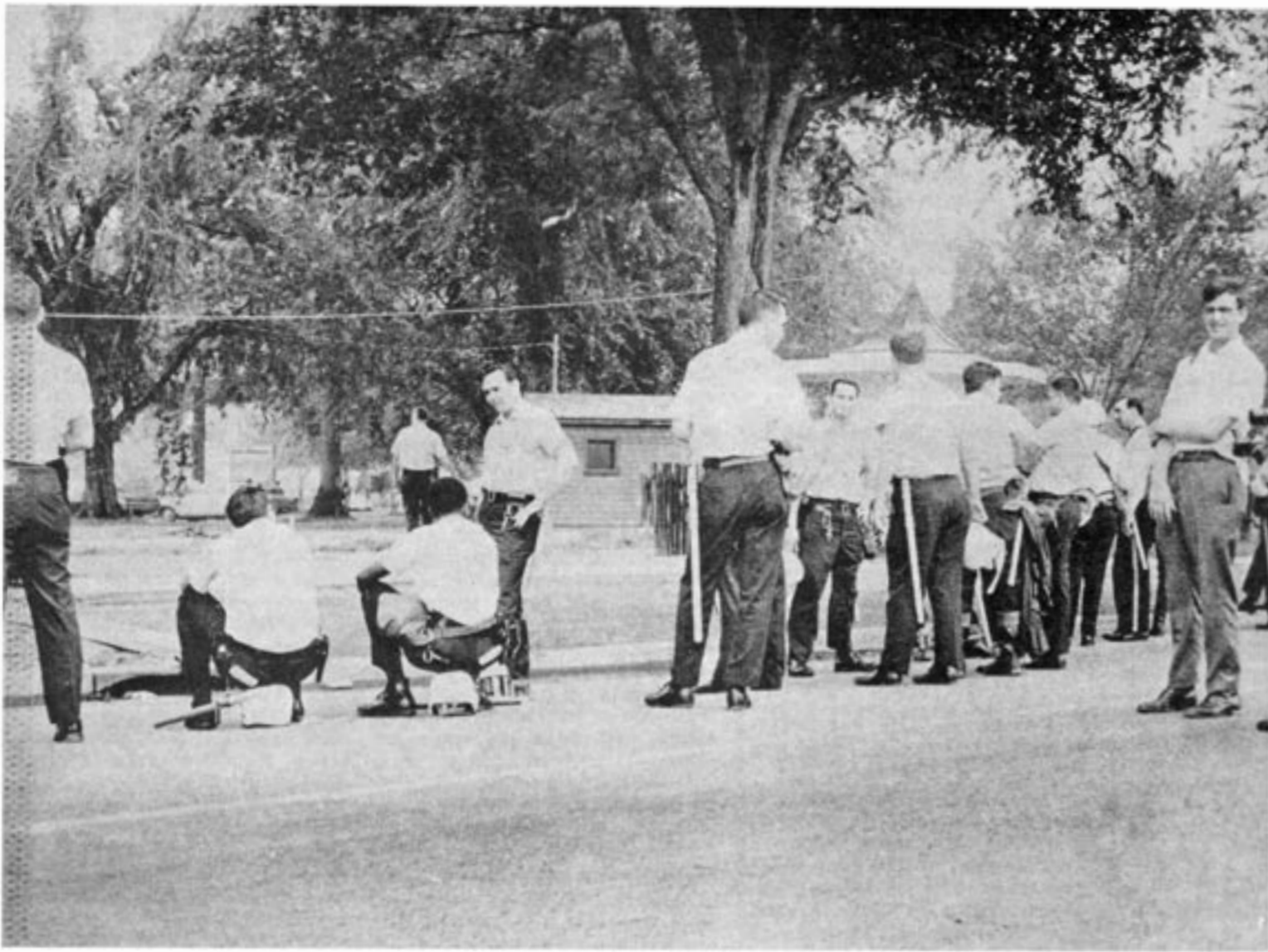
"Man, don't you know if they tear down my city, I won't have a HOME!" I heard one man say that the night before Resurrection City was torn down, and I think many people felt that way. All of the folks who had somewhere else to go left when the hardships came--so the people who stayed were the ones with no place to go.

"What's going to happen, man?" people kept asking. I wish the hell I knew. You know I'm tired of begging folks for food, for clothing, and for decent housing. To live is so easy if folks will let you! The animals up on Capitol Hill need to be shot for killing babies before they are born. Yes, it's a terrible thing. It would be so easy to live if folks were right.



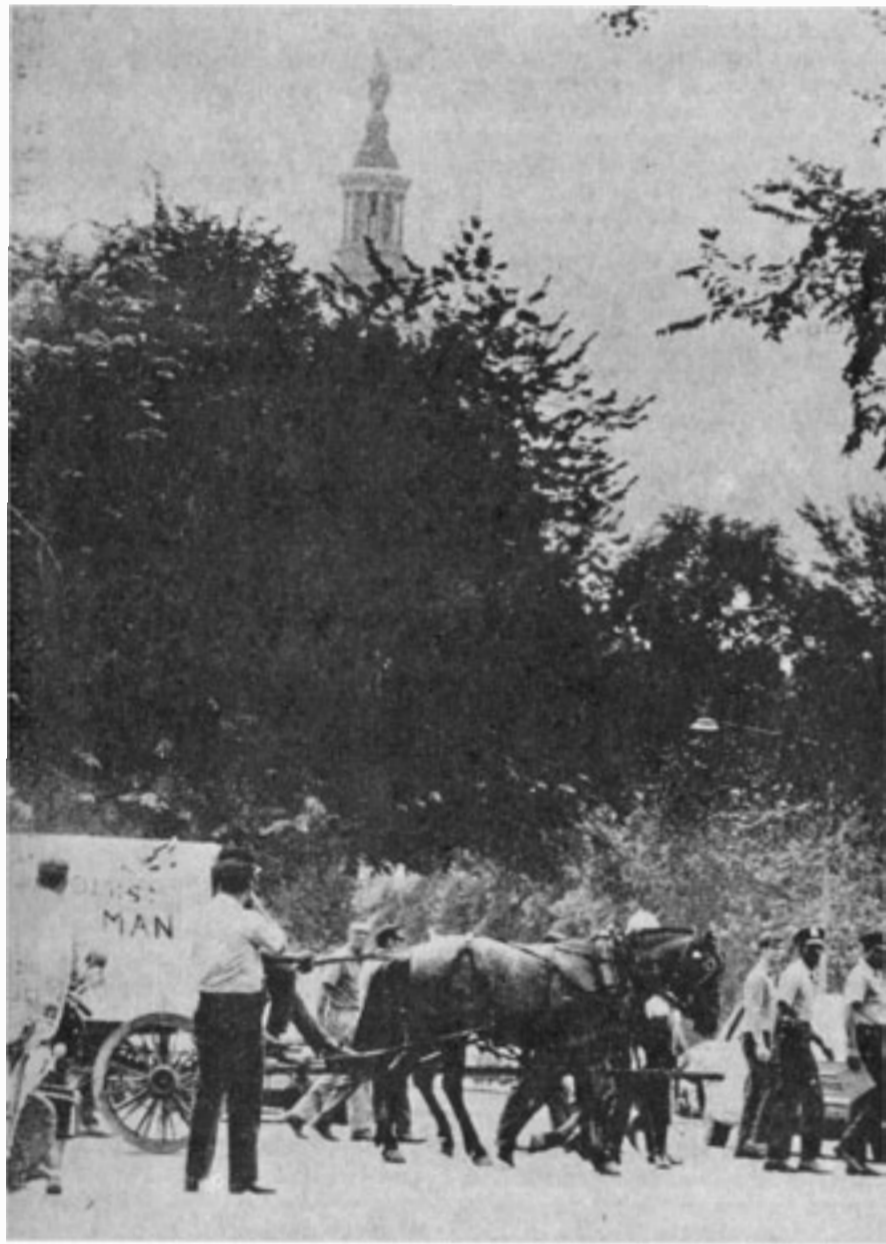
WAITING TO BE EVICTED FROM RESURRECTION CITY



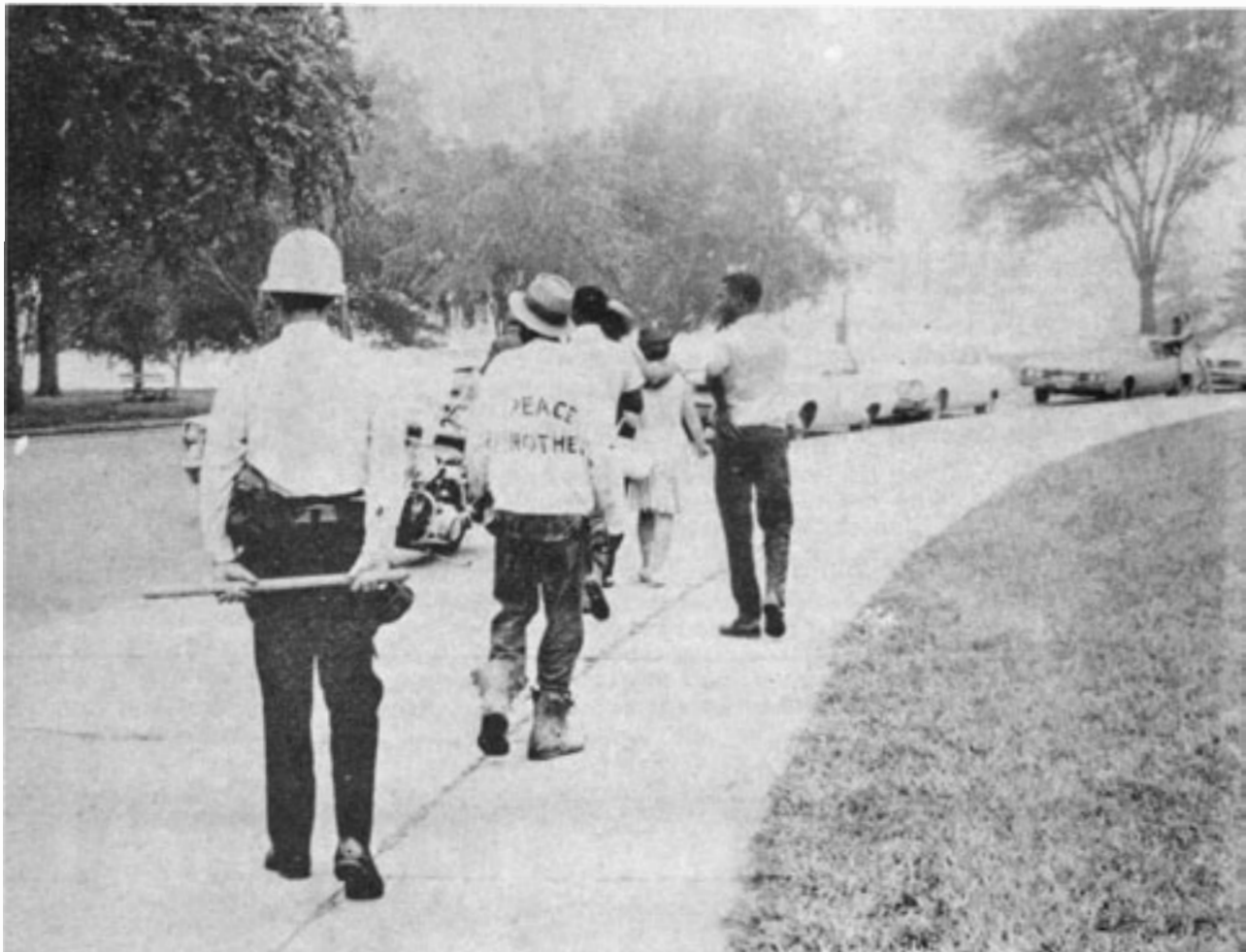


Photos by  
Melvin I. Todd

# The Last Days Of Resurrection City



(CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR)  
rights," he said, "and we have a distinct awareness that the people with whom we talk--and we talk with almost everyone, police, etc.--are NOT making the decisions."  
But the police were willing--and sometimes eager--to enforce the decisions. A black policeman--one of the officers occupying the sealed-off Resurrection City--explained:  
"I know these bastards--I became a cop because I figured that's one less job for Whitey. These guys have had to sit on their feelings for six weeks.  
"They weren't allowed in the camp in the first place. They couldn't beat on these kids and old people at the demonstrations. They been watching niggers run with the white girls. And they've had some of these kids shoutin' insults at them. All I can say is, it's lucky nobody gave 'em the excuse to wipe out this whole place."





Takes HR Lead as Rebels Advance

# Redmond Comes Back at Age 22

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN  
MONTGOMERY, Ala.--Montgomery Rebel outfielder Wayne Redmond is making a comeback at an age when most baseball players haven't yet been away. The 22-year-old slugger--a hero at 19, a bum at 20, and a has-been at 21--took over the Southern League home run lead last Sunday, with a mid-season total of 14.

Back in 1965, Redmond hit 31 home runs while dividing his time between Jamestown, Pennsylvania, and Montgomery. But a year later, Redmond managed just 15 four-baggers for the Rebels, while batting a measly .238. And last season, he fell apart completely--hitting just eight homers as he skidded back down to the Class A minors.

But this year, Redmond has been back in the groove. His last four homers--

combined with some timely blows by teammate Larry Rojas--have put the Rebels in the thick of the Southern League pennant race at mid-season.

Last Friday against Evansville (Indiana), the Rebels staged one of their bombs-away innings for a 4-2 victory. After singles by Bob Gilhooley and Barry Morgan, Rojas bounced double over the head of Evansville left-fielder Carlos Blanco for two runs.

Then Redmond stepped up and belted a towering home run over the left-center-field fence. So much for Evansville.

The next night, the Rebels quickly fell behind the Charlotte (N. C.) Hornets, 2 to 0. But Rojas hit a homer to make it 2 to 1, and then Jim Covington drove in Tim Marting to tie the score.

The score was still tied when Redmond stepped to the plate in the seventh with the bases full. But the slugging outfielder untied it with a grand-slam home run over the green-painted fence in deepest center field.

Montgomery staged its big inning early last Sunday against Charlotte, scoring four runs in the opening frame. Marting doubled, Paul Pavelkosingled, and Gilhooley scored Marting on a sa-

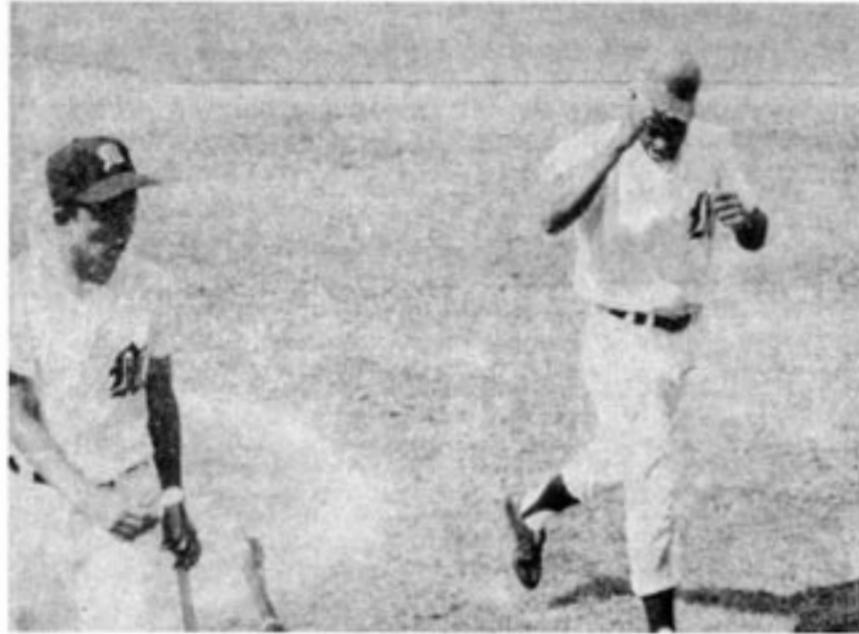
crifice fly. On the next play, Pavelko came across on an error.

Then with a man on, Rojas stroked his eighth homer.

Though the Rebels were leading, Redmond was having his troubles. In his first two trips to the plate, he struck out twice, as Charlotte hurler John Randolph set him up with fast balls and then fooled him with change-ups.

Before Redmond's third at-bat, Rebel Manager Frank Carswell called him over for a conference. Though most of their discussion was inaudible, fans near the dugout could hear something about swinging at the first pitch.

So in the fifth, Redmond looked at Randolph's first pitch, and sent the second over the left-field wall. And in the eighth, he pickled Garland Shifflett's first offering for a Redmond special--way up and way out.



REDMOND (RIGHT) TIPS CAP AFTER HITTING HOMER



**FOR A BETTER ALABAMA**--The Alabama Council on Human Relations has active chapters in Birmingham, Mobile, Montgomery, Huntsville, Florence-Tusculumbia-Sheffield, Auburn-Opelika-Tuskegee, Talladega, and Tuscaloosa. It has a staff that works throughout the state. The Alabama Council is integrated at all levels: its staff officers, staff, and local chapters all have people of both races working side by side. The Alabama Council wishes to establish local chapters in every county in the state. If you wish to join the Council's crusade for equal opportunity and human brotherhood, write The Alabama Council, P. O. Box 1310, Auburn, Ala. 36830.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**--The Montgomery Head Start needs all the volunteers 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.

**SWAFCA JOBS**--The following positions are open at the Southwest Alabama Farmers Co-operative Association, P. O. Box 955, 1315B Jeff Davis Ave., Selma, Ala. 36701: economic development specialist, co-op education specialist, procurement and equipment manager, assistant marketing specialist, assistant co-op manager, secretaries, clerk-typists, administrative assistants, field-station supply foreman, field-station clerks, mechanics, truck-drivers, yard crews, and assistant project director.

**CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS**--"For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." This verse from Haba-kuk is part of the Lesson-Sermon titled "God," to be read in all Christian Science churches Sunday, July 7.

**REVIVAL**--Revival services will be held at the Friendship Baptist Church, Enterprise, Ala., at 7:30 p.m. each night Monday, July 8, through Friday, July 12. The theme will be "Revived Through His Resurrection." The Rev. John McCarthy, pastor of the Hopewell Baptist Church in Mobile, will be the evangelist.

**CHANGING ADDRESS?**--Any time they change their address, recipients of veterans' benefits should notify the Veterans Administration office that maintains their records. Otherwise, they may lose one or more payments of their V. A. benefits before the change is discovered.

**VETERANS' PENSIONS**--Needy veterans with war-time service who are 65 or older may qualify for a Veterans Administration disability pension without proving that they have a specific disability. For pension purposes, war-time veterans are automatically considered to be permanently and totally disabled at age 65. A veteran without dependents can qualify for a pension if his annual income is less than \$1,800. The income limit for veterans with dependents is \$3,000. Pensions range from \$45 to \$104 per month. These pension benefits have nothing to do with disability compensation, which is paid to veterans of any age for injuries suffered while in service. For more information, contact your local V. A. office.

**NEED MONEY?**--Be a sales representative for a socio-political-satirical new poster line. Ideal for individuals and organizations. For complete poster profit kit, write to Gross National Product, Box 427, Wayzata, Minn. 55391.

**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.

## 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.

## Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights

The weekly meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. Monday, July 8, in the 17th Street AOH Church of God, 630 N. 17th St., Bishop Jasper Roby, pastor. The speaker will be the Rev. F. L. Shuttlesworth.



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