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Leslie to Jim, 31 October 1963

Leslie Dunbar

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JAMES M. DABBS, PRESIDENT ALBERT W. DENT, VICE PRESIDENT MARION A. WRIGHT, VICE-PRESIDENT JOSEPHINE WILKINS, VICE-PRESIDENT RUFUS E. CLEMENT, VICE-PRESIDENT JOHN H. WHEELER, CHAIRMAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE JOSEPH HAAS, COUNSEL



A Council to attain the ideals and practices of equal opportunity for all peoples in the South

October 31, 1963

Professor James W. Silver Department of History University of Mississippi University, Mississippi

Dear Jim:

We are cutting stencils now on your address, and ought to mail it out Monday.

We intend to run about 1,000 copies. When you get a chance, get to us any names that you want to suggest for receiving it. At the moment, our thought is to give it a distribution largely confined to the southern press, some church people, and to a selected list of Congressmen and Administration people in Washington; but this is still tentative.

We don't intend to make any special effort to get it out, even to the southern press, in advance of November 7.

We shall mail the copies to the persons whose names you have already sent in.

We are putting "copyright 1963 by James W. Silver" on the thing. We do this on the understanding that you are going to see that this is a fact.

I am sure you will be astonished to know that we are leaving in one bit which you had given permission to leave out, partly because your directions



Professor James W. Silver - 2. October 31, 1963

were a bit confusing at this point and partly because I felt the flow of your speech would be better with it in. This is page 10 of your manuscript.

Your type is pretty small, and you crowded your pages, so you may be surprised at how many of our pages the address may run.

I took the liberty the other day of calling Joe Matthews on one point. I have no wish for the Southern Regional Council to affront the Southern Historical Association, and I asked Joe, as a friend to all of us and as President-elect of the Association, if he thought anyone would be offended by our distributing the mimeographed text in advance of printing in the Journal of Southern History. Joe conferred with Bell Wiley, and Bell later called me back. Their opinion is that everything is all right, but they believe that you should go through a little protocol. Bell said you would not like doing it, but that he thought, and Joe did also, that you should do it if for no other reason than not to open the door within the Association to carping criticism from

what he described as segregationists.

Specifically, Bell thought you should telephone Bennett Wall and inform him that you are copyrighting your address on advice of Harcourt, Brace, and that you were having a number of mimeographed copies circulated now. Secondly, he thought you should also drop a note to each member of the SHA Executive Council informing them likewise. Bell emphasized that he did not mean that you should <u>ask</u> Wall and the Executive Council; simply that you should tell them what you are doing.

This, of course, is up to you, though I imagine Bell's advice is pretty good. My own problem was simply whether the Association might be mad at us for distributing it, and we can go ahead now with assurance from Joe and Bell that this is not likely to be the case.

Professor James W. Silver - 3. October 31, 1963

I wish I could come to Asheville, but I'm afraid I can't. Those three cases of refreshment almost made me change my mind. Good luck.

Sincerely yours,

Leslie W. Dunbar Executive Director

LWD/mmj

- cc: Mr. William B. Goodman Dr. Bell I. Wiley
- P. S. -- Bell also mentioned that transfer of copyright from you to the J.H.S. would be simple, if that would be in order.

