

March 15, 1965
702 Wall Street
McComb, Mississippi

The Rev. Gayraud Wilmore
The United Presbyterian Church U.S.A.
475 Riverside Drive
New York, N.Y.

Dear Gay:

I hope that you are better and that your illness is not serious. All but three members of the Committee attended the meeting in Atlanta, yourself, Art Warmerly, and L. Guyot.

From one point of the meeting was frustrating and not very productive. This was unavoidably so due to the crisis in Selma.

It was necessary for some of the members of the Committee to be tied up on the telephone and to be in and out of the meeting. This made it difficult for us to adequately discuss the decisions which had to be made. I would suggest that our next meeting be scheduled for a full day.

Some of the discussion indicated some basic disagreements about tactics and approaches to the problem among the members of the Committee. This was not necessarily bad, because those present seemed willing to listen and to learn from the other. I think that it will be a good working group. The following items were dealt with:

- (1) The proposal for regular recruitment on a quota basis was accepted.

- (2) The orientation packet was accepted with minor changes.

- (3) Recruitment for the Summer:

- (a) Delta Ministry will not have a special Summer program.

- (b) It was recommended that Ministers be recruited to serve for at least a month in order provide 30 to 50 men on a steady basis in Mississippi during the Summer months.

- (1) They would work in on-going Delta Ministry program.

- (2) They would be available to work with various Summer projects, planned by other groups.

- (c) ~~Students~~ are not being actively recruited, but we will accept a limited number of applications.

- (4) Employment re: Civil Rights Law

The Delta Ministry will co-operate with the Legal Defense Fund in a thorough research of industries with respect

to government contracts and hiring policies. There will also be a survey in-depth in a number of Communities to determine the Negro Labor available.

This will be used as preparation for a massive assault on the job problem when the Employment Section becomes applicable in July.

- (5) Delta Ministry will attempt to help Communities mobilize for school desegregation suit when compliance is not forthcoming.
- (6) There was a discussion concerning the organization of share-croppers in a Delta county around the issue of wages and other benefits. No decision, but it was suggested that if this be done we seek a person who has been involved with Labor organization to do this work.

I am sending copies of this letter to the other people who attended the meeting so that they might make corrections or additions to my notes.

Sincerely,

The Rev. Harry J. Bowie

HJB/dj
cc: Members of the Committee