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Dr. William Pine to Mr. Meredith (1 October 1962)

Dr. William Pine

James Meredith

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DR. WILLIAM PINE, O. D.
DR. L. O. SWEET, O. D.

143 COURT ST., BINGHAMTON, N. Y. TEL. RA 2-7751
9 WASHINGTON AVE., ENDICOTT, N. Y. TEL. ST. 5-6430

10/1/62

Dear Mr. Meredith;

I am not in the habit of writing letters to public figures but I feel compelled to express my admiration and moral support to you for your unwavering courage in the steadfast pursuit of the high goal and ideals so many of us only give lip service too. Having lived in the South I can feel some empathy to you in the necessity of having to endure the inhuman pain and suffering of the barbaric environment you must live in.

I can only think, as a few, of the comparison to one taking a similar stand for social justice in the early days of Nazi Germany.

Regardless of what the future may bring, you have the consolation of already having

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indelibly illuminated the present state of mind existing in the deep South, and of having chipped the first stone from their wall of injustice that will someday come tumbling down. Best of all, the bigots themselves now must admit, even to the most fanatic among them, that this will happen in time. You belong to that rare breed possessing the terribly difficult courage of your convictions to not waver in your long and tortured pioneering course. It is not given to very many to be such a high and inspirational credit to the finest aspirations of the human race. I salute you and bow down to you in awe and humility.

I am a member of the board of the Committee of Concern, a local group dedicated to sensitizing the community to the issues of nuclear disarmament and of integration! We would like to ask you how we might

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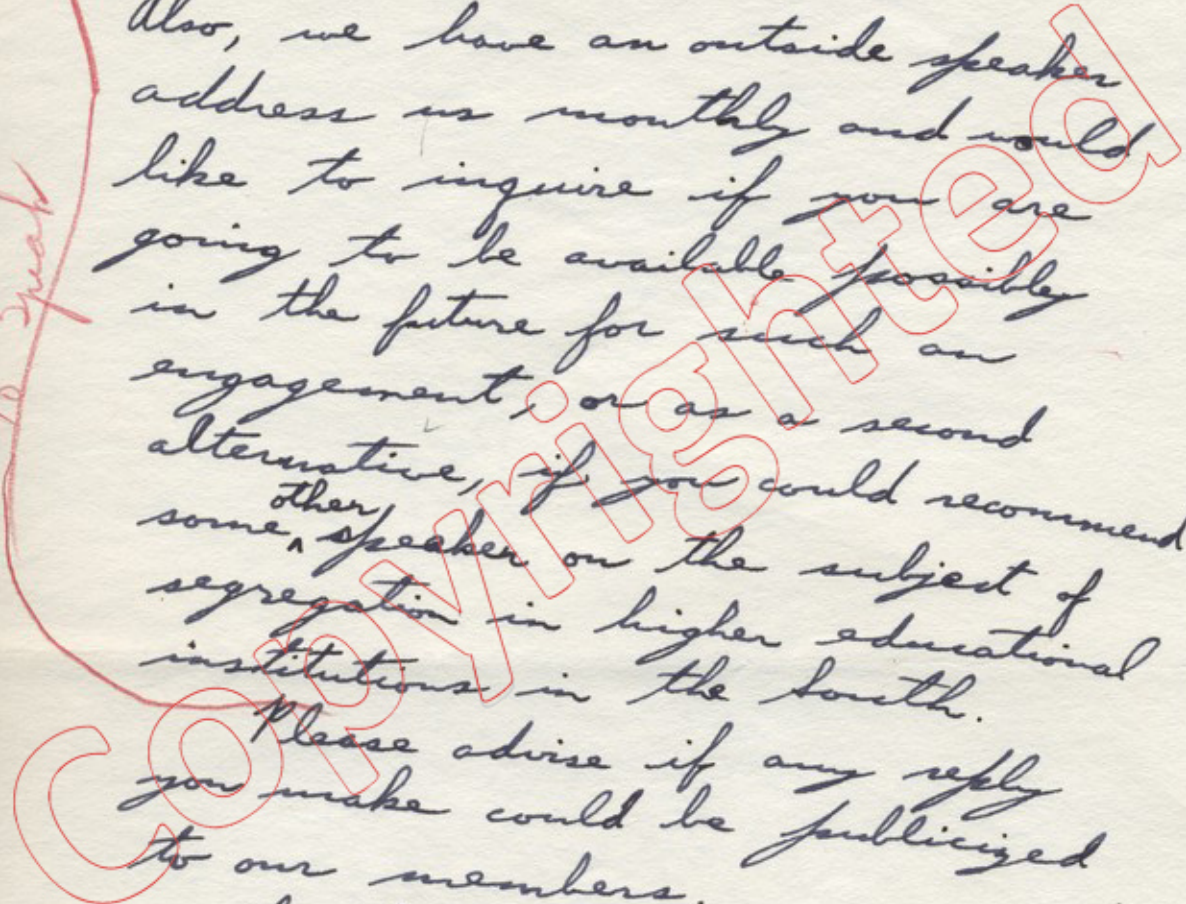
offer financial ^{or other} help to an organization which you feel would do the most good in the fight against segregation.

Also, we have an outside speaker address us monthly and would like to inquire if you are going to be available possibly in the future for such an engagement, or as a second alternative, if you could recommend some ^{other} speaker on the subject of segregation in higher educational institutions in the South.

Please advise if any reply you make could be publicized to our members.

I will just add that I would consider it a signal honor to be of any assistance I can offer personally to you on your lonely, noble road through the jungle of hate, ignorance and inhumanity of your present environment. May God have mercy on their prejudiced souls.
Dr. William Pine

To Speak
No TC



December 11, 1962

Dr. William Pine, O.D.
143 Court Street
Binghamton, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Pine:

Thank you for your good wishes.

The kind thoughts expressed by you and many others will always be remembered.

May I suggest that if you wish to give a donation that it be given to the N.A.A.C.P. Legal Defense and Educational Fund, 10 Columbus Circle, New York 19, N.Y. Also, with reference to my appearance as a speaker, please contact my personal attorney Mr. A.W. Willis, Jr., at 588 Vance Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee as to my schedule.

Sincerely yours,