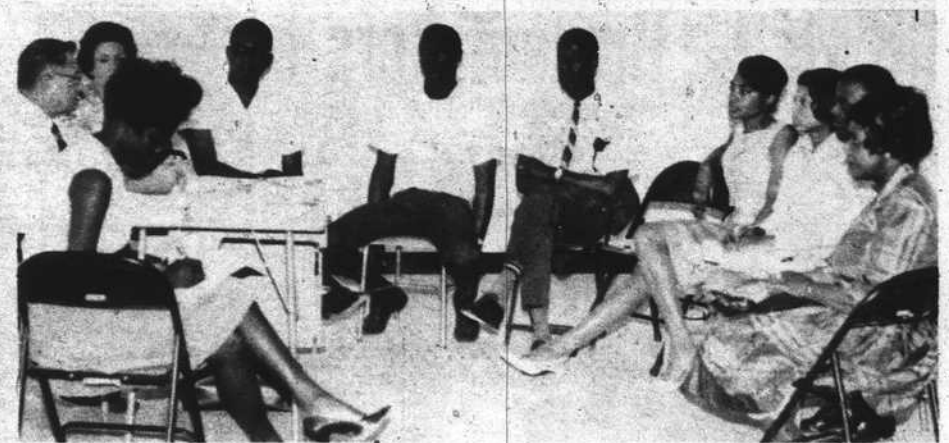




**SENATOR GREETES VISTAS**--Sen. Howard Cannon (second from left) is shown recently at Operation Independence headquarters as he tendered official greetings to VISTA (Volunteer in Service to America) members working on local anti-poverty programs here. From left: Esther Barmore, Irvington, N.J.; Sen. Cannon, Robert Adair, Tampa, Fla.; Rhoda Kluge, Lakeview, Mich.; William Lang, Massillon, Ohio; Margot Miller, Fresno, Calif., and Mrs. Esther Fenton, Columbia, Mo. Another member of team, Carmen Yanez, Los Angeles, was not present when photo was taken.



**SMALL BUSINESS MEETING**--Shown at recent meeting at Operation Independence Job Opportunities Office, Owens Ave. at 'H' St., to discuss organization of Small Business Development Center here are (clockwise from left) Johnnie Faye Daniel, Harold Schnurer, director of Small Business Administration; Elaine Walbroek, executive director, Clark County Opportunities Board; Rev. Marion Bennett, Lamar McDaniel, Cranford Crawford, Mary Sayles, Ida Marie Herbert, Henry Davis and Lubertha Johnson, assistant director, Operation Independence.

## Negro Leader Lauds Rights Act Statement By Alabama Groups

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--A statement issued by 22 major Alabama business groups urging compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 has been hailed by a Negro leader as the most important step ever taken by the state's "white power structure."

The praise came from Dr. John Nixon, president of the Alabama chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Businessmen publicized the statement in the state's 22 daily newspapers and in The Wall Street Journal in New York.

"This is the best statement ever made by any member of the white power structure," Dr. Nixon said. "This is what the Negro needs most. First-class citizens need decent jobs."

Dr. Nixon, a dentist, said it was now up to the businessmen to prove their good faith by implementing their pronouncements.

"The Negro must be ready to take advantage of this and seek the jobs which now should be open to him," he added.

The Rev. J. E. Lowery, an associate of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's., said that "on the whole the businessmen's statement was excellent." He asked, however, that the white leaders be more specific.

The advertisement was entitled "What We Believe and Where We Stand."

Among other things, the statement advocated full protection and opportunity under law for "all our citizens, both Negro and white; the right of every eligible citizen to register and cast his ballot, and obedience to the law even though some may question the wisdom of particular laws."

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