

SNCC Research
Atlanta, Georgia
September 5, 1965

LOWNDES COUNTY, ALABAMA

county seat - Hayneville, pop. 990	populations of other towns	
county pop. - 15,417	Benton	300
Negroes - 12,425	Braggs	300
% Negro - 81%	Birkeville	150
pop. change, 1950-60 - loss of 14.4%	Calhoun	560
	Farmersville	80
	Fort Deposit	1466
	Fostoria	200
	Letohatchee	350
	Lowndesboro	250
	Mt. Willing	350
	White Hall	200

State representative - William Edwards of Ft. Deposit

State Senator - Walter C. Givhan of Safford, 30th district (Dallas and Lowndes)

U.S. Congressman - William L. Dickinson of Montgomery (Republican).

Member of House Committees on Government Operations and House Administration.

Elected in 1964, 40 years old, former city and circuit judge. Lawyer.

Member of Governor's Industrial Development Committee of 100 (responsible for recruiting new industry to Alabama under the Wallace Act, which provides government financing of new plants and long-term tax exemptions, as with the arrangement that brought Hammermill to Selma and Dan River Mills to Benton, Alabama.)

Second District Democratic Party Executive Committee - Howard Haygood

(Greenville), J. E. Brantley (Banks), L. W. Brannan, jr. (Foley), Henry

Heller (Montgomery), J. B. Nix, jr. (Evergreen), Frank Mizell (Montgomery),

Jack Hornady (Hope Hull), John F. Britton (Montgomery).

education

1957 education budget for Lowndes County - \$688,622

median school years completed - 6.4

Negroes - 5.1

	white	Negro
school population	745	4143
elementary	521	3244
high school	216	868

annual family income

families		median family income for Lowndes Co.	
income	white	Negro	
\$000-1000	67	1153	all families \$1387
1000-2000	81	571	white 4400
2000-3000	79	171	Negro 935
3000-4000	102	92	median family income for Alabama
4000-5000	122	79	all families \$5316
5000-6000	105	42	white 5557
6000-7000	61	16	Negro 2674
7000-8000	18	18	
8000-9000	57	7	
9000-10000	23	4	
over \$10,000	73	4	

occupations of Negro workers

domestic workers 429, or 48% of all Negro women employed
farmers 710, or 31% of all Negro men employed
farm laborers 701, or 30% of all Negro men employed
laborers 398, or 18% of all Negro men employed
factory workers 240, or 11% of all Negro men employed

labor force	Negro	white
men	2273	704
women	1039	385
unemployed	207	27
% of work force	9%	3.8%

politics

1960 presidential vote
1964 presidential vote

Democratic	Republican
884	132

voter registration	white	Negro
eligible	1900	5122
registered	2240	

County officials

Sheriff	C E Ryals
judge of probate	Harrell Hammonds
circuit clerk	Maurice Edmand Marlette
register in equity	Mrs. M E Herbert
tax assessor	Mrs. Charlie C Sullivan
tax collector	Iva D Sullivan
supt. of education	Hilda Coleman
county solicitor	Carlton Perdue
county commissioners	W E Mealing, (chairman), C A Day, Snow Davis, Roland Redden, W D Farrior, jr.; M E Marlette (clerk), Ray Bass (engineer), C L Perdue (attorney)
circuit judge	T Werth Thaggard (Greenville), 2nd judicial circuit
circuit solicitor	Arthur E Gamble jr. (Greenville)
circuit court reporter	Mrs. Mary L Wright (Greenville)

tax assessment (property) for 1964 - \$7,323,242

Agriculture (figures for 1959)

number of farms	1123
average size of farms	244 acres
number of farms under 10 acres	126
number of farms over 1000 acres	86
percent of farms operated by tenants	50.2%

housing

housing units occupied by owner	1262
housing units occupied by renter	2152
median rent per month	\$20

business (figures for 1958)

average wage for factory workers	\$1.20 an hour
manufacturing workers payroll	\$411,000 a year
average salary of retail workers	\$1850 a year
number of retail workers	135
average salary of service workers	\$2000 a year

(includes workers in hotels, restaurants, automobile repair, recreational services, etc.)

Federal aid to education

Under the new federal aid to education bill recently passed by Congress, Lowndes County will get ~~2287~~ 2,287,000, in addition to the aid it already receives. This places Lowndes 48th among the counties of Alabama by amount of aid. This new aid would increase the county's education budget by about a third.

federal aid to housing

There is no federal housing project listed in Lowndes County.

Federal aid to hospitals

Under provisions of the Hill-Burton Act, which allows federal grants for the construction of health facilities, one grant has been made in Lowndes County, to the Lowndes County Health Clinic in Hayneville, for the amount of \$69,828 of which \$46,552 was paid by the federal government. The grant was approved in February, 1960. The Health Clinic is owned by Lowndes County. The Hill-Burton Act forbids the practice of racial segregation in facilities constructed with money granted under its provisions.

Industrial expansion during 1964

Den River Mills of Danville, Va., has recently completed a plant valued at \$10,000,000, which will manufacture "sheeting fabrics" and employ about 200 people. If these employees are paid the average wage for textile workers in Alabama (\$65 a week), their payroll will be \$650,000 a year. Branco Wood Products will build a wood chipping plant in Ft. Deposit valued at \$250,000 which will employ ten people.

major employer

Fortex Manufacturing Co., Inc.; Ralph Norman sr., president, makers of pajamas; employ 100-250 people