

MEMO      October 21, 1 965

TO: Friends of SN CC  
FROM: Cynthia Washington

Marin Friends of SNCC has purchased THREE Ford Station-buses for SNCC with trading stamps contributed to the "stamps for Freedom" program, and stamps are still coming in. Every FOS group should 1. do a mailing to its local list to ask people to send their stamps directly to Marin Friends of SNCC, P.O. Box 210, Mill Valley, California. The people out there are working closely with us on the actual purchase of the buses. Also, the stamps that can not be used toward the purchase of buses can be used to get much needed office equipment for field projects. 2. Please encourage people to support and contribute stamps to the drive.

Saleable items

At the present time SNCC handles the following saleable items:

The Movement

SN CC: The New Abolitionists

Freedom Singers Sing of Freedom Now, We Shall Overcome, old Freedom Singers' Album (which has no cover)

We Shall Overcome Song Book

buttons; handclasp, one man- one vote, we shall overcome  
posters; For Food, For Freedom - Is He Protecting You- Come, Let us  
make a New World together, Now - One man- one vote

From Shessie's financial report of July, 1965 are the following figures:  
saleable items    INCOME    \$4179.66  
                                 COSTS        7569.12

Present state of Saleable items----

no Zinn books

no buttons

about 100 copies of The Movement

about 100 copies of the song book

1,000's of posters, with the Raymond St. address

lots of records

Our recommendation is that we not handle saleable items, through Atlanta. If the fos groups and offices want to continue handling the saleable items these things can be obtained by ordering from the respective companies. The main reason for this is that we have never found a way to keep even adequate account, much less accurate account of what happens to the items, and we lose too much money on them. Of course the other thing is that in the shape we're in now, we couldn't prepay an order for anything. Your comments on this are welcome and will be considered.

List of publishers:

Zinn, SNCC: The New Abolitionists -- Beacon Press, 25 Beacon St., Boston, Mass. Dominic Lorenzo, sales manager. Price: paperback, \$1.75 - Hardcover, \$4.95. Will offer the following discounts:  
up to 100, 40% off list price  
100-300, 45% off list price  
301-500, 48% off list price  
501 or more, 50% off list price.

The Movement --- Simon & Schuster Inc., 630 Fifth Ave., N.Y. 20  
Bob Gottlieb -- paperback \$1.95 -- to us 75¢/ copy

Letter Form Mississippi (which Atlanta never handled), McGraw-Hill Book Co., 330 West 42nd St., N.Y., Joseph Allen, Sales manager. Hardcover list price is \$4.95 -- has been making it available to fos people for cost (\$1.03) plus handling. Paperback rights sold to American Library. (haven't been in contact with them.)

The Summer that didn't End -- (which Atlanta never handled), Wm Morrow and Co., Inc., 425 Park Ave. South, N.Y. 16, N.Y.

We Shall Over Come songbook, paperback, Oak Publications, Inc., 165 W 46th St., N.Y.C., List price \$1.95 -- to us .75¢



Records:

"We Shall Overcome" & "Freedom Singers Sing of Freedom Now", Mercury Records Corp., 35 E. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Ill., E.D. Gannon, credit manager. List price \$4 and to us \$1.60

Buttons & Posters will be handled by us (Atlanta) as long as we can pay for them. At the Moment we have no buttons.

FOOD & CLOTHES

I know that many of you probably get requests and questions about the need for food and clothing. The problem has never been the need but rather shipping, shipping costs and distribution. Shipping to a central place is possibly the worst way to approach the problem, therefore, please check with me about location, needs, and names and addresses of local contacts where things should be sent.

People who have needs now:

Baker County, Georgia: c/o Issac Simkins, 229½ S. Jackson, Albany, Ga. There is a local committee set up to distribute items and I understand that it functions well. The two local ladies who are doing a lot of the work are Mrs. Queen Span and Mrs. Josie Miller. I'm so sorry, but I haven't been able to get their addresses yet.

MFLU NEEDS HELP IN FORM OF MONEY, FOOD AND CLOTHING

In Mississippi more than 850 people are on strike during this cotton picking season. As the winter gets colder, food and fuel and shelter get scarcer for Negroes all over the South. For those on strike in the Delta this winter will be severe. Here is a letter from one of the MFLU members:

Bear Sir:

In the Mississippi Delta there is more cotton grown than any other part of America. There has been no minimum wage law established in regard to farm labor, especially in the Mississippi Delta in a small town named Shaw, Miss.

These people feel very strongly about doing something regarding the wages they are getting for chopping cotton \$2.50 to \$3.50 for ten hours a day. So in May, 1965, a group of people who have been working in Civil Rights movement decided that they would form a labor union. They called all the cotton choppers, truck drivers together to ask them if they would be willing to join the union and go on strike for higher wages.

The Mississippi Freedom Labor Union has approximately 886 members on strike in five cities in the state; their demands are basic; \$1.25 minimum per hour, an eight hour day with and a half overtime, sick pay, health and accident insurance and equal employment practices in wages, hiring and working conditions.

The cities involved are: Tribbett, 438 strikers; Cleveland, 150; Shaw 230; Sidon, 13; and Rosedale, 115. Since working in the cotton fields is the chief source of income for Negroes in these areas in the summer and fall of the year, the striking members are in need of money, food and clothing. Therefore, we will need the support of our many friends in the North who are deeply concerned with the wages problem who are confronted with what we need most which is money, but food and clothing are also needed for the strikers and their families.

Please send your contributions to the Community Relief Fund, in care of Mrs. Mary Hawkins, P.O. Box 178, Shaw, Miss.

Yours for Freedom,  
Mary Hawkins.