

STATE OF ALABAMA

BALDWIN COUNTY

Before me, the undersigned Notary Public in and for said, State and County, this day personally appeared Gladys D. Fields, who is known to me, and who being by me duly sworn deposes and says; that she is 37 years of age and has lived at or near Loxley, in Baldwin County, Alabama, for 37 years and that she is personally acquainted with Gordon M. Dyess, who was born and reared at Loxley; that the said Gordon M. Dyess is over the age of 18 years and lives with his mother, Dora Belle Steele; that his father is dead; that the said Gordon M. Dyess is now and has been for a number of years gainfully employed; that he is of temperate and industrious habits and is fully mature, physically and mentally, and that he has the ability, character, integrity, and experience to handle and manage his own affairs and property as fully and completely as if he were 21 years of age; that he owns property in his own right and that it is to his interest and to the interest of his estate that his disability of non-age be removed and that he be permitted, authorized and empowered to contract and be contracted with, to sue and be sued, to acquire, to own, and to convey and otherwise deal with and in real and personal property of all kinds and generally to have and exercise all control over his property and estate as if he were 21 years of age.

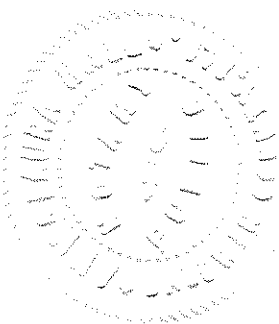
Gladys D. Fields

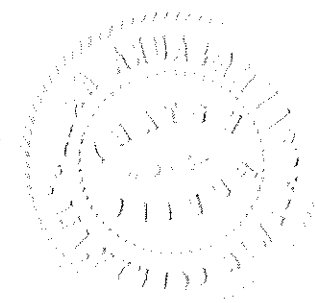
Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 31 day of

July, 1954.

Ann Louisa Hall  
Notary Public, Baldwin Co., Ala.

My Commission Expires  
July 21, 1957





**FILED**  
AUG 3 1954  
ALICE J. DUCK, Register


DORA BEELE STEELE, ex parte  
Petition for removal of  
Disabilities of Gordon M.  
Dyess;

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA  
IN EQUITY

This day came Dora Belle Steele and filed in this court her petition alleging that she is the mother of Gordon M. Dyess, a minor over the age of eighteen years; that his father is dead; that he resides with and is in the custody of petitioner; that he is of temperate and industrious habits, and physically developed and fully matured mentally and has the ability, character, integrity and experience to manage and handle his own affairs and property as fully and completely as if he were twenty-one years of age; that he owns property <sup>in</sup> his own right and that it is to the interest of the said minor that his disabilities of non age be removed and that he be permitted, authorized and empowered to contract and be contracted with, to acquire, to own, and to convey and otherwise deal with and in real and personal property as though he were twenty one years of age;

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the said petition be and the same is hereby set down for hearing June 7th, 1954 and that due and proper notice as required by the statutes be given to the said Gordon M. Dyess.

This May 7th, 1954.

  
Judge

FILED

MAY 7 1954

ALICE J. BUCK, Register

RECEIVED  
MAY 10 1954  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
MAY 10 1954  
RECEIVED

THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COURT IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JAMES EARL RAY, DECEASED.

On May 1, 1954, the Court held a hearing on the application of the executor of the estate of James Earl Ray, deceased, for the appointment of a receiver to take charge of the assets of the estate. The Court, after considering the application and the testimony of the parties, appointed the executor as receiver of the assets of the estate. The Court also ordered that the receiver should file a report of his activities and the assets of the estate at such intervals as the Court should direct. The Court further ordered that the receiver should pay to the creditors of the estate such amounts as they may be entitled to receive from the assets of the estate. The Court also ordered that the receiver should distribute the assets of the estate to the beneficiaries of the estate in accordance with the will of the decedent. The Court appointed the executor as receiver of the assets of the estate and ordered that he should file a report of his activities and the assets of the estate at such intervals as the Court should direct. The Court further ordered that the receiver should pay to the creditors of the estate such amounts as they may be entitled to receive from the assets of the estate. The Court also ordered that the receiver should distribute the assets of the estate to the beneficiaries of the estate in accordance with the will of the decedent.

THE COURT ALSO MADE CERTAIN OTHER ORDERS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JAMES EARL RAY, DECEASED. THE COURT ORDERED THAT THE EXECUTOR OF THE ESTATE SHOULD FILE A REPORT OF HIS ACTIVITIES AND THE ASSETS OF THE ESTATE AT SUCH INTERVALS AS THE COURT SHOULD DIRECT. THE COURT FURTHER ORDERED THAT THE RECEIVER SHOULD PAY TO THE CREDITORS OF THE ESTATE SUCH AMOUNTS AS THEY MAY BE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE FROM THE ASSETS OF THE ESTATE. THE COURT ALSO ORDERED THAT THE RECEIVER SHOULD DISTRIBUTE THE ASSETS OF THE ESTATE TO THE BENEFICIARIES OF THE ESTATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE WILL OF THE DECEDENT.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
JAMES EARL RAY, JR.  
EXECUTOR

1201-1041 MAY 1954

DORA BELLE STEELE, ex parte  
To remove disabilities of  
non-age

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA  
IN EQUITY

~~This cause coming on to be heard upon the petition of~~  
Dora Belle Steele, mother of Gordon M. Dyess, with whom the said  
minor resides, for the removal of the disabilities of non-age of  
the said minor, Gordon M. Dyess, and it appearing that due and  
proper notice of such petition was given in the manner and for the  
time required by law, and the same being submitted for decree upon  
the affidavits of J. J. Reddy and Grady R. Hill,  
in conformity with the order of this court hereto-  
fore entered on the 7 day of May, 1954, and the same  
being considered by the court, the court is of the opinion that  
the petition should be granted, that it is to the interest of the  
said Gordon M. Dyess and of his estate that his disabilities of  
non-age be removed, he being mature mentally and physically and fully  
capable of managing his own affairs;

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that the  
disabilities of non-age of Gordon M. Dyess; a minor over the age  
of 18 years be and the same are hereby removed and he is hereby  
permitted, authorized and empowered to contract and be contracted with,  
to sue and be sued, to acquire, to own, and to convey and otherwise  
deal with and in real and personal property of all kinds and generally  
to have and exercise all control over his person and estate as if  
he were twenty-one years of age.

Done this the 3 day of August, 1954.

Hubert M. Steele  
Judge.

FILED

AUG 3 1954

ALICE J. GUY, Registrar


DORA BELLE STEELE, ex parte  
Petition for removal of  
Disabilities of Gordon M.  
Dyess;

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA  
IN EQUITY

TO GORDON M. DYESS:

Dora Belle Steele having heretofore on to-wit: the 7th day of May, 1954 filed her petition hereto attached in the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, for the removal of disabilities of non-age of Gordon M. Dyess, a minor over the age of eighteen years, notice is hereby given that the said petition will be heard before the Judge of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama at Bay Minette, on the 7th day of June, 1954, and you and any and all persons interested therein may appear and contest the same.

Witness my hand this the 7th day of May, 1954.

  
Register.

TO THE HONORABLE HUBERT M. HALL, JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA, IN EQUITY SITTING:

Comes Dora Belle Steele and respectfully show unto your Honor  
as follows:

FIRST: That this petitioner is ~~over~~ the age of twenty-one  
years and resides at Loxley, Alabama; that she is the mother of  
Gordon M. Dyess; that the said Gordon M. Dyess is a minor over  
the age of eighteen years, whose father is dead; and that he has  
no legally constituted and appointed guardian; the said Gordon M.  
Dyess is in the custody of and resides with the said Dora Belle  
Steele at Loxley, Alabama, in Baldwin County,

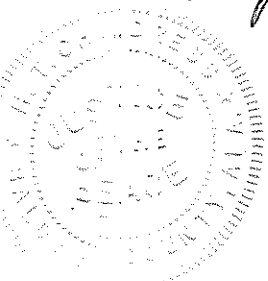
SECOND: That the said Gordon M. Dyess is of temperate  
and industrious habits and physically developed and fully matured  
mentally and has the ability, character, integrity and experience  
to handle and manage his own affairs and property as fully and  
completely as if he were twenty-one years of age; that he owns  
property in his own right and that it is to the interest of the  
said Gordon M. Dyess and of his estate that her disabilities  
of non-age be removed and that he be permitted, authorized and  
empowered to contract and be contracted with, to sue and be sued,  
to acquire, to own, and to convey and other wise deal with and in  
real and personal property of all kinds and generally to have and  
exercise all control over his person and estate as if he were twenty-  
one years of age.

WHEREFORE your petitioners pray that due and proper notice  
of this petition be given as required by law, and that upon due  
and proper proof of the matters herein alleged this Honorable  
Court will make and enter a decree removing the disabilities of  
non-age of the said Gordon M. Dyess and that he be permitted,  
authorized and empowered to contract and be contracted with, to  
sue and be sued, to acquire, to own and to convey and otherwise  
deal with and in real and personal property of all kinds and gen-  
erally to have and exercise all control over his person and estate  
as if he were twenty-one years of age.

Dora Belle Steele

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 7 day of  
May, 1954.

H. P. Childers J. P.  
Notary Public, Baldwin Co., Ala.





m 3248

Received in Pees  
this May 7, 1954

Sheriff

I have this day  
executed the within  
noted copy operations  
by serving a copy  
thereof on Gordon  
M. Dyers.

This May 7, 1954

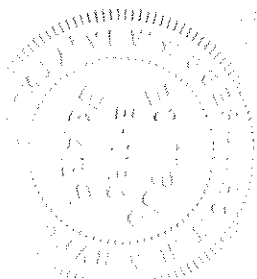
Taylor Wilkins  
Sheriff

FILED

MAY 7 1954

ALICE J. DUCK, Register

3248



3248

STATE OF ALABAMA

BALDWIN COUNTY

Before me, the undersigned Notary Public in and for said State and County, this day personally appeared W. J. Reding, who is known to me, and who being by me duly sworn deposes and says; that he is 26 years of age and has lived at or near Loxley, in Baldwin County, Alabama, for 26 years and that he is personally acquainted with Gordon M. Dyess, who was born and reared at Loxley; that the said Gordon M. Dyess is over the age of 18 years and lives with his mother, Dora Belle Steele; that his father is dead; that the said Gordon M. Dyess is now and has been for a number of years, gainfully employed; that he is of temperate and industrious habits and is fully mature, physically and mentally, and that he has the ability, character, integrity, and experience to handle and manage his own affairs and property as fully and completely as if he were 21 years of age; that he owns property in his own right and that it is to his interest and to the interest of his estate that his disability of non-age be removed and that he be permitted, authorized and empowered to contract and be contracted with, to sue and be sued, to acquire, to own, and to convey and otherwise deal with and in real and personal property of all kinds and generally to have and exercise all control over his property and estate as if he were 21 years of age.

W. J. Reding

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 31 day of July, 1954.

Annabonra Hall  
Notary Public, Baldwin Co., Ala.

My Commission Expires  
July 21, 1957.