

Hosted by

The Birmingham Committee for the
Development of Economic Opportunity

in cooperation with

The National Urban League

And many Civic, Religious, Professional, and Educational
Institutions of the City of
Birmingham and the State of Alabama

Program by the courtesy of Dr. A. G. Gaston



Alabama State ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY CONFERENCE

“American Teamwork Works”



DINKLER-TUTWILER HOTEL
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
February 26-27, 1965

Conference Planning Committee

General Chairman: Erskine Smith and Dr. Lucius Pitts

Finance: Dr. A. G. Gaston

Attendance: Joseph Bruno

Publicity: Emory Jackson

Arrangements: Mrs. Bessie Estell, Mrs. Frieda Coggins

Consultants:

William Bass Special Consultant Office of Economic Opportunity	Jeweldean Jones Associate Director, Health and Welfare National Urban League
Theodore Berry Director, Community Action Programs Office of Economic Opportunity	Louis Mitchell Field Representative U. S. Civil Rights Commission
Clarence Coleman Director, Southern Region National Urban League	Addison Paris Director, Office of Economic Assistance Small Business Administration
A. D. Gaither Intergroup Relations Officer Housing and Home Finance Agency	Phenizee Ransome Employment Service Advisor U. S. Department of Labor
Jacob Henderson Field Coordinator Area Re-development Administration	

Conference Coordinator:

James E. Johnson, Field Representative

National Skills Bank

National Urban League

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Chairman—Dr. Lucius Pitts

9:00-11:00—General Session

“The Economic Opportunity Act: Implementation for the South”

Theodore Berry, Director
Community Action Programs
Office of Economic Opportunity

Louis Mitchell, Field Representative
Field Service Division
U. S. Civil Rights Commission

Discussants

Robert W. Block, President
National Woodworks, Inc.
President, Birmingham Community
Service Council

John C. Barnette
International Representative
United Auto Workers

Dr. Joseph F. Volker, Vice President
University of Alabama

11:00-12:15—Report from Conference Discussion Leaders

Concluding Remarks:

Whitney M. Young, Jr.

Executive Director

National Urban League

2:00-4:30—Individual Conferences for Workshop Participants with
Consultants

Alabama State Economic Opportunity Conference

Dinkler-Tutwiler Hotel

Birmingham, Alabama

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1965

Chairman—Erskine Smith

9:00- 9:30—Registration

9:30-12:00—General Session

Welcome to the Conference

Dr. Lucius Pitts

President, Miles College

Welcome to Birmingham

The Honorable Albert Boutwell

Mayor of Birmingham

“Dimensions of Poverty in the State of Alabama”

Claude Kirk

Alabama State Coordinator for the Economic
Opportunity Act of 1964

"The Anatomy of Local Alabama Anti-Poverty Programs"

Erman L. Crews

Director, Community Improvement Board of Calhoun County
Anniston

Milton K. Cummings

Chairman, Huntsville-Madison County Community Action
Committee, Inc.
Huntsville

Orzell Billingsley, Jr.

Member, Executive Committee

Birmingham Area Committee for Development of
Economic Opportunity

12:15-2:00—Luncheon

"Alabama's Citizens View the War on Poverty"

Small Group Discussions

Discussion Coordinator:

James E. Johnson

National Skills Bank

2:00-2:15

"Private Agencies and the Economic Opportunity Act"

Jeweldean Jones

Associate Director

Health and Welfare National Urban League

2:30-4:30—General Session

"The Economic Opportunity Act and Related Resources"

Panel

Phenizee Ransome
Employment Service Advisor
U. S. Department of Labor

Addison Paris, Director
Office of Economic Assistance
Small Business Administration

Jacob Henderson
Field Coordinator
Area Re-development Administration

Representative
Department of Health, Education
and Welfare

4:30—Special Meeting of Group Discussion Leaders

8:00—Public Meeting

**"The American Task Force Against Poverty—
Federal Resources and Local Leadership"**

Jack Conway,
Deputy Director
Office of Economic Opportunity
Washington, D. C.

Whitney M. Young, Jr.
Executive Director
National Urban League
New York, New York