Salary Mary

nesty 1928-29

May 5, 1927

Dear Mr. Smith:

Subject: Building Agents.

First, as to the payment towards the salaries of the eight building agents, Mr.

Rosenwald has decided to continue them for the year 1927-28 with the understanding that we will cut their salaries in half for 1928-29 except for Virginia which will be eliminated. This will give the states a full year to arrange with the legislature for sufficient appropriation to cover an additional quarter of the building agents salaries. In other words, the following will be our appropriation toward the building agents for 1928-29:

| Alabama | \$750 |
|----------------|------------|
| Arkansas | 750 |
| Georgia | 600 |
| Louisiana | 540 |
| Miss issippi | 720 |
| North Carolina | 750 |
| Tennessee | 750 |
| Virginia | eliminated |
| | \$4,860 |

Sincerely yours,

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



April 13, 1928.

Dear Mr. Stern:

In addition to construction budget request the states are asking for one-half the salaries of the Rosenwald building Agents, each state asking for the same amount the Fund is giving for the present year. If the Fund should cut the amount one - half for next year. I fear that practically a all of these Negro Building Agents would have to be dropped. as the states claim that they have no way of increasing their appropriations at this time. In my opinion it would be well to continue these on the same basis as this year, at least for the incoming year, and then work out a very careful basis of withdrawal so that the states may take over the entire cost within a reasonable time. These men are most valuable and help to lighten the burdens of the State Agents who are very generally over worked. They not only help in raising money among the Negroes for the building of schools, but they help in school improvements in general, securing better equipment, better teachers, longer terms, etc.

(Signed) S.L. Smith.



April 17, 1928.

Dear Mr. Stern:

The states are sending in urgent appeals for continuation of the aid for Building Agents next year on the same basis as of this year, Practically every state claims that the services of the Building Agent is much needed and that they would be unable to provide the additional amount next year if the Fund should cut its appropriation in half. In my opinion it would be well to continue the aid for next year onthe same basis, particularly as the state agents are now heavily burdened with work.

(SIGNED)

S.L. Smith.



Ell o

June 1, 1932

geo Runal School

Dear Mr. Stern: I am attaching a copy of a letter which has gone out to the state superintendents relative to the Rosenwald building agents, which is a definite notice of our withdrawal of aid from this project in which the Fund has cooperated for more than twelve years. It is probable that two or three of the states may come back with some sort of proposition in which they might want a small amount of aid. If so, we can then negotiate with them. My own feeling is that with today's price levels we should go slow in making further commitments

unless or until there is a change for the better.

Sincerely,

S. L. Su

SLS:mc

Mr. Alfred K. Stern Julius Rosenwald Fund Chicago, Illinois

JULIUS ROSENWALD FUND

SOUTHERN OFFICE

COPY

June 1, 1932

Dear Mr. Harman: I wrote all the state superintendents prior to the meeting of the Board of Trustees indicating that the Fund would not continue its aid for the Rosenwald building agents after July 1, 1932, hoping that because of the great importance of the work being done by these men they might be taken care of entirely by the state departments or attached in each state to an important college to continue their services as extension workers. We now have to announce that the aid for these men will not be available after July 1, 1932.

Because of the importance attached to the work of these men we regret exceedingly that it becomes necessary to withdraw aid at this particular time, but we find it necessary to restrict all commitments for the immediate future to a minimum. The Fund has been spending principal as well as income. In fact, our founder stipulated that capital should be expended as needs and opportunities present themselves. This policy is being continued. But the trustees of the Fund are convinced that to sell capital stock at the present ridiculously low market prices is simply to dissipate resources which otherwise will continue to serve "the well-being of mankind." The Fund has always thought of itself as a semi-public institution. The husbanding of our resources is of as much interest to the agencies with which we are working as it is to our trustees. We are sure, therefore, that you will understand our desire to avoid sacrificing our capital at this time.

I shall be very glad to hear from you and Mr. Lambert at your convenience just what your plans are for your Rosenwald building agent next year. We certainly hope that our failure to contribute half of his salary for next year may not be the cause of his being added to the already too large list of unemployed. I am sure you both share this feeling.

With best wishes, I am

Yours sincerely,

SLS:mc

Supt. A. F. Harman Montgomery, Alabama

cc Mr. J. S. Lambert

