

Lynch St., Jackson, Mississippi  
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Reported by  
Charlie Cobb

Of the 24,081 people living in Tallahatchie County, 15,501 of them are Negroes. None of these Negroes are registered to vote. Of the 6,872 homes in that county, 4,846 of them have no flush toilets; 4,935 of them have no tubs or showers; and 4,051 of them have no piped water. 38.5% of the Negro babies born in Tallahatchie County die within their first year. Less than 4% of the farms control more than 40% of the farm land. The median income per person is \$451. 2800 persons received government surplus feed in the county in December.

On his farm near Tippe, Miss., Mr. Carter said, "Lots of 'em haven't had anything to do since they came out of the field." His wife joined in with, "White folks used to carry them through the winter time, but they done cut that out now." Further on down the road, another farmer told us, "No work, no factories, some of them get a little check--most get nothing." We heard of eighteen families asked to leave the Breeks Plantation in nearby Leflore County--"Some cleared no more than \$20"---"Some owing \$50"---the crop was good, "Just didn't need em, used machines now." Everywhere, there was a picture of poverty, and we talked of issuing food and clothing right in the county, and listened to what people said about it: "Mr. Charlie can do what he wants to do---if Negroes are hungry and nikkid, an' mad tee, they're gonna get their feed and clothes."