

'Need a Black Person To Represent Blacks'

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN
MONTGOMERY, Ala. --The three candidates for the U. S. House from the Second District disagreed on almost everything in a televised discussion last Tuesday night.

Republican William L. Dickinson, Democrat Robert F. Whaley, and the Rev. Richard Boone of the National Democratic Party of Alabama didn't have much good to say about each other, either.

On WSFA-TV's "Capitol News Conference," all three candidates cleared their throats on issues ranging from law and order to the war in Viet Nam to what Whaley does for a living.

Riots are "just symptoms" of the things that are wrong with the country, Boone told interviewers George Mitchell and George Chapman. "It's time to direct 'law and order' against the individuals who have perpetuated this type of thing in our society."

On the other hand, Dickinson said he thinks "too much has been done" in the way of civil rights legislation. Measures such as the Voting Rights Act of 1965, he said, "are not the type of legislation that will inure to anyone's benefit in the long run."

The Republican--who now represents this district in Congress--expressed surprise that anyone should think "law and order" is aimed at Negroes. "Muggers, robbers, rapists--this is the crime that should be attacked," Dickinson said. "How you can say this is anti-Negro, I just don't understand."

The issue seemed to be a bit much for Whaley. He blamed a lack of "leadership in restoring law and order to this land" on institutions like the U. S. Supreme Court--which, he said, has been "interpreting...uh...enforcing the law rather than interpreting it, which is their Constitutional function."

Then the candidates passed the Negro vote around the table. Only Boone seemed to want it.

After Mitchell noted that Whaley, as a Democrat, has done well among Negroes in the past, the Democratic challenger nervously said he is seeking out "the legitimate people that vote."

"What all of these people do, so far as votes are concerned, is their own business," he added.

Boone, a veteran civil rights leader, said his presence on the ballot finally gives Negro voters "a place to go."

"I for one don't think (past) campaigns were at all aimed at helping black people," he said. "In order to have someone represent them, it's gotta be a black person."

Dickinson noted that "I've always had the bloc vote against me." But, he went on, "I'm not the congressman of the white people of the Second District of



REV. RICHARD BOONE



WILLIAM L. DICKINSON

Alabama, or of the Methodists.... When I get a request for aid... I don't ask if they're a Democrat. I don't ask if they're white or colored."

After a while, things started getting a little personal. Whaley observed that congressmen get \$30,000 a year to vote on legislation. Where, he asked, was Dickinson when the House was voting on a bill that would have limited the government's efforts in school integration?

Dickinson admitted that he was home campaigning. But, he said, he has been hard at work for ten months in Washington, while "my opponent (Whaley) had nothing to do for two years but walk the streets, politicking."

"Some people think if you don't go to work at 8 and get off at 5, you don't have a job," Whaley replied a little later. He said he has been in the public relations business and in a "land-buying program," as well as serving as "president of the Alabama Historama."

And why has Boone been out of the district so much the past few weeks? Boone said he has been working in a housing program in the District of Columbia, and will continue to be "in and

out of the state" between now and the Nov. 5 election.

On the question of Viet Nam, Dickinson sounded extremely hawkish. "This is a political exercise," he said. "We have not let the military conduct the war." He suggested--"if the peace talks fail"--trying to "win this thing with whatever military force is necessary."

"I don't favor any form of negotiations with the Communists," Whaley said. "Any form of negotiation with the Communists will not work. I don't believe in a coalition government in Viet Nam."

But Boone claimed that the Vietnamese themselves "stated that the Communist people should be the leaders in that particular area."

Dickinson said he couldn't believe his ears, but Boone repeated, "They have an agreement that the Communists should take the leadership in that particular country."

"Is this some secret information," asked Dickinson, "or is this supposed to be common knowledge?"

"There's a lot of things to learn in this world," Boone repeated. "They have a two-term congressman. You'll find that if you run for Congress."

Whom are the House candidates supporting in the presidential race? Dickinson said he will vote for Richard M. Nixon, but if the election has to be decided by the House, he will vote for the man who carries the Second District. Whaley said he is voting for George C. Wallace, period.

"I cannot really in good conscience vote for Mr. Wallace or Mr. Nixon," Boone began. Then, in something of a surprise, he added, "In fact, I don't think I have a place to go with Mr. Humphrey."

Boone and many other NDPA candidates--including a slate of presidential electors and contenders for the U. S. Senate, the presidency of the state Public Service Commission, and seven other House seats--won spots on the Nov. 5 ballot last weekend.

The U. S. Supreme Court, saying there isn't time to hear the NDPA's suit before the election, ruled that the state must put the party's candidates on the ballot.

Protest War, University Policies

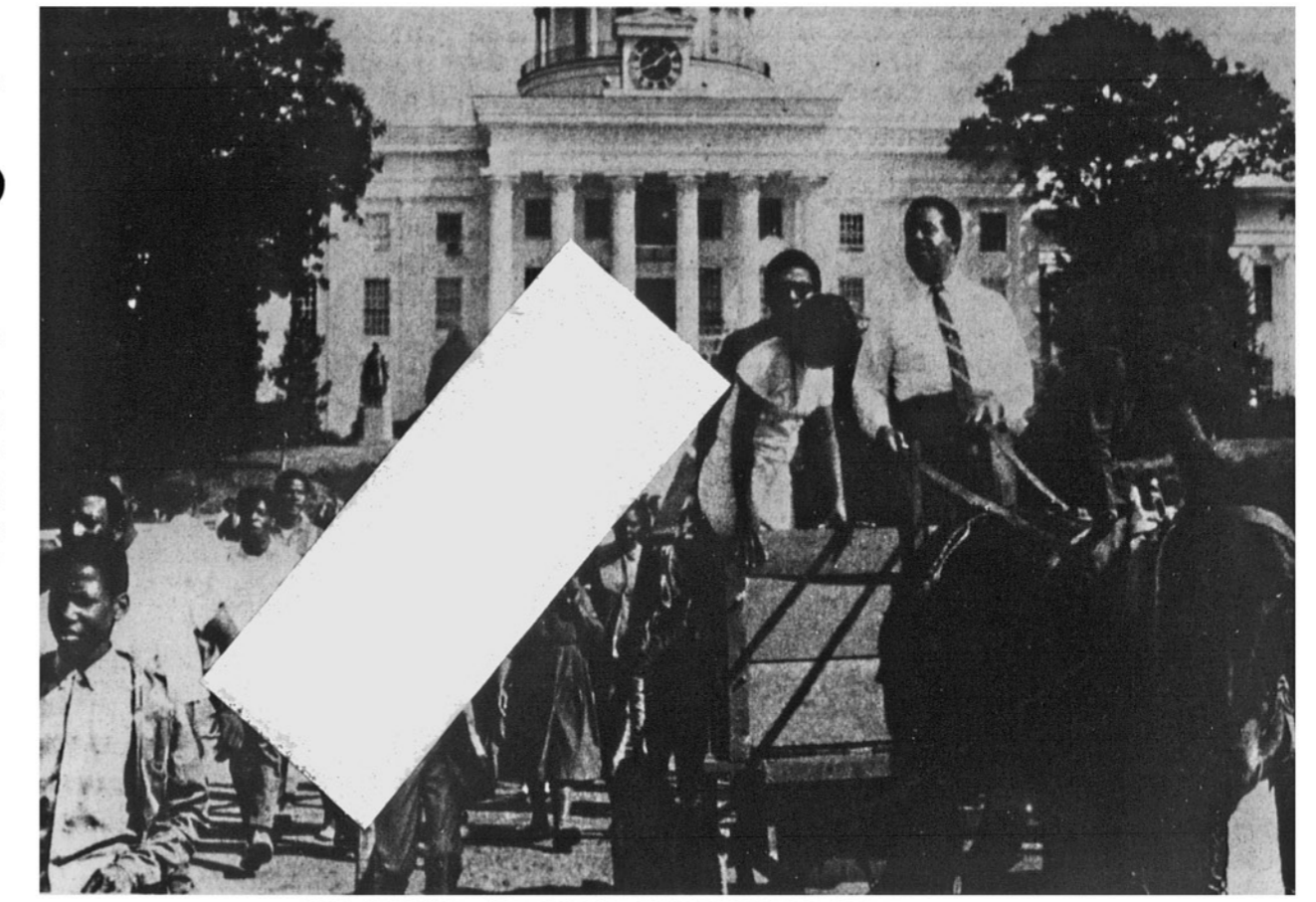
Students Strike in Tuscaloosa

BY BENJIMAN T. PHILLIPS
TUSCALOOSA, Ala.--Some University of Alabama students took the day off from school last Monday, to stage a protest against the war in Viet Nam and against policies closer to home.

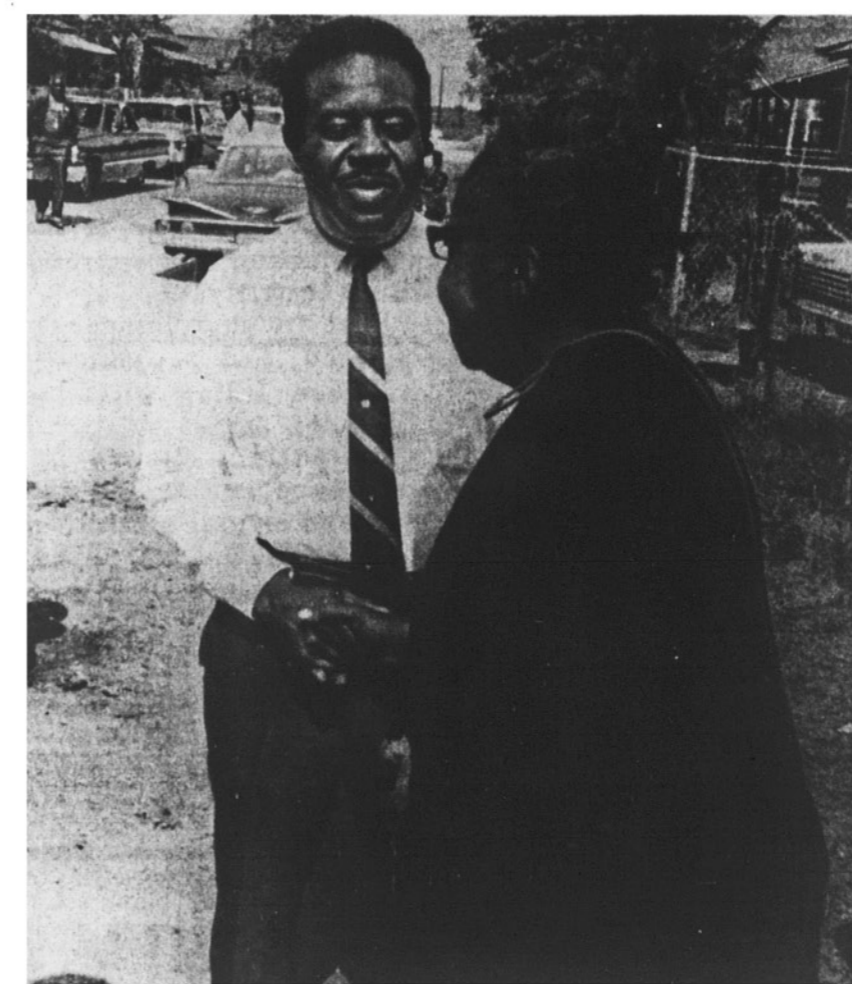
"Our purpose is not just to protest against the war," said Jack Drake, president of the Democratic Student Organization, "but to speak out about the incompetence right here in Tuscaloosa."

The group of about 50 students protested university President Frank Rose's refusal to allow four controversial speakers on campus--Jerry Rubin of the Youth International Party (Yippies), Communist writer Herbert Aptheker, Black Panther leader Eldridge Cleaver, and Tom Hayden of the Students for a Democratic Society. The speakers were invited to Alabama by the DSO.

Since the university had refused permission for a rally on campus last Mon-



REV. RALPH D. ABERNATHY, MULE TRAIN AT ALABAMA CAPITOL



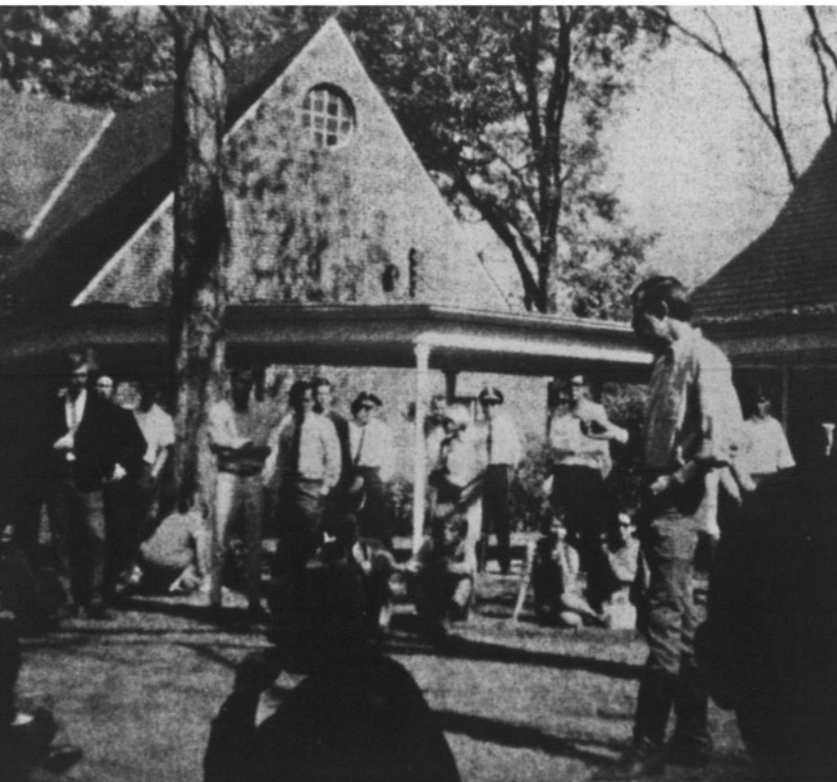
RESIDENT OF NEWTOWN AREA GREET ABERNATHY

day, the protesters marched from the student union to the Canterbury Chapel, an off-campus Episcopal center. As they marched, the students wore tape over their mouths, as a symbol of "denial of basic rights."

A number of "straight," non-protesting students watched the march. Also on hand were university and Tuscaloosa police, Alabama state troopers, representatives of the FBI and Army Intelligence, and state Public Safety Director Floyd Mann.

Meanwhile, the American Civil Liberties Union has asked a federal court to order Rose to allow the DSO's speakers on campus. "Free speech is free speech," said Ralph Knowles, president of the Tuscaloosa ACLU, "even... freedom for the thought we hate."

"We helped George Wallace in New York and Ohio this year," added Richard Singer, state ACLU chairman, "and we feel that the same principles of free speech should be applied to these speakers."



JIM BAINS SPEAKS AT CANTERBURY CHAPEL

SCLC Urges Folks to Vote

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--The Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy couldn't think of much to say in favor of any of this year's presidential candidates. But nonetheless, he told people here last Monday, "to stay home on Election Day would be the wrong thing to do."

"Anybody who has broken the law as much as former Governor George Wallace," Abernathy said, "it's certainly refreshing to hear him now, calling for 'law and order.'"

"We know how Mr. (Richard M.) Nixon stands on the issues," Abernathy went on, his face and voice indicating little enthusiasm for the Republican candidate. "And we must honestly admit Mr. (Hubert H.) Humphrey does not offer us much more."

But Abernathy, beginning a non-partisan "Get Out the Vote" tour of 12 cities, said people should vote anyway. "Politicians in power do not listen to those who advocate that people not vote," he explained in a statement. "They do listen to voting blocs, because they have to. We are going to these 12 cities and asking voters everywhere to go to the polls, as a tribute to Dr. (Martin Luther) King's work over the last 14 years."

HHH Office Windows Smashed in Greenwood

BY J. SMITH
GREENWOOD, Miss.--Workers arriving at the Hubert H. Humphrey-Edmund S. Muskie campaign office one day earlier this month found the windows broken out and two large hunks of concrete on the floor.

"After talking with the FBI and the state office for Humphrey-Muskie, we

station across in front of the office building." According to the police, said Wallace, the station owner had heard a loud crash.

Campaign workers patched the windows up, Wallace said, and they put up signs saying "This is law and order in Greenwood," and "Is this the beginning of what we can expect as black people or as people who are interested in the democratic process?"

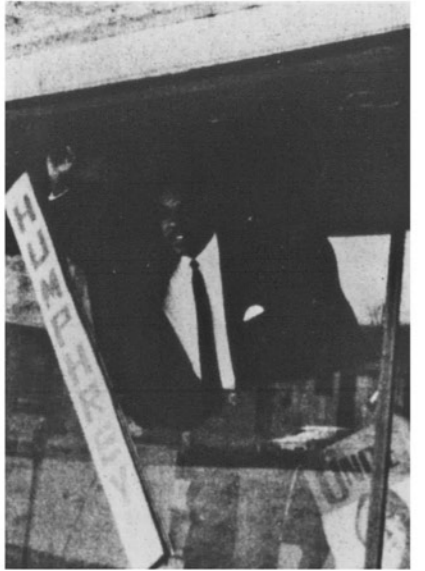
"Since that time," he said, "we haven't had any harassments of any kind. Nor have the windows been broken any more."

"We are really surprised that this kind of thing could happen," Wallace added. "We thought the white people of Greenwood had passed this stage--that they more or less had come to see the light, and had decided to do as near right as they knew how during the time we're living in."

"But you never know, so we accept it as a challenge. It did nothing to deter our determination to go on. Our office has remained open, and we have received some contributions from a few local white people who are concerned about the over-all picture of the Humphrey-Muskie campaign."

"We expect more from them as time goes on," Wallace said, "because we have come to believe that there are many of us who would not want George Wallace as President of the United States, nor (Richard M.) Nixon."

"And some of us are beginning to realize what the Democratic Party has done for all the people of America."



REV. WILLIAM WALLACE IN OFFICE

called the local police, who are about 100 feet from the office," said the Rev. William Wallace, Leflore County Humphrey-Muskie co-chairman.

Wallace said the police came around and reported getting a call "about 11:30 (p.m.) from the owner of the service

Candidate, Reporter Arrested

TUSCALOOSA, Ala.--Jim Bains, a National Democratic Party of Alabama candidate for the U. S. House, and Southern Courier reporter Benjamin T. Phillips were arrested last Monday after an anti-war protest in Canterbury Chapel.

Witnesses said Phillips was arrested after he took a picture of police officers outside the chapel. His camera was taken from him, and the film in it was destroyed. Bains was

arrested when he protested Phillips' arrest.

Phillips was charged with disorderly conduct, and Bains--the NDPA's candidate in the Seventh Congressional District--was charged with vagrancy. City Judge Joe Burns set bond on each of these charges at \$5,000.

Phillips and Bains posted bond late Monday night, and were released from jail. They will be tried later.

Louisville Negro Says Police Helped Beat Him

BY MAURY HERMAN
LOUISVILLE, Ala.--A Louisville man has accused the city police of allowing several whites to beat him after his arrest last Oct. 12.

Odele Brascom, a Negro, told the local NAACP that the incident occurred after his grandmother, Mrs. Cora Bell Parker, informed him that Louisville Police Chief David Green was looking for him.

In a statement to the NAACP, Brascom said that as he was trying to find Green, the chief stopped him near the Dixie Academy school.

Then, Brascom said, "Green demanded that I turn my 'damn' car around, and follow him to jail. I asked him was I being arrested, and what was the charge. He stated that someone had informed him that I had been speeding."

Brascom said he asked whether the chief could legally arrest him, since Green hadn't seen him speeding and wouldn't identify his witnesses. At that, Brascom said, the chief tried to drag him out of his car.

Brascom's employer, Guice Slawson, drove up while this was going on, the victim said. "Mr. Green told him that he needed some help, and Slawson told Green to give him the 'damn billystick.'"

According to Brascom, Green gave the stick to Slawson, and Slawson "drew back to hit me. I grabbed the stick, and he and I started tussling." Then, Brascom said, "two more white men joined... in beating me, while the policeman held a gun on me."

Brascom said he refused medical aid while in jail, because he was afraid of what the person treating him "might do to me." After his release Oct. 13, he was treated for severe headaches.

Mrs. Parker said that when she asked Louisville Mayor George Shipman for permission to see Brascom in jail, Shipman ran her out of his store. Brascom's mother, Mrs. Sarah Brascom, said Green threatened her with a gun when she attempted to speak to him about the arrest.

Brascom's bond was originally set at \$1,050. Last week, he said he still didn't know what he was charged with. Neither Chief Green nor Mayor Shipman would comment on anything.

After the Southwest Barbour County NAACP asked the U. S. Justice Department to investigate, Brascom's bond was reduced to \$200.

Last Tuesday, Brascom was convicted of resisting arrest and disorderly conduct. He was fined \$125, and then released on a \$2,000 appeal bond.

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Editorial Opinion

Free Speech for Whom?

The Democratic Student Organization at the University of Alabama recently invited four controversial figures to speak on campus--Yippie leader Jerry Rubin, Communist writer Herbert Aptheker, Eldridge Cleaver of the Black Panthers, and Tom Hayden of Students for a Democratic Society.

Frank Rose--the university president who earlier had defended the right of controversial speakers to appear on campus--chose this occasion to assert the school's "ultimate" control over student activities. Apparently feeling that these four speakers were just a little bit too wild, he refused to let them come to the university.

Immediately, the state's guardians of free speech applauded Rose's decision. "All of the 'speakers' are not speakers in the usual sense," said the Montgomery Advertiser. "They are mob leaders who do not remotely qualify to represent legitimate dissent." The Alabama Press Association added its support. The association said it had previously defended students' rights to hear speakers of their own choosing, but "the current... request is an entirely different matter."

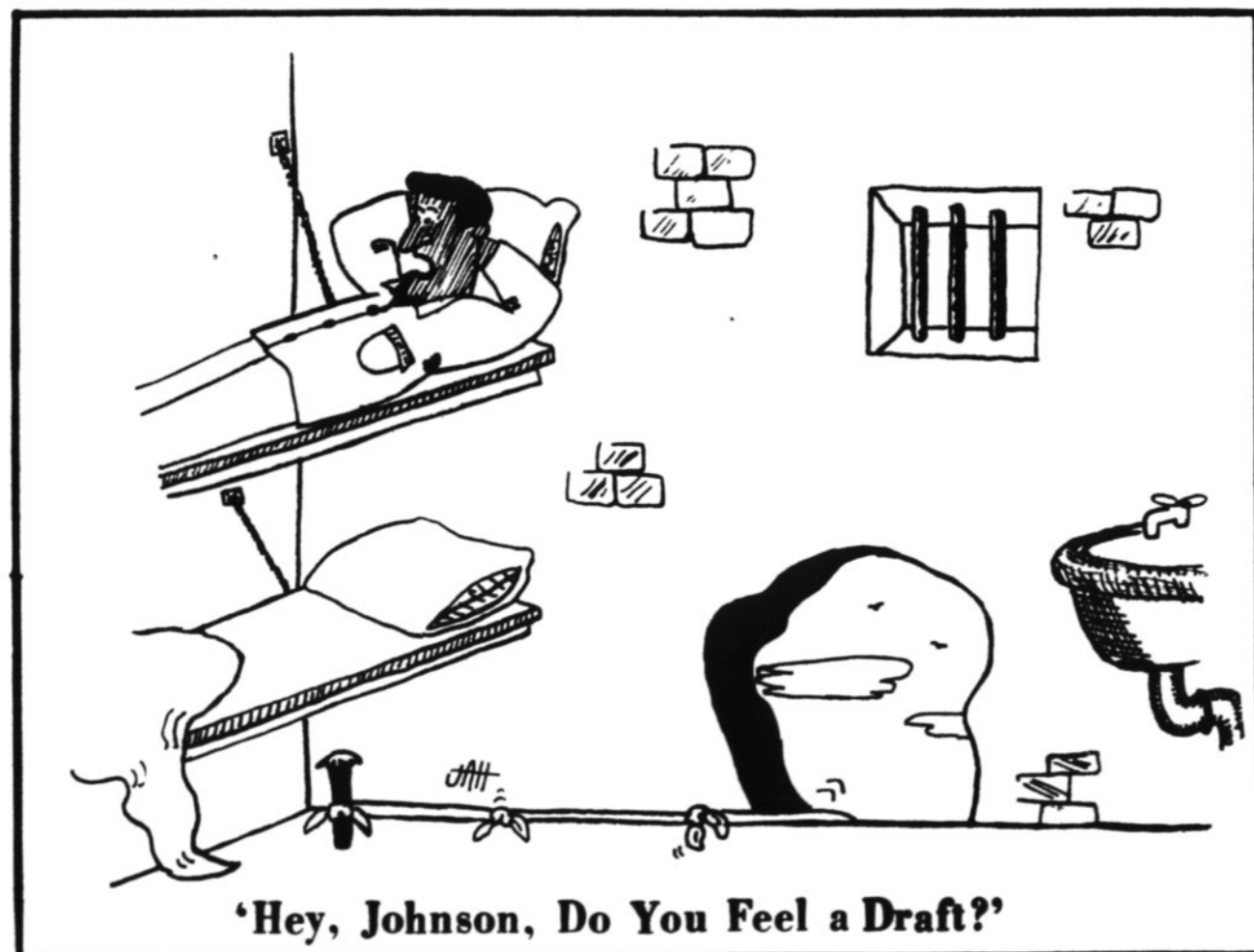
Well, we don't agree. Free speech doesn't mean anything if it is limited to people that Frank Rose and the Montgomery Advertiser approve of. The whole point of this basic constitutional right is that it guarantees a hearing to people with unpopular points of view.

We don't think that Rubin, Aptheker, Cleaver, and Hayden have a right to start a riot on the Alabama campus. But they were invited to speak, not riot, and they have a right to be heard. If Rose thought the appearance of all four at once would mean chaos, he could have allowed the students to invite them one at a time. But clearly, it is the speakers' ideas, not their actions, that the president is afraid of.

("Now is the time to uphold Dr. Frank Rose... in his struggle to bar communism from the campus," a lady who graduated from the university wrote to the Advertiser.)

All of Rose's supporters are convinced the students were only trying to make trouble when they invited the four speakers. Even if this is true, it is irrelevant. But we doubt that it is true. Though many people do not agree with them, Rubin, Aptheker, Cleaver, and Hayden speak for and about significant groups of American citizens. The students at Alabama--to say nothing of the president--could learn a lot from them.

Heine-Sight



Editorial Opinion

NAACP Acts Strangely

The NAACP seems to be intent on proving that white racists haven't cornered the market on oppression and intolerance. Last week, the national organization fired its associate counsel, a 31-year-old white lawyer, because he wrote an article that criticized the U. S. Supreme Court.

The NAACP--which has won fair hearings and fair trials for thousands of people--didn't bother giving one to its own staff member. The lawyer, Lewis M. Steel, said he learned he was fired one day after coming back from lunch.

This is not to say that we agree with Steel's article, "Nine Men in Black Who Think White," which appeared in the New York Times Magazine Oct. 13. In fact, we think the attack on the court was superficial, childish, and intellectually dishonest. Only an over-excited white liberal, for example, could call the second Brown v. Board of Education (school integration) decision "a blot on the record of American jurisprudence."

In the article, Steel says he agrees with the national riot commission's conclusion that the U. S. is moving toward two separate societies--one black and one white. And so, he writes, "I feel that all our institutions must be re-examined."

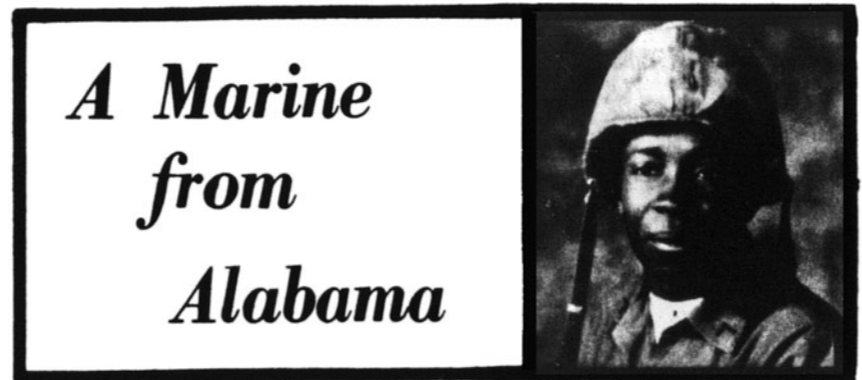
And then--in the self-destructive tradition of U. S. liberalism--he decides to re-examine the Supreme Court first. This is easy, because the Supreme Court--unlike big business, organized labor, the Johnson administration, or the NAACP--does all its work in the open. It is cute--just think, an NAACP lawyer attacking the Supreme Court. But is it fair? We think not.

"Historically, the Supreme Court has been the enemy of the American black man," Steel says in stating the premise of his article. "During the 15 years in which Earl Warren has presided as Chief Justice, the court has eliminated from the law books some of its more atrocious decisions. But never has it indicated that it is committed to a society based upon principles of absolute equality...."

"Yet its decisions have allowed a confused, mis-educated, and prejudiced white public to believe that its black fellow citizens have been given their full rights."

The article blames the court for the way white racists have reacted to its decisions, and for the way Southern school officials and bigoted lower-court judges have slowed the process of school integration.

Bad as it is, though, the article should not be grounds for Steel losing his job. Since he had been with the NAACP since 1964, we assume there was nothing wrong with his performance as a lawyer. It is very strange indeed that an organization supposedly devoted to the cause of civil rights should punish a staff member for saying what he thinks.



A Marine from Alabama

BY HENRY CLAY MOORER

SOMEWHERE IN SOUTH VIET NAM --What do Marines think of the war?

"From the time we entered the war as a part of (battalion landing team) 2/7, the pace of the war seems to have been slow," said one young Marine who has been here only a few weeks. But some of the men who have spent more time in Viet Nam have different opinions on the war.

Bernie LeVine Birdine, a Marine who has been in the country more than six months, said, "This is a war that can't be won, because the people of South Viet Nam aren't fighting themselves." Birdine said he has seen people in Viet Nam

with protest signs that said, "Marines go home--let the people of South Viet Nam settle their own problems."

This is the kind of thing that turns a Marine's mind against the war, even though he is bound here by the laws of his country.

Some other Marines told me they are afraid not only of the enemy, but also of our own support weapons. When they go out on some activities, they fear the mishap of being fired upon by our own weapons.

"In one incident," said Private First Class Lester Burrus, "we were fired on by our own support weapons, and I was the only man of a group of 17 that came out without injuries."

Then there are the people in South Viet Nam who laugh with you in the daytime, and try to get in and kill you at night. Better known as the Viet Cong, these people are the biggest thing in the way of peace. If the Viet Cong were out, many men feel, the war would be much closer to an end.

"The peace talks (now going on in Paris, France) are worthless, and many of us feel the war is worthless," said Private First Class Lloyd Parkman. "And many of our parents back home feel the same as we do about the war. Our lives are being wasted uselessly here in Viet Nam."

There are basic policy reasons for the war, but it is a war in which men suffer and die so futilely for people who want them to go home. Can the politicians back home overlook things like that protest sign? Is it fair for a South Vietnamese to carry a sign that says "Go home," while a mother or a wife back home mourns for a son who gave his life?

"Really, I feel that we are putting up so much effort, and the people of South Viet Nam aren't," said Private First Class George Betsy, a married Marine from Florida. "The only people I've seen show any interest are the Viet Cong who turned themselves over to the government of South Viet Nam as scouts and interpreters."

These are the feelings of some of the men who are physically engaged in the war, not the politicians back home. These are things you, the voters, should look into before the Nov. 5 election.



BURNED HOME ON SOUTH WARREN STREET

Mystery Fires In Mobile

BY JOHN SINGLETON

MOBILE, Ala.--Fires seem to be the trend recently in the "Down the Bay" section of Mobile. And some of the blazes appear to be directed at a particular target.

Two houses were destroyed and three were damaged last Sunday, when a fire started on South Warren Street.

At 209 S. Warren, a 70-year-old Negro lady, Mrs. Mamie Crews, had to jump for her life out a second-story window. At 211 S. Warren, Mrs. Janice Boykins and her large family were left homeless.

Mrs. Boykins said everything she owned was either badly burned or ruined by water. Campaigns have been started to help the burned-out families.

Fire department officials said they suspect arson. And one lady said she saw some white men run through the neighborhood and get into a car right before the fire started.

The two houses that were destroyed belonged to Mrs. Dorothy Daponte, a white millonairress who raised a Negro girl several years ago. The girl, now Mrs. Caroline Rich, is currently a sophomore at Howard University Law School.

Another house on the block--called the "old O'Donnell home"--has also been threatened by fire. It was sold by Mrs. Daponte to a Negro family.

George Stiehl, who now lives there, said the home was burned slightly when another house next door was destroyed by a fire-bomb. He said his car was also set on fire several weeks ago. Stiehl noted that a number of Southern Courier reporters once used his house as "their center of operations."

His wife said she doesn't understand why the house has not been given a his-

torical marker, since it is "a Creole cottage with a front in the Greek-revival neo-classic style."

The daughter of Admiral Raphael Semmes, a noted Mobile figure, is said to have been married in the living room of the house, Mrs. Stiehl added, and the home was built in 1836.

Last Monday night, the Negro men in the neighborhood--which borders on a white community--kept a vigil in the area. They reported seeing a group of white men running from an empty house around 11:30 p.m.

Three weeks ago, a 17-year-old Negro youth was shot in the back by white policemen right in Stiehl's yard. The police told the youth not to run, but he is deaf. And now he faces being paralyzed for the rest of his life.

More Troubles For SWAFCA

SELMA, Ala.--Selma Mayor Joe Smitherman once again is trying to block a federal grant to SWAFCA (the Southwest Alabama Farmers Cooperative Association).

Last Saturday, as SWAFCA was hosting the Southeast Co-operative Workshop at Selma University, sheriff's deputies came into a meeting to serve copies of a court order on SWAFCA officials. The order, issued by Circuit Court Judge James Hare, said SWAFCA cannot spend any of its new \$600,000 grant.

William H. Harrison, SWAFCA president, said this week that Hare had no authority to issue the order. Harrison said he is confident that SWAFCA will get its money.

Meanwhile, SWAFCA workers were jubilant over the success of the workshop, attended by nearly 800 people representing more than 100 organizations from 12 states.

Guest speakers included James Templeton of the national OEO office and David Angeline of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Two African diplomats, W. O. Okwenge of Uganda and C. S. Dawbe of Batswana, were special guests.

WRONG STUDENT

The Tuskegee Institute student identified as Lamont Isom in the picture on Page Four of last week's Southern Courier was not Isom, but Oscar Sykes.

Sykes was the manager of Isom's successful campaign for the presidency of the Student Government Association at Tuskegee.

2 Youths Suspended From White Schools

BY ETHEL THOMAS

TUSCALOOSA, Ala.--Two Negro youths have been suspended from predominantly-white schools this fall. Both are now back in all-Negro schools.

Vincent Thompson said his troubles started when his social studies teacher at Tuscaloosa Junior High School "asked the class to write an autobiography of our likes and dislikes."

He said he wrote, "I can't stand prejudiced white people, and I like the color I am. I'm black and I'm proud, and black is beautiful."

The next day, Thompson said, he was called to Principal Frank Kendall's office. When he got there, he said, the principal was reading the autobiography.

After Kendall read it "three or four times," Thompson said, he had his secretary read it. When she finished, the youth recalled, she said, "That nigger got nerve."

"This Negro has more nerve than you think," Thompson said he replied. The principal threatened to call Schools Superintendent H. D. Nelson, saying "he may change your mind." Thompson added, "The youth said he answered, 'There is no need to call Dr. Nelson, because he cannot and will not change my mind.'"

Shortly afterward, Thompson said, the principal told him he was suspended indefinitely. So, he said, he went to see William H. Bell, principal of all-Negro

Westlawn Junior High School. After his mother talked to Bell, Kendall, and Nelson, he said, he was given a choice form to sign for Westlawn.

"While all of this was going on," Thompson said, "I stayed out of school four weeks."

In a letter to Mrs. Mary Thompson, the boy's mother, Nelson said he could not interfere with Kendall's decision. If Kendall didn't want Thompson at Tuscaloosa Junior High, the letter said, then the only thing the youth could do was to go to Westlawn.

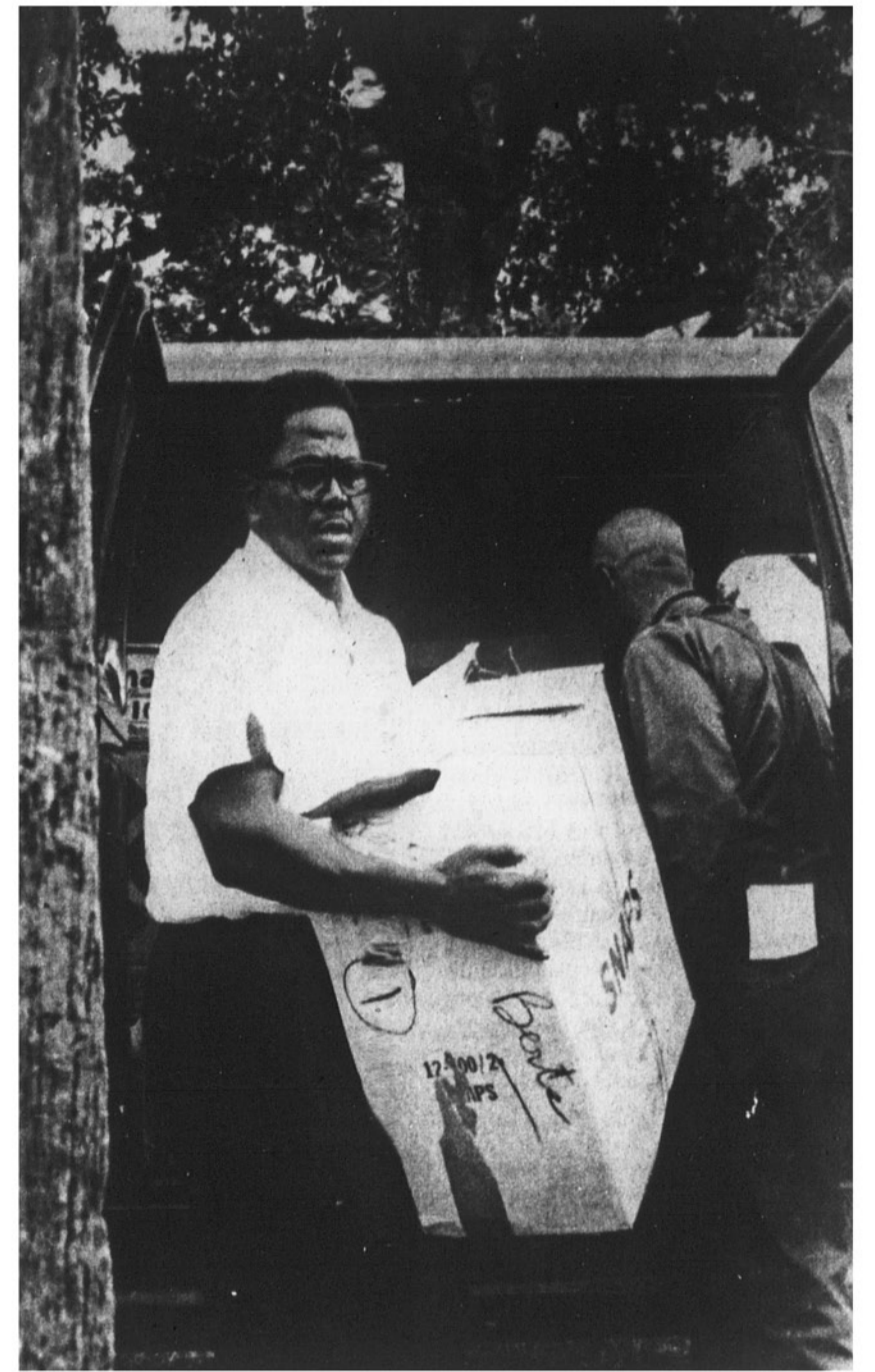
Meanwhile, George Washington Jr., another Negro youth, was suspended from Tuscaloosa High School. His father, George Washington Sr., said the youth was suspended for not saying "Yes, sir" and "No, sir" to his physical education teacher.

The father said he asked Principal H. H. Stegall, "How can a child of 15--who has been living in California all his life, taught to say 'Yes' and 'No'--how can you expect him to change now?"

He said the principal replied, "I'd ask the first time, and if he said 'Yes' and 'No,' I'd ask the second time, and he should know I mean for him to change."

Superintendent Nelson later gave Washington a choice form for all-Negro Druid High School, the youth said.

Both cases were brought to the attention of the Tuscaloosa Citizens for Action Committee.



Takes All Day to Deliver

Food for Poor Folks



BY SANDRA COLVIN
 SELMA, Ala.--Four families in Alabama's poverty belt received clothing and food last week from the members of the Zion Baptist Church of East Chicago, Indiana.

The church was sent the names of the families when its representatives wrote to the Selma-based Southern Rural Research Project (SRRP) after viewing a TV show on "Hunger in America."

Two officers of the church arrived at the SRRP office in a red panel truck around noon on Oct. 16. They appeared somewhat surprised when they found that none of the families selected to receive the food and clothing was there to meet them.

"Where are the people?" one of the men asked. He was soon to find out just how far away they were, as it took the rest of the day to find the four families.

The problem was that the East Chicago church had sent letters to

SRRP and the families, saying the food and clothing would arrive on "Wednesday, Oct. 15."

Tuesday was the 15th, and two of the families showed up then. Miss Dondra Simmons of SRRP took those two addresses, but nobody was sure of the other two.

Another difficulty was that the church hadn't given the families enough time to prepare for the long trip to Selma from their homes in Hale and Marengo counties.

The church officers first considered giving up and driving back to East Chicago. But then, with the help of SRRP, they set out to find the families. Long after dark, the huge load of goods was finally delivered.



Photos by Kenneth W. Lumpkin



Still Faces Problems

Freedom Party Tries For Lowndes Offices

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN
HAYNEVILLE, Ala. -- "People accuse us of turning against the Democratic Party," said Charles Smith, a Lowndes County Freedom Party candidate for the board of revenue. "But the thing was, we never was in it."

For years, Smith recalled this week, the white people who control the county's Democratic party "paid no attention to the large group of black folks bein' registered. They knew everything --or they thought they did."

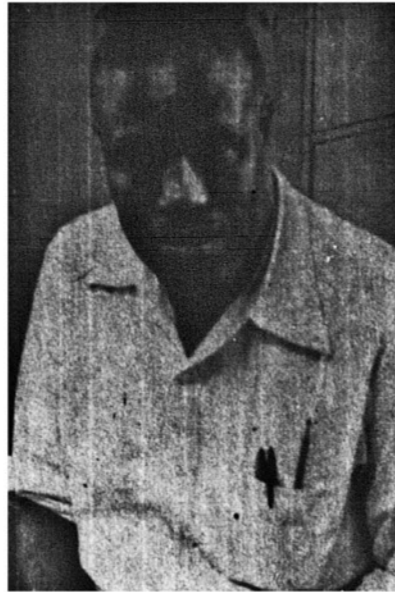
Early in 1966, Smith said, the Lowndes Democrats took the final step that drove many black people out of the party. With the number of Negro voters growing every day, the Democrats raised the qualifying fees for candidates ten times higher than they had been before.

As a result, it cost from \$100 to \$500 to run for office in Lowndes County--an amount of money, Smith said, that the Democrats "were almost sure black folks couldn't come by."

"We didn't worry about it," Smith said with a smile. "We came up with our own something, that's what we did." That "something" was the Lowndes County Freedom Organization, with its emblem of the black panther.

Two years later, the all-black group has qualified as a political party, but it is still trying to put its first candidate in office. Five candidates will be running under the black panther Nov. 5, a week from Tuesday.

Two of the freedom party candidates



CHARLES SMITH

are running unopposed -- Jessie W. Favor, a construction worker, for beat 1 justice of the peace, and the Rev. T. M. Gilchrist, a retired minister, for beat 8 JP. It would take a highly-organized write-in campaign to defeat Favor and Gilchrist, and no one thinks this is going to materialize.

But the freedom party is also seeking more influential offices, on the county board of revenue and the board of education.

R. L. Strickland, a construction worker, is running against Democrat O. P. Woodruff for place 1 on the board of revenue, and Smith, a cattle farmer, is running against Democrat Ned T. Ellis for place 2. John E. Hinson, a construction worker, is running against Democrat Matt Holmes for place 3 on

the school board.

Carlton Perdue, a white Democrat who is running unopposed for county attorney, took a dim view of the freedom party's chances. "I don't think the white people--hardly any--will vote that way," said Perdue. "And a lot of nigras don't believe in the black panther--they don't believe in that extreme element of your black race."

If the freedom party put up an "honorable, high-class type of nigma," Perdue said, "they would get some white votes, and get the nigma vote, maybe."

But at present, he said, black people won't vote for the panther ticket, because "they don't hate white folks near that bad...."

"We got worlds of mighty good nigras, y'know. I have the utmost confidence in them doin' what they think is right."

There are five men on the board of revenue, so even if Strickland and Smith win, they will be in the minority. But "as it now stands," said Smith, "we don't have any representation. And we think some is better than none."

As it is now, he said, "we don't have any eyes coming out of the minority to look at anything. We don't have any ears to hear what's going on. We don't have any persuasive language."

If he gets on the board of revenue, Smith said, he is sure he can change the minds of "some of the people who have been standing tall against the minority." (Although Lowndes County is more than 80% black, Smith--probably referring to Negroes' role in the government--repeatedly called them "the minority.")

One issue Smith would like to change some minds about is SWAFCA (the Southwest Alabama Farmers Cooperative Association). When the federal government first decided to fund the ten-county co-op, Smith said, "our county was one of the counties that went to Washington...."

"They did everything they could to stop a little dab of money from comin' in to help poor folks. That should not be."

"Due to the fact that we've never had a chance to work with or on the board of revenue," Smith said, his "first order of business," if elected, "will be to find out what the functions or duties of the board of revenue are."

"The next thing," he said, will be "to find out in what way they distribute their services." In the past, Smith charged, "all of their services have been on one side of the fence"--"the money always gives out" when it comes to doing something for the Negro community.

"I hope to straighten out all that," the candidate said, "using my influence, my sense of what justice should be."

First, "we owe the people who have been left out something special," Smith said. "We'll close some of those gaps," he said, and then start providing services "right across the board."

Negroes have not been getting equal treatment in the area of road building



VOTERS TURN OUT FOR 1966 ELECTION

and maintenance, Smith charged. Some roads in the black community are so narrow "you can't hardly meet and pass a person on 'em," he said, while others are not properly drained.

"Minority-group children must walk



R. L. STRICKLAND

miles to get to a road," Smith said, "and the road they get to is usually leading to a certain (white) person's home."

The candidate said he will also get the county to apply for federal programs. "This, we can't help but believe, has not been done," Smith said. "If it has, the minority group haven't been the recipients."

Smith said he has had no dealings, "one way or the other," with his opponent, Ellis. But, he said, he knew and respected Ellis' father when the elder Ellis was mayor and police-court judge in Fort Deposit.

"In spite of the fact that he (the father) got credit for being a little bit rude, he wielded his big stick both ways," Smith said. "If a man was brought to his court that he thought was innocent, it didn't make any difference whether it was a white or black man, he ruled the way his conviction was."

As they work toward the Nov. 5 balloting, Smith and the other freedom par-

ty candidates have to contend with a history of failure.

In 1966, a slate of seven panther-party candidates--including Hinson--waged an extensive campaign, aided by Stokely Carmichael and other SNCC workers. But all seven candidates lost to white opponents, by margins ranging from 273 to 677.

Many freedom party members believe they should have won that election. "More (white) folks voted than there were folks," Smith said, "and it's been consistently goin' on."

Another problem, Smith said, is that "people are dependent on other folks for employment--we have not established an economic base, so if someone loses a job we can just say 'C'mon, get a job over here.'"

But "a whole lot of that has changed from what it was in 1966," Smith said. A fair number of people, he said, now have secure jobs in the county's anti-poverty program, with federal agencies, or with companies working on federal projects.

Still, last May, Mrs. Theresa Webb lost by 600 votes--1,942 to 1,342--when she ran against W. E. Harrell for the Democratic nomination for place 1 on the school board.

Mrs. Webb, a Negro, said she ran as a Democrat because she thought she could get more "co-operation." She said she thought people who voted for a Democrat might not encounter as much intimidation as they would if they voted for a black-panther candidate.

But Mrs. Webb said she ran into opposition from Negro "professionals--teachers and what-not. They're afraid of losing their jobs...."

"When I was campaigning, I would go to the schools and leave my cards with the principals. They wouldn't give them to the teachers, but they were giving out the white candidates' cards."

And in the May 7 voting, said Mrs. Webb, black voters had a rough time at some polling places--particularly in Hayneville, Fort Deposit, and Braggs.

"It really was a show--just like a minstrel show," agreed Mrs. Martha Moton, who worked at the Braggs polling place May 7. When a black voter would come in, she recalled, a white official would run over and say, "How ya doin', so-and-so? You're going to need some help, aren't you?"

Then, she said, the white official would "help" the black voter--who

often was too frightened to vote for a black candidate. When Mrs. Moton asked a black election clerk why he wasn't helping anyone, she said, the clerk replied, "They didn't ask for me."

"We're trying to change some of the clerks" for this election, said Mrs. Webb. "Some were not alert as they should be--they don't get up. When I was a clerk, I bounced right up (to help voters) before a white person could get there."

Mrs. Webb, a teacher for 36 years, was retired from her job last spring, although she wanted to keep teaching until her 70th birthday five years from now. She said she is supporting Hinson's campaign for the same reasons she ran herself:

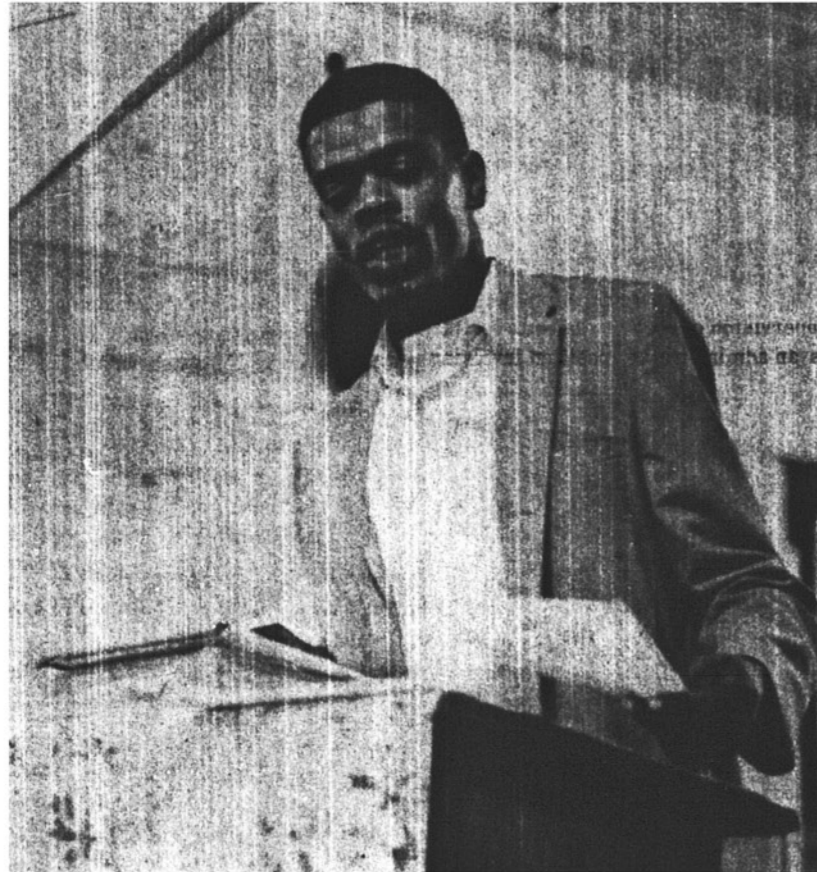
"Before I retired, I knew what was going on. Negro children didn't even have the same books as white children. Negro teachers didn't get the same salaries--in fact, all the Negro teachers weren't getting the same salaries themselves, with the same degrees."

Mrs. Webb said the county's school buses are over-crowded, and most of them have no heat. "Children have to walk long distances, and stand out in the cold to wait for the bus," she said. And when they get to school, she added, the classrooms are over-crowded, too.

The freedom party has asked the U.S. Justice Department to send observers for the Nov. 5 election. The party is also trying to determine whether all registered black people have been put on the voting lists, and whether all deceased or re-located whites have been purged.

According to John Binkley, a white Californian who is assisting in the freedom party campaign, black voters should now outnumber whites, 3,600 to 2,500.

Many new voters have been registered by the Lowndes County Voter Education Project, financed by the Southern Regional Council of Atlanta, Ga. "The only thing we want," said Bennie Yelder, director of the project, "is for people to come to the polls Nov. 5 and vote. If you register and don't use your vote, it's no good."



JOHN E. HINSON ADDRESSES 1966 RALLY



SIGNING UP VOTERS IN 1966 CAMPAIGN



HINSON HELPS NEW VOTER IN 1966

'We Want Them All'

New Party Seeks New People

BY PRINCELLA H. WADE
 ATLANTA, Ga.--"Although Americans are split by race, class, fear, anger, and discontent, there is a growing sense that the pain which people feel individually is shared pain, pain caused politically," said Jim Sundberg.

This pain "grows out of a great misuse of our intellectual and material resources," said Sundberg, Georgia co-ordinator for the New Party. "It grows out of the destruction of community. It grows out of the idea that the land of opportunity has come to mean a land of opportunists."

"All of this has brought hundreds and thousands of new people into active political life, who are not pledged to either the Democratic or the Republican party," Sundberg said. "But these people do have a choice.

"The choice is neither (Richard M.) Nixon, (Hubert H.) Humphrey, or (George C.) Wallace, but our choice--the New Party."

In an interview, Sundberg said the New Party was formed in Chicago, Illinois, last June, by supporters of the late Robert F. Kennedy and of Senator Eugene J. McCarthy. These were people, Sundberg said, with enough foresight to realize that the McCarthy forces would not be heard at the Democratic National



NEW PARTY MEETING

Convention. Members and spokesmen of the New Party include the Rev. Andrew J. Young of SCLC, who is on the party's executive steering committee; Dr. Benjamin Spock; Peter Yarrow of the Peter, Paul, and Mary singing group; and Gentry Fowler of SCLC, the party's Southeast co-ordinator.

"It is the Democratic and Republican parties," Sundberg said, "which have brought about a situation where too many Americans know only violence as the way to resolve human problems, either in the cities of the United States or in foreign countries."

Black people can find no political base in either major party, he said, because neither party is able to understand or

respond to the growing consciousness of black identity and the demand for black power.

The existing political bureaucracy, he said, can only serve as a mechanism of police and social control, keeping the poor in their "place" and putting order above justice.

"The New Party," said Sundberg, "hopes to bring together people who are now neglected in our society, so their voices will be heard. We want them all--young old, black, white, rich, and poor."

Sundberg said he hopes to make a model out of the welfare situation in

Georgia, by challenging city and state budgets that don't provide enough for social programs. He said the party has received strong support in Georgia in just a few weeks' time.

However, opinion has not been unanimous about the party. The Great Speckled Bird, Atlanta's underground newspaper, quoted someone who called the party's statement of purpose the "most specious piece of elitism (political snobbery) I've read in a long, long time."

"The New Party, at least in Georgia, will die aborning," predicted Bird writer Tom Coffin.



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.

FILM SERIES--A historical film series has been scheduled for 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday in the Library Auditorium at Alabama State College, Montgomery, Ala. The series is free and open to the public. The Department of History and Social Sciences, in co-operation with Audio-Visual Services, will be the sponsor. B. J. Simms, coordinator of freshman history, will conduct a discussion session after each film.

CO-OP BUSINESS MANAGER--Applications open for business manager ONLY. Business, management experience required. Apply central SWA/FCA office, 1608 1/2 Philpot Ave., Selma, Ala. 36701. An equal opportunity employer.

BLACK THEATER--The Black Theatrical Company was founded last summer in Shelby, Miss., as a pilot attempt to give black youth an identity. It is concerned with presenting black drama, black poetry, black fashion shows, black creative discussions, and black debates. The company needs grants and contributions to do these things. To send a contribution or get more information, write Joseph D. Delaney Jr., 676 Leigh Ave., Grenada, Miss. 38901.

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.

MISSING PERSON--Lester Morris Vinson, the son of Mrs. Susie Vinson, left home Sept. 9 in a Decatur, Ala., cab. Vinson is 27 years old, stands about 6'2", weighs about 200 pounds, and has black hair and a dark complexion. He was employed at the Tip Top Grocery Store. If you have any information, please contact Mrs. Vinson at 519 12th Ave. in Decatur, or call 353-3857.

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.

STUDENT JOBS--The Interagency Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners for North Carolina announces that applications are now being accepted from college students for trainee positions in agriculture management, agriculture statistics, soil conservation, soil science, and engineering. Salaries will be \$88 and \$98 per week, depending upon the grade level of the position and the academic level of the applicant. Lists of eligibles will be used for filling trainee positions with the U. S. Department of Agriculture and other federal agencies with appropriate vacancies in the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Applications and further information may be secured from the Interagency Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners, 415 Hillsborough St., Raleigh, N. C. 27603. Refer to announcement number AR-8-16.

CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS--"Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him." This verse from James is part of the Bible Lesson-Sermon titled "Probation After Death," to be read in all Christian Science churches Sunday, Oct. 27.

VETERANS--Many newspapers have carried articles this year about dividends supposedly being paid on 1984 GI life insurance policies. This information is completely false--all 1948 dividends have already been paid. The Veterans Administration advises veterans to disregard any news articles or other information on this subject.

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YMCA Case Is Appealed

NEW ORLEANS, La.--Two Negro men who were denied food and lodging at the Bessemer, Ala., YMCA have taken their case to the U. S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Almost three years ago, Blevin Stout and Sammie Bibb Jr. went to the YMCA for a room and an evening meal. According to their attorney, Conrad Harper of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, they were told the YMCA does not serve Negroes.

So Stout and Bibb filed a suit against the YMCA, charging that they and other Negroes were being deprived of rights guaranteed to them under the U. S. Constitution and the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The suit was dismissed by the federal district court in Birmingham, which ruled that the public accommodations section of the Civil Rights Act does not apply to the YMCA. (However, in a similar case in Raleigh, N. C., the U. S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals has said that the rights law does apply.)

In the Fifth Circuit Oct. 17, attorney Harper argued that both the 1964 Civil Rights Act and a rights law passed in 1866 forbid discrimination by the YMCA.

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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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St. Jude Knocks Off Powerful BTW

The Impossible Dream

BY MICHAEL S. LOTTMAN
MONTGOMERY, Ala.—A fired-up St. Jude football team made its impossible dream come true last Friday night with a 10-0 victory over mighty Booker T. Washington of Montgomery.

It was the Pirates' 16th straight victory over a two-year period, and the ninth consecutive time they have held their opponents scoreless. And St. Jude can still claim that no one has penetrated its ten-yard line all year.

The Pirates came into the BTW game with five straight 1968 victories, by scores of 60 to 0, 86 to 0, 63 to 0, 47 to 0, and 48 to 0. But last Friday night's score looked bigger to the Pirates than any of the others.

For ten years or more, the little Catholic school has been a punching-bag for its bigger public-school rivals, Booker T. Washington and Carver. St. Jude, a 2-A school, wasn't supposed to be on the same field with 4-A giants like BTW and Carver.

Last year, early in the season, Booker T. Washington clobbered the Pirates, 26 to 0. But St. Jude Coach Ostell Hamilton was slowly building a magnificent football team, and the Pirates flattened their last three 1967 opponents by scores of 23 to 0, 66 to 0, and 14 to 0.

"I started this group in the ninth grade—my first year here," Hamilton said after Friday's game. Now, three years later, 17 seniors form the nucleus of a remarkable football team.

All through the first half last Friday, the St. Jude and BTW defenses smothered every attempt at a scoring drive.

The closest thing to a sustained march was mounted by the Yellow Jackets from their own 29 midway in the second period. Willie Scott ran for eight yards, Ralph Stokes for 13, Dwight Fleming for six, Edwin Jeter for two, and Scott for seven, putting the ball on the Pirate 35.

But then Fleming lost five, and the Yellow Jackets were hit with a 15-yard penalty. A screen pass from Henry Crawford to Fleming gained only two, and on the big third-down play, Fleming was smeared for a three-yard loss by Frank Oliver, James Brown, and Gary Rogers of St. Jude.

With fourth down and 32 to go, BTW punted—and barely got the ball back to where the series had started.

Two plays later, with the ball on the Pirate 24, St. Jude halfback Harold Smiley worked into the clear on a pass play. But Pirate quarterback Bruce Bostick—rushed hard by Allen McGhee



ON ST. JUDE SIDELINE

and John Hamilton of BTW—overthrew the mark. And that was the end of St. Jude's big threat.

In the second half, as the overflow crowd at Hornet Stadium spilled out of the stands and ringed the playing field, things were going about the same when St. Jude took over on its own 14.

Smiley got just two yards on a plunge. But on the next play, Bostick pitched out to Melvin Jones, and the fleet halfback tore around right end and down the sideline. When he crossed the goal line 84 yards away, no one was near him. Chris Howard kicked the extra point, and St. Jude had a 7-0 lead with 3:13 left in the

third period.

But the Pirates still had to hold off the bigger, deeper Yellow Jackets. And they had to do it with their key men—Jones, Bostick, Howard, and Smiley—playing non-stop, on both offense and defense.

Bostick halted one BTW threat with an interception on the Pirate three-yard line. A pass from BTW's Crawford to Charles Hamilton moved the Yellow Jackets to the St. Jude 18, but Hamilton fumbled on the play and the Pirates recovered. A third BTW thrust collapsed when Jones made an interception just a yard away from the end zone.

After Jones' interception, though, the Pirates began a steady, time-consuming march downfield. The big play in the 5 1/2-minute drive was a 17-yard dash by Jones, with a 15-yard penalty tacked on.

Finally, with 2:41 left to play, fourth down and eight on the BTW 20, St. Jude's Howard lined up for a 37-yard field attempt. There was silence in the crowded stadium as everyone watched the ball float toward the uprights—and there was pandemonium when it went through.

The kick put the Yellow Jackets out of business. But who is this Lou Groza of the 2-A league?

"I kicked one in the tenth grade, down

in Greenville somewhere," Howard said after the game. "But tonight's was the longest I ever kicked."

"Bring on Lanier (the state 4-A champs)!" the happy Pirates were shouting as they piled on the team bus. Someone even mentioned Green Bay.

Meanwhile, at the other end of the stadium, BTW Coach Buddy Davis was wrestling with his team bus, trying to steer it out of the crowded parking lot. Several people stuck their hands up through the bus window to console him, and Davis thanked them all with his usual win-or-lose smile.

A BTW alumnus stood off to the side, and watched the curious scene. Then he said, "That Buddy got a nice constitution."

Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights

The weekly meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 28, in the Metropolitan CME Church, 1600 Ave. K, Ensley, the Rev. L. H. Wheelchel, pastor. The speaker will be the Rev. J. H. Slones.

FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

In Alabama all our yesterdays are marred by hate, discrimination, injustice, and violence. Among the organizations working for a better tomorrow on the principle of human brotherhood is the Alabama Council on Human Relations. Membership in the Council is open to all who wish to work for a better tomorrow on this principle. For further information, write the Alabama Council, P. O. Box 1310, Auburn, Alabama.

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