

THE SOUTHERN COURIER

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TEN CENTS

Negro Voters All Over State Say, 'I Waited,' But No Negro Candidates Able to Say, 'I Won'



SEVERAL TO FACE RUN-OFF RACES

BY STEPHEN E. COTTON

Mostly, it was just waiting. For many, it began at 5 a.m., an hour (two hours in some places) before the polls opened. For others, it began in the afternoon and ended at 2 the next morning--six or seven hours after the polls were supposed to close.

At the fire station in Pratt City, Birmingham, an old Negro man passed out as he waited in line under a blistering morning sun. Police called an ambulance, but he refused to be taken away. "I'm not going anywhere till I pull that lever," he declared. "This is the first time I'm voting, and it might be my last."

In Wilcox County, Negroes made the best of a long wait at Harvey's Fish Camp, a cafe and bait shop far off the paved roads. They said that the polling place had been switched to the white store from a place on the main road just so that Negroes would have trouble finding it.

By the time whites came around to vote, they found the place jammed with Negroes--many of them having a picnic of fried chicken and sharing it with federal observers who were watching the election at every voting place in Wilcox County.

For Negro candidates who survived the primary, there will be a long wait until the end of the month, when they have to take on white opponents once again.

Of the more than 90 Negro candidates in the primary, none won nominations. Eight of eleven Negroes running for the state House of Representatives and the one Senate candidate would be in run-offs. And four of the seven Negro sheriff candidates would go at it again May 31.

As the sun got lower, the lines got longer on election day. In Montgomery, 1,100 people were still waiting at the Cleveland Avenue fire station at 6 p.m., when the polls were supposed to close.

In the playground of the Hill Elementary School in Birmingham, small groups in line huddled around tiny fires to keep warm two-and-a-half hours after the polls were to have closed. Seven hundred were in line, and they got to vote.

An 86-year-old partially blind man stood patiently behind 200 other people waiting to vote at the Jefferson County Courthouse.

A white woman behind him carried a sample ballot reading "Keep a Good Administration, Vote Wallace." He held a sample ballot marked for Attorney General Richmond Flowers, and he wore a button that read, "Grow with Flowers."

"I'll stay here as long as I have to," he said quietly. "If they tell me to, I'll come back tomorrow."

"There were 200 people there when I got to the courthouse this morning," smiled a Birmingham elevator operator. "It was the best thing almost I ever saw." He voted for Flowers.

In Suttle, Perry County, all of the 35 registered Negroes on one plantation trooped down to the boss man's store to vote.

"It ain't been this way since we voted for Folsom in '48," said another Negro man as he waited to vote at the Hill School in Birmingham. He smiled, and the people who heard him smiled, too. They carried ballots marked for Flowers.

Where did the Negroes' vote go? At the all-Negro Washington School box in Birmingham, election officials put the vote at 95 per cent for Attorney General Richmond Flowers. Former Congressman Carl Elliott received 5

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO, Col. 1)

For a 79-Year-Old Grandmother The First Vote Was Hard Work

BY ROBERT E. SMITH

WETUMPKA--The day was cloudy early in the morning. Mrs. Annie Bell Kyles thought she was going fishing when her granddaughter's husband came by to pick her up. "You got the bait?" she asked him.

Her granddaughter, Mrs. Annie Mae Williams, had told Mrs. Kyles to wake up early Tuesday. She had forgotten to remind the woman that it was the day to go voting.

By the time Mrs. Kyles, Mrs. Williams, and a lady friend reached the Wetumpka Community Center for white folks the sun was hot and about 100 white and Negro voters were standing in line. That was at five minutes after 10 a.m.

The 79-year-old grandmother of 13 had registered last fall after federal examiners were sent to Elmore County, which is just north of Montgomery. This was her first time voting.

"I've voted before," said her granddaughter. "I registered when you needed one of the white folks to take you down. An Uncle Tom woman that the white folks knew took me down."

The three ladies chatted happily in line waiting to vote. Mrs. Kyles had a pin saying "Grow With Flowers" upside down on her dress until Mrs. Williams fixed it. Then the ladies decided to take off their pins and put away their sample ballots.

Earlier, at her granddaughter's home, Mrs. Kyles had studied the sample ballot distributed by a voters' group Monday night.

"Flowers, vote for him first," said Mrs. Williams.

A white man in charge of two of the voting machines came outside to get the line moving. He noticed Mrs. Kyles and grabbed her hand. He remembered that she had worked for his family.

"Bell, you cooked many a breakfast

for me."

"That's right, Mr. Bill, yessuh,"

Just after that a fancy-looking white woman a few places back in the line was asked where she had voted last time.

"This is the first time I've voted," she said so that everyone turned around and looked at her.

It was a long wait, and people kept seeing old familiar faces and talking about old times. Another white woman with unusual sunglasses sat on the grass to rest, and began singing a once popular song, "This is the moment... you've waited for..."

It was almost 11 a.m. now and Mrs. Kyles was learning that just to cast one vote was a full morning's work. Mrs.



MRS. KYLES WAITS TO VOTE

Williams was allowed to vote, but the election officials said Mrs. Kyles' name was not on their list.

"You'll have to get your certificate, Bell," they told her.

So Mrs. Kyles and Mrs. Williams turned around, marched back to the car, and went home to find the piece of paper the federal examiner gives you when you register.

At 11:15 a.m. Mrs. Kyles was back in line again, this time inside the community center. The man in charge of the voting machine was allowing folks as much as five minutes inside the curtains.

A half-hour later, it was Mrs. Kyles' turn. With her granddaughter inside the curtains with her, she spent four minutes going down the list, pulling each lever next to each name checked on the sample ballot.

As they were leaving the voting booth, a Negro man next in line asked for help inside the voting booth, but was refused by the voting official. Mrs. Williams stopped to complain and to get the name of the official.

On the way home, Mrs. Kyles asked, "Where do we go now?"

"We're going home now," said her granddaughter. "You're a citizen now."

Theaters Close

MOBILE--Last week, the people who had been picketing five theaters in the Negro section of Mobile and Prichard got court permission to begin picketing again, but they don't have anything to picket. The theaters are closed.

A big sign on the main theater in the chain, owned by the C. H. King family, says they are closed for remodeling and repairs. The picketers say the theater is closed because business had dropped almost to zero.



FRED D. GRAY
In 31st House Run-Off



LUCIUS D. AMERSON
In Macon Sheriff Run-Off

The Split Was On In Macon Election

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE--In an election that ought to puzzle the experts, Macon County voters made it clear that no one is telling them what to do.

The county's Negro majority scattered its vote among Negro and white candidates without nominating a Negro for any major county office. The white minority turned in a bloc vote that crumbled a little around the edges.

The only Negroes who won a clear majority throughout the county were two candidates for the state House of Representatives--Fred Gray and Thomas Reed.

Gray, the county's top vote-getter,

rolled up more than 4,000 votes in Macon against two white men for place 2 in the 31st District (Macon, Bullock, and Barbour counties). Reed, running for place 1 against a Negro woman and a white man, received more than 3,100 votes.

Three Negro candidates--for sheriff, tax collector, and one board of revenue seat--were forced into run-offs by unexpectedly strong white opposition.

Whites running against Negroes won one place on the board of education and one on the board of revenue.

The crowd gathered around the probate judge's office Tuesday night didn't know quite what to make of the results. As cigarette butts and coke bottles piled up on the courthouse steps, the political observers asked each other, "What happened?"

What happened was that Macon voters didn't follow the rules--anybody's rules. They didn't even vote in the numbers expected.

Although nearly every white adult cast a ballot, more than 2,000 Negroes stayed at home. About 4,400 Negroes and 2,100 whites went to the polls.

The results looked like a victory for bi-racial government and consensus politics as practiced by the county's strongest political leader, C. G. Gomillion. For the second time in two years a Negro majority declined to turn white officeholders out of the courthouse.

But the young rebels challenging Gomillion's Macon County Democratic Club splintered the Negro vote several ways.

The club endorsed Carl Elliott for governor. But Richmond Flowers received 2,849 votes to Elliott's 1,901 (Mrs. Wallace was third with 1,594).

Reed won his Macon County majority after getting the club's endorsement over its original choice, Mrs. Jessie P. Guzman, for the state House of Representatives. Reed's white opponent, James L. Paulk, took first place in the district-wide voting by winning the white vote in the three-county district.

Lucius D. Amerson, the only Negro candidate in the county's four-way race for sheriff, won the club's official "expression of preference" over Harvey Sadler, the Wallace appointee who now holds the job.

But Sadler gave a surprising show of strength. He swept Notasulga (where whites outnumber Negroes) and held his own in Tuskegee. He won at least 500

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE, Col. 1)

Gilmore Waits for the Election Results

'Baby, We've Got to Make It'

BY DAPHNA SIMPSON

GREENE COUNTY--He lay on the bed, his back to the television set. His legs were tense and his arms were twisted around a pillow. With his eyes closed, Gilmore listened to the election results.

Every few minutes he sat up to telephone the probate judge's office. His silence sometimes broke into a comment on the results of the latest box.

"Man, we're going to make it yet. He's leading right now, but we've 13 boxes to report in. We're going to make it. Baby, we've got to make it!"



But the worried look was still there.

As midnight passed, the Rev. Thomas E. Gilmore, candidate for sheriff of Greene County, saw his chances of winning the race disappear. His opponent, incumbent Sheriff Bill Lee, is a seasoned politician, a big bear of a man with a lot of friends and a family history of sheriffs.

Results from ballot boxes in the more heavily populated Negro areas of the county were disappointing. Although Gilmore carried many of these areas, he did so by very small margins. In his hometown of Forkland where the population is mostly Negro, Gilmore led by only 85 votes.

He lost the Democratic primary by 297 votes, but Thomas Gilmore hasn't given up yet. Last Tuesday he and the other four Greene County Negro candidates filed a petition to run on the independent black panther party ticket in the November elections.

Meanwhile, SCLC will file a complaint with the Justice Department against discrimination at the polls. Greene County SCLC is preparing a documented report on what it says were irregular practices at the 20 boxes in the county.

Out of about 4,900 registered voters, 3,700 of them Negro, there was a record turnout of 4,195.

The official result of the sheriff race was Bill Lee 2,246 votes, Thomas Gilmore 1,949.

Two run-offs are scheduled in Greene County. For the office of tax collector, Mrs. Alberta E. Branch, a Negro candidate, and Harry McGhee, will meet in the run-off May 31.

In the race for board of education two Negroes sought office against R. S. Colson. The Rev. Peter Kirksey will be in the run-off against Colson.

In the race for tax assessor, M. S. Cook won over a Negro candidate, the Rev. Percy McShan.

The Rev. Woodson Lewis Jr., Negro candidate for the Democratic Executive committee, won by a margin of 263 votes over his opponent, George F. Putnam.

At 4 a.m. on the morning of May 4, Gilmore stood up wearily. "I'm going home. We've done all we can here, and I guess this race is over. But we aren't through yet."



GOV. AND MRS. WALLACE

By George-- No Run-Off

MONTGOMERY--The Democratic primary for governor made a little more history than many people expected. Mrs. George C. Wallace, riding on the wave of Governor Wallace's popularity, won big--without a run-off. She qualified to meet a Republican opponent in November.

Politicians were still asking whether Attorney General Richmond Flowers, who ran a distant second place, won all the Negro votes he--and everyone else--expected. More than a few Negro votes went to Mrs. Wallace.

The finishers: Mrs. Wallace, Flowers, Carl Elliott, Bob Gilchrist, Charles Woods, John Patterson, Folsom, A. W. Todd, Sherman Powell, and Eunice I. Gore.

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Editorial Opinion

Well...

That was the nitty-gritty that passed us by Tuesday.

They Were Still Waiting to Vote When Wallaces Accepted Victory

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

per cent. Governor George Wallace's wife Lurleen got two dozen votes, and the seven other candidates in the race got even fewer.

Of 4,447 people registered to vote at the polling place, all but 559 turned out. It was a record-smashing election. A Justice Department official estimated that by the time the total vote was counted, it would pass one million--a third more than in any other election in Alabama history.

An all-time high of 257,000 Negroes were registered to vote in the primary, 150,000 more than in the last major election, two years ago. Both statewide Negro political groups had endorsed Flowers.

But apparently not enough Negroes voted--or not enough voted for Flowers--to put the attorney general into a runoff with Mrs. Wallace.

While hundreds of Negroes were still waiting in line to vote, the Wallaces were celebrating the early returns with supporters at their Montgomery campaign headquarters.

The reaction of Negroes to what happened Tuesday? Seniors at Central High School in Mobile said they were going to Mississippi. A Carver High School senior in Montgomery said she thought she would try the Communist Party, and a

14-year-old eighth grade student in Greenville called The Southern Courier, in tears, to read a poem she had written about "four more years and six more months of hell."

An unsuccessful Negro candidate in Mobile said, "All the young people who wanted to do right got beat."

In Barbour County, Wallace's home county, all 13 Negro office-seekers lost. They had filed for office at the same hour on the same day that Mrs. Wallace announced she would be a candidate for governor.

Lingo Trowned

JEFFERSON COUNTY -- Colonel Al Lingo, former head of the Alabama state troopers, suffered probably the worst defeat of any primary candidate. He lost the sheriff's nomination to the present sheriff, Mel Bailey, 95,268 to 8,143 with 80 per cent of the votes counted.

In the race for district attorney, the present office-holder, Earl Morgan, easily beat J. Earl Langner. Langner openly sought Negro votes in the campaign.

MARENGO COUNTY -- Incomplete returns showed Mrs. Ann H. Braxton, a Negro, leading in the race for the tax assessor nomination. However, she will have to face Sam Drinkard in a run-off.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Carl Rowan made a lot of sense in his syndicated column two weeks ago. He highly commended the anti-poverty program and decried the "few wild men who are fanning discontent among the poor who obviously don't understand the importance of long-range programs."

The easing of poverty is a much more complex matter than simply appropriating funds and letting the poor decide how to spend it. Rowan went on: "Shriver should say with conviction to that angry group of poor people that OEO is striking some devastating blows at poverty by enrolling 776,000 children in the Head Start program; by helping 44,000 youngsters in 97 Job Corps centers; lifting the horizons of 530,000 kids in the neighborhood Youth Corps; by opening up 600,000 new jobs for the poor, by integrating more school districts through Head Start in a year than had been desegregated in ten years of pressures using the 1954 Supreme Court decision, and by moving boldly to give family-planning assistance."

Rowan further stated, "The middle-class Americans who do understand the value of the Job Corps, of Head Start, and of adult literacy programs had better speak up in defense of the poverty program or those who oppose governmental assistance for the poor are going to use the rudeness and the turmoil as an excuse to kill the program."

E. B. Henderson
Tuskegee, Ala.

To the Editor:

Hosea L. Williams, I was asked the question how could you make the statement you made at the CME Church about the preachers are doing a good job. I know they are doing a good job of Uncle Toming to the downtown white power structure. I know they are not in favor of picketing and demonstrating in order to promote the economic equalization for the Negro race.

There is a group of little working people willing to bear your expense to Montgomery and back to any place in the United States you desire to go.

During the voter registration drive, Rev. Jesse L. Douglas was out in the deep water by himself. Where was the NAACP and the other preachers? The people were everywhere talking about they wanted their money for those special task force workers staying in their homes. I have some cancelled checks.

In Mobile, Ala., the people talked about you. In Montgomery, they want to know what you are Uncle Toming for, they do not believe you and SCLC represent them. If you come forth, I will set up a crowd for you--a bigger crowd than you ever had before in Montgomery. If you think you can get all of your preachers together I will name the Uncle Toms,

A. D. S. Harris
Montgomery, Ala.

To the Editor:

This is about the so-called ministers again. Of course, they are not worth writing about, but they don't do nothing but write out what they say on Sunday and get up and read it and go in the morning to make the ones who are half crazy shout.

Then the preacher will tell the deacons to take up money.

All those old so-called preachers ain't after nothing but money.

I was faithful to my church but since I have been sick my pastor hasn't been to see me. I have been in the hospital three times and when I came out, he had insurance (men) to send to my house for money. But I didn't give them nothing.

The old preachers should be made to get a job and go to work. They are about to tear up some of the churches, when they get in, the church can't vote them out. I hope they get this in the letters place in the paper. I am so tired of them. They ain't nothing but old hypocrites.

(Name withheld)
Montgomery, Ala.



BEFORE TUESDAY'S PRIMARY ELECTION, THE REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, TRAVELED AROUND ALABAMA URGING PEOPLE TO GET OUT AND VOTE. IN LINDEN, MARENGO COUNTY (ABOVE), HE WAS CAUGHT IN AN APRIL SHOWER, WALKING WITH DR. KING AS HE GREETED A NEW VOTER WERE THE REV. FRED L. SHUTTLESWORTH OF THE ALABAMA CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT; MARTIN LUTHER KING III; DR. KING; HIS DAUGHTER, YOLONDA; AND HOSEA WILLIAMS, SCLC STAFF MEMBER AND ORGANIZER OF THE CONFEDERATION OF ALABAMA'S POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS (COAPO).

Congress Studies Rights Bill On Juries, Housing, Protection

BY SONE TAKAHARA

WASHINGTON--Four civil rights laws have been passed in the last nine years, yet, President Johnson said to Congress last week, "discrimination, racial practices still exist in many American communities. . . . They must be ended."

In another attempt to end discrimination, the President proposed a fifth civil rights law with four aims: 1.) Better protection of civil rights workers by setting up definite and stiff penalties for people who threaten or attack them. 2.) Choosing juries from voting lists. 3.) Giving the U. S. Attorney General more powers to attack segregation in schools and public places. 4.) Ending discrimination in the selling, renting, and financing of housing.

Nineteen senators, all of them from outside the South, have put their names on the new bill--16 Democrats and three Republicans. The House of Representatives has already started hearings on the bill.

The bill's more controversial feature aims to end discrimination in housing. It covers homeowners, real estate brokers, banks, and other money-lending institutions. If discrimination exists, either the U. S. Attorney General or a private citizen may file a complaint in U. S. district court.

The court would decide what action should be taken. The remedies are not stiff--the person making the complaint could be awarded up to \$500 and the court could order against keeping housing segregated. Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach said he hopes those dealing with housing would go along with the proposal without being forced to by the court.

If the bill passes, juries in federal courts would be chosen at random from lists of registered voters. Lists would

Sermon of the Week

'Why Waste Hour When We Could Do Laundry?'

BY DAVID R. UNDERHILL
MOBILE--"If our Christianity is not for real, why waste this hour when we could be doing our laundry?" asked guest preacher Malcolm Boyd at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd. His question wasn't easy to answer. For Boyd, real Christianity is "a sense of radical movement, of the living God, the radical Lord." It is also finding Jesus in "movies, sex, race relations, politics, and bars."

"I went barring last night in a couple of places. One was nice, and one was not so nice. I went there to meet Jesus Christ."

He said that if the congregation thought they could find Christ by looking only in the church, then "nobody ever got through to you, and we should board the building up."

Christ cannot be found in the church alone because, Boyd said, "Our church is a part of the American power structure, which is committed to Christ in the abstract, but is too fond of price tags to carry out its commitment."

He said segregation also keeps people from Jesus, and, "We're segregated because segregation is the way of life of the bishop and the diocese we're in--and even of the national church."

Boyd is an assistant priest at a church in Washington, D. C., and a field representative of the Episcopal Society for Cultural and Racial Unity.

He has been jailed often for his civil rights activities. "I'm sorry to mention it," he said to the largely Negro congregation. "Some of you will now be embarrassed. You've had a freedom rider visit you. That's rocking the boat."

"But how can we possibly talk about not rocking the boat?" Boyd said as he accused the congregation of "sitting there in all your false finery."

"Students are fed up with all these middle class parents, who give them everything except love, who give them fake values and fake religion. The kids are fed up with this. Thank God!" He told the adults to carry Jesus out to fight in all of life for the true meaning of His teachings.

In Montgomery

Folks Ask Why High Schools End Services

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN

MONTGOMERY--A week after baccalaureate services were canceled at Sidney Lanier and Robert E. Lee high schools here, people were still asking one question: "Why?"

Montgomery newspaper reporters, some teachers, and others thought they knew why the schools had ended the baccalaureate services (the religious ceremony usually held the Sunday before graduation). Among the reasons they suggested were:

1. Lanier and Lee have been desegregated in the past two years. Although few Negro students are graduating this spring, there might be more in the future. Perhaps some people didn't like the idea of an integrated religious service.

2. The U. S. Supreme Court has already outlawed classroom prayers in public schools. The court might some day rule that baccalaureate services, too, are an illegal mixture of church and state.

3. The schools might be afraid that the federal government would insist on Negro preachers at the baccalaureate services.

4. Nobody cares much about baccalaureate services these days, anyway. But principals Meade Guy of Lanier and T. C. Carlton of Lee weren't giving any specific reasons for the decision.

After "careful thought and consideration," Guy said, "we feel that it is in the best interest of the schools and the student body to take steps to discontinue the baccalaureate services." He said, "There is a trend nation-wide to discontinue baccalaureate services for various reasons."

Guy said there were no Negro students in Lanier's graduating class. At Lee, Carlton said there were "one, two, three-- I just don't know."

The Montgomery Ministerial Association, a white group, asked the principals to change their minds.

The Rev. Mark Waldo, pastor of the Episcopal Church of the Ascension and head of the association, said that whether the reasons were racial or religious, "this was not a decision that needed to be made on either basis."

"Baccalaureate services are a good thing," he said, although "I don't think they have a vast impact on the students. . . . They are not a problem, but rather a resource in meeting whatever other things may come."

Asked if the ministers' request would change the decision, Carlton said, "No, sir."

Douglas Loses

MONTGOMERY COUNTY--A Negro minister, the Rev. Jesse L. Douglas, lost in his attempt to unseat the president of the board of education. All three candidates for county Democratic Executive Committee also lost. Negroes flocked to the polls, with hundreds waiting in line after 6 p.m., and pushed Flowers' total vote to 13,192, to Mrs. Wallace's 20,417 in the county.



BY MARY MOULTRIE

Once upon a time, there may or may not have been any animals starring in TV series such as we have today, but whatever the case in the past, today we have at least six television shows which feature animals as the leading performers.

Mister Ed, a somewhat humorous horse, and Lassie, a beautiful collie, are two of the more popular of these animalistic performers. In a recent program Mister Ed dreamed he was being married to an innocent blushing bride (female horse), and in the midst of the ceremony a sway-backed stallion with three colts in tow showed up claiming to be her husband. Human actors could not have made the situation any more humorous than our four-legged friends.

Whatever the subject matter of these shows, they bring an evening of wholesome entertainment to any home. For a change of pace, try these shows, you'll probably find them to be just what you are looking for. . . . That is, if you don't watch them already.

Besides Mister Ed and Lassie, the animal shows are Flecka (a horse), Fury (a horse), Flipper (a dolphin), and The Littlest Hobo (a dog). Only Mister Ed talks, but all the rest understand human beings quite well in conversation.

SATURDAY, MAY 7

FLIPPER -- "Dolphin Patrol" - A school of killer sharks keeps Sandy and Bud trapped in a sunken wreck, 6:30 p.m., Channel 10 in Mobile, Channel 12

In Montgomery, Channel 13 in Birmingham, and Channel 15 in Florence.

SUNDAY, MAY 8

LASSIE--Lassie seeks help for a doe injured by an automobile, 6 p.m., Channel 4 in Dothan, Channel 13 in Birmingham, Channel 19 in Huntsville, and Channel 20 in Montgomery.

BONANZA--"The Last Mission"--Ben and Hoss accompany an Army colonel to Palute country where the colonel claims he plans to make a treaty with the Indians, 8 p.m., Channel 10 in Mobile, Channel 12 in Montgomery, Channel 13 in Birmingham, and Channel 15 in Florence.

TUESDAY, MAY 10

DAKTARI -- Clarence, the cross-eyed lion, goes to the rescue when Judy, the chimpanzee, and friends are trapped between a raging fire and two murderous arsonists, in the second half of a two-part drama, 6:30 p.m., Channel 4 in Dothan, Channel 19 in Huntsville, and Channel 20 in Montgomery.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

DANNY KAYE -- Guest performers include Shirley Jones and the Righteous Brothers in an hour of songs, dances, and a comedy sketch dedicated to the eternal conflict between man and woman, 9 p.m., Channel 4 in Dothan, Channel 13 in Birmingham, Channel 19 in Huntsville, and Channel 20 in Montgomery.



**FREEDOM
JAMBOREE
IN
BIRMINGHAM**

Photographs by Jim Pepler



In Greensboro Only \$42.50 Started Their Credit Union

BY DAPHNA SIMPSON
GREENSBORO -- Anybody can borrow money if he has 25 cents. The Greenala Citizens Federal Credit Union makes it possible.

The credit union can lend a person up to \$8,000 for a good purpose. All he has to do first is pay a membership fee of 25 cents.

Since the credit union began nearly five years ago, many people in Hale County have been able to borrow money for the first time in their lives.

They have built houses and stores, bought farm machinery and cars, and paid off their bills with money borrowed from the credit union.

There isn't any hidden trick. Any group of people with just a very little money can start their own credit union. In Greensboro, it began with eight people and \$42.50.

"It was so hard for us to get credit at the bank," said Lewis Black, secretary-treasurer of the Greenala Credit Union. "White people or private loan companies would lend us money, but the interest rates were so high it was hard to pay them back. This was why we felt

we needed a credit union."

So the eight Greensboro residents pooled their funds in September, 1961. Since then, from less than \$50, the Greenala Credit Union has grown until today it has a total of \$80,000 in liquid assets--money on hand for lending to its 1,000 members.

Like every other federal credit union, the Greenala Citizens Federal Credit Union began with a charter from the federal government. The government also sets up the ground rules under which a credit union must operate.

But the federal government doesn't give the union any money. The money must come from individuals in the community.

To receive the benefits of a credit union, a person must first join it by paying a small fee--25 cents for the Greenala credit union. The membership fee goes into the regular reserves--the liquid assets from which a member may borrow.

Credit unions are cooperatives, which means that anyone who wishes to benefit from the services may contribute money. Each person who contributes money actually owns a part of the credit union. After paying the original fee, a member may deposit any amount of money. If he puts in as much as \$5,

he becomes a shareholder.

Whenever he likes, a member may borrow money or withdraw his shares--that is, the money which he has put into credit union. The most he can borrow is one-tenth of the liquid assets. Since the Greenala credit union has \$80,000 in liquid assets, a person may borrow as much as \$8,000.

Interest charged on each loan is one per cent on the unpaid balance, or 12 cents per year on a dollar.

Besides being able to borrow money, a credit union member automatically receives a small amount of life insurance. For example, say a man under 55 years of age has \$100 invested in the Greenala credit union. If he dies, his wife will get this money that he had invested, plus an equal amount from the union--\$200 in all.

If the man is 55 or older, his wife will receive the amount on deposit, plus 75 per cent in life insurance. In other words, she will receive the \$100 he had in his account, plus \$75 in insurance.

Although many people in the United States have just discovered credit unions, they aren't a new idea. The first credit union was formed in Germany in the late 1800's. Some poor farmers who couldn't get credit from the bank got together and bought one man a plow.

Other people copied the idea, and credit unions spread around the world--all the way to Alabama.

But in Alabama credit unions still have a few problems. Some people don't like the Greenala Citizens Federal Credit Union at all.

"The credit union is fighting for its life all the time," said Black, the secretary-treasurer. "We are abused and scorned. As a matter of fact, the credit union is not able to use the bank in Greensboro. Our money is in the bank in Moundsville, 25 miles away."

Black said some people don't understand the purpose and value of a credit union, although he tries to persuade them to join. But there's another reason why the credit union sometimes has



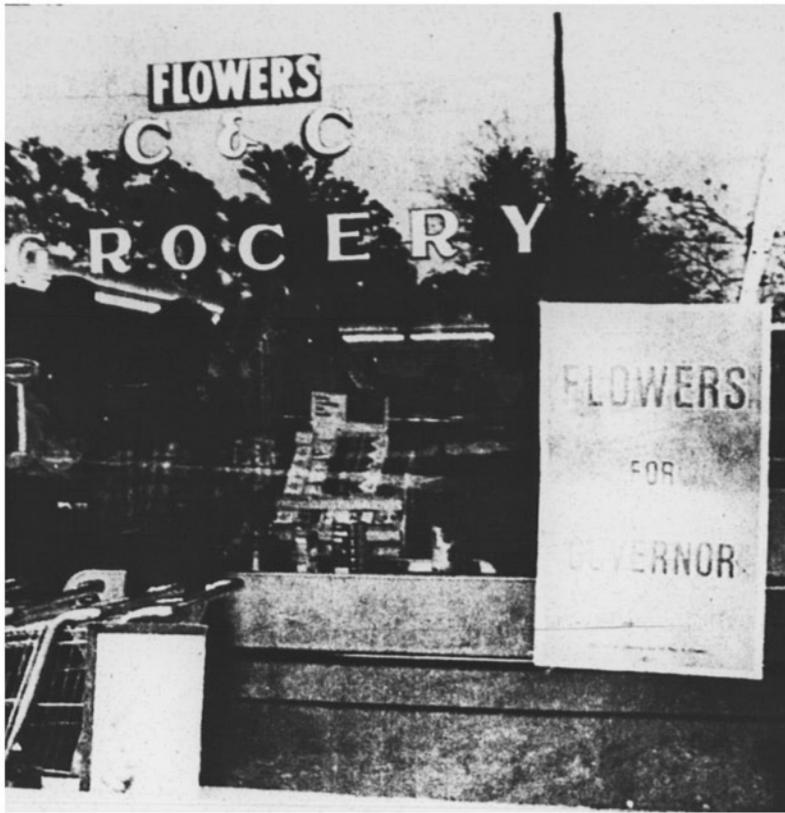
READY FOR BUSINESS

trouble recruiting new members. "Some people are afraid to use the credit union because they may lose their credit in town," Black said. "We have had actual cases of some people being warned that they would lose their credit if they go fooling around with Black."

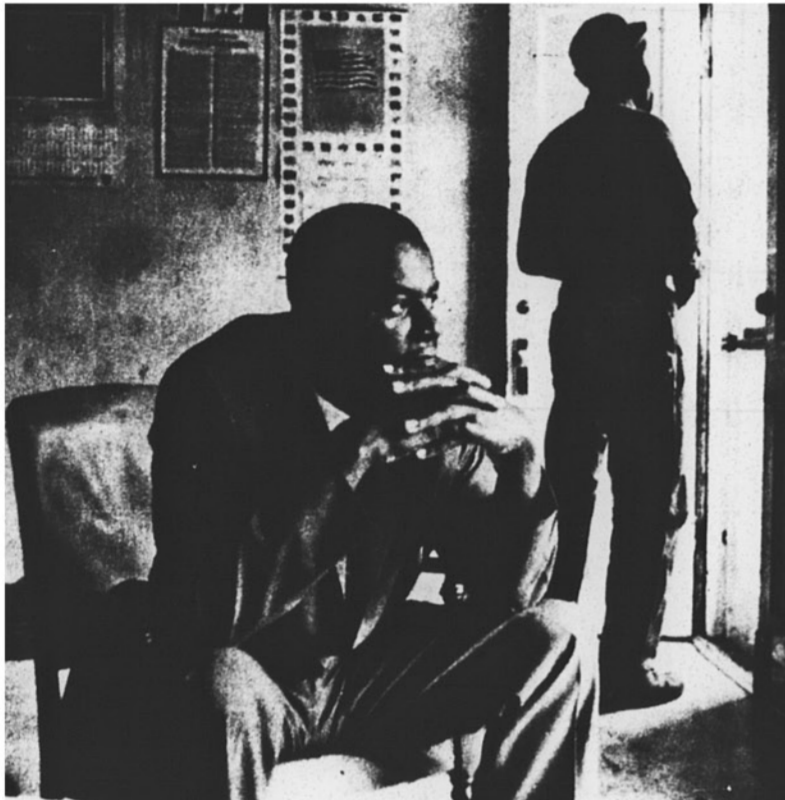
But the credit union is still in business helping people, and business is good. Last January the Cash and Carry supermarket opened its doors, thanks to a loan from the credit union.

In 1965, the credit union made 390 loans, totaling more than \$101,000.

But, Black said, "we won't feel satisfied until every single person in the community knows about the credit union and feels free to use the credit union's services."



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REMODELING THE OFFICE

Northern, Southern College Students

A Team of Young People Spreads The Word: Desegregate Schools

TEXT BY MARY LYNN BUSS PHOTOGRAPHS BY CHRIS McNAIR

BIRMINGHAM-- "I was just talking about this last night with my daughter and now here you all show up less than 24 hours later. The good Lord sent you up here."

That was the remark of one Bessemer man after listening to a special kind of sales talk from a Miles College student and a student from Valparaiso University in Indiana.

The Southerner and the Northerner were selling school desegregation. They were two of more than 40 people who went from door-to-door in early April to tell parents about their right to send their children to desegregated schools.

The people worked in teams. One half of each team was a Miles College student or a local high school student. The other half was a visiting student or a faculty member from Valparaiso University.

They visited about 450 homes with children in Fairfield, Bessemer, and the Elyton section of Birmingham. They got all kinds of reactions.

Some people, like the man in Bessemer, were delighted to see them and promised to send their children to desegregated schools next fall. For other people, it wasn't an easy decision.

One team of interviewers visited a housing project. A man who works there told them, "When your car parked in front of the office and you all got out, the white folks jumped up and started asking, 'What are they doing here?'"

"I sure would like to send my children to the desegregated school," he said, regretfully, "but they sure would fire me, and a man's got to support his family."

The students expected to find more opposition to school desegregation than they did find. They reported that most parents were eager to talk it over and think it over. Just about everyone agreed that a good education was important for his children, and that desegregation was an important part of a good education.

Sometimes the students' visit stirred a community to get together on plans for desegregating the schools. One team rang doorbells in a Negro area that almost surrounded an all-white school. "They really wanted to send their children to the school across the street rather than to the Negro school 12 blocks away," one of the team members said. "They just needed someone to assure them that it was all right to do it."

The teams found some differences in the things that parents and children worried about when they considered desegregation.

"My children have been going to a

school that isn't as good as the white school," one woman said, "How will they keep up in their lessons?"

Other parents worried that their children might not be treated well by the other children, or by the teachers.

But some of the children were more interested in whether desegregation would carry over from studies to out-of-class activities.

"Will they let me play on the football team?" and "Can I join the band?" were the kind of questions the children asked the visitors.

The 20-some Valparaiso students and

faculty members came to Birmingham from Indiana for five days of their spring vacation, April 2 to April 7. It was the second year in a row that Valparaiso University sent people south to work for civil rights.

Valparaiso, a Lutheran school about 50 miles southeast of Chicago, worked with Miles College on a voter registration drive last year. The Northern school got in touch with the Rev. Joseph W. Ellwanger, pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Birmingham, during the crisis in Selma a little over a year ago.

This year, the visiting students helped with spring clean-up at the church. The girls stayed with church members, and the men stayed at Miles College.

Evenings, the visitors took some time off to sample local politics. They went to see and hear Attorney General Richmond Flowers and Governor George C. Wallace.

But most of the time they were busy with their door-to-door visits to parents of school children. They met with a few surprises along the way.

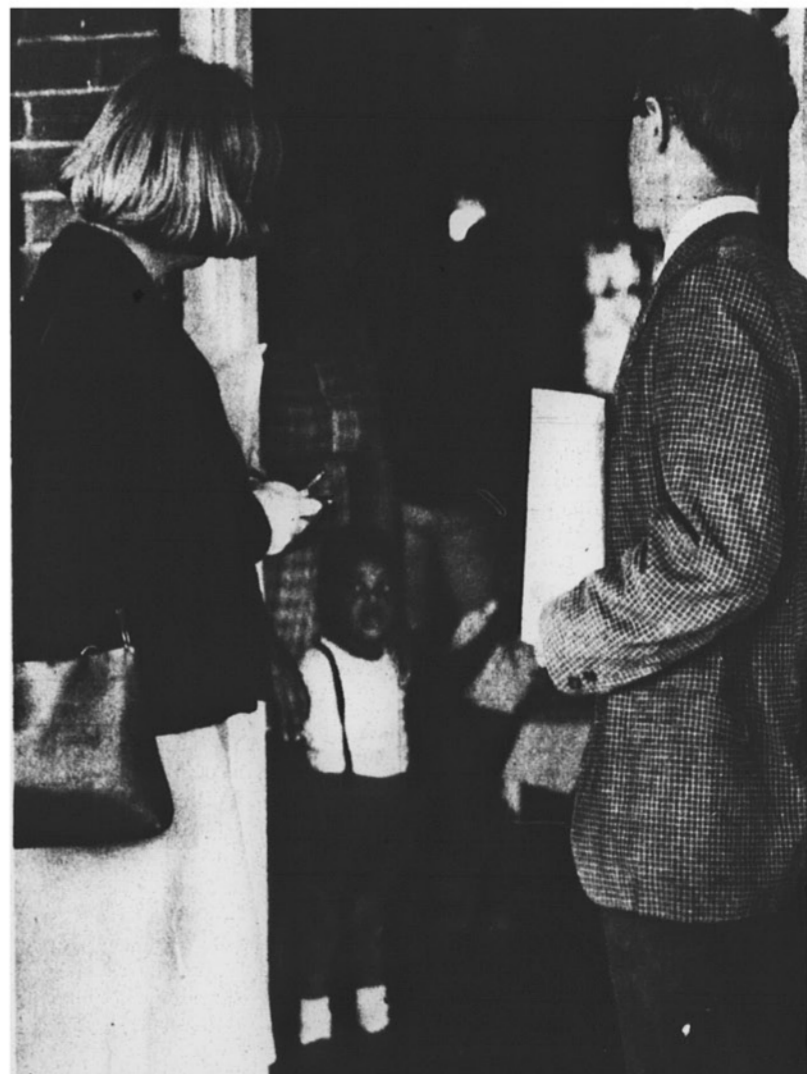
One elderly lady greeted a team very cordially and said yes, she had three children. Then she questioned the visitors closely on their opinions about which man--or woman--will be Alabama's next governor.

After 15 minutes of discussing each candidate's chances, the students brought up the subject of schools again. The lady told them that her children were all grown up and moved away. She had simply wanted to talk with someone about politics because she was a newly registered voter.

At one stop in Birmingham, a dog bit the leg of one of the student visitors. "He just doesn't like white folks," the lady of the house explained, apologetically. She then invited the students in and served them cookies and milk to show that she didn't feel the same way as her dog.

One grandmother listened silently while two students talked with her daughter about desegregation. As the students were leaving, the grandmother smiled and said, "Things sure weren't like this in my day, but times are changing and we've got to change with the times."

"To me God made us all the same and that's what I've always tried to teach my children. Now we've got to help the other folks learn it."



COLLEGE STUDENTS WENT DOOR-TO-DOOR IN BIRMINGHAM LAST MONTH TO CONVINCING PARENTS TO TAKE THEIR CHILDREN OUT OF SCHOOLS LIKE THIS ONE AND SEND THEM TO DESEGREGATED SCHOOLS INSTEAD.



Slim Chance for Negroes To Win Legislative Races

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN

MONTGOMERY--The Alabama Legislature, an all-white institution, seemed likely to remain that way on the basis of results of Tuesday's Democratic primary.

Twelve Negroes ran for nominations to the legislature, but none of them was assured of being on the ballot in November.

Eight of the Negro candidates won the right to face white opponents in run-off elections May 31. But the fact that a run-off was needed meant that more than half of the voters had cast ballots against the Negro candidates.

So the Negroes had to find some more support, probably among white voters who backed the losers in the May 3 primary.

Unless there were legal complications, two other Negroes were sure of being on the ballot for state representative in the fall. Jimmy L. Stanley and Mrs. Pearl Moorer were nominated from the 28th district Tuesday by the Dallas County Independent Free Voters Organization.

The Rev. P. H. Lewis, pastor of Brown's Chapel AME Church in Selma, lost to a white opponent, present state representative B. V. Hain, in the regular Democratic primary in Dallas County.

Of all the Negro candidates in run-offs, Fred D. Gray of Macon County seemed to have the best chance. For a long time during the count, it seemed he would win the nomination for place 2 in



C. H. MONTGOMERY

the 31st District without a run-off. But although he led his race with 8,322 votes, he was 500 short of a majority.

Early Wednesday, when Gray still looked like a winner, Governor George C. Wallace said he would not support the 35-year-old civil rights lawyer. "I am not going to vote for him in the general election," said Wallace.

The only Negro candidate for the state Senate, Lonnie Brown of Alberta, got into a run-off with present Senator Roland Cooper in the 19th District (Wilcox, Monroe, Conecuh, and Clarke counties). But Brown had to find 4,000 more votes before May 31.

Albert Turner, head of SCLC in Alabama, was a close second in the place 1 House race in the 27th District (Sumter,



LONNIE BROWN

Marengo, and Perry counties). He will face Ira Pruitt in the run-off. The Rev. F. N. Nixon, a Negro candidate for place 2 in the same district, was defeated.

Four Negro candidates made the run-off for the House in the 14th District (Jefferson County). They were Arthur D. Shores, David H. Hood Jr., Dr. James T. Montgomery, and Leroy S. Gaillard Jr. Hood and Gaillard finished in first place against white opponents Tuesday.

C. H. Montgomery of Mobile County was the other Negro candidate to make the run-off. He finished second in a House race in the 37th District.

Besides Lewis and Nixon, other losing Negro House candidates were Thomas Reed and Mrs. Jessie Guzman, both in the 31st District.

Negroes Named Election Officials

For the first time in this century there were Negroes working as paid election officials in counties throughout Alabama. At Armory Hall in Troy, Pike County (above), six Negroes and six whites handled the voting.

In Perry County all candidates were asked for a list of their choices for election workers. Albert Turner, a Negro running for the legislature, said that just about all of the choices were ac-

cepted, and so from 15 to 20 Negroes worked at the polls in the county.

In Lee, Elmore, Macon, Lowndes, Marengo, Sumter, Dallas, and other counties in the central part of the state, Negroes were employed to work at the polls.

Employing Negro vote officials was one of the things the U. S. Justice Department said it wanted counties to do

to avoid having federal observers looking over the shoulders of local election workers. The Justice Department also asked the county officials to announce publicly that there would be no harassment of Negroes at the polls.

U. S. Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach said the morning after the elections that complaints were not serious and that the election was handled fairly by Alabama officials.

Vote Splits All Over Macon County

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

Negro votes for a total of 2,637. He forced Amerson, with 2,725 votes, into a run-off for the 800 ballots their opponents divided.

Robert H. Howard, a young white man, tried to oust tax assessor Harold E. Hendon from the office he has held for 32 years. Although Hendon sent a campaign letter to every registered voter, he never attended the Democratic Club's campaign meeting for Negroes around the county. Howard never missed one.

The Democratic Club's rural precinct leaders endorsed Howard, but the Tuskegee leadership reportedly favored Hendon because of his "experience." Hendon won, 3,065 to 2,243.

In what looked like a down-the-line racial split, Negroes gave 2,699 votes to L. A. Locklair, the club-approved candidate for tax collector, 1,076 to Otis Pinkard, an outspoken leader who called the present tax assessment unfair to Negroes. Arthur L. Cooper, the white candidate, won 1,832 votes and

will fight it out with Locklair on May 31.

The club chose Harold Webb, a Negro, over one other Negro and three whites running for the board of revenue, District 1. But Webb's soft-sell campaign didn't appeal to all Negroes.

He received 1,753 votes to 1,765 for the white incumbent, John E. Henderson Jr., while 2,000 votes scattered elsewhere. Many Negroes apparently voted for Willie L. Kirk Jr., a white man who campaigned against unpaved roads and unemployment. Webb and Henderson will meet in the run-off.

Harold J. Noble, a white man, had the second highest vote total in the county. He easily won renomination to the board of revenue District 3, with 3,902 votes to a total of 1,200 for his two opponents.

Arthur J. Scavella, a Tuskegee Institute professor, challenged Mrs. Frances H. Rush for the board of education

by sharply criticizing the county schools. Mrs. Rush, a white woman who now sits on the board with Gomillion, won the Democratic Club approval, and also the nomination 2,655 to 2,320.

Six of the seven Negro candidates, including Gomillion, were elected to the Democratic Executive Committee.

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HOW DID YOUR COUNTY VOTE?

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN

AUTAUGA COUNTY--The only Negro in the race, Willie Lee Wood, president of the Autauga County Voters League, got 1,488 votes, but lost to Dale Gamberg, who polled 4,516, for the coroner nomination.

Mrs. Wallace polled 4,042 to Flowers' 1,688 in the governor's race. Charles Woods was third with 288.

A clerk in the probate judge's office said Autauga's voter turnout was large, "but it's been crowded before."

BARBOUR COUNTY--Negro candidates for sheriff, school board, tax assessor, and the Democratic executive committee all lost in Tuesday's primary.

Mrs. Annie Ruth Davis, a candidate for the executive committee, was the biggest Negro vote-getter, with 1,326. But she still lost by 3,253 votes.

Incomplete returns showed that Mrs. Wallace carried her husband's home county by a wide margin in the governor's race.

BULLOCK COUNTY--Two Negro candidates will be facing present county officials in the May 31 Democratic runoff.

Henry Oscar Williams, running for sheriff, and Rufus Huffman, candidate for tax assessor, both finished first in the Tuesday primary. But Sheriff C. M. Blue Jr. and Tax Assessor Thomas L. Kilgore, along with a second white candidate in each race, got enough votes to force a run-off.

CHOCTAW COUNTY--By the narrowest of margins, the Rev. L. I. Spears missed winning a county commissioner's nomination without a run-off. Spears, a Negro, got 910 votes for the District II nomination, but his opponents, C. R. Ezell and Claude M. Reynolds, totaled 916, according to final unofficial figures.

DALLAS COUNTY--More than 24 hours after the polls closed, Dallas voters still were not sure who--if anyone--had won the hot race for sheriff nomination.

Sheriff Jim Clark had a reported total of 7,445 to 7,537 for his opponent Wilson Baker, Selma's former police chief. Baker had been endorsed by Negro political leaders. The six boxes still uncounted were in Negro neighborhoods, similar to areas where Baker ran 10 to 1 over Clark.

If Baker got that sort of a majority from those six boxes, he would be the nominee without a run-off. Two other sheriff hopefuls split the remaining 968 votes counted.

All Negro candidates in the Democratic primary were defeated.

Samson Crum, a postal inspector, was nominated by the third party movement in Dallas County to run for sheriff in November.

The Dallas County Independent Free Voters Organization played double-safe in nominating candidates. Monday night they gave county officials petitions with 25 signatures supporting nominees for all county offices and the House of Representatives.

The next day, as Democrats went to the polls, the voters organization met in Selma and nominated the same people: Crum for sheriff; Horace D. Griffin for tax collector; Mrs. Addie Lily for tax assessor; Mrs. Nora N. Day and George Sallie for two places on the school board; A. D. Bush (Fork district), Mrs. Agatha Harville (Selma district), Roosevelt McElroy (West Dallas district), and Mrs. Wilma Walker (Southside district) for board of revenue; and Nathan F. Payne for coroner.

Jimmy L. Stanley and Mrs. Pearl Moorer were nominated for two places in the House of Representatives, 28th District.

HALE COUNTY--Henry McCaskill, a Negro, led the race for the Democratic sheriff nomination with 2,651 votes. But he faces a run-off with C. B. (Ben) Kizziah, and he needs to pick up 900 more votes to get the nomination.

Flowers led Mrs. Wallace in the governor's primary, 2,808 to 2,518, with almost all votes counted.

MOBILE COUNTY--Two Negro candidates won spots in the run-off election, but there were fewer Negroes voting than most people expected.

Dr. W. L. Russell finished second in the school board race, and C. H. Montgomery was the runner-up for the county's tenth seat in the Alabama House of Representatives. In the run-

off, both will have to attract votes from people who supported white candidates Tuesday.

With the vote count almost completed, Flowers had 13,430 votes for governor (to 36,476 for Mrs. Wallace). The two Negro candidates polled less than Flowers. U. S. Justice Department figures before the election showed nearly 25,000 registered Negro voters.

In Ward 22 (Down the Bay), Leon Branch was elected to the Mobile County Democratic Executive Committee in a race between two Negroes. He defeated Joe Malone, the incumbent.

Isom Clemon, a Negro union leader the Port City, also won election to the committee. He won in Ward 13, which has a slight majority of white voters.

PERRY COUNTY--Four Negro candidates finished first in races for county nomination, but they all must face strong opponents in the May 31 runoff.

The successful Negro candidates were Patt J. Davis (sheriff), the Rev. Obie Scott Jr. (tax collector), and Willie Lester Martin and Ison Atkins (county commissioners). Atkins had the biggest lead--506 out of 5,645 votes cast. Scott is the brother-in-law of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

In two-candidate races for the school board, the Rev. Liona Langford and Andrew Hayden, both Negroes, lost to white opponents. This was a bad sign for the Negro candidates in the run-off, since all May 31 races will be two-man affairs.

The probate judge's office said Negro candidates Raphael Nelson and Mrs. Lusa Foster were beaten in elections for the Democratic executive committee. The vote-counting was not completed at the time, however.

Voting officials said there was "definitely a record Negro vote" in the county. The white turnout was "slower than usual," they said.

SUMTER COUNTY--Negro candidates for tax assessor, tax collector, and the school board all lost, despite the county's Negro voting majority.

WILCOX COUNTY--Sheriff P. C. (Lummie) Jenkins upset Walter Calhoun, a Negro, in the race for the sheriff's nomination. Official totals showed 3,460 for Jenkins and 2,738 for Calhoun, although the county has a Negro voting majority.

Negro candidates also lost races for the county commission and for tax assessor.

However, Flowers, who had the endorsement of state Negro political groups, was first in the governor's race, with 2,872 to Mrs. Wallace's 2,554.

State Senator Roland Cooper, who announced the results, said, "Negroes wanted to vote for Flowers, and they did." But, he said, they also "wanted to vote their own thinking" in the other races.

Cooper said Jenkins got "a lot of intelligent Negro voters--no, votes, I say." He said, "I got some Negro votes" in his own race for the state Senate.

Lowndes Third Party Attracts 900, Nominates Logan to Face Sheriff

BY LARRY FREUDIGER

HAYNEVILLE--Nearly one half of the registered Negro voters in Lowndes County showed up Tuesday to nominate independent candidates for county offices.

The Lowndes County Freedom Organization said it got 900 of the county's 2,000 registered Negroes to stay away from the Democratic primary and vote at a mass meeting for freedom organization candidates.

"We're making history, that's right," said one old woman.

Newsmen were there from the three major television networks and National Educational Television. Life and Newsweek magazines were there, and several newspaper reporters from around the country.

The meeting was originally scheduled for the square in front of the Courthouse in Hayneville, but was switched late Monday to the First Baptist Church.

Freedom organization president John Hulet and SNCC worker Stokely Carmichael told Sheriff Frank Ryles last week that the mass meeting would be held at the courthouse, in order to comply with Alabama law.

The law states that for an independent party to get its candidates on the ballot, nominations must be held "in or around a public polling place on the day of the primary."

The courthouse is the only public polling place in the county. All others

are in white businesses or homes.

The group was told by Ryles that they could not hold the mass meeting there, because the sheriff's department could not provide protection. Hulet informed the sheriff that the freedom organization could provide its own protection, and would be there with guns if necessary.

The freedom organization then sent a letter to the U. S. Justice Department, asking for federal protection and promising to bring guns if no other protection could be obtained.

Within two days, the Justice Department received a decision from the state attorney general's office and the county probate judge to the effect that the meeting would be recognized if held in a church in Hayneville.

The meeting outside the church was organized and conducted with every opportunity for the inexperienced voter.

In order to assure that everyone knew which person he was voting for, separate ballots were printed for each office, and the candidates stood within sight of each voting table.

As the voters filed past, they were assisted by freedom organization volunteers, and poll-watchers were appointed by each candidate to make sure that no one was told whom to vote for.

People who were illiterate or too old to stand in line sat inside the church and were helped by freedom organization members.



A NEW MEMBER, AT LEFT, REGISTERS WITH PANTHER PARTY

Toward the end of the meeting, SNCC worker Willie Ricks spoke to those who had voted and were awaiting the results.

"When people talk about Selma, they tell you there's some bad white folks down there. When they talk about Wilcox County or Greene County, they tell you there's some bad white folks down there."

"But when you mention Lowndes County, they say, 'There's some bad niggers down there.'"

"We gonna show Alabama just how bad we are!"

One man, a 67-year-old veteran of World War I, said later that the people of Lowndes County were prepared to defend themselves.

"I remember when that minister got shot here," he said. "He had his arms folded and just got shot down."

The man pulled three shot-guns shells from the pocket of his overalls.

"We gonna protect our friends this time."

Throughout the afternoon, SNCC workers patrolled the area with walkie-talkies and car radios, but the day passed with no trouble.

About a third of the voters stayed for

the announcement of the winning candidates at 7:30 p.m. before the meeting was adjourned. The winning sheriff candidate was Sidney Logan Jr., who won over Jesse Favor by a vote of 492 to 381.

Logan is a 42-year-old World War II veteran who has worked with the movement since 1955, when he helped provide transportation during the Montgomery bus boycott.

He says he has wanted to be sheriff "ever since the deputy stood in the door and said, 'Go home,'" during last year's voter-registration drive.

When asked if he thought he would win in November, he replied, "I don't go out to lose."

Other winning candidates were Frank Miles Jr., winning the tax collector nomination; and Mrs. Alice Moore for tax assessor and Emery Ross for coroner, both unopposed.

Winning school board candidates were Robert Logan for Place 3, John Hinson for Place 4, and Mrs. Lillian Strickland for Place 5.

Similar but smaller mass meetings were held in Dallas, Greene, and Wilcox counties.



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