

May 3, 1947

TO: Committee on Fellowships  
FROM: Photographic Jury: Roy Stryker and Gordon Parks, New York City  
SUBJECT: Report of Photographic Jury

We feel that Edith Levy has done a sufficiently original and photographically adequate presentation to be worthy of a Rosenwald Grant. We are both a little puzzled why Rosenwald would want to back the kind of project submitted by Laughlin.

Laughlin is a very competent photographer and possibly could work out some kind of project that would have significance in terms of the work of the Rosenwald Fund. There are some doubts in our minds whether or not he would bend himself or turn himself away from the type of photograph he has done so well — as evidenced by his portfolio.

In summary, we feel Miss Levy is certainly entitled to consideration for a grant. Laughlin might be if he has a project that you people feel has some subject matter merit.

We were interested in seeing the Olmstead material — he has made some progress. We would imagine from his work that he will turn into a good commercial photographer without ever doing any very creative work. Perhaps he can make himself an adequate living when he goes back to Pittsburgh.

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