Dear Mrs. Montgomery,

The sports equipment and books you’ve sent came yesterday, and we do appreciate them, and are using them already.

We’ve been expanding so that now we have three home bases, with people living and working out of them. Our West Point office, an old building called Society Hall in a rural community, Whites, which is having its grand opening on Monday, and a three room Freedom House in another rural community, Tibbee. We’ve got an outside staff of 15 so far, and are expecting up to 10 more soon. The new people here are getting very good at building.cottages, and learning a lot about carpentering and painting. But this week the Freedom Schools start in earnest.

In town, during the day, we’re going to take all ages for 4 hours, and split the group into three parts, young children, middle children, and old children. We’re a little afraid that the older high school kids won’t come with so many smaller children around, so from 4 to 6 we’re going to have organizational meetings for a Clay County Student Movement. This will be the high school kids, the group that will plan to put pressure to get integrated and better schools in the fall. We’re going to try to develop these kids into a group of organizers who really will understand what they’re about in the fall. These will be the kids who we hope will decide to put out a paper and undertake other action in the community.

Whites and Tibbee will develop their own programs, but we hope will be paying attention to the kids who will be the Clay County Student Movement.

We’re also going to begin to set up in the western part of the county. Two of us are going out there today, to stay for the week-end if we can get housing. Problems will be a little different there; the kids go to a small rural school, and the area is newer and tougher.

We have been slow getting organized; many of us were in jail last week, but things are starting now and we shall soon be sending you things that come out of the schools.

Freedom,

Mary Larson