

Edward  
Yorker  
school a  
work a  
came "  
reer w/  
troduc  
club dinne  
the rest of  
He clima  
career with  
appearance  
"Can You  
show in w/  
Jr. and Ha  
to top jokes  
This prog  
the early 19  
FORD, W

# 'I Don't Make Baby Deals'



R.

By **BILL OBERST**  
BELL CITY, Ala. (AP) — "My life has been threatened, my car dealership burned out and state authorities have arrested me.

"But I don't make baby deals. I sold the land, I gave my word. No matter what the pressure, I won't back down."

That is Ray Wyatt, 41. He wears bow ties and smokes cigars. He says when he makes a business deal he sticks to it.

Wyatt's life has changed since he sold nearly 1,000 acres of land to Black Muslims, who say they will farm the acreage and sell the produce in Northern cities.

Residents of Pell City, about 30 miles east of Birmingham, have made no bones about their resentment of the land

Wyatt said the Muslims will employ nearly 200 local persons in their farming operations, packing plant and cannery. "If the venture proves successful, it may draw other industry.

"Some of the finest people in America live in Pell City and St. Clair County. I think they will welcome an opportunity to work in the new industry even if it is operated by Negroes," said Wyatt.

But in the meantime, Wyatt's life is in turmoil.

HE CONDUCTS business in a house trailer next to the building which until last month housed a new car showroom, a parts department and a repair and body shop.

One night the place caught fire.

Damage was estimated at \$200,000 and Wyatt says he was covered by insurance for only \$100,000.

WYATT SAID he has no definite plans to rebuild the dealership but that he will continue in some sort of business in Pell City. "I've lived in St. Clair County all my life and don't intend to move," he declared.

On Dec. 4, Wyatt, a former state senator, was arrested for the first time in his life as a result of the land sale.

He was charged with representing an out-of-state corporation that was doing business in Alabama without a license.

The land sold by Wyatt was because the county (St. purchased by Progressive Land Developers Corp., which

# Make Baby Deals'



RAY

By **BILL OBERST**

BELL CITY, Ala. (AP) — "My life has been threatened, my car dealership burned out and state authorities have arrested me.

"But I don't make baby deals. I sold the land, I gave my word. No matter what the pressure, I won't back down."

That is Ray Wyatt, 41. He wears bow ties and smokes cigars. He says when he makes a business deal he sticks to it.

Wyatt's life has changed since he sold nearly 1,000 acres of land to Black Muslims, who say they will farm the acreage and sell the produce in Northern cities.

Residents of Pell City, about 30 miles east of Birmingham, have made no bones about their resentment of the land sale made last November and have held heated gatherings in an effort to thwart the deal.

**WYATT CLAIMS** his main reason for selling the land to the black group — 500 acres 10 miles south of here and 376 acres 12 miles to the north — (Clair) desperately needs industry. He said most of the county's population now travel to Birmingham, the steel center of Alabama, and Anniston for jobs.

Wyatt said the Muslims will employ nearly 200 local persons in their farming operations, packing plant and cannery. "If the venture proves successful, it may draw other industry.

"Some of the finest people in America live in Pell City and St. Clair County. I think they will welcome an opportunity to work in the new industry even if it is operated by Negroes," said Wyatt.

But in the meantime, Wyatt's life is in turmoil.

**HE CONDUCTS** business in a house trailer next to the building which until last month housed a new car showroom, a parts department and a repair and body shop.

One night the place caught fire.

"A state fire marshal told me there was nothing to indicate arson. He said he felt it was just an unfortunate thing at an unfortunate time," said Wyatt.

"I've never investigated a fire," Wyatt said, "so I'll just have to take the marshal's word for it."

He adds, however, "I have no opinion except that it is only human to be suspicious."

Damage was estimated at \$200,000 and Wyatt says he was covered by insurance for only \$100,000.

**WYATT SAID** he has no definite plans to rebuild the dealership but that he will continue in some sort of business in Pell City. "I've lived in St. Clair County all my life and don't intend to move," he declared.

On Dec. 4, Wyatt, a former state senator, was arrested for the first time in his life as a result of the land sale.

He was charged with representing an out-of-state corporation that was doing business in Alabama without a license.

The land sold by Wyatt was because the county (St. Clair) purchased by Progressive Land Developers Corp., which is controlled by the Muslims but not licensed in Alabama.

**AUTHORITIES** charge that Wyatt is a representative of the company. His case was to have been heard Jan. 6 in lower court in the St. Clair County seat of Ashville, but has been postponed indefinitely.

He is currently free under \$500 bond.

Wyatt says his brother, Wal-

TERMS  
AVAILABLE



12

James V. Gray

2001 19th. St. So 3

# Tension Rockets Because Of Land Sales In County

Threats on lives and property, acid damage to a dozen or more new auto's and high tension that seems to get 'hotter' by the hour has been uppermost on the minds of the people of St. Clair County during the past two weeks.

The tension started to grow in the county when a report was made public alleging that Ray Wyatt, Pell City new car dealer, and Dr. Robert McClung, Pell City dentist, had sold tracts of land in the county that amount to about 800 acres to Progressive Land Developers, an organization which is said to be a front for the Black Muslims.

The Muslims expect to build an agricultural business in St. Clair County which is expected to include a beef packing plant. Wyatt who formerly represented St. Clair and Etowah counties in the state senate, said the land will be used to fatten cattle in an operation planned along the same lines as broiler chicken operations. He said the organization would furnish cattle and feed to farmers in the area, the farmers to get a share of the profits in return for furnishing the stock and caring for them.

Walter E. Turner who says he is a public relations representative of the Muslims, said more than 800 acres of land had been bought from Ray Wyatt. Turner said the Muslims expected to start a \$2.5 million business on the site.

Wyatt and McClung were escorted home last week from a

a Muslim official.

Meantime John Golden who lives near the 'Boss Wilkins property' which was bought by Wyatt and McClung and sold to the organization, said he had an option to buy the Wilkins property when it was sold to the local combine. Golden said his option did not expire until March of next year. Golden said he had employed a lawyer and this point, the actual ownership would be decided in court.

tel. Jefferson county sheriff's office reported they had been contacted by the FBI in Birmingham and asked to escort Wyatt and McClung back to their homes. They were escorted to the St. Clair county line by Jefferson county officers from where they were escorted home by St. Clair officers. The FBI said they had had a report that Wyatt's life was in danger.

The story was broken open by Wallace Wyatt, brother of Ray Wyatt at a church meeting when Wallace said his brother had sold out to the Black Muslims. Since then Wallace Wyatt has spent considerable time in hunting evidence to prove that his brother has sold county property to the Muslim organization. Among other things Wallace has produced warranty deed of three different pieces of property which he said Ray had sold to Progressive Land Developers, an organization which Wallace Wyatt said is owned by the Muslims.

About one dozen new cars in the Ray Wyatt Ford lot were damaged early on Tuesday night. So far as is known no arrests have been made.

Wyatt denied any intention to do any harm to the county, on the other hand believes that the sales will eventually be of a vast benefit to the economy and business of the county. "We have broken no laws," Wyatt said, "and we don't intend to do so and we certainly will not encourage anyone else to do so. This operation will eventually be a tremendous boost to the county and the entire area."

Wyatt said when he sold the land to Progressive Land Developers, he had no idea who backed the organization. He said he did not know it was Muslim backed at the time. This statement was confirmed by Turner,



# St. Clair Citizens Group V

BY DICK BELL, JR.

Post-Herald Staff Writer

PELL CITY — Most people who have five persons resign at their small-town automobile dealership within the span of a couple of weeks would be worried about who is going to do their job — especially at this time of the year when new car sales are in a peak period.

Pell City auto dealer Ray Wyatt is in this position, but he isn't too worried about who is going to do the work — he hasn't sold a new car in almost two weeks.

Surrounding Wyatt's troubles is a current air of discontent in St. Clair County — a county that shares its county seat between Ashville and Pell City — a discontent that some residents say is as great as they have seen in almost 50 years.

"I've been in this county for 49 years," said one man on the street in Ashville, "and the people around here are as generally upset as I have ever seen them."

The current tenseness in the county centers around some 900-plus acres of land in that county that has been sold to a Chicago-based group of Black Muslims who operate under the name of the Progressive Land Developers Inc.

## Bought First Land

The Muslims bought their

first land last May from Wyatt, who is white, and was a state senator for four years during the John Patterson administration, and Dr. Robert McClung, a Pell City dentist.

Wyatt and McClung bought about 500 acres in the southern part of the county at auction for \$68,646.40 and sold it two days later to Progressive Land Developers for \$88,646.11 — a \$20,000 profit.

The second transaction was in July when Wyatt sold 376 acres of land in the northern part of the county to Progressive Land Developers for \$115,105.00. He had previously owned this land.

Since the land transactions have been made public, public sentiment has been very much against Wyatt and McClung.

Ray Wyatt Enterprises, listing Wyatt and McClung as the principal stockholders, has entered into an agreement with Progressive Land Developers to manage the operations of the land in Alabama.

Four suits were filed last week in behalf of the state of Alabama against Progressive Land Developers charging they were doing business in the state of Alabama illegally because they were a foreign corporation not authorized to do business in the state.

L. P. Waid, district attorney in St. Clair and Blount count-

ies, said he filed three of the suits in Pell City and one in Ashville.

## Suits Ask \$1,000

The suits ask \$1000 each as a penalty for the corporation doing business in the state while not authorized to do so, after it bought three parcels of land and a truck.

Waid said he discussed the matter with the Alabama attorney general's office in Montgomery but said he filed the suits on his own volition.

Waid said the corporation has 30 days in which to answer to the suits and then a hearing date will be set.

Earlier this week, Dr. McClung was arrested and charged with acting as an agent for a foreign corporation.

Authorities said McClung was arrested on a warrant signed by John Golden, a farmer who had been operating on part of the land sold to Progressive Land Developers.

Golden said that he received a letter from McClung asking him and others farming the land to vacate it. He said the letter was signed by McClung acting as agent for Progressive Land Developers.

## Legal Corporation

Wyatt said the letter sent to Golden was in the name of Progressive Land Development, a legal corporation managing the land purchases for Progressive Land Developers.

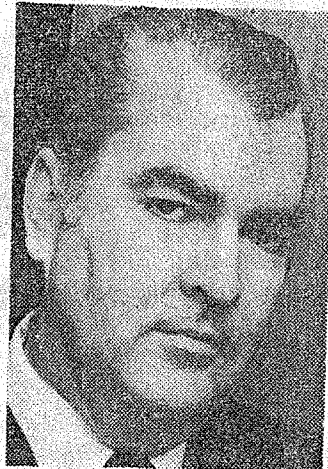
McClung was released on \$1000 bond and a hearing has been set for Dec. 12 on the matter.

McClung said that he didn't want to comment directly on the matter because he hasn't retained an attorney yet and didn't want to hurt his defense in the matter.

A group of St. Clair County citizens has organized and vowed to stop the Muslims from moving into Alabama.

Wallace Wyatt, Ray Wyatt's brother, is one of the leaders of the "Stop The Muslims" organization along with John Golden, the Rev. E. R. Mayo and the Rev. J. H. Bishop.

The group met with about 2000 interested citizens last Friday night in Ashville and is currently attempting to raise funds to further their fight against the Muslim or-



RAY WYATT

Dawson, Ga., Jimmy Holmes, when he went to plow part of the Black Muslim land, was charged with trespassing and failure to register with the police authorities as a Black Muslim as required by Alabama law, according to Waid.

His bond was set at \$300 on the trespassing charge and \$10,000 on the failure to register charge. Ray Wyatt posted bond on both counts.

## Not A Black Muslim

Wyatt indicated that Holmes had told him he was not a Black Muslim before he signed the bond.

"I was born and raised in St. Clair County, said the 41-year-old Wyatt, "and I have always tried to be an asset to my community. I am very sorry this thing has developed, but I do feel like that on completion of this project the people will like it."

Last Wednesday, the Mus-

# Group Vows To Oppose Mus

Advertisement

of the  
me in

ach as  
ration  
state  
do so,  
parcels

ed the  
na at-  
ce in  
e filed  
tion.  
ration  
ch to  
then a



RAY WYATT

lims chartered an airplane and flew 40 Alabama residents to their operation in Georgia. "They liked it," said a Muslim spokesman.

Ray Wyatt said that the two large parcels of land would be used for a cattle farm, a meat processing plant, a cannery and a farm to grow the crops to be processed at the cannery.

He said the operation would be "first class" in every way. He said the meat processing plant would use the most modern methods and would not cause any bad odor to the area as some have feared.

Progressive Land Developers for six months and is serving as farm director for both the Alabama operation and a similar one at Dawson, Ga.

Ray Wyatt and Progressive Land Developers continue their fight to organize the farms in St. Clair County while a great number of residents say they are not going to let the operation continue if there is any way it can be prevented.

There has been no hint of open violence and actions are proceeding in a legal manner.

Only time will tell the outcome of the situation.

Dr.  
i and  
as an  
rpora-

Dawson, Ga., Jimmy Holmes, when he went to plow part of the Black Muslim land, was charged with trespassing and failure to register with the police authorities as a Black Muslim as required by Alabama law, according to Waid.

His bond was set at \$300 on the trespassing charge and \$10,000 on the failure to register charge. Ray Wyatt posted bond on both counts.

## Use Local Labor

He said that labor to run the farm would come from the local market and that there were no plans to ship in anyone and there would be very few if any Black Muslims at all.

"I am not going to hire just Black Muslims and I am not going to hire any certain race or religion. I am going to hire farm hands and that's all," Wyatt said.

While Wyatt will serve as personnel manager for the operations, a Birmingham native, Ollie Hall, will be farm director.

Hall, a Negro, who says he is not a Black Muslim, operated Hall Produce Co. in Birmingham until two years ago. He has been working for

Clung  
arrant  
en, a  
perat-  
sold to  
lopers.  
ceived  
asking  
g the  
id the  
Clung  
ogres-

## Not A Black Muslim

Wyatt indicated that Holmes had told him he was not a Black Muslim before he signed the bond.

"I was born and raised in St. Clair County, said the 41-year-old Wyatt, "and I have always tried to be an asset to my community. I am very sorry this thing has developed, but I do feel like that on completion of this project the people will like it."

Last Wednesday, the Mus-

in  
ent to  
ne of  
velop-  
n ma-  
es for  
opers.  
d on  
g has  
n the  
didn't  
ly on  
asn't  
t and  
fense

ounty  
and  
slims  
ma.  
yatt's  
aders  
lims"  
John  
Mayo  
p.  
about  
last  
and  
g to  
their  
n. Dr-

Continued from end of "Legal Corporation"

## Attacked Vigorously

The Muslims were attacked vigorously because their creed views Jesus Christ as a minor prophet.

Wallace Wyatt, a deacon at one of the churches in the area, said that he had broken a pledge of confidence he had made to his brother, "in order to uphold the family honor" when he found out his brother was involved with the Black Muslims.

Ray Wyatt said that in the last couple of weeks, he had received numerous death threats, most of which came by anonymous telephone callers.

He said that several days ago, someone threw acid on 12 new cars located on the lot at his automobile dealership and that three days after the acid incident, someone shot six cows on the cattle farm.

A 34-year-old Negro from

Alabama claim from 1938 to 1951 except \$709 million more than pur-

## In Black Muslim Land Sale

Post-Herald - Dec 12, 1969

# Prosecution Enjoined

MONTGOMERY — A three-judge federal panel issued a temporary restraining order here Thursday enjoining state and county officials from prosecuting two men in connection with the sale of land in St. Clair County to a group of Black Muslims.

The order issued by the Circuit Judge Richard E. Hall and U. S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson of Montgomery and Judge H. H. Grooms of Birmingham, Alabama State Attorney General Donald Keith and St. Clair County District Attorney

L. F. Waid and others working under and with them from prosecuting Jimmy Holmes, a Georgia employe of the Black Muslims and Birmingham Negro Attorney Orzell Billingsley, Jr.

Holmes is charged with failure to register as a Black Muslim in Alabama as required by state law and also charged with trespassing after warning.

Billingsley is charged with acting as an agent for a foreign corporation not authorized to do business in Alabama.

The order did not cover a third person also charged with acting as an agent for a foreign corporation, Peft City dentist Dr. Robert McClung. He did not enter into any action asking for the order and had previously said he thought it was a state matter and he wanted to be tried in a state court.

McClung's trial, though, was continued to a later date by the district attorney.

The plaintiff asked Wednesday that all the cases be voluntarily continued but the request was denied by Waid.

A suit seeking the restraining order was filed Wednesday in U. S. District Court in Montgomery by the American Civil Liberties Union.

Plaintiffs in the suit included John Wallace and Joe Sledge, Birmingham members. See BLACK MUSLIM, Page 2

### Birmingham Data

For the 24-hour period ended at 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec.

High temperature, 53 degrees; low, 47; mean, 50; normal mean, 48; deficiency mean temperature since Jan. 1, 1,155 degrees. Rainfall, none; total since

the Federation said.

## Set

18 at a rented happaquiddick Is the car plunged off bridge and into a

and have issued the case of the blaze.

Waid said he did not think that the group opposed to the land sale was responsible but added, "I don't have any idea who is responsible. It could be anybody."

Wyatt, meanwhile, has set up operations in a house trailer moved in after the fire.



...the court  
...nded Newark  
...to James del  
...he refused to  
...ons before a  
...jury.

...the second  
...New Jersey  
...suspended in a  
...probe of crime

...Joseph Wein  
...formal order  
...of Mauro from  
...powers was  
...by the high

...directs Del  
...appear before the  
...at next Tuesday  
...why the suspen  
...not be continued  
...er action.

...ourt on Tuesday  
...e suspension of  
...Judge Ralph de  
...with trying to  
...ecutor in a case  
...rganized crime.

**rdos**  
...BORN, Germany  
...Fifty Paderborn  
...are offering free  
...hairdos to the  
...elfare Department  
...the Paderborn  
...Federation said.

**Set**  
...18 at a rented  
...Chappaquiddick Is-  
...ne car plunged off  
...bridge and into a

...an attorney with Alabama  
...By-Products Corp., will join

## Black Muslim

Continued from Page 1  
of the Lost Found Nation of  
Islam, along with Billingsley  
and Holmes.

The suit contended that  
state laws governing the  
charges against Holmes and  
Billingsley are unconstitutional.

Defendants included Gov.  
Albert Brewer, Gallon, Waid,  
the Alabama Legislative  
Commission to Preserve the  
Peace and several other St.  
Clair County individuals who  
have been fighting the sale of  
the lands.

Wallace Wyatt, one of those  
named in the suit, is the  
brother of former State Sen.  
Ray Wyatt who sold some  
1,000 acres of land to the  
Black Muslim organization.

Several weeks ago acid was  
thrown on several cars at Ray  
Wyatt's automobile dealership  
in Pell City and Monday night  
the building housing the deal-  
ership was burned.

State and Pell City probers  
are still investigating the fire  
and have issued no ruling on  
the case of the blaze.

Waid said he did not think  
that the group opposed to the  
land sale was responsible but  
added, "I don't have any idea  
who is responsible. It could be  
anybody."

Wyatt, meanwhile, has set  
up operations in a house  
trailer moved in after the fire.

JONES, DUMBLECK and MICH-  
chit from 1938 to 1951 except  
for a military leave during  
World War II.

He joined the U. S. Office of  
Price Stabilization and later  
became house counsel with  
Ingalls Iron Works Co. and  
joined Alabama By-Products  
in 1963.

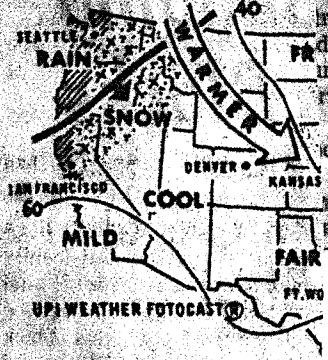
He is a member of local,  
state and national bar asso-  
ciations and an officer of the  
Corporation, Partnership and  
Business Law section of the  
Alabama Bar Association. He  
is a member of the Newcomen  
Society.

## The Birmingham Post-Herald

Created and Published daily, except Sunday by  
The Birmingham Post Co., 2200 Fourth Ave., N.,  
Birmingham, Ala. 35203.  
The Birmingham Post—established 1921.  
The Birmingham Age-Herald, established 1870.  
Combined May 13, 1950, to form The Birming-  
ham Post-Herald.  
Entered as Second Class Matter at the Birming-  
ham Postoffice.  
Classification telephone number 323-5381; exten-  
sions 201, 202, 203 and 204.  
Subscription rates by carrier for the morning  
Post-Herald, evening News and Sunday News:  
Morning, evening and Sunday, 1 month—\$3.37;  
1 week—71.23; Morning and Sunday, or evening  
and Sunday, 1 month—\$2.75; 1 week—75. Morning  
or evening only, 1 month—\$2.08; 1 week—60. Daily  
only single copy price—10¢. Rates include all sales  
and postage and foreign subscription rates quoted  
were nominal.

MORNING, RECEIVING...  
\$700 million more than pur-  
chases. President Nixon Tues-  
day signed a law raising the  
legal interest rate for savings  
bonds so they could be more  
competitive with other invest-  
ments.

### PREVIEW OF ESSA WEATHER BUREAU



### Birmingham Data

For the 24-hour period end-  
ed at 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec.  
11:  
High temperature, 53 de-  
grees; low, 47; mean, 50;  
normal mean, 48; deficiency  
in mean temperature since  
Jan. 1, 1,155 degrees.  
Rainfall, none; total since

Dec 7, 1969

## 2 arrested in Muslim land sale

ASHVILLE  
Two more persons have been arrested and freed on bond in connection with a land sale to the Black Muslims for farming operations in St. Clair County.

Sheriff Joel Wood said Ray Wyatt, a Pell City auto dealer, and John Henry Davis, an Etowah County school teacher, were arrested Thursday night on charges of represent-

ing an out-of-state corporation doing business in Alabama without a license.

Wood said both were released under \$500 bond.

Dr. Robert McClung, a Pell City dentist, was arrested on similar charges earlier and released on \$1,000 bond. He has since resigned as secretary of Progressive Land Development Corp.

WOOD SAID Davis was

arrested for cashing checks on the Progressive Land Developers Corp., which he said is controlled by the Muslims but not licensed in Alabama.

Wyatt, who has sold nearly 1,000 acres in St. Clair County to the Muslims, was named a representative of the company.

—Associated Press

# Crowd protesting Muslim farm told to stay within law

ASHVILLE

An estimated 3,000 white persons gathered Friday night to show their displeasure over plans of Black Muslims to begin farming operations near Ashville and were cautioned to work within the law.

Edwin Strickland, a staff director of the state's legislative Commission to Preserve Peace, complimented the people "for your calm, unemotional approach to the problems so far. I know you will continue to work within the framework of the law."

The commission, a creation of the state Legislature, operates on its \$46,000 appropriation and Strickland told the group that its function is un-American activities investigations.

HE SAID THE Black Muslims "declare themselves to be your enemy. Their aim is to overthrow society as it is presently constituted. They're dedicated to black domination in all respects."

Strickland said the Muslims do not hesitate to use white people for their purposes "but they say he's a devil whose power and world must be destroyed. They don't respect our flag and they support Communist positions in many ways while they regard Christianity as the enemy."

The Muslims and Islam sects have recently purchased almost 1,000 acres in St. Clair County which they say will be used in farming operations to provide employment for blacks and to provide food at lower prices for Muslim stores in large cities.

The land was purchased from Ray Wyatt of Pell City.

Dist. Atty. L. P. Wald, who earlier this week filed legal action against the sect, told the crowd at Ashville High School that the suits were "like shooting a needle into the side of an elephant."

THE FOUR SUITS asked that the Muslims be penalized \$1,000 for each of four transactions on grounds the deals were made for a foreign

corporation not licensed under state law. No date has been set for a hearing.

The pastor of a missionary Baptist church, the Rev. J. H. Bishop, told the gathering that although the Muslims want to buy the church property which is adjacent to their acreage, the property is not for sale. He said the Muslim public relations director, Walter Turner of Chicago, has offered the church easements to its cemetery which is surrounded by Muslim property.

The crowd estimate was made by high school officials. The auditorium was filled and loudspeakers carried the program to many others on the outside.

Pamphlets purporting to describe Muslim policy and beliefs were distributed, with requests made for donations to finance legal actions against the sect.

WYATT SAID IN an interview later: "I love people of all races and all religions." He said that the people of this area would accept the presence of the group if they could realize what they really stand for — "segregation, hard work, no drinking, no smoking and no interest in white women."

However, Wyatt's older brother, Wallace Wyatt, said he believes the Muslim operation would start as a legitimate business but would later bring in many militant people.

RAY WYATT SAID, "Wallace is a complete right winger and always has been. I'm a moderate and have friends in all races although personally I'm a segregationist."

He is 41 and Wallace is 46.

—Associated Press

By Attorney General's Office

*Shenandoah Herald*  
Nov. 29, 1969 - P. 4

# Black Muslim Suits Planned

MONTGOMERY (UPI) — The Alabama attorney general's office here has announced plans to begin legal proceedings Dec. 12 against members of a Black Muslim organiza-

tion attempting to buy land in St. Clair County.

Attorney General MacDonald Gallion said six warrants had been issued against Muslims on charges of trespass, failing to register with the state as members of the Muslim organization and failing to register as a corporation to transact business in Alabama.

Gallion said one of his assistants, George Hodges Jr., would aid St. Clair District Attorney L. P. Waid in prosecution of the cases.

The attorney general also issued a "public warning" for citizens to be careful of selling land to Muslims who

"engage in every type of subversive activity."

He said the aims of the black separatist organization "are similar in every respect to the Communists." He said the farm land being purchased by the Muslims "can easily be used for storage of weapons and training in guerilla warfare."

Gov. Albert Brewer said at a news conference last week his administration was opposed to the land sales to the organization.



## Attorney General warns: "Be careful who you sell your land to"

Alabama Attorney General MacDonald Gallion today issued a public warning to the people to be careful in selling tracts of land to suspicious purchasers.

Gallion said that the Black Muslims have been purchasing land in Alabama and have promised that they will own at least 100,000 acres in Alabama in one years time. Gallion cited recent controversial land purchases in St. Clair County by the Muslims in his warning.

Since the first sale in that county became known to the Attorney General, he has had an Assistant Attorney General assigned to investigate the purchases and then assist the local District Attorney in legal proceedings arising out of the sale. Gallion said that 6 warrants of arrest have already been issued in St. Clair County since the investigation began.

Assistant Attorney General Hodges, Jr. will be assisting Dis-

trict Attorney L. P. Waid in prosecuting certain Muslims, starting December 12th, on cases of trespass, failing to register with the state as members of the Muslim organization and failing to register as a corporation to transact business in Alabama.

Gallion said the aims of the Muslim nation are similar in every respect to the aims of the communists. He said while the Muslims appear on the surface to run legal businesses, they in fact engage in every type subversive activity. He pointed out that the so-called farms can easily be used for storage of weapons and training in guerrilla warfare. The Attorney General asks that any citizen who is approached in a suspicious manner or offered much more than the market value for farm land, should contact his office. He said the Muslims are using innocent people as "fronts" for their land pur-

chases and he said that he understands that the Muslims already have several options to purchase land in several other counties of the State. His office is presently investigating those transactions.



**VIET TROOPERS**—Two South Vietnamese civilian Irregular Defense Group members crouch in a trench as U. S. artillery attempts to break up a concentration of North Vietnamese troops surrounding their position near the Cambodian border. (U.P. Telephoto).

## Protest Plans Completed

Continued from Page 1  
 many have done so. Although there are no plans for feeding the throng on a regular basis, food will be available at four reception centers in the city.

"We will have 40,000 cheese sandwiches," one hurried New Mobe quartermaster replied shortly when pressed for details on feeding arrangements.

Between 3500 and 6000 parade marshals are being trained to keep order, although prospects for violence are believed sharply diminished

in the wake of agreement between demonstrators and the government over a parade route. A medical committee has been formed and expects to have more than 100 doctors, nurses and medical students on call. Several hundred portable toilets will be installed at the east mall staging area and at the Washington Monument grounds, where a rally and speeches will end the scheduled demonstration.

The major demonstration

Saturday is to be preceded by a "march against death," scheduled to start Thursday evening, in which some 40,000 anti-war protesters will walk single-file from Arlington National Cemetery, past the White House and on to the capitol. The "march against death" is scheduled to continue throughout tonight, tomorrow and tomorrow night, ending in the forenoon Saturday just as the mass march is forming.

## Acid

Continued from Page 1  
 Developers for \$19,500.00. They had bought that parcel earlier for \$15,000.00, records revealed.

**Not Registered**  
 Progressive Land Developers Inc., is not registered to do business in the state of Alabama and the case is currently under investigation by the State Attorney General's office, according to a spokesman in Montgomery.

A corporation by the same name was incorporated in the state of Illinois in January 1963 but was dissolved by the Illinois Attorney General in December 1968.

Wyatt, who was contacted by Pell City authorities Tuesday after the incident at his car dealership, went to Birmingham

and is brother onto the floor House Clerk John Pemberton asked the committee to "draw some steadfast resolutions and stand by them."

Besides the lobbyists who disregard the rules and go in Birmingham later that night for a meeting.

The Jefferson County Sheriff's office said that the FBI contacted them Tuesday night and said they had been told by a Walter Lee Turner that Wyatt was at a Birmingham hotel and his life had been threatened.

### Escorted Home

The sheriff's office said that at the request of the BI they escorted Wyatt and another man identified only as "Dr. McClung" to the St. Clair County line where they were escorted home by St. Clair County Authorities.

The spokesman said that Wyatt had identified himself as a public relations representative for Progressive Land Developers, that he said was owned by the Black Muslims.

Ralph J. Miles, special agent in-charge of the Birmingham FBI office, confirmed that the report had been received by the Birmingham office and said he referred the matter to the Jefferson County Sheriff.

John Bookout, an assistant to Alabama Attorney General MacDonal Gailion said that if the organization was found to be operating illegally in Alabama, that the corporation could be enjoined from doing further business in the state and that possibly all deeds already bought by the group could be revoked, by court order.

Recor committee registrati exclusion floors du what con duct on Hill.

Decoru it is a Alabama most of taken st improver They i as:

—Flori were ad ing the and 48 and tie around indiscriminate. E: individus own de

C  
R

Ken appoint tion fo Baptist Edgar announ McNu new du and ad sive ne Memor ation ce He co church tist Ch where directo

In St. Clair County

*Bham -  
Post-Herald -  
Nov. 26, 1969 - P. 4*

## Nichols Against Muslims

BY DALE McFEATTERS. .  
P-H Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON — The residents of St. Clair County, who so actively resent a Black Muslim ranch in their midst, have carried their fight to Rep. Bill Nichols.

Nichols, a Democrat, shares his constituents dislike of the black nationalist sect owning property in Ashville and Pell City. "Make sure you write that I'm against it," he said.

But, Nichols finds that there's not much he can do except lend moral support.

However, he promised to try to block any federal assistance the Muslims might seek.

"What they (the anti-Muslim forces) are afraid of, and so am I, is the distinct possibility, and maybe probability, that they (the Muslims)

will apply for federal assistance — the OEO (Office of Economic Opportunity), the EDA (Economic Development Administration), Appalachia (the Appalachian Regional Commission) — to expand this thing," he said.

### Would Ask Investigation

"If they (Muslims) apply for it, our office would definitely appear on the horizon and ask the agency if these people have been thoroughly investigated," he said.

Nichols said he learned with surprise that the Black Muslims, who neither drink nor smoke, were not on the attorney general's list of subversive organizations.

However, he did look up some testimony by FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover in which Hoover described the Muslims as a group "which teaches violent hatred of the white race and non-allegiance to the United States" and "continues to be the largest black extremist group in the country."

### Seems Slim

Nichols said that the possibility of the Muslims applying for federal aid seemed slim since he had heard that the sect had enough funds of its own to finance expansion.

So fierce is the hate, Nichols said, that the people of his district have confused the Muslims with the gun-bearing Black Panthers "in a blanket indictment."

The congressman himself described the Muslims as "vicious, mean, and militant."

The Black Muslim ranch has recently attracted nationwide attention with a front page story in the Wall Street Journal Tuesday and another in the Washington Star on Sunday.

News -  
Date - 16, 1969

## FOR AGRI-BUSINESS COMPLEX

# Black Muslims purch. land in St. Clair coun

BY FRANK SIKORA  
AND THOMAS HILL  
News staff writers

### PELL CITY

A man who says he's a spokesman for the Black Muslims said the organization will erect a \$2.5 business-agriculture complex in St. Clair County on land sold them by a former state senator.

Walter E. Turner, in making the statement, said he is a public relations representative of the Muslims. The purchase of the land, totalling more than 800 acres, was made from Ray Wyatt, one time state senator and now a car dealer in Pell City.

The announcement came after weeks of tension in the

county in which reports of the Muslim move were being circulated. Tuesday night, 12 cars owned by Wyatt's firm were damaged when a white man threw acid on them.

WYATT SOLD the land, part of which included his own farm, to a corporation known as Progressive Land Developers, Inc., which Turner says is Muslim-owned. It is registered in Dawson, Ga., where the Muslims have a farm-industry complex.

Wyatt, who will manage part of the operation, said he did not know who was behind the corporation when he made the sale.

Tuesday night, when the

acid was thrown, threats were reportedly made on the lives of Wyatt, and two other white men, Dr. Robert McClung, a dentist, and R. E. Thompson, a businessman. The three have formed several local corporations.

s  
n  
h  
t  
s

## FOR AGRI-BUSINESS COMPLEX

# Black Muslims purchase and in St. Clair county

FRANK SIKORA  
AND THOMAS HILL  
News staff writers

PELL CITY  
an who says he's a  
nan for the Black Mus-  
id the organization will  
\$2.5 business-agricul-  
omplex in St. Clair  
on land sold them by a  
state senator.  
r E. Turner, in mak-  
statement, said he is a  
relations representative  
Muslims. The purchase  
land, totalling more  
0 acres, was made  
ay Wyatt, one time  
iator and now a car  
i Pell City.  
announcement came  
eks of tension in the

county in which reports of the  
Muslim move were being  
circulated. Tuesday night, 12  
cars owned by Wyatt's firm  
were damaged when a white  
man threw acid on them.

WYATT SOLD the land,  
part of which included his  
own farm, to a corporation  
known as Progressive Land  
Developers, Inc., which Turn-  
er says is Muslim-owned. It is  
registered in Dawson, Ga.,  
where the Muslims have a  
farm-industry complex.

Wyatt, who will manage  
part of the operation, said he  
did not know who was behind  
the corporation when he made  
the sale.

Tuesday night, when the

acid was thrown, threats were  
reportedly made on the lives  
of Wyatt, and two other white  
men, Dr. Robert McClung, a  
dentist, and R. E. Thompson,  
a businessman. The three  
have formed several local  
corporations.

EDWIN STRICKLAND TO BE SPEAKER *Nov 20, 1969--*

# Muslim Story To Be Told Friday Night At Ashville

In an effort to let the people of St. Clair and adjoining counties know what the Black Muslim organization is, its objectives and aims, a group of St. Clair Citizens have formed an organization, to be known as RID; the committee to Restore Integrity in Development.

To this end the committee will have as their speaker Friday night, Ed Strickland of Montgomery, state director of the Alabama Legislative Commission to Preserve the Peace. Strickland a former crack reporter for the Birmingham News has been investigating the activities of the Black Muslims and other groups of the same type, knows this subject probably better than any person in Alabama. If you are interested in knowing more about what is going on in St. Clair County and Alabama you are urged to attend this meeting.

As a reporter for the Birmingham News Strickland broke the famous Phoenix City story and worked on the story until it was closed.

Strickland will speak at 7 o'clock Friday night at Ashville High School. Everyone interested in knowing the plans and objectives of the Muslims are invited to attend the meeting.

The RID group in St. Clair County is at present composed of Wallace Wyatt, Rev. E. R. Mayo, Rev. James H. Bishop and John Golden. This group believes that this is one of the most dangerous situations that ever faced the people of St. Clair County and are urging the help of everyone who is against the taking over of county property by outside organizations such as the Muslims.

RID has rented two postoffice boxes, one at Ashville and one at Pell City for the purpose of seeking help in this fight against the Muslims. PO Box number at Pell City 116, at Ashville 275.

## Eden Methodists Sponsor Xmas Bazaar Saturday

The W. S. C. S. of the Eden United Methodist Church will have a Christmas Bazaar on Friday and Saturday, November, 21 and 22.

All kinds of hand-made gift items, including Christmas wreaths and other Christmas decorations, will be on sale. There will also be homemade candy, cakes and pies.

The Bazaar will begin at 2:00 p. m. Friday at the church and will continue until 9:00 p. m. On Saturday the remaining items will be on sale at the Food center.

Here is a chance for you to buy some unusual and beautiful Christmas decoration, and also to buy some of your Christmas gifts. So come to the Eden United Methodist Church at 2:00 p. m. Friday. You'll be glad you came.



# Huge County Crowd Protests Land Sales

One of the largest crowds ever in St. Clair county gathered at Ashville Friday night to protest sale of St. Clair land to a Black Muslim organization.

Number attending was estimated at 3000 or more.

Edwin Strickland, former newspaper reporter and now staff director of the State Legislative Committee to preserve the Peace, was main speaker at the meeting. The meeting was organized and planned by a committee known as RID, Committee to Restore Intelligence in Development. Wallace Wyatt is chairman of the committee. Ot-

her members are John Golden, Rev. E. R. Mayo, and Rev. James Bishop.

Tension in the county rose to white-hot pitch last week when it became known that Ray Wyatt, Pell City automobile dealer and Dr. Robert McClung, Pell City dentist, had sold over 900 acres of land to a Black Muslim organization. The Muslims say they are buying the land, planning to establish business that will be of economic benefit to the county.

Edwin Strickland whose business it is to investigate any and all subversive organizations in

the state, told the huge gathering that they were right in protesting the Muslims purchase of land in the county, but cautioned them "to stay within the law." He said "the Black Muslims declare themselves to be your enemy. Their aim is to overthrow society as it is constituted. They are dedicated to black domination in all respects."

Meanwhile L. P. Waid, state district attorney for St. Clair and Blount counties filed four suits against the organization, asked that the Muslims be fined

a total of \$1,000 each in four cases on grounds the deals were made for a foreign corporation not licensed under the law.

Dr. Robert McClung who along with Ray Wyatt bought and sold the property said he had resigned "as director of all corporations" and planned to rid himself of all the stock that he held as soon as possible. Dr. McClung was arrested Saturday and charged with "acting as agent for a foreign corporation not authorized to do business in Alabama." His appearance bond was set at \$1,000.

James v.  
2001 19th. St. 50

# Large County Crowd Protests Land Sales

Largest crowds in St. Clair county gathered Friday night to protest the sale of St. Clair land to a Muslim organization. The meeting was estimated to be 100 or more. Strickland, former reporter and now member of the State Legislature to preserve the land was main speaker. The meeting was planned by a committee as RID, Committee for Intelligence in St. Clair County. Wallace Wyatt is the committee. Ot-

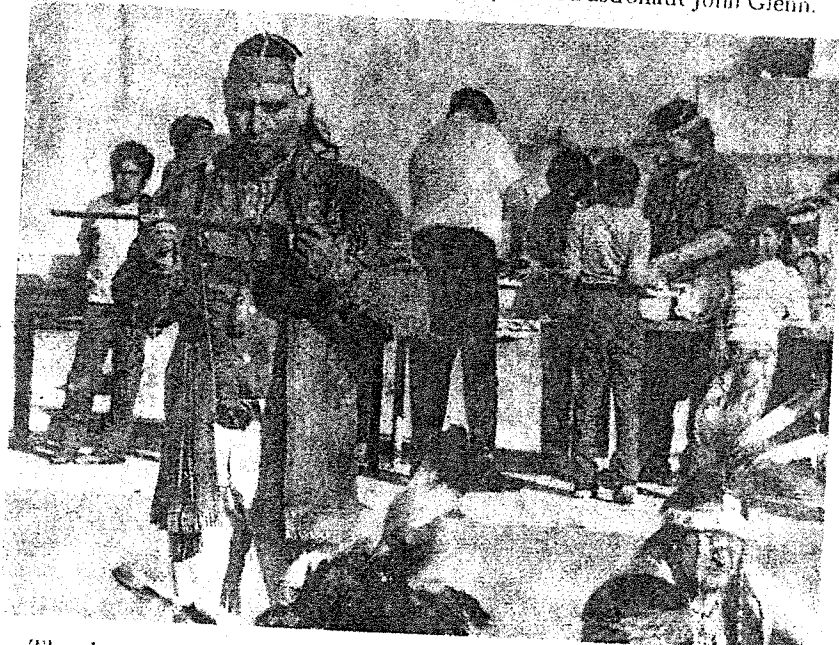
her members are John Golden, Rev. E. R. Mayo, and Rev. James Bishop. Tension in the county rose to a white-hot pitch last week when it became known that Ray Wyatt, Pell City automobile dealer and Dr. Robert McClung, Pell City dentist, had sold over 900 acres of land to a Black Muslim organization. The Muslims say they are buying the land, planning to establish business that will be of economic benefit to the county. Edwin Strickland whose business it is to investigate any and all subversive organizations in

the state, told the huge gathering that they were right in protesting the Muslims purchase of land in the county, but cautioned them "to stay within the law." He said "the Black Muslims declare themselves to be your enemy. Their aim is to overthrow society as it is constituted. They are dedicated to black domination in all respects." Meanwhile L. P. Waid, state district attorney for St. Clair and Blount counties filed four suits against the organization, asked that the Muslims be fined

a total of \$1,000 each in four cases on grounds the deals were made for a foreign corporation not licensed under the law. Dr. Robert McClung who along with Ray Wyatt bought and sold the property said he had resigned "as director of all corporations" and planned to rid himself of all the stock that he held as soon as possible. Dr. McClung was arrested Saturday and charged with "acting as agent for a foreign corporation not authorized to do business in Alabama." His appearance bond was set at \$1,000.

Senate nominee. Bobbing and weaving skillfully, Stevenson avoided a direct answer. Exasperated, Illinois Secretary of State Paul Powell, a downstate political power, bluntly demanded a yes or no. Stevenson bobbed again. Out of loyalty to his own supporters, he said, he would have to consult them before making a commitment.

**Trump Card:** In the end, it was up to Daley to cement the marriage. The next day he closeted himself for two hours with the party leadership. The shouts that followed could be heard outside the room. Finally Daley pulled out his trump card—an opinion poll that nobody else in the room even knew existed. It showed Stevenson running far stronger than any other potential Democratic candidate. With that, Daley had his candi-



Thanksgiving on Alcatraz: After twenty turkeys, the peace pipe

date, and Stevenson had his nomination. For the latest Stevenson from Illinois, capturing the nomination marked a significant political milestone—one that could vault him into national prominence. As for Daley, he had little to say. But the mayor seemed to be living up to the promise he made at the fall picnic in Libertyville: "In 1970 and 1972 the Democratic Party is going to be united as far as I'm concerned."

In Ohio, a promising politician bearing another celebrated name chose to break with the organization. Ignoring pleas that he seek the governorship, Congressman Robert Taft Jr., 52, of Cincinnati defied the state Republican leadership and opted for the Senate seat now held by retiring Democrat Stephen Young, 80. Since GOP Gov. James Rhodes, who must give up the Statehouse after two terms, also has declared for Young's seat, Taft's challenge means an expensive—and potentially destructive—primary fight.

Ohio Republicans hope the primary

can be kept as polite as possible. There seems little chance of that. Indeed, Taft opened his campaign by complaining that the state organization had shown favoritism by spending \$10,000 to publicize Rhodes's denial of Life magazine charges that the governor had underworld connections. A Rhodes associate countered by questioning whether Taft's holdings in firms doing business with the government didn't constitute conflict of interest.

Just to complicate matters, a third Senatorial hopeful, conservative Congressman Donald E. (Buz) Lukens, 38, former head of the Young Republicans, is considering making the primary a three-way race. In any event, the survivor of the Republican primary is likely to face a strong challenge next November from the Democratic candidate, probably retired astronaut John Glenn.

slipped ashore from a number of borrowed yachts and promptly offered to buy the island from the Federal government—which abandoned its prison there in 1963 and left it barren since—for "\$24 in glass beads and cloth."

Alcatraz, the settlers proclaimed, should be devoted to institutes of native American studies, an Indian medical center, an ecological research center and an Indian museum, part of which would display "some of the things the white man has given to the Indians in return for the land and life he took: disease, alcohol, poverty and cultural decimation (as symbolized by old tin cans, barbed wire, rubber tires, plastic containers, etc.)."

The next day they departed, but at 2 a.m. on the morning of Nov. 29, Oakes put out from Sausalito with some 50 redskins loaded onto three pleasure boats and landed once more at the Rock. "Mayday! Mayday! The Indians have landed," cried caretaker Glenn Dodson. Then he turned to Oakes with a wink. "I don't really mind," he said. "I'm one-eighth Indian myself."

**Junk:** "This time," Oakes declared, "we have come to stay." The settlers quickly made themselves at home in the fortress. Coast Guard cutters in the bay began a half-hearted effort to keep reinforcements away from the pilgrims, but they proved no match for a flotilla of blockade-runners. One Chinese junk, manned by a crew of Berkeley radicals, was waylaid by a cutter and put under tow, but managed to slice the rope, launch two Indians in a small raft, and sail by the Alcatraz dock, tossing fruit, vegetables, beer, milk and two packed turkeys to the cheering Indians.

Eventually an informal truce was declared. Food was permitted ashore without challenge, and the Army Corps of Engineers provided a water barge (Alcatraz has no fresh water supply). The Indians gave the government two weeks to surrender, demanding both the island and funds for the cultural complex. Interior Secretary Walter Hickel agreed at least to sit down for a powwow on the Rock's future, as long as there were no preconditions. And California Sen. George Murphy sniggered at the implications of the entire affair. Why, if the Indians could successfully claim Alcatraz, he warned, "somebody's liable to claim the whole United States."

## ALABAMA:

### The Muslims' Farm

WELCOME TO THE FERTILE AREA OF OPPORTUNITY, boasts the Chamber of Commerce sign to cars that flash by on U.S. 78 in St. Clair County, Alabama. With a friendly, forward-looking philosophy like that, and the pressures of a somewhat backward economy, dingy Pell City, about 40 miles east of Birmingham, ought to be delighted to be chosen as the site for a planned \$2.5 million agricultural-

## INDIANS:

### Tribal Rock

In 1621 a small band of hungry whites, intruders in a red man's land, were provided with corn, fish and other native delicacies by the Indian inhabitants of the territory surrounding the Pilgrim settlement at Plymouth. Last week the white man, in a modest way, returned the favor. Three hundred Indians who had peacefully invaded the deserted prison-island of Alcatraz in San Francisco Bay were treated to a Thanksgiving feast of twenty turkeys, cranberry sauce, sweet potatoes and cake furnished by the Bratskellar Restaurant in San Francisco.

The Indians, who hailed from several tribes and were led by a 27-year-old Mohawk named Richard Oakes, had launched their pilgrimage to Alcatraz on Nov. 9. Invasion of the Rock proved as easy as escape from it had once been difficult. Eleven braves and three squaws



Robin Johnstone

**Ray Wyatt, farmhand: No beachhead**

processing complex that could employ several hundred local citizens and harvest tax money for the county treasury. But Southern hospitality has given way to hostility and outright harassment because the project is sponsored by none other than the Nation of Islam, better known as Black Muslims.

For the militant Muslims, whose commitment to separatism is as fervent as any Alabama segregationist's, the Pell City project is part of a growing chain of ultra-modern farm-factory operations (others are in Georgia, Florida, Texas and Southwest Michigan) which supply Muslim restaurants and food stores in many of the nation's ghettos. Always more interested in profit than protest, the Chicago-based Muslims, led by 72-year-old Elijah Muhammad, are now building a widely dispersed but increasingly self-sufficient economy with holdings already valued at \$74 million.

**Deal:** The white majority in St. Clair County, however, sees the 900-acre purchase as the first beachhead in the battle for a new black nation that the Muslims have proposed in the past. "They're after one thing—these Southern states of ours," says Baptist minister James H. Bishop. "I for one am willing to lay my life down for the cause, if necessary," he told a recent protest meeting of 2,200 grim whites.

As it happens, two local white men helped the Muslims swing their big land deal. The two men, Ford dealer Ray Wyatt, 41, and dentist Robert McClung, president of the local John Birch Society, insist their motive was strictly financial. They made a hefty profit on the original sale (including part of Wyatt's own Big Beaver Ranch) to Progressive Land Developers, and were promised a continuing income as managers of the farm-factory complex. They knew that Walter Turner, the agent for PLD, was a black man; what they didn't learn until much later, they said, was that Turner was public relations officer for the Muslim hierarchy in Chicago and that PLD was the Black Muslim development corporation.

Wyatt confided the secret only to his brother, Wallace, 45. But Wallace couldn't keep the matter to himself ("I just had to protect the honor of my family ... and the honor of this state and nation," he says) and spread the news at a church service.

Since the revelation, six cows on the Big Beaver Ranch have been shot and one of its six Negro farmhands has been arrested twice—once for not registering himself as a Muslim (he says he isn't one) and again for "trespassing" on the ranch (authorities say it does not legally belong to the Muslims). Sales at Ray Wyatt's Ford agency—which used to sell 75 cars a month—have all but stopped, and twelve cars on his lot have been splashed with acid. Drummed out as head of the Birch Society, McClung has lost most of his dental practice and may lose his license as well. He was arrested on charges of acting as an agent for PLD, which is not licensed to do business in Alabama ("Boy, come with me," said the sheriff), and his wife has threatened to leave him. Both men's families have been plagued by threatening and obscene phone calls. "For the first time in my life, I know what it feels like to be black," says McClung, who has pulled out of the deal. Rallying St. Clair County against the Muslims are Wallace Wyatt, the Rev. Mr. Bishop and another Pell City preacher, the Rev. E.O. Mayo, who formed a group called RID (Restore Integrity to Development). The Muslims, warns Mayo, must be prevented from using the land to train troops for "the battle of Armageddon."

Determined to stay, the Muslims have countered with firm talk of their own. "We have not broken any laws," says spokesman Turner. "If they attempt any violence against us, we will send in 1,000 Black Muslims." But the blacks would rather use friendly persuasion. "All we want to do is show people we can raise crops instead of raising hell on Saturday night," says Turner, who attempted to recruit local whites for a tour of a Muslim pilot farm project now prospering amicably in Sasser, Ga. Only a handful took up the offer, however.

Despite the ugly atmosphere and the threat of violence, Ray Wyatt, for one, professes optimism. "The more I find out about the Muslims, the better I like them," he says. "They have morals the Baptists should practice. When the people here see what's going on and that local people are being hired and that this is not the new capital of the Muslims, they will understand."

**PUBLIC OPINION:  
Money Talks**

Suddenly, it seemed, the "silent majority" had found a voice. In full-page advertisements that blossomed in 110 of the nation's largest newspapers and in half-hour television "specials" broadcast over a one-shot network of local stations,

Americans were encouraged to "Act Now—Demonstrate Your Support" for President Nixon's policy for peace in Vietnam.

Sponsoring the million-dollar campaign was something called "United We Stand," and those who called their local papers and television stations to get more information discovered that it was the brain-child of a billionaire from—you guessed it—Dallas, Texas. For some, that was cause enough to write off "United We Stand" as a manifestation of fat-cat Texas conservatism. But the truth was far less pat and far more provocative. The billionaire behind the campaign is no Daddy Warbucks but a young (39), computer-age business whiz named H. (for Henry) Ross Perot, who splits his politics down the middle and practices an undeniably progressive form of philanthropy. What's more, inspiration for "United We Stand" seems to trace more directly to a chat with the LBJ Ranch boss than to initiatives from the White House.

**Views:** Perot, a crew-cut Annapolis graduate (Class of '53), was one of several businessmen who met Lyndon Johnson about a month ago. Afterward, he decided that "every President has come to the conclusion that we must stabilize in Asia. I must assume that if I knew what they knew, I would have acted the same." Feeling that dissenting views had been covered "so effectively" and President Nixon's "so ineffectively," he decided to balance things a little better. "This was not a campaign to support Mr. Nixon himself," said Perot last week. "It was to support the office he holds ... If Humphrey were President today, I'd be standing behind him."

Money, of course, was no object. And when the Madison Avenue agencies said it would take months to mount the drive



Joe Laird—Dallas News

**Patriot Perot: No Daddy Warbucks**

# As U. S. agents move in State behind 8 bal St. Clair Muslim fu

BY FRANK SIKORA, News staff writer

PELL CITY

Pin Forest Missionary Baptist Church, a brick and stone structure on U. S. Highway 411 in north St. Clair County, seems an unlikely participant in a controversy now raging across the county and the state.

Now the Justice Department may become involved.

It's been a battle of words, feelings, and sometimes destruction.

IT BEGAN in mid-October when Wallace Wyatt, 45, a deacon at the church revealed that his brother, James Ray Wyatt, 41, had sold his farm to the Black Muslims. The land adjoins church property.

"He's sold us out," Wallace said. "He's my brother, but I can't stand by him."

Indeed, the Muslims had bought the land, nearly 1,000



acres, and it was only the b development and cattle operation spokesman said.

WALTER TURNER, a Chicago separatists group, said 100,000 Ala be owned by the Muslims. Right no buying 9,316 acres in Jackson Cour

"We're going to spend \$2 millic "and bring income and jobs. We'll hurt anyone."

Ray Wyatt, a former state ser City, said he was going to help ma

The people of the church, led Bishop, Deacon Wallace Wyatt, an R. Mayo, viewed the Muslims as removing the white race from the ed, "But we're not afraid of then

Turn to Page 17, C

*As U. S. agents move in*

# St. Clair behind 8 ball in Muslim furor

DRA, News staff writer

PELL CITY

Baptist Church, a brick and stone building in north St. Clair County, seems controversy now raging across the

ment may become involved.

words, feelings, and sometimes

ober when Wallace Wyatt, 45, aaled that his brother, James Ray n to the Black Muslims. The land

lace said. "He's my brother, but I

ad bought the land, nearly 1,000



acres, and it was only the beginning of a giant land development and cattle operation in the state, a Muslim spokesman said.

WALTER TURNER, a Chicago representative for the black separatists group, said 100,000 Alabama acres will eventually be owned by the Muslims. Right now they are in the process of buying 9,316 acres in Jackson County.

"We're going to spend \$2 million in St. Clair," Turner said, "and bring income and jobs. We'll help people. We're not out to hurt anyone."

Ray Wyatt, a former state senator and car dealer in Pell City, said he was going to help manage their cattle operation.

The people of the church, led by the minister, Rev. J. H. Bishop, Deacon Wallace Wyatt, and another minister, Rev. E. R. Mayo, viewed the Muslims as a militant threat, bent on removing the white race from the area. And Rev. Bishop added, "But we're not afraid of them."

Turn to Page 17, Column 1

# Muslims Reported Selling Ashville Farm Property

## Elijah Has A Change Of Mind

Late Wednesday, after the story at right was already in print, Elijah Muhammad reportedly had changed his mind about moving his Muslim farm operation out of St. Clair County.

The leader of the Black Muslims now says that he will not sell the Ashville farm until members of the nearby Pine Forest Missionary Baptist Church raise the money to buy it themselves.

The Muslims contend that members of the church "are the cause of the harrassment we have received."

John Henry Davis, manager

Amid reports that a large number of their cattle had been killed by poison this week, Black Muslims occupying a farm they purchased recently near Ashville have announced that they are shipping their cattle away and putting the farm up for sale.

Meanwhile, Sheriff Joel N. (Red) Wood labeled reports that the poison had been placed in streams from which the cattle drank water, as "entirely false and misleading."

Wood said that an investigation conducted by State Toxicologist C. J. Rehling revealed that the poison - identified as Calcium Arsenate - had been placed in feeder troughs and not in the water. He said that cattle farmers downstream of the Muslim farm had been unduly alarmed about the poison reports.

The Muslims reportedly are moving their cattle by trucks to a farm in Greene County, and are putting up for sale

Sixty-three cattle have been shot or poisoned in the past several months according to Muslim reports, and Elijah Muhammad, high priest of the black separatist religious cult, was quoted in Chicago yesterday as saying that "Muslims will not stay where we are not wanted."

Sheriff Wood said Tuesday, after receiving the Toxicologist's report, "Now that we know what we are looking for, we are making a coordinated effort to bring the guilty party or parties to justice."

The sheriff said he did not receive the Toxicologist's report until late Monday evening.



# Muslims invite St. Clair leaders

BY FRANK SIKORA  
News staff writer

PELL CITY

A group of business and civic leaders from St. Clair County and surrounding area have been invited to visit the farming operation of the Black Muslims in Dawson, Ga.

A Muslim spokesman, Walter E. Turner, said a chartered plane will leave Pell City Wednesday at 10 a.m. and some 60 invitations have been sent out.

Last week the Muslims an-

nounced their purchase of St. Clair County land to begin a farm-industry complex.

The operation will be managed by Ray Wyatt, a white Pell City car dealer, who sold the an invasion by the Muslims," Turner said.

"WE WANT TO EASE tensions of people who feel this is an invasion by the Muslims," Turner said. "It is a business venture that will benefit the entire area. We want to show them how it works."

The St. Clair project will include a cattle farm which is already in operation, a meat packing house and a concrete plant.

Meanwhile, some anger about the Muslims move continues.

A real estate man said he lost a sale because the would-be buyer heard of the new Muslim complex.

## Uncle Sam pays half

WASHINGTON

Under the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, the federal government pays up to half the cost of such public recreation facilities as marinas, picnic grounds and camping sites. Increasing numbers of communities are seeking such aid.

## Housing share dips

WASHINGTON

From 1930 through the 1950s, the single-family house dominated the residential construction market, accounting for 80 per cent of starts. In the 1960s, single-family starts began dropping until they reached a low of 54.2 per cent in the last quarter of 1968.

The fisher cat, natural enemy of the porcupine, avoids the latter's quill-studded defense by burrowing up through the snow and attacking its victim from below, where there are no quills.

THE INITIAL CONCERN came from members of Pine Forest Missionary Baptist Church located between Pell City and Ashville. The Muslim farm adjoins church property and completely surrounds the small church cemetery.

Turner said he was going to contact J. H. Bishop, the minister of the church, and offer to buy the church property. The Muslims, Turner said, would offer to build the congregation a new brick church across Highway 411, and would agree to move the cemetery if agreeable.

*Nov. 25, 1969*  
*Birmingham News*

# Dentist charged in land deal

## PELL CITY

A dentist in Pell City arrested for "acting as an agent for a foreign corporation not authorized to do business in Alabama" has been released on \$1,000 bond.

Dr. Robert McClung, secretary-treasurer of the Progressive Land Developers Incorporated, was arrested after the corporation purchased three tracts of land in St. Clair county and the doctor ordered the occupants of the land to vacate the premises.

THE LAND in question includes about 500 acres on Wolf Creek Road, south of Pell City; 376 acres near Ashville High School and an acre in the Eden Area of Pell City, according to L. P. Waid, district attorney for St. Clair and Blount Counties.

Waid said that an occupant of land south of Pell City, John Golden, had been one of the persons ordered off the land after the doctor signed papers asking occupants to vacate. Golden, a farmer, signed the warrant for Dr. McClung's arrest, claiming, along with other occupants, that their lease allowed them to remain on the land until March 1970.

THE CASE will be tried in St. Clair County Inferior Court. Four suits were filed by Waid last week on behalf of the state of Alabama against the corporation for not being authorized to do business in Alabama.

Nov 26, 1969

In Georgia—*B' Larr News*

## Group from state tours Muslim farm

BY DON MCKEE

SASSER, Ga. Black Muslims are buying large tracts of land in the South for farm operations, paying out hard cash and even mounting a quick public relations campaign to allay fears of some Alabama whites.

"We're going to ship all over the world," says Walter L. Turner of Chicago, public relations director for the Nation of Islam, the black religious sect headed by Elijah Muhammad.

Turner said Wednesday in an interview, during a tour of the Muslim farm in south Georgia, that the Muslims already have acquired thousands of acres and plan to buy much more.

The objective, he said, is to produce beef, dairy products and vegetables, providing jobs for black people and lower prices on goods shipped to Muslim stores in big cities.

TURNER SAID the sect owns nearly 2,000 acres in Georgia, 1,000 in Alabama and "we're working on a deal in Texas, we're looking at 2,000 acres in Mississippi and in Florida." The Muslims also want coastal land in North Carolina and South Carolina. "We're having problems in Alabama," he said.

But he predicted: "We will own 100,000 acres in Alabama next year at this time."

Turner and a group of whites from St. Clair County in Alabama arrived by chartered airplane at Albany for a tour of the Georgia Muslim farms. Leader of the visiting group was car dealer Ray Wyatt of Pell City, a white man whose land sales to the Muslims triggered white opposition, minor violence and threats against him.

THE GEORGIA trip sought to smooth the Alabama situation. At a luncheon in Albany

In St. Clair County

# Dentist severs ties with Muslim venture

*B'ham News -  
Dec 2 - 1969  
p. 27*

## PELL CITY

A Pell City dentist, who had registered as a director of several corporations linked with a business venture by the Black Muslims in St. Clair County, has resigned.

Dr. Robert McClung notified Pell City auto dealer Ray Wyatt, head of the corporations, of his resignation by mail.

Dr. McClung had been secretary of Progressive Land Development Corp., an organization that is to operate a farm-industrial complex for the Muslims. He and Wyatt sold land to the Muslims in a move that stirred

up strong reaction from many residents in the predominantly white community.

THE DENTIST, as well as Wyatt, had received numerous threatening phone calls since the transactions were brought to light several weeks ago.

Last week Dr. McClung was arrested for "representing a foreign corporation not registered to do business." Bond was set at \$1,000.

"I'm sorry this thing caused so much anger," Dr. McClung said.

One of the corporations

formed by he, Wyatt and businessman Robert Thompson, called ALSEC, had gained a \$500,000 grant for water improvement for Ragland.

However, Ragland mayor Bob Dickinson, presumably under pressure from townspeople, cancelled all projects with the three men, and thus lost the federal grant.

"I'm sorry that happened," Dr. McClung said. "The town needs that water project. And ALSEC had nothing at all to do with the Muslims."

The dentist was one of several persons arrested in

connection with the Muslim move into the county.

MEANWHILE, L. P. Waid, district attorney for St. Clair and Blount counties, has filed three warrants against the Muslim backed corporation, Progressive Land Developers Inc., as efforts to legally remove the Muslims from the county continue.

## Cancer kills young

### NEW YORK

Cancer in the U. S. kills more children from ages 3 to 15 than any other of the known diseases.

Ask \$250,000— *B'ham News*  
*Dec. 4, 1969*

# Baptist deacons file suit over Muslims

ASHVILLE

A \$250,000 damage suit has been filed in Circuit Court by the Deacons of Pine Forest Baptist Church.

Named in the action are a group of people associated with a recently announced Black Muslim business venture in St. Clair County, including Pell City businessman Ray Wyatt, Pell City dentist Robert McClung, and Birmingham attorney, Orzelle Billingsley.

Also named is Walter Turner, a public relations representative of the Muslims.

The Muslims, who bought property adjoining the small church, are charged with trespassing and other damages.

Dr. McClung has severed ties with the organizations on the face of repeated threats.

# Black Muslims purchase land in St. Clair county

BY FRANK SIKORA  
AND THOMAS HILL  
News staff writers

PELL CITY

A man who says he's a spokesman for the Black Muslims said the organization will erect a \$2.5 business-agriculture complex in St. Clair County on land sold them by a former state senator.

Walter E. Turner, in making the statement, said he is a public relations representative of the Muslims. The purchase of the land, totalling more than 800 acres, was made from Ray Wyatt, one time state senator and now a car dealer in Pell City.

The announcement came after weeks of tension in the

county in which reports of the Muslim move were being circulated. Tuesday night, 12 cars owned by Wyatt's firm were damaged when a white man threw acid on them.

WYATT SOLD the land, part of which included his own farm, to a corporation known as Progressive Land Developers, Inc., which Turner says is Muslim-owned. It is registered in Dawson, Ga., where the Muslims have a farm-industry complex.

Wyatt, who will manage part of the operation, said he did not know who was behind the corporation when he made the sale.

Tuesday night, when the

acid was thrown, threats were reportedly made on the lives of Wyatt, and two other white men, Dr. Robert McClung, a dentist, and R. E. Thompson, a businessman. The three have formed several local corporations.

## Toys given for needy disappear

UPPER MARLBORO, Md.

Toys collected by deputy sheriffs for distribution to needy children at Christmas have been stolen from the building in which they were stored.

Sheriff William J. Kersey said the thief or thieves must have used a truck to haul away all the games, dolls and other toys.

Many of the toys had been repaired by the deputies in their spare time.

Kersey said the theft occurred last weekend. There was a delay in notification, he said, because the deputies hoped to find the thief or thieves.

"How can somebody be that lousy?" the sheriff asked.

—Associated Press

Wyatt expressed regret that misunderstandings had created the tension in the area.

"WE HAVE BROKEN no laws," he said, "and we will not encourage anyone else to do so. This operation will be an asset to the county and the state, and will be a tremendous boost to the economy of the area."

Wyatt said that when he sold the land to Progressive Land Developers, he had no idea who backed the organization. He said he did not know it was a Muslim-backed organization at the time the sale was concluded. This was confirmed by Turner.

Wyatt pointed out that the program will bring new industries to the area, and it already has been praised by the mayor of Ragland.

"We are going ahead with our plans," Wyatt said today. "We've already started our cattle program, and the meat packing plant will get under way very soon as planned."

THE UNREST in the county developed one Sunday at the Pine Forest Missionary Baptist Church, when Wyatt's brother, Wallace Wyatt, a deacon, announced that his brother had "sold out to the Black Muslims."

The church's cemetery is surrounded by the farm land sold by Wyatt to the Muslim corporation.

Tuesday afternoon, prior to the acid incident, a Negro man from Georgia was arrested on the land and charged with trespassing and failure to register as a Muslim. Sheriff Clemmon Roe said the man was released on bond. The Muslims said the man, however, was not a member of their organization.

At DAC breakfast meet—

## Princesses to be honored Tuesday

Their names are Charlotte, Barbara Ann, Darleen, Debra, Joyce, Barbara, Jackie Ann and Joy.

And they were all announced today as Christmas Seal Princesses in their respective high schools in Jefferson County.

The important role played by the princess during the annual sale of Christmas Seals will be spotlighted here Tuesday by M. E. Wiggins, president of the Birmingham City Council.

WIGGINS, who is this year's Christmas Seal chairman in Jefferson County, will introduce all of the county's lovely Christmas Seal Princesses and

their sponsors at the Tuesday breakfast meeting of Downtown Action Committee at the Tutwiler.

In the accompanying pictures, the eight new Princesses are shown with their sponsors — the principals or assistant principals of their high schools, and representatives of enforcement agencies in the county.

The annual Christmas Seal Princess Pageant has a theme of "dual protection" — protection of health through sale of Christmas Seals, which help finance the fight against respiratory diseases; and protection of home and family through support of law enforcement.

## Kindergartens call meeting

The aggressive child will be discussed at a meeting sponsored by Birmingham Kindergarten Association at 1:30 p.m. Monday.

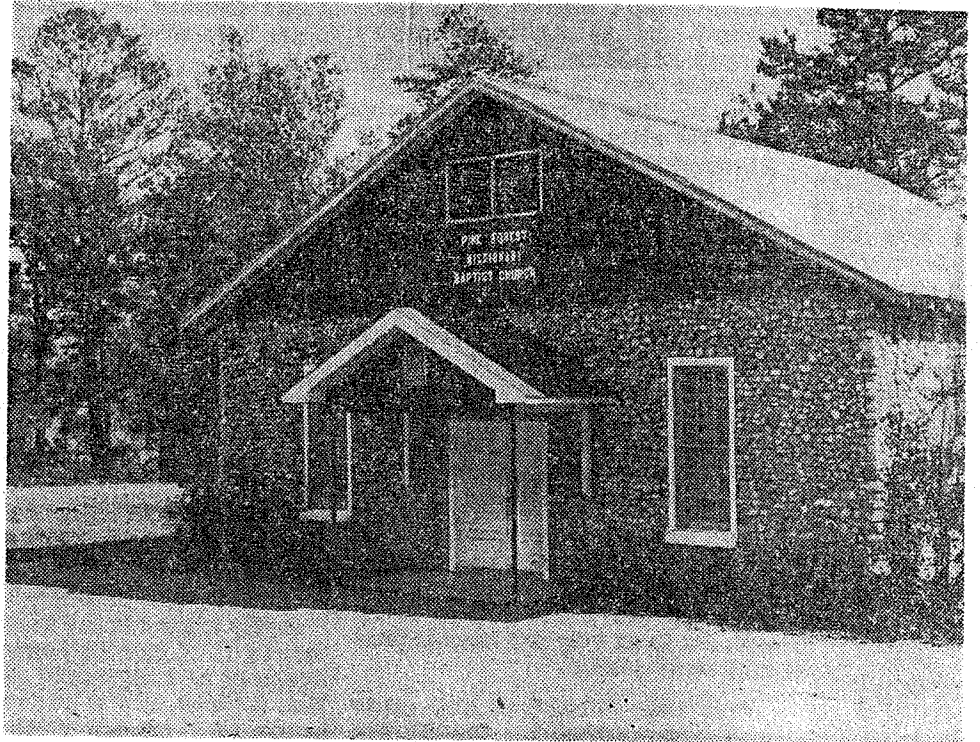
Staff members from Jefferson County Department of Mental Health will conduct the meeting at Jewish Community Center. The public is invited.

s on the suit nity up its Count and thei men hav cope will said. size up l sawsweck l call "a di s suffering." rk of his pele.

the fire, an' ha' of his garage sac  
 nst the Muslims.  
 former state sena  
 who came to his  
 and waved to him  
 a little better."



farm



Pine Forest Church: An unlikely place



Muslim controversy—

# U. S. officials keep close eye on St. Clair

From Page 1

BY EARLY NOVEMBER, the news media released the first reports of the Muslim purchase. The Muslims and Ray Wyatt were deliberate in stating their intentions: Business only, no violence.

No aggressive Muslims were brought into the area, and the farm near the church had only a few Negro laborers working there, Turner said.

"There's always been Negro farm laborers in the county," Wyatt said.

But by now the anger of the whites in the county began to mount. "We want new industry," said a Pell City businessman, "but we don't want them."

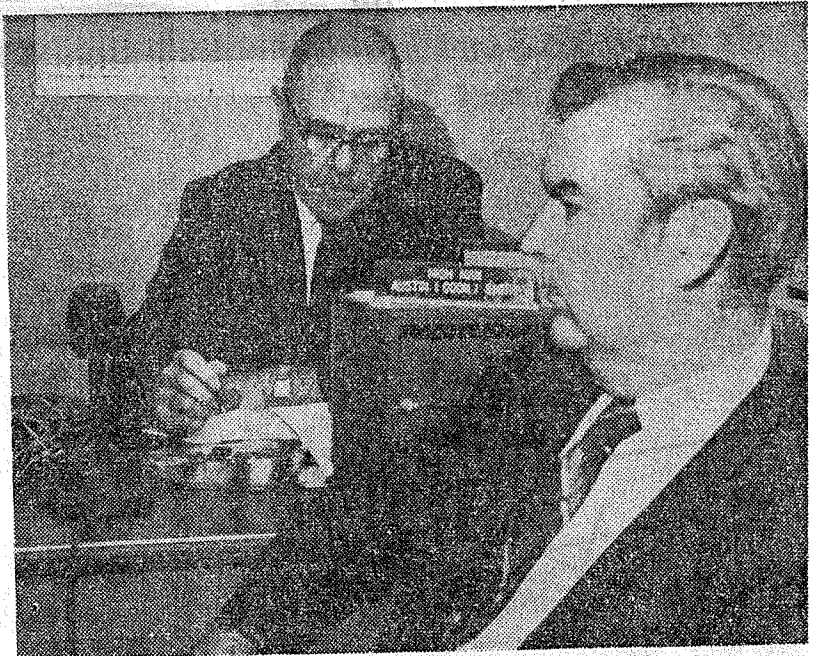
"Give them a chance," Wyatt pleaded. Very few listened. Threatening phone calls besieged the car dealer as well as his other white business partners, Dr. Robert McClung, a Pell City dentist, and Robert Thompson, a businessman, Wyatt said. Guns were discharged in front of their homes at night, some residents reported.

IN MID-NOVEMBER, whites held a huge rally at Ashville High School, called it Operation RID, and hashed over ways to get rid of the Muslims.

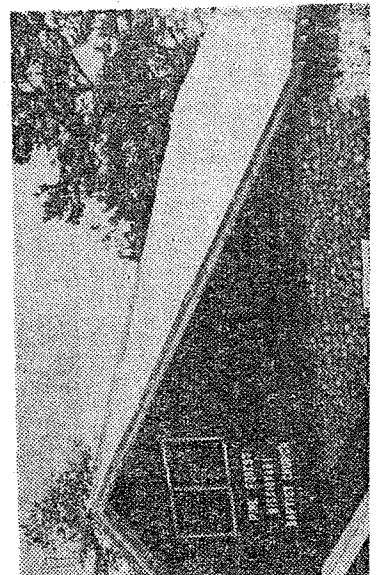
Ed Sirickland, executive director of the Alabama Commission to Preserve The Peace, pledged state support, but cautioned the people to stay within the law.

Arrest warrants against Ray Wyatt, Dr. McClung and others connected with the Muslim venture began to fly. Then one night a white man spilled acid on 12 of Wyatt's new cars.

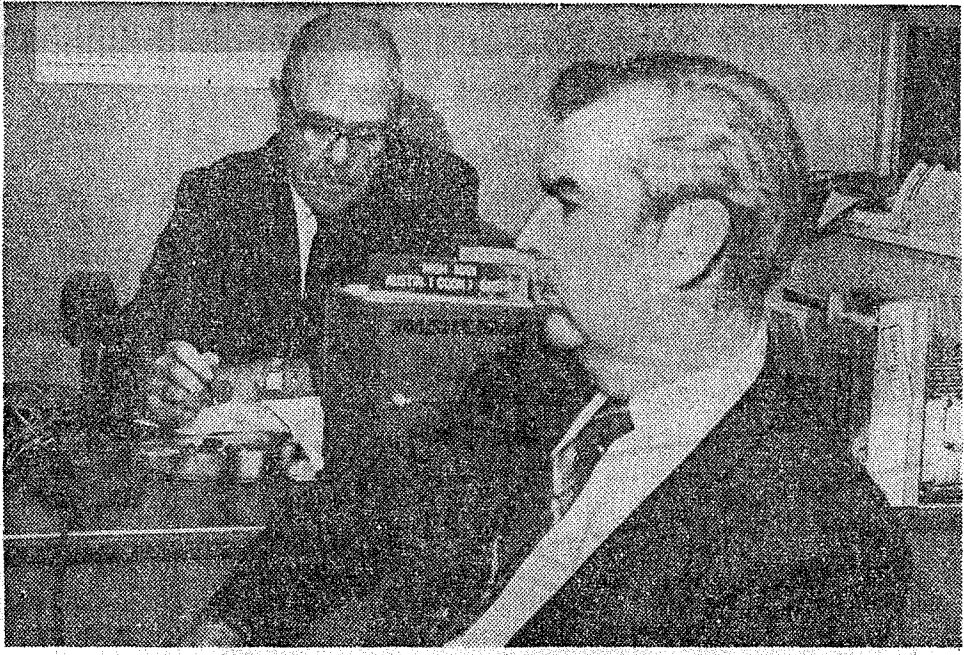
At the rally, Rev. Bishop had told the more than 3,000 Muslims that if necessary to stop the Muslims.



Wyatt, state investigator Ralph Holmes discuss fi



# Specials The eye fair



Wyatt, state investigator Ralph Holmes discuss fire

media released the  
The Muslims and Ray  
intentions: Business

into the area, and the  
agro laborers working

borers in the county,”

n the county began to  
Pell City businessman,

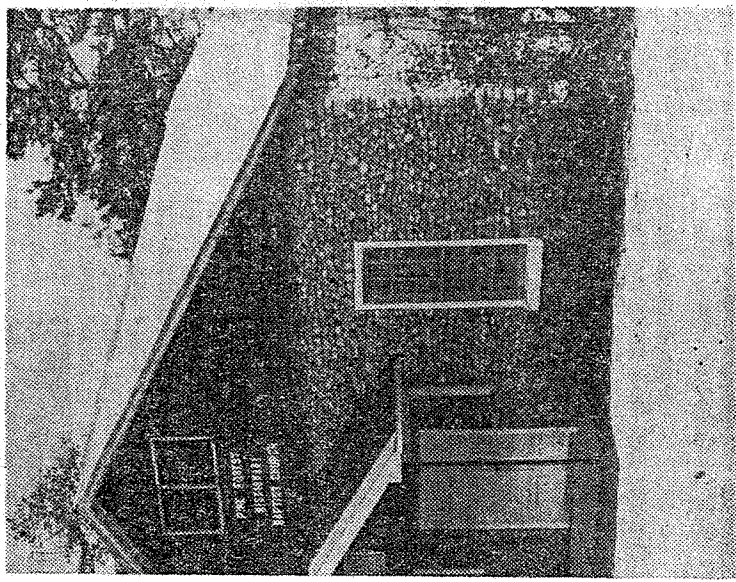
i. Very few listened.  
car dealer as well as  
Robert McClung, a Pell  
businessman, Wyatt said.  
homes at night, some

huge rally at Ashville  
d hashed over ways to

the Alabama Commis-  
d state support, but  
aw.

it, Dr. McClung and  
re began to fly. Then  
of Wyatt's new cars.

the more than 3,000  
to stop the Muslims.



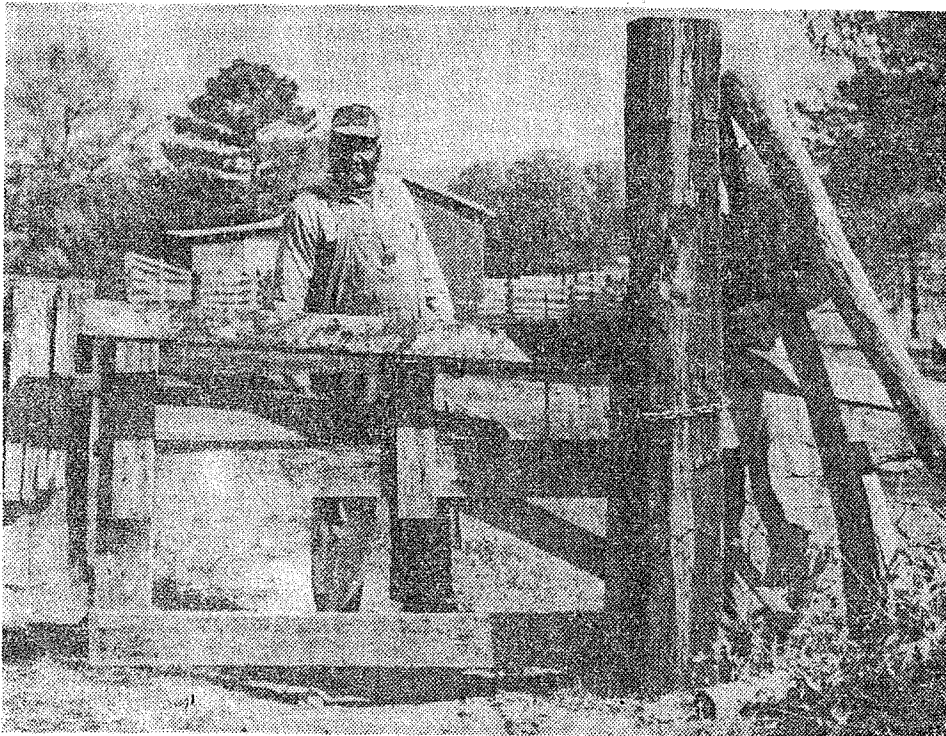
church: An unlikely place

MEANWHILE, the first of the many court contests come up Friday in Pell City, where Negro Jimmy Holmes, a Wyatt farm hand, faces charges of trespassing on Pine Forest Church property, and failing to register as a Black Muslim.

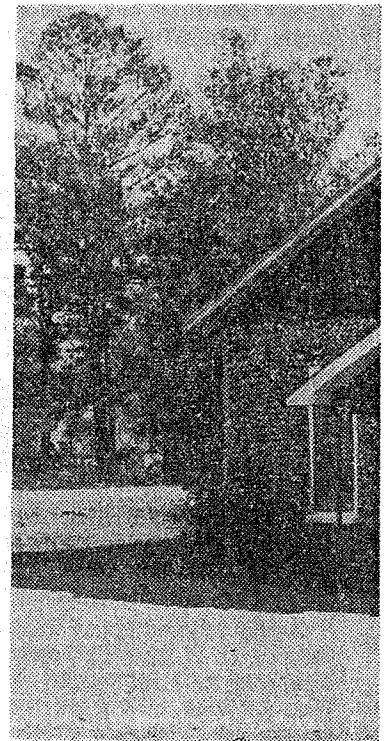
Others will follow, and even some of the state officials who are against them think the cases will not hold water in court.

What lies ahead is, at best, shaky. The best that could happen, many feel, would be some sort of court settlement to resolve the problems — although it wouldn't dissolve the feelings.

The worst would be a situation where the Justice Department would have to intervene to preserve order . . . something they wouldn't hesitate to do if necessary.



**Negro farm hand fixes fence at Muslim farm**



**Pine Forest**