

State Department of Education
DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

APRIL 9, 1934

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF A SURVEY
OF
THE WARM SPRINGS COLORED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MERIWETHER COUNTY, GEORGIA

BY

L. S. MOLETTE

FORT VALLEY

GEORGIA

UNIVERSITY

INTRODUCTION

The White and Colored people of Warm Springs, Georgia, have felt for sometime that the Colored people ought to have a good Community School. As far back as anyone can remember the Colored people have tried to teach school in Lodge Halls and Churches, with no equipment and with poorly trained teachers.

The purpose of the study is to secure factual information about the social, economic, health, and cultural phases of the life of the people in the Warm Springs Community.

The information is to serve as a basis for organizing a course of study and setting up the right kind of school and community program, properly correlated and integrated with the problems and life situations of the boys and girls and mothers and fathers of the school community, and extending a further integration with the larger outside world. The most outstanding need in the community is a well trained sympathetic leadership which will use the community school and church as a lever to raise the general cultural and economic levels of the community.

It is hoped that those who are interested in the well-being of the Warm Springs Community, including the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation because it is a vital part of this community, will manifest this interest in a cooperative enterprise which will provide the following:

1. A five room school house with an auditorium, community room, and a Principal's office. The present school picture which is given in this study does not justify such a building; but in three years, with a group of good teachers working in the community, there will be a need for a Junior High School set up. In this instance we are justified in building for the future.
2. A school shop which will provide an opportunity for the boys to be taught simple jobs in wood and iron work, and general repair jobs about the community homes.
3. A teachers home. On a basis of the facts in this study this need is imperative. The type of teacher that is necessary to change the status of things in this community ought not be asked to take the exposure and suffer the inconvenience which would be encountered in the present housing conditions for Negroes in the community.
4. The present site of two acres which the school owns is not adequate. Eight additional acres will be necessary in order to develop the kind of community program which the school ought to promote.

METHOD AND TIME OF STUDY

The data for this study were secured by personal interviews with responsible members of the families, and old settlers of the community. A number of conferences were held with White and Colored citizens of the community who have lived in the community from 20 to 50 years.

The most important information which was secured was obtained by making house to house visits and going in the homes and sitting down talking with the people, and in making close observation while there.

The purpose of the study was explained fully and frankly. One talk was given at the Colored School and two at the community church. Most of the time from March 6, to March 18 was given to the study. The White and Colored people were very hearty in their approval of the project and cooperated to the fullest extent in assisting with the study. One of the old citizens of the community traveled with me three days.

II

GENERAL FAMILY STATUS

Facts which stand out:

1. Twenty-eight of the families do not have husbands or wives at the heads of them.
2. There were living among the 108 families 42 widows and 9 widowers.
3. There were five persons living alone.
4. All of the families live in reasonable distances from the school. The average distance being 0.9 mile/
5. Only two men and six women, out of 108 families had gone as far in school as the 7th grade.
6. The families, with few exceptions, are very mobile. They move on an average of 1.1 times per family in five years.
7. Twenty families out of 108 are farmers in the true sense that they attempt to make a living by tilling the soil.
8. Twenty-two persons covered by the study have employment with Georgia Warm Springs Foundation.
9. Sixty families are just common laborers working whenever and wherever they may find jobs.
10. Let them be the judge they have good religion and a fine brand of Christianity. There are 122 Baptists and 104 Methodists.



II

AREA STUDIED

The area covered by the survey includes the City of Warm Springs. From a central point in the City, using a radius of a mile and a half, and inscribing a circle would include the area studied. According to the Federal census of 1930 the City of Warm Springs had a population of 400; 165 Whites and 220 Colored. The District is located in the Piedmont section of the State. The soil generally is of run down condition. Erosion has done its work in the colored communities since very little terracing has been done, and practically no winter cover crops have been planted. The general topography is rolling and hilly being among the foot hills of the Pine Mountain.

The section is adjacent to the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation property, and, is about 1/4 of a mile from the "Little White House". In fact, geographically speaking, the "Little White House" is located in the midst of the Warm Springs Community.

The bath house for the patients is about 2640 feet from the new site for the proposed school building.

On the side of Pine Mountain, and included in the Warm Springs Community are the cottages of the people from many sections of the United States who have come down to live near the Springs for treatment. The famous Georgia Hall stands on the side of this mountain overlooking the Springs. These facts are mentioned in connection with this study because they represent a very vital part of the community.

III

ECONOMIC STATUS

Facts which stand out:

1. There are two land owners. Persons who own ten acres and above.
2. Thirteen families own the houses they live in.
3. None of the families had bank accounts.
4. Only nine families owned mules and horses.
5. Fifty-one families had no milk cow.
6. Fifty-Seven families had not hogs.
7. Fifty families had no chickens
8. Fifty-five families have no gardens. Notwithstanding the fact that in almost every case there was enough land around the house for a garden.
9. There were only seven wagons owned by the 108 families.
10. There were nine autos of some sort; six Fords, two Chevrolets and one truck. Almost all of these cars are very old and in very bad condition. One man started his old T. Model Ford while I was at his home and it took every body on the place to help start it.
11. Nineteen families sold products from the land; seventeen sold cotton and two sold vegetables and cotton.
12. None of the families sold any of the following: hogs, chickens, and eggs.
13. There were no orchards in the true sense. There were a number of scattered fruit trees; 93 peach trees, 13 apple trees and three fig trees.
14. Very little canning had been done.
15. Seven houses had been painted. Four of these belong to the Railroad Company.
16. One hundred and eighty-eight persons were carrying sick and accident policies, and 75 were carrying burial insurance. The facts indicate that there is an insurance racket carried on in the community. Over half of the families reported sickness of some kind last year. I did not find a single case of property insurance.

IV
HEALTH STATUS

Facts which stand out:

1. The general health picture of the community is bad.
2. There were 65 cases of sickness in 1933
3. There were nine cases of pneumonia and 14 cases of confinement.
4. There were 16 deaths in 1932 and 1933 and an average of 8 deaths and 14 births.
5. Pneumonia took the largest toll. Four having died with the disease.
6. The open shacks which they are forced to live in and an under nourished condition, are responsible for the low vitality which make them an easy prey for almost any kind of diseases which come along.
7. There are absolutely no safeguards for the health of the community. The low intelligence of the people seems to be responsible for their carelessness and thoughtlessness in matters of health.
8. Twenty-two of the 518 people in the community ^{have been} had ~~has~~ physical examinations. These were individuals who work for the Foundation. examinations is this: those individuals who are examined every six months, in most instances, live in the houses with the rest of the members of the family whose health is not safeguarded. These twenty-two persons in six months time may take any kind of disease from their homes to the people of the Foundation. Disease germs believe in, and practice absolute social equality.
9. In 1932 and 1933 there were no inoculations against diseases.
10. There were 78 families with wells, 23 who got water supply from springs; 4 with hydrants; the four families with hydrants live in Railroad houses. Two families got their water supply from a branch, and one family had no water supply provided for the house.
11. Many of the families carry water long distances. The average distance being 295.93 feet.
12. There were no sanitary toilets. There was one family that had no toilet arrangement.
13. Not a single house had all of the openings screened. One house was partly screened.
14. The average number of bedrooms per family is 1.8. The average number of persons per family is 4.7. There was one case where as many as nine persons were in the family, and they had only one bedroom. In several cases families had only one room for everything. They cooked, ate, nursed and slept all in one room.

CULTURAL STATUSFacts which stand out:

1. Two men and six women had completed the 7th grade.
2. Thirty nine families had no books of any kind.
3. Thirteen families did not have a Bible.
4. Sixteen families sibscribed for newspapers.
5. There were 192 children of school age, 50 to 18. Ninety-five of these were in school and ninety-seven were out of school.
6. There were eighty-four children under school age; 1 to 4.
7. The present school set-up is hardly worthy of being called a school.
8. There are six grades in the school. The March report of the school showed the following enrollments: 1st grade, 64; 2nd grade 23; 3rd grade 24; 4th grade 11; 5th grade 5; and 6th grade 4.
9. One family reported that it had children to finish the 7th grade.
10. Forty-eight families shad some kind of musical instrument. In most cases they were old types and were broken and generally of a very low grade. There were 30 victrolas, 13 Phonographs and 5 organs.

VI

SOCIAL STATUS

Facts which stand out:

1. Aside from the family there are two social organizations. The Church and the school. There are two branches of the church: the Levett Hill Baptist Church and Williams Chapel C. M. E. Church with membership as follows: 122 Baptists and 104 Methodists.
2. These organizations are in charge of persons who are not qualified to administer to them.
3. There was no recreation for the people of the community.
4. No person went to dances.
5. The people knew nothing about community fairs.
6. They did not have community picnics.
7. The church conducts the regular revival for saving souls, yet this salvation does not follow the recipient outside of the church house.
8. The school did not promote athletics.
9. Thirty-nine of the 518 persons said they went to Sunday School.
10. Two persons said they went to movies in 1933.

TOPIC STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF A SURVEY OF THE WARM SPRINGS
COLORED SCHOOL DISTRICT, WARM SPRINGS, GEORGIA

STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DATE OF TABULATION.

TABULATED BY

TABULATION SHEET
I GENERAL FAMILY STATUS

Families studied 4.7 persons per family	Number of persons 518	Average age adult 37.7	Fam. with thusb, & wives 80	Widows 42	Widowers 9	Persons living alone 5	Fam. with no child- ren 23	Average dis- tance from School 0.9 mile	Adult finished 7th grade Male 2 Female 6	Times moved in 5 years 1.1	Fam. who farm 5 to 75 acres 20	Fam. with no definite jobs 60	Employed by Foundation 22	Bapti- sts 122	Metho- dists 104
II- ECONOMICS STATUS															
Land own- ers 2	Standard Renters 8	Half Croppers 10	Wage hands 6	Bank Accounts 0	Home Owners 11	Fam. with mules & horses 9	Mules-Horses-Fam. with cows 11 2 27	Number of cows 39	Fam. with hogs 51	Number of hogs 99	Number of chickens 915	Fam. with chickens 58	Fam. with gardens 53	Fam. with wagons 7	
Fam. with autos Ford Chev	Fam. sold Truck- Cotton	Fam. sold vegetables	Fam. sold hogs	Fam. sold eggs	Fam. sold chickens	Houses painted	Fam. bought fertili- zers	Fruit trees Peach-Apple- Fig	Persons Insured Sick and Accident			Burial		Property Insurance	
6	2	1	19	2	0	0	0	7	6	93	13	3	185	75	0
1933 1932-33															
Cases of sickness 14 Births	Deaths 1 Asthma	Physical exams. 4 Pneumonia	Physical exams. 3 Stillborn	Persons inooculated against diseases	Water Supply Well-Spring-Hyd. Bran	Fam. with no water supply	Average distance to tote water	Number of sanitary toilets	Fam. with no toilet	Houses with all openings screened	Houses partly screened	Average number bedrooms per family			
9 Pneumonia	2 Malaria	2 Gunshot	2 Brights	1 Abscess	1 Old age	1 Worms	1 Abscess	2 Heart. Tr	2 Unknown	1 Indigest.	2 Kid. Tr.	1 Indigestion	65	16	22
5 H.B. Pressure	5 Old age	1 Brights	1 Abscess	1 Old age	1 Worms	1 Abscess	2 Heart. Tr	2 Unknown	1 Indigest.	2 Kid. Tr.	1 Indigestion	65	16	22	
2 Appendicitis	5 Flu	1 Brights	1 Abscess	1 Old age	1 Worms	1 Abscess	2 Heart. Tr	2 Unknown	1 Indigest.	2 Kid. Tr.	1 Indigestion	65	16	22	
1 Dissentery	1 Tumors	1 Abscess	1 Old age	1 Worms	1 Abscess	2 Heart. Tr	2 Unknown	1 Indigest.	2 Kid. Tr.	1 Indigestion	65	16	22		
3 Female Tr.	2 Heart. Tr	2 Unknown	1 Indigest.	2 Kid. Tr.	1 Indigestion	65	16	22							
1 Broken Arm	1 Worms	1 Abscess	2 Heart. Tr	2 Unknown	1 Indigest.	2 Kid. Tr.	1 Indigestion	65	16	22					
1 Neck Tr.	1 Abscess	2 Heart. Tr	2 Unknown	1 Indigest.	2 Kid. Tr.	1 Indigestion	65	16	22						
1 Typhoid	2 Gunshot	2 Brights	1 Abscess	1 Old age	1 Worms	1 Abscess	2 Heart. Tr	2 Unknown	1 Indigest.	2 Kid. Tr.	1 Indigestion	65	16	22	
1 Rheumatism	3 Unknown	1 Indigest.	2 Kid. Tr.	1 Indigestion	65	16	22								
1 Stomach Tr.	2 Kid. Tr.	1 Indigestion	65	16	22										
1 Indigestion	65	16	22												
Adult comple- ted 7th grade	Fam. with no books	Fam. with no Bible	Fam. who take papers. 4 Columbus Inc. 4 Atlanta World 2 Atlanta Jour. 1 Atlanta Jour. 5 Southern Agr.	School Child- ren age 5 to 18	Number of children in school	Number of children out of school	Number of Children under 1 to 4	Grades in school	Fam. with children who finished 7th grade	Musical Instruments Victrolas Phonograph Organs					
Male Female															
2	6	39	13	16	192	95	97	84		30	13	5			
Social Organizations															
3	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	39	2						

JULIUS ROSENWALD FUND

SOUTHERN OFFICE

COPY

May 18, 1934

Dear President Roosevelt: You will find attached copy of a study of the Negro school and community in the Warm Springs District, made by Mr. L. S. Molette, State Vocational Supervisor for Negroes attached to the State Department of Education.

It seems that Mr. Molette's study furnishes the basic information necessary for planning intelligently a community school for the Warm Springs District—one which will serve the complete needs of this group in education, health, economic and social welfare as well as library facilities.

When I was in your office in Albany, October, 1929, you expressed your appreciation of the Julius Rosenwald Fund's services in furnishing plans and suggestions for the Warm Springs White School, which you thought very attractive and commodious. I now want to assure you that we shall be glad to offer the same type of service in helping to develop a modern community plan for the Negro school in cooperation with the state and county officials. Mr. Peabody and your representative. A word of encouragement from you through Mr. Peabody, when you are in Warm Springs again will do much to stimulate the local and state officials to build this school, which it seems is very necessary not only for the development of the Negroes themselves but for the protection of the entire population and guests of Warm Springs.

Sincerely,

L. L. Smith

Director for Southern Office

SLS:MT

President Franklin D. Roosevelt
White House
Washington, D. C.

44A 5 1234

FISK
UNIVERSITY

nlb (G)
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Sincerely,

SLS:MT

Director for Southern Office

President Franklin D. Roosevelt
White House
Washington, D. C.

FISK
UNIVERSITY

COPY

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 24, 1934.

Dear Mr. Smith:-

I am much interested in that study of the Negro school and community in the Warm Sprins District. I am sending it to Mr. Peabody, who is now at Warm Springs, and I hope much that while he is there he will be able to persuade the school district to carry through some plan. We started in 1929 but the depression stopped it all.

Very sincerely yours,

Franklin D. Roosevelt

S. L. Smith, Esq.,
Director for Southern Office,
Julius Rosenwald Fund
Cotton States Building,
Nashville, Tennessee

FISK
UNIVERSITY

COPY

THE WHITE HOUSE

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Very sincerely yours,

(Signed)

Franklin D. Roosevelt

S. L. Smith, Esq.,
Director for Southern Office,
Julius Rosenwald Fund
Cotton States Building,
Nashville, Tennessee

FISK
UNIVERSITY

Negro Rural School
(Kanges)

Julius Rosenwald Fund

Southern Office
Cotton States Building
Nashville, Tennessee

S. L. Smith
Director for Southern Office
Fred McCuiston
Associate Director

	ERE	5/31	Edw	6/1

May 29, 1934

Dear Mr. Embree: You will find attached a copy of a letter from President Roosevelt in answer to my letter of May 18 to him, transmitting a copy of the Warm Springs study by Mr. Molette. I gave you a copy of this report at the Board Meeting in Chicago to which you may attach this correspondence to complete your records.

It seems to me that it would be a fine thing for us to cooperate in this unusual program. We offered aid and they were working hard to meet the requirements in 1928 - 1929, but as President Roosevelt states "the depression stopped it all." Mr. Peabody is very much interested and told me in Washington that he felt confident that if the Fund would become financially and otherwise interested the President would take a most active part. His letter states that he is "much interested." This would be a very fitting climax to our building program, in helping to stimulate a type of school that will serve all community needs.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

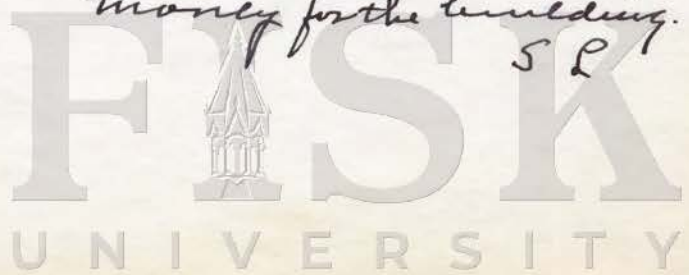
J. L. Smith

SLS:MT

Mr. Edwin R. Embree
Julius Rosenwald Fund
4901 Ellis Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

P. S. Mr. Peabody indicated to me that he would contribute some money for the building.
S L

JUN 5 1934



Warm Springs

NBS (Ga)

May 29, 1934

Dear Mr. Peabody: I am attaching a copy of a letter received yesterday from President Roosevelt, in answer to my letter of May 18 transmitting a copy of the Warm Springs study by Mr. Molette. You will note that the President states that he is "much interested" and that he is sending the copy on to you with the hope that you may be able to persuade the school district to carry through this plan.

We shall be glad to keep in touch with the progress and do anything in our power to help out except that at the moment we have no funds specifically set aside for building. Any appeal for financial aid would therefore, require action of our Executive Committee. Please let me hear from you from time to time if there is anything I can do, and if you and Mr. Dixon should like to have me do so I would be glad to visit Warm Springs to talk it over.

Sincerely,

SLS:AT

Mr. George W. Peabody
Warm Springs, Georgia

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Warm Springs

WRS(Ga.)

May 29, 1934

Dear Mr. Dixon: You will find attached some correspondence with President Roosevelt and Mr. George Foster Peabody. You will note from the copy of my letter to President Roosevelt that I sent a copy of the study of the Warm Springs Negro school and community, in which he seemed much interested. He sent it to Mr. Peabody with the hope that he might help to get the district interested in building the school.

Now with this genuine interest of President Roosevelt and Mr. Peabody I believe you will be able to stimulate the building of an excellent community school. I do not know that we can cooperate financially but I do happen to know that both Mr. Embree and Mr. Lessen Rosenwald would be very happy to see the plan go through not only because of its importance to the community but because two of America's foremost citizens are vitally interested. I shall be glad to keep in touch with the developments and want to assure you that it will be a pleasure to cooperate with you in stimulating this unusual building program.

I have sent a copy ^{of} the report to Mr. Jackson Davis, feeling that he and the Officers of the G. E. B. will be interested in knowing about this development, particularly as they have been so generous in taking over our obligation and carrying on the work of the vocational supervisors.

Sincerely,

SLS:WT
Mr. J. C. Dixon
State Department of Education
Atlanta, Georgia

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Directors Corporation of Yaddo

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Mia P. Sturges
John H. Finley
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Yaddo

To Aid Creative Work in Arts and Letters
SPENCER AND KATRINA TRASK

Founders
1900 - 1926

Saratoga Springs
New York

June 2, 1934.

Dear Mr. Smith:

Thank you for your good letter and your kind continuance of interest in the Warm Springs project. It is of very real importance and we must find a way to all pull together. I told Mr. Molette as also Mr. Dixon that the matter must be moved at that end now in order to be successfully carried out and that we would try and get back of it when they got the plan set up more definitely. Dr. Kitchen is very much interested and will, I think, continue to help them on the ground and I am satisfied that after what I said to the local Board that they will fall into line backed by the County Superintendent who has given Mr. Molette some measure of promise. I explained to Mr. Molette there were several reasons why I should not seem to be outlining the plan. It should have the initials support of Mr. Carpenter, the resident Director. As I am now resident for a part of the year there, I must be especially careful not to at all weaken his influence by letting things come to me excepting after he has taken hold of it and preferably through him.

The President will, as he has indicated, I think come to the front at the right time and I believe in an effective way but naturally he will not wish to be at all charged with asking for anything under present conditions. He wrote me promptly a nice letter enclosing to me the report which you had sent to him. I shall write him after Congress is out of the way and post him a little more fully.

Dr. Alexander has, I believe, the hope that if the thing be set up rightly that he can make it clear to your people that this can and should be made an exception to give it the moral backing, from many points of view, which the Rosenwald School carries and which we need there for various reasons. I shall help out whenever the time is right for my doing it but it would hinder, rather than help, if I do any more at present than I have done in starting Mr. Dixon and Mr. Molette. I shall, of course, follow it up personally in the fall when I am on the ground and I am hoping that Mr. Molette will have a real talk with Mr. Carpenter and the local men before I am there in November so that the way may be clear for me to take a hand. It is important that a really comprehensive school work, so far as is suitable there, shall be undertaken in this project because there will be so many important people from all over the country who should see the Negro rightly apprehended as well as realise the obligation resting upon the rest of the country to give him a fair show. Do not hesitate to write me frankly about any points that you think might deal with under the circumstances at any time.

I am

Faithfully yours,

Mr. S. L. Smith,
Julius Rosenwald Fund,
Cotton States Building,
Nashville, Tennessee.

SK
UNIVERSITY

NRS (Ga)
(Warm Springs)

November 2, 1934

Dear Mr. Peabody: I am enclosing this little pamphlet on Child Health Problems Among Negroes, which I prepared as chairman of a sub-committee on Health Among Negroes and presented to the National Conference on Fundamental Problems In The Education of Negroes. Even as much as their education has been neglected in the South, their health has been far more neglected until recently. The purpose of this little report is to give just enough facts and suggestions on a cross section of Negro health to encourage state and county health and education officials, as well as teacher-training institutions to cooperate in an effective program of improving Negro health, especially among the children of school age.

Three weeks ago, when I was in Washington, I had a most interesting visit with President Roosevelt. He seems to have a greater understanding about the South than most of those around him. He expressed a desire to have me visit Warm Springs sometime in the future when you could be there, stating that "maybe we can build that Negro school which we planned in 1929 but was stopped by depression." Confidentially, I have been selected by civic clubs to present to the President, when he is here on the 17th, a souvenir made from wood of the Andrew Jackson Hermitage. He will remain with us in Nashville only about three hours.

Sincerely yours,

SLS:MT

Mr. George Foster Peabody
Saratoga Springs, New York

FISK
UNIVERSITY

APPROPRIATION

He - Dr.

NRS

(Warm Springs, Ga)

P

November 28, 1934

My dear Mr. President: I have the honor to inform you that at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Julius Rosenwald Fund, held in Chicago today, the sum of \$2,500 was appropriated, of which so much as may be needed shall be used to pay one-fourth the cost of a public school building for Negroes in Warm Springs, Georgia. The Fund further proffers the assistance of its officers in plans for the building and for the educational program of the school.

In spite of the fact that this Fund has withdrawn from general contributions to school buildings, we have gladly voted this appropriation because of the great asset to Negro education of the personal attention of such men as have interested themselves in this project. We earnestly hope that as much attention will be given to maintaining excellent educational work as is given to the building. We appreciate your interest in this Negro school and are honored to cooperate with the President of the United States and the state and county officials of Georgia in further realizing the American ideal of adequate public schools for all the people.

Very truly yours,

EDWIN R. EMBREE

ERE:MWC

The Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt
Little White House
Warm Springs, Georgia

DEC 4 1934

FISK
UNIVERSITY

mes

P

NEGRO SCHOOL AT (WARM SPRINGS, GEORGIA)

RESOLVED that in view of the personal interest of the President of the United States and of assurances of the maintenance of an excellent educational program, an appropriation be and it is hereby made of Twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500) of which so much as may be needed shall be used to pay one-fourth the cost of building and equipping a public school for Negroes at Warm Springs, Georgia, and that in addition the officers of the Fund proffer their assistance in plans for the building and for the educational program of the school.

DEC 4 1934

CROSS REFERENCE RECORD

FIRM NAME OR SUBJECT	NEGRO RURAL SCHOOLS (GEORGIA - WARM SPRINGS)	FILE NO.
DATE 11/26/34	REMARKS	
	SLS's interview notes on day spent in Warm Springs	
	at request of President Roosevelt and Mr. Peabody	
	and his interview with the President	

SEE ROSENWALD JULIUS FUND (SMITH S L - INTERVIEWS)

FILE NO.

DATE _____ **SIGNED** _____

FILE CROSS REFERENCE RECORD UNDER NAME OR SUBJECT LISTED AT TOP OF THIS SHEET, AND IN PROPER DATE ORDER.
THE PAPERS REFERRED TO SHOULD BE FILED UNDER NAME OR SUBJECT LISTED UNDER "SEE"

YAWMAN AND ERBE MFG. CO.
ROCHESTER, N.Y.



Julius Rosenwald Fund

Southern Office
Cotton States Building
Nashville, Tennessee

S. L. Smith
Director for Southern Office

Fred McCurston
Associate Director

7NRS (Ga -
warm Springs)

11-29-34

Dear Mr. McIntyre:

I failed to inclose these pictures in my letter to the President. Will you please attach them to my letter to him today? He indicated he wanted them. The old Negro school will make a fine contrast when the new school is built.

Sincerely,

S. L. Smith

SSS
I think I made
good use of these two
photos in sending them
to the board
as J. M. P. Smith

PS Mrs. S!

Mr. Dixon
thinks they should
buy for the three buildings
if they can be built
for 10000 - including the
white
Mrs. J. M. P. Smith
City of Greenville - a fine
and made money will contribute
Emmett L. L. L.

FSK
UNIVERSITY

	ERE	12/10	ERE	D

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 7, 1934.

D

My dear Mr. Embree:

The President has asked me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of November twenty-eighth, addressed to him at Warm Springs. He is pleased to have the information your letter conveys and wishes me to thank you most cordially for your cooperation.

Very sincerely yours,

Louis McH. Howe

LOUIS McH. HOWE
Secretary to the President

Edwin R. Embree, Esq.,
Julius Rosenwald Fund,
4901 Ellis Avenue,
Chicago,
Illinois.

DEC 12 1934

FISK
UNIVERSITY

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY

P. O. BOX C

WARM SPRINGS, GEORGIA

December 14, 1934.

Mr. S. L. Smith,
Rosenwald Fund,
Nashville, Tenn.

Dear Mr. Smith:

Thank you very much for your so kindly keeping in touch with me.

You may have already heard that Mr. Dixon had his assistant, Mr. Cousins, come here, and with Mr. Killian a call was made upon me to report that they believed the situation justified their confidence that FERA money could be secured for the labor and that they had in mind the outlining at once of the project for a brick veneer, four-teacher and auditorium school building, with a wooden vocational building located a short distance away and a teachers' home located at an equally distant point. They might not be able to get more than the school building at once, but they had in mind that the project should cover the three buildings.

Mr. Cousins told me of the building of such a vocational building at Manchester now, which I have since observed as I have driven by.

Mr. Killian seemed to be quite in accord with Mr. Cousins' statement of the case and, as you know, Mr. Hudson is already in full sympathy. Apparently, therefore, the matter is progressing as we hoped; and, when I may hear from them, shortly they hoped, I shall further advise you, although I fancy Mr. Dixon is not unlikely to do that himself.

I am

Faithfully yours,

GFP/AWD

George Foster Peabody

FISK
UNIVERSITY

WRS (94 -

December 22, 1934

Dear Mr. Peabody: It was good of you to take time to write me about the developments at Warm Springs relative to the building of the Negro school. I have great faith and hope that it will be built, and that it will have a tremendous influence for economic and social betterment among the Negroes of that community, and on the community as a whole. If at any time I can be of further service to you and the officials do not hesitate to call upon me. I will drop most anything else I am doing to help out there if or when I am needed.

You are following the right procedure by getting the full sympathy and interest of the local officials. In building the five thousand Rosenwald schools, we have always tried to encourage full cooperation of all local officials and good citizens which is most necessary for the successful operation of a school after it is built.

My son, Beasley, joins me in best wishes for a happy Christmas and New Year for you and your daughter, Mrs. Waite.

Sincerely,

SLS/MT

Mr. George Foster Peabody
Warm Springs, Georgia

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UNIVERSITY

MRS (Ga.)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Roosevelt

March 22, 1935

My dear Mr. Smith:-

Thank you much for your letter.

I am glad that progress is being made on the Warm Springs Negro School. In regard to Federal monies, the only encouragement we can offer is in the form of loans to school districts at a very low rate of interest. That ought to help throughout the South where, in the past, school districts have been paying six per cent or more for the money.

Very sincerely yours,

Franklin D. Roosevelt

S. L. Smith, Esq.
Julius Rosenwald Fund
Cotton States Building
Nashville, Tennessee

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W. S. (G.)

Farm
Springs

September 10, 1935

Dear Mr. Cousins: I am glad to note from your letter this morning that the (Farm Springs project) has been approved by the WPA in the state. I note that there may be some difficulty in securing enough skilled labor for the brick work, etc., on relief rolls. While I am not familiar with the details of the WPA projects, I am wondering whether it would be possible and permissible for them to use some of our grant for the employment of one or more skilled workmen not on relief rolls in case they are unable to find a sufficient number on the roll. If this would help in the situation you could notify us, making the request, and I would take it up with Mr. Embree to see whether we could cooperate in that way. Of course, our usual plan is to turn over our share of the aid when a building is completed, but in this case, which is a special one, we would be willing to at least consider adjusting our grant to the specific needs. No doubt some of it should be used to see that adequate equipment is installed.

Write me frankly and freely in regard to this project. I could probably visit Farm Springs week after next if you would like to have me go. I will be in Texas and Louisiana practically all of next week.

With very best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

CLS:MT

Mr. Robert L. Cousins
State Department of Education
Atlanta, Georgia

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M. D. COLLINS
STATE SUPERINTENDENT
OF SCHOOLS

State
Department of Education
Atlanta, Georgia

October 24, 1935

Warm Springs

NRSL Ga -
X

Mr. S. L. Smith
Cotton States Building
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Smith:

I have just been informed by the state WPA office that the Warm Springs Negro school building project has been approved in Washington. It is expected that work will begin in about three weeks.

I will advise you from time to time in regard to progress made on the project. Your sustained interest has been greatly appreciated by all concerned.

Very cordially yours,

Robert L. Cousins

Robert L. Cousins,
Asst. Supervisor Negro Education

RLC*m

FISK
UNIVERSITY

NRS (to -
Warm Springs)

November 11, 1935

Personal

Dear Mr. Cousins: I had a very interesting conference with President Roosevelt last Friday at noon in the White House. He was counting on taking part in the dedication of the building at Warm Springs the first part of December. I explained to him the reason for the delay and told him that I felt that the building would not be far enough along at that time to have the dedication. He said, "all right then, why not lay the cornerstone?"

The President suggested that I take the matter up with you and others to make arrangements for laying the cornerstone while he is there in November and the first part of December. He indicated that probably about the 5th or 6th of December around 3 o'clock in the afternoon would suit him. However, his secretary stated to me after I came out that it would be best not to fix a definite date until after it had been submitted to him and approved, in order that there might not be any conflict in dates. Will you look into the matter and talk it over with the local officials, Mr. Peabody and your own department and write me what you think of laying the cornerstone on the 5th or 6th? I talked with Mr. Embree Saturday about it. He can be there on the 5th or 6th. I think I can get the date definitely settled with the President's secretary in a very short time after you notify me whether this is satisfactory at that end of the line.

What is the progress in getting the building started? If there is anything I can do please let me know, and I will drop down most any time if necessary.

You see by laying the cornerstone now, we can probably have the President dedicate it at some future time when he is at Warm Springs. In this way we might have two exercises.

Sincerely yours,

SLS:MT

Mr. Robert L. Cousins
State Department of Education
Atlanta, Georgia



Julius Rosenwald Fund

Southern Office
Cotton States Building
Nashville, Tennessee

S. L. Smith
Director for Southern Office

Fred McCuiston
Associate Director

November 25, 1935

Dear Mr. Embree: It now looks as though they will not be able to secure any labor at Warm Springs to grade the site for laying the corner stone for the Negro school the first week in December. I have been in close touch with Mr. Cousins who has been contacting the local officials. They seem to feel that it will be impossible at this time but they do state that they will be able to transfer sufficient labor to begin the work January 1st. I called for Mr. Peabody over long distance but learned that he was too ill to talk over the phone. As the suggestion for laying the corner stone was made by the President, I talked with his secretary, Mr. Marvin McIntyre, yesterday over the phone, who stated that he would talk the matter over with the President.

The Favin policy has probably resulted in more money for the project by adding government aid to the local money provided, which gives them a total of between \$13,000 and \$15,000 including our money. If there are any further developments favorable to laying the corner stone the first week in December I shall notify you. I promised Mr. Cousins to visit Warm Springs with him at an early date to help lay off the site and stake off the location of the buildings. Unfortunately, Georgia has no State Supervisor of Buildings comparable with the ones in other southern states.

If you have the time to spare I would like to have you join us at Warm Springs, probably sometime the first week of December. If you could join me in Nashville, we could drive through via Birmingham and Montgomery (where I have been requested to meet with Governor Bibb Graves and committee on December 4th).

DEC 10 1935

Sincerely yours,

SLS:MT

Mr. Edwin R. Embree
Julius Rosenwald Fund
4901 Ellis Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

S. L. Smith

P. S. I am to entertain Mr. Vandiver the state-supt. elect of Miss. at luncheon in U. Club next Mon. inviting in Dr. Coker, and a few others. Wish you were with us.
S. L.

UNIVERSITY

copy for
S.E.
NRS
(Warm Springs School)
X
December 12, 1935.

Mr. Cousins,
State Department of Education,
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mr. Cousins:

I had thought I was to have some word from you respecting the talk you and Mr. Smith planned to have with Mr. Poor, and as well, probably one with Mr. Killian. So far, no word has come.

I did, however, write to the President, as you requested, of your suggestion that he make inquiry of Mr. Tom Gash as to the status of the Warm Springs application. I had no response from that, which I take it to indicate that he refrains from communicating directly with the employees of the various departments and administrative functioning - a very natural and proper ordering of his time and energy.

Mr. Lynch kindly called on me for expression of his sympathy and interest, and from him I learned that the local Education Board is requested, as a condition by the County Commission to personally endorse the notes given for advances which may be made by the County. The local Board of Education declined, and I think most properly, to make themselves personally responsible for money to be invested by them in a District School building to which they would have no recourse for raising the money to pay the notes when due in case the District should not have provided the money.

It is the rule of all clear-headed business men never to endorse any other obligation than their own personal notes. I have never endorsed a note in my life and never should. Therefore, I think that is a quite impossible reliance in the matter of carrying forward this school project. I am greatly surprised to learn that the County should even have suggested such a thing, much less expected it to be agreed to by the Local Board.

I notice that Columbus, like cities in the East, has been offered 45% of the cost of School Building, which will call for \$112,000.00 of the \$250,000.00 proposed to be expended. I observe that Savannah is reported to be planning a \$900,000.00 High School Building. Inasmuch as, relatively, the need for

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C. 12/12/35. No. 2.

this Negro School, which has no building whatever now, is quite beyond the unquestioned need for these High School buildings, I am not able to understand why your Department has not been able to secure from Federal funds \$4500.00 instead of \$1100.00, only a quarter, for this purpose, which is so well known to be urgently upon the President's mind and heart.

If the District were provided with the \$4500.00 Federal money added to the \$2500.00 from Rosenwald and perhaps about \$1,000.00 available with a possible personal increase of that sum, there would be not over \$2,000.00 required from the District; and that would make a very different situation, and doubtless the County Commissioners would find a way to advance that sum without any unjust requests upon the local School Board.

I hope that it may be possible to do something along this line and secure the necessary \$4,500.00 without great delay.

I am

Faithfully yours,

GFP/AWD



Lesly J. S.
Personal

December 12, 1935.

His Excellency Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Having reference to the school for negro underprivileged tremendously in this District, I enclose to you copy of letter I have written to Mr. Cousins of the State Department of Education which gives the latest. I confess I have the feeling that they have somehow or other badly bungled the matter of Federal Aid which was left in their hands.

Why should we not have the paltry sum of \$4,500.00 when Williamstown, Mass. was offered perhaps a quarter of a million which the town meeting declined, alas, I learn from there, because of partisan prejudice. The Yankees are just as slow as the hillbillies to see straight and be fair.

I do not know the Federal Agent in Atlanta who has the power of allotment, as I assume Tom Gash has not. I should be glad to follow up if I did any chance to get that \$4,500.00.

I understand the plans for a \$10,000.00 building are all on file with Tom Gash.

I am

Faithfully yours,

GFP/AWD

Enc.



C
O
P
Y

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY

Warm Springs Georgia

December 12, 1935

Mr. Cousins,
State Department of Education
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mr. Cousins:

I had thought I was to have some word from you respecting the talk you and Mr. Smith planned to have with Mr. Poor, and as well, probably one with Mr. Killian. So far, no word has come.

I did, however, write to the President, as you requested, of your suggestion that he make inquiry of Mr. Tom Gash as to the status of the Warm Springs application. I had no response from that, which I take to indicate that he refrains from communicating directly with the employees of the various departments and administrative functioning - a very natural and proper ordering of his time and energy.

Mr. Lynch kindly called on me for expression of his sympathy and interest, and from him I learned that the local Education Board is requested, as a condition by the County Commission to personally endorse the notes given for advances which may be made by the County. The local Board of Education declined, and I think most properly, to make themselves personally responsible for money to be invested by them in a District School building to which they would have no recourse for raising the money to pay the notes when due in case the District should not have provided the money.

It is the rule of all clear-headed business men never to endorse any other obligation than their own personal notes. I have never endorsed a note in my life and never should. Therefore, I think that is a quite impossible reliance in the matter of carrying forward this school project. I am greatly surprised to learn that the County should even have suggested such a thing, much less expected it to be agreed to by the Local Board.

I notice that Columbus, like cities in the East, has been offered 45% of the cost of School Building, which will call for \$112,000.00 of the \$250,000.00 proposed to be expended. I observe that Savannah is reported to be planning a \$900,000.00 High School Building. Inasmuch as, relatively, the need for this Negro School, which has no building whatever now, is quite beyond the unquestioned need for these High School buildings, I am not able to understand why your Department has not been

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to secure from Federal funds \$4,500.00 instead of \$1,100.00, only a quarter, for this purpose, which is so well known to be urgently upon the President's mind and heart.

If the District were provided with the \$4,500.00 Federal money added to the \$2,500.00 from Rosenwald and perhaps about \$1,000.00 available with a possible personal increase of that sum, there would be not over \$2,000.00 required from the District; and that would make a very different situation, and that sum without any unjust requests upon the local School Board.

I hope that it may be possible to do something along this line and secure the necessary \$4,500.00 without great delay.

I am

Faithfully yours,

(sgd.) George Foster Peabody

GFP/AWD





M. D. COLLINS
STATE SUPERINTENDENT
OF SCHOOLS

State
Department of Education

Atlanta, Georgia

December 14, 1935

Mr. George Foster Peabody
P. O. Box C
Warm Springs, Georgia

Dear Mr. Peabody:

After our pleasant visit with you Mr. Smith and I went immediately to see Mr. Killian who has been handling the matter of the application for federal aid on the Negro school building project for the local Board of Education. Mr. Killian recited to Mr. Smith the details relating to the whole history of the project which may be summarized as follows:

After the conference on Thanksgiving a year ago in which it was made known that the Rosenwald Fund would render financial assistance it was decided to seek federal aid on the project. At that time the FERA office furnished only labor. The few skilled men on the relief rolls in the county were assigned on shop projects at Iuthersville and Manchester which kept them busy until the program under the FERA expired. It became known during the summer that under the WPA federal aid would be available for both labor and materials on worth while projects. Mr. Killian and I worked up the project and submitted it late in August. It was approved in the Atlanta office early in September and forwarded to Washington where it was held up for several weeks. When it came through approved about the first of November the citizens of Warm Springs had requested that work be started first on the community house. Mr. Gash, the District WPA Director at Columbus, indicated to Mr. Killian that he expected to begin work on the Negro school project approximately the 10th of January.

After leaving Mr. Killian we had a conference with Mr. Poor. Mr. Poor has just gone on the Board of Education and knows very little about local conditions and nothing whatsoever in regard to the details of the Negro school building project. He was certain of the fact that the people of Warm Springs who were expressing themselves wanted the community building to be started before the Negro school building project was started. I think Mr. Poor will make a good member of the Board of Education and will be very fair towards the Negro program after he acquaints himself of the working details of the position to which he has been elected. We next called on Mr. Lynch who had very little first hand information in regard to the building project.

Mr. George Foster Peabody

2

Our last contact in Warm Springs was with Mr. Nunn, the Educational Director of the CC Camp who is also President of the Board of Education. He told us in short order that the people wanted the community house to be started first. Mr. Nunn said the he would assume responsibility for the project at the Negro school but that he would ask Mr. Killian to help him since Mr. Killian knew the situation better than any one else in the county. Mr. Nunn assured us, as did the other people contacted, that the building would be constructed and be ready for occupancy by the beginning of the next school year.

It is a keen disappointment to me that work had not been started on the project in time for dedication exercises to be held while the President was in Georgia. If we expect to get federal aid on the project then we will have to work according to their plan. Also to be taken into consideration is the desire of the outspoken people in the community to have the community house started first. Taking into consideration the plan of the federal program and the desire of the local community there is little that I could do to hasten the project which I have not already done. Lack of local leadership in the community for the school project explains the terrible school facilities for Negro children at the present time.

It was news to me to learn from your recent letter that the County Board of Education had requested the local Board of Education to endorse notes for advances to be made from the county in aiding on the Negro school project. Members of the County Board of Education told me that it would be glad to advance to the local Board funds to aid in schoolhouse construction as they have done in other communities with the idea that the funds would be repaid over a period of time. The County Board of Education has never contributed towards building projects but has thrown the responsibility back on the local Board of Education where it belongs. It should be unnecessary for the local community to call on the County Board for an advance as they certainly should expect to do something to fulfill their obligation to the Negro citizens.

Your citation to projects in Columbus and Savannah indicate that you are not familiar with the details of the work program sponsored by the federal government. In both of these cities bond issues were voted and federal aid to the extent of 45 per cent will be available under the PWA. The project at Warm Springs will be under the WPA. Under neither program does our department have any part in setting up the amount to be received from federal funds. I am quite sure that the details of the Warm Springs project under the WPA calls for more than 50 per cent in labor and materials as

FSK
UNIVERSITY

Mr. George Foster Peabody
3.

the contribution of the government. I told you that the amount of materials to be furnished from the government would amount to more than \$1,100.00 in addition to all the unskilled labor needed and what skilled labor was available. The details of the project are in the office of Mr. Gash in Columbus and I'm sure he will be able to give them to any person in the community who may be sufficiently interested in the project to ask for them.

I have no apologies to make for our department in any way for our connection with the project. If the people of Warm Springs and others interested had spent as much time working on the project as we have I think the building would have already been constructed. Within the last year I've made many trips to Warm Springs which were really unnecessary in order to indicate to all concerned in the project that we were more than willing to do our part. I am confident that the building will be ready for occupancy next year unless the community fails to do its part. When the building is completed we will arrange for appropriate exercises at the dedication, at which time we hope the President will be with us, together with others who have been instrumental in making the dream a reality.

Very cordially yours,

Robert L. Cousins

Robert L. Cousins,
Assistant Supervisor Negro Education

RLC*_m



*NRS (Ga -
Warm Springs)*



M. D. COLLINS
STATE SUPERINTENDENT
OF SCHOOLS

State
Department of Education
Atlanta, Georgia

December 16, 1935

Warm Springs

Mr. S. L. Smith
Cotton States Building
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Mr. Smith:

In compliance with Mr. Cousins' request I am sending herewith copy of letter which he received from Mr. Peabody and his reply to it.

Please let us know at the earliest possible time when the high school library will be available.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. M. D. Collins

Secretary Division Negro Education

Enc.

FISK
UNIVERSITY

CROSS REFERENCE RECORD

FIRM NAME OR SUBJECT NEGRO RURAL SCHOOL

FILE NO. _____

DATE 12/20/35.

REMARKS Letter to ERE from SLS re: Mr. Peabody and the

Warm Springs Negro school building program

SEE JRF (SLS)

FILE NO. _____

DATE _____

SIGNED _____

FILE CROSS REFERENCE RECORD UNDER NAME OR
SUBJECT LISTED AT TOP OF THIS SHEET, AND IN
PROPER DATE ORDER.

THE PAPERS REFERRED TO SHOULD BE FILED UND-
ER NAME OR SUBJECT LISTED UNDER "SEE"

YAWMAN AND ERBE MFG. CO.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.



FORM NO. 099CR

December 21, 1935.

Mr. Robert L. Cousins,
Assistant Supervisor of Negro Education,
State Department of Education,
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mr. Cousins:

Thank you for your good letter and for the clear explanation of the situation. You were quite right that I had not understood the program. Your letter is the first fuller stating of the case.

All that I recall you said in your talk with me was that there would be about \$1100.00 of Federal labor provided, but I got the impression that the rest of the money apart from the Rosenwald and the personal contributions would have to be provided by the county loans, which I thus estimated to be perhaps half the money. I should be glad if I could have perhaps a somewhat more explicit statement as to cost and provision from Federal Aid, so that I might be in a position to write to some of our Trustees and friends here and elsewhere to have some contributions, although it might be somewhat more helpful if I refrained from writing to them until the building was completed and the question of books, globes, maps, pictures, etc. came to the front. I should be glad to have your thought as to this at any time in January, as I am supposed to continue to keep the brakes on for as long as possible to accumulate the heart reserve.

I shall be glad at any time if there seems to you any aid of any kind that I can give, if you will frankly let me know.

Faithfully yours,

GFP/AWD

FISK
UNIVERSITY

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY

WARM SPRINGS, GEORGIA

December 21, 1935.

Mr. S. L. Smith,
Rosenwald Fund,
Nashville, Tenn.

Dear Mr. Smith:

Thank you for your good letter. I had received a letter from Mr. Cousins which, as you will see by my reply, made the situation somewhat clearer. As you will notice in my reply, there seems to be some sort of a mixup as to the County's requirement of an endorsement.

I shall hope to see Mr. Killian after the New Year, and will advise you anything new that I may discover.

I do not see that there is anything you can do at present, but of course I shall be glad of any suggestions from your experience.

It is difficult for us who have lived in the North to quite take in the slow progress to which minds hereabout are adjusted. There are two years and more now since I began on this matter, and Dr. Kitchens, a staunch friend of the Negro here, is still, I hear, pessimistic, feeling more confident by reason of the confirmation of his skepticism of my previous optimism.

I was much interested to observe the reports of the dinner which you gave for the foreign physicians and shall be glad when I see you again to learn more particularly.

I am still in bed for the rest of '35 and the Doctor proposes to keep careful watch on me for some time thereafter. It is difficult for the physician to have much faith in the individual's differentiation in recuperative power, the definitive pulse and pressure records being their main reliance. I continually recall Dr. Osler's counsel to his students, "Remember, you are dealing with a patient and not a disease".

I am

Faithfully yours,

GFP/AWD



copy mss

December 27, 1935.

Miss Gay Shepperson,
Federal Relief Administration,
10 Forsyth,
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Miss Shepperson:

I send you warm wishes for your joy and strength during this holy season. May the New Year bring fuller fruition to all righteous hopes.

I rejoice when I think of one leading State Administration in Georgia that we can be proud of and I rejoice for the one under a woman as Director, for the country is to be congratulated. I am the more sure that we shall not reach true recovery excepting through the women's active association in leadership and organization of the thousands and tens of thousands.

I must say a word also of congratulation for our immediate neighborhood in Harris County of which I hear such cheering reports from Mrs. Terrell and others during these six weeks of my renewed residence in Georgia.

I should have written you sooner had I not been promptly put to bed on reaching Georgia and still am kept there by my good physician to accumulate the "reserve" following the "come-back" of my heart from the over-strain of trying to do too much last summer and fall. 1936 is to bring me again more actively on the job, but prudently.

I am writing at some length today because of a call I have just had from the Mayor of Warm Springs who thinks that some local push should be given to the matter of the work on the negro school. I shall therefore endeavor to get the Local Board of Trustees of Education and the County Superintendent together shortly to see whether this matter, which is so on the President's heart, cannot really get under way. I find, as you have found, many local impediments coming up now and then.

May I ask for some accurate information as soon as you can conveniently send it respecting what was the express resolution of approval which I understand Washington has given.

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UNIVERSITY

G. S. 12/27/35. No. 2.

One local official tells me that he understands the amount for the Negro School here was \$8,200.00. If this is correct, we should be able to do a proper job that will reflect credit upon this work in the President's own bailiwick in our Southland. I should be greatly indebted if you can have some one inform me so that I will know the status when I talk with the local Trustees.

I learn that the expectation is to build upon the site now owned by the local Trustees, bought following the erection of the new building for the white folk shortly after Mr. Roosevelt came to Warm Springs, before he was talked of for Governor of New York even. I am clear that that site is smaller than should be had and if so, additional lots should be secured in advance of beginning the work. I shall try and follow that up at this end if possible. I am told that the County will see to a suitable road to this site, if the school is built there.

I am, with kind remembrances to your assistants, who have always been so gracious,

Faithfully yours,

GFP/AWD

FISK
UNIVERSITY

*Copy to
S.S.*

December 27, 1935.

Mr. W. I. Nunn,
Warm Springs,
Georgia.

My dear Mr. Nunn:

The Doctor is pleased with my progress in accumulating some "reserve" for the "come-back" of my over-strained heart, but I am still in bed. However, the New Year is near at hand, and I am wondering whether it would not be agreeable to you and your associate members of the School Trustees to call upon me at an early day, morning or afternoon, to talk over the prospects for the Negro School Building in which you know the President, as well as myself, is deeply interested.

I hear from Mr. Cousins of progress and assurance, but also I am told that there is a lack of local push in some way.

Can you arrange to find out when it will be convenient for Mr. Leverett and Mr. Poor to meet you here? I think also it would save time and be well if Superintendent Hudson of Greenville could be with us, so that we might cover as much ground as possible.

Mr. Cousins of the State Board writes me that he is expecting work to begin during the coming month. I think it of vital importance that there should be enough ground owned by the School Board to give leeway for farm and vocational training to make the students the useful members of the community which they and it need.

Mrs. Waite will, I am sure, be glad to answer the telephone on your call as to arranging the time when you may find me available for a not too long conference. If you have any plans or sketches, I should be glad of course to see them.

Faithfully yours,

GFP/AWD

FISK
UNIVERSITY

Mrs. (G. -
Warm Springs)

December 29, 1935

Dear Mr. Peabody: I have read with unusual interest your letter of December 27th and copies of your letter to Miss Gay Shepperson and Mr. Nunn.

It has been my understanding, through Mr. Cousins, that the project there set up by the government was on an estimated cost basis of a little more than \$8,000, and that the WPA aid including all labor and a small portion of the materials would amount to more than one-half of this estimated cost, the remainder to be provided from other sources; but I do not know just what portion is to be set up locally. Of course, our aid can be considered a part of the local money. In talking with Mr. Nunn, Mr. Poor and Mr. Killian it was agreed that \$1,000 of our money should be held to insure equipment unless some other contributor would agree to pay for the equipment including pupils desks, teachers desks, and heating and seats for the auditorium.

If Miss Shepperson could find the time, I think it would be most helpful if she could drop by and have a talk with you sometime very soon. Somehow I believe that the project will be put through because of the abiding interest of yourself, President Roosevelt and others.

Again, I wish you a happy New Year full of joy and satisfaction.

Sincerely yours,

SLS:mt

Mr. George Foster Peabody
Warm Springs, Georgia

FISK
UNIVERSITY

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY

WARM SPRINGS, GEORGIA

December 27, 1935.

Mr. S. L. Smith,
Rosenwald Fund,
Nashville,
Tennessee.

Dear Mr. Smith:

The season's best greetings and hopes to you!

I enclose copy of letter to Miss Shepperson which will indicate to you that some new aspects of the situation have been brought to my attention. The Mayor called upon me. I had never before heard of any such amount as \$8,200.00 and feel sure that it cannot be true. But his statement to me and his suggestion that I write to Miss Shepperson gives me an opportunity perhaps to make inquiry and find out something more definite than we have yet had.

I find, as you will not be surprised to learn, that the Mayor and the Chairman of the Local Board are on the outs, having had several conflicts in the past, particularly respecting the making of the local white school a High School with only two students in the last grade, I understand.

I am

Very truly yours,



GFP/AWD

Enc.

FISK
UNIVERSITY