

June 9, 1965

TO: ALL SNCC FIELD PROJECTS

FROM: LIBRARY COMMITTEE

There are between 100,000 and a quarter of a million books sitting in a warehouse in Atlanta. These books were collected primarily to supply freedom schools and small Negro colleges who are not able to afford adequate libraries. However, the number of books is so great that they will now be used to supply all projects that feel they can use them.

We have 2 problems with these books: 1) to get manpower to sort and send them to where they can be used; 2) and to know what books people need and want.

There are 2 people working on both problems: Harry DeLung, a student at Emory University and Myrna Wood, a SNCC volunteer librarian from Toronto, Canada.

But, in order to solve the second problem, to find out what you need and to get it to you, they must have your help. Please fill out the enclosed form and send it back AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

If your freedom school doesn't want books, maybe you can think about a public library in your community center where everyone can borrow the books for reading at home; or maybe you can distribute books through the community and in the rural areas for people to keep as their own. We have all these books here - they should not go to waste - Not when there are people who cannot afford or acquire the education and entertainment that these books represent.

Also, if there are any specific subjects or books that your staff or any local person would like to have, we will attempt to get it for you from publishing contacts in the North. All you have to do is ask.

A team of people will travel around the projects sometime this summer to find out just what state the libraries are in and what material is needed. However, the sorting is going on right now and your information is badly needed so that the books you want can be picked out immediately.

Please return form to:

Myrna Wood
SNCC
360 Nelson St. SW
Atlanta 13

LIBRARIES

Have you a library in your Freedom School? _____

How many volumes? (approx.) _____

Are they sorted? _____

Are they cataloged? _____

Is any one individual in charge of them? _____

If so: name _____

What types of books do you need? (please check)

Childrens books-

Entertainment-

Texts-

Higher educational (high school and/or college level)

Adult-

Entertainment-

Technical instruction-

Do you have space in a community center for a public library?
(Or could it be provided in a home?)

Would it be feasible to distribute books to local people in your
community? (Or is there a group who could do it; church, club, etc?)

Which of these classifications do you need? (please check)

1. Dictionaries and encyclopedias
2. Political science
3. Economics
4. Law

