

OFF-LIMITS--TO ALBANY NEGROES

Barred by Albany Y, Kids Drown in River

BY JAMES M. FALLOWS

ALBANY, Ga. -- Like almost everything in Albany, the YMCA is segregated. Now, after a series of drownings at a Negro swimming hole north of town, Albany's Operation Open City is trying to do something about the "Y."

Groups of local black kids and of Negro soldiers from the military bases near Albany--have been turned down when they tried to join the Y, or go swimming there. "They (YMCA officials) didn't make any pretense about it," one teen-ager recalled this week. "They simply told us that they didn't allow any 'colored'."

Many Southern towns have a "Negro" Y with inferior facilities, but Albany Negroes have no Y at all. Segregation itself is a "discriminatory humiliation," said Miss Mary Moss, a Negro attorney, "but it is only part of the problem." The rest of the problem involves the deaths of Negro children.

During the hot Georgia summer, Negro kids here start looking for a place to swim. There used to be a public pool in town, said Miss Moss, but when the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was passed, the city sold the pool to a white newspaper publisher, James Gray, rather than integrate it.

Gray--chairman of the Georgia Democratic Party--kept the pool for a year, and then sold it to the local Boys Club, Miss Moss said. But, she added, the Boys Club won't let Negroes swim in the pool, either.

That leaves just one place for Negro kids to go--a wide part of the Flint River, which runs all around the town. Kids like to swim there, and every weekend, families come down to watch the children swimming and diving off the two-story-high bridge above the river.

But both the swimming and diving can be dangerous. Two weeks ago, the latest in a long series of drownings occurred at the river.

One mother--watching her two sons play in the river this week--said five or six children have died there since last year. And in an Atlanta nursing home, there is a small Negro boy whose brain was damaged when he dived off the bridge into shallow water last summer.

Defenders of the Y have pointed out that Negro kids are not required to swim in the river. But, said Miss Moss, Negro teachers and servicemen are re-

No Pool

BY JOSEPH D. DELANEY JR.

GRENADA, Miss.--Aug. 20 started out like any other day for eight-year-old Joe Willie Monger, but it ended in tragedy.

After eating lunch that day, Joe Willie went wading with his friends in the Yalobusha River. He waded into a hole over his head, and began to sink.

Joe Willie made several frantic attempts to reach the shore, and then went under the water just west of the Illinois Central Railroad bridge. He never came up again.

The Grenada Rescue Squad was called in, to search for the boy's body. The search continued until 10 p.m. that night, and was resumed the next day. Finally, the body was found by Joe Larry Williamson, a local driver.

"I went 20 feet down in the water, never finding bottom," said Williamson after finding Joe Willie's body. "If they had swimming pools with life-guards in Grenada, black kids wouldn't get drowned."

Williamson was referring to a common complaint--the lack of public swimming pools for Grenada's black community. Pools were closed here to avoid desegregation.

Mrs. Hattie Ray Monger, mother of the drowning victim and seven other children, said the tragedy would not have happened if Grenada had a public swimming pool.

quired to contribute to the United Fund, which partially supports the Y.

Contributions to the United Fund are automatically deducted from the teachers' paychecks, she said, and the soldiers are "strongly encouraged" to give.

The United Fund gives money to many of Albany's charities, but its largest contribution--some \$20,000 each year--goes to the Y. "This is just a miserable and depressing situation," said B. C. Ramsey, a white teacher at Albany Junior College. "Negroes are made to support an organization that won't let them in."

Operation Open City began its campaign against the Y two months ago, as summer began and parents started thinking about their children swimming in the river. A committee from Open City, including Ramsey and three Negro teen-agers, went to see some of the

Y's directors.

The first meeting "was not too fruitful," Miss Moss said. She said one of the directors told the visitors, "We brought you over from Africa, and gave you homes and protected you, and now look what you're asking."

Several days later, said Miss Moss, Jim Raines, the Y's general secretary, came to see some Open City members. He apologized for what happened in the meeting, and asked the Negroes to tell him their grievances.

They told him, said one Open City member--"but that was a big mistake." The next time Open City members went to see the directors, they said, the Y officials were prepared for everything the committee had to say.

But when the directors asked the Open City members what they wanted, the answer was complete integration of the Y and all its facilities.

The directors said they couldn't do that, but they would support the construction of a new Y in "another part of town."

The directors said this would not be a black Y, Miss Moss recalled--the old Y would stay all-white, and the new Y would be integrated, with whites and Negroes serving on its board of directors.

Open City members turned down this proposal, Miss Moss said. Meanwhile, Operation Open City is trying other steps to integrate the YMCA. For one thing, they appealed to baseball star Hank Aaron, asking him not to make his planned donation to the Atlanta YMCA and Boys Club on Hank Aaron Night in Atlanta.

Miss Moss wrote to Aaron, and told him about the problems in Albany. She asked him to change his mind about giving the money (from the sale of Hank Aaron's bonds) to the Y, and to tell everyone why he was doing so.

At first, Aaron seemed receptive, Miss Moss said. But several days later, (CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE, COL. 1)

At Democratic Convention Wins & Losses

BY JOHN C. DIAMANTE
CHICAGO, Illinois--All the logic and power of the "old politics" combined to make Hubert H. Humphrey the Democratic party's presidential nominee last Wednesday night.

But as history was being written later that night--by the formation of a fourth party dedicated to ending war, racism, and poverty, and by bloodied youths and heart-broken delegates merging under the rifles of the National Guard to sing "We Shall Overcome" in downtown Chicago--the "new politics" could count a few victories achieved within the convention's chaotic and violent proceedings.

In 1964 and again this year, the Democrats refused to act on the "moral" issues involved in discrimination and in under-representation of Negroes on state delegations. But bipartisan Southern challenge groups this week showed that the party can sometimes be moved by careful local organizing for political change.

And black delegates--by forming the "black caucus," which put forward the first black presidential candidate in major-party history--introduced to



MRS. FANNIE LOU HAMER

mainstream politics the principle of black self-determination.

The Rev. Channing Phillips of Washington, D. C., was put forward as a presidential candidate last Wednesday night. He got 67 1/2 votes.

But what pleased black delegates most was how much they were able to keep together as a caucus--uniting for powerful, if largely unsuccessful, challenges to the politics of war and racism. Dr. John Cashin, leader of the unsuccessful Alabama challenge, was one of

Prichard Campaign Off --People Ask Why

BY JOHN SINGLETON
PRICHARD, Ala.--About 200 people--a smaller crowd than usual--gathered in the Ruth AME Chapel last Monday night to get the facts on why Prichard's selective-buying campaign had been called off.



REV. A. R. RAY

The campaign--to protest hiring policies in the city government and in downtown stores--had been going on for two months.

The meeting started off with signs of disunity, as Herbert Belt--a Negro who was recently defeated in his race for the City Commission--tried to explain the decision to end the campaign. Belt was interrupted by Marcene Emmet, a Negro postman, who said Belt was lying.

Things became so disorderly that the Rev. A. R. Ray, president of the Mobile County Civil Rights Movement, had to take the microphone from Belt and finish explaining to the people.

Ray began by saying that the group has hired attorneys, who have been conferring with local businessmen about Negro grievances. But before he could finish, two Negro militants walked into the church, and began passing out handbills.

On the handbills was a cartoon of a city official, dressed in a Ku Klux Klan robe, giving money to a black man. The "official" was saying, "You sold me all your nigger votes and stopped your nigger boycott too, eh, Reverend boy. You niggers didn't win not one thing, eh, Preacher boy. Here's more money, Rev."

The black figure replied, "We shore did deal, didn't we, Mr. White City Boss Man? We did trick all them. Any more money? Keep me on my Sunday radio program."

About 20 shots were heard behind the church as the militants ran out. Some of the people in the church started to get up and run out, but Ray told them to sit back down. Marshals blocked the doors of the church.

"I hope whoever is doing this shooting don't get some of it through his (CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX, COL. 1)

Says Hobson City's First Lady Official

'A Woman Can Do the Job'

BY FRANCES STUBBS

HOBSON CITY, Ala.--For the first time in the 69-year history of Hobson City, a lady has run for--and won--a city office.

In last month's City Commission election in this all-Negro town, Mrs. Willie Maude Snow won a landslide victory, with 120 votes to 33 for Artis Clayton and 29 for Charles Dumas.

"I was surprised," said Mrs. Snow afterwards, "because I had two opponents. You just never know. From the talk I hear, though, most people thought that I would win. They had more confidence in me than I had in myself."

"Another thing," she continued, "people were ready for a change of city officers. This can be seen in the fact that all the new candidates won. This is the first time an election has gained interest as it has done this time. The people were really concerned."

Hobson City Mayor J. R. Striplin said there was a record turn-out for the Aug. 13 election--a 50% increase over past elections. He said there was a great deal of interest among the town's 200 registered voters:

"You could see this by the campaign signs posted, the candidates' platforms, attendance at the voters league meeting, and finally by the record turn-out of voters."

At the voters league meeting, the people had a chance to hear and question all the candidates. "It was both inter-



MRS. WILLIE MAUDE SNOW AT HOME

esting and amusing," Striplin said. "The (new) candidates gained a lot of votes that night. The tide was turned."

The voters elected four other commissioners besides Mrs. Snow. C. R. Atkinson and James M. Snow--both new candidates--were unopposed, Robert

Conley upset Aldridge Snow, 135 to 43, to become the new street commissioner, and Moses Springer beat incumbent Charles Staton, 119 to 67, for police commissioner. Mayor Striplin was also unopposed.

Why did Mrs. Snow want to be Hob-

son City's first lady office-holder? "It was quite a challenge," she said, "I wanted to prove that a woman could win. And I believe that a woman can do the job."

But the road to victory was not easy, she said, especially during the campaigning in July and August. "It was quite rushing," she recalled. "I had to come home from work and feed my family before I could even get started. I had all my regular household duties."

Mrs. Snow is employed as supervisor of packing and shipping for the Hills Brook Manufacturing Company, and is the mother of four children--ages 13, 12, six, and three.

"I did all the campaigning myself," she said. "Of course, my husband put up all the posters for me. But there were all the letters to be written and mailed. I also went to the homes of all the qualified voters."

Her greatest problem, she said, was convincing people that the job of sanitation commissioner--the post she was seeking--is not necessarily for a man, "but for any qualified, interested citizen of the community."

"The largest part of my platform was concerned with more regular and better garbage collection," said Mrs. Snow. "This was one thing I pushed very hard. It went over well--considering the trash in the back yards around here."

Mrs. Snow and the other elected officials will be sworn in on Oct. 7.

'A Building of Hope'

BY ESTELLE FINE

ORRVILLE, Ala.--"This will be a building of hope, a building to meet the needs of poor people, a building to help the community," said James Mays.

Mays, a representative of the National Sharecroppers Fund, was the guest speaker last Sunday at ground-breaking ceremonies for a health station and day-care center to be run by the Orrville



ORRVILLE GROUND-BREAKING

Farmers Co-operative.

The co-operative was also celebrating its third anniversary, and the construction of a feeder-pig sales shed on 2 1/2 acres below Five Points. The 60 members of the co-operative have paid for the land, and they will build the shed themselves.

Nathan Payne, board chairman of the co-operative, said the co-op hopes to get enough money soon to buy cinder blocks for the health station and day-care center. Now, said Payne, there is only one doctor available in Orrville: "If he's out fishing, people have to go to Selma, and many can't afford the trip."

Other speakers at the ceremony included Alex C. Brown, the extension farm agent, and L. C. Alsobrook, the county extension chairman.

Alsobrook told how the Orrville farmers asked him for help in finding top-quality breeding pigs. Forty sows were purchased in Camden, Alsobrook said, but it took a whole day to find a male, 35 miles north of Birmingham.

THE SOUTHERN COURIER

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MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36104
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THE SOUTHERN COURIER is published weekly by a non-profit, non-share education corporation, for the study and dissemination of accurate information about events and affairs in the field of human relations.

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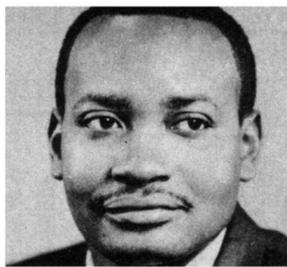
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Vol. IV, No. 35 Aug. 31-Sept. 1, 1968

Editorial Opinion

Only in America

Miss. Talk Is Unusual



JIMMIE BELL

BY J. SMITH
STARKVILLE, Miss.--"A bloody and black revolution." That, said sociology student Jimmie Bell, is the alternative if white America does not take action to solve this nation's race problem.

The harsh warning must have seemed unusual to the 40 students and professors attending services at the formerly all-white University Christian Church earlier this month.

The conditions surrounding the speech were unusual, too, Bell, a graduate student at predominantly-white Mississippi State University, was the first Negro to speak from the pulpit of the church.

"If I appear to be nervous," he began, "it is because I am. Can you imagine how George Wallace might feel speaking to a group of black militants in Harlem?"

Bell said "gradualism and paternalism" are no longer acceptable approaches to the solution of racial prob-

145 Steps Suggested To Integrate Schools

BY JAMES M. FALLOWS
MONTGOMERY, Ala.--The U. S. Justice Department last week asked a federal court to throw out the freedom-of-choice desegregation plans used in most of Alabama's school districts.

But the state of Alabama--claiming, in the words of one of its lawyers, that it is "struggling to preserve quality education for our white children and our nigras"--fought to keep choice plans in the 99 school districts under the court's jurisdiction.

Stephen J. Pollak, head of the Justice Department's civil rights division, told the judges that freedom of choice "has been a miserable failure in ending the dual school system."

To support his claim, Pollak offered the government's key evidence--a bulky stack of mimeographed charts and tables. The tables--the results of several months of research by government investigators--showed the extent of student and faculty integration in each of the 99 school districts.

The results, Pollak said, prove that freedom of choice "has made no acceptable progress in ending the dual system."

"In all of these counties," he said,



FRED D. GRAY

"there are many all-Negro schools. And in most of the counties, the number of Negro students going to white schools is far too small."

Pollak pointed out that in Chilton County, only 1.4% of the Negro children have chosen to go to white schools. In Dallas and Marengo counties, he said, only .8% are going to white schools, and in Sumter County--the worst in the state--only .3% are going.

"The Supreme Court has ruled that

plans for 1968-69. But for the other 76, he said, government lawyers have drawn up a list of 145 steps needed to end school segregation.

When Attorney Maury D. Smith got up to present Alabama's case, he didn't spend much time arguing that integration is going well. Instead, he quickly moved to a discussion of the "complexities" of integration. "The Justice Department is giving us a statistical case," Smith said, "and it takes no account of the many complexities involved."

Assistant state Attorney General Gordon Madison explained what some of the "complexities" are. "The people of Alabama are never going to send their white children to nigras schools," Madison said, "and the sooner these Justice Department people understand that, the sooner we can give a quality education to everyone."

Madison and Smith also produced what they billed as the state's best evidence--a transcript of testimony from Governor Albert P. Brewer. If white children are assigned to Negro schools, the governor said, "public education will be in danger."

White children will go to private schools rather than to Negro schools, Brewer said, and white parents will then be unwilling to support the public schools.

Freedom of choice cannot be continued when it fails to end the dual system," Pollak said. He suggested 145 steps that various school boards should take before the 1968-69 school year begins.

Pollak said the Justice Department has decided that 23 of the 99 school districts have "adequate" integration

Fred D. Gray, lawyer for the parents who originally brought the desegregation case, said the state is going to "shift the responsibility (for integration) from the school boards to Negro children."

"The courts have said that school boards must integrate their schools," Gray argued. "They say that children are suffering in all schools, and that it is the school board's responsibility to end that suffering."

"Now the boards say that integration will cause problems," he said. "It is up to them to find ways to end problems. The burden of integration is not on the black children or the Justice Department. It is on the school boards."

In less than a week, the judges said that the school boards can continue to use freedom of choice--"the feasible plan at this time."

However, the judges said that "to speed the end of the dual system, the school boards must increase faculty integration by the beginning of the 69 school year, and must close all-Negro schools by September,



After a rather discouraging month of politics--both on the national scene and in Alabama--it is good to know that somewhere in this land of ours, democracy still flourishes. Where? you ask. Where, indeed. In the Universal City Studios in Hollywood, California, that's where.

Universal City--a 500-acre complex of movie and TV studios--has its own hospital, post office, and fire departments, as well as its own mayor. And a press release from the studios has breathlessly announced that Miss Ena Hartman has become Universal City's first black woman mayor.

(Miss Hartman is pictured above in one of her typically thoughtful moments.)

"Her first official duty," the press release informs us, "was mixed with drama and personal courage." It seems that Miss Hartman was invited to make an appearance at a charity function. "However," the release continues, "on the night before the event was to take place, Ena was walking her dog near her Hollywood Hills home when she fell and sliced a sizeable chunk out of her knee.

"Despite her painful injury, however, Ena was at the appointed place right on time, and went smiling through her duties before taking off for the doctor's office."

Thanks to Miss Hartman's courageous example, black movie starlets all over America can sleep better tonight, knowing that they too may someday be mayor of Universal City Studios.

"The black man simply wants the same opportunities as any other American. He believes in the firmness of law. He would like to see people punished for violation of laws," Bell said. "But what happens to people who stand in the doorway of schools and boastfully defy court orders?"

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

Dispute Over Funding Settled in Sunflower

BY J. SMITH
INDIANOLA, Miss.--"Legal technicalities" have been ironed out, and Sunflower County Progress, Inc. (SCP) has borrowed \$170,000 for operation of the Associated Communities of Sunflower County (ACSC) Head Start program.

R. J. Allen--board chairman of SCPI, the local community-action agency--announced this action after three straight days of sit-ins by members of ACSC.

The demonstrators were protesting SCPI's decision not to include ACSC in its borrowing plan last week. SCPI was going to borrow money from a bank to pay back wages and other expenses for all its programs except ACSC.

The money was borrowed in anticipation of a recently approved \$1,200,000 grant from the federal Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO).

Until last year, SCPI and ACSC were funded separately. But when grant-renewal time came last spring, OEO informed the agencies that they would have to be funded jointly or not at all.

After long negotiations, the two groups came up with an agreement. OEO then awarded a joint grant, setting up ACSC as a delegate agency under SCPI. Financial matters were to be handled by a coordinating committee



"WANT OUR MONEY"

made up of representatives from both groups.

But last week, when SCPI did not include ACSC in its borrowing plan, SCPI legal advisor Jack Harper--an Indianola attorney--said it was because ACSC was not in compliance with the provisions of the new grant.

ACSC won a share of the OEO grant, and "now the power structure is trying to take it away from us," charged Mrs. Fannie Lou Hamer as she led the second day of demonstrations.

"We saw that it was something that could lift people up by their bootstraps," Mrs. Hamer said. "The boots are being taken away from us, and the straps too."

Mrs. Cora Fleming, ACSC project director, said OEO officials had ordered SCPI, "in the event a loan is obtained for any of its component projects,

to obtain a loan for all such projects." She said OEO threatened to cut off the entire grant if this was not done.

After the money was borrowed for ACSC, SCPI Chairman Allen said, "We feel we are in a real good position to improve relations between the two groups." But Mrs. Fleming said, "I am sure by the next funding period we will have the same problem again."

A Marine from Alabama



(Private First Class Henry Clay Moorer, a native of Greenville, Ala., was a reporter for The Southern Courier from July, 1965, to June, 1967. He attended Alabama A&M College, and is now in Viet Nam with a company of U. S. Marines. The Southern Courier is publishing his letters--some written months ago--telling what life is like for a Marine from Alabama.)

BY HENRY CLAY MOORER
OKINAWA--The other night, we got the news that Senator Robert F. Kennedy had been shot. Later, we heard that he was dead. And so we--your loved ones across the ocean, who risk our lives that our country may remain free from communism--must ask: why? Why do you all offer us such lousy en-

couragement back home? Why do you Americans destroy their own lives within their own boundaries?

Many of you say you want our troops out of Viet Nam, but you never kill maybe within the minds of the leaders you assassinate, there might be the answer to the problems that we are currently engaged with.

When a serviceman says he's about to go to Viet Nam, you say, "Oh no, I don't get killed." Did you hear, Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., or Sen. Robert F. Kennedy would not get killed. Americans, you back home focus your sight on the happenings far away. Wake up to your present surroundings only when a leader falls flat at your feet with blood running from a bullet wound by an assassin who stood next to you the time. But you never noticed because you focused your eyes on Viet Nam.

You wonder when your sons are coming home. Yes, we face a deadly Viet Nam, but the men of power leaders--face an even greater death right here in the U. S.

Wake up, America. In the jungles and rice-paddies of Viet Nam, your sons are armed to protect themselves. Will our leaders and politicians have to be armed with machine guns? Perhaps the whole force in Viet Nam should pull out and come home to guard our leaders.

You say you want democracy, but you hate for us to stand up for it in Viet Nam. You say you don't understand we serve in Viet Nam. Well, WE understand why John F. Kennedy, Robert Kennedy or Martin Luther King had to die.

Many servicemen want out of Viet Nam, but they understand why they are there. What you should do, America, is concentrate more on what's happening at home, and let us servicemen fight about Viet Nam.

To you, our loved ones at home, the servicemen say, "Wake up. Come home free and proud."

Hope for Doomed Man

BY CHARLEY THOMAS
MONTGOMERY, Ala.--On June 27, 1959, Dreyer Aaron Jr. was arrested in Montgomery on a charge of rape. A month later, he was convicted on this charge, and sentenced to die in the electric chair.

Aaron, a Negro, has managed to stay alive the past nine years, through 14 delays in his death sentence--one coming only 24 hours before he was scheduled to die. His case has been appealed to the Alabama Supreme Court and the U. S. Supreme Court.

"Only our hopes and prayers have kept him alive these last nine years," said Mrs. Mary Aaron, Aaron's wife and the mother of four children. "It seems as if everyone has forgotten."

But last week, Aaron was given a small but definite reason for hope, in a decision by the Alabama Supreme Court. The high court said Aaron was entitled to a hearing in the Montgomery County Circuit Court on whether the jury that convicted him was fairly

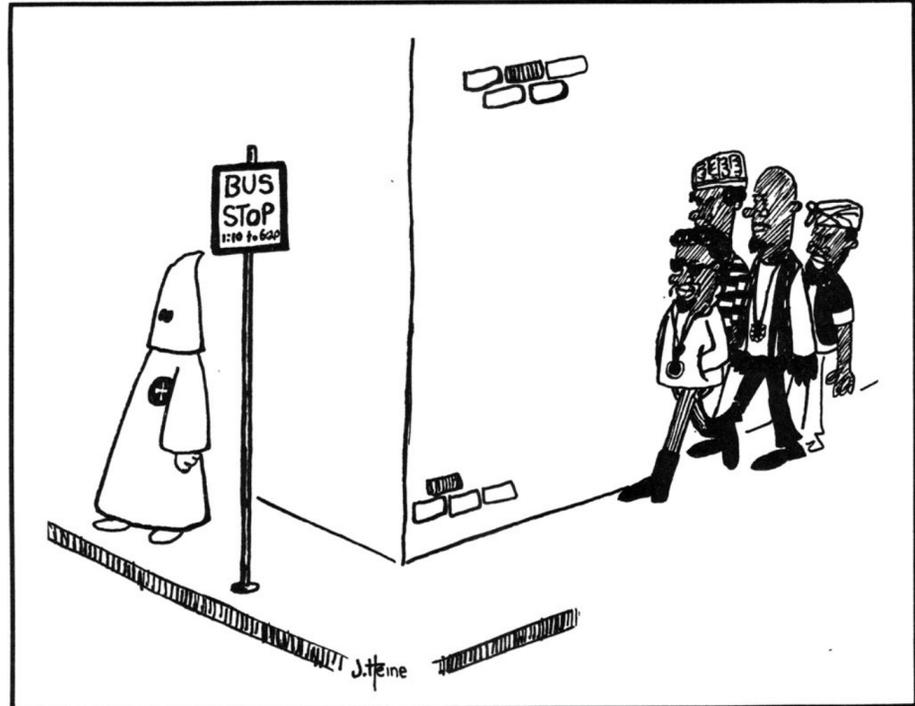
chosen. The court noted Aaron's claim that he was denied a fair trial because all prospective jurors who opposed the death penalty were automatically excluded from the jury.

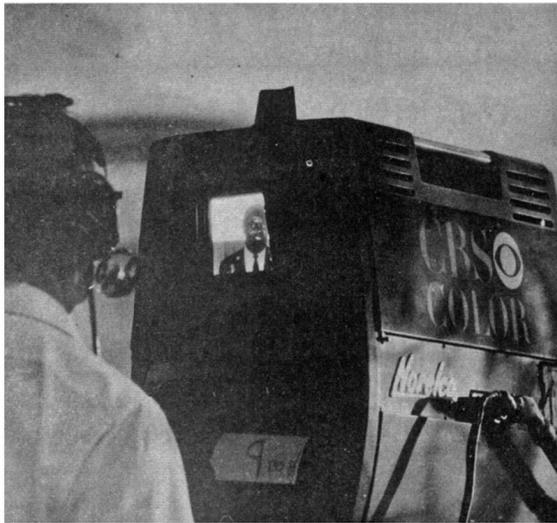
"Such persons were struck," Aaron's lawyers said, "without regard to whether, despite their personal feelings, they indicated a willingness to impose sentence according to law." A recent U. S. Supreme Court decision said a juror can not be eliminated just because he says he is against the death penalty.

Aaron will now have a chance to prove his claim in the Circuit Court.

The Alabama Supreme Court decision was written by Justice John P. Kohn, a conservative lawyer who was appointed by the late Governor Lurleen B. Wallace to fill a vacancy until the November elections. Since joining the court, Justice Kohn has written several opinions upholding the rights of criminal defendants.

Heine-Sight





'The 51st State of Hunger'

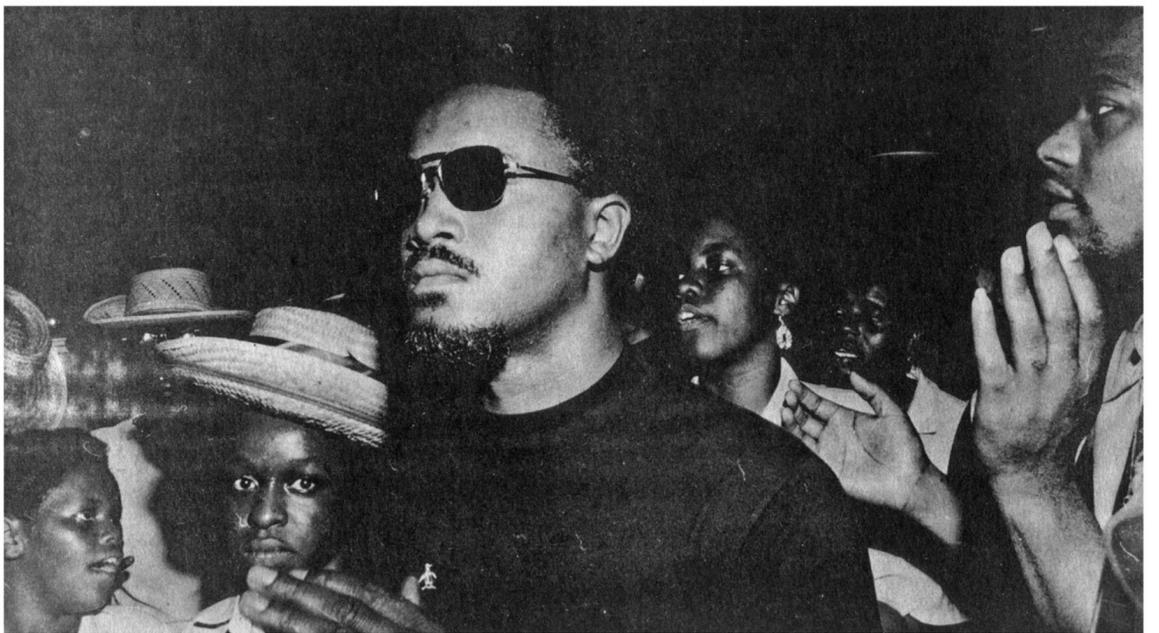
MIAMI BEACH, Fla.--Some 1,300 delegates came to choose a candidate at the Republican convention, 2,000 security guards came to protect them, and 5,000 newsmen came to watch the others.

And there was another group--much smaller in number, but united in its objectives. This was the delegation of about 100 poor people, representing "the 51st state of hunger."

Whether the Republicans were meeting at the luxurious Fontainebleau Hotel or the new convention center, the representatives of the 51st state were always there.

The Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy, president of SCLC, confronted the Republicans, along with a mule-drawn wagon (the symbol of the Poor People's Campaign) and some of the poor people. The people's demands were heard in hotel lobbies, in the convention hall, and on the broad boulevards of this fancy resort.

But after the demands had all been made, the Republicans went ahead and did what they intended to do all along. This week, SCLC--and dozens of other protest groups--are in Chicago, Illinois, to see if the Democrats will be any different.



Photos by
Kenneth W. Lumpkin



Here's What Was Happening

At the SCLC Convention



SESSION IN MASON TEMPLE

BY ETHEL THOMAS AND WENDY HAMILTON MEMPHIS, Tenn. -- Delegates from all over the country attended the SCLC convention Aug. 14-17 in Memphis. They poured in like showers of rain, in buses, cars, and airplanes, and even walking.

Harmony prevailed at the workshops and rallies and at the convention banquet, as speakers discussed the black man's involvement in politics and economics.

However, a tense situation did develop the night of Aug. 16, when the Invaders--a group of young black militants from Memphis--marched into the Mason Temple. They had handed out statements accusing SCLC of breaking promises and of taking all the credit for building Resurrection City and protecting the people from Marks, Miss.

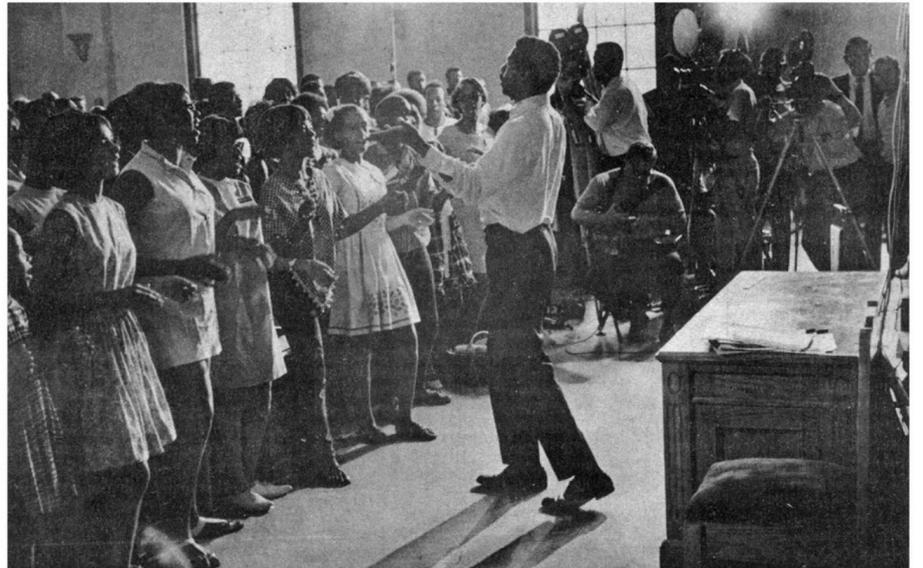
The dispute eventually settled down, and in his address that evening, the Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy, SCLC president, said, "The Invaders can be sure that every promise made to them by Martin Luther King and SCLC will be carried out by Ralph David Abernathy."

Abernathy's annual report was his first since taking over as head of SCLC after the death of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. With his rousing pulpit style, he brought the convention delegates to their feet and had them shouting "Soul power!" over and over again.

There was little doubt after Abernathy gave his report that he would be re-elected president of SCLC. In his report, he praised other leaders who had been mentioned as possible successors to Dr. King--the Rev. Andrew J. Young, the Rev. Wyatt T. Walker, Hosea Williams, and the Rev. Jesse Jackson.

And these leaders gave every indication at the convention that they will pull together behind Abernathy, to build him up as the organization's leader.

Many people said that of all the conventions they had been to, this was the best and the most spiritual.



FRANK BREWER DIRECTS THE SCLC FREEDOM SINGERS

A&P Next Target For Operation Breadbasket

BY BOB LABAREE MEMPHIS, Tenn. -- To keep their money in the black community, Negroes must first pull it out of the white community--and they must do it together.

This was the strategy of economic unity being discussed earlier this month in a small room on the top floor of the CME Headquarters Building in Memphis. The participants in the discussion were delegates to the annual SCLC convention.

Doing most of the talking was the Rev. Ed Reddick of Chicago, Illinois, one of the leaders of SCLC's main economic program, Operation Breadbasket. With him was the Rev. Jesse Jackson, national director of Operation Breadbasket and former city manager of Resurrection City.

The next major target of Operation Breadbasket, the leaders said, is going to be the A&P grocery chain, which has 4,900 stores across the nation, Reddick explained why.

"We have reason to believe that A&P does a large amount of business in the black community," he said, "If Chicago is any indication, the largest block of business in the black community is done by A&P."

The demands in the A&P campaign, Reddick said, will be the same as those presented to other targets of Operation Breadbasket:



FOLKS LISTEN TO REV. JESSE JACKSON

1. Jobs for black people in proportion to the amount of black business in the stores. (Reddick estimated that in some A&P stores, as much as 90% of the business is black.)

2. Sale of more black products. "See, we got some of these black co-operatives like SWA FCA (Southwest Alabama Farmers Co-operative Association), who need markets for their products," said Jackson, "We can force 'em (A&P) to buy SWA FCA products."

3. Greater use of black banks and financial institutions. "There's 19 of 'em listed in the Bankers' Association," said Reddick, and Breadbasket will demand that A&P use some for depositing money earned in the black community.

4. Greater use of black lawyers and insurance companies, and black services like exterminators and janitorial firms.

5. Contributions to black schools and colleges.

"We're pretty sure we can get what we want," Reddick went on, "because, in Chicago at least, A&P does more business in the black community than anywhere else. We can really hurt them."

Operation Breadbasket's weapon for "hurting" A&P is the same one Negroes have used in the past--the boycott, or, as Reddick described it, the "selective patronage campaign." But this time, Reddick said, there will be a difference.

In the past, he said, Negroes in local communities around the country have picketed stores individually for separate goals. When they got what they wanted, they stopped picketing.

Now, said Reddick, Operation Breadbasket plans to coordinate local campaigns, so that if the demands are not met in all of the communities, none of the pickets anywhere will be pulled off.

"I see, y'all in Selma may be happy with a couple of black managers," Jackson said. "But if the same folks (A&P) are messing over the brothers in Chicago, you're gonna stay on until we all get what we want."

Reddick reminded the SCLC delegates that the effectiveness of the overall campaign will be increased if communication is good between the various picketing communities, and if all the local campaigns are co-ordinated.

"Here's our number in Chicago," he said, and wrote it on the blackboard. "Call us collect, and tell us what you're doing."

"And don't worry about stopping everybody going into the store," Reddick said. The target of the boycott is A&P's profit margin, which is about 1.2%. The campaign will be successful, he said, "if we stop one out of ten people going into those stores. That means that just about as soon as we announce (the boycott), we've won."

"Believe me," he added, "A & P knows that."



AT THE SCLC FREE M BANQUET

Memphis 'Open' for Convention, But...

Merchants Plan for Boycotts

BY BOB LABAREE MEMPHIS, Tenn. -- In the windows of many downtown stores were signs which said "WELCOME SCLC DELEGATES." During the recent SCLC convention, signboards proclaimed that local motels were "Open to All," and many motels were full of Negroes wearing "Delegat

to the visitors, it se d that Mem- sporadic looting that followed Dr. King's death--Memphis Negroes withdrew their dollars from the huge Bellvue-McClemore shopping center. The shopping-center campaign, led by the NAACP, ended on Aug. 13, as SCLC's annual convention was about to open. In the agreement which finally brought Negroes back into the stores, the merchants promised to increase their percentage of black employees from 45% to 90%, and to make greater use of black news media for advertising. Memphis merchants admitted that they had the Bellvue-McClemore incident in mind when--on the same day the shopping-center agreement was reached--they took a step toward unity in dealing with boycotts. The store-owners formed the Memphis Retail Merchants Association, to establish "firm, true lines of communication which will enable us to work toward an understanding of the problems that exist in our community." Ed Howze, the MRMA's director, said he realizes that more buying campaigns can be expected. "We are organizing," he said, "not for the purpose of combating boycotts, but for combating the need for boycotts which are so destructive to the whole community." Dr. Vascoe Smith, one of the chief negotiators for local Negroes, recalled that in the 1960-61 boycott, "a settlement came out which sounded very much like what the retail merchants are saying now. They made the same promises,

and this summer--just as downtown businessmen were getting over the losses suffered in the r ke and in the



ED HOWZE



SOME DID...

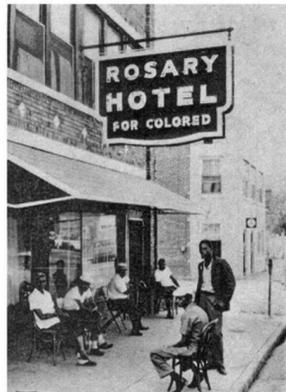
Howze said, Memphis merchants stand to "benefit from what we have learned on other troubled situations."

"Our unification effort is designed to give even the smaller store operator the same feeling of security as the large operator," he added.

To some people, Howze's words meant that the association is an attempt to "buy off a few Negroes" and "stall for time."

A few days after his first statements, though, Howze emphatically denied these charges. "We are organizing," he said, "not for the purpose of combating boycotts, but for combating the need for boycotts which are so destructive to the whole community."

Dr. Vascoe Smith, one of the chief negotiators for local Negroes, recalled that in the 1960-61 boycott, "a settlement came out which sounded very much like what the retail merchants are saying now. They made the same promises,



... AND SOME DIDN'T

But he lied." Howze claimed that MRMA members --who, he said, will be white and black --will have to be ready to do more than seek shelter from boycotts.

"We're well aware of what the situation is here," he said. "In many cases they (Negroes) are completely justified in their demands. Our members are well aware that they are going to have to bend a little. If they intend to prosper, they're going to have to."

"I think he (Howze) means well, and we're going to give him a chance," said Smith. "But we know we're going to keep up the pressure anyway."

In Stormy Democratic Convention

Southern Delegations Challenged

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

would not sit next to the loyalists. But the regulars' seats were filled by alternates, and Georgia was represented by two groups--both contending that they were the Democratic Party of Georgia. The loyalty oath was used by the credentials committee--which was under pressure to try to hold some of the Old South together--to solve the Alabama dilemma. Dr. Cashin and his National Democratic Party of Alabama could not--as the Georgia loyalists and Mississippians did--convince the committee that they had organized a full-fledged party. Some members of the NDPA challenge, in fact, are or were officials or candidates under the regular "rooster" label, and a few have long been involved in manipulating the black vote for white Democratic candidates. So the NDPA sought to replace the regulars on the grounds that the regular electors are already pledged to third-party candidate Wallace.

But another group, the Alabama Independent Democratic Party whose case was pushed by, among others, Joe L. Reed--a Negro and a regular-party delegate) offered its members as replacements for those regulars who wouldn't take a loyalty oath. The credentials committee gratefully seized on the opportunity to smooth over the Alabama issue--although the Cashin group charged that the regulars and the AIDP were working together for the purpose of keeping blacks out of the party.

The NDPA claim that a deal was being made seemed to have some substance, when the credentials committee went into executive session. The committee called representatives of both the regulars and the AIDP--but not the NDPA--into the session, to settle the matter of who would take the oath and fill up Alabama's seats.

A black challenge delegation from North Carolina--led by Dr. Reginald Hawkins, a black dentist who lost a pri-



JULIAN BOND

mary race for governor--based its case on a demand for proportional representation.

But despite the black challengers' heated and anguished testimony of racial exclusion, the credentials committee decided that it could not appoint delegates according to the racial composition of a state's population.

A Texas challenge--pointing out that the state's delegation did not properly represent Mexican-Americans or blacks--also lost out on a bid for more seats for minorities. But racial and

political minorities won a larger battle when the convention abolished the unit rule--under which Texas, for example, would cast its entire 104 votes the way the majority wanted it to.

Because the unit rule can no longer silence the minority opinion in a delegation, and because other reforms have been adopted for 1972, there is a belief here that the Democratic Party may become more democratic. Although the party is certain to be abandoned by some white Southerners and resented by some of the challengers and the opponents of the war, it has stood up for certain principles this year.

"I hope it's not too late to see democracy work for all the people," said Mrs. Fannie Lou Hamer, vice-chairman of the MFDP, whose 1964 testimony about beatings in Mississippi led to the reforms of 1968.

"If we (the MFDP) had accepted compromise in '64," she said after a black caucus meeting, "all these delegates wouldn't be here now. It just goes to show that winners never quit."

Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights

The weekly meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 2, in the St. Paul A.M.E. Church, 300 Fourth Ct. N., the Rev. S. M. Davis, pastor.



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.

EDUCATION BENEFITS--The Veterans Administration will pay up to \$130 a month to help educate each son and daughter of a deceased veteran, or of a veteran who has been totally and permanently disabled as a result of honorable service. These payments are usually provided for children 18 to 26 years of age, for education beyond the high school level, but there are exceptions. Veterans' children who are of legal age may file their own applications for the payments, but parents or guardians must file for minors. Filing can be done at any V. A. office.

COAST GUARD ACADEMY--The annual competition for admission to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut, will begin with the College Entrance Examination Board test next Dec. 7. Applications to take this test must be sent to the Educational Testing Service in Princeton, New Jersey, before Nov. 2. Appointments to the Coast Guard Academy are made solely on merit--there are no congressional appointments or geographical quotas. To qualify, an applicant must have reached his 17th--but not his 22nd--birthday by July 1, 1969. Applicants must have a high school education, and must be in excellent physical condition. Additional information and application forms can be obtained from your high school guidance counselor or by writing to Director of Admissions, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, New London, Conn. 06320.

WANT ACTION?--Come to Shelby, Miss., for some real action. The Shelby Education Committee wants you. We are conducting a very successful boycott, but we need you to help with the picketing. And we need people to help with Operation Black, teaching African culture and crafts. Food and housing will be provided. Call Mrs. L. C. Dorsey at 324-7393 in Shelby, or Mrs. Lucinda Young at 324-7373.

BAHA'IS--The Baha'is of Montgomery invite you to their weekly fireside at 8 p.m. this Saturday, at the Community House, 409 S. Union St., Montgomery, Ala. For transportation, call 265-9992. Meet Baha'u'llah.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS--"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father." This passage from the Gospel of John is part of the Responsive Reading in this week's Lesson-Sermon on "Christ Jesus," to be read Sunday, Sept. 1, in all Christian Science churches. Related passages from the denominational textbook "Science and Health With Key to the Scriptures" by Mary Baker Eddy are also part of the Lesson-Sermon.

DISABLED VETERANS--Veterans with service-connected disabilities that qualify them for vocational rehabilitation through the Veterans Administration are now eligible for a part-time training allowance. Before a new law was passed last month, only veterans taking full-time rehabilitation training were entitled to a training allowance. Now, for part-time trainees, the V. A. will pay tuition, fees, and all other training costs, plus part-time allowances of as much as \$130 a month. Details can be obtained from the Montgomery, Ala., regional V. A. office, or any other V. A. office.

TRAINING JOBS FOR VETERANS--Government agencies can now hire Viet Nam-era veterans for jobs under special, non-competitive "transitional appointments." These jobs--paying from \$3,776 to \$5,565 a year--are for veterans with less than one year of training beyond high school, who have the required qualifications for the jobs. The veteran must also agree to take at least the equivalent of one school year of education or training under the G. I. Bill. Veterans must have had at least 181 consecutive days of active duty--some part of it after Aug. 4, 1964--to be eligible for these jobs. Veterans remain eligible until one year after their discharge or Feb. 9, 1969, whichever is later. Interested applicants may contact any government agency they prefer, or any office of the Veterans Administration or the Civil Service Commission, or the Veterans Assistance Center in Atlanta, Ga., or New Orleans, La.

REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS--We have a platform you can read and understand. Write for a free copy (no obligation) to The Universal Party, P. O. Box 516, Berkeley, Calif. 94701.

HELPING THE POOR--The Neighborhood Organized Workers (NOW) are trying to help deprived people obtain needed income, jobs, and medical treatment. We assist citizens by writing up and filing job complaints and racial-discrimination complaints with the federal government. Equipment, office supplies, and volunteers are desperately needed to aid the poor. To get help, to volunteer, or to make contributions, contact NOW Inc., 1100 Davis Ave., Mobile, Ala. 36603, phone 432-3252.

GUIDANCE COUNSELORS--High school guidance counselors who attend the annual meeting of the Association of College Admissions Counselors will be welcomed to a hospitality suite hosted by the National Scholarship Service and Fund for Negro Students (NSSFNS). The meeting will be held from Sept. 25 to 28 at the Americana Hotel in New York City. NSSFNS urges all guidance counselors to attend this meeting, and is mailing applications for attendance directly to the high schools. Interested counselors should contact NSSFNS at 6 E. 82nd St., New York, N. Y. 10028.

PATRONIZE COURIER ADVERTISERS

Albany YMCA Fight

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

she said, she found out that a black Atlanta Braves executive, Bill Lucas, had convinced Aaron to go ahead with the donation.

"Lucas apparently told him that Atlanta's Y's are OK, and that his money would be helping black kids," Miss Moss said. "But that misses the whole point. What we're saying is that if the Y tolerates racism on any level, then we have to make a showing against the whole Y system. We've got to work together."

Richard W. MacMorran, Southern area executive for the YMCA, said the organization can't directly control the operation of local branches: "I'm not a district manager, who can go in and say, 'Here's the way you're going to do it.'"

MacMorran said local Y's must meet eight minimum standards to remain affiliated with the national organization. The eighth of these standards--non-discrimination--was added in 1967, he said, and any local Y that violates it for three straight years will be suspended.

He said all but 37 of the 314 Southern Y branches have complied with the non-discrimination requirement.

Miss Moss has also attempted to cut off another part of the Y's support--the memberships it gets from military bases.

The armed forces have rules prohibiting soldiers from using segregated facilities. Recently, the bases near Albany declared several segregated hous-

ing areas off-limits to military personnel.

Miss Moss has written to all the local commanders and to military officials in Washington, asking them to keep the soldiers from going to the Y. So far, she has received no answer.

Now, said Ramsey and Miss Moss, the campaign against the YMCA is at a critical stage.

"I'd say we have lost a little ground since the beginning," Ramsey explained. "At first, Raines thought we were going to demonstrate, and that gave us more leverage. I think now that they will just ignore us, because they think we're going to be rational and moderate."

MacMorran said Raines is "working to accomplish the same ends" that Operation Open City is.

"I think the executive (Raines) agrees with them," MacMorran said. "But he's having trouble getting a majority of the board to agree with him."

The area executive said the Open City group "quite rightly" refused to agree to construction of a second YMCA. "They're impatient," he said, "and I don't blame them."

If you want people to read about your football team, send a report to THE SOUTHERN COURIER. The best kind of report is a story about a game, combined with information about your team's lineup and prospects. Remember to include full names and details. When reporting on a game, include facts about both teams.



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Unlike Others, He Survives

Aaron Has a 'Night'

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN ATLANTA, Ga.--A great old baseball custom is giving a star player a "night."

On such occasions, the star is showered with gifts like a new Edsel, a year's supply of dog food (whether he has a dog or not), and a baseball autographed by all his team-mates (which he could steal from the clubhouse if he really wanted one), while thousands of misty-eyed fans look on.

Then baseball tradition dictates that the star--misty-eyed himself--must go out and make a fool of himself in the game that follows. Most stars who have been honored with a "night" consider themselves lucky if they only strike out four times and let in seven or eight runs with fielding lapses.

Last Friday night was Hank Aaron Night in Atlanta Stadium, and the great Braves slugger--a native of Mobile, Ala.--took the occasion to demonstrate once again that he is not an ordinary player, or even an ordinary star.

After being swamped in gifts and congratulatory messages, Aaron managed to choke out an emotional thank-you speech. "Above all," he said, "I'd like to thank God for giving me the talent and the knowledge to play this game."

Then the Braves took the field against the Philadelphia Phillies, for another round in the two teams' exciting struggle for exclusive possession of fifth place in the National League.

Aaron fouled out with the bases empty in his first at-bat, but the next time he came to the plate, things were popping.

In fact, the bases were loaded, and the Braves were looking for the go-ahead run after three innings of scoreless baseball. Aaron knew he couldn't hit into a triple play, because there was already one out. But he could kill the rally--as stars usually do on their "nights"--by bouncing into a double-play.

Sure enough, Aaron hit a perfect double-play ball right to Phillie shortstop Roberto Pena. But the ball seemed to stick in Pena's glove, and though Felix Millan was forced at second, the relay to first was too late to get Aaron. So the star got an RBI, and the Braves took the lead.

There were two men on when Aaron came to bat again in the fifth inning. This time, with that beautiful, effortless swing of his, he picked on Rick Wise's first pitch and sent the ball over the left-field fence. It bounced off the blue-gray wall about 390 feet from home plate, as three runs scored and the fans stood and cheered.

So, on a night when he should have been too nervous to see straight, Aaron drove in four of his team's runs in a 6-0 victory. The night's work left him third on the all-time list of National League home run hitters, and fourth among all N.L. players in life-time RBIs.

But despite Aaron's performance, the Braves managed to look like a bad ball club even while winning.

Hardly anyone in the Braves' line-up excites much enthusiasm. Millan, the flashy second-baseman, had two singles and a triple Friday night, and third-baseman Bob Johnson turned two nice fielding plays. But the rest of the team appeared to be going through the motions.

In an effort to jazz up the proceedings, the Braves recently signed another

Prichard

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

head," Ray remarked. Then he told one of the men standing around him, "Bring me my pistol out of the glove compartment, and take it out of the holster." The gun was brought to him in the pulpit.

He then went on to explain that the boycott has been lifted only for a 30-day period, to give his attorneys time to negotiate with the white merchants.

A week earlier, Ray said the boycott would go on "until Negroes are able to exercise rights as free citizens."

At the Aug. 19 meeting, the people also talked about what happened in the Aug. 13 city election--when only one Negro candidate out of an entire slate qualified for the run-off.

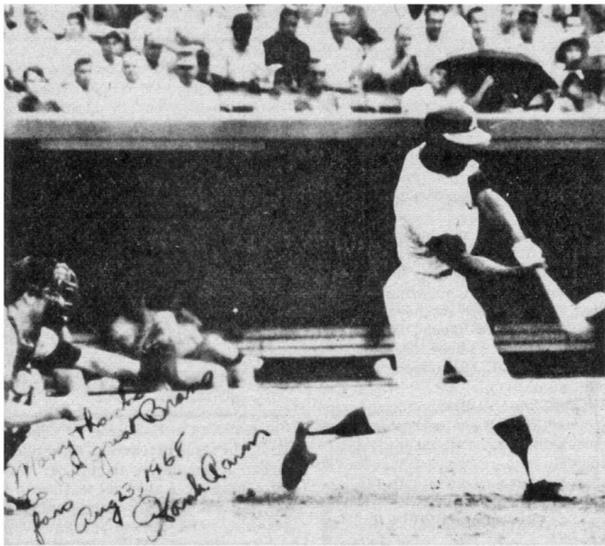
It appeared there had been some disagreement in the sample ballots passed out by the Negro candidates. Many of them endorsed some white candidates, and few--if any--endorsed Johnny Pogue, brother of civil rights leader Jerry Pogue.

Some of the Negro candidates, it was said, even had their pictures on sample ballots that endorsed white candidates.

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Even aside from this gesture, the Braves cannot be faulted on their hiring policies. Atlanta Stadium must be the most integrated spot in the Southeast, at least when a ball game is going on.

Black ladies boss white men around in many of the concession stands, and about half the unsharrettes in Indian mini-skirts (including most of the best-looking ones) are also black.

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The group pictured here is from the Council Training School and Lincoln School communities, and was accompanied by Mrs. Nina Scott and Mrs. Beatrice Neal of Huntsville.

WEUP, as host, served the group Double Cola, which has been an advertiser on WEUP since the station began. During this time, Double Cola has grown and is still growing--and is a must in the refrigerator of the average family home.

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Besides making money, Southern Courier distributors make sure that their friends and neighbors get the straight story about events like the Poor People's Campaign, the national conventions, and local and national elections.

The Courier is also looking for full-time writers and reporters. These people have the responsibility for gathering and writing news in the area where they are assigned. They also may be sent off on special assignments--on the Southern caravan of the Poor People's Campaign, to Memphis for the SCLC convention, or to Miami Beach for the Republican convention.

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Funeral Halted at Gate

BY ETHEL THOMAS

TUSCALOOSA, Ala.--An unusual incident occurred earlier this month at the West Highland Cemetery. It left R. L. Tucker, manager of the Van Hoose-Freeman & Mauldin Funeral Home, and several other Negro citizens highly disturbed.

Tucker described the incident Aug. 19 to a meeting of the Tuscaloosa Citizens for Action Committee.

A funeral procession was en route to the cemetery, he said, when the lead cars and the hearse found the entrance blocked by a truck. The truck, Tucker said, belonged to Jeff Barr, the white man who owns the new addition to the cemetery.

According to Tucker, Barr said the procession could not enter through the main gate, because that area is private property. Tucker said the majority of burial processions had always gone through this gate, whether they were headed for the section Barr owns or the section owned by individual Negroes.

The procession that was stopped was heading for a plot owned by an individual Negro, Tucker said, and Barr had no right to interfere with the service--or with any other service held in the cemetery.

After a long exchange of words, Tucker said, Barr decided to let the proces-

sion through. But, the funeral director said, he is still unhappy about the incident. He said some people have called it "the most horrible thing a man could do...."

"The proper thing for Jeff Barr to have done was to notify all funeral homes in this city, by writing or making personal contact, that if no services were going into the section he owns, they would have to enter through the back gates. Nothing of this nature was done."

"I can easily understand that all people have the right to keep anyone from trespassing on their property," Tucker continued. "What really offended me and many other Negro citizens was the manner he (Barr) used.... I hope

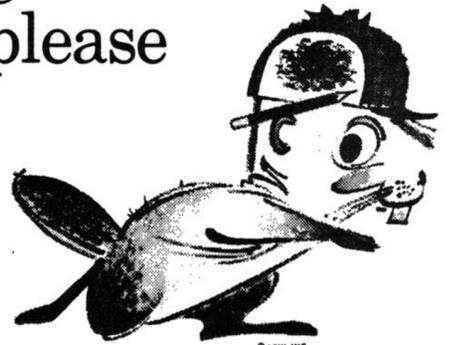
nothing of this nature will take place again."

Barr could not be reached for comment.

A committee was formed to go and talk with Barr. If the committee is not satisfied, TCAC leaders said, action will be taken.

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