southern student organizing committee

1703 PORTLAND AVENUE

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September 29, 1965

Mrs. Lucy Montgomery 875 Bridlewood Road Northbrook, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Montgomery:

I hope you won't mind if I am as direct in this letter as you were in your letter to the president concerning Santo Domingo. SSOC needs money. The phone was cut off yesterday because we haven't been able to pay the \$200 bill, we have not yet had enough money to buy coal to heat the house, and staff salaries haven't been paid for the past couple of weeks.

Somehow or other we are still optimistic enough to think that we are going to make it, and egotistical enough to think that SSOC is important to the future of the South. We just finished two one week workshops at Highlander and all of us are still excited about the meetings there. Some of the things that came out of those meetings are an increased activity in peace issues, four regional conferences (Mississippi, Race and Religion, Appalachian Poverty, University Reform), and a lot of student activity in Louisiana calling for the merger of Southern University and Louisiana Southern University, both in Baton Rouge.

Our bank account is registering near zero now. We still are hoping to hear from some foundations but that will take another month. In the meantime we do need the phone, and the heat, and a staff that is at least partially paid. I hope you can help us.

Sincerely

Sue Thrasher

P.S. Will you be coming South anytime soon? We are trying to find ways to increase peace activity in the South. Any suggestions of good people or ideas as to how to go about it?