



VERNON CRAWFORD SIFTS RUBBLE OF HIS HOME

Fire Destroys Home Of Mobile Attorney

BY DAVID R. UNDERHILL

MOBILE -- The home of Vernon Z. Crawford, southwestern Alabama's only Negro lawyer, is a total loss after a fire early Monday morning.

Crawford has handled various civil rights cases, and some criminal cases with racial implications. Recently, he acted as attorney for Negro employees filing job-discrimination complaints against a factory in Mobile.

Officially, the cause of the fire is still "undetermined." Local and state fire authorities are investigating and will make a report in a few days.

Crawford hasn't reached any final opinion on the cause of the blaze either, but he says, "I'm not convinced it was an accident." He said he has been threatened often—the last time about three months ago.

If arsonists set the fire, evidence of it will have to be found in the ruins of the house. The Crawfords were not home when the fire started, and none of the neighbors saw or heard anything strange until Francis Thomas spotted the flames as he was driving by about 2 a.m.

Fire Inspector C. D. Blalock, who entered the house as soon as the blaze was out, said he found nothing unusual and suggested that a TV or lamp started the fire.

But Crawford said the TV set was far from the center of the fire. And Thomas said that when he got to the house, the area around the lamp was not burning.

Thomas also said the outside walls around the front door were on fire when he drove up, but most of the interior was not yet burning.

Crawford and others felt that a lighted bottle of gasoline thrown on the front porch might have started the fire. Tuesday morning, they dug through the ashes on the porch.

They found the shattered remains of a bottle.

Mobile Fire Marshal C. W. Zuber,

who inspected the ruins Tuesday afternoon, said the fire department's investigation will include the possibility of arson.

Crawford estimated the damage at \$30,000.

Dentists Shun Head Start

HUNTSVILLE--Madison County dentists have refused to treat the 343 children in this summer's Head Start program here because they felt such care would be a step toward "socialized dentistry."

It came to light last week that the 65 dentists in the Huntsville-Madison County Dental Society had said they would not treat the pre-school-age youngsters from low-income families.

In a letter sent to the Community Action Committee here last June 24, the dental society president, Dr. John C. Strother, said: "We believe that the medical and dental care portion of the Head Start program is one of the first significant steps toward socialization of the health services. . . . Should local organized dentistry voluntarily participate in this program, it would be giving our acceptance and approval of socialized dentistry."

According to Community Action Program Administrator Jerry Hornsby, four of five dentists volunteered to examine and treat the Head Start children. Dr. John Cashin Jr., a Negro and not a member of the dental society, was picked from the volunteer list to do the work by Head Start director Robert Lusk. Cashin said he examined more than 340 of the youngsters, and also gave each of them a toothbrush and dental-care kit.

"I feel that these children would be better socialized than uncared for. No one has said anything about my being paid. I don't care if I get paid for it or not."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE, Col. 3)

But It's Weaker Reps. Pass C.R. Bill

WASHINGTON -- The 1966 civil rights bill, already weakened by amendments, was halfway through Congress this week.

But the bill is now so different from the one proposed by President Johnson that many civil rights supporters may no longer want it. One observer said it is now "an anti-civil rights bill."

The most important and controversial part of the new bill will probably have more effect in the North than in the South. This is the "open housing" section, designed to ban discrimination in the sale or rental of houses and apartments.

By the time the House passed the amended bill last Tuesday, there wasn't much left of the housing section. It no longer applied to owners who live in buildings that house four families or less. This means that a private homeowner, or a landlord sharing his building with up to three other families, is still free to discriminate. And so is his real estate agent.

The amended section would cover only 40% of the nation's housing units. After amendment weakened this section, about 30 Northern liberal congressmen joined the others in voting against it. Said an assistant to one liberal New Yorker: "That amendment was not a compromise. It was a surrender."

That wasn't all the House did to the bill before passing it. One part of the bill would have given the U.S. Attorney General power to start school desegregation suits on his own, but the House killed the section.

And, thanks to two Southern candidates for governor—James D. Martin of Alabama and Howard Callaway of Georgia—it added an amendment to the bill forbidding the government to withhold funds in order to overcome "racial imbalance" in public schools. Martin said later that this was the beginning of the end for the federal school desegregation guidelines.

Still intact, though, were the sections designed to end discrimination in the selection of state and federal court juries, and the section making it a crime to harass or kill civil rights workers—or Negroes exercising their civil rights.

The House did add an amendment to the harassment section, providing criminal penalties for "professional agitators"—people who cross state lines to "incite" riots. Strictly applied, this could put a halt to many forms of civil rights activity.

Now the bill must undergo debate and possible further change in the Senate. Many people think it will not pass. Both of Alabama's senators—John (CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO, Col. 4)

SCLC Convention Studies Future of Non-Violence

BY PRINCELLA HOWARD WADE

JACKSON, Miss.--The Southern Christian Leadership Conference is facing a great hour of decision here at its national convention. The question is whether the non-violent struggle can long endure. U.S. Senator Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts, brother of the late President, contributed to this hour on Monday night at the Freedom Banquet.

(He was late for the engagement because of tire troubles. Half-inch roofing nails had been scattered along the road from Rankin County Airport to Jackson. Surprisingly enough, reporters and Jacksonites suffered from this same trouble.)

Kennedy said there must be a massive commitment of national resources to the upgrading of Negro life.

"The right programs will cost a great deal of money," he said. "But we can afford it. We have the resources many times over. The only thing we lack is the will. We are spending \$2 billion a month to defend the freedom of the 14,000,000 people in South Viet Nam. Why shouldn't we make the same kind of effort for the 20,000,000 people of the Negro race right here in America, whose freedom and future are also at stake?"

At a time when unity of white and black is so very important, Kennedy said, there arises another threat to this struggle—"black power."

"The very basis of integration is working together with white people," Kennedy told the mostly-Negro audience. "If you cast them off—if you isolate yourselves—you will be crippling your effectiveness in what is basically not a white or Negro cause, but an American cause."

The Rev. Walter Fauntroy, executive director of SCLC's Washington bureau, also talked about black power in his keynote address. He said that the power Negroes need is neither black nor white, but green: "Green power. Nothing more is needed, and nothing less will suffice. Now write that down." The house roared with applause.

The president's annual report had to be delivered by the Rev. Andrew J. Young, executive director of SCLC. The president, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., was suffering from a virus. While the convention was going on in Jackson, other SCLC workers were leading demonstrations in the streets of Grenada. Angry whites threw bricks, bottles, cherry bombs, and tear gas at the demonstrators Tuesday night.

"Come on, niggers. Come closer. Come on over here, niggers, we're ready for you," they yelled. And they were.

Several SCLC workers were hurt. The worst was Miss Mildred Smith of Montgomery, who suffered facial injuries when she was hit by an unidentified flying object.

Amerson Has An Opponent

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE--"A man's got a right to change his mind," said Bob Dawson, as he leaned against the door of his plumbing shop.

Inside the store, two huge, freshly-painted signs were balanced on top of the shabby furniture. They explained what Dawson had changed his mind about.

"Old enough to know, young enough to go!" the red and black letters said. "Elect Bob Dawson sheriff of Macon County."

It was the same slogan he used in the Democratic primary last May. But Dawson, one of three white men who lost to a Negro in the sheriff's race, isn't running as a Democrat any more.

Late last week he filed papers in the probate judge's office as a candidate of the 3rd Party For America, a right-wing group that has a few other candidates scattered around Alabama.

"I don't know anything about their platform," Dawson said this week. "All I wanted to do was to get my name back on the ticket." Why?

"To give the people a choice. Any time you vote, you need a choice," said Dawson, who received 453 votes in the primary, to nearly 3,000 each for Lucius D. Amerson and present Sheriff Harvey Sadler. Amerson beat Sadler in the runoff to become the Alabama Democratic Party's only Negro candidate for sheriff.

"I'm more qualified than Amerson," Dawson added. "I've been a special deputy. I can run the county better. I'll keep it from being isolated." He shifted his weight from one foot to the other, and leaned forward.

"If he's elected, we're gonna catch more hell than we have ever caught before," Dawson said. "We'll be 100 per cent cut off. The other sheriffs won't cooperate. Wallace will send the troops in."

Governor George C. Wallace hasn't said whether he plans to send troops into Macon County if Amerson is elected. But the sheriffs of three bordering counties—Lee, Bullock, and Russell—have said they will work with anyone the people of Macon County choose as their sheriff.

"Amerson made a race issue out of (CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO, Col. 4)



SEN. EDWARD M. KENNEDY

Shubuta March Ends In Scuffle and Arrests



CONFRONTATION IN SHUBUTA

BY GAIL FALK

SHUBUTA, Miss.--A small fleet of police cars circled around this dusty little one-street town where a part-time constable is usually the only law officer. At the center of the circle of cars last Saturday, 50 Clarke County Negroes and a few civil rights workers marched along, clapping and singing and chanting "black power."

It was the first civil rights demonstration ever in Shubuta, and local and county officials had on their best behavior.

The marchers followed Peter Blakeley, president of the Shubuta Black and Brave Coordinating Committee—a new young people's organization which called the march—along the red clay roads of the Negro quarter. Most people closed their doors when the march approached, but one man waved.

In front of the pink town hall, the demonstrators stopped while speakers

explained what the march was all about. Two weeks before, they said, a committee of colored citizens had presented the mayor and board of aldermen with a list of demands, including paved streets in Negro neighborhoods, Negro employees in all businesses and a bi-racial committee to plan for economic development in Shubuta.

The march was to protect the board's failure to act on these demands, and to announce a "blackout" of Shubuta business until the demands were met. But the march was also to announce that "we're not Old Black Joe now; we're New Black Joe. We're not going to hang our heads low any longer," George Smith Jr. of Meridian told the circle of white townspeople who were listening silently to the speeches.

"Blacks outnumber the whites two to one in Shubuta. We're going to pick our own candidates for office. The first shall be last and the last shall be first," said the Rev. J. C. Killingsworth of Enterprise. The final speaker, John Sumrall of Quitman, warned the white people that Clarke County Negroes do not believe in non-violence, "and if you come by night, you will find us waiting with guns."

Just then, a Mississippi state highway patrolman barked, "All right, you've talked long enough." About a dozen highway patrolmen who had encircled the rally closed in and began to beat the marchers back toward the Negro side of town.

Freedom school teacher Fred Mittleman snapped a photograph of one of the attacking patrolmen. "They were kicking people. It made me mad. I wanted to have a picture of that," he explained later.

The camera evidently made some patrolmen mad. "Cops started grabbing at the camera," said Mittleman. "I don't know how many, but they sure had a lot of arms."

Three highway patrolmen dragged Mittleman away from the retreating marchers. Two held him still, while a third beat him repeatedly with a heavy black cane. The patrolmen dragged Mittleman on his back part way to a patrol car, then let him walk to a doctor's office where he was treated for a scalp gash and arm and back abrasions.

Mittleman was put in the Clarke County Jail and charged later in the afternoon with public profanity and resisting arrest. He says his only words were, "Stop beating me," when he was being beaten, and "I can walk," when he was being dragged.

Another man was put in jail about the same time—Ray Hollingsworth, who was charged with public drunkenness. His bond was set at \$150. He was the man who waved at the marchers.

A Quilt for the Vice President

BY WAYNE HURDER

CAMDEN--Rain tried to ruin a folk art festival here Saturday, but it only chased the people away for a while.

When the sun came back out, so did the people. Mothers walked around in groups, admiring each other's home-made quilts and looking at pottery, while men talked and children played baseball.

The festival at Bessie Munden Playground was held by the Freedom Quilting

Bee, in order to show off the quilts made by its members.

About 70 colorful quilts were hung out, including one that will be given to Vice President Hubert Humphrey. Prizes were given to the makers of the ten best quilts. The Freedom Quilting Bee bought 37 of the quilts.

The Freedom Quilting Bee is a handicraft co-operative. It buys quilts made by its members for \$10 to \$13, and sells them up North. It also sells a few white

oak baskets and pottery.

The quilt for the Vice President has four big donkeys sewn on it. (The donkey is the symbol for the Democratic Party.) Mrs. Mattie del Matthews of Camden made it for her church missionary society, but she agreed to sell it to the co-op to be given to Humphrey.

The Rev. Francis X. Walter, founder of the co-operative, got the idea of giving a quilt to the Vice President after having dinner with Humphrey's press secretary.

At the festival, a co-op committee decided which quilts to buy and send to the Quilting Bee's agent, who is in charge of selling them up North.

They picked the quilts on the basis of how well the pieces were sewn together, whether the corners met, and if the hem was even all along. The most important thing is the sewing, they said.

Mrs. Lois Deslonde, from New Orleans, La., is working with the co-op.

'NO BATHROOM'

MONTGOMERY -- Forty Negro high school students from the Birmingham area took a trip to the capital recently. On a tour of the Capitol building, one boy in the group—

which attends special summer classes at Miles College in Fairfield—asked a guard where a bathroom was.

"We don't have any bathrooms," the guard replied. "We have toilets," he added, "but they're not for your kind."



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THE SOUTHERN COURIER

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Editorial Opinion

Maybe It's Hopeless

The events of the past few days have made it less likely than ever that the goals of the civil rights movement will be obtained by peaceful means. The animals in Chicago who pelted the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. with rocks and obscenities, and the buffoons in Congress who mangled the 1966 civil rights bill, were all saying the same thing: as far as they are concerned, Negroes are still "niggers."

The incident in Chicago--which demonstrated once again that Northern whites can be as full of hate as the meanest, most vicious Southern sheriff--was bad enough. But what went on in the U. S. House of Representatives this week was a national disgrace.

First, the legislators all but destroyed the most important section of the civil rights bill, the "openhousing" section, by making sure it would not apply to any building a Negro family was likely to move into. Then, bit by bit, they set about wrecking the rest of the bill, even adding an amendment that might weaken or kill the new school desegregation guidelines.

And where was President Johnson--that great master at getting laws through Congress? Where was he while his civil rights bill--which would have "given" Negro citizens rights they should have had long ago--was being turned into "an anti-civil rights bill"? Well, the President had a lot of other things on his mind.

And all the while, white people are tearing their hair about "black power," and telling Negroes they must work peacefully for equality. The white folks had better wise up.

What Do YOU Think?

It seems obvious that many people like to read The Southern Courier. According to recent circulation figures, nearly 100,000 people now read the paper every week--a gain of 25,000 since the summer began. The Southern Courier is pleased to have so many new readers.

But a newspaper should be more than something you just read and put aside. A good newspaper--which the Courier is trying to be--should be a real part of people's lives. People should write letters to their paper--whether to praise it, criticize it, or ask it for help. People should respond to questions their paper asks, and patronize its advertisers. Otherwise--if people just read the paper and nothing more--there is no real relationship between the paper and the community.

So the Courier is asking its readers to help make it a better paper. No one who works for this paper thinks it is perfect, or even close. But unless someone tells us about our mistakes, we will probably keep on making them. Unless people tell us what kind of information they need, it may take weeks or months before we provide it.

A newspaper is only as good as its readers want it to be. The Courier needs your advice and help.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

This is to inform you that the "Roots Day" programs including the Afro-american folkloric troupe and Makeda Myoriba was sponsored by the AFRO-AMERICAN CULTURAL PROGRAM as benefits for local movements.

Further your blatant dishonesty in regard to the number of people in Lowndes attending the performance simply re-inforces our basic distrust of the "white press." The paid admission was over \$390.00 at 50¢ for adults and 25¢ for children, this alone attests to the use of your 400 figure as completely false, since by the paid admission alone, it is over 800. Black people have an expensive lesson to learn...

If that article and those photographs are the products of a supposedly "good" unbiased newspaper, then it becomes clear that "Our" sense of pride, and respect for whatever it is that we do should in no way be contaminated by what you call a newspaper. WE EXPECT AN IMMEDIATE RETRACTION OF THE REFERENCE TO SNCC SPONSORING THE PROGRAM. . . .

Tina Harris

For the Afro-American Cultural Program

To the Editor:

I am happy to advise you that the payment vouchers for the ECHO program of the Jefferson County Committee for Economic Opportunity and Miles Col-

lege were mailed today from Washington, according to the Congressional Affairs section of the Office of Economic Opportunity. We received a call to that effect this morning. I tried several times today to reach you and give you this news by phone but could never get a clear line on our over-crowded WATS system.

After you called about these overdue vouchers July 26, we here in the regional office of public affairs/congressional affairs worked hard to expedite the funding of this very deserving program. So we are especially gratified that the vouchers are now in the mail.

Gainer E. Bryan, Jr.,
Deputy Director
Public Affairs and
Congressional Affairs
Southeast Regional Office
Office of Economic Opportunity
Atlanta, Ga.

MERIDIAN POVERTY

MERIDIAN, Miss.--John Dean of the federal Office of Economic Opportunity told 400 people in the Meridian Junior College auditorium Wednesday night that the 33-man anti-poverty board appointed last year by Mayor Al Key and the county board of supervisors could not be funded, because it did not measure up to OEO guidelines on community representation.

A new board will be elected at a meeting next Wednesday in the City Council chambers.

Court Extends ASCS Elections; Ballots Not Due Until Sept. 15

Bullock Choices

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

MIDWAY -- "We got more Negro farmers in Midway than anywhere else in Bullock County," said Wilton Thomas, local NAACP chairman. "If we can't elect these committeemen, we can't do nothing."

He unfolded a long piece of paper and put it on the table in front of him. "Yesterday you got a letter from our ASCS office," he said to the 20 men and two women in the room. "Get it out now and look at your ballot."

Everybody brought out a long piece of paper from the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS).

"You see 19 names on there," said Thomas. "Fourteen Negroes and five whites. Only five men will be elected to our committee in this community."

"They get together and decide, 'Am I gonna let that farmer have that crop?' You know how they been deciding which farmer gets the crop. It's time we put Negroes on that committee. We got to pool our votes and get ourselves in the political power structure."

He tapped the ballot with his finger. "We sent in five Negro names," he said. "The rest of the Negroes were added by the peoples on the committee now. You know why they did that? They want us to scatter our votes all over."

Thomas said he didn't think much of some of the Negro candidates nominated by the white committee:

"Somebody whose name was put in by the whites said yesterday it just showed how much the whites think of him. Another told me he didn't see but three Negroes on the list he'd vote for. Another said there was none."

"Another who was approached by the white man said he wouldn't serve on the committee because no Negro is qualified," Thomas looked around the room. "How many of you want Negroes on that committee?" he asked.

"I sure would," said one of the ladies. There were murmurs of agreement. But a few people looked doubtful--including some of the "candidates" nominated by the committee.

"The pot can't talk to the kettle," said Benton Nobles, one of the Negroes nominated by the white ASCS committee members. "I just don't have the education."

"I couldn't carry on two jobs," said Moland Hall, another Negro nominated by the white committee. "It might call for too many days of work and interrupt my farming."

Woman in Police Case Convicted of Assault

BY MIKE STEWARD

HUNTSVILLE -- Last month, Miss Mary Brandon, a 25-year-old Negro woman from nearby Gurley, said a Madison County sheriff's deputy grabbed and slapped her when the deputy and a Gurley policeman came to arrest her brother.

Last Friday, on the testimony of the deputy and the policeman, Miss Brandon was convicted of assault and battery, and fined \$25.

(On the day before the trial, the deputy, John Harris, had been fired for drinking, according to Madison County Sheriff L. D. Wall.)

Harris testified last Friday that Miss Brandon tried to keep him and Gurley policeman Kermit Miles from arresting her brother for robbery. Harris said that when he refused to tell Miss Brandon why they were arresting her brother, she called the officers "lousy bastards" and "white trash." Then, he said, she walked out of her yard into the street, and slapped him "four or five" times on the side of the head.

Harris testified that the only physical contact he made with Miss Brandon before she slapped him was to take her by the arm. He said he didn't curse her.

Under cross-examination, by Miss Brandon's lawyer, Earl E. Cloud, Harris admitted he wasn't wearing a uniform, badge, police cap, or any other mark of identification when he went to her house. He said he had on a white T-shirt and khaki pants and was carrying his gun. He also conceded that he never told Miss Brandon or anyone else that he was a deputy.

According to the testimony, Miles was wearing his uniform at the time and they both arrived in Miles' police car. On the witness stand, Miles backed up Harris' testimony.

Miss Brandon and four other defense witnesses--all Negroes--told a different story.

They testified that when Harris first refused to tell Miss Brandon why her brother was being arrested, she repeated the question. Then, they said, Harris waved his finger in her face and told her to "get your damned ass back in the house or I'll take you in, too."

Then, they said, Harris grabbed Miss



BULLOCK FARMERS PLAN FOR ASCS ELECTION

The only other committee nominee at the meeting, Milton Cobb, said he would be willing to vote for the five Negroes whose names were put on the ASCS ballot by Midway's Negro leaders.

The five were Thomas, Robert Daniel, Charlie Johnson, Benjamin Jordan, and Marlon L. Penn.

The group decided to mark their bal-

lots while they had the recommendations fresh in their minds. When they finished, Thomas said, "Everyone you can influence, let them know how we went. Don't let the whites or the big shot Negroes do it."

"They don't farm. We can't do nothing but farm, farm till we die. Let's get together and make it a good thing."

Dawson vs. Amerson

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

this thing," said Dawson, who ignored white voters to appeal to Negroes in the primary campaign. "There was a lot of tension. Every speech Amerson made, he took advantage of it."

This time, Dawson said, he wants all the votes he can get. "I'm desperate," he explained. But he denied rumors that the county's white segregationists may finance his campaign. "Nobody's offered me any money yet," he said. "I hope they will, but I won't cater to any person or organization."

Dawson also denied reports that he had asked Amerson for the job of chief deputy. "Mr. Amerson asked me on several occasions, but I said the price wasn't right," Dawson claimed.

Dawson's opponent had a different version. "Mr. Dawson came to me several times wanting a firm commitment on being my chief deputy," Amerson said. "I hesitated to consider him because he had indicated his desire to get rich off the people of Macon County. Law enforcement officers should be more interested in law enforcement than in money."

Amerson also said he thinks Dawson is breaking the law. "He signed a loyalty oath to the Democratic Party when he ran in May. Now he's mad with the party because he didn't get the nomination. He's not loyal to the Democratic Party or himself--he can't be loyal to the people."

One of Macon County's leading white citizens had a similar reaction. Probate Judge Preston Hornsby said about Dawson, "I haven't heard a soul say they'd support him. When he asked me, I said I was sworn to uphold the Democratic Party candidates and I will."

"I told our newly-elected sheriff I didn't think he had a worry in the world,"



Meridian, Miss.

More than 100 teachers and children from the Head Start centers in Meridian and Enterprise went on a picnic in Highland Park last Tuesday morning. Most of them had never been to Highland Park before, because Negroes usually go to Magnolia Park, another city park. Highland Park has more swings, more picnic benches, and more shade. Many teachers said they plan to come back often, now that they know how nice the park is.

Birmingham

The Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights, which has done a lot of picketing, now is being picketed itself. The Rev. Jack Graham says the Christian Movement is unfair because it won't help him get his job back on the Birmingham News. So every week he picks the group's Monday night meeting. Graham says he was fired when he refused to obey an order to see the company doctor after he was injured on the job. "I was afraid," he explained. "He wouldn't wait on me when I went to him earlier. I felt in myself like he might just have done something to me." An officer of the Christian Movement, the Rev. Edward Gardner, said Graham should have obeyed the order. "There's nothing we can do," Gardner said.

Tuskegee

Mrs. Laura B. McCray will leave for West Africa next week as a member of a bi-racial group working for international Christian understanding. She is one of 11 church women chosen by the United Church Women of the National Council of Churches to spend six weeks in Africa.

Russellville

Harlan Winston, a local farmer, might well be dead if it weren't for the efforts of his four-year-old son, Anthony. About two weeks ago, Winston was caught under his tractor after it overturned while he was cutting hay in his field. He was badly hurt and losing a lot of blood. His son came when Winston called for help, but little Anthony found he couldn't climb over the fence to go for a neighbor. So the boy ran two miles around the fence and through a gate, and got Andrew Tiggs, a neighbor, who drove Winston to the hospital. Win-

BY NELSON LICHTENSTEIN

WASHINGTON--A federal district court here has extended Alabama's ASCS community committee elections until Sept. 15.

Civil rights workers said postponement of the election deadline, previously set for next Tuesday, will give them time to organize, and to spread information about the elections to Negro farmers.

"The extension will allow us to combine the momentum and organization of the Nov. 8 election with that of the ASCS," said SNCC leader Stokely Carmichael, who attended the hearing here.

Twenty-nine Black Belt farmers traveled to Washington for the hearing, and two--Peter Agee and John Rice--testified that local all-white ASCS committees use fraud and intimidation to keep Negroes off the ballot. Agee and Rice are from Marengo and Greene counties, where both are candidates for ASCS community committees.

"I feel like the federal government is on our side," said Arthur Brown, an ASCS committee nominee from Dallas County, after the court announced its decision.

"I like Washington," he said. "I'm going to try to take some of the freedom here back home."

The court order extending the elections came as a result of a suit by SNCC, SCLC, and a number of Negro farmers, Donald Jelinek of the Lawyers Constitutional Defense Committee said he thought the presence of nearly 30 Black Belt farmers in the courtroom was the decisive factor in winning the extension.

"When the people come to Washington, the government listens," he said. In court, Jelinek charged that the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) has "totally failed" to educate farmers properly on how to take part in the elections.

After a day of sight-seeing through the nation's capital, the farmers and civil rights workers said, they will return to Alabama to begin an intensive campaign of voter education.

Huntsville

The Council Training School PTA sold \$1,500 worth of barbecue at their annual party held last weekend on the school grounds. Dr. L. W. Bonner, president of the PTA, said the money will be used to buy new playground equipment and new band uniforms.

Birmingham

Residents of Titusville, on the south side of Birmingham, got worried two months ago when they found out that someone wanted to build a \$30,000 paint store in their neighborhood. The man said he only wanted to sell paint, but residents figured he planned to make it there, too. They got together and began talking about fumes, explosions, and how to keep it all from happening. They hired a lawyer and trooped along behind him to three downtown hearings. The last one was Tuesday, when 50 of them watched and smiled as the City Council refused to let the man build the store. With one victory under its belt, the group has decided to stick together. It now calls itself the Titusville Civic League, and it is inviting home owners in a wide area around the South Side to join in other civic action projects.

Quitman, Miss.

While John Brown was down in Shubuta acting as marshal for the march there last Saturday, his wife Clara was having a baby. It's a boy.

Andalusia

The House of God Church of the Living God kicked off its fund-raising drive on Sunday with a sing by the Melotones, a quartet from Ft. Walton Beach, Fla. The church, whose pastor is W. J. Frost, made \$11 which will go toward building a new roof.

Selma

The Selma Free College Library reopened last month with a new librarian--Edward Kidd, a senior at Hudson High School. The 10,000-volume library was closed for almost a year because no librarian was available. Kidd will keep the library, on First Avenue, open from 1 to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.



A Trip of Discovery



BY JOHNNY DILL JR.

Johnny Dill Jr., 12, from Huntsville, is in the sixth grade at St. Joseph Mission School.

Our trip started at 7:30 a.m. Friday Morning. When we arrived in Chattanooga it was 9:30 a.m. The first thing we did was to ride the incline. There were so many of us that some of us had to stand up. We rode just half way up Lookout Mountain. Then we went to eat lunch.

After lunch we went to rock City. One of the things we saw was lover's leap. You could see seven states from on top of lover's leap. It was a great thrill to walk across the Swing-Along Bridge. We saw many more beautiful sights in rock City.

After seeing all the Beautiful things in Rock City, We visited another Interesting place, Ruby Falls.

Ruby Falls is 145 feet high and 1,120 feet underground. Ruby Falls is An Amazing Geological Discovery.

We even seen Andrew Jackson name which was a 100 years old.

For most of us it was the best time in our life.

BY JACQUILINE KING

Jacqueline King, a 10-year-old Huntsville girl, is a fifth-grade student at Council Training School.

We left Huntville at 7:30. On the way to Chattanooga we saw trees and rivers. It took 3 hours to get there.

After we was there we went to lookout Mountain. At lookout mountain we read a incline Railway. After the ride we went to rock city.

At Rock City we went to Lover's Leap. It very high and we saw water Fall and Deer Park. Then we went to eat lunch.

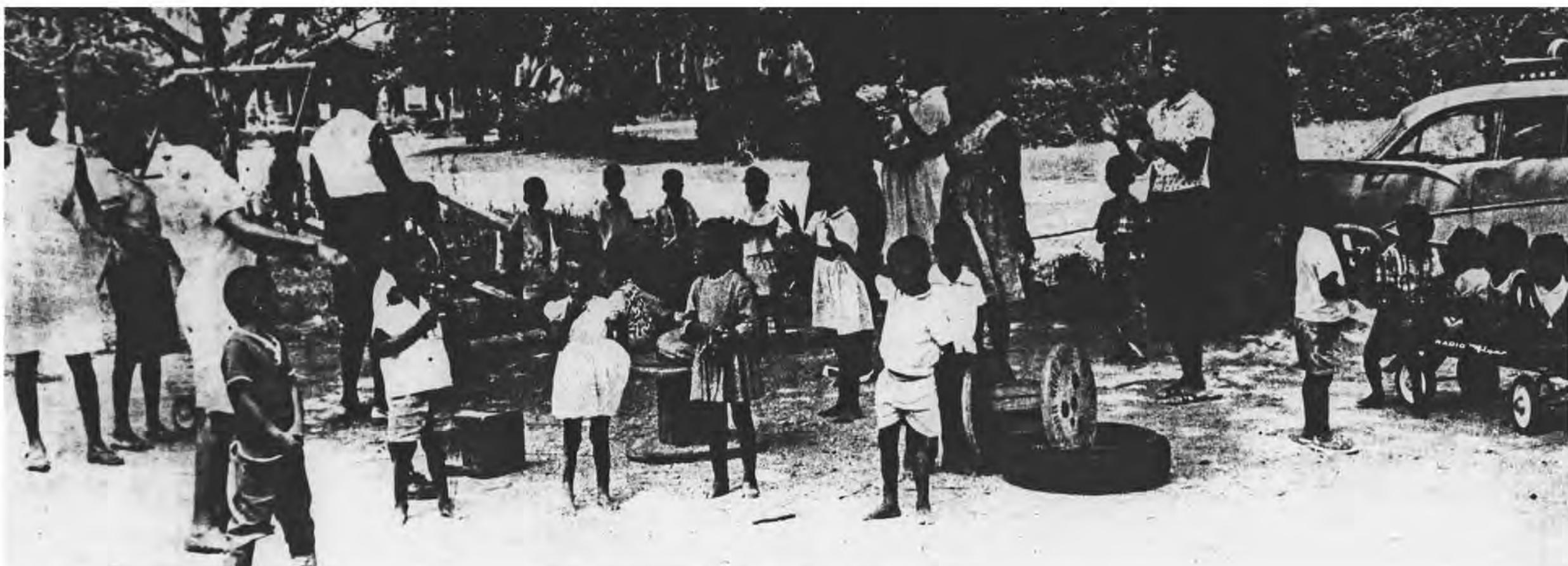
Then we went to ruby falls in a cave. It was 1,120 feet underground and it was very cold.

(ED. NOTE--This is the story of a Project Discovery trip from Huntsville to Chattanooga, told by the children who went.)



Photographs by Jim Pepler





GETTING A HEAD START IN CLARKE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

'It's Given the Adults a Head Start, Too'

Child Development Group in Mississippi Fights for Its Life Against Politicians

BY GAIL FALK

STALLO, Miss.--A group of fathers got together in this little community north of Philadelphia to plan a wading pool for their children. At the end of the meeting, they arranged for the armed defense of their homes.

The group, mostly parents of Head Start children, talked about pouring the pool the next Saturday morning. A carpenter figured out how many blocks and bags of cement were needed. One man thought he could get some pipe where he worked; someone else offered his pick-up truck to haul the materials.

Then a collection was taken up from the 40 parents and community members to pay for most of the supplies. And many people promised to come Saturday morning to share in the labor.

But before the meeting was over, the men also made arrangements to keep up a nightly guard at the home of Head Start committeeman Joe Lyons. The Klan has threatened to bomb Lyons' house.

Many other Mississippi Head Start centers have experienced violence or threats of violence. The Bolton center in Hinds County was burned. Tomatoes were thrown at the home of Shubuta Head Start chairman Mrs. Allie H. Jones. And the Klan told a white teacher in Duck Hill she'd better give up her job.

In recent weeks Head Start has faced another, quieter but more dangerous attack. CDGM (Child Development Group of Mississippi--the state-wide Head Start organization set up and run by Negroes) received \$5.6 million last February to operate for six months. The grant will run out at the end of this month. And many influential politicians--especially Senators James O. Eastland and John Stennis and Governor Paul B. Johnson--are trying their best to keep CDGM from getting any more money.

It's not what Head Start does for the children that makes enemies for the program. CDGM has given 12,000 four-year-olds full stomachs, doctor's examinations, and wholesome games.

The hot lunch and snack every day have started to put flesh on hard little legs. Medical and dental exams have turned up treatable medical problems, from anemia and hookworm to developing blindness, in nearly every child.

"You're not allowed to whip a child in CDGM" is a standing rule of the program. Each child gets plenty of attention because there are two trainee teachers for every 15 or 20 children. The teachers will tell you how bashful and tearful the children were at first. They aren't that way any more.

It's what CDGM does for the adults that brings bitter attack on the program. As Mrs. Garlee Johnson of Quitman said, "It's given the adults a head start too."

CDGM has given jobs paying at least



DR. ROBERT KORNEGAY EXAMINES CHILDREN'S TEETH

\$1.25 an hour to 2,400 people, mostly Negroes, many of whom were unemployed or making as little as \$1 a day before. CDGM leaves the hiring up to the community committees but tells them poor people should be hired if they can do the job.

When Negro people control the hiring, the hat-in-hand Negro is no longer first in line for a job. It's a turnabout from what usually happens in Mississippi to hear Mrs. Johnson tell her teachers in Clarke County, "Anyone who has not registered to vote tomorrow will not have a job tomorrow."

Some committees give preference to people unable to get a job because of work with the movement. In Stallio the first jobs went to people out of work because their children were in integrated schools. Mrs. Enotra Clark, whose house was shot full of 37 bullets last fall after her daughter entered Meridian High School, is a resource teacher in Meridian. She has enough money to buy clothes and school supplies for her children for the first time in many months.

CDGM leaders agree with the Meridian teacher who said, "I've raised white folks' children, and I've raised my own children. I don't need any of your fancy degrees to tell me what children need." But CDGM is giving many poor people practical training so they can run the program better.

Resource teachers take turns at eight-week training courses on a college campus. Workshops at Tougaloo College have taught trainee teachers new songs, games, and arts and crafts ideas.

CDGM is also giving business training to many Negroes. Last summer's

CDGM was attacked because it failed to account for all the money it had been given. "We didn't know how to handle so much money because we never had such a large amount of money," said area staff member Bobby Foster. This spring and summer the secretaries have been closely supervised and instructed in writing checks and keeping accounts.

And, finally, CDGM is giving Mississippi Negroes a chance to be in charge of things. "Let us have a couple of years of experience in running our own program," said area administrator C. H. Holloway. "Then we can go under a CAP program because we'll know how to bargain for what we want." (Under the anti-poverty campaign rules, a Community Action Program (CAP) must involve local government. In Mississippi, that means local whites who have not shown much interest in helping Negroes.)

Most important, CDGM is showing Negro communities what they can do if they get together. In Stallio the Klan isn't worried about Head Start children getting a wading pool. It's worried that parents who discover they can work together to build a wading pool will discover they can work together in a political campaign as well.

And it's already happening. In Shubuta Negroes had never cooperated on anything but church programs. This spring they discovered that poor black people working together could run a better program for their children than the white school officials ever had. Now the same people are making plans for a cooperative grocery store. They've also presented a long list of demands to the mayor and board of aldermen,

CDGM for many people is an example of what black power is all about--black people are learning that their own projects can come out better than anything they ever waited for the white man to do.

White Mississippi politicians are bitterly opposed to CDGM. They have set the State Sovereignty Commission to work collecting stacks of evidence that CDGM has misused funds again.

Senator Stennis has sent his Senate Appropriations Investigating Committee in to examine Head Start accounts. The Government Auditing Office has taken a month to look over the books. And the federal Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) sent out its own team of investigators last month to see whether the program followed its guidelines.

The results of these studies have not yet been made public. They are expected during the next month when the decision on refunding CDGM will be in progress.

But CDGM knows the charges it will face. Atlanta OEO sent CDGM a questionnaire because of "literally dozens and dozens of complaints" about the Head Start program. The questions were about overcrowding, inadequate management, and civil rights activities.

The teachers admit overcrowding is a problem. Most classes that are supposed to have 15 children have 20 to 25. "When we first started door-to-door canvassing about the program, people said, 'Get away with that civil rights.' But after we started and they found it was really free, everyone wanted their children to go," explained Mrs. Clark in Meridian.

CDGM also agrees that its management has been inadequate. Two weeks ago petitions asking for the continuation

of CDGM reached the area offices on Friday with a note saying they should be back in Jackson full of signatures by Monday. Someone had just realized that an OEO official was coming. Few of the petitions were returned because the time was so short, and CDGM missed an opportunity.

Children in Hollandale had nothing but mashed potatoes for lunch for a few days because the project got behind on its food account. "That wouldn't happen," said CDGM director John Mudd, "if we had someone skilled at calculations, someone who could pull together information so we'd have a better idea of what is going on in the field."

CDGM has been trying to recruit poor people and Mississippi Negroes for the management posts, but they've found few people with the skills or experience. Now they are looking to big Northern corporations and management consulting firms for experts to fill the gap. CDGM's proposal for next year includes plans for a management training program.

The biggest controversy is over CDGM's connection with the civil rights movement. Critics say the link is too close. But what "too close" means for a program of Mississippi Negroes is not always clear.

People at a community meeting at St. Paul's Methodist Church in Meridian were discussing plans to take the children to the park when someone said, "I would like to know what park are we talking about." Would it be civil rights activity if the children were taken to the white park?

And was it civil rights or just good citizenship when 24 Clarke County teachers were loaded into cars and taken down to register to vote?

CDGM has been accused of using its funds and hiring power to support civil

rights, and of carrying civil rights workers in its cars. In many cases the charges may be true for civil rights workers helped start several programs and are considered friends of the group.

CDGM has requested \$41 million to pay for 30,000 children in 255 centers in 44 counties next year. But OEO officials say a proposal that large couldn't get through Congress for any Head Start program in Mississippi, let alone CDGM's.

Many people think that even a modest proposal can't get approval until after the November election because President Johnson wants to win back Dixiecrat votes that were Republican two years ago.

Unofficially, OEO has said CDGM could get refunded for all its old centers in counties where there is no funded CAP board. But this would cut out at least ten of the present counties and leave out all the new centers that have been doing volunteer work.

CDGM's board of directors hasn't decided yet whether to accept this proposal as better than nothing or to hold out, as they did last fall, in hopes of getting more money.

Meanwhile, the money is running out. Next Friday is the date set for closing transportation and food budgets in the centers.

CDGM director Mudd says the centers will be able to continue until the second week of September because of a surplus in the treasury. The money is left over because most centers didn't get going last winter until three or four weeks after the beginning of their funding.

But after mid-September no one knows whether CDGM will be closing up for just a weekend, for several months, or for good.

A Center for St. Mary

BY GAIL FALK

ST. MARY, Miss.-- Since early spring, Jesse Allen has been driving his station wagon 55 miles each week-day to carry neighbors' children to the nearest Head Start center, in southern Clarke County.

This summer, Allen and some friends decided St. Mary community should have a Head Start center of its own. But they had no building for a nursery school.

Allen suggested that they build their own. He and his son William raised the money they needed, and drew up plans--although Allen says he'd never designed a building before.

The new center--St. Mary Community Center--will be a concrete-block building 60 feet long and 34 feet wide. It will have seven classrooms, a kitchen, a dining room, and an office. Men from the community have worked every Saturday for a month--first clearing land, then pouring the foundation, laying the blocks and putting in windows.

In the next few weeks a roof will be put on, the inside finished, and a deep well dug in back of the school.

Parents who have been staff members in the Shubuta center are ready to help get the program started. But unless the government changes its mind and agrees to fund new centers under CDGM, it may be a long time before the St. Mary Community Center gets the Head Start program it was built for.



JESSE ALLEN (IN DOORWAY) AND HIS BUILDING

Church Demonstrator Attacked on Highway

BY MARY ELLEN GALE

TUSKEGEE--"I remember one guy saying, 'This was the nigger who was at the church.' That's when the work began."

William Zeigler, leader of three peaceful demonstrations at the Tuskegee Methodist Church, was talking about what happened to him last Sunday night at the intersection of Highway 80 and Route 126.

"I was waiting on the traffic light when a white guy came up to my car. He said, 'Aren't you William Zeigler?' When I said yes, he said, 'I'm a CORE. I want to talk to you.'"

"I let the window down. He was fumbling at his face so all I could see was he wore a watch and two big rings. Then another guy jumped in the right-hand side and he jumped in the left. A car pulled up behind."

"There were three white men. They beat the hell out of me," said Zeigler, a slender, 27-year-old car sales representative.

"One of them kept repeating, 'Don't hit him in the face.' All the time they were hitting me in the stomach, he kept his hand over my face so I couldn't see who it was."

Zeigler drove his car back two miles to Tuskegee Institute, where friends took him to John Andrew Hospital. He was treated and released. Later, he talked to the Tuskegee police.

"He couldn't give us a thing in the world to go on for identification," said Alton B. Taylor, Tuskegee public safety director. "But we're taking it from there. We want to find those fellows. We don't like for things like this to happen."

The victim didn't like it either. "The little money I did have was gone, but I don't think the motive was robbery," said Zeigler, who led three orderly--and unsuccessful--attempts to desegregate the Methodist Church the last three Sundays in July.

"If they can raise hell, so can we,"



WILLIAM ZEIGLER

he said bitterly. "If they think banging someone around is gonna stop anything, they're wrong. They killed Sammy and it didn't stop nothing."

Samuel L. Younge Jr., a Tuskegee Institute student who led desegregation attempts at the Methodist Church last summer, was shot to death Jan. 3 in downtown Tuskegee.

Star-Less Mobile Beats All-Stars

BY DAVID R. UNDERHILL

MOBILE--The Southern League's mystifying Mobile Athletics have many things in common with their parent club, the Kansas City Athletics of the American League.

Neither team can hit or pitch, and neither team is filling up the record books with its fielding and base-running.

The main difference between the two comes in their standings. This year, as usual, Kansas City is fighting to stay out of the American League cellar. But Mobile's A's have led the Southern League for almost two months now. The leading team at the end of July

hosts the league's annual All-Star Game, so Monday night at Hartwell Field, Mobile took on a squad of stars from the other seven clubs in the league.

The A's didn't out-hit, out-pitch, out-field, or out-run the All-Stars, but they beat them 6 to 1.

Mobile's seventh inning at bat is a good example of how the A's did it. All-Star pitcher Dock Ellis of Asheville struck out the side, but between the second and third whiffs:

Mobile second baseman Jim Driscoll hit a grounder that slipped into right field for a single. First baseman Randy Schwartz coaxed a walk out of Ellis. And then Driscoll scored from second

when catcher Rene Lachemann popped a fly that hit the ground in short center with four fielders closing in on it like a collapsing house.

The fans roared. They'd rather see their team barely get by than play solid ball. They cheered Don Yingling's fine relief pitching and third baseman Sal Bando's three straight hits, including an out-of-sight homer. But many of them cheered while peeking over their shoulders at Kansas City owner Charles Finley, who was in the stands.

Any Mobile player who starts to look

good may be snapped up by Kansas City the next day--or the same night.

During the game, the public address announcer broke in with some news about ex-Mobile pitcher Jim Nash. Earlier in the season, Nash had made Southern League batters look like windmills in a hurricane. Then he disappeared. The news was that he had just won his sixth straight game for Kansas City. That got the game's biggest cheer.

HUNTSVILLE DENTISTS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

not. It's just something that needs to be done. I make a pretty good living, and I feel it's my duty as a professional man to help someone who needs help."

Last year, four members of the dental society examined the Head Start children for free. This year the dentists would have gotten \$5 for each examination. But Strother said the examinations weren't really useful. "We know they almost all need care."

However, Cashin said only about 50 of the children examined needed a lot of treatment.

Strother said he doesn't believe most

poor people want healthy teeth. "Any-one," he said, "can afford good dental treatment, if they are willing to not afford other things." By "other things," he said, he meant TV sets and big cars.

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Do you need a baby-sitter? Want to rent an apartment? Need a certain kind of tool or electrical appliance? Want to announce a church dinner or a dance? You, too, should put an ad in the Courier's classified section. If it's in The Southern Courier, people in your community are sure to see it! For \$1, you can take up to 30 words to describe what you want to buy or sell, and how you can be reached.

Send your ad, along with \$1, to The Southern Courier, 622 Frank Leu Building, Montgomery, Ala. 36104. We must receive the ad by 5 p.m. Friday--one week before the paper comes out. Be sure to include your phone number or your address, so people who see your ad can get in touch with you.

Special Offer!

To begin its classified section, The Southern Courier is printing the first 50 ads it receives each week for FREE. The \$1 payment will not be necessary while this offer lasts.

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GROUPS, CLUBS, CHURCHES--Do you want to make money? Do you have bills to pay or things to buy? Hold a subscription drive for The Southern Courier, and earn up to \$50 with little trouble. Sell subscriptions to the Courier in your neighborhood or church, and get a big commission on each one you sell. Contact The Southern Courier and we will supply you with all necessary information and equipment.

SKY DIVERS--Four sport parachutes for sale, never been used, perfect condition. Various colors. Call 595-2343 in Birmingham, afternoons and evenings.

HOUSE FOR SALE--House with many trees high on hill. View of city. 10 min. to downtown. Key Circle area. 2-4 bdr., frame, fireplace, den, workshop in basm't, patio with BBQ, large attic, many closets. Immediate possession. \$11,300 FHA. Call 252-3736 in Birmingham.

BAHA'I WORLD FAITH--The Baha'is of Montgomery will have a public fireside discussion of the subject, "Could One God Send Conflicting Religions?" This meeting will be at the home of Marion and Ralph Featherstone, 3222 Santee Drive, on Monday, Aug. 15, at 8 p.m. All are welcome, no collections or obligations.

MEN'S DAY--The First CME Church observes Men's Day on Sunday, Aug. 14, at 11 a.m. The Rev. Jesse Douglas is the minister. Dr. J. Garrick Hardy will be the speaker; W. C. Allman is chairman. The public is cordially invited.

EARN MONEY--Would you like to sell The Southern Courier? Earn good pay for short hours. We need distributors in Headland, Hartford, and Ozark. Write to Ellen Lake, 902 North 3-Notch St., Troy, Ala., or call 566-1325 in Troy.

ATTENTION MAIDS of Madison County--If your pay is too low, if the hours are too long, the meeting on Monday, Aug. 15, is for you. You can do something. Don't miss the meeting to learn what. First Baptist Church, Church Street, in Huntsville, 7:30 p.m.

WE NEED tables, chairs, and books for the new Community Center on Ardmore Highway in Indian Creek. Help the Community Center by giving items which you don't need. Call Arthur Jacobs Jr., 752-4989, in Huntsville.

APARTMENT FOR RENT starting Sept. 1. Share a six-room house in convenient Huntsville location. Low rent. Close to HIC building and A & M. 2813 North Meridian Street, next to Blevins Market. Call Phil Reynolds, 539-2039 in Huntsville.

RIDE OFFERED from Huntsville to Washington, D.C. or Philadelphia, Pa. Leaving Huntsville Monday, Aug. 15, \$10. Call Phil Sayre, 539-2039 in Huntsville.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT--Mr. Samuel C. Jackson, a member of the President's Equal Employment Opportunities Commission, will be speaking to the Montgomery community on Monday, Aug. 15, at 7:30 p.m. in the Holt St. Baptist Church, 903 S. Holt. There will be a question-and-answer period. Sponsored by Montgomery Improvement Association.

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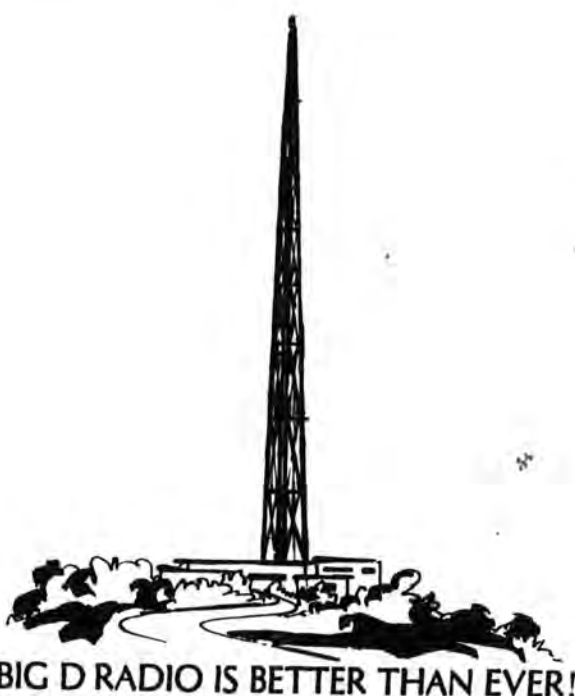
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CR Heads Feud Over Wedding

WASHINGTON--In all the excitement surrounding the wedding of Luci Baines Johnson (President's daughter) and Patrick J. Buchanan, not much was heard about two telegrams exchanged by some of the country's top civil rights leaders.

The first telegram was sent to Stokely Carmichael of SNCC, and was signed by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., of SCLC, Roy Wilkins of the NAACP, Whitney M. Young Jr. of the National Urban League, and A. Philip Randolph of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. According to the NAACP, the telegram was trying to head off Carmichael's "reported plans to lead a protest in connection with the wedding."

"...We believe such a protest (against the Viet Nam war), making due allowance for the sincere anti-war beliefs of many of the participants, is in extremely poor taste... We believe every young woman, including the daughters and sisters of demonstrators, is entitled to the private happiness that accompanies her wedding day. We believe... the young woman and her groom who will be subjected to embarrassment are in no way responsible for the Viet Nam

war..."

The telegram asked Carmichael "to withdraw from participation."



KING



CARMICHAEL

The next day, the SNCC Central Committee sent a telegram back to Dr. King, Wilkins, Young, and Randolph. It said: "Gentlemen, we believe it took some nerve in sending that telegram. You have displayed more backbone in defending Luci than you have shown for the millions of black people being brutalized every day in the United States. You displayed more backbone in defending Luci than you have shown for the colored people of Viet Nam being napalmed by Luci's father."

"You have shown more backbone in defending Luci than you have shown for

our black soldiers being exterminated in Viet Nam today. You have displayed more backbone in defending Luci and Pat than you have shown for our black brothers engaged in acts of rebellion in our cities... (We) suggest that you check your facts as to what action SNCC is going to take... Yours for black pow-

er."

There was a small demonstration at the wedding last Saturday, but a SNCC spokesman said SNCC had nothing to do with it.

In fact, said the SNCC spokesman, "SNCC never had any plans to picket the wedding."

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- | | |
|---|--|
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Little Milton (Checker) |
| 2. OPEN THE DOOR TO YOUR
HEART--Darrell Banks (Revlon) | 9. WITHOUT A LOVE--
Jackie Day (Modern) |
| 3. I BELIEVE I'M GONNA MAKE
IT--Joe Tex (Dial) | 10. SEARCHIN FOR MY LOVE--
Bobby Moore (Checker) |
| 4. THAT'S ENOUGH--
Rosco Robinson (Wand) | 11. HOW SWEET IT IS--
Jr. Walker (Soul) |
| 5. BLOWIN' IN THE WIND--
Stevie Wonder (Tamla) | 12. B-A-B-Y--
Carla Thomas (Stax) |
| 6. WARM AND TENDER LOVE--
Percy Sledge (Atlantic) | 13. YOU CAN'T HURRY LOVE--
Supremes (Motown) |
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BABY--Johnny Taylor (Stax) | 14. WADE IN THE WATER--
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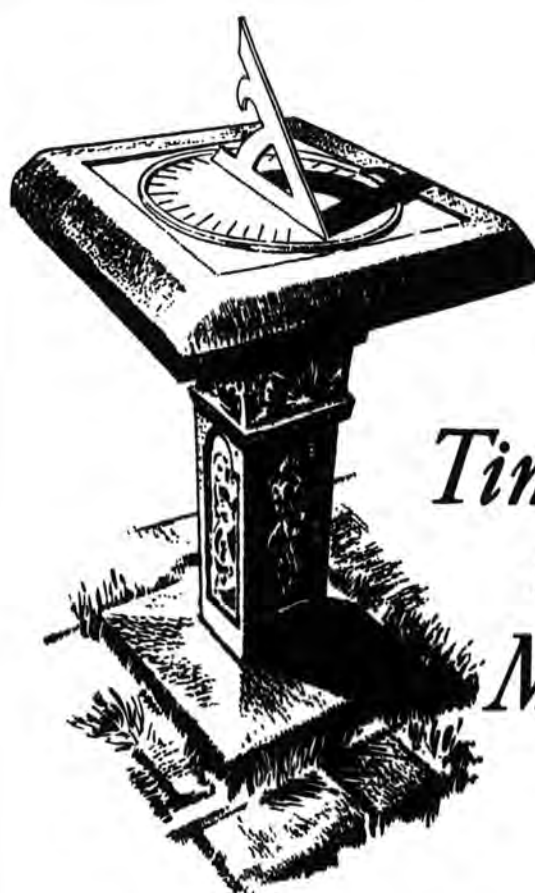
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