

March 11, 1965

Dear Family,

Am I really behind in writing again? Goodness! Glad to hear that you are recuping so well, Daddy. I hope that the cane you are using is ebony with a silver handle, at least - how distinguished. Just got a long letter from the "angmans along with a donation for the movement. How much better the world would be if there were more people like you and them in it.

Don't know exactly what's new around here. Tomorrow evening we're having what was supposed to be a little dinner for the staff. Vince was going to make la segna and we were going to splurge and buy a jug of wine from the bootlegger to go along with it. Then I had the brilliant idea that we should invite over the COFO staff from Indianola, too, to give them a chance to get away from that horrible little town for an evening. It turns out that they now have about 20 people on their staff (I thought there were only 5 or 6). We having the dinner at Edna -oreton's house, which isn't too large under normal conditions - tomorrow evening it will probably look like a three ring circus.

We are still picketing daily at Greenville -ill - Saturday, we plan a bigger picket at the federal building protesting both job discrimination and the voter registration test. Hopefully we'll have a couple hundred people there who can't usually make it during the week because of jobs. Mrs. Hamer will be speaking at our mass meeting this evening - sure hope there's a big crowd. Heard her down in Jackson last weekend - she's mad at the world again. Did you all hear that she spoke in Cleveland a couple of weekends ago? She and Unita Blackwell (from Issaquena County) were so impressed with the conference there, which was a gathering of the biracial and poor of the country. Three more people are ready to go to the courthouse next week up in Lemont, with which I am really pleased. We're getting there slowly but surely - especially with the latest Supreme Court decision on the voter literacy test in Louisiana and soon to come in Mississippi.

Discovered much to my surprise yesterday that one of the new Delta Ministry volunteers just finished up five years as minister of the Congregational Church in Orient'. He filled me in on all the latest details of what all our relatives and friends are up to. Who would ever have thought the world was so small?

Many thanks for the check last week by the by. Most of it is being saved for our extravaganza tomorrow night. The rest I think I will hold on to and put into an account here with my income tax refund check. We've been talking about taking off a week or ten days and going down to Mexico, and now that I'm solvent again, perhaps it will be more than wishful thinking. If we do go, it will probably be at the end of this month sometime - Valerie, Unita, Edna and I plus perhaps Luriel and Cynthia. It's mainly a matter of waiting till Edna's car is repaired.

Could you send me Phyl's and Nen's addresses please. I still haven't written to thank them for last New Year's. Ain't I bad?

The weather has gone from good to bad to worse, and I, along with just about everybody else, have a horrible cold. Am not staying at the Phillips at the moment as the gas company men came the other day and turned off their gas (the house is heated with gas heaters). According to the company, the Phillips will have to pay \$50 before it's turned on again. This amount is almost 2 weeks salary for Mr. Phillips. The family is now staying with their grandparents, and I am staying in Dave's room since he's up in Milwaukee for a week. Isn't Mississippi grand.

We're leaving now to pick up Mrs. Hamer, so I'll say good by for the moment. Hope your flowers bloom soon.

Love,  
Pat

Johnnie says hi, too!