

M.M.: [CONTINUED] "BUT WHEN THE SCHOOL BUSES CAME BY, WE'D HAVE TO GET OFF THE ROAD, BECAUSE THE WHITE KIDS ON THE SCHOOL BUS WOULD THROW WHATEVER THEY HAD--ROCKS, PENCILS--OUT AT THE KIDS, YOU KNOW. IT WAS DARK, AND, OF COURSE YOU KNOW, WE HAD TO WALK. AND THEN, MOST OF THEM. . . YOU LIVED ON THEIR FARMS, THEIR PARENTS' FARM. AND THEY ACTED THAT-A-WAY WHEN YOU WERE WALKING. THEY'D THROW PENCILS AND THINGS AT US AND THEN WHEN THEY'D GET HOME, IT WAS OKAY.

"BUT, SOMEHOW OR ANOTHER, IT CHANGED. THAT'S WHY THEY SEGREGATED US, BECAUSE THEY WERE SO MEAN WHEN IT WAS FIVE OR SIX OF THEM, ONE OF YOU. THEY WOULD NEVER MEET YOU ONE ON ONE. AND I THINK IT'S MORE OR LESS THAT-A-WAY TODAY. IF IT AIN'T FIVE OR SIX OF THEM. . . WELL. . ."

S.S.: "HOW DID THEY TREAT YOU IF YOU LIVED ON THEIR FARM?"

M.M.: "THE SAME WAY IF THEY GOT WITH THEIR GROUP."

S.S.: "IF THEY GOT WITH A GROUP?"

M.M.: "THEY TREAT YOU. . . IF YOU LIVED ON THEIR FARM. . . WHATEVER EVENING UH, THEY GOT UH, FIVE OR SIX KIDS WITH THEM, (AND THERE WAS ONE OF YOU), THEY WOULD FIGHT YOU, OR DO WHATEVER. BUT UH, IF YOU OUTFRAN 'EM, THEY NEVER COULD JUMP. WE'D JUMP FENCES AND THEY HAVE TO CRAWL THROUGH 'EM. AND WE'D GET AWAY. . . YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN?"

M.B.: "RIGHT AFTER OUR CHILDREN WERE OLD ENOUGH TO START SCHOOL, WE LIVED ON A FARM BACK OUT TOWARD ARLINGTON. SO, WE BROUGHT 'EM IN OUR CAR AND PICKED THEM UP. AND THEN SHORTLY AFTER THAT, WE BOUGHT A LITTLE OL' HOME DOWN THERE, AND THEN THEY COULD WALK TO SCHOOL UP HERE. AND THEN THEY COULD WALK TO MANSFIELD AND CATCH THE BUS. BUT THEY DIDN'T HAVE. . . WE DIDN'T LIVE WAY OUT ON THE FARM AT TH' TIME THEY WERE SCHOOL AGE, BUT JUST A LITTLE WHILE."

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S.S.: "DID ANYBODY, DURING THAT PERIOD, EVER GO ON TO SECONDARY SCHOOL, OR LEAVE MANSFIELD, GO ON TO ATTEND A BLACK COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY?"

M.M.: "OH, YES. . ."

S.S.: "BUT, YOU HAD TO SHIP YOUR CHILDREN. . . YOUR FAMILY ELSEWHERE IN ORDER TO DO THAT?"

M.M.: "NOT REALLY. . . UH, THE WILSON'S, THEY'RE WELL KNOWN IN THIS COMMUNITY. AND I THINK IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN TEN, TWELVE, OR MORE CHILDREN. AND I THINK EVERY ONE OF THEM WENT TO COLLEGE. YOU KNOW, COLLEGES WITH REAL NAMES, NOT JUST SMALL COLLEGES, BIG COLLEGES.

S.S.: Stan Solamillo	M.B.: Maggie Jackson Briscoe	L.L.S.: Lillie Lawson Sheppard
B.B.: Betty Benjamin	M.M.: McCleod Mosely (Mac)	M.E.B.: Mary Ella Barr
F.L.: Fred Lawson	S.W.: Shirley Larue Barton-Washington	M.E.: Michael Evans