

Rust College
Holly Springs, Miss.
December 8, 1962

Dear Brother,

During the past week we have traveled a total of four hundred seventy miles and reached approximately five hundred persons. This was accomplished in many ways.

On Sunday December 2, members of the Speakers Bureau, the campus organization, spoke at ten churches and reached at least five hundred people. The new Valiant was instrumental in the transporting of the speakers.

On Monday we received the call from a lady in the North part of the county that she had made one (1) bale of cotton this year and could not get any welfare relief. We are working on that case.

The cotton acreage allotments are being sent out here and I have fear that the "powers that be" are trying to force the Negroes off their land by raising taxes and lowering cotton acreage allotments. We are presently formulating a letter to be sent to the Agriculture Department and various other people.

We brought all of these problems together in our Voters League Meeting Thursday night of this week. We had a good attendance however I think that we are still recovering from the "Ole Miss" incident, whose effect I am still trying to tabulate. (We are only 30 miles from Oxford, Miss.)

We have had a steady trickle of people to go down and take the test and yesterday I received word that at least one other person had passed.

Early next week we go into Benton County to work with Mr. Reeves and to get some affidavits to be filed with the Justice Department. They are having similar problems with voter registration there.

Next week some of the adults, who live in the north part of Marshall County near Fayette County, Tennessee, are planning a door-to-door campaign. It will be conducted chiefly by adults and I may move from here up there with them, if my car does not have a tag by then.

By the way, we have a new shiny useless Valiant and it can't be run because we need a tag. When there is so much work to be done in such a large area it seems pathetic that we would let a new car sit idle for the lack of a few dollars.

Difficulties and interruptions are common to me. It seems that, as my mother used to say "if it ain't one thing its another." If we aren't trying to scrape a few nickles for gasoline, then we are trying to get money to pay bills for supplies, or to pay the garage man or the gas station bill. These are extra difficulties which add to the already existing difficulties and serve not to aid the projects at all. I have not had a completely free week of intensive work for quite some time now and due to the lack of a license plate I am again experiencing an interruption. May the New Year bring better results.

Yours in the struggle,

/s/ Frank Smith
Frank Smith