



REV. L.L. ANDERSON VOTES IN SELMA PRIMARY

## Anderson Loses; 3 Make Run-Off

BY BETH WILCOX

SELMA, Ala.--"There were those who thought the Negro would support a segregationist," the Rev. L. L. Anderson told a small group of well-wishers gathered in the Tabernacle Baptist Church. "It has been proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that it is later than that."

Anderson, a Negro, had run for mayor against two white opponents in last Tuesday's Democratic primary. He had lost, with 2,950 votes to 5,969 for the present mayor, Joseph Smitherman. A second white mayoral candidate, John Day, got just 81 votes.

But Anderson--who was not supported by the all-Negro Dallas County Voters League (DCVL)--said he was encouraged by the voting.

"It showed that no one can put the Negro vote in his hip pocket and go downtown with it," he said. "I hope the day will never come again when the power structure of the city will have the Negro vote--unless the Negro wants him to have it."

Would DCVL support have helped? "Somehow I believe that if the DCVL had supported us, the end would have been different," Anderson said. But the figures showed that his vote total was just 400 less than that of the best Negro vote-getter, City Council candidate Edwin Moss.

## 'We Are Our Worst Enemy'



BY BOB LABAREE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--"The peace movement is inextricably bound up with the civil rights movement," Hosea Williams of SCLC said last Saturday.

Williams was addressing a crowd of about 100 people demonstrating against the Viet Nam war.

The politicians who are supporting the war in Viet Nam, Williams said, "are the same sick minds that are perpetuating racism in this country." He named several congressmen from Southern states.

"Look at what they've done," he said. "Instead of building hospitals and schools, they've brought in all those military bases for the rich men to get fat off of." This is just one example of how the war "is benefiting the classes and not the masses," Williams said.

"We're selling democracy over there (in Viet Nam), and we haven't accepted it ourselves," he charged.

Williams recalled what happened to him after he returned from World War II, "with a crutch under one arm, a cane in the other, and medals all across my chest." On the way back to his home in Georgia, he said, he was beaten by some white men for getting a drink from a "white-only" water fountain in a bus station.

After that, he said, "I began to think, what am I fighting for?"

"I don't mind dying, if it's for... our national security. But our national security's not at stake," Williams said. "Don't let anyone tell you that communism is the worst enemy of this country--WE are our own worst enemy."

At the end of his talk, Williams urged young black men to consider going to jail, rather than fight in Viet Nam. "There's something to what Stokely (Carmichael) says about genocide," he said. "You black boys especially better be careful about fighting in this war. It's a prelude to fighting a war in Africa."

## Flying Eggs, Words Greet U.S. Speakers at Tuskegee

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE, Ala.--A bombardment of eggs and furious words greeted four U. S. State Department officials who tried to defend the war in Viet Nam last week at Tuskegee Institute.

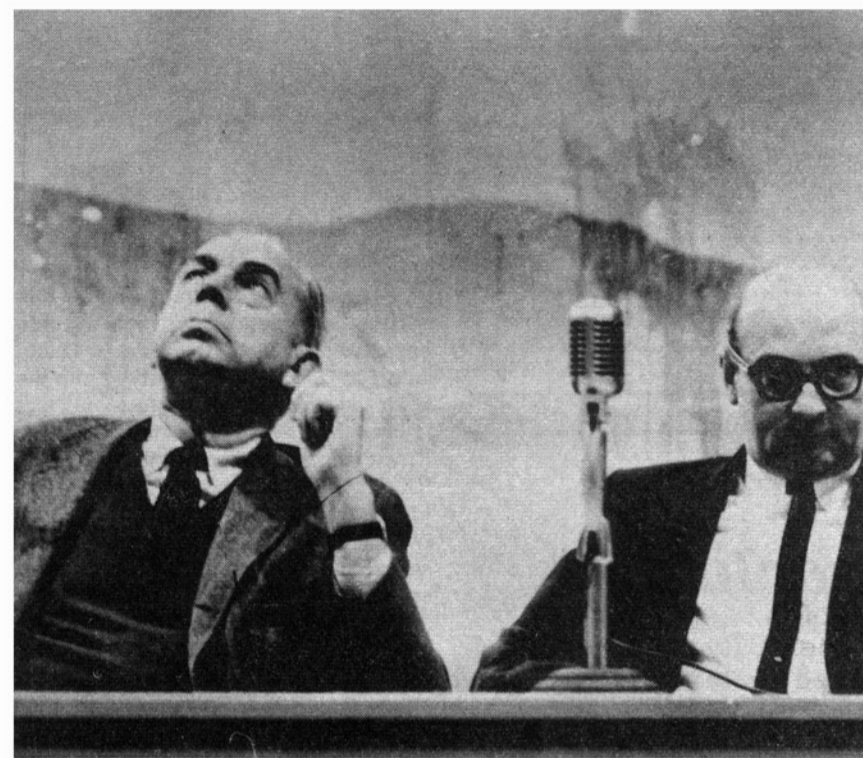
Robert G. Cleveland--head of the team of foreign policy specialists--had begun to speak, when a black student rushed to the front of the room.

He carried a brown paper bag in one hand, and a large cardboard sign in the other. The sign said: "In as much as our Viet brothers don't have an air force adequate enough to do their bombing, we black brothers will help them!"

The student called out the words on the sign. He reached into the paper bag. And suddenly the air was full of flying eggs.

The State Department officials ducked behind the table they were sitting at. A girl shouted, "Beautiful!" A professor shouted, "Sit down!" And the audience burst into applause.

In a moment, the black student--and two or three helpers--vanished out a side door. Behind them, they left several smashed eggs, a confused audi-



EGGS STAIN WALL BEHIND ROBERT G. CLEVELAND (LEFT)

ence, and four egg-spattered and angry foreign policy specialists.

"I think we'd better leave," snapped Cleveland. "If this university can't provide adequate security for free speech... This is storm-trooper tactics, nothing less!"

"What are you using in Southeast Asia?" shouted back a white teacher. "What do you know about storm-trooper tactics? You're just plain murderers--that's what you are!" yelled another. "You come here and talk about foreign policy--murder is NEVER foreign policy!"

"I am a loyal servant of my government," Cleveland began, but a third white teacher cut him off. "Don't tell us a thing," the man called out. "You're

## Shots Fired At Evers' Home

JACKSON, Miss.--Shots were fired at Charles Evers' home here last Sunday night, five days after the veteran civil rights leader qualified for next Tuesday's U. S. House run-off election.

Evers was at home with his wife and three children, but no one was hurt. Bullet holes were later found in a garage can outside the house. A 16-year-old white youth was questioned by police after the shooting.

Milton Cooper--a volunteer on guard outside Evers' house--said someone shouted "Shoot the nigger" as the shots were fired from a passing car.

Two nights later, Evers spoke to 400 students at all-white Mississippi College in Clinton. Responding to a question about Stokely Carmichael, Evers said, "America made the Stokelys. There are white Stokelys, too--the draft-card burners, the flag burners. Save them by making America right."

## Macon People, School Want Service

## 'A Phone Before I Die'

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

DAVISVILLE, Ala.-- Mrs. Mary Davis folded her arms and looked around her small store at the Davisville crossroads. The floor was scrubbed clean, and the shelves were piled high with groceries. Outside the window, two gas pumps waited for customers.

In fact, said Mrs. Davis, she has everything she needs to run her business--except a telephone.

"I came in 1935," she said. "Every year since I got here, I been trying to get a telephone. Every year it's the same story: 'We'll get to you after a while.'"

"It's just awful. When I'm out of gas (to sell), I have to go into Tuskegee to get the gas man to come out here. If a car breaks down on the road, they'll generally come in. I have to tell 'em, 'Go up the road a piece. No phone here.' "I done lived longer without a telephone than I will with one. I sure to blessed hope, before I die I'll get a phone."

All around Davisville in southern Macon County, families told the same story. And, they said, the worst of it is that South Macon High School (formerly Macon County Training School)--with 744 children enrolled--doesn't have a telephone either.

Mrs. Carrie Crawford--who sends half a dozen children to South Macon every day--said she's worried for

a loyal servant of a man who's murdering women and children."

At that, the State Department officials said they were leaving, and several members of the audience beat them to it. But two Negro professors--Relford Patterson and Frank J. Toland--restored calm, and the discussion eventually continued.

Despite some sharp questions from

the 150 people who stayed to listen, the program remained peaceful. But things were not so quiet the following night, at a meeting attended by several hundred black students.

The Tuskegee Institute administration and the student court had begun proceedings against Michael F. Wright, the student suspected of leading the egg toss. At the meeting, several people spoke out in his defense.

"If I had been down there, I would have thrown an egg myself," said one girl. "If the administration is going to expel me for that, then I don't want to be here."

Other speakers called for black power and student unity, and angrily condemned the Viet Nam war and the Tuskegee Institute administration.

Students circulated a petition in support of Wright, and gathered dozens of signatures. A mimeographed sheet asked, "Black Men where are you?" and added, "Hunkies we know where you are at."

Presidents Johnson and Kennedy "and their animal friends have never spoken (except by token) to the needs of Black people in this country or outside... THEY ARE THE ENEMY," the sheet said. It attacked the State Department officials for "simply coming down and LYING."

Last Monday, at a hearing before the student court, Wright denied all the charges against him. "They can't prove I did it," he said later. The student

(CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO, Col. 3)

## Poor People File Suit On U.S. Food Program

WASHINGTON, D. C.-- Thirty-two poor people from Alabama have asked a federal court here to guarantee them and others "the right to life."

In a suit filed this week, the people charged that federal food programs are not enough to keep them from "severe hunger and near starvation."

They asked the court for an order directing the U. S. government to put food programs in counties that don't have any, like Elmore.

Furthermore, they said, in counties with surplus food programs--like Marengo and (soon) Autauga--the government should find out whether the people are getting a diet "sufficient to maintain a reasonably adequate level of nutrition and health."

In counties with food stamp programs--like Dallas, Greene, and (soon) Sumter--the people said, the government should set stamp prices low enough that hungry families can afford them. If the families have no money to spend for food, the suit said, the stamps should be issued free of charge.

The suit, filed by attorney Donald A.

Jelinek of the Southern Rural Research Project, is scheduled for a hearing March 26.

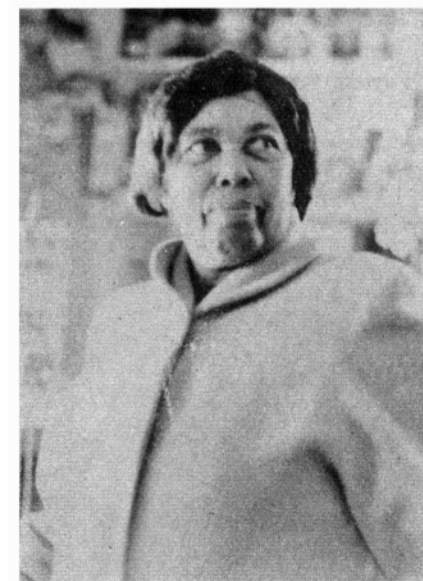
According to the suit, one of the plaintiffs--Mrs. Jessie Mae Jackson--is trying to feed a family of six on an income of \$50 a year.

Mrs. Jackson and other people in Elmore County are in "immediate, continuing, and severe need of food," the suit said, but local officials have refused to participate in either federal food program.

The poor people's suit claimed that the amount charged for food stamps is "excessive," and the allotment of stamps is "insufficient" for a "minimally adequate diet."

Mrs. Matilda Washington of Greene County, who has not been able to afford food stamps since last November, listed her family's diet in the suit:

For breakfast--nothing. For the noon meal--only what the children get free at school. For the evening meal--"variously, peas, rice, cabbage, greens, corn bread, and water, and less often, some pork parts."



MRS. MARY DAVIS

years about what would happen if the school caught fire, or one of the kids got sick.

County Schools Superintendent Joe C. Wilson agreed that running a school without a phone is a real problem. In the past, he said, if a child became ill, "someone had to take him to town. If we had a message to send down there, we had to put someone in a car and take it down."

Wilson said he talked to representatives of the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company "right after I came here in '64, and again last year."

When the company said it couldn't promise him anything soon, the school board agreed to buy a car telephone for Principal William Johnson. The mobile unit was installed last December.

But since Southern Bell doesn't have a transmitting tower in the area, Johnson's car telephone is on the Union Springs exchange. Every time he calls Tuskegee--or Tuskegee calls him--it's a long-distance charge.

The telephone problems of people in Davisville came to light two weeks ago at a Tuskegee City Council meeting. Councilman Stanley H. Smith said he was "literally shocked to learn our police chief doesn't have a telephone, and cannot get one because of difficulties with the company."

Tuskegee Mayor Charles M. Keever said phone company officials had explained that the expense is too high. "They could do it," snapped Smith in reply.

The council voted unanimously to "take whatever means necessary" to get a phone for Police Chief Eugene Harrison's home halfway between Tuskegee and Davisville. But since then, Mayor Keever and Chief Harrison have talked to company officials again--and decided to forget it.

Because Southern Bell plans to put permanent lines in the area eventually, Harrison said, all he could get was a temporary line--at a cost of about \$900 (CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO, Col. 1)



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ROOM 1012, FRANK LEU BUILDING
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36104
PHONE: (205) 262-3572

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Editor: Michael S. Lottman
Executive Editor: Mary Ellen Gale
Photography Editor: James H. Pepler
Lay-out Editor: Amy R. Pepler
Compositors: Barbara H. Flowers, Mary Corbin
Technician: Gloria Bradford
Regional Circulation Mgrs.: George Walker, Norman Warren, Cassie King
Subscription Manager: Margaret H. Dabney

Table with 2 columns: City, Phone Number. Lists reporters and their contact info for various Alabama cities.

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A Reporter Replies

Violent Reactions

BY CHARLEY THOMAS

Laurel High School (Alexander City, Ala.) was angered to the point of threatened violence concerning the article written by this reporter in the Feb. 17-18 Southern Courier, regarding the attendance of colored kids in previously all-white schools.

One fellow quoted in the story was warned to "stay away from Northside, and don't set foot on the campus of Laurel High." All this because he stated that he loved the school he attended--previously-white Benjamin Russell--and that in his opinion, a diploma from that school would look better than one from Laurel.

Another point of argument and controversy was the statement that the teachers at the white schools are better-trained than those at Laurel. This statement was based on the fact that, compared to the Laurel faculty, a higher percentage of the teachers at the newly-desegregated schools have master's degrees from the major universities of the United States.

But the students of Laurel took this statement personally, and showed--though rather crudely--their great school spirit by threatening this reporter with bodily harm if he attended a certain school function at Laurel.

The whole point of the article was to explain the reasons why Negro students--now that they have the opportunity--won't leave their beloved Laurel High. But maybe that's the answer--Laurel is "beloved." And no other school--no matter how much better-trained its faculty is, or how many extra-curricular activities it boasts--will ever lure the students away from Laurel High.

Macon Phone Problems

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

to himself or the city. And even that would be a party line.

"This would do very little good at all," said Keever. "We now plan to see if we can get some kind of radio contact (with Harrison's house)."

Harrison is a Negro, and so are most of the people in southern Macon County. But the families don't blame racial discrimination for their difficulties.

"It's been white soliciting (phones) through this district, and colored soliciting through this district, both races. So that's not it," said Mrs. Davis, the storekeeper.

What, then, is the problem? F. W. Brice, district manager of Southern Bell in Montgomery, said it's money.

In the Davisville "rural project area," Brice said, "we have determined the cost of running phone lines at \$90,000 to \$100,000." Although the area has 50 or 60 prospective customers (including the school and the police chief), that isn't enough to put Davisville

at the top of the priority list in Macon County.

The next rural project there will be in Warrior Stand, east of Davisville, where several more customers have asked for phone service, Brice said: "We want to serve the greatest number as soon as possible."

The phone company is a public utility, and a monopoly. Nationally, it earns billions of dollars a year. Why can't it use some of those funds to help out rural people?

"We have made a large amount of money, but we have spent a lot," Brice replied.

Southern Bell plans to put phones in Warrior Stand late this year or early in 1969. After that, it may be Davisville's turn, but "there's no firm schedule yet," Brice said.

"We do know the scope of the problem," he went on. In particular, he said, company officials have conveyed "appropriate regrets" to Chief Harrison.

Spring Practice in Montgomery

Football Under a Court Order

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--"Welcome to Jeff Davis--the best school in the world," said Jack Rutland.

Rutland, principal of the new Jefferson Davis High School, greeted more than 180 candidates for football last Saturday. It had been one week since U. S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr. accused the Montgomery County school board of trying to keep Negroes out of the new high school.

Twenty Negroes were among the boys who showed up to draw equipment for spring football practice. Ten of them sat down with the other candidates, and listened to the remarks by Rutland and Coach Billy Livings. The other ten stood to the side, watched for a while, and then joined the group.

"I planned for 60 uniforms, and thought I might have 20 left over," Livings told the candidates. "After the past two weeks, I thought I might have 45 left over."

Later, Livings explained that he thought "everybody might be scared because they might be frozen out" of Jeff Davis. On Feb. 24, Judge Johnson had ordered the school board to honor the choices of all Negroes who want to attend Jeff Davis next fall.

The coach said he and other school officials had complied with the Feb. 24



FRANK M. JOHNSON JR., order "to the fullest extent." He said this included going to other schools and telling all eligible boys about spring practice at Jeff Davis.

But during the meeting in the Cloverdale Community Center, there were still signs of some of the problems Judge Johnson had cited.

Both Rutland and Livings told the boys about the eligibility requirements of the Alabama High School Athletic Association, an organization of traditionally-

Seeks House Seat

Branch In U.S. Race

BY EMILY ISRAEL

TUSCALOOSA, Ala.--"Tuscaloosa is the county that is going to be pivotal in the election of William McKinley Branch the First."

That's what Dr. John Cashin of Huntsville, vice-chairman of the National Democratic Party of Alabama (NDP), told 25 people at the first meeting of the NDP's Tuscaloosa chapter.

After explaining the purposes of the



BRANCH

BOONE

NDP--one of two "loyal" Democratic parties organized this year--Cashin introduced Branch, the group's candidate for U. S. Representative from the Fifth Congressional District.

Branch, a Negro, explained that "the First" at the end of his name means "first time in Congress." Branch--who is from Forkland, in Greene County--said he has been a minister since he was called at age 11, and also taught school for 16 years.

The candidate said he is running to break down the attitude that Negroes can't win. His campaign slogan is "I am going to win in November." Branch said he will poll the people in the district and find out what they want before he makes up a platform.

Including Branch, the NDP has put up four U. S. House candidates in Alabama. The Rev. Richard Boone of Montgomery filed papers last week to run for the Second District House seat, H. O. Williams of Union Springs filed for the Third District seat, and T. J. Clemons of Anniston filed in the Fourth District. NDP candidates will not be on the ballot in the May 7 Democratic primary. They will face the regular Democratic nominees and other opponents in November.

Tuskegee Debate

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE) court was still considering his case at mid-week.

After the egg-throwing was over, last week's foreign policy discussion continued to center on Viet Nam. Several questioners disputed Cleveland's claim that despite "many weaknesses," the government of South Viet Nam has "its heart in the right place."

"I find it very difficult to believe that the heart of a government which calls down air strikes on its own people is in the right place," said F. C. Page, a white assistant professor.

And Stephen Wilcox, a white instructor, asked, "To whom is our commitment in South Viet Nam? To the present military government, the one before that, or the one before that?"

Cleveland said the South Vietnamese government is "new," "inexperienced," and "under enormous pressures." "Nobody argued about Korea, which was an identical matter," he complained. "Now, just because the going has gotten tough in Viet Nam, everyone is looking for a way out."

Cleveland admitted that some of the "details" of the war are "horrible." But, he said, "don't forget--it is the other side that started it."

Asked about negotiations to end the war, he replied, "It takes two to tango--and you know we have been seeking

'2-3 Violations,' But Cases Are Dropped

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE, Ala.--"It appears there have been two--maybe three--violations of the law," said Macon County Attorney William C. Hare, "but I haven't convinced myself that it would further the cause of justice to pursue this."

Then--as civil rights workers and their friends exchanged glances of stunned disbelief--Hare asked Inferior Court Judge Richard H. Powell to throw out three cases which were about to come to trial.

The judge agreed. And before any of the civil rights workers had a chance to say a word, their day in court was over.

Two people--Thomas "Tippy" Jackson, a black civil rights worker, and Don H. Shaw, a white Tuskegee Institute professor--had come to court to press charges of drawing a dangerous weapon against W. P. Mangham, chairman of the Macon County Board of Registrars.

On separate occasions, Jackson and Shaw said, Mangham pulled a knife on them when they attempted to enter his office.

Jackson was also in court to answer a counter-charge of assault and battery--filed against him by Mangham. The registrar said he drew his knife in self-defense, because Jackson struck him.

The three cases were scheduled for trial, one after the other in a row last Monday--until Hare decided not to prosecute.

Before moving to drop the cases, Hare spoke privately for several minutes--at separate times--with Judge Powell, Shaw, Jackson, Calvin C. Pryor (Jackson's attorney), and Harry D. Raymon (Mangham's attorney).

But afterward, both sides said they had not agreed to a dismissal.

"I didn't like it," said Mangham. "They just come out and done what they done--and that's it."

And in the hall outside the courtroom,



THOMAS "TIPPY" JACKSON

angry civil rights workers converged on Pryor, demanding to know what had happened.

"There was nothing I could do," replied Pryor, spreading his hands. "He (Hare) is the prosecutor. My only reason for being here is to defend this man (Jackson). Now there's nothing to defend."

One reason for that, Pryor suggested, "is because I was here to defend him." Then he zipped up his briefcase and de-

parted. But Jackson and Shaw said they still don't think justice has been done.

In their conferences with Hare, both men recalled, the county attorney said he didn't want to jail Mangham because the registrar is an elderly man with a sick wife.

In addition, Jackson said, Hare claimed that Mangham could not pay a fine because "he ain't got any money. I said shoot--it cost me \$75 already to get my lawyer here, and I shouldn't have to pay it."

"It's just the power structure, man. This is Alabama justice."

Shaw said Hare tried to persuade him not to prosecute, by saying that Mangham will be "revoked" as chairman of the board of registrars. "If the man is not withdrawn from the office, I will re-file the charge," Shaw promised.

On Jan. 24--the day of the incident between Jackson and Mangham--Jackson was helping Otis Pinkard, head of a voter registration drive sponsored by a Negro civic group, the West Macon Improvement Association.

Pinkard said the county's failure to press charges against Mangham shows that white officials are still fighting to register "as few Negroes as they can."

"What kind of justice is this in Macon County?" he asked. "I thought things were getting better."



Abbeville, Ala.

J. D. Butler's home was burned down at about 10 p.m. last Sunday. Mr. Butler also lost his life in the fire. (From James J. Vaughan)

sustain a broken ankle by falling on the ice. Miss James was treated in the hospital, and is now back in circulation.

Prattville, Ala.

Mrs. C. L. Montgomery Jr. of Prattville is organizing a Kiwi Club for the Montgomery area. The Kiwis are former American Airlines stewardesses who have retired to get married or go into other work. About 1,600 ladies belong to 60 local clubs in 26 states. "We do have our necessary five gals to start our chapter," said Mrs. Montgomery, "but we want to add many more." The group had its first meeting last Tuesday.

Marianna, Fla.

Alfred Baker Lewis of Greenwich, Connecticut, the NAACP's national treasurer, spoke to a well-dressed audience of 150 people here on Feb. 26. Lewis is on a three-month speaking tour of the South. He told the Marianna NAACP about the national organization's recommendations for fighting poverty and injustice. When asked about the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s campaign in Washington, Lewis hesitated. Then he said, "Dr. King says he is practicing non-violence. I believe he's practicing brinkmanship non-violence."

Atlanta, Ga.

Presidential candidate Dick Gregory and U. S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr. were two of the speakers at the National Student Association meeting Feb. 22-25 in Atlanta, Ga. Gregory--recovering from one 40-day fast, and beginning another--talked about "moral pollution" in the U.S. For example, he said, "everybody is afraid of black violence, but no one is afraid of white violence." He urged white students to go into poor white neighborhoods this summer "and lift up your hillbilly brethren, or in 18 months he will be burning your towns down, too." Judge Johnson discussed the rights of students in state schools, saying these rights "are too important to be left to the unbridled control of school administrators."

Mobile, Ala.

McKinley Witherspoon, a Negro employee of Mercury Freight Lines, has filed a suit charging the company with discrimination in hiring practices. In the suit, Witherspoon claims he was denied a job as a cross-country driver because he is a Negro. He now drives trucks in Mobile. The suit will be heard next month in federal court.

Birmingham, Ala.

The Rev. Calvin Woods of the Alabama Christian Movement has been appointed city convener for SCLC's Operation Breadbasket. Woods said it will be his job to organize Negro groups of all kinds throughout the city, so that they can be called upon at any time to demonstrate or picket. He explained how Operation Breadbasket will work: "If we're having trouble with A&P, not only will this A&P be picketed, but also A&P's all over this country."

Mobile, Ala. There were a dozen parades in white Mobile's Mardi Gras celebration last week, and two in the Colored Carnival. The white parades went down Government St. in downtown Mobile. The black



COLORED CARNIVAL PARTICIPANTS parades went down Davis Ave. in the Negro section. Felix, king of Mardi Gras, landed at the downtown pier at the foot of Government St., after a trip from the Mythical Isle of Joy. The day before, King Elixis had arrived from the Black Isle of Joy, docking at the Jackson Shipyards south of town. Felix arrived in the State Docks' yacht, and the waiting crowd was surprised by the presence of the fireboat "Lurleen," accompanying the king. Elixis came in on a rusty barge, and the crowd was surprised by the discovery of a three-week-old corpse, floating under a rotten piling. And so it went.

Hempstead, Long Island

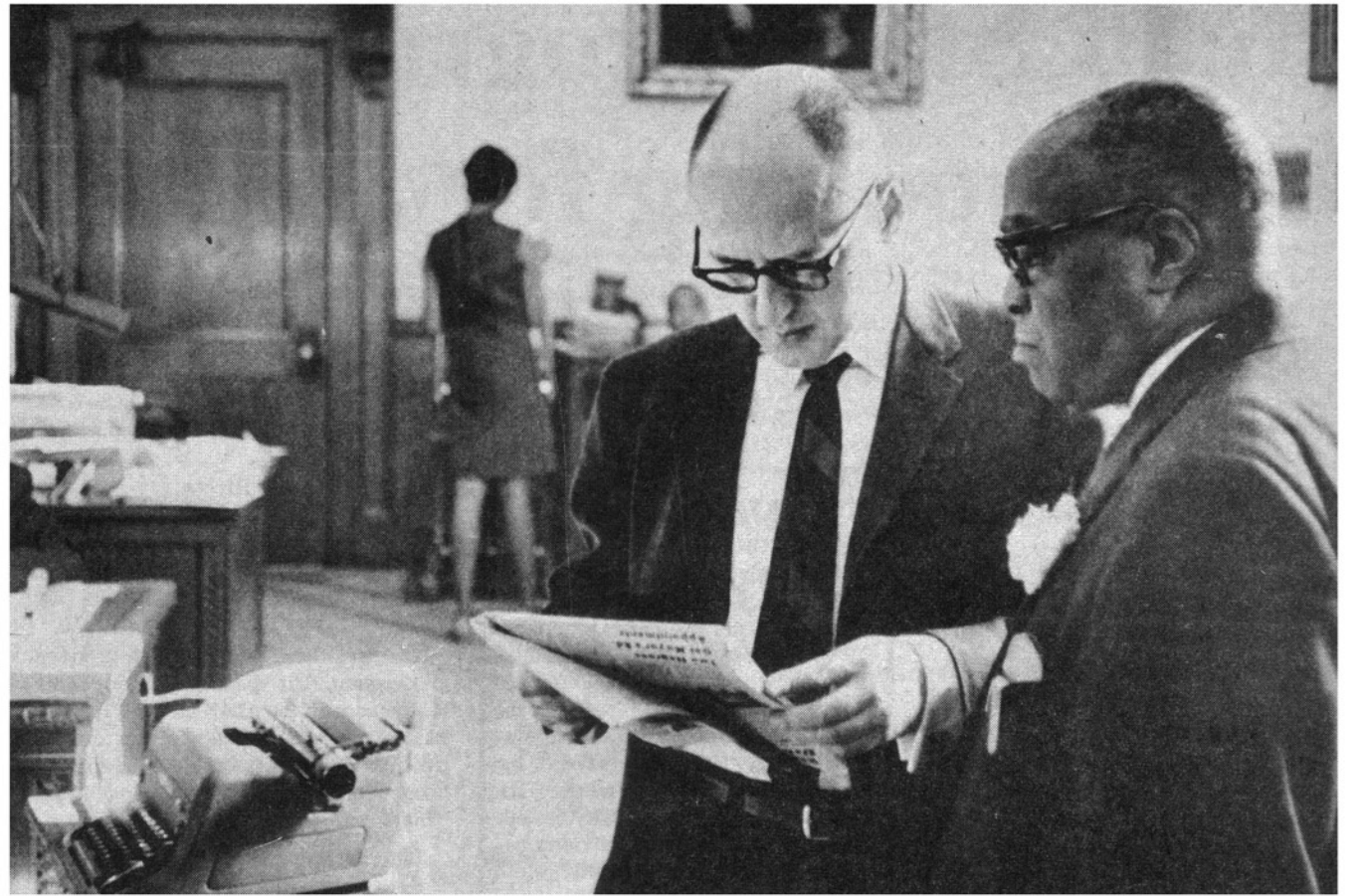
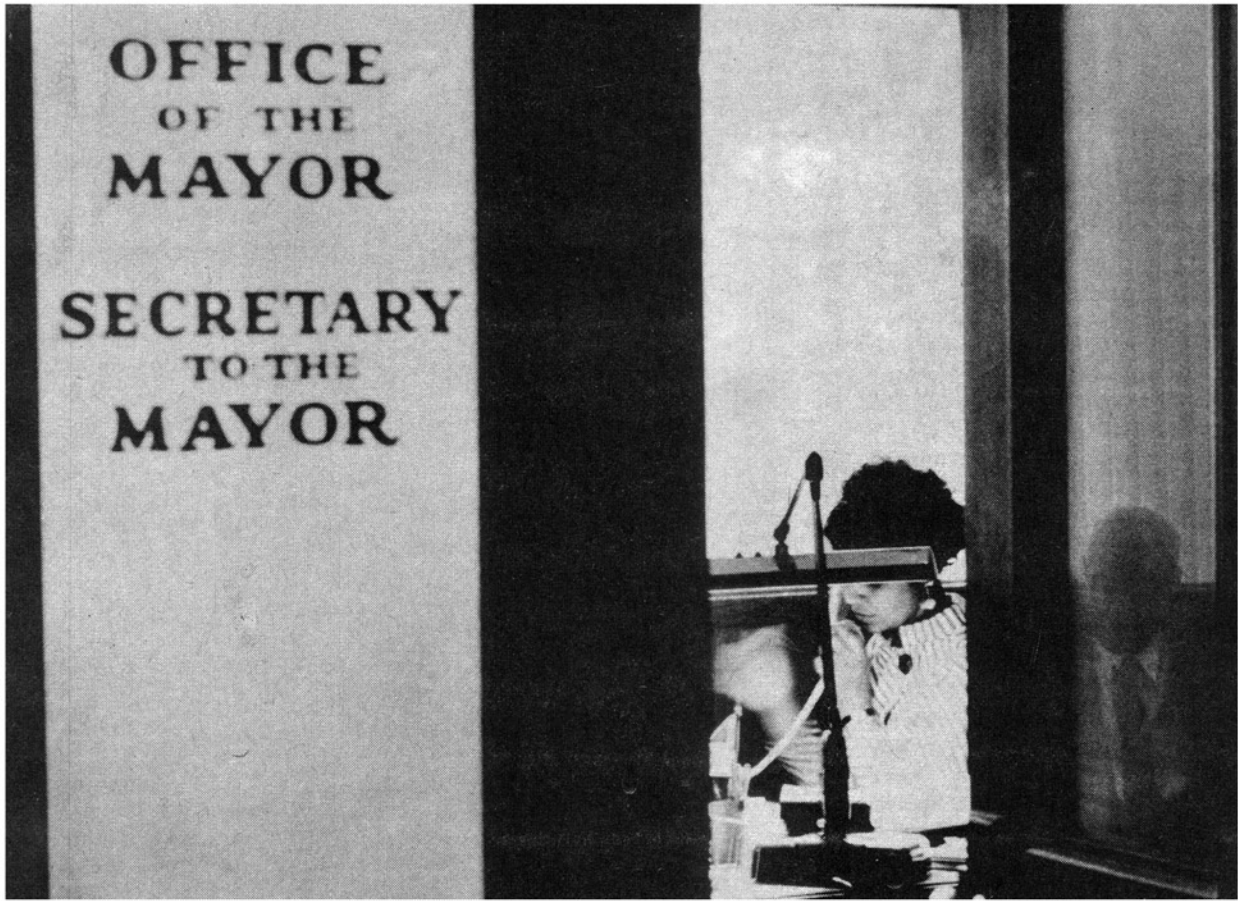
Mrs. Terry (Cowles) Smith--a former Southern Courier reporter and now the wife of former Courier editor Robert E. Smith--gave birth to a 6 lb., 11 oz. boy the morning of Feb. 28. The baby was named Mark Osgoode Smith.

Meridian, Miss.

Miss Patsy James, Southern Courier reporter, recently became one of the few Mississippians in this century to

THE SOUTHERN COURIER welcomes letters from anyone on any subject. Letters must be signed, but your name will be withheld upon request.



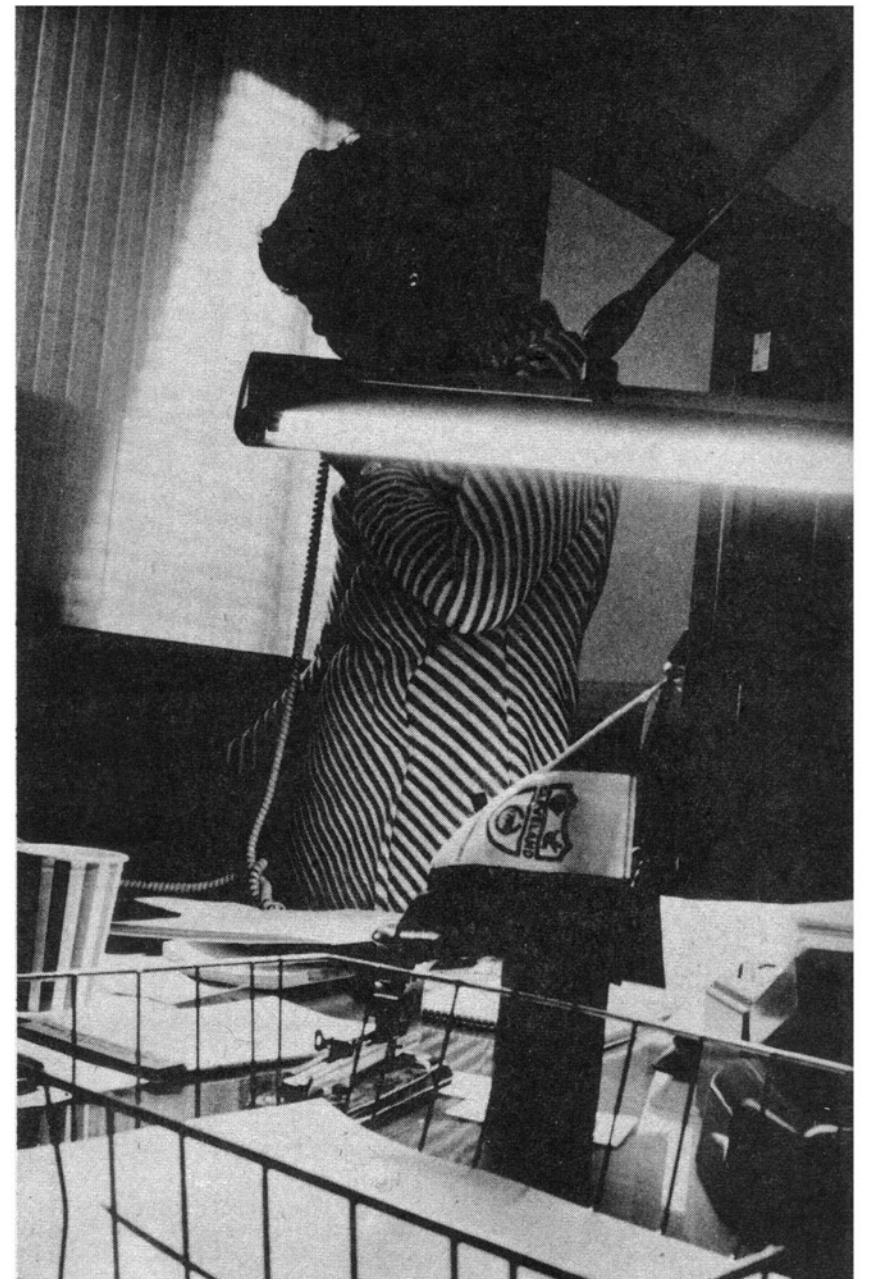
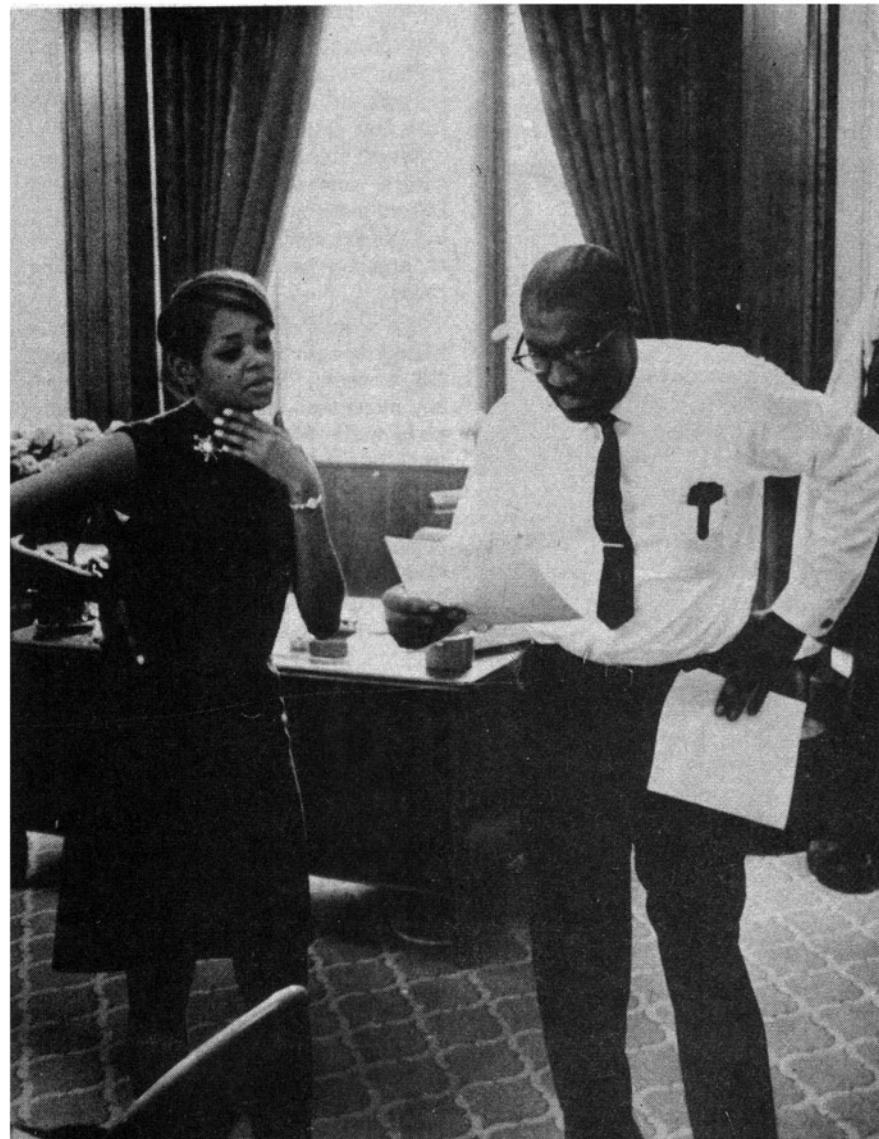


The Mayor's Office--Cleveland, Ohio

# *Where Power Has No Color*



*Photos by Jim Pepler*





# Head Start Program in Jefferson Goes Looking for White Children

BY BOB LABAREE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--The summer Head Start program was out on the road, looking for children. David Singleton, deputy director of the JCCEO (Jefferson County Committee for Economic Opportunity), had come over the winding back roads to Jefferson Park because most of the people who live there are white.

"We prefer that each (Head Start) center be mixed racially--at least 20% of (the minority) race in each one," Singleton said. But in order to find white children, he went on, you have to go looking.

It's not that no white children are eligible. About 33,700 families in the Birmingham area earn less than \$4,000 a year, and have children under 18, and about half of these families are white.

The problem is that white people are almost always reluctant to join anti-poverty programs, Singleton said.

Jefferson Park is small and largely low-income. "It isn't even on the map. When you look at this area on a map, it's blank," Singleton noted.

But inside a small grocery store, he found a white family who were glad to see him--and to hear about Head Start. "My kids are going," said Clayton Rich. "I ain't had no education, but my kids will," Rich said his three children

## Summer Plans

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. -- Anti-poverty officials in Birmingham hope to hold Head Start classes for 4,100 pre-school children this summer.

Four different school boards--Birmingham, Bessemer, Jefferson County, and Fairfield--will run the eight-week program in 41 centers. John Yancey, Head Start director for the Jefferson County Committee for Economic Opportunity, said the centers are almost evenly divided between Negro and mostly-white schools.

Besides regular classes, the program will provide the children with three hot meals a day and with medical and dental care. The over-all cost has been estimated at \$750,000--\$200,000 more than last year.

--two girls and a boy--are going to finish school "if I have any say about it." "A girl can get along with an eighth or ninth grade education, but a boy's got to have more," he said. "And the boys are the worst for going to school. When I was in school, I played hooky."

Last summer, Rich's six-year old daughter attended Head Start "and she loved it," he said. "One day the bus didn't come by, and she cried until I took her myself. So I'm sending (the other daughter) this summer."

Rich's father, who runs the grocery store, said that the Head Start center last year was the all-Negro Mt. Hebron Baptist Church in Irondale. Some white parents took their children out of the program, he said, when they found out "there was colored in it."

But the Irondale Elementary School is integrated, the elder Rich went on. "They're all down there mixed now and they're doing fine. In fact, they say that some of the colored teachers are better than the white. There's no trouble there. I saw them all playing on the playground together and having a grand time."

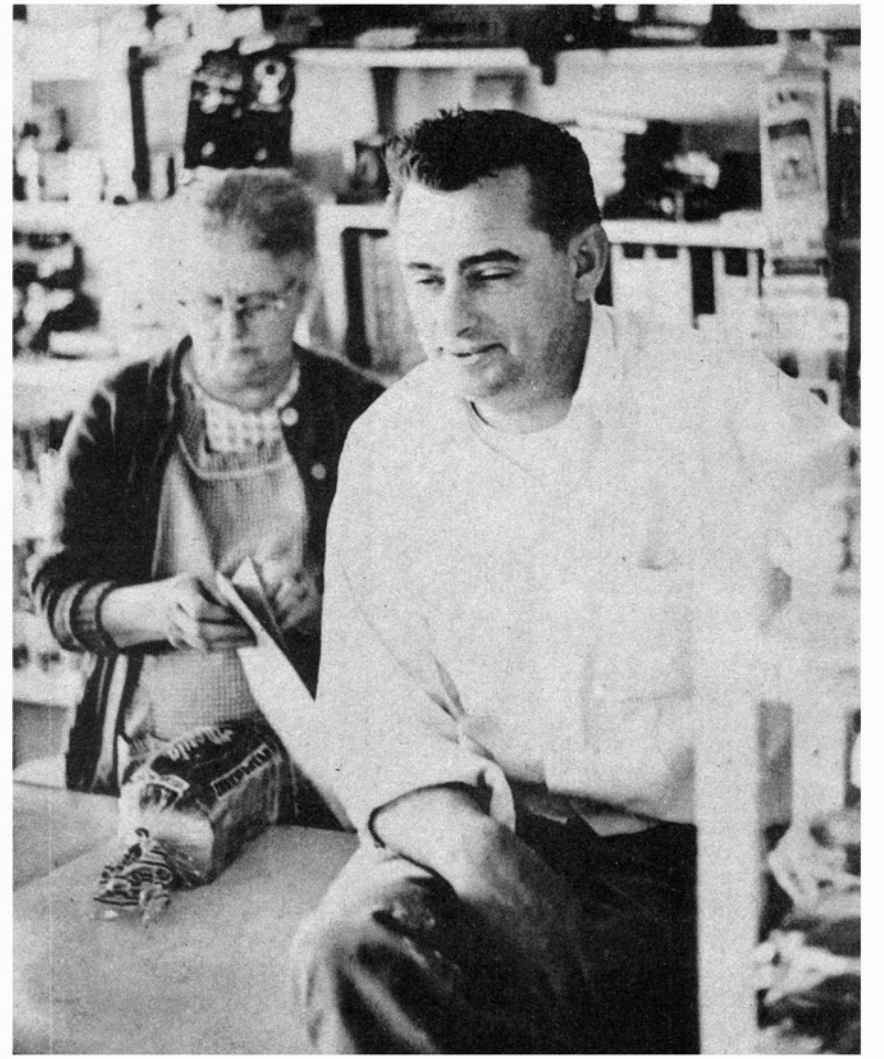
Jefferson Park needs programs like Head Start, said Clayton Rich. "I've been here all my life--32 years," he said. "There wasn't nothing out here then. No more than about seven or eight houses, I guess."

Now the community has grown to about 400 houses, Rich said, but there is still no place for people to go and nothing much for them to do.

"This here store's about the only place where people meet," he said. "Nobody even goes to church around here. I'd say 99% of the people don't go."

That means there is another problem, he added--with the police. "You ask down at the Jefferson County Court House and see where the sheriff always has to go--Jefferson Park. They're drunks, mostly," he said. "Young ones, sometimes, but adults too. One burned down my brother's house a while back."

In the next few months, Singleton--the JCCEO deputy director--hopes that the anti-poverty program will move into more "unknown" areas like Jefferson Park. "How many places are there like this?" he wondered.



CLAYTON RICH

## 'Nothing to Do But Wait on Death'

# Living Is Difficult in Riggins

BY BOB LABAREE

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--Riggins, in North Birmingham, doesn't look like the rest of the city. In fact, it doesn't look like a city at all.

Most of the streets in Riggins are narrow, rutted dirt roads, usually without lighting. Many people there still use outdoor toilets, and some have to walk through the woods to a spring for water. Chickens run loose everywhere.

According to the Jefferson County Committee for Economic Opportunity, North Birmingham is the city's worst poverty pocket. Of the 11,000 families living there, 37% are below the poverty line.

Mrs. Mary Whitson, a case worker at the North Birmingham Neighborhood Service Center, estimates that most of the people she works with in the Riggins area earn only \$2,000 a year. "There isn't a one who doesn't need something," she said. "And three-fourths of them need something bad--whether it's employment or what."

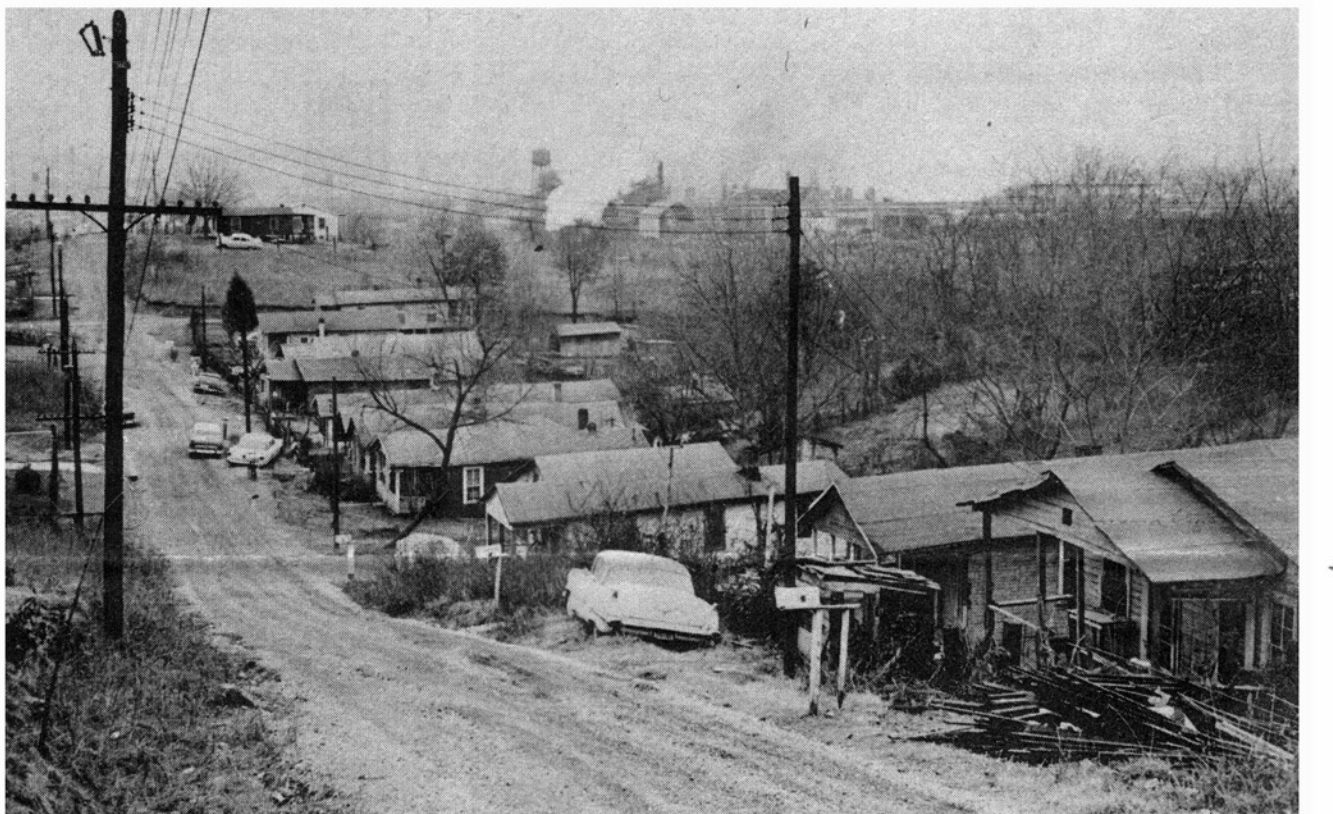
Like the other four workers at the North Birmingham center, Mrs. Whitson goes from door to door every day, listening to poor people's problems.

"I'm just sick and tired," said one young woman. "You just can't find nobody to help you."

The two basement rooms she and her four children live in were swept clean and the two beds were neatly made. But "when it rains, water just fills up that kitchen in there," said Mrs. Whitson.

The woman said she has lived in the basement for several years. "The lady upstairs don't charge me nothing for rent," she said, and "she pays for my lights, too."

If someone else didn't pay for these things, no one would. The woman and her children have to live on what the father sends them--about \$30 a month



A STREET IN RIGGINS

--until they can get on welfare.

Down the street, Mrs. Whitson stopped at another house--bigger but not as clean. The four children in the bedroom with their grandmother were even thinner than the first family. The old woman was making a breakfast of grits in a small pot on the wood stove.

"He wasn't doing nothing before," she said, pointing to a little boy in diapers, propped up on an old armchair, "but he's feeling better now."

The boy had had a severe case of pneumonia, and Mrs. Whitson was checking to see if he had been back to the hospital for an examination. He hadn't. The mother goes every day to a federal training program, so she couldn't take him.

"You tell her to call me and I'll carry him to the doctor," Mrs. Whitson told the old woman. "We don't want to lose that child."

Seven children live in another house with a woman whose husband died and left no pension. When she went to work, the Department of Pensions and Security stopped her \$85-a-month welfare check.

She works seven days a week as a maid at a nearby motel--and earns just \$25 a week. Negro ladies can't earn any more than that, she said, but "white girls make \$45 a week for 5 1/2 days work" at the same place.

When it comes time to make lunches for the children in school, there's not enough food to go around. So "I gives it to one bunch one day and another bunch the next," the woman said.

For these people, and many more in Riggins, heat and water are hard to get.

In one old two-room shack, two women have been living for over 15 years. The mother has arthritis, so the daughter had carried the new load of coal inside by herself.

"Last night it (the arthritis) was hurting me so, I just couldn't seem to get warm," said the old woman. At night, Mrs. Whitson explained, the ladies put the stove outside, because coals drop out of a hole onto the floor, and they're afraid of fire.

"I think sometime I'm going to drive up and not find these folks here any more," Mrs. Whitson said.

Another woman said she can get heat, "but when the folks down below us are using the water, we can't get any." She

said the water pipes are so close to the surface near their house that the street department is afraid to fix the road out front.

A man was kneeling by a small hole in the ground and scooping water out into a pail. "There's about 11 families in all who got to come here," he said.

These people don't have faucets outside their houses and must walk down the hill to a little spring. Water trickles out of the top of the hole and drains off into a large stagnant pool.

Willie Cochran has been living in Riggins since 1942, and he can remember when, 18 years ago, it was taken into the city. In 1957 the water main was

brought in because "we went down to that commission and bothered them so."

But even though he's luckier than most, with indoor plumbing and a stone front on his house, he isn't hopeful about things changing for the better. Conditions may be improving, he said, but not fast enough for the young people.

"The problem is the kids," he said. "This ain't no place for kids. Most boys around here don't finish high school, and the ones with get-up leaves by the time they gets very old."

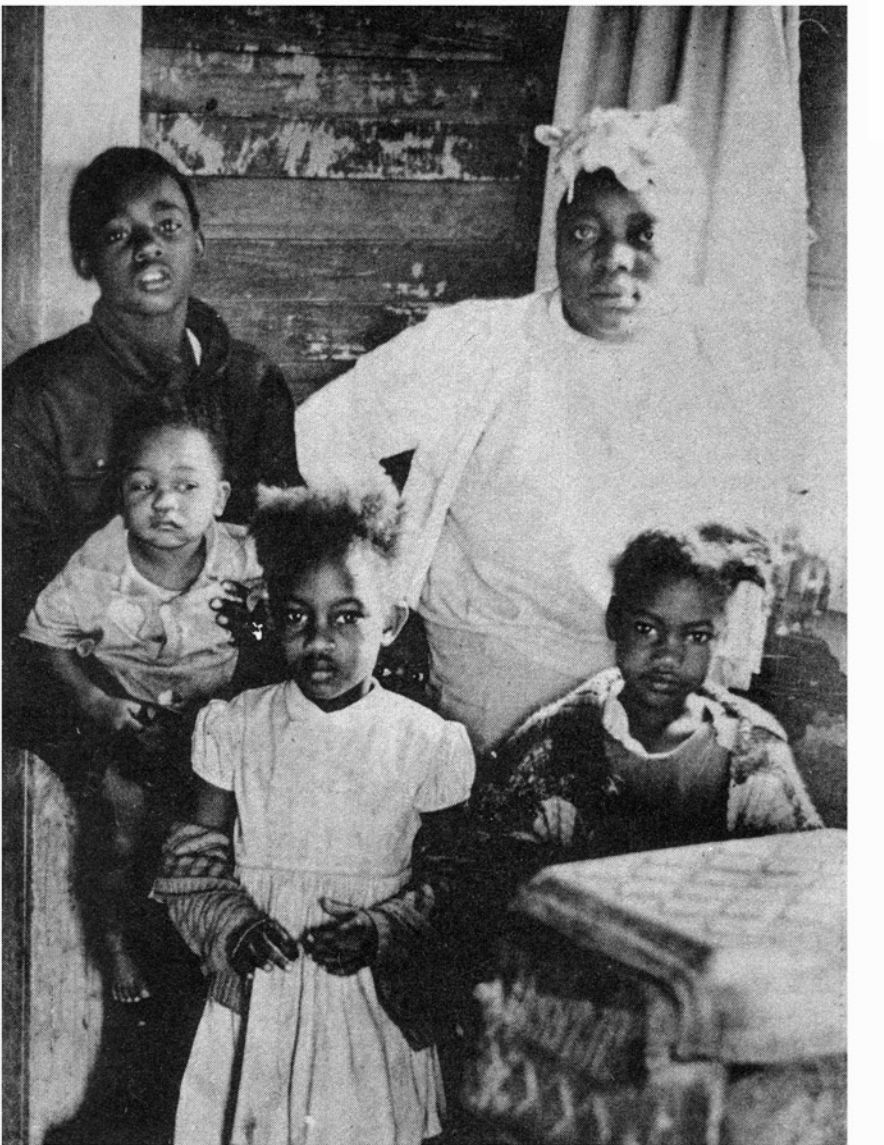
"Nobody stays here but old men like me and women. Ain't nothing to do out here but wait on death."



GETTING WATER IS A PROBLEM



WILLIE COCHRAN TALKS WITH MRS. MARY WHITSON



A FAMILY IN RIGGINS



Asks Space for Summer Head Start

Elmore CAC Petitions Schools

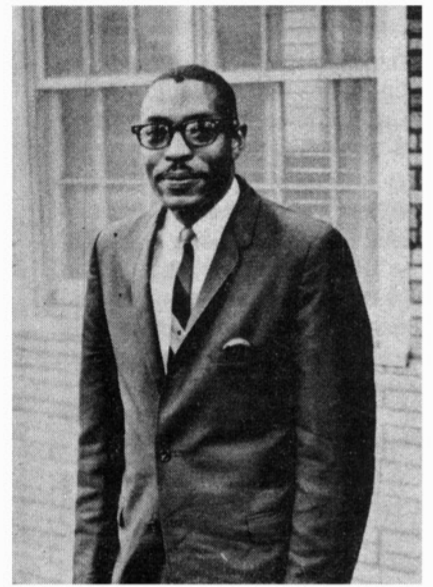
BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN
WETUMPKA, Ala.--Last Sept. 25, Mrs. Elizabeth T. Edwards of the Coosa-Elmore Community Action Committee asked for permission to conduct Head Start classes in Elmore County school buildings this summer.

room space "will be considered at our next board meeting."
So Mrs. Edwards and the Rev. J. L. Jones then presented a petition to the school board, asking for a decision on the CAC's request by last Tuesday.

the first-grade pupils who were in Head Start," the superintendent said. "We have not had public or private pre-school programs available before for our children."
If the program can't use the Elmore County schools this year, Naile said, it will operate in the same buildings it was in last summer--such as the Wetumpka Recreation Center, and Jackson's Chapel Church in Millbrook.

want to have two classes in one room again.
Mrs. Edwards said the CAC is now looking for volunteers to get things ready for Head Start--wherever it may be held. Volunteer work is "like church," said the director. "It makes you feel real good."

Man Runs In Athens



HUBERT WARD
ATHENS, Ala. -- Hubert Ward, a young Negro draftsman, has announced his candidacy for the Athens City Council.

Ward said he first considered running for office when Athens officials adopted a plan for city improvements that he and other citizens had drawn up.

"We presented a project to pave all the streets that needed paving--regardless of who lives on them," Ward said. "They start working on it in the spring."

Ward estimated that 40% of the city's 16,000 people are Negroes. But, he said, he did not become a candidate just to put Negro grievances before the public.

"I don't want to stand up there as a member of a minority group and say that I'm representing just the interests of the minority group," Ward explained. "I intend to represent all the people, and look out for their welfare."

The petition said the CAC is "in vast need of building space with adequate restrooms and luncheon facilities for our Head Start program this year."
But the deadline passed without any decision from the school board. And county Schools Superintendent Ross McQueen said this week that he had "no comment" on the CAC request. McQueen said he is "just the secretary to the board," and doesn't know when its next meeting is.

In a letter to Mrs. Bessie Brand of the CAC last month, Barker did say, "I am a firm believer in mutual cooperation for the good of our schools and the children involved."

"Not only do I advocate cooperation for the good of our schools and the children," Mrs. Brand replied, "but I also believe in cooperation for the good of our community, our county, our state, and our nation."

Harry Naile, secretary to Mrs. Edwards, said 348 Negro and 170 white children have applied for this summer's Head Start program.

B. B. Nelson, superintendent of the Tallahassee city schools, agreed last fall to let the CAC hold classes in predominantly-Negro R. R. Moton School. And Coosa County Schools Superintendent Lloyd G. McClenny has approved the CAC's use of three schools--including predominantly-white Weogurka School.

Tallahassee and Coosa County schools were used last summer, in the CAC's first Head Start program. In a letter, McClenny said the CAC's plan to hold the classes again is a "welcome note."

"Favorable comments came from first-grade teachers and principals about the readiness and adjustments of

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 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.

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Help Wanted--Either Sex
a. ASSISTANT DIRECTOR for home-health services. Desirable qualifications are: Graduate of an accredited school of nursing, currently licensed in the State of Alabama as a registered nurse, or currently licensed as a practical nurse with a proven record of managerial ability; or a graduate of a four-year college with a major in sociology, psychology, social service, dietetics, or home-economics with emphasis on home nursing; or any combination of the aforementioned.
b. AREA SUPERVISOR, health-homemaker services. Desirable qualifications: High school graduate is desirable. Applicant should have experience as a licensed practical nurse, currently registered in the State of Alabama, should have experience record that proves ability to supervise others and to plan work; or a combination of education and work experience will be considered in lieu of the foregoing. For example: a person who has received formal classroom and in-service training as a home nursing aide or as a nursing aide or orderly in a hospital or nursing home and who is literate will be considered, provided experience record demonstrates ability to work with others, to use initiative, and to plan work.
c. HEALTH-HOMEMAKER AIDE. Desirable qualifications are: Applicant must have been graduated from the Health-Homemaker Aide Program, or must be able to present a record of equivalent training in a hospital or nursing home. In addition, applicant must be literate and able to comprehend simple written and oral instructions, must be in good physical and mental health and free of contagious diseases, must be willing to serve in homes where an active communicable disease may be present, must be willing and able to serve irregular hours and willing to accept changes in tour of duty.
d. CLERK-TYPIST. Desirable qualifications are: Type accurately at rate of 40 words a minute. A high school graduate who has studied commercial courses is desirable; ability to use acceptable English and to spell correctly is required. In addition, applicant needs to know how to operate simple adding machines, and must have aptitude for learning to operate other simple office machines.
e. ACCOUNTS CLERK. Desirable qualifications are: Ability to use touch-typing system--speed is not essential but accuracy is a must. Must be able to compute simple mathematical problems, including addition, multiplication, percentages, division, subtraction, and ratio. Familiarity with double-entry bookkeeping system is desirable. Experience in keeping accounts receivable or payable ledgers would be an asset.
f. HOME NURSING SUPERVISORS. Desirable qualifications are: Applicants for home nursing supervisors should have experience in home nursing or be a licensed registered or practical nurse or be a graduate of a four-year college or a major in home-economics or a similar subject.
Apply by letter or in person to Coosa-Elmore Community Action Committee, 101 1/2 Commerce St., Wetumpka, Ala. (across from Courthouse). An Equal Opportunity Employer.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED--The Montgomery Head Start needs all the volunteer help it can get to work in the classrooms. Men, women, and teen-agers (minimum age 16) can all be of use. Volunteers will assist as teacher's aides and cook's helpers, and will take children on field trips in the area. A volunteer can choose his or her own hours between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. on a convenient day Monday through Friday. Transportation and lunch will be furnished. If you are available, apply to the Rev. E. W. McKinney, volunteer director at 419 Madison, call 263-3474, or go to the nearest Head Start center.

ART EXHIBIT--Alabama State College is now showing the works of Dick West, the painter-sculptor whose powerful impressions of the American Indian have won national awards. The exhibition is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday until March 31, in Kilby Hall on the Alabama State campus, Montgomery, Ala.

KING'S CAMPAIGN--All people interested in the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s anti-poverty campaign are invited to a state-wide meeting at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 9, in St. Paul's Church, Minter and Tremont streets, Selma, Ala.

LOWNDES ANNUAL DAY--The Lowndes County Christian Movement will hold its third Annual Day at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 10, in the Mt. Moriah Church No. 1, Beechwood, Ala. Everyone is asked to attend.

SPARE-TIME INCOME--Write orders for hosery. Earn up to \$10 an hour servicing racks in stores. Recruit other agents (easily done by mail), and receive up to \$2 for each \$5 they earn. Franchise, complete outfit provided. NO FEE. Write Joe N. Ross Jr., Agent Manager, 101 University Blvd., Tuscaloosa, Ala. 35401.

SOCIAL SECURITY -- You can receive all or part of your Social Security benefits even if you continue to work. If you earn \$1,500 or less in a year, you can get the full benefits to which you are entitled. And if you earn more than \$1,500, you can still get some of your benefits. The Social Security office at 474 S. Court St. in Montgomery--and other Social Security offices--can tell you how to claim your benefit payments.

MOBILE MOVIE--The Mobile Council on Human Relations will show the film "Lay My Burden Down" at 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 12, in the Church of the Good Shepherd, 605 Donald St., Mobile, Ala. The public is invited. The film is a documentary about Negroes in rural Dallas and Wilcox counties. The council will have the film on hand for three days--March 11-13--and will be glad to show it to any interested groups in the Mobile area. Call the Rev. John Thompson, 457-1115 in Mobile.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS--"Man" is the subject of the Lesson Sermon to be read in all Christian Science churches this Sunday, March 10. The Golden Text is from Haggai: "Be strong, all ye people of the land, saith the Lord, and work: for I am with you, saith the Lord of hosts."

PHOTO EXHIBIT--The art department of the University of Alabama is showing a selection of "Pictures from The Southern Courier" from 2 to 5 p.m. every day, March 11 to 31, in Garland Hall on the university campus, Tuscaloosa, Ala. Also featured are paintings by Carl Holty.

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.

PHOTOGRAPHERS--The Southern Courier is now accepting applications for the position of staff photographer. Candidates should be willing and able to travel. They should have a driver's license, imagination, and ambition. Experience will be considered, but it is not a necessity. Salary: \$30 a week plus expenses. Write to Jim Peppler, The Southern Courier, 1012 Frank Leu Bldg., Montgomery, Ala. 36104.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES -- Last year, more than 5,000,000 students were involved in home-study courses. A directory of accredited private home-study schools, listing 95 accredited schools with quality courses, may be obtained without charge by sending a postcard to National Home Study Council, 1601 18th St. NW, Washington, D. C. 20009.

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

TEACHER EXAM -- Prospective teachers who plan to take the National Teacher Examinations on April 6 must submit their registrations to the Educational Testing Service, Box 911, Princeton, N. J. 08540, not later than March 15. The tests will be given at Alabama State College in Montgomery, Ala., and at other testing centers. Bulletins of information concerning the tests may be obtained from C. D. Malloy, director of testing at Alabama State, or from the Educational Testing Service. The tests are designed for college seniors preparing to teach, and for teachers applying for positions in school systems that encourage or require submission of test scores.

MONTGOMERY REGISTRATION -- The Montgomery County Board of Registrars will be in session to receive applications for voter registration during the month of March as follows: March 5 (all precincts), 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at the courthouse; March 6 (precinct 3), 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Bellingrath Community Center; March 25 (all precincts), 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at the courthouse; March 26 (precincts 2S2, 2S1, 2N), 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Davis School; March 27 (precinct 11), 10-11:30 a.m., Chesser Community Center; March 27 (precinct 22), 12:30-2 p.m., Snowdown Community Center. The board will meet at the courthouse March 4 and 18 for the purpose of registering Montgomery County citizens in the armed services, Merchant Marine, Red Cross, and affiliated organizations who are stationed and serving outside the county. Under the law, only those people who live in a precinct will be registered when the board is there.

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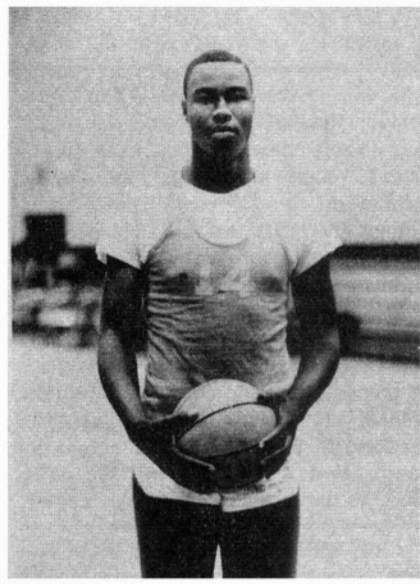
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'Only' 32 Points--But Rattlers Win

Bad Night for Barbour Star

BY MARY ELLEN GALE AND VICTORIA ENGLISH ENTERPRISE, Ala.--Travis Grant had an off night last Friday in the semi-finals of the Southeast Alabama high school basketball tournament. He scored only 32 points.



TRAVIS GRANT AT PRACTICE

But that was enough to lead his team --the Barbour County Training School Rattlers--to their first victory of the season over the Henry County Training School Gophers, 70 to 61.

And the next night, Grant was back in top form, shooting--and hitting--from all over the floor. The Rattlers downed Woodson High of Andalusia, 81 to 66, and won the right to play in the state tournament this week in Montgomery.

To nobody's surprise, Grant--who scored a sizzling 48 points for Barbour County in the game against Woodson--was voted the most valuable player in his district.

Nobody got very excited about those 48 points, either. "He's gone over 50 four times this year," explained Rattler coach James Redd.

For instance, Grant sank 58 points two weeks ago against Carver High of Dothan, as unranked Barbour County dethroned the top-seeded Lions, 99 to

92. But even that isn't the best Grant can do. The 6'6 1/2", 210 lb. senior--who has been wowing the Barbour County fans as a varsity forward for four straight years--tallied a whopping 63 points in one game last season.

With that kind of talent, Grant hasn't

had to worry much about college. Several top schools are trying to snare him.

The best offers so far have come from Alabama State, Tuskegee Institute, Grambling College in Louisiana, the University of Kentucky, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a couple of others.

But Grant--a cool-headed 18-year-old with his eye on a career in pro basketball--won't say which school he likes the most.

"I want the best athletic scholarship I can get," he said. "But it has to be in the South. My family needs me, and I want to stay close by."

He said he doesn't care whether he goes to a mostly-Negro or a mostly-white college--"just so long as I'm playing basketball."

Grant has been averaging about 40 to 45 points a game. For a while he played center, Coach Redd said, "but

I switched him because the other teams were using a sagging defense--all five men would collapse on him as soon as he got the ball."

That hasn't been happening lately. In fact, the only player who has given Grant much trouble is Les Davis of Henry County Training School.

With Davis dogging Grant all over the court, the Gophers twice de-fanged the Rattlers earlier this year, 62 to 61 and 59 to 57. That helped keep Barbour County's season record down to 12 wins and four losses. But the Rattlers won the big one.

Selma Election

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

J. "Ace" Anderson. Three more Negro council candidates were defeated Tuesday.

L. L. Anderson said he plans to challenge Smitherman again four years from now.

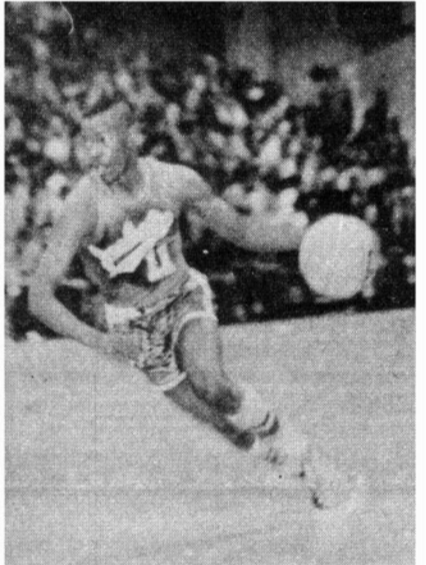
And in Montgomery...

BY FRANKLIN HOWARD MONTGOMERY, Ala.--Booker T. Washington of Montgomery--the team that says, "We will never get beaten by the same team twice"--defeated cross-town rival Carver High, 69 to 55, last Saturday for the Central Alabama District AA crown.

Larry McTier, who scored 26 points,

and Willie James, who had 20, led the 1967 state and national champions into the 1968 state tournament. The tournament is being played this week in the Alabama State College Arena.

In the Central District class A finals, Willie J. Thomas led Sandtown (Millbrook) to a 49-48 victory over Tipton (Selma). Thomas scored 29 points, four more than Melvin Walker of Tipton. But Walker was the tournament's leading scorer over-all, with 93 points in three games.



LARRY MCTIER

Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights

The weekly meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 11, in the New Hope Baptist Church, 1154 Tenth Ave. S., the Rev. H. Stone, pastor.

Advertisement for ODORID. It features a bottle of the product and text: 'Only ONE DROP RIDS ODORS. ODORID NEUTRALIZES ODORS INSTANTLY! BASEMENT SICK ROOM KITCHEN PET AREA. Money Back Guarantee. SEND \$1.25 TO: M. P. PRODUCTS CO. BOX 4140 PITTSBURGH, PA. 15202. Only \$1.25 POSTPAID.'

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Rev. Roosevelt Franklin 630 Morrow Avenue Macon, Georgia 31201 Phone (Area Code 912) 745-6475 I SPECIALIZE IN ALL CASE WORK

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Advertisement for a church: 'Leave for New York or Boston the same day you arrive in Florence. God Helps Those Who Help Themselves.'

Advertisement for a car: 'TIMES HAVE CHANGED!'. It features a drawing of a vintage open-top car with a driver and a passenger. The text is slanted across the top of the image.

Advertisement for Alabama Exchange Bank: 'BUT WE GIVE "OLD-FASHIONED" FRIENDLY SERVICE IN BANKING. Since its founding, this bank has grown tremendously and will continue to provide a full range of services. Bank where your money is handled safely by friendly people. MAKE OUR BANK YOUR FINANCIAL HEADQUARTERS! ALABAMA EXCHANGE BANK Member Federal Reserve System and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation P.O. Box 728 Tuskegee, Alabama We Are an Equal Opportunity Employer'

Advertisement for brick homes: 'Fine Brick Homes. Three - Bedroom Ranch - Style UNI-CREST HOME built on your lot, with forced-air heat and pecanwood kitchen cabinets. We build fine brick homes. Customers with rural lots welcomed. \$65.00 per month, NO DOWN PAYMENT. Phone 262-7727, or write P. O. Box 2778, Montgomery, Ala. 36105.'

Advertisement for Income Tax Service: 'Income Tax Service. Avoid last-minute confusion! Personalized service! Enjoy early refunds! No benefits missed! Accurate and dependable! Joe N. Ross, Tax Consultant, 101 University Blvd., Tuscaloosa, Ala. 35401, Phone 758-9274.'

Advertisement for 'Personally Yours' cosmetics: 'Personally Yours... answers questions about Junior Miss etiquette, grooming and interests. Q. When I try to apply eyeliner I always wind up looking like Cleopatra with thick, heavy lines... Q. My brother Gary just got married, and Mother said I could have his room. Heaven! The only catch is that Mom said no redecorating... Q. You really don't need a large nest-egg to do it... Q. Frizzy hair has me in a fizzle. There's simply no cure. Hair straightening lotions break my hair... A. Would you believe short curly hair is the style these days? If you have long hair, why not just snip it off and be a naturally curly beauty? Or, if the Greek goddess look is not for you, use small brush rollers to set your hair. No need to sleep on them -- simply roll.'

Advertisement for Viet-Nam Veterans: 'VIET-NAM VETERANS SPEAK OUT. We are veterans of the Viet-Nam war. We believe that this "conflict" in which our country is now engaged in Viet-Nam is wrong, unjustifiable and contrary to the principle of self-determination on which this nation was founded. We believe that the activities and objectives of our forces in Viet-Nam are directly contrary to the best interests of the Vietnamese people and of the people of the United States. We believe that our policy in Viet-Nam supports tyranny and denies democracy. We believe this because of our experiences in Viet-Nam. We know, because we have been there, that the American public has not been told the truth about the war or about Viet-Nam. We know: that Viet-Nam is one country--historically, culturally and as specified in the Geneva Accords of 1954. that this conflict is basically a civil war. that the government in Saigon, despite the recent "election", is a military dictatorship--supported by a small feudal aristocracy, the ARVN (Saigon) officer corps and half a million American troops. that the majority of the people we are fighting in south Viet-Nam are south Vietnamese. that the basic problem in Viet-Nam is not military--but social, economic and political; not American --but Vietnamese. There is no military "solution." There is no "American" solution. We believe that if the American people realized this they would join the dissent of the millions of Americans already against this war. We believe that true support for our buddies still in Viet-Nam is to demand that they be brought home (through whatever negotiation is necessary) before anyone else dies in a war the American people did not vote for and do not want. Permission granted for publication. [List of names and military ranks follows.]'

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