

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK END LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

SIMON STUDY

June 19, 1935

Ralph Gaskins
Register, Georgia

Very favorably impressed by my talk with you please call at once on John Dixon of State Education Department Atlanta wiring him in advance for appointment stop He and others he will have you meet are in immediate charge our Georgia school projects stop After those interviews please write me brief statement of your career and your desires for next year of course we will pay expenses your Atlanta trip

Edwin R. Embree
President of Julius Rosenwald
Fund

Julius Rosenwald Fund
4901 Ellis Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

GS

JUN 20 1935



WESTERN UNION GIFT ORDERS SOLVE THE PERPLEXING QUESTION OF WHAT TO GIVE

ALL MESSAGES TAKEN BY THIS COMPANY ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS:

To guard against mistakes or delays, the sender of a message should order it repeated, that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. For this, one-half the unrepeated message rate is charged in addition. Unless otherwise indicated on its face, this is an unrepeated message and paid for as such, in consideration whereof it is agreed between the sender of the message and this company as follows:

1. The company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the unrepeated message rate beyond the sum of five hundred dollars; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the repeated message rate beyond the sum of five thousand dollars, unless specially valued; nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of its lines; nor for errors in cipher or obscure messages.

2. In any event the company shall not be liable for damages for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for the non-delivery, of any message, whether caused by the negligence of its servants or otherwise, beyond the sum of five thousand dollars, at which amount each message is deemed to be valued, unless a greater value is stated in writing by the sender thereof at the time the message is tendered for transmission, and unless the repeated message rate is paid or agreed to be paid, and an additional charge equal to one-tenth of one percent of the amount by which such valuation shall exceed five thousand dollars.

3. The company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward this message over the lines of any other company when necessary to reach its destination.

4. Domestic messages and incoming cable messages will be delivered free within one-half mile of the company's office in towns of 5,000 population or less, and within one mile of such office in other cities or towns. Beyond these limits the company does not undertake to make delivery, but will, without liability, at the sender's request, as his agent and at his expense, endeavor to contract for him for such delivery at a reasonable price.

5. No responsibility attaches to this company concerning messages until the same are accepted at one of its transmitting offices; and if a message is sent to such office by one of the company's messengers, he acts for that purpose as the agent of the sender.

6. The company will not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the company for transmission.

7. It is agreed that in any action by the company to recover the tolls for any message or messages the prompt and correct transmission and delivery thereof shall be presumed, subject to rebuttal by competent evidence.

8. Special terms governing the transmission of messages according to their classes, as enumerated below, shall apply to messages in each of such respective classes in addition to all the foregoing terms.

9. No employee of the company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

INCORPORATED

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

CLASSES OF SERVICE

TELEGRAMS

A full-rate expedited service.

NIGHT MESSAGES

Accepted up to 2:00 A.M. at reduced rates to be sent during the night and delivered not earlier than the morning of the ensuing business day.

Night Messages may at the option of the Telegraph Company be mailed at destination to the addressees, and the Company shall be deemed to have discharged its obligation in such cases with respect to delivery by mailing such night messages at destination, postage prepaid.

DAY LETTERS

A deferred day service at rates lower than the standard telegram rates as follows: One and one-half times the standard night letter rate for the transmission of 50 words or less and one-fifth of the initial rates for each additional 10 words or less.

SPECIAL TERMS APPLYING TO DAY LETTERS:

In further consideration of the reduced rate for this special Day Letter service, the following special terms in addition to those enumerated above are hereby agreed to:

A. Day Letters may be forwarded by the Telegraph Company as a deferred service and the transmission and delivery of such Day Letters is, in all respects, subordinate to the priority of transmission and delivery of regular telegrams.

B. This Day Letter is received subject to the express understanding and agreement that the Company does not undertake that a Day Letter shall be delivered on the day of its date absolutely, and at all events; but that the Company's obligation in this respect is subject to the condition that there shall remain sufficient time for the transmission and delivery of such Day Letter on the day of its date during regular office hours, subject to the priority of the transmission of regular telegrams under the conditions named above.

No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

NIGHT LETTERS

Accepted up to 2:00 A.M. for delivery on the morning of the ensuing business day, at rates still lower than standard night message rates, as follows: The stand-

ard telegram rate for 10 words shall be charged for the transmission of 50 words or less, and one-fifth of such standard telegram rate for 10 words shall be charged for each additional 10 words or less.

SPECIAL TERMS APPLYING TO NIGHT LETTERS:

In further consideration of the reduced rates for this special Night Letter service, the following special terms in addition to those enumerated above are hereby agreed to:

Night Letters may at the option of the Telegraph Company be mailed at destination to the addressees, and the Company shall be deemed to have discharged its obligation in such cases with respect to delivery by mailing such Night Letters at destination, postage prepaid.

No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

FULL RATE CABLES

An expedited service throughout. Code language permitted.

DEFERRED HALF-RATE CABLES

Half-rate messages are subject to being deferred in favor of full rate messages for not exceeding 24 hours. Must be in language of country of origin or of destination, or in French. This class of service is in effect with most European countries and with various other countries throughout the world. Full particulars supplied on application at any Western Union Office.

CABLE NIGHT LETTERS

An overnight, low-rate service for plain language communications. The language of the country of destination may be employed, if the Night Letter service is in operation to that country. Subject to delivery at the convenience of the Company within 24 hours if telegraphic delivery is selected. Delivery by mail beyond London will be made if a full mailing address is given and the words "Post London" are written after the destination. Rates vary according to country of destination; minimum charge based on 20 or 25 words.

WEEK-END LETTERS

At still lower rates. Similar to Night Letters except that they are accepted up to midnight Saturday for delivery Monday morning, if telegraphic delivery is selected. Rates vary according to country of destination; minimum charge based on 20 or 25 words.

	ERE	6/25	ERE	6/27

NRS

SIMON STUDY

Register, Georgia,
June 24, 1935.

Mr. Edwin R. Embree, President,
Julius Rosenwald Fund,
Chicago, Illinois.

7

Yaskins

Dear Mr. Embree:

Upon returning home from Atlanta, I am sending you the information you requested, and a list of my expenses as you suggested in your Telegram to me.

I was born July 8, 1910, at Nashville, Georgia. I received my High School education at Hazlehurst, Georgia, graduating in 1927. After working three years on our farm, I entered The Berry Schools, Mount Berry, Georgia. During the Summer of 1932, I had ten weeks work at Middle Georgia College, Cochran, Georgia. I entered South Georgia Teacher's College, Statesboro, Georgia in September 1932. I completed the work for my degree during the summer of 1934. I have a B. S. Degree in Education. My work includes majors in History, Education, and General Science. I have minors in French, English, and Sociology.

During two months in the Spring of 1930, I taught a one-teacher school near Hazlehurst, Georgia. After completing nearly all of the requirements for my degree, I taught sixth and seventh grades and was Principal of the Elementary Department of Nevils Junior High School, Statesboro, Georgia. During the next year, 1934-35, I was Principal of Pulaski High School, Pulaski, Georgia. I am re-elected to my same position at Pulaski with a raise in salary for next year. I have always been re-elected, but have changed schools each year, as you will notice to a better position.

I have always tried to make each opportunity count. During the time I spent in college, I participated in as many activities as time permitted. I have won recognition in Debating, Dramatics, Y. M. C. A., Quartette, Glee Club, Choir, Band, and Orchestra. Having definitely decided several years ago to make teaching my profession, I have not let an opportunity pass to broaden my background so that whenever the need arose for any type of activity, I would be prepared. I love children, and the most fascinating type of work in the world, insofar as I am concerned, is teaching small children. I like to work with people, particularly rural people. Having come from a rural section, I share the ideals and aspirations of rural people. I am glad of the opportunity I have to try to help rural people meet their needs, and to see the opportunities that are before them, and above all, to try to instill into the minds of their children the desire to build for themselves a richer type of culture and a joyful life. My heart goes out to these people for they are my people, and this is in my native state, Georgia! I feel that I have reason to believe that I know the needs of these

JUL 1 1935

UNIVERSITY

people, and I am glad to have the opportunity to work with them. I met some of the people at Fair Play, learning that some of them have kinsmen near my home. There is a Mr. Herrin and his family living near Hazlehurst. Mr. Adair knows a great many people in my home town, so many, in fact, that I feel as if I have known him for years. We happen to be members of the same Church. I had a very pleasant visit with the people of the community. They are very interesting people.

As I have said above, I plan to follow teaching as my profession. I genuinely like to teach. I am young, energetic, and ambitious. Naturally I am interested in a chance to advance in my field of work. I met Miss Lockman and discussed the situation very fully with her. I heard Miss Lockman lecture during the Spring of 1932, but at the time of my interview with you, I could not place the name. I like her very much, and I am sure that we would be able to work together very congenially. I believe that I can do the type of work needed by the Fair Play Project, and in a very satisfactory manner both to you and to the community. I realize that it will take hard work, but I am prepared for work, hard work, for I know that it is necessary in any line, and especially teaching.

It is my intention to spend the remainder of the summer preparing myself for the coming year. I should like to be prepared always when I begin a year's work. I would not feel as if I were doing justice to my profession or to myself if I should go to a task unprepared. My desire for next year is to continue advancing in my profession. The project at Fair Play offers an unusual opportunity to contact the leading men in my profession, as well as an excellent opportunity to experiment under expert guidance with the newest theories in the field of Education.

I shall be glad to hear from you in regard to this matter.

Yours very truly,

Ralph E. Gaskins



Ralph Gaskins

NRS
SIMON STUDY

Candidate for Rural School Exploration teacher

seen by ERZ June 6, 1935 Very favorable impression

Age, 25

Home, Box 34, Register, Georgia

Training: Hazelhurst High School, graduated 1927

Berry College 1931 through 1932

Middle Georgia College summer session of 12 weeks 1932

South Georgia Teachers College 1932-33

and summers of 1933-~~34~~ and 1934

B S in Education in 1935

Scholarship average A-

Experience: teacher for one year at Hevils Consolidated School, Bulloch, Ga
Principal for one year of Palaski High School, Ga

married - no children, but one expected in fall or winter of 1935

plays organ, was organist of Berry College
plays in band and also piano

JUN 25 1935

Can be had for about \$175 per month

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NRS
SIMON STUDY

7

June 27, 1935

Dear Mr. Gaskins: I am enclosing herewith our check for expenses as reported in your letter of June 24. However, I have taken the liberty of increasing the mileage rate for your traveling since we are in the habit of paying a higher figure than the one which you so modestly suggested.

Thank you for sending me the detailed information about your education and experience. It confirms the favorable impression which I had from our conversation.

We do not want to make a final decision in this matter for two or three weeks. There are several people who need to agree upon the definite appointment. I hope, however, that you can carry out your plans for further preparation this summer and I hope that a decision about the third week in July will not keep your programs in ~~too~~ great suspense.

Very truly yours,

ERE:GS

EDWIN R. EMBREE

Mr. Ralph Gaskins
Register, Georgia

JUL 1 1935

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NRS
SIMON STUDY

7 up to
8/31/35
Salary due?

in pay

B

July 10, 1935

My dear Mr. Gaskins: We are now ready so far as the Fund is concerned to offer you a definite appointment for the coming year. Of course officially you must be selected by the Fair Play community and the County Superintendent. I gather both from your letter and from what Miss Lockman has told me that we may look for favorable action there.

As to salary arrangements, we expect you to collect the amount which this school would normally pay to its regular teachers. The difference between that payment and what you need and can properly command is made up by the Julius Rosenwald Fund. Since you need to have something definite to count upon, we make the arrangement in the form of a guarantee of a total income. In our regular appointments this has been at the rate of \$150 a month for an eight-month term. Because of your qualifications and because you will be needed in the community for a longer period than the regular school term, we are prepared to go slightly above our regular arrangement both in the amount of the salary and in the length of the term of appointment. We are prepared to guarantee to you an income of \$160 a month for a period of not less than nine months beginning at or about the middle of August, 1935. In order to get things under way, Miss Lockman and I both feel that you should be in the Fair Play community not later than August 15. We should want you to continue until May 15, possibly somewhat longer. At any rate our guarantee will be for nine months' service.

If this is in general agreeable to you let us proceed on the basis of a definite appointment even though some details may have to be worked out as time goes on. The first thing is to have the appointment at Fair Play formalized through the regular official channels. Miss Lockman will be able to make suggestions as to what steps should be taken in this connection. The next thing is for us to confer either by letter or personal conversation about the general plans of our

JUL 12 1935

HSK
UNIVERSITY

Mr. Ralph E. Gaskins

-2-

rural school exploration and the detailed part in it which you will take. As a step in this direction, I am sending you a complete set of the bulletins of the exploration even though you may already have copies of some of these. These seven bulletins will give you at least some idea of our objectives and our procedure. Mr. and Mrs. James Simon, who are in immediate charge of this branch of our work and who unfortunately have been away on vacation during our preliminary conferences with you, return next week and can take up more intensively than I have been able to do discussion of the details of the work.

We hope very much that we may have you as a member of this very interesting exploration in this important field of rural education.

Very truly yours,

ERE:GS

EDWIN R. EMBREE

Mr. Ralph E. Gaskins
Register, Georgia

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ERE	15	ERE	0
JFS		HS	0
WS		WS	6

*Let's discuss this and other acts I have
committed in the name of the Rural Exploration
in the absence from Chicago
of the Simons
EPE*

Register, Georgia,
July 12, 1935.

NRS

SIMON STUDY

*Fair Play School
(Haskins)*

Mr. Edwin R. Embree, President,
Julius Rosenwald Fund,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Embree:

I received your letter this morning. I am using this method of advising you of my acceptance. If it should be necessary to meet you, Mr. and Mrs. Simons, or any other persons connected with the project, I shall be glad to do so.

I am writing Miss Lockman, and Mr. Owens today so that my connection with the Fair Play Project will be officially recognized by the proper persons in the Fair Play Community. I think that there will be no trouble in that respect, owing to the fact that I have already seen most of the people concerned.

The question of the car was not mentioned in your letter. When I talked to you in statesboro, it was mentioned, but nothing final was decided on. It is my wish to use my car in the work. Primarily because I have it, and there is no way by which I could satisfactorily dispose of it, and further I prefer to be free of any responsibility of driving a car which is the property of someone else. You mentioned that it would be better for the Rosenwald Fund to pay a certain amount each month for up-keep rather than buy a car. About what amount may I expect for monthly up-keep? Or do you prefer to furnish a car?

As soon as the material you have sent arrives, I shall be able to begin definite plans for the year. I shall work, in the meantime, at South Georgia Teachers College along some general plans and ideas that will be worthwhile in the work.

I am very happy to have the opportunity to work in connection with the Julius Rosenwald Fund in this most interesting Project, and I shall make every effort to make the Project a success from every point of view.

I shall be glad to hear from you at any time.

Very truly yours,

Ralph E. Gaskins

JUL 25 1935

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*Mr. Embree
wants you
to settle
this.*

ERE	15	ERE	
MS		MS	19

~~Henry H. Oliff~~

~~Physician and Surgeon~~

Register, Georgia

NRS

SIMON STUDY

School Address; Rutledge, Ga.

August 18, 1935.

Fair Play - Gaskins

Mr. Edwin R. Embree, President,
Julius Rosenwald Fund,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Embree:

I shall report to Fair Play tomorrow, August 14th, and begin my work there. It is my plan to meet all of the people of the community within a day or two. I believe that after about a week I shall have my plans complete for the school year.

I shall welcome any suggestions that you have to make pertinent to the work or plans for the work. I presume that Mr. and Mrs. Simons will confer with Miss Lockman and I either by letter or in person prior to the opening day of school.

The stage seems to be set for an excellent piece of work. The people of the community are in the proper frame of mind, and I am ready for work. I shall put forth every possible effort to secure the very best results at all times. It will be a pleasure to have you visit us.

Very truly yours,

Ralph E. Gaskins.

SEP 4 1935

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ERE	21	ERE	8
MS		MS	8
JS		JS	8

FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA, August 17, 1935.

NRS

SIMON STUDY

Fair Play - Gaskins

Mr. Edwin R. Embree, President,
Julius Rosenwald Fund,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Embree:

Upon my arrival here I found that there were a number of things that need to be done. The Woman's Club in the community has been trying during the summer to get a project approved by the Works Progress Administration. To date this effort has been in vain. The Administrator of W. P. A. in this section has led Miss Lockman and the Woman's Club to believe that he was doing all in his power to get this project through. He has not even sent this project to the district headquarters. I have begun work on the project during Miss Lockman's vacation, which she needed greatly, and shall make every possible effort to get it through. I am making some progress. I believe that we shall have the project ready to submit some time next week.

This project, as you probably know, is for the purpose of remodeling the school building, and improving the sanitary conditions on the campus. It will be of great help to us, and I believe that if we can bring the proper pressure to bear, that we shall be able to get the work started at an early date.

The people are very friendly and have been very nice to us. We are visiting as many of them as possible, and shall visit each home as early as time will permit. Above everything else, these people are interested in this "New-Type" of teaching, as they put it, and the school is apparently their first thought. I am very happy to find this keen interest in the development of their school and community. It is certainly a field of opportunity for the type of work that we hope to begin here and eventually spread over the State and Nation.

We shall probably have to teach in some of the churches in the community until our project can be completed, but that will make no difference in our plans. I believe that everything is in our favor for a successful year's work.

I shall be glad to hear from you at any time.

Very truly yours,

Ralph E. Gaskins

SEP 4 1935

FISK

UNIVERSITY

FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA

JFS	9	12/5
ms	N	12/5
SIMON		STUDY

December 5, 1935.

Mr. James F. Simon,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Simon:

Owing to the fact that we failed to get together to discuss the question of the Encyclopaedia, Junior Britannica, and the possibility of securing some maps from the Fund, I am taking this opportunity to discuss it.

In Sears School Supply Catalog, you will find a set of eight maps, No. 12AM3543, and priced at \$17.95. I think that you will like the selection of maps included in this group. The Womans Club is going to buy some blackboard for the rooms, and a 12 inch globe. I think that if the Fund will make this contribution to go along with the contribution of the Womans Club, we shall have made some permanent contributions to the needed equipment in the classrooms. Needless to say, we shall greatly appreciate the material if we can secure it.

I am still confident that we can persuade Mr. Brown to give us the land for the Teacherage. I am awaiting further developments for the W. P. A. project before going too far with the Teacherage. We were in Athens yesterday afternoon, and called upon the W. P. A. office. With apologies to Ripley, "Believe it or not," we found a man who would talk business. The project has been given Presidential approval. It has been returned to Athens, we saw it!, and is now held up, until a new allotment is made so that funds will be provided, and until labor is available. We were assured that we would know definitely in January as to when work would begin. Finally, after threatening with the Constitution of Georgia, and biting nails, etc., we know where we are, vaguely at least. Once this is underway, we can begin to make some plans for the Negro School and the Teacherage.

Thank Margot for her very nice letter for us. I hope that you will find it possible to visit us again before the Conference.

Very truly yours,

Ralph E. Gaskins

DEC 27 1935

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UNIVERSITY

NRS
SIMON STUDY

Fair Play

January 14, 1936

Dear Mr. Gaskins: I am enclosing 2 checks. The one for \$65. represents your salary for the period of January first to fifteenth less \$15. paid by the state for November. The balance of \$32.50 was deducted from the check due you on December 31st. In the future we shall deduct the payment from the state regularly from your end of the month check, that is, at the end of January we shall deduct the \$47.50 paid by the state for December, and so on.

The second check for \$94.78 represents the salary advance of \$100. requested in your letter of January 11th, less the unexpended balance of your travel advance - "\$5.22". Our deductions for the \$100. advance will be made in accordance with the suggestions in your letter.

The last item in your expense account of \$15.20 was a little puzzling to us so we have omitted it in this reimbursement. You explained it as mileage from Fair Play to Fair Play during the holidays. If you will send further explanation of this expenditure we shall reconsider it.

Very truly yours,

Mr. Ralph E. Gaskins
Fair Play Elementary School
Rutledge, Georgia

DOROTHY A. ELVIDGE

DAE:MVG
encl.

JAN 16 1936

FISK
UNIVERSITY

Good letter!
ms

FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA

NRS
SIMON STUDY

March 7, 1936.

JFS	9	
Ms		ms
W		ED
JFS		#5

Mr. James F. Simon,
Julius Rosenwald Fund,
Chicago, Illinois.

*Very good. I gather from these letters that
Gaskins is to be a 12 month teacher
here! At our pay? Sends me -
ED*

Dear Jim:

I am enclosing the Sears bid on the materials for the proposed teacherage. I think it is a good bid. It is, as you will notice, F. O. B. Rutledge. Finally, the ladies in this community have given up the idea of getting any land from Mr. Brown. You will remember that he told me "No" in a very nice way, but firmly. Well, the ladies thought they would be able to prevail upon him for two acres. They made four trips to his house, and during the last one, he gave Miss Lockman an answer something like this: "I will sell you two acres for twenty dollars, provided that the land will come back to me if the school is ever abolished." How do you like that? I haven't quit laughing yet. We can now procure the land from some other person.

It seem to me that the general opinion of the community is that we should not begin work on the teacherage until the work on the school house is completed. I think this attitude has been brought about by the political situation that is upon us. It will be easy to tell whether this is the cause or not, after the day of the election, March 18th. My observations seem to give the election to Owen by a large majority. Ivey is constantly losing ground. Even his best friends do not think he has a ghost of a chance. He has made himself very unppopular by certain attacks upon our work here. We seem to have a strong following in the county.

As you remember, I gave New Stanford Achievement Tests at the beginning of this school year. I found an average achievement of the entire elementary group to be two years below the Norm for the Test. Of course, Reading is the one subject responsible for this low record. I found without exception a deficiency in reading ability. One person in the Seventh grade showed the Reading ability of a Third grade pupil! I have four pupils in the Fourth grade that have less than the middle of the First grade! Only three pupils among the group of twenty-five were up to standard.

I have just completed a second testing program with this same test and I find that during the period of four months that have followed my first test, there has been an average improvement of seven months in Reading ability as measured by the test. I had an individual who has made an improvement of two years during this period of four months. Owing to the fact that the Fourth grade is the one group that has the handicap of having had Ophelia Herrin during

MAR 16 1936

FAIR PLAY
UNIVERSITY

FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA

the first three years of their school lives, I decided to give the Haggerty Reading Examinations, Sigma I. I found that four pupils showed the ability of pupils in the first half of the First grade, two in the Second and two in the Third, one pupil showed the ability of the Fourth grade.

Yesterday, the Women's Club voted funds to complete the toilets, and to dig a well. This was included in the W. P. A. project that has held up our program during this year, but I asked them to furnish this money and it would be credited to them on the project. They gladly followed my suggestion. I made another suggestion that I hope to have them act upon at their next meeting. This calls for a program of monthly additions to our Library. I believe we can get at least five dollars each month for the purpose of buying additional books. I think that I shall try to have sets of Supplementary Readers for each grade purchased first.

I am planning for a program of studies next year that will follow the suggestions in Mr. Embree's article, "Rural Education." I am visiting the homes and selling our program to the people who have been opposing our program. I think I am making some progress. I hope to set up a program of intensive training in Reading. I believe that I can map out courses in Reading that will cover the subject matter usually covered in the Elementary School. During the summer I plan to carry on remedial teaching among the people who are so far behind in reading ability that we can do very little with them during the regular year.

The retention of the Seventh grade of last year as a "Senior Class" was in my opinion a bad mistake. If it were necessary to retain them, I think they should have been retained as Seventh grade pupils. It has added an additional burden to the already over-crowded situation. You see it was distinctly stated to these pupils that they would not be doing seventh grade work. I have tried to do for them what I plan to do for all who have completed seventh grade work but who are not going on to high school. That is, a program of reading that can be carried on with my help and by using the books in the Library. There are several people who are not in school now who are doing work of this sort.

It is my belief that we can do our best work to weed out the people as fast as possible who have reached the sixth grade. I make this statement, because they have gone so far under the old program that their habits are almost unbreakable, and they have come to regard school as a place where something has to be done under penalty of punishment. They have been taught to regard any reading as something distasteful, in fact, they hate the thought of school work. I have had to contend with that sort of thing during the year. I believe that we can bring the remaining groups along with us and make their school life pleasant and profitable. These people in the Sixth and Seventh grades can do more to break down our program than all of the gossip in the community that is against us. Of course, we shall always have to face the fact that people will move into

FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA

our community and enter school. We can handle them much better than we can this group in school now. This group can enter the High Schools of the county better prepared than they would have if the school had continued under Mrs. Few and Miss Herrin, therefore they are being sent to these schools under more favorable circumstances than they would have been. We cannot expect to keep them in school long enough to remake their entire training.

My program for the summer will include the remedial teaching mentioned above and a reading program for each child that will be directed by the teacher in charge. I have six projects in farming that I hope to direct during the growing season. These projects are the beginnings of the sort of work that I hope to do on a large scale later. I plan to start a Reading club among the people in the community. The books we have are simple enough for them to read and enjoy, and I have books that will appeal to the few people who are able to go beyond our Library. I plan to make additions to the Library for this group during the coming months.

This is a summary of my report to be made at the Conference this Spring, if the plans for the conference call for these reports. I shall have the details of the tests and my program for the coming year at that time.

We are expecting a visit from Margot and you soon. Winter has left us. The sunshine is upon us. We have enjoyed a week of beautiful weather. The buds are swelling, the peach trees and pear trees will soon be in full bloom, the birds are singing merrily. Come on down and enjoy the sunshine and flowers.

Very truly yours,

Ralph E. Gaskins.



JFS	22	24	

FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA

NRS
SIMON STUDY
*special
 Airmail*

June 20, 1936.

Mr. James F. Simon,
 4901 Ellis Avenue,
 Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Jim:

Mr. Smith, of Nashville, has informed me that the Jim Reed Chevrolet Company will pay \$200.00 for the car that is in storage there. He quotes the Standard Town Sedan, the car I prefer, at \$660.00, less a 3% fleet discount. This will make the difference about \$446.00.

Mr. Adams, of Madison, makes the following bid: About \$216.00 for the old car, and the model mentioned above \$676.00. This gives us the same difference except the fleet discount. I think the difference in freight rates is somewhat higher than the amount of this discount. It seems to me that he has made an acceptable proposition. I suppose that in the event the car was bought in Nashville, it would be necessary for me to go up there and get it, or if we buy here, I would have to go get the old car, hence the trip will not make any difference regardless of the place of purchase. Living here and needing the service given by a dealer, we shall have an advantage in buying locally. I shall await your instructions before making any further steps.

We are still stuck on the boiler proposition. I plan to go to Atlanta to talk to the man at Sears, and to see some other boiler dealers sometime during next week. I might stop over there on the way to Nashville for this purpose. I think that it will take me about a week to get the plant set up. Everybody seems elated over the prospects of having the plant in operation soon. We have received some additional lumber since my last letter.

I think that I am going to lose about \$250.00 on my car. I can get \$525.00 by trading for a Terraplane, but only \$350.00 or \$375.00 for a Chevrolet. It seems that only Terraplane dealers want to offer much for a Terraplane.

I hope that you have fully recovered from your recent illness. Remember me to Margot and my other friends at the Fund.

JUN 29 1936

Very truly yours,

Ralph E. Gaskins

FISK
 UNIVERSITY

De 56

NRS
SIMON STUDY

Fair Play School

January 8, 1935/6

Dear Ralph: I have talked over the question of a loan for the purchase of an encyclopedia and wall maps. The consensus here is that we cannot make a loan. There is, however, a way in which the matter can be handled. Our comptroller can make a salary advance to you sufficient to cover the cost of the items to be purchased. This is, in a sense, a loan to you. You will, in turn, loan it to the Women's Club for the purchase of the above items. As this is considered a salary advance to you, it is clear that you will be held responsible for the collection of the money. Otherwise, you will be out the difference between what was given to you as an advance on salary and the amount that the community reimburses you.

I am suggesting the above because, even though you are able to get your discount on a time-payment basis, the carrying charge will amount to more than the discount.

If you decide to make the purchase, you had better let us get the encyclopedia from this office as Mrs. Simon can obtain a second-hand set for \$20, which is a far better price than you can possibly expect through regular channels. As far as the wall maps are concerned, I don't believe we can do any better for you than you can do for yourself.

The conference seemed to me an exceedingly interesting one. Hope you enjoyed the official day sessions as well as those less official night ones.

Sincerely yours,

JFS:rm

JAMES F. SIMON

Mr. Ralph Gaskins
Fair Play Elementary School
Rutledge, Georgia

JAN 10 1936

FISK
UNIVERSITY

Sears ORDER BLANK

SEARS, ROEBUCK AND CO.

WE GUARANTEE TO SATISFY YOU

How to Send Money The safest ways to send money are by postoffice money order, express money order, bank draft or personal check. If impossible to obtain any of these, send currency wrapped in heavy paper by registered letter. If in a special hurry, your order and money may be sent by telegraph. The telegraph company will arrange this for you. Give your complete address in your telegram.

On Parcel Post Shipments be sure to include additional money in your remittance to pay the postage as charges must be paid in advance. We will return every penny you send over actual postage required.

On Freight Shipments if there is a freight agent at your station, you don't need to include money for freight charges. If there isn't a freight agent it is necessary to send money to prepay freight charges. Charges are the same either way.

(If possible, all members of the same family should order under one name)

Date Feb. 22 1936

Name Mr Ralph E Gaskins, Prin
(First Name) (Middle Initial) (Last Name)

Postoffice Rutledge

Rural Route Box No. State Ga

Please give both your Route and Box Number, if on a Rural Route.

Street Address Fair Play Elementary School

If you want this order shipped to another person or to a different address from that shown above, give directions here.

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

Amount Received From Customer

HOW SHALL WE SHIP? Parcel ☐ Express ☐ Freight ☐
Mark X in Proper Square

SIZES and COLORS Please Don't Forget Them

Number of Article in Catalog	Quantity Desired	NAME OF ARTICLE WANTED	SIZES	COLORS, Finish, etc.	Price, Each, Yard, Pair, Etc.	Put Totals Here and Add This Column	Shipping Weight	
							Pounds	Ounces
48LM562	15	squares shingles gray green	Sizes	Colors, etc.				
48LM2976	30	lbs roofing nails 1 3/4 inch	Sizes	Colors, etc.				
63LM828	4	Entrance Door sets 3'0"x7'0"x 1 3/4"	Sizes	Colors, etc.				
63LM992	4	Interior Door sets 2'6"x6'8"x1 3/4"	Sizes	Colors, etc.				
63LM7172	15	Window sets, 2 lt, top 3 lt	Sizes	Colors, etc.				
		bottom 1 lt, 2'6"x5'2" cl r l	Sizes	Colors, etc.				
63-2445	900	ft flooring oak	Sizes	Colors, etc.				
32LM1170	100	lbs 20d common wire nails	Sizes	Colors, etc.				
	100	lbs 12d " " "	Sizes	Colors, etc.				
	100	lbs 10d " " "	Sizes	Colors, etc.				
32LM1172	100	lbs 10d finishing nails	Sizes	Colors, etc.				
	50	lbs. 12d " "	Sizes	Colors, etc.				
Prepaid from Atlanta to Rutledge, Georgia						\$214.89		
			Sizes	Colors, etc.				
			Sizes	Colors, etc.				
			Sizes	Colors, etc.				

NOTICE: Add Shipping Weights and Figure Parcel Post Charges on Total Weight Only

PLEASE GIVE ACTUAL MEASUREMENT. "DON'T ALLOW." We Make All Necessary Allowances

If You Have Moved Since Sending Your Last Order Please Give Former Address Below

Postoffice Rural Route Box No.
Please give both your Route and Box number if on a Rural Route

State Street Address

F8654 12.21.34

Be Sure to State SIZES and COLORS

AMOUNT SENT for Goods

AMOUNT SENT for POSTAGE

AMOUNT DUE on Previous Order

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED

Pounds Ounces

TOTAL WEIGHT IN POUNDS

NRS
SIMON STUDY

*Fair Play
(Bookers)*

March 12, 1936

Dear Ralph: Thank you for your very good letter. You have probably discovered by this time that the estimate from Sears was not enclosed, and, as you did not mention any figures in the body of your letter, I am very curious as to what Sears' final price was.

The proposal submitted by Mr. Brown is by no means an ideal arrangement but it could be much worse, and the price is, to my mind, certainly reasonable provided that he does not assume that whatever building is put on the property will revert to him along with the land should the school ever be abolished. However, if you are able to obtain a couple of acres at a decent price, not too far from the school grounds, on an out-and-out purchasing basis - that, it seems to me, is the thing to do.

I quite agree with the community as to their desire to delay work on the teacherage until after the schoolhouse is completed. I was under the impression that you were to begin the alterations on the school building sometime in January. Is there any hope of getting this work started during the present school term? It would be unfortunate if we had to delay building the teacherage until sometime next fall, as this would mean that we would get only about six months' use out of it during the next school term. And you will have considerable time during the summer months which can be devoted to construction work.

The results of the various tests which you gave are not at all surprising. With the initial tests given, it will be interesting to see what you have achieved by the end of the next year.

What has been accomplished with the Women's Club is very encouraging. It only goes to prove that community organization, far from being impossible, can accomplish much that we have heretofore expected of county school boards.

Most of your letter concerning what can be done with summer farm projects, reading clubs, and the new rural curriculum,

MAR 16 1936

ESK
UNIVERSITY

Ralph Gaskins - 2

March 12, 1936

offers such vast possibilities that it is almost impossible to take them up by mail. Of course, much of our future work will depend upon the outcome of the impending election. I am glad to hear that things are looking up for Mr. Owen, not only for his sake, but because I would hate to see those people suffer under the leadership of our friend Ivey. What effect an adverse outcome to the election might have upon our activities, I do not know - as we have not for one moment considered the possibility of Owen's being defeated.

Margot and I will make every effort to visit you before too much time elapses. We can then discuss the various suggestions which you have made, all of which sound very good to me.

Don't let spring fever get you down. Our best regards to Mrs. Gaskins, the Adairs, and our other friends.

Sincerely,

JAMES F. SIMON

JFS:rm

Mr. Ralph Gaskins
Fair Play Elementary School
Fair Play, Georgia

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UNIVERSITY

FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA

23	24
NRS	
SIMON STUDY	
March 19, 1936.	

Dear Jim:

I am enclosing the bid from Sears this time. I do not understand how I could have overlooked it before. I had not discovered my mistake, but I had wondered if I enclosed the bid. I think it would be to our advantage to accept it.

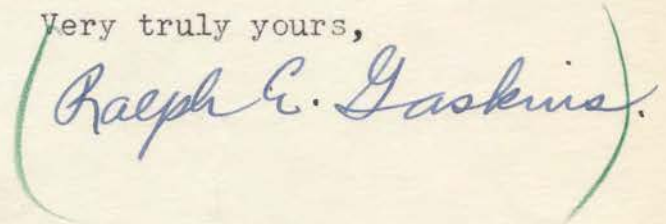
There is a law in Georgia that would prevent our accepting the offer made by Mr. Brown. The buildings on any land go with the land, and there is nothing we could do with it.

I deferred writing to you until I could give you the returns of the election. Owen was re-elected by nearly four hundred majority unofficially. The official returns will be known today. We can usually depend on the former. There is no doubt that Owen is the man for the next four years. There was some doubt in this community concerning the election, but I could never see that we had cause for worry. I do not know how the vote stands in this district but it has been pro-Ivey in the past. We may have turned the tide here, but there is that element that is controlled by money and liquor, and it may be that Ivey carried our district. It matters not, because our man is in with a large majority.

It is my plan to try to begin planning for the community canning plant at an early date so that it may be ready when needed. The people seem to be eager to have one. I think there will be no trouble in getting it set up.

When may we expect you to visit us again?

Very truly yours,



Mr. James F. Simon,
Julius Rosenwald Fund,
Chicago, Illinois.

MAR 26 1936



FISK
UNIVERSITY

N R S
SIMON STUDY

*Fair Play
(Gardner)*

March 24, 1936

Dear Ralph: I have Sears' estimate on hand and believe that the figure is reasonable enough. However, I do not see any items for plumbing. What do you intend to do about this?

If running water cannot be provided, at least you should have a sink in the kitchen. I note from Sears' catalogue that you can obtain a complete bathroom outfit for around \$31. Fittings for same will cost about \$8.00 more; kitchen sink can be obtained for \$6.50; a hand force pump to pump water into an elevated tank for about \$5.50; pipes should cost you around \$20. In other words you should be able to put in all plumbing, if you do the work yourself, in the neighborhood of \$65-\$75. Have you considered this or were you intending to use the difference between \$214 and \$300 which the Fund agreed to contribute for such items as concrete, sand, and lumber, etc.?

We were exceedingly gratified to learn that the people of Morgan County had sense enough to re-elect Owen as county superintendent. It will be very interesting to see what the election returns for your district are for they will, to some extent, indicate the amount of opposition that we have in the community.

The community canning plant is a grand idea, provided that the people who actually need canned goods for winter consumption will have an opportunity to use the facilities. In my mind's eye, I can easily see the Adairs, the Herrins, the Browns, the Thomases, taking advantage of such a convenience because they probably will have put up most of the money and effort to make the thing possible. But they have already provided themselves with canned goods put up in their own homes. How many of the people in the Bend can you get to use these facilities, and how many will have an opportunity to do so? Some consideration must also be taken of the diversification of community interest.

Be careful that you do not get too many irons in the fire. You already have a schoolhouse construction program, toilets that have been in the process of construction for two long years, the

MAR 26 1936

FISK
UNIVERSITY

Mr. Ralph Gaskins - 2

March 24, 1936

possible erection of a teacherage, and now a proposed canning plant. Do you think that the community will be able to sustain an interest in all these enterprises, particularly during the spring and summer when they are so busy with farm duties?

I don't want this to be in the nature of a wet blanket but I am anxious to get at least a few things done rather than overburden the community and ultimately end up with nothing.

My best regards to you, Mrs. Gaskins, Ruth, and
Mr. Owen.

Very truly yours,

JAMES F. SIMON

JFS:rm

Mr. Ralph Gaskins
Fair Play Elementary School
Rutledge, Georgia

FISK
UNIVERSITY

NRS
SIMON STUDY

Faye Play
(Baskin)

June 15, 1936

Dear Ralph: I am sorry that I was not able to handle the matter of the car while I was in Atlanta, but, in addition to being terribly pressed for time, I was very ill during the last couple of days and therefore let it go until my return to Chicago.

For your information, the car that is now stored in Nashville is a 1932 Chevrolet coach and I have no idea what its general conditions is, other than that it was driven from Arkansas to Nashville about a year ago and that the battery has been kept up by the warehouse people. About all that can be said is that the car will run. This will probably be a very unsatisfactory basis for a Chevrolet dealer to use in making an estimate. I am sending you a copy of my letter to Mr. Smith in Nashville and whatever information the Chevrolet dealer there gives to him he will forward to you. The dealer in Madison should have some idea whether or not he can meet the Nashville price, always taking into consideration the difference in the freight rates between Nashville and Madison.

I hope that by this time the grounds around the teacherage have been completely laid out and that you will be able to get something to grow thereon. I personally haven't much faith in the two acres of sand that I saw.

Sears Roebucks lists a steamer cooker capable of producing 15 lbs. continous steam pressure, at a cost of \$61.75 for 30-gallon capacity boiler and \$68.50 for a 50-gallon capacity. This might be just the thing you need for the cannery.

Let me know as soon as possible what the Madison dealer thinks. Please remember me to all my friends in the community.

Very truly yours,

JAMES F. SIMON

Mr. Ralph Gaskins
Route 2,
Rutledge, Georgia

FISK
UNIVERSITY

JUN 19 1936
JFS:rm

JFS	22	AS
MS		MS

FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA

NRS
SIMON STUDY

June 19, 1936.

Mr. James F. Simon,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Jim:

Thank you for your letter. As soon as the information comes, I shall be able to say whether or not the man made a satisfactory bid. I have bids from four dealers.

Things have happened since you were here. We have about six thousand feet of lumber on the ground for the canning plant and the outhouses for the teacherage. The Resettlement Administration gave us this lumber. They gave us twelve sashes, and three doors in addition to the lumber. We have about one thousand dollars worth of canning equipment in the temporary canning quarters. We leased the equipment from the Resettlement Administration. This stuff is classed as surplus commodities, and we think that at the end of the present lease it will be released to us for a nominal sum. The rent is free. All that we need is a boiler and we can go to work. I shall probably be able to get a boiler this week. I am going to call on Sears Roebuck before we close out the deal.

We are planning a barbecue for the Fourth of July. We hope to have the usual success with the event. It may be that we shall do even better. We are taking advantage of the men who are asking for offices. One has promised two hogs for the affair. We have been unable to get the other men in a corner, but they can't escape us much longer.

I notice that I forgot to state the approximate price of the car. I thought the car was a 1933 model. The price of this model is about \$275.00, and I suppose the 1932 will be about \$100.00 less.

We are going to plant the Teacherage grounds this week if the teams are not busy. We have had two rains this week, and it is very likely that the fields are wet and not in condition for plowing, but I think the above ground will be all right.

I shall let you know about the car just as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

Ralph E. Gaskins

JUN 25 1936

UNIVERSITY

NRS
SIMON STUDY

MS

Fair Play School
(Gaskins, Ralph)

June 24, 1936

P

Dear Ralph: After considering prices offered at both places, it has been decided to buy the car in Nashville since there is considerable doubt as to whether you will be able to drive the old car now stored there without a great deal of expense. As to the model, we definitely favor the standard coach since, to us, there is no advantage in having a trunk.

This car, as far as we are concerned, is to be used as a means of getting you around in the community and, as a trunk is chiefly of advantage for long trips - which we do not contemplate this car making - the additional expense is not justified. In this connection, we are of the opinion that the cars located at Fair Play should only be used for purposes directly associated with your work. Otherwise, the cost of maintaining two cars will be prohibitive.

Needless to say, we expect you to drive this car with extreme care. I am inclined to believe that the high cost of repairs for your car is due somewhat to your lack of consideration for the car. We expect you to be particularly careful in driving the car while new, keeping within the maximum limit set by the manufacturers in order that the moving parts may be broken in properly.

With reference to using the car for your work only, I am thinking particularly of your trips home. In addition to feeling that you should not run up mileage for this purpose, we feel quite strongly that it is a definite part of your job to be in the community during the weekends. It seems to us that the community aspects of the work are quite as important as the hours of actual teaching. It also seems to us that Evelyn has a quite definite part of the job - somewhat comparable to that of the wife of a preacher. She can do a great deal of good by entering pretty wholeheartedly into the community life, and making herself one of the community women.

JUL 2 1936

FISK
UNIVERSITY

June 24, 1936

Of course, we realize that it has been necessary for you both to be out of Fair Play over weekends this year on account of the baby. But I am sure that you will agree with us that the ideal rural teachers really become part of the communities which they serve - and this can only be done by pretty continuous residence in that community. We are hoping very much that not only this summer but next year the trips outside will not be necessary. We hope this both for the sake of the job and because we hope the baby improves so much that these trips will not be necessary.

I am sure you see the whole situation just as we do. I am simply taking this opportunity to clarify it in both our minds.

You will proceed to Nashville at your convenience and report to Mr. Smith. He will arrange for having the car charged to us. We of course will pay your transportation to Nashville and car and personal expenses on the return trip to Fair Play.

You certainly are creating a boon in the community. If things continue at their present rate of development we will have an industrial rather than a rural experiment! We are more than pleased with progress on the teacherage and the canning plant. These things seem to us a nucleus around which the entire community can be built.

Since you will probably be working on the canning plant before starting the teacherage and will need material and supplies for which there are no community funds, let me give you a word of warning. Don't let yourself spend any money on the canning plant which has been allocated by the Fund to the teacherage because our comptroller will stick you sure!

I only wish there was some way for us to handle the boiler proposition. Maybe you can have a look around Atlanta for a second hand one on your way down from Nashville. It seems to me that you should be able to pick one up for less than half what Sears wants, although the accessories such as valves, gauges, pumps, etc., may cost so much that it will be cheaper to buy through Sears after all.



Mr. Ralph Gaskins -- page three

June 24, 1936

Needless to say, we are very pleased with the progress you have made. A single smoothly operating experiment does much to ease the worry caused by other less successful ones. Keep up the good work!

My regards to Evelyn and the baby. Will see you in August. I leave for the cloistered halls and chicken pens of the University of Wisconsin this weekend.

Sincerely yours,

JFS:rm

Mr. Ralph Gaskins
Route 2,
Rutledge, Georgia

P.S. We are sending you two boxes of books for use in the school.

FISK
UNIVERSITY

Just Aug 1
for \$

FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA

JFS	29	JS	0
WS		all	ans. by nailed
NRS			
June 27, 1936			

SIMON STUDY

Mr. James F. Simon,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Jim:

I shall write Mr. Smith today to determine just when I can expect delivery of the car, and as soon as I hear from him, I shall go for it. In my opinion, a trunk will do much to save the upholstery of the car. I have found in my experience in rural schools that it is necessary to do some hauling of all sorts of things that will tend to put unusual wear on the upholstery, in addition to soiling it. A trunk will eliminate that possibility, however, since you prefer the Standard coach, I shall take excellent care of the car.

You misunderstood my statement concerning upkeep of my car. I have driven my car over 26,000 miles and have never had an accident. I have made no repairs other than to reline the brakes, put brushes in the generator, and buy an exhaust pipe that was damaged during the ice storm. I was one of several in this community that had this sort of trouble. The expense of upkeep up to this time have been less on this car than the average. The car is in excellent condition, but I think much better service can be had by giving a car complete checking over after 20,000 miles and I have been unable to do so, and I would not think of driving it much longer without it. I feel that one saves money in the long run by making this check. The expense of this work and the insurance are the items I had in mind when I referred to upkeep. I have owned and driven several cars, and I have never abused one.

While I agree with you that the community aspects of this job are quite as important as the actual teaching, and that I was out of the community more last year than would normally be necessary, I was in the community during this year rather regularly and I attended the Church services in the community almost without missing any Sunday. You see there is one Sunday during the month that it open, and I have made it a point to let that Sunday be the one when I was out of the community.

I do not understand your inference that Evelyn has not participated in the life of the community. She has during the past year participated in every phase of community activity. She is one of the community women. I do not understand how such an impression could have been gained, unless someone has grossly misinformed you. I should like to look further into the matter.

JUL 2 1936

FSK
UNIVERSITY

FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA

I have the canning plant practically ready for operation. I have secured a boiler that I think will serve us well. It is a ten-horse, horizontal type and has an engine with it that may be put in shape very reasonably and could be used for sawing wood. I made an addition to the lumber supply this week in the form of some oak sills. We have a sufficient supply to build the canning plant, the outhouses for the Teacherage, and some framing and storm sheathing for the Teacherage. You will remember that we are using a vacant house for the canning plant until we can build the permanent plant.

I have been able to secure some assistance for the project through the State College of Agriculture. We will be able through them to carry on some projects in gardens and orchards. I believe that we should keep this project within the reach of any community, and I have stressed this point to the Director of extension. We want only the services that are available to any community willing to cooperate with the Extension Department. I have had some correspondence with the Rural Electrification Administration in regard to our project for Electric Power. I feel confident that we can secure this service.

The books arrived today. Needless to say I greatly appreciate them. They will be put into service today.

I hope that you will find your summer school very pleasant. We are looking forward to seeing you in August.

Very truly yours,

Ralph E. Gaskins.



NRS
SIMON STUDY

Fair Play School
July 1, 1936 (Gaskins, R)

P

Dear Mr. Gaskins: I have just received word from Mr. Smith that your car has been purchased, and I have called the Allstate Insurance Company and arranged for coverage. As soon as the policy is received I shall forward it to you.

The car has been purchased in the name of the Julius Rosenwald Fund, so your license plates should be registered in that name.

I am sure you understand that we expect you to pay all the running expenses of this car except major repairs, none of which should be required within the next year or so. Such items as gas and oil, and tire repairs will be your obligations. This arrangement is the same as we have had with all other explorers who are driving cars belonging to the Fund.

Very truly yours,

DOROTHY A. ELVIDGE

DE:AM

Mr. Ralph Gaskins,
Route #2
Rutledge, Georgia

JUL 3 1936

FISK
UNIVERSITY

FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA

NRS

SIMON STUDY

	MWS	7/13	ues	o
	DZ		56	o
July 10,	1936.			

Mrs. Margaret S. Simon,
4901 Ellis Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mrs. Simon:

The bucket of cold water and your love have just been poured, and it was very helpful, particularly because I have been in the business of whitewashing this new canning plant today. I was rather in need of the treatment.

Really, I suppose that my letter must have sounded a bit impertinent, I suppose it is the heat. I simply misunderstood, or rather misinterpreted Jim's letter. I think that the clarification will be of help to all of us.

Back to the active business of Fair Play. We have the canning plant all set except for two items that will cost us about twenty-five dollars. We had the big Barbecue on the Fourth. We had a large crowd, but having bought all of the meat and other ingredients, our expense was large. We must have cleared in the neighborhood of thirty dollars. I have a requisition all prepared to ask for it this afternoon. I can put the canning plant in operation by Monday, provided the man is able to make the boiler go. We bought it with that one condition, he makes it go, and we pay for it.

Mr. Tommie is here, and he said that if he and I had to build the Teacherage, it would still be built. I think that we shall be able to get some of the other people in the community to help us when the work is over. Now that garbled statement means when the farm work is over, we shall be able to get help from the other people of the community. I am sending in Sear's bid on the materials, and requesting a check for it. I think that we can begin the work about Aug. first.

Oh yes, tell Jim that we have an excellent stand of peas on our two acres of sand, as he put it. I can't say that we shall reap one hundred fold, but with the proper season, we shall make some vines. I hope that he is enjoying the summer at school.

We are certainly looking forward to having you with us in August and I think that we shall have things looking so differently that you will wonder just where you have landed.

Very sincerely yours,

P. S. Your letter was missent, it arrived today.

JUL 15 1936

UNIVERSITY

FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA

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JS	JS	0
GR	GR	0
JS	JS	0

September 10, 1936.

NRS
SIMON STUDY

Mrs. Margaret S. Simon,
4901 Ellis Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Margot:

Please tell Miss McKay that the postman delivered the discount card safe and sound, and thanks!

Dr. Sanchez has written a most interesting book. I greatly appreciate the copy sent to me. I hope to have time to read it thoroughly before many weeks.

Many things have happened since you were in Fair Play. Really, you wouldn't know the place. We have moved into the house and are enjoying it. Of course, there is still a great deal of work to be done but I am trying to get it completed in my "spare" time. The general impression held my the community at the beginning was that the Fund was building me a house. Please don't build me another one, I'd be ready for my funeral by the time it was completed. You have no idea what a job it has been, but more of that when you drop in on us again.

School has opened. The enrollment is very slim. The children are just not here. The total census of the community, for school children, is just slightly above the number required in average daily attendance for a two-teacher school. We have a job on our hands. There are very few children coming on for next year. These people are either past the stage of reproduction or are practicing birth control. We need more children!

I'm sure that you rejoice with us in the overwhelming defeat of Talmadge and his entire gang. Perhaps after Jan. 1st we can again say, "it's great to be a Georgian. The incoming administration is certainly in favor of bettering the schools of Georgia. We practically licked Talmadge in this district, one of his strongholds in this county. The vote was 47 for Russell and 50 for Talmadge. Two years ago, it went practically solid for Talmadge. We have made some progress.

We are expecting a visit from you and Jim and others soon. There are many things that we may well discuss. I think that Jim said the Trustees were to decide definitely on the fate of the rural school program this fall. I hope the will.

Oct 21 1936

FLSK
UNIVERSITY

FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA

We can easily take care of you on your next visit. We have a studio couch that conveniently and obligingly becomes a double bed, two single beds, or a pad on the floor in an amazingly short time. The weather is marvelous. It has just the right "zip" to make you feel glad to be alive.

Sincerely yours,

Ralph E. Gaskins

FISK
UNIVERSITY

FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA

58	10/30	58	0
NRS			
SIMON STUDY			
October 28, 1936.			

7

Miss Dorothy A. Elvidge, Comptroller,
Julius Rosenwald Fund,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Miss Elvidge:

It will be perfectly satisfactory with me for my check to come on the first of each month instead of the present arrangement.

If this arrangement is satisfactory, I should like to have a full check on the first of the month less \$47.50 paid by the county. This would make the full check for the month on about the first, and at present would be of no disadvantage to me.

Margot and Jim were with us during Monday and Tuesday, and Jim requested that a complete list of the costs of the teacherage be furnished him. I shall be ready for the rest of the money in a few days, and at that time I shall also be ready for furnish him with a complete statement.

I have a check for \$3.09 from Sears which covers an overcharge on freight that I shall list in my final statement to you.

Very truly yours,

Ralph E. Gaskins

NOV 3 1936

FISK
UNIVERSITY

FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA

N R S
SIMON STUDY

November 17, 1936.

Dear Miss Elvidge:

In answer to your letter received last week, which I have misplaced and am unable to find, I shall try to give the information needed.

The item marked, "Refund to Gaskins," is simply a refund on some mails as listed on the bill that I bought and paid for at a hardware store in Rutledge. We had not been carrying an account with them, hence I paid the bill.

The fifty dollars borrowed by the Woman's Club was spent before it was borrowed. That amount and about thirty dollars additional were put into the teacherage by the club for labor. The club has no money at the present time to spend for materials. It will take some time to pay off the note.

I am enclosing the bill from Mason Lumber Co. I made a note of \$18.00 on my recent itemized account of this bill. It seems that your check on the original order was \$20.75 short of the amount of the bills. An additional \$4.00 makes that \$24.75.

This covers the information requested. If I can be of further help in this matter, I shall be glad to hear from you.

Very truly yours,

Ralph E. Gaskins

Miss Dorothy Elvidge,
4901 Ellis Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

DEC 7 1936

FISK
UNIVERSITY

NRS
SIMON STUDY

Fair Play
(Gaskins)

7 up to
12/23/36

B

November 25, 1936

Dear Mr. Gaskins: According to a letter received from
Mr. Owen, your salary from the county
began on September 8, 1936 and will run for eight months.
Kindly let me know what amount you received from the county
at the end of September.

You will notice that I have deducted
your October and November salaries from this check. Next
month I shall deduct what you received for September and
the full month of December. From that point on we'll be
straightened out. Each month I shall deduct your salary
from the county for that month.

Very truly yours,

NOV 27 1936

DOROTHY A. ELVIDGE

DE:HB

Mr. Ralph Gaskins
Fair Play Elementary School
Rutledge, Georgia

FISK
UNIVERSITY

NRS
SIMON STUDY

Fair Play (Hester)

December 3, 1936

Dear Ralph: I have your letters of November 5 and 17, and all of the bills which you say are outstanding against the Fairplay teacherage. We regret that you have contracted bills of \$127.95 in excess of the appropriation made by the Fund, and we urge that you spend no additional money. I personally understand your position; that is, you had the community keyed up to the completion of the teacherage and from your point of view it was essential to complete the building while enthusiasm was running high. From the point of view of the Fund, however, you are in error in contracting bills in excess of the amount of the appropriation.

As I understand it you now have outstanding bills amounting to \$139.83. Toward this amount Morgan County has agreed to apply \$60, or one year's rental. I am taking up with them further the possibility of earmarking the second year's rental for the same purpose. Although I see nothing else to do, I am not in favor of this procedure since the whole intent of the rent was to build up a reserve which would be sure to maintain the teacherage in good shape as time goes on.

You have a balance of \$8.79 remaining from the Fund's appropriation, plus a refund from Sears of \$3.09, or a total of \$11.88. As you have told me this amount is sufficient to purchase the remaining materials necessary to complete the weatherboarding and flooring of the teacherage. I trust that this will be enough as it will be impossible to make any further appropriations or to apply any additional rent to the completion of the project.

Miss Elvidge is sending you checks in the amount of \$139.83 in payment of all outstanding bills against the teacherage. As soon as you complete the building we shall expect to receive additional bills not to exceed \$11.88.

DEC 14 1936

FSK
UNIVERSITY

Mr. Gaskins - Page two

December 4, 1936

I believe the foregoing takes care of all matters pertaining to the financing of the teacherage. In spite of the expense above the original \$350 appropriated, you are to be congratulated on the excellent building you have managed to build for the really modest sum of \$672.92. (This amount is made up of \$450, Fund appropriation; \$80, women's club; \$139.83, advance rentals; and \$3.09, credit from Sears.)

You probably feel that the community might have given even more cooperation than it did, but the help you did get far exceeds anything that any community ever has given in the same length of time. This I am sure was very largely due to your own personal effort.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the January conference. I hope that in the meantime you will manage to squeeze out a little vacation for yourself.

Best wishes to Evelyn and to you,

JFS:RW

Mr. Ralph Gaskins
Fairplay Elementary School
Rutledge, Georgia



FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA

NRS

SIMON STUDY

	DE	12/7	DE	12/10

December 3, 1936.

Miss Dorothy Elvidge,
4901 Ellis Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Miss Elvidge:

Mr. Owen has made a mistake about the amount of money paid to us. We have received no money for the month of September. I have received checks from him totaling \$95. We did not open school until October 1st. I shall see him and have him correct this with you.

I have had no further word from Jim about the money for the teacherage. There is still something like \$68.00 still available, including the advance on salary that will be deducted from my salary \$3.00 per month and the same rate from Miss Lockman's salary. If I could get a check for the complete bill owed to Mr. Nunnally, and the balance on the Farmer's Hardware Co. bill, I think I can finish the house.

While I realize that it is irregular, I should like to have a salary advance of \$100.00 to be deducted at the rate of \$25.00 per month. I have some obligations to meet and I see no other way to handle them. I shall greatly appreciate the favor if it can be arranged.

Very truly yours,

Ralph E. Gaskins

*OK
ms*

DEC 14 1936

DOROTHY A. ELVIDGE

FISK
UNIVERSITY

NRS
SIMON STUDY

7 up 12/26/36

December 4, 1936

X

Dear Mr. Gaskins: I am enclosing the following checks:

Farmers Hardware Company	---	\$58.18
Mason Lumber Company	----	24.75
Hunnally Lumber Company	----	54.40
Ralph Gaskins	-----	2.50

The invoices for the first three payments are also enclosed. Kindly o.k. them and return them to me for our files.

These payments are to be refunded to us from the monthly rent collected on the Teacherage. This rent, I understand, is to be \$6.00 per month. Will you please let me know on what date you moved into the building so that I can begin the rental deductions as of that time? If the \$6.00 is to be divided between you and Miss Lockman, let me know the distribution. I should like to have this information before the end of December so that I can start the deductions from your December check.

Very truly yours,

DE:AM

DOROTHY A. ELVIDGE

Mr. Ralph Gaskins
Fair Play Elementary School,
Rutledge, Georgia

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UNIVERSITY

FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA

NRS
SIMON STUDY

56	12/10	56	.
December 7, 1936.			

Miss Dorothy Elvidge, Comptroller,
Julius Rosenwald Fund,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Miss Elvidge:

The invoices you sent to me are enclosed with the
ok as you requested.

It will now be possible for me to complete the
work on the house and get the remaining bill to you be-
fore The holiday season.

The rent will begin on October 1. There has been
a change in the original agreement concerning the distri-
bution of the rent. It has been agreed the Miss Lockman
should live in the house, and that her share of the rent
will be more than the one dollar a month, as originally
agreed. I think that this amount will now be three dol-
lars each. I shall be able to report this definitely be-
fore the end of the month.

Thank you very much for the checks for the bills
outstanding at the present time.

Very truly yours,

Ralph E. Gaskins

DEC 11 1936

FISK
UNIVERSITY

FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA

NRS

SIMON STUDY

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2. A.		#1	0
4. 5.		#2	

March 8, 1937.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

During your recent visit, I had hoped to have an opportunity to discuss the proposed program for the coming year.

Inasmuch as my contract expires June 1, I should like to know something concerning the program of the Fund insofar as my participation is concerned. I do not wish to be presumptive, but at this time each year I try to settle in a general way what I plan to do during the following year. I should like to know whether I may expect to renew my contract for next year, whether I shall be at Fair Play or elsewhere, so that I may begin making plans accordingly. There are several openings each month in Georgia schools that I should like to investigate if the program is to be dropped at Fair Play and if I should not be needed in some other location.

It does not make any difference to me whether I am at Fair Play next year or at some other place, and I do not care to know at this early date to know any of the particulars concerning the work for next year.

We regretted that you and the Simons were unable to be with us longer during your recent visit, and hope that you will find time to be with us longer next time.

I shall greatly appreciate the above information, as I think I owe it to my family and to myself to make my plans some time in advance of any renewal or expiration of a contract.

MAR 23 1937 Very truly yours,

Ralph E. Gaskins

Mr. J. C. Dixon,
4901 Ellis Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

FISK
UNIVERSITY

FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA

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NRS		
SIMON STUDY		

March 8, 1937.

Dear Margot:

You will remember during your recent visit to Fair Play that we discussed the proposal of Mr. Embree to supply to the members of the Rural School Council with certain books regarding the general program now being studied by the Fund.

I have withheld my request until you had returned to your office to prevent any cerebral hemorrhages on the part of the secretarial force in the office, as you suggested might occur in the event the request arrived during your absence.

The books that I want are: Vance, Rupert B., Human Geography of the South; Weatherford and Johnson, Race Relations; and the text on Curriculum Development published by the American Book Co., during very recent years, it is their latest text on this subject. I have lost the name of the authors and can not find it.

✓ all
ordered.
Plw.
see
Book Order

We are very sorry that you, and your party were unable to stay with us longer during your recent visit. Can you arrange to stay longer next time? Do try.

Things are happening along the way. The Woman's Club has paid its note, and has about cleared the other debts on the Teacherage. We plan to spend the remainder of the year in adding to the physical equipment in the rooms.

We are expecting you again soon. I shall greatly appreciate the books requested above.

Very truly yours,

Ralph E. Gaskins

Mrs. Margaret S. Simon,
4901 Ellis Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

FISK
UNIVERSITY

N R S
SIMON STUDY

P Fair Play School
(Gaskins, Ralph)

March 10, 1937

Dear Mr. Gaskins: You know, of course, the ideas we had in initiating the exploration projects. These were set up and have been operated primarily to orient us in a field which, though it was not new, was new to us particularly in the approaches we were making to it. These projects in Georgia have been a source of pleasure and inspiration to all of us, and we should like very much to be able to stay in them indefinitely. But it appears to us that they have already served as far as they can the purpose for which they were commenced and that from now on our activity will either be in the actual program of the normal school or closely related to it. For this reason, we have decided to terminate our appropriations to both the white school and the Negro school at Fairplay, and to continue similar projects, if they are continued at all, only as they are in the service area of a normal school.

I am stating this very definitely so that you may begin to look around for something else to do next year. All of us wish we could find some valid basis in our thinking for keeping us at Fairplay. We have enjoyed the relationship to the community, to the school, and to those of you working in it.

I am writing Miss Lockman and Miss Cheney, and I am sending copies of these letters to Mr. Owen.

Very truly yours,

JCD:McK

MAR 23 1937

Mr. Ralph Gaskins
Fairplay Community School
Rutledge, Georgia

J. C. DIXON
FISK
UNIVERSITY

Office of
NRS
SIMON STUDY

*Fair Play School
(Gaskins)*

March 19, 1937

Dear Mr. Long: At you know, the Rosenwald Fund
has been interested in rural
education for a long time and actively participating
in it for the last three years. This participation
has not been in Negro schools only. In Georgia, for
example, at the present time we are cooperating with
the Normal School at Statesboro in the whole field
of rural education and teacher training. We expect
this next fall to begin cooperation with another white
normal school in Georgia, and hope also to begin the
development of a program in a Negro normal school.

During the last two years we have
been operating what we have called "explorations."
These have been situations in which we have had ex-
ceptionally well-qualified people, white and Negro,
working in actual rural class rooms or in rural com-
munities. One of these projects has been in Fair Play
community in Morgan County. Superintendent J. E. Owen
of Madison can give you detailed information as to
what has been its purpose and its accomplishment.

During this year we have had two
extremely capable young people in the white school at
Fair Play. They are Mr. Ralph Gaskins and Miss Ruth
Lockman. Our whole program has reached that point in
its development now where we are tying up such explora-
tory or experimental projects directly with the normal
schools. This forces us to discontinue our participa-
tion in the Fair Play project. The salaries the county

MAR 31 1937

FISK
UNIVERSITY

can pay in this school will hardly attract Miss Lockman or Mr. Gaskins. Both of them will therefore be available for other jobs next year, and I think if you are looking for someone for the school in the resettlement project in your county you can well afford to inquire into both of these young people.

Very truly yours,

JCD:MLU

J. C. DIXON

Mr. Carrol Long
Superintendent of Schools
Ocilla, Georgia

Copy to Ralph Gaskins
same letter to Mr. C. T. Edwards
Superintendent of Schools, Monticello, Ga.

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NRS
SIMON STUDY

Fair Play
(Gaskins, Ralph)

March 19, 1937

Dear Mr. Gaskins: You know something about the resettlement projects being developed in Carroll and Irwin Counties. Excellent schools will be provided in each of these projects. One of them will be tied up with the Normal School at Milledgeville and the other with the University of Georgia, the advantage of this relationship being both supervisory direction and advice. I suggest that you write to Superintendent Carroll Long at Ocilla, Georgia, and to Superintendent C. T. Edwards at Monticello, telling them what you have been doing this year, explain that we have felt it necessary to discontinue the Fair Play project, and inquire about the principalship of the schools.

I am taking the liberty of writing a letter to Mr. Long and to Mr. Edwards, and am enclosing a copy for your information.

Very truly yours,

J. C. DIXON

JCD:MLU

See
Ocilla, Ga
(Supt of Schools)

Mr. Ralph Gaskins
Route 2
Rutledge, Georgia

MAK 3 1 1937

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FAIR PLAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RALPH E. GASKINS, PRINCIPAL

RUTLEDGE, GEORGIA

NRS

SIMON STUDY

JCD	DS		

March 21, 1937.

Mr. J. C. Dixon,
4901 Ellis Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

I greatly appreciate your kindness in writing to Mr. Edwards and Mr. Long about me. I have followed your advice in writing to them immediately.

We had, of course, anticipated the decision of the Fund to discontinue the project at Fair Play. It seemed to us to be the logical thing to do.

The association with the Fund has been most pleasant. If at any time I may fit into your program, it will be a pleasure to do so. I feel that the program has been and will be of great help to all of us in future work of this type.

I shall greatly appreciate any further assistance you may give me in securing placement for next year.

Very truly yours,

Ralph E. Gaskins

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NRS
SIMON STUDY

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P
March 22, 1937

Dear Mr. Gaskins: This letter is just a reminder of something that you probably already know. You will receive your final check from the Fund on May 31st. Of course if the County makes no payment in that month, the full amount of \$160 will be paid by the Fund.

Very truly yours,

DOROTHY A. ELVIDGE

DE:AM

Mr. Ralph E. Gaskins
Fair Play Elementary School
Rutledge, Georgia

MAR 23 1937

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UNIVERSITY

7
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
IRWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA

NRS
SIMON STUDY

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A. D. SMITH
J. B. TUCKER

OCILLA, GEORGIA

CARROLL LONG
COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT

March 24, 1937.

fair Play

JCD	26	JCD - 0
MS		MS (Gaskins)
ERG		ERG

Mr. J. C. Dixon,
Rosenwald Foundation,
4901 Ellis Ave,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

I appreciate very much your letter of March 19th relative to the work of Mr. Ralph Gaskins and Miss Ruth Lockman. I am corresponding with them immediately as the teacher personnel on the new undertaking at Irwinville is of major concern for us now. I shall also correspond with Mr. Owen at Madison.

I had a very pleasant visit with Mr. Raper recently when he observed the Irwinville project for the purpose of observing the re-housing set up there. If my summer activities permit, I plan to be with Mr. Eleazier during his racial conference at Peabody next summer. I would do this in order to be better able to make a contribution along this line whenever the opportunity arises.

With every good wish for your work and with kindest personal regards to you and Mr. Paty, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Carroll Long
Carroll Long, Superintendent
Irwin County Schools.

CL:mb

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MWS	14		18
NRS			
SIMON STUDY			

Rutledge, Georgia,
April 12, 1937.

Mrs. Margaret S. Simon,
4901 Ellis Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

♂ Fair Play
(Yachins, Ralph)

Dear Margot:

Many thanks for the book, "Race Relations," which I received today. I have had time only to read the Preface, and glance through the Table of Contents, but I know that I shall find it to be of great help in dealing with the problems of which it treats.

April will soon be gone, and this is the month we were expecting you to return.

After waiting for two years, the W. P. A. office finally broke down and gave us a chance at the project, but after we had explained the situation to the people of the community, they decided that it would be better not to do any work on the school building inasmuch as there will probably be two few children for a school here next year. They are taking the withdrawal of the Fund in very good spirits. I think they understand the situation.

We are trying to lay the foundation for the continuance of the Womans Club. I think we shall be successful. They are planning to carry on with the cannery, and to turn their interest toward the social problems of the community. Time alone will tell the result.

Evelyn and Henrienne joining with me in good wishes to you and Jim.

Very truly yours,

Ralph E. Gaskins.

JCD	14	JCD	29
ms			20

NRS

SIMON STUDY

*Fair Play
(Gaskins)*

Rutledge, Georgia,
April 12, 1937.

Mr. J. C. Dixon,
4901 Ellis Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

At the suggestion of Mr. Carrol Long, I conferred with Dr. Paul Reed Morrow, University of Georgia, concerning the project in Irwin County, Georgia. According to Dr. Morrow, the plan calls for a woman to act as principal and supervisor.

Dr. Morrow suggested that I investigate the project in Jasper County, Georgia, and referred me to Mr. John Morgan of G. S. C. W. This project, as you know, is the Piedmont Homesteads.

Mr. Morgan and I discussed the proposed program at length. The type of program that is to be attempted in this situation is along the same line of thought that has directed our program at Fair Play. It is the field of my major interest, and I should like to secure the principalship of the school that is to be established on the project. I feel that my training and experience will enable me to do a good job in this experimental school.

I should greatly appreciate the kindness you would do me in recommending me to Mr. Morgan, who is a member of the committee directing the formulation of plans for this program.

Very truly yours,

Ralph C. Gaskins

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NRS
SIMON STUDY

*John P. Day
(Gaskins)*

7

April 18, 1937

Dear Ralph: I should have written long ago,
but if I added up all my "shoulds"
and "shouldn'ts" — !

You know how very sorry we all are
that our business connection is to cease. All of
us hope that this will not mean that our personal
connection will likewise cease. We hope to be
able to keep in touch with you and Evelyn, not to
mention Henrienne. And we hope that this keeping
in touch will mean that we not only hear from and
of you often, but that we have a chance to see you
many times.

Incidentally, we have ordered for
you all of the books which you listed. They ought
to be dribbling along right soon now.

Very truly yours,

MSS:McK

Mr. Ralph Gaskins
Route 2
Rutledge, Georgia

FISK
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NRS
SIMON STUDY

Fair Play School
(Gaskins)

7

April 29, 1937

Dear John: Upon my return to the office yesterday I found a letter from Mr. Ralph Gaskins saying that he would like to secure the principalship of the school being organized in Jasper County, and asking me to write you.

Gaskins has been working at the Fair Play community in Morgan County during the past two years. Unfortunately we have not been able to spend the time with him that we should have spent and for this reason I can not give you as definite details of what he has been doing or tell you how successful he has been in his efforts as I should like to. This I believe, however: Gaskins is far above the type of principal one would find in the average rural school of this kind in Georgia or elsewhere.

We were carrying on both an experimental and a demonstration project. We found that Gaskins was willing and able to make adjustments to unusual conditions. His rural background enabled him to fit comfortably into a rural community. He has had sufficient training of an academic and professional nature to give him a decided advantage over the average rural principal.

Gaskins' personality is not so bad, nor, I should add, is it exceptionally good. I have the feeling that the experience he has had the past two years and the contacts he has been able to make with members of our rural school council of the Fund have

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ms

been of very great value to him, and I believe that when you, Morrow, and Edwards begin looking for the principal of the school in the Jasper County resettlement project, you might well afford to interview Gaskins and investigate him both through the community and through Pittman at Statesboro.

I am With cordial regards to you and Mrs. Morgan,

Sincerely yours,

MARGARET L. UTLEY

JCD:MLU

Mr. John Morgan
Georgia State College for Women
Milledgeville, Georgia

NRS
SIMON STUDY
Fair Play - Gaskins

Rutledge, Georgia,
May 3, 1937.

Mr. J. C. Dixon,
39 Alden Street, N. W.,
Atlanta, Georgia.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

I greatly appreciate your kindness in writing to Mr. Morgan at G. S. C. W., in my behalf.

During a conference with Mr. Morgan today, I learned that Mr. Guy H. Wells is to make the selection of the person for the job at Piedmont Homesteads. I shall appreciate the kindness you would do me in recommending me to Mr. Wells.

The situation at Fair Play is shaping up nicely for the end of school. I think that the people realize that the discontinuation of the project is for the best interest of all concerned. We have had no adverse reaction, or feeling of resentment as yet. I believe that the majority of the people of the community feel that they have profited by the work that we have done.

We should be glad to have you visit us, if it be convenient to you during your stay in Georgia.

Very truly yours,

Raeph E. Gaskins.

*Talked with
Gaskins at Fairplay
May 17th.*

JCD

FISK
UNIVERSITY

MWS	10	res →
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SIMON STUDY		

Rutledge, Georgia,
May 5, 1937.

7. Fair Play
(Gaskins)

Mrs. Margaret S. Simon,
4901 Ellis Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Margot:

Please forgive me. I had a letter written to you all ready about a week ago, and I have just learned that it has not been posted.

I greatly appreciate your kindness and thoughtfulness in writing to Mr. Morgan for me.

Not much longer shall we be at Fair Play. The community is giving us a big send-off. Ever since we made the announcement of the Fund's decision, they have been sending us all sorts of food. We think that perhaps we should have made it earlier.

Lockman is to leave Saturday for a job in South Carolina. As you probably know, Evelyn is to complete the term for her.

I have a job in Columbus for next year, but I am holding the contract until I hear definitely about the job at Piedmont Homesteads. I have had several good offers, but the one mentioned above (Columbus) is the best yet. There is a possibility that I may be asked to take the principalship of the Madison High School. There is certainly no scarcity of openings in this locality.

The association with the Fund has been very pleasant. I have enjoyed it immensely. We are delighted to number you and Jim among our friends. It will be a pleasure to continue the friendship, and we shall be glad to see you at any time you may find it convenient to visit us.

We are disappointed that you were unable to return to Fair Play during our last two months. We hope that we shall have the pleasure of seeing you again soon.

Cordially yours,

Ralph E. Gaskin's



Mr. J. C. Dixon,
4901 Ellis Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

Definite plans have been made for the summer. I am to be at the College of Charleston. They have asked that I come down to do the demonstration job, of which I talked to you at Fair Play recently. I feel that this job is a very definite challenge as well as a fine opportunity.

It is the plan to make this demonstration something that will be of definite help to rural teachers and if this objective be reached, we shall have something that will be far-reaching in its effect.

I have had no further information concerning the projects at Piedmont Homesteads or Irwinville. Mr. Owen is particularly interested in getting a county High school opened in Morgan County. If the commissioners agree to put up about \$10,000 for the purpose of putting the buildings in order, it will be possible to begin the work in June and open school in September. If this goes over, I shall accept the Principalship and remain in Morgan County.

I shall be delighted to have you visit the demonstration school near Charleston during the summer, and to have you, Jim, and George to plan to come down during August for a fishing trip. I think we can find some good fishing even at that late date. I'll make more definite plans later and let you know if you think it will be possible for you to come.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Gaskins

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