

CORE SOUTHERN OFFICE
2209 Dryades Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70113

February 22, 1965

Mr. George Raymond
838 Int~~s~~ Street
Canton, Mississippi

Dear George,

The Canton project report generated in me a feeling of which I have not often been accused---humility. It is the latest of a series of true-to-life stories from Canton, stretching back to those early days when you were a lone figure racing up and down the Mississippi countryside to test a library or hold a meeting or challenge a registrar or go to jail. I am struck---hence the humility---by the continued determination and aggressiveness of the people we are fortunate enough to have on the staff. Personnell has changed a dozen times but it seems that each one who leaves, leaves behind him some of the best parts of himself to be taken up by the one who succeeds him.

So much for sentimentality. I note that some^{one} named Gregg Finger will be joining the staff, bringing a car. As a matter of record, please include "vital statistics" about the car---serial number, motor no., license no., make and model. Also list other cars used on the project in the same way (You've probably done this a dozen times before; one more time, please.) Also include the numbers and locations of all gasoline credit cards presently in use. It is planned to send out new cards, using a new system, about March 1; the first step in this procedure is to know where all cards are so they may be collected and voided.

It is very important that you continue to keep regular and complete financial records; equally important that you include such a record in the report you send here. Since one was not included in the February 8th project report, please include a comprehensive record in the February 25th report.

At a meeting with representatives of the National Sharecroppers Fund recently, I met Art Emery. He works in Fayette County, Tennessee and is a "bug" on co-operative enterprise. He says the Negro farmers there already are operating a Diesel oil (I believe)co-op, and it seems that this has been brought about largely through his efforts. I believe he would be able to revive interest in the Madison County co-op if you feel it is worth the effort. I'll wait to hear from you on this.

interested

Judy Nusbaum is/in knowing if her information sheets on federal programs, etc. have any utility in your program. I'm interested, too, because this is an item which was given high priority at some of our early conferences last fall. I'd like your comments on this.

In regard to summer program, it was reported to the last NAC meeting that this is still in the developmental stage in Mississippi, growing out of community meetings and group discussions, with staff taking as limited a role as possible. Accordingly it would be premature to present a "Mississippi summer program" at this point. However, this does not relieve the staff of the responsibility of planning

just how best its time is to be spent in the future. If, for instance, it seemed that now would be a good time for any community to "try its own wings", then that staff could be moved to some other place. If staff should remain, then it should be determined just how to be most effective. Please be as specific as possible on this matter in your next report.

I'm assuming that you send a copy of each such report to Dick Jewett. If you're not, the fault is mine; I don't think I ever made that point clear. Please do so in the future.

Pertinent points will be extracted from your reports for inclusion in a regular release from this office to all the projects; maybe we each can learn something from the others of us.

Sincerely,

Richard Haley
CORE Southern Director

RH/vjj