

MS

504 S. Madison
Albany, Ga
February 9

Bonjour,

I don't feel frenchy; it's been raining all day long and things are going sour again. I thought it was too real to be true when we began eating three meals a day and sometimes we got the nerve to get an ice cream bed time 2-4 1'clock snack. Man, we were living. But now the green stuff has trickled out and we have only our stack of canned food and gas money left. We haven't paid on Carolyn's car in two months. Her telephone bill is overdue, the gas and water bill is over, all in Terrell. Our gas, light and rent in Albany is due and the station wagon is out of order, a small matter of carburetor, rebuilt battery and busted piston ring. Just use your imagination. But we can't let this dget us down, after all problems are made to be solved, not created. The rain just moves me!

Joanne Grant and Victor Rabinowitz were through here the other day. They went to visit Terrell and Lee and so met Mrs. Daniels and Mama Dollie and also Cousin Pinkie on the road to Agnew James'.

I guess you heard that Agnew James was being boycotted. The other day, an oil company worker came with a truck and took his gas tank out of the ground, saying somebody else had applied for it. Mama Dollie is also catching it. Her gas man told her a tank would cost \$30, gas for it \$40 and tax would also have to be paid. Also, a man named Forrester (maybe the Sheriff's kin folk?) along with Robert E. Lee, the Mayor of Leesburg, asked Mama if she were ready to sell the farm yet. They added that if she planned to rent out the farm and leave, she would have to draw up some more papers. If you remember, this summer the Cook family were really making it hard for Mama; keeping their phone off the hook, digging deep holes in the road, threatening her, and harrasssing our girls working their -- once the Cook boys followed them by car some distance down the road and there was an exchange of words.

Anyway, a couple of days ago, Mama said that Old man Cook told her he was puttjg down the war axe in so many words. He was concerned for their long friendship as neighbors. Mama had been looking for that bulldozing sow who is always leaping over and through our best barbed wire fences. Ole Man Cook told her that the sow might be in the "corner" -- his back field where the corn grew last year. He had told her before "never to set foot on my place again." So, maybe this eill be the way of the whole outh. I guess you also know that Mr. Wiggins was kicked off his farm in Lee. CB is trying to get damages; the land is lost because a white lawyer, Taxi Smith of Albany, didn't do aw much as he could have; it is reported.

In Sumter we have another provoking development. Some insurance company is beginning to boycott people. Big Lem and Ed Wright told of their plight, on Sat. night in Lee. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards in Terrell are also victims of this boycott; they can't buy gas. We don't know how wide-spread it is -- Mays family is also a victim. We are trying to verify this with statistics and affidavits. We are really hurting f or people right now.

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Chatfield is in Maxs. for 4 weeks; Rubin is in Phila. for 2 weeks; and John O'Neal must go home for his Grandmother's burial, etc; leaving Faith, Chico, Churchville, and me with Eddie Brown and others in Albany.

We are anxiously awaiting the arrival of Patricia, Joyce and Ralph. We are expecting them for the Mississippi Congerence the weekend of the 20th. Oh--yeah, Ralph's gas eater was parked across the street from us where a car ran into it. We have had calls from the insurance adjuster. Maybe, this is a break. Call him Ralph --- the only thing wrong with the car was the battery. --- name CB as your legal agent and get your tail down here fast. The name of the man to contact is Russell Benefield, the insurance adjuster, whose phone numbers are: home -- HE 5-5328; office -- He 6-3376. The guy who hit the car was Clyde Person's son of 901 S. Madison Street.

Love to you.

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Thanks to Penny and Shai -- for stamps. Carl and Anne Braden sent us some desperately needed mimeo paper. Those foldks are sending you the newsletter this week. Without more contributions, especially stamps, the r... .. the c... .. to us

14 people went before the board of registrars in Terrell and passed. Also, in Terrell, about a thousand people attended ground breaking ceremonies on Sunday, Feb 3, at the sites of the burned churches. I Hope Baptist Church, by the way, was rebuilt by the whites of Dawson. According to the pastor, it is a slipshod job. The congregation voted over EVERYTHING to the whites, including insurance policy. The white have made a policy of nothing but religious meeting in I Hope. In Dawson, a city ordinance was passed which prohibits parading or marching for a cause, probably with an eye to Albany last year. By the way, the defense lawyer in the D. E. Short case was a City Commissioner of Dawson, R. R. Jones. In Terrell, Superintendent of Schools, Frank Christie, ran over a Negro child and kept on going. The child died.

In Iwe, Agnew James is suffering severe boycott, as Sherrod says. The court cawes have lowered spirit donsiderably. However, Mrs. Macks is willing to go back to the plantation and canvass, if someone will go with her. She told me that ~~xxx~~ singing is fine, but she wants to see something done.

Eddie Brown says if he had some money he could get "Nettie Bell", his car, out of the shop and set into the business of getting people down to register with real "vigor and determination."

The three officers in the Brazier case were "absolved of all guilt" by a lily white jury. Brazier was murdered in the Terrell jail in '58. People came from all over to watch the case. None of us can say much more about it. In both the Short case and the Brazier case, Judge Elliot mischarged the jury. He is beginning to evoke the same kind of hate that Christie, Pritchett or Zt do.

Faith