

DEAR BRUCE:

I RECEIVED YOUR LETTER TODAY AND AS I AM WRITING A SERIES OF LETTERS I SHALL TRY TO ANSWER IT NOW. IF I DON'T I MAY WELL FORGET TO ANSWER IT.

YOU ASK WHAT IS BEING DONE HERE. FIRST OF ALL THE CURRENT EMPHASIS IS ON RUNNING A CANDIDATE FOR CITY COUNCILMEN TO REPLACE PAUL & SAK ALLEN WHO HAS RESIGNED. REV. U.S. GILLON IS THE CANDIDATE AND THE PEOPLE ARE RALLYING AROUND HIM QUITE WELL AS THE POLITICAL ORGANIZATION IS BEING BUILT. THE TARGET IS TO GET HIM INTO A RUN OFF. AT LEAST. 3 WHITES ARE ALSO RUNNING FOR THIS OFFICE. THE ELECTION IS SET FOR FEB. 13.

THE CIRCUIT COURT TRIALS WERE HELD OVER 'TIL THE NEXT TERM OF THE COURT IN A SURPRISE MOVE BY THE CITY. AT THE LAST MINUTE. WE WENT TO COURT LAST MONDAY AND WERE TOLD TO RETURN FRIDAY TO HEAR THE DATES FOR TRIAL. WE RETURNED AND AT THE LAST MINUTE BRAD DYE TOLD THE COURT THE CITY WASN'T PREPARED TO TRY THE CASES SO THEY WERE POSTPONED. I BELIEVE THE REASON WAS BECAUSE THE TRIALS WITH THE RETURN OF BOTH LEON & COTTONREADER WERE JUST FORMING THE MOVEMENT AND THE POLICE STRUCTURE DECIDED NOTHING BUT HARM TO THEM WOULD COME OUT OF GOING TO TRIAL.

THE POOR PEOPLES COMMITTEE IS MOVING ALONG SLOWLY.

THEY MEET AT MRS WASHINGTONS NOW THAT THE CHURCH BURNED. THEY HAVE WRITTEN A NUMBER OF LETTERS, INTERVIEWED SOME PEOPLE AND ARE NOW FIGURING OUT SOME APPLICATIONS. 5 ARE STILL ACTIVE. ONE IS WORKING AND CAN'T MAKE THE MEETINGS. I HAVE BEEN GOING OVER THE LAST FEW DAYS TO FILL IN FOR YOU.

THE LAWSUIT IS STILL GOING ON. IT WAS RECESSED TWO WEEKS FOR THE CIRCUIT COURT. IT WILL RESUME NEXT MONDAY.

THE CHURCH DID BURN. IT WAS APPARENTLY TORCHED BUT NO OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN MADE. THE PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT INDICATED AN ELECTRICAL SHORT CAUSED THE FIRE.

HOSGA IS SUPPOSED TO BE PACKING UP IN CHICAGO TO RETURN TO MISS. HE WILL PROBABLY START A CAMPAIGN IN YAZOO CITY. AND POSSIBLY ELSEWHERE IN MISS.

MY PLANS ARE UNCERTAIN BUT I AM LEAVING MORE & MORE TOWARD LEAVING HERE & SCLC. I MAY GO BACK TO GA. FOR A SHORT VISIT THEN RETURN TO THE NORTH. I DON'T EXPECT TO DO ANYTHING TIL AFTER THE ELECTION AND THE END OF THE LAWSUIT.

REGARDS.

JIM