

May 28, 1959

FACTS RELATING TO RECENT VIOLENCE INFLICTED
UPON NEGRO CITIZENS OF MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

During the past week-end Montgomery was shocked by the news reaching the city relative to recent tragic incidents in Dallas County to residents of this city who had availed themselves of the opportunity of fishing in the state lake #224. The report reveals that Mr. Quintus Hooten, 815 Bolivar Street, left his home Sunday morning accompanied by two (2) of his sisters. As they approached the lake they were encountered by a group of white men who ordered them to get out of the car. When Mr. Hooten got on the ground he was attacked by the white men and severely beaten. He suffered severe bruises about the head and face and was then ordered to leave the county.

Mr. E. L. Carl left his home Sunday morning, May 24, accompanied by Mrs. Fannie Foster and her son Johnny Foster. They went to Dallas County to fish in the newly opened lake #224. Nearing the lake they were stopped by a group of white men and Mr. Carl was ordered out of the car. When he got out of the car he was beaten into a state of temporary unconsciousness. During the affray his arm was broken and his head and face badly bruised. Johnny Foster, seventeen years of age, was also beaten by these same men.

The Reverend Horace G. Bell went to Dallas County to fish Saturday, May 23, along with several other men. After reaching the lake the group parted, leaving Reverend Bell alone. Reverend Bell has not been seen or heard from since. Horace G. Bell is a long time resident of this city and has been an active and useful citizen. For a long time he worked as a carpenter for the First National Bank doing repairs on property of the institution. Reverend Bell's wife was a teacher in the public schools of this county. Through his industry and thrift all five of his children were educated. Four of them hold Bachelor Degrees from the local college and the fifth one is a graduate of Talladega College, Talladega, Alabama. He is a veteran of World War I and has played a leading role in civic development. Efforts by his son to get assistance from local and state authorities have not produced results.