

Outline of an Experimentation for the Creation of an Ideal Rural School.

Believing that something tangibly worthwhile can result from concentrated efforts along a definite line of experimentation; something that, if successful at Foreman School, will prove that results can be obtained in other schools of the parish through the conscientious efforts and cooperation of trained, energetic teachers, patrons, and the parish school board; something that, if successful at Foreman may prove the means of securing fuller cooperation from White neighbors and other local agencies; I submit this plan for your approval, and I do earnestly solicit your cooperation in this honest attempt to provide for certain definite lacks in rural education for the Negro children and adults of East Baton Rouge Parish, beginning with an experimentation at Foreman Rosenwald School.

The present superintendent has been elected permanently only since the beginning of this school session, but he has exhibited an unusually favorable attitude toward Negro education in the parish. His interest in the Negro schools of the parish encourages the projection of this proposed experimentation.

The major objective of the five year program of supervision of rural schools submitted to the State agent by the Jeanes supervisor of the parish is the creation of an ideal rural school, using Foreman for the experiment. At this time, when the other schools of the parish with one or two exceptions are closing, the Jeanes worker can devote a larger portion of her time to conducting and working with the experiment.

I. Proposed Projects:

- A. Extension of school term.
- B. Organizations for Community Betterment.
- C. Provision for evening classes.
- D. Improvement of health and hygienic conditions, involving training in safety habits.
- E. Improvement of classroom instruction.
- F. Supplying general and specific needs of Foreman School.

II. Proposed Period of Experimentation:

- A. Three months. March 15 to June 4, 1937.

III. Proposed Finance:

Three hundred (\$300.00) dollars; \$150 from the school board and \$150 from the Rosenwald Fund, representing \$50 monthly from each source to pay the workers and promote school and community financial projects.

IV. Why the Proposed Projects?:

- A. Extension of school term-

Public schools in the rural districts of the parish will close March 12, 1937, denoting the cessation of classroom activities from March to September (a six months' lapse of time).

- 1. Pupils cannot make desired progress in schools of such short

2/
terms ,and for this reason most of our best material is lost through leaving school after having been discouraged over the age at which they find themselves still trying to complete 5th or 6th grade.

2. Parents and teachers cannot successfully carry out plans and **projects** in such short periods of time when there are so many other things to be done.
3. Teachers with high degree of training and initiative are not easily available because of short terms and low salaries.
4. Even superior teachers cannot render their best service when ~~they~~ they are constantly faced with the question "After this six months--WHAT?"

B. Organizations for Economic Security-

Community people are still suffering from the effects of the depression. Their general morale is just about broken down. They cannot muster school and community pride when they face the conditions that tenant farmers, part-time day laborers, and W P A employees are compelled to face during times like these. The rural persons who before the war were well-to-do or prosperous farmers are scarcely average livers now, and those who were average are reduced to the "scarcely able to make ends meet" class. Teachers are daily brought face to face with the children of these two classes as well as with the children of those who had practically nothing before the depression came.

Interested teachers and special workers want to do something about this situation. Some lack initiative, courage, and energy that it will take to produce and follow-up a line of procedure necessary to obtain results. We are willing to work hard during these three months in order to see what concentrated, cooperative, and concerted efforts will produce.

The organization of a Community Security League would be perhaps the first step toward meeting this need. The purpose of this type of organization would be to encourage them to put forth efforts to help themselves, especially since so many cannot qualify technically to obtain WPA jobs or aid from parish relief department. Intelligent advice as to how to secure recognition from the Social Security groups, and other organizations would be given. Through this League a plan could be worked out where a small amount of money would be made available for deserving persons to be furnished seeds for home or truck gardens, or for poultry, potato, or swine projects, etc., with the understanding that first, a part of whatever is produced will be given to the school for use in home-making and other departments to be used for hot lunches, canning for home use, etc.; second, those who are helped in the manner mentioned will divide seed and other products with members of the organization for the purpose of giving them a start along the line that they are interested in.

The vocational worker and the boys would be responsible for the follow-up work, and would solicit aid from agricultural agencies within the parish.

Other organizations that now exist in the community are P.T.A., CFAIA, and HMIA. To insure school interest the membership of the Security League would be limited to those who take an active part in these three organizations. Out of these treasuries persons who would render services for the school requiring pay would be remun-

erated on the condition that 5% of the amount would be given to the school and 5% to the church or ~~some~~ charitable cause. (Checked on).

C. Evening Classes-

Adults are interested in learning to read, write, and figure. Some can do a little of each, but wish to do better; some wish to pursue even other literary subjects. In communities where there are night schools the people seem to cooperate better for school welfare. It is another means of showing the teachers' interest in the patrons and "bridges a gap" that is more productively tangible than that of the P.T.A., because it grows out of appreciation of efforts expended for their personal improvement.

In addition to teaching the subjects mentioned above, other things could be included, such as lessons in child care, health, home making, singing, dramatics, and recreation (physical exercises), etc.

D. Health and Safety-

Community patrons, pupils, and teachers cannot make their best contributions when home, school and community conditions are unhealthful, unhygienic, and uncomfortable. The idea of making home and community # healthful and safe must originate at the school.

Recreational activities, which play a great part in the maintenance of good health in any group, could be provided for under this particular project.

E. Classroom Instruction-

A three months' activity unit involving the entire school, integrating subject matter and providing activities on the basis of the varying pupil levels is being worked out in detail. If more of this type of teaching was done instead of working solely toward preparation for higher grades (that would come incidentally) the children who do leave school before completing the designated amount of work according to the course of study would be, at least, prepared for fuller life participation.

The teaching during the experimental period would rotate among the two classroom ~~###~~ teachers and the Jeanes worker.

F. General Needs of Foreman School-

There are some outstanding needs which might be supplied, at least, partially, during this period.

After the community people have been made to feel that the workers are interested in their welfare, it is easy to believe that they will work hard to cooperate in raising money to help supply the major and minor needs of the school.

Among the major needs are:

1. Completion of boys' workroom.
2. Beautifying and improvement of principal's living quarters.
3. Steps toward providing a permanent teacherage.
4. Painting and beautifying society hall as an asset to school property.
5. "Selling" the idea of longer terms, transportation, better salaries to the parish school board.

V. Proposed Activities for Realization of Proposed Projects:

(Unit lesson plan and over-view give detailed activities of teachers and pupils.) This is being worked out in detail and will be submitted after plan has been accepted.

VI. Expected Outcomes:

- A. Immediate- A better community and school in regards to economic security; health and safety; classroom activities and results; school interest; and general attitudes.
- B. Ultimate- Better schools and communities throughout the parish, based on the peculiar needs of each community as a result of criteria projected through this experimentation at Foreman School.

Final statement: A statement of the idea of an ideal school is enclosed. This is the statement submitted to the State and assistant agent as ~~the~~ major objective for this session, or rather beginning this session to extend over a period of five years.

This whole idea is based on the philosophy that nothing very tangible can be done toward securing school interest on parts of patrons until something is done to relieve their present distresses. If their morale is built up to the "working to the extent of their limit" point, then it is our belief that we will be in position to warrant ~~the~~ more consideration from the school board. At the same time we continue to solicit the aid of the school board in providing the major needs, because we know the actual financial condition of the Negro patrons of the parish.

WRS

(Simon Study)

Bates College

August 7, 1934

(Foreman School)

Dear Mr. Simon

I am writing you to let
you know how every thing is getting
along every thing is doing fine
at all. Our old flowers are dropping
off the old buds and they are coming
up and when the fall comes I
will plant the bed with
them but they are fine.

The school is beautiful
and the painters have painted it
it doesn't look like the same school.

I haven't gave all the
pillars out yet so I can't tell you
how many it will take.

I am afeel sorry
didn't get to see you all when
you all was down here I don't
know what to do.

But tell Mr. Simon
if he saw any thing that was
don't young let me know

FISK
UNIVERSITY

SEP 14 1934

now I will close answer soon tell
Mr Simon I would like to get
a letter from him and here what
he says.

yours truly
Pietro Ronge
R. H. D 3

W5-0
Mrs. Simon (Study)
Baton Rouge La
Aug. 23/1934

Dear Mrs. Simon (Foreman School)

I received your letter and
was glad to hear that you all was
still working on school.

I haven't had chance to
see J. units yet to tell her what
you said about the books.
Because she wasn't at school
yesterday.

There are some nice flowers
on the beds yet though not yet the
best idea of dying I think frost
will kill them. But still there are
nice plants that have come up from
the first flowers that have died
N. at the stop but the bed.

I think every thing
is doing fine Mr. Dixon cut some
of the weeds until he got to where
the weeds was so big and tall the
mower couldnt cut them so he
havent started with the bush
knife yet

SEP 18 1934

SEP 18 1934

UNIVERSITY

By next spring you will have
grass there but it wont be any
before then. because grass quit growing
in August it will be in September
before he level it. Tell Mrs. Limmon
Hello.

yours truly
Isiah Harris
R. F. D 3
Baton Rouge La

*Negro Rural Schools
Simon Study
(Foreman School)*

August 20, 1934

Dear Isaiah: Mrs. Simon and I were very sorry that we did not get a chance to see you when we were in Baton Rouge. We were not sure that we were going to be able to stop at Foreman, and for this reason did not let you know ahead of time.

The school grounds looked very nice. I did think that the hedgerows needed weeding, but was told by some of the other children that they had been weeded a short time before, so I suppose it was because weeds grow so fast that they looked as though nothing much had been done. I hope Mr. Dixon has been able to get the side yard plowed and harrowed so that we can count on some grass by this fall.

At the time Mrs. Simon and I were at the school this summer I noticed that there were none of the library books around, although they may have been in a large box of books in the tool room. This, it seems to me, is a very poor way to keep them, and now that the school is painted, I believe it would be a good idea to fix up a table or shelf for them so that they will not be kicked around. We are busy arranging a new library and maybe we can get one for Foreman.

If the flower beds do not do very well, you might smooth them out level with the grass and let grass grow in them so that we can go over them with the lawn mower. You decide for yourself the best thing to do.

Mrs. Simon and I expect to be at Foreman for a few weeks a little while after school begins this fall.

So far you have done a very good job. Keep it up.

Very truly yours,

JFS:MLU

Mr. Isaiah Harris
Care of Mrs. Addie Lawson
R. F. D. 3
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

James F. Simon

FISK
UNIVERSITY

AUG 21 1934

MRS (Simon study)
WS-9/22
(Foreman School)

By Hope Villa Lomana
Sep 25 1934

Dear Mrs. Simon

only a few lines to let you hear
from I am Johnson this love us
well an do hope when you get this
letter it may find you an Mr Simon
well why I have not before now
I was wait for you to come may
be then I was Bengent to think that
you have for got me the mens
have since the school at last
an Mrs Bazin late June 22
an the place is Rent But an
they is run a Road House I still
have the books just like you all left
them all went to hear from
you please and at once so I can
hear from you we try to raise
money to build a wood house

SEP 25 1934

FSK
UNIVERSITY

write an Tell me when is you all
Come down so I will no
tell me Simon That Johnson
Ray He went an Cut the grass
That he told him That He was
going to Cut. Every Thing look
Good now

Will I will be looking
to hear from you all soon
All from Emma

Hope villa La

585 So. 13th Street
Baton Rouge, La.

December 18, 1934

MRS (Simon Study)

Mrs. M. Simon
Chicago, Illinois

| | | |
|-----|------------------|-------|
| MWS | 12/1 | 12/26 |
| | (Foreman School) | |
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| | | |

Dear Mrs. Simon,

I had looked forward to seeing you again before you left this section, but since that was impossible, then I am doing the next best thing - writing.

Things are going well at the school. Mrs. Millican's hot lunch proving seems to be quite a successful venture.

1934
JAN 2
We are planning some other things for creating community interests and raising some money for some of the things we need.

My daughter, Mayola, requested me to write you concerning giving her an opportunity to work out a sort of vocational music and recreation project in connection with the other things.

2/ we are attempting at Foreman.

I am making this request because I believe first that such a project would help us do ~~more~~ successfully some of the things we are planning and it will give her a chance to work out something that she has wanted an opportunity to try ever since she came out of school.

I am not discussing it at length, for she asked for the privilege of explaining to you if you will consider making this Plea for her with your Fund to provide salary money for at least ^{the} three or four months that school will be operating.

If you will consider this I am sure you will be pleased with results.

She (Mayola) will make formal application if necessary.

Please let me hear from you at once, as she would like to begin the project on Jan. 14 when the fourth month of school begins. She will have time to provide some one to take her place at Grambling.

I trust that you and Mr. Simon are well.

Do not try any more appendix stunts and tooth

aches.

(over)

³/ I am asking for an early reply and
a favorable answer, please.

Yours cordially,
J. N. Sivers.

MS (Simon Study)
(Foreman School)

D

January 16, 1935

Dear Mrs. Givens: We are very glad that you liked the library and we hope that it will prove valuable to you. Of the three hundred sets which we ordered only a few are left. This means of course that we will have to get together another library for next year. I wonder if you all would help us in the selection of the books by keeping track of the ones which seem to be most popular and what ones seem to have been a mistake in the present library? It will be a great help to us if you will be good enough to do this. We are exceedingly anxious to get books which the children themselves find interesting and valuable.

Very truly yours,

MS:LJ

JAN 18 1935

Mrs. I. N. Givens
585 South 13th Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

MARGARET S. SIMON

FISK
UNIVERSITY

WRS (Simon Study)
(Foreman School)

D

January 22, 1935

Dear Mrs. Givens: We have been thinking about your visit to Red Oak School outside of Atlanta where Mrs. Cannon and Mrs. Duncan are working. A teacherage is in the process of being built for them so that they can live right near the school. This will be finished in not so long a time, and we think it would be a good idea to have you postpone your visit until then. Don't you think that will be best? We will let you know how things go and when we think the trip can be most advantageously made.

Very truly yours,

MS*LJ

Mrs. Ida N. Givens
535 South 13th Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

MARGARET S. SIMON

JAN 25 1935

FISK
UNIVERSITY

585 So. 13th St.
Baton Rouge, La
Jan. 3rd 1935

NRS
SIMON STUDY

Foreman school
(we)

Mrs. M. S. Simon
4901 Ellis Ave.
Chicago Illinois

Dear Mrs. Simon!

I have been and I still am
confined to bed with a severe attack
of tonsillitis my physician refused
to let me know about mail and the
like until yesterday.

Thanks to you for the suggestion
about the postponement of my visit
until the teacherage has been finished.
I shall expect to hear from you as
to how things are going and as to
when you think the trip should be
made.

I will write to you as soon as
my physician permits me to get out
of bed.

Yours truly
Ida M. Stevens
Rev. Albertus B. Burrell

FEB 5 1935

MRS (Simon Study)
(Foreman School)

December 26, 1934

Dear Mrs. Givens: I am sorry for the delay in answering your letter. The Christmas holidays and returning late to Chicago are my two excuses.

We should like very much to have your daughter write us in considerable detail as to what her plan is, although I cannot by any means promise you that we will be able to help out. Whatever the decision may be, I am sure it will be quite impossible for us to make arrangements in time for her to begin the project in the middle of January. We and Mr. Babree will be out of the office almost continuously for the next month. In addition to that, it seems a mistake to rush a decision which is likely to be as important - at least to Foreman School - as this one. I think therefore that your daughter had better plan on continuing at Grambling for the rest of this school year and give us a chance to go over her plan both as she presents it in writing and in discussion with her and you when next we are in Baton Rouge. I am sure you will see the desirability of taking a little time.

It was good to hear from you and to hear that our school is going nicely. We will be in Baton Rouge sometime, but at the moment I haven't the faintest idea when. We will be sure to let you know ahead of time.

Very truly yours,

MS:LJ

Mrs. I. N. Givens
585 South 13th Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

MARGARET S. SIMON

FISK
UNIVERSITY

JAN 2 1934

585 So. 13th Street
Baton Rouge, La.
March 19, 1935

NRS

SIMON STUDY

MRS. M. Simon
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Simon,

I wrote you during the time I was ill. I was confined to the bed for four weeks and to the house for seven. I made my first trip out last Wednesday.

I believe I am feeling quite well again now.

I had been expecting a letter from you. I do not know why, but I had been.

Our schools are closing here on ~~April 5~~, our Field Day is March 29. I should have said that

the public term closes in April for several schools are extending their terms to May 3.

My daughter, Mayola, told me that she has application blanks for a fellowship from your fund. I trust that she will be considered favorably, because she is anxious to and needs to study.

She was offered a scholarship in the music department at Fisk the session following her graduation, but ~~would~~ not accept because she wanted to contribute to the support of the six orphaned children that we had taken responsibility for after the death of my brother and his wife.

During the five years that she has been out she has continued to make different sacrifices to help me and my sister with them.

This has been one of the poor years of school teaching financially. For the past two months we have been receiving half checks and the last month teachers received $\frac{1}{3}$ checks. I do not know what I will receive on April 1. But I do know that

I will have none to throw away out of even a half check of \$42.50. And I know you are wondering why I am burdening you with that - well I just know you ~~understand~~ ^{understand} and I feel that you are ^{also} interested - and as I do not gossip ^{promiscuously}, I just wanted to "unbosom" - that's history now.

When are you and Mr. Simon coming this way?

I was at Foreman for a short while last Wednesday. The doctor advises me to go slowly for a while. We are working hard in our beautification program. I am anxious to hear from you and I should like to know if you think prospects are favorable for Mayola. Best wishes to Mr. Simon.

Yours Sincerely, D. N. Stevens.

NRS
SIMON STUDY

(Foreman
School)

April 2, 1935

Dear Mrs. Givens: I am so sorry that I have let time go by without writing you. We have been in the fields for the last two months, and whether from laziness or a justifiable reason, I find it almost impossible to write letters on these trips of ours.

We wanted so much to get to Foreman on this trip, but twist and turn as we would, we just simply could not make it.

What on earth is the matter with the salary payments? Why have they been cut so dreadfully? I never heard anything like it in my life. Are all the teachers in East Baton Rouge Parish getting partial checks, or is it just the Negro group, or what?

We have not yet received application from your daughter. We will not be able to act favorably on it this year since our fellowship funds are exhausted. I am truly sorry about this, but I really feel that your offspring is rather uncertain as to just what she wants to do. Of course I have not yet seen her application, and it may be much better formulated than her letters have been. I do believe, though, that she ought to give a good deal more constructive thought to her plans, and be a little surer as to just exactly what she wants to do. Our fellowship funds are so small that it takes a very good person, with a thoroughly formulated plan, to get one.

I am so sorry you have been ill, and I hope you are really back on your feet again. Don't overdo it at first, because we can't spare you from the active ranks.

Very truly yours,

MS:LJ

Mrs. I. N. Givens
585 South 13th Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

FISK
MARGARET S. SIMON
UNIVERSITY

APR 3

1935

school (Givens - Mayblu)

585 So. 13th Street
Baton Rouge, La.

May 8, 1935

MWS

JM

WS

6

NRS

SIMON STUDY

Foreman
School

Mrs. M. Simon

Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Simon,

I have been extremely busy since I have been back "on the job."

I received your last letter which stated that Mayola had kept the blanks too long for her to be considered for this year. I thought you had them before that time. She told me that she was trying to decide, while waiting on her transcripts that I had been mislaid.

Wrote that first page May 8
and I am now on the second
May 26.

I heard from Mayola week before
last saying she had written
you concerning some work in
Chicago, and I had also sent
the essay required with the
application. She is now wonder-
ing whether or not you under-
stood that she wishes that
application (or she will file
another, if required) to be filed
for scholarship for 1936-37.

She is still interested in the
Foreman project in keeping
with the statements contained in
the essay sent. I understand that
this parish will foster a
music project in the schools
next session. I do not know

yet to what extent we are included.

Was Mae's essay explanatory enough to warrant your sponsoring this project, wholly or jointly, at Foreman next session if conditions make it possible for her to remain in this section?

Really, I did not intend to fill this letter with my personal matters, for I am anxious to see you and tell you many things. I am sure it may not be wise to put all of them into writing, but I will say that the real cloud burst came during April when the principal and the assistant had a fight - yes

an "honest to goodness" fight.
Well - that necessitated
another meeting - you know
the type. The ^{people} community
folk believe she is to
blame again. I will tell
you all about it when
you come - and when are
you coming?

I am sure you will be
pleased with the looks of
the place. I wish to talk
with you before going ahead
with my definite plans for next
session.

Do I visit the school
in Georgia in the autumn?
I am anxious to do so.
Best wishes to Mr. Simon. Please write
yours sincerely, J. N. Rivers.

NRS
SIMON STUDY

Foreman School

2

June 7, 1935

Dear Mrs. Givens: I am sorry for the delay in answering your letter. I was waiting to see if we would not get your daughter's application blank. It has not come in yet. It must either have been lost in the mail or else she is waiting for her credits. I feel pretty sure in any case that we will not be able to give her a fellowship. We have very little money for next year, most of which is already committed, and as I told you before, the people to whom we grant scholarships are advanced graduate students with very definite plans for their work which they need to finance. I should think that Miss Givens has not clearly enough in mind what she wants to do and that she is not advanced enough in her studies. However, when her application comes in, it will be considered of course.

As far as your visit to Georgia is concerned, your guess is as good as mine. One of the teachers who was there last year, Mrs. Cannon, is quite ill and I am not sure that she will go back at all next year, but if the project continues, we will make arrangements for you to visit Red Oak. I know they will be glad to have you.

I hope very much that we will get down to Baton Rouge sometime soon, but it doesn't look much like it now. Give our love to all our friends and tell them we think of them often and that we miss them.

Very truly yours,

MS:LJ

Mrs. I. N. Givens
585 South 13th Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

MARGARET S. SIMON

FISK
UNIVERSITY

JUN 10 1935

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fee for JS

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| JS | 7/11 |
| MS | |
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Simon Sluiter
Foreman School

Patton Ridge Ca

July 10 1935

Dear Mr Simon

Only a few lines as to let you know that the
Johnson have formed a committee and lied on our principle
of the 7th ward school foreman school Eddie White principle
you should have seen how nice he kept the school ground and
how he have improved it so fine never before it have been
in such nice condition we want him back to our school
please help us you know that miss millican and the
Johnson had up when you was last out here miss
millican struck him with a stick of wood and knocked
him crazy and when he did get straight he struck her
and they been lying on him ever since and they are about to
get him away from our school miss millican water so miss
Louis like a dog the Johnson is the caused him to go away
Eddie white is at the summer school now but he come
every week or so and to see how the 7th ward school ground
is kept he say he hate to see it go down as he have improved
it so our white is mighty nice every body likes him but
the Johnson the 7th ward school Foreman school won

AUG

7 1935

BRISK
UNIVERSITY

the prize as being the nicest kept school in the parish
and he was working for the state contest but he have left
so if you can do any good please do so we no a word from
you would mean much to Eddie white
this is all from Henry C. P. teacher
Please dont call my name when you
come

585 So. 13th Street
Baton Rouge, La.

July 13, 1935

NRS

SIMON STUDY

Foreman School

Mrs. M. Simon

Chicago, Illinois

| | MVS | 7/18 | 7/22 |
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Dear Mrs. Simon,

Will you accept this hurriedly written note? I am in summer school, special course for Jeanes Teachers and Training School principals. The weather is hot and I am working hard, but Am I enjoying it!

The instructors are great. The four courses that I am pursuing will assist me greatly in my work next year. More in keeping with what you have been telling me about when you were here. I will better know how to plan and operate same for next session.

Foreman School won first place in the parish in the Beautification Contest. I was hopeful for same place

JUL 24 1935

in the state, but I understand some small school rose from nothing - figuratively speaking - to a place of beauty in the contest and therefore captured first place.

The lovely frame for the certificate of merit was received last week. Saw that it was sent from your office.

It was necessary to change both teachers for another year. I trust the change will bring better results. I have not had much time to visit since I began attending summer school. Saw the place last week, however. It is in good shape.

I suppose you have read of some of the changes in our office. Mr. Hatcher is in charge of the educational department of the FERA in the state. Mr. Turner (former assistant supt.) is acting superintendent during his leave of absence.

There are many things I should like to talk over with you before school opens if you get down this way and we hope you do soon.

Mrs. Ammon is at summer school also. Talks of you so much that my jealousy is aroused. Foreman & all of us send best wishes to you and Mr. Simon. May I hope for a letter soon?

Cordially yours,
F. S.

N R S
SIMON STUDY

Foreman School

July 22, 1935

Dear Mrs. Givens:
tion.

Thank you so much for your nice note
which I found on my return from our vaca-

We had a letter from one of the community members, from which I gathered that the Foreman situation reached a slightly high point at the time of the real fight. I think you were very wise to make a complete shift and start all over again. I gather that Mr. White was very popular in the community except for the Johnson objection. It's too bad that it couldn't have worked out, but I am sure that you were exactly right in making the change. And of course it may be that the letter we had was slightly more complimentary to Mr. White than was actually the case. At any rate I would back your judgment, and I am sure that you have done the very best thing.

I hope we will get down in the general direction of Foreman sometime early in the fall, but at the moment I can't tell anything definite about it.

We are still keeping in the back of our heads your trip to Georgia next year. I do think it is a good idea and we are going to try to arrange it.

Very truly yours,

MS:LJ

Mrs. I. N. Givens
585 South 15th Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

MARGARET S. SIMON

JUL 24 1935

FISK
UNIVERSITY

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| | JFS | W/S | JHS | |
| | Ms. | | | |
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N R S
SIMON STUDY

Baton Rouge La,

July 28, 1935

Dear Friend,

This letter comes to let you know how every thing is getting along. Every thing is fine with a plenty of grass growing.

I am at school to day working and thought i would drop a few lines to you all after not hearing from you but once sene you left by Mrs Givens told me that you would be down here before long. But i havent seen her in a few weeks but would like to see her.

Tell me how are you all getting along fine i hope in borth health and in mine as i am today.

There are three of us working now at the school and still i am working. Now i would like to have a grass cutter to cut grass around the toilets and other places around the and other places around the scecol.

Tell Mrs Simon to write me a letter and tell me when she is coming back south. And will you pleas answer this letter,

The three of us are working are Humpry, Babon and I but i am alone to day,

Ihavent seen Mr, White in 5 or 6 weeks he dont viset out here much now.

Write to Baton Rouge La Isiah Harris, in % Addie Lawson

Answer soon,

Yours Truly,
Isiah Harris,

APR 28 1936

FISK
UNIVERSITY

NRS
SIMON STUDY

Foreman School

August 5, 1935

Dear Isiah: Thank you ever so much for your nice letter which Mr. Simon has let me read. I am sure that he will answer you, but I wanted to send you a note, too. We haven't seen you for so long and haven't even been very good about writing, but don't think for a minute that we have forgotten you. We have thought about you a lot and wish that we might get down to Baton Rouge to see you and all of our other friends.

I wonder if you could tell me how I can write to Mrs. Scott? When we were last at Foreman you remember that I was knitting and she was very much interested and wanted a round knitting needle. I have one for her, but I haven't her address. Please don't go to too much trouble, but I am sure that you know the address off hand.

We're all very proud of you for continuing to work at Foreman. I know it looks lovely. Tell Humphrey and Babin that we think they're grand too to work at the school.

I hope you like your new teachers next year. Do you know their names yet? We will surely get down to Foreman not long after school starts in the fall, and we will let you know before hand so that we will be sure to see you in case you are not in school any more.

Give our love to everybody, including yourself, and be sure to give our special greetings to Emma and Johnson.

MARGARET S. SIMON

MS:LJ

Mr. Isiah Harris
c/o Addie Lawson
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

AUG 16 1935

FISK
UNIVERSITY

NRS
SIMON STUDY

Foreman School

7
December 5, 1935

Dear Isiah: In this envelope with my letter you will find a letter written to you by Mrs. Simon just four months ago today. She has asked me several times whether or not I mailed it because she couldn't understand why you had not answered. Today when I moved my desk out from the wall, I found it stuck between the wall and the desk.

Both Mrs. Simon and I have been wondering how you are and what you are doing. Have you finished with school or are you going back again this year? It has been so long since we heard from anyone at Foreman that we have no idea how the school is going, how well it is being kept up, or how the community likes the new teachers. Maybe you can find time to write us and tell us these things.

We hope to be able to get back to Foreman sometime this year. All of you were so good to us when we were there that we hate to let too much time pass before returning. I hope that everything is going well with you and that this letter will find you at home.

Mrs. Simon and I send our love and hope you will be in the community all winter so that we can see you whenever we come down.

Sincerely,

JAMES F. SIMON

DEC 10 1935

JFS:rm

Mr. Isiah Harris
c/o Addie Lawson
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

FISK
UNIVERSITY

585 South 13th Street

Baton Rouge, La.
January, 21, 1936

NRS
SIMON STUDY

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

Foreman
School

Dear Mrs. Simon:

Despite the fact that I had two important requests to make of you, I have refrained from doing so until I could truthfully say that we are beginning to realize signs of an awakening of community spirit and interest in our Foreman group. Perhaps this is an unfavorable reflection upon my activities, but it is a fact that the change is just coming.

Under separate cover (being sent about Saturday) is a report of some of the activities being carried out according to selected objectives. At least three other school communities have begun enthusiastic programs of beautification and improvement having been inspired by some of the things done at Foreman.

I addressed this letter "Personal" because it has to do with rather personal problems concerning myself.

I am presenting the most unusual one first: Is there any possibility of procuring an amount of \$900 as a sort of scholarship loan from the Rosenwald fund instead of a straight scholarship?

I am in need of said amount; \$500 of which would go to "pool" and pay some scattered obligations in order to eliminate extortionate interest rates, the other \$400 is needed to "carry through" an educative music venture which will go to assist some deserving unemployed folk and serve as a supplement to my salary after the first five or six months.

I need the full amount by February 15. I can arrange with my superintendent to accept an order against my salary checks for stipulated amounts (around \$37.50 plus reasonable interest rates) payable monthly for a period of two years from June 1, 1936 (interest from Feb. to June to be figured in) with an additional lien against my share of my homestead as security if necessary.

Since the bank holiday here three years ago, the banks are not making such large individual loans and the loan companies "eat one up" with interest—that is why I am writing you.

Yes, I know it is an unusual request, but I believe if there is anything that you can do you will do. If it can be done, I will be placed in position to do some special work that I am interested in along the lines of vocational guidance in the small rural schools. That is what I am especially interested in now.

UNIVERSITY

I can explain my proposed venture to you if you so desire.

Honestly, I am not trying to make a W P A or any such "set-up" out of the fund, but I believe you are interested enough in me and have faith enough in my ambitions to help if you can.

My next request is that you will please not forget the trip to the school near Atlanta that I am desirous of making in the early spring.

Please let me have your answer and advice for formal steps at your very earliest convenience.

I trust that this new year finds you and Mr. Simon well and happy.

When shall we look forward to seeing you?

Yours sincerely,

Ida Nance Givens.

NRS
SIMON STUDY
Foreman School

January 28, 1936

Dear Mrs. Givens: I am awfully sorry that I must write you a disappointing letter. The Fund has a definite policy of refusing all loans, no matter how good the security. I am sure you will realize the necessity of this. You have no idea how many letters we get every day making requests similar to yours. We make our scholarship grants outright but in all cases they are for students taking advanced work and having some connection with institutions in which we are working in other ways.

Because of our belief in you and our friendship with you I wish it were possible for us to give you this help. However, one of the things we learn first is that no matter how important the personal considerations are, people connected with a foundation have to consider everything in the light of that foundation's program of activities.

As far as a visit to Red Oaks is concerned, I spoke to Mr. Lewis the first of this month when we were together in New Orleans. You might see him and find out what he feels would be the best time for you to go. Whatever arrangements you and he make will be satisfactory with us. Mrs. Duncan and Mrs. Cannon are ready for you any time.

I think we will be down in New Orleans around the middle of February - at least some time during that month we expect to make a visit to you and Foreman. We will let you know a little bit later just exactly what the dates are so we will be sure to see you.

Very truly yours,

MSS:JW

JAN 30 1936

Mrs. Ida Nance Givens
585 South Thirteenth Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

FISK
UNIVERSITY

NRS

SIMON STUDY

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585 S. 13th Street ~~(Green)~~
 Baton Rouge, Louisiana
 February 6, 1936

Foreman School

Dear Mrs. Simon,

Thanks a lot for the kind letter of January 28. Although my request could not be granted it made me feel good to have a re-assurance of your friendship.

I am planning a conference with Mr. Lewis Saturday. I will write you ^{immediately} as to what he suggests as to the time of my visit to Red Oaks.

I am intensely interested in practical vocational guidance in rural schools. I have submitted it as a problem to our Research Committee of the Louisiana Colored Teachers Association. I am in quest of material and schools where I may secure the type of information and probable instructions to help me put into effect some ideas I have concerning it.

If I am fortunate in securing such data and such places, to what extent could the Fund help on a scholarship for

Summer study or observation work?

I am not attempting to describe or evaluate the Foreman faculty before you arrive, I am interested, ~~or~~ I should say, anxious to know your reaction to them.

If this letter appears rather disconnected attribute ^{it} to the fact that I am in a room at one ^{of our} local hospitals where Mayola is ^{resting} after having had a tonsillectomy at 8 A.M.

We are anxiously awaiting your visit during this month, and I shall be pleased to know about what dates you will be here.

Please also let me know about aid for summer school work.

Yours sincerely,
D. Nance Givens.

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NRS
SIMON STUDY

585 So. 13th St.
Baton Rouge, La.
February 19, 1936

Foreman School

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

Dear Mrs. Simon:

Mr. Lewis and I decided in a recent conference that it would perhaps be necessary to know the closing date of Red Oak School before giving you a final decision as to the date I would like to observe. The most convenient time for me will be the third week of April. You may consider this final if school will be in session. If not, please let me know the closing date and you will hear from me as soon as I can arrange to be away at a time that falls within the school term.

With very best wishes,

Yours very truly,

Wm. D. N. Givens.

MAR 4 1936

FISK
UNIVERSITY

NRS
SIMON STUDY

MS-
701 S.17th Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
February 21, 1936

Foreman School

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

My dear Mrs. Simon:

Inclosed is a set of the general objectives selected for our school this session. We thought you would be interested in knowing something of the nature of our undertakings.

Through the pupils and Mrs. Givens we have heard so many interestingly good things about you and Mr. Simon that we are anxious to meet you both.

We realize that ten objectives for one session is quite a big challenge for a new faculty for there are so many things to be done. Although we are not inclosing our stated means of obtaining our objects we have them planned and we trust that you will be able to see some results of same when you come.

The inclement weather has had its ill effects on our program, but we are encouraged to continue our efforts and we are optimistic about the outcome.

We are looking forward eagerly to yours and Mr. Simon's visit in the near future.

The children join us in wishes for your health and happiness.

Yours truly,

Lewellyn S. Whitlow

Vocational Teacher and Acting Principal.

Sophronia Stanley

Rosa K. Johnson.

MAR 4 1936

FISK
UNIVERSITY

General Objectives for Foreman Rosenwald School

Session 1935-36.

- I. To create a desire among patrons and pupils to improve the physical plant and use it as a community center and to encourage a type of school interest that will merit aid from non-patrons and school officials
- II. To select and motivate school activities that are conducive to better home life and that are pointed toward fitting pupils for more wholesome adult life.
- III. To improve the health and hygienic conditions of school children.
- IV. To encourage finer traits of character among pupils.
- V. To teach in such way as to improve the type of learning, to provide for independent thinking, to encourage better study habits, and to insure ready, accurate response.
- VI. To encourage membership and participation in community welfare and school organizations.
- VII. To utilize local resources to enrich the curriculum.
- VIII. To encourage native abilities and aptitudes in pupils.
- IX. To provide more wholesome recreational and social programs.
- X. To teach more about achievements of Negroes.

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585 S.13th Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
March 27, 1936

NRS
SIMON STUDY

Foreman School

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

Dear Mrs. Simon:

I was very pleased to have your message Wednesday from Mr. A. C. Lewis. He suggested that I should write you for the mailing address of Mrs. Cannon. Please give me her initials also in order that I may acquaint her with my exact date of arrival.

My sister, Mrs. M. N. Ringgold, is interested in making the trip also and she feels that her superintendent would give her some assistance on the trip if she could have a letter from you saying you think that she should try to make it. We shall greatly appreciate your doing this if you will.

The faculty at Foreman is wondering whether or not they will hear from or see you before the summer. They are a bit discouraged just now because the community people find themselves unable to do any thing towards extending the school term and, as you would imagine, that seriously affects promotion in the school. And they have really worked hard.

They wonder if you would write your reaction to the evidences of their efforts which you saw on your visit here, if said reaction is favorable, and send to Supt. C. B. Turner together with a request for his cooperation in providing for a longer term, aid on some means of transportation (the bus that they have provided for years has just about done its last service),

UNIVERSITY

They will hardly be able to do all of the things needed to be done without some aid from the school board or some source of sure finance. Mr. Turner is very approachable and I believe that one request from you will help us greatly.

We realize that you, Mr. Simon, and the fund have done so much for us and we do want you to know how much we appreciate everything.

I am inclosing one of our programs for Field Day. We are also in the midst of plans and projects for making our observance of Health Week worthwhile. Next Wednesday (April 1) is Clinic day for our school children.

I shall be anxiously awaiting your reply in order to contact Mrs. Cannon and Mrs. Duncan (which is principal?). I hope to leave here on the 19th or 20th of April.

Best wishes to you and Mr. Simon for health and happiness.

Sincerely yours,

J. N. Givens.

NRS
SIMON STUDY

Foreman School

April 6, 1936

Dear Mrs. Givens: Mrs. Cannon's initials are E.P.,
and her address is Box 15, Spelman
College, Atlanta, Georgia.

I think it would be a mistake for
Mrs. Ringgold to go with you. As a matter of fact it
would be impossible, as the little Teacherage would be
filled to capacity with you, Mrs. Cannon, and Mrs. Duncan.
You will be able to tell her so much about the work that
she will probably get a lot out of your visit.

The other request I am also afraid
I must refuse. I should be delighted of course to write
to Foreman and tell them what an excellent job they are
doing. I should have done it long ago. But I think it
is really up to the community and up to Mr. Turner to
make arrangements as to the length of term and the aid
on transportation. A letter from us to Mr. Turner would
seem like "undue influence" and I do not believe the
Fund can undertake the exertion of that kind of pressure.

I am sure you will understand, and
I am sure you will forgive me for having sent you so
many "no's" recently.

Very truly yours,

MARGARET W. SARGENT

MS:AM

Mrs. I.N. Givens
585 S. 13th Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

FISK
UNIVERSITY

APR 6 1936

RECEIVED AT

DEL PRADO HOTEL
5307 HYDE PARK BLVD.
TEL DORCHESTER 8459

STANDARD TIME
INDICATED ON THIS MESSAGE

Postal Telegraph

THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial
Cables



All America
Cables

Mackay

Radio

This is a full rate Telegram, Cablegram or Radiogram unless otherwise indicated by signal in the check or in the address.

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| DL | DAY LETTER |
| NL | NIGHT LETTER |
| NM | NIGHT MESSAGE |
| LCO | DEFERRED CABLE |
| NLT | NIGHT CABLE LETTER |
| | RADIOGRAM |

Form
16

1936 APR 6 PM 4 05

P192 50 DL=F ATLANTA GA 234P APR 6 1936

MISS MARION GETTY, JULIUS ROSENWALD FUND=
4901 ELLIS AVE=

mg ^{4/6} **NRS** ^{4/6}
SIMON STUDY
Goleman School

SEND MRS I N GIVENS CALL OF A C LEWIS STATE DEPT OF EDUCATION
BATONROUGE TRAVEL ADVANCE OF SEVENTY FIVE DOLLARS AND EXPENSE
BOOK STOP SEND USUAL NOTE TELLING HER TO KEEP RECORD OF EXPENSES
AND EITHER REFUND BALANCE OF ADVANCE OR WE SHALL REIMBURSE HER
FOR ADDITIONAL EXPENSE GREETINGS=

DOROTHY A ELRIDGE.

APR 14 1936

FISK
 UNIVERSITY

Telephone Your Telegrams to **Postal Telegraph**

NRS
SIMON STUDY

Foreman School

P April 6, 1936

My dear Mrs. Givens: I am enclosing our check
for \$75.00 as an advance
for travel. Please keep account of your expenditures
in the attached expense book and refund the balance
you have on hand at the end of your trip to us, or,
if you have spent more than the advance we will issue
you a check to cover.

Very truly yours,

MVG
encl.

MVG

Mrs. I. N. Givens
c/o A. C. Lewis
State Department of Education
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

APR 14 1936

FISK
UNIVERSITY

Julius Rosenwald Fund

4901 Ellis Avenue

CHICAGO

To

Mrs. I. N. Givens

care A. C. Lewis

State Department of Education

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Payment Voucher No. 8699

Date April 6, 1936

NRS
SIMON STUDY

Foreman School

Advance for Travel ----- \$75.00

Ck. #8699

Accounts

Appropriation No.

Debit

Credit

Working Capital Control

Advance for Travel

\$75.00


APR 14 1936

Prepared by

MVG

Checked by

Posted by



FISK

UNIVERSITY

Comptroller

LOUISIANA COLORED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
April 9, 1936

N R S
SIMON STUDY
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

VICE-PRESIDENTS

E. B. Spriggins, 1st District
J. M. Augustine, 2nd District
A. L. Simon, 3rd District
J. S. Davis, 4th District
M. Sterling, 5th District
Mrs. I. N. Givens, 6th District
H. C. Ross, 7th District
Jack Strong, 8th District

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Foreman School
Cornelius King
J. E. Ringgold
J. S. Clark
George Longe
Mrs. M. C. Meadors
J. S. Jones
R. P. Player
Charles P. Adams
J. L. Jones

Mrs. M. S. Simon

4901 Ellis Avenue

Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Simon:

Thanks for the initials and address of Mrs. Cannon. I am writing her to-day of my plans to leave here April 20.

I have also received the check and expense books. I did not know whether I should make acknowledgment of receipt of same to you or to the person whose signature appeared on the letter.

I readily understand the information given relative to Mrs. Ringgold's visit and also to the Foreman project, and I have such confidence in your good judgment that instead of feeling that I should forgive you, as you suggested, I feel that I should be questioning my own wisdom in making so many requests.

My enthusiasm is running high over my prospective visit to Red Oaks and I am sure that I shall get a lot out of it.

I will write again later, perhaps I can better express my gratitude for all of your interest and kindness then.

Yours truly,

I. N. Givens.

APR 28 1936

FISK
UNIVERSITY

585 S. 13th Street
Baton Rouge, La.

May 4, 1936

NRS

Mrs. M. S. Simon
Chicago, Illinois

| SIMON STUDY | | | |
|-------------|-----|------|------|
| | MVS | 5/11 | 5/13 |
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Dear Mrs. Simon:

I returned from my trip to Red Oak, Friday night, May 1, 1936.

After I have had a reply to this communication I will send a resume of my experiences.

Please accept my thanks for having made this visit possible.

I wish to make a report of my expenditures for this visit, so it is necessary for me to obtain this information before doing so.

After having planned my trip for April 20-28, the parish found themselves in position to begin the repair and beautification of seven of the Rosenwald buildings. This necessitated my making a survey to determine certain facts for them, compiling this data and

MAY 20 1936

re-checking this in each of the seven communities. In addition to this I was compelled to collect and compile data for making requisition for textbooks for next session which had to be filed before April 25. So, in order to complete this work and not postpone my visit, I had to employ some one to assist me and had to make, at least, ten extra trips to as many different communities.

On arriving in New Orleans on my return trip I learned that a sectional meeting of the Southern Regional Conference of the Progressive Education Association would be held Friday, May 1, so I stayed over for this meeting.

In making a report of expenses for the trip, shall I include figures for above mentioned items or shall I restrict them to actual expenses of direct travel to and from Red Oak? Please advise me in order that I may make report to your office as early as possible. Yours truly, J. N. Givens

NRS
SIMON STUDY

Gorsman School

X

May 15, 1936

Dear Mrs. Givens: I am a little troubled by your recent letter. Properly the Fund should assume no obligations for any expenses except those of direct travel to and from Red Oak and whatever living and other expenses you incurred during your visit. I think the state or parish should logically be responsible for the expenses which were brought about by the necessity of employing someone to assist you. However we don't want you to have to pay these sums out of your own pocket. Will you talk it over with Mr. Lewis and see what he says (I am sending a copy of this letter to him.). If it is impossible for you to get the money from state or parish sources, let us know and include it in your regular expense account. As far as the extra day in New Orleans is concerned, the Fund will be glad to pay for it.

Very truly yours,

MARGARET S. SIMON

MAY 20 1936

MSS:McK

Mrs. I. H. Givens
585 South 13th Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

FISK
UNIVERSITY

| CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| DOMESTIC | CABLE |
| TELEGRAM | FULL RATE |
| DAY LETTER | DEFERRED |
| NIGHT MESSAGE | NIGHT LETTER |
| NIGHT LETTER | SHIP RADIOGRAM |

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

WESTERN UNION

N R S

SIMON STUDY

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

WILLIAM W. SIMON
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

NIGHT LETTER

June 17, 1936

Foreman School

Mrs. I. N. Givens
585 South 13th Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

PLEASE SEND AT ONCE EXPENSE ACCOUNT FOR RED OAK TRIP WE HAVE CHARGED
AGAINST YOU SEVENTY FIVE DOLLARS WHICH MUST BE ACCOUNTED FOR IN FULL
BEFORE JUNE THIRTY WHEN OUR FISCAL YEAR CLOSES THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

Margaret S. Simon
Julius Rosenwald Fund

Charge to
Julius Rosenwald Fund
4901 Ellis Avenue
Drexel 7100
McK

JUN 19 1936



THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

585 S. 13th Street
Baton Rouge, La.

June 20, 1936

NRS
SIMON STUDY

Mrs. M. S. Simon
Chicago, Illinois

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Journe School

Dear Mrs. Simon:

Imagine my surprise at finding your telegram here upon my return to the city ^{today} from a three-day out of town stay.

On receipt of your letter, I called Mr. A. C. Lewis's secretary and requested her to say to him that I was answering your communication immediately upon my return from the Office of the superintendent, and for him to give himself no concern about any funds to reimburse me for expenses incurred that I wrote you about.

JUN 25 1936 Mr. C. B. Turner, acting superintendent at that time, stated that the fiscal year would end June 30, 1936 and

at that time he would know whether or not there would be any funds to take care of things like that.

Two days after I received your letter I wrote telling you of Mr. Turner's statement inclosed figures of expenses for trip in books provided, told you how I appreciated your interest and asked that you would forget that I had even mentioned it because I had gained so much because of the visit, explained that I would send check of balance after my conference with Mr. Turner on June 30, and asked if this met your approval.

I gave this communication to one of my teachers who was going from my home to the post office and I have been expecting a communication from you concerning same.

After having found the telegram, I went immediately to the home of this teacher, who lives about ten miles above town, to find out if she failed to mail the letter. She is and has been suffering from a nervous breakdown for several weeks and no one is allowed to see her, so I am

3. just about where I was before.

I am making another report according to figures kept in duplicate form. I regret that this report is not in books provided, but as soon as they will permit me to do so, I will find out what happened to the letter this teacher was to have mailed to you. My return address should have warranted its return to me if not received by you.

I will mail a check for balance due on this account on the afternoon of June 30, or the morning of July 1, 1936.

I regret the delay that has been necessary on this transaction.

I sent a written report of this visit to Mr. Lewis. Should you like to have one?

Yours truly,
I. N. Sivens.

Julius Rosenwald Fund
4901 Ellis Avenue
CHICAGO

N R S

SIMON STUDY


Journal Voucher No. 1756

Date June 23, 1936

Foreman School

| Explanation | Appropriation No. | Debit | Credit |
|---|-------------------|---------|---------|
| Rural School Exploration | 35-5 | \$37.02 | |
| Appropriation Payments | | \$37.02 | |
| Working Capital Control | | | |
| Advance for Travel | | | \$37.02 |
| Mrs. I. N. Givens' Expense Account for her trip to Red Oak School in Stockbridge, Georgia, 4/20 through 5/1/36. | | | |
| Advance for Travel - - - - - | | \$75.00 | |
| Expense - - - - - | | 37.02 | |
| Unexpended balance | | \$37.98 | |

JUN 25 1936



 FISK

 UNIVERSITY

 Controller

NRS
SIMON STUDY

Foreman School

*7 up 56.
7/10/36*

June 24, 1936

Dear Mrs. Givens: Mrs. Simon has referred to
me your letter of June 20th
enclosing your expense account totalling \$37.02.
We have credited this amount against your ad-
vance of \$75 leaving a balance due the Fund of
\$37.93. If at all possible, we should like
very much to have this amount refunded before
the 30th of June. If it is not taken care of
by that date we shall have to carry it on our
annual financial report as an advance to you.

Very truly yours,

DE:AM

DOROTHY A. ELVIDGE

Mrs. I. N. Givens
585 South 13th Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

JUN 25 1936

FISK
UNIVERSITY

NRS

585 S.13th Street

SIMON STUDY

Baton Rouge, La.

7/13/36

Forehand School

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Miss Dorothy A. Elvidge
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Miss Elvidge:

On June 22 my aunt, Mrs. I. N. Givens, was called to the bedside of a very sick sister of mine. She left with me a list of persons to whom I was to make payments when her check was given me on June 30, your name was on that list.

While waiting on the check the letter came from you. I had been instructed to open all mail which might be important, so I found that you said that unless the amount was refunded before June 30 it would have to be carried as an advance to her. I was confused as to whether I should send it any way, and as I was hopeful that she would return, at least, by July 5 I decided to wait for her suggestion.

Instead of improving my sister became so ill that for a few days everything went out of my mind except the thought of ministering to her needs, as we (all) had to go to her. Upon my return yesterday I realized that I had failed to even mention it to my aunt, so I am asking that you will please advise me immediately as to whether I am to send this amount of \$37.98 to you, or whether it is to be kept by her as the advance you mentioned until time for your next annual report.

I trust that this will explain satisfactorily my delay in contacting you, for if it does not my aunt will be very disappointed and perhaps angry with me for not acquainting her with facts in the case, but this serious illness and the statement in your letter threw me off.

I shall appreciate an immediate reply.

Yours truly,

Anita M. Nance

JUL 16 1936

FISK UNIVERSITY

NRS
SIMON STUDY

Foreman's School

July 15, 1936

X

Dear Miss Nance: Thank you for your letter
 of July 13th concerning the
amount due from Mrs. Givens as a refund on her
travel advance. We should appreciate receiving a
check for \$37.98. The last sentence in my letter
of June 24th merely meant that if the payment was
not received by the 30th of June the amount would
show as an advance to Mrs. Givens on our end of
the year statements. However, the amount is due
and we should like to have it cleared from our
books by the end of July. Kindly make your check
payable to the Julius Rosenwald Fund.

Very truly yours,

DOROTHY A. ELVIDGE

DE:AM

Miss Anita M. Nance,
585 South 13th Street,
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

JUL 16 1936

FISK
UNIVERSITY

585 S. 13th Street
Baton Rouge, La.

September 5, 1936

NRS

SIMON STUDY

Foreman School

Dear Miss Elridge,

At last my niece is home
and better. She turned over
to me the amount to be
sent to you.

I regret having had this
delay, but you will find
inclosed \$37.98 which takes
care of the amount on your
books.

Yours truly,
D. N. Givens.

SEP 11 1936

FISK
UNIVERSITY

Julius Rosenwald Fund **N R S**

4901 Ellis Avenue
CHICAGO

SIMON STUDY

From

Mrs. I. N. Givens

Credit Voucher No. 2055**Date** September 11, 1936

Foreman School

Return of unused portion of travel advance - - - - - \$37.98

SEP 11 1936

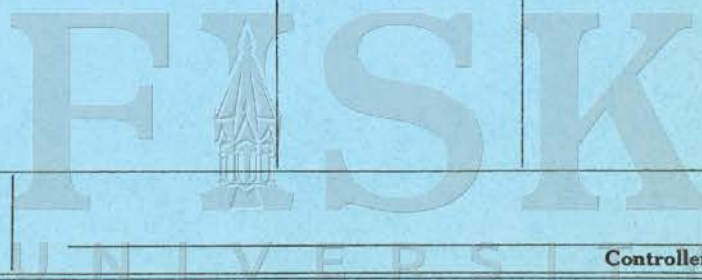
| Accounts | Appropriation No. | Debit | Credit |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-------|---------|
| Working Capital Control | | | |
| Advance for travel | | | \$37.98 |

Prepared By

LS

Checked By**Posted By**

Controller



FISK UNIVERSITY

Supplement for 1936-37 Supervisory Program
Rural Schools of East Baton Rouge Parish-Five Year Program.
Begun 1935-36.

Part I-General Statement.

The school year 1935-36 marked the beginning of plans for a five year program of supervision in East Baton Rouge Parish.

The reasons for extending activities over this period of time were:

1. School terms are too short to accomplish many and varied objectives in one session.
2. Facilities and finance are too limited to supply the needs in one year.
3. The tasks involved for supplying needs, accomplishing selected objective together with teaching children in terms of their peculiar needs and circumstances, present such problems that the average teacher, for the most part, becomes discouraged and fails to definitely accomplish any one thing well during one session.

We realize that it is going to take a long while, under present ideas about and conditions in rural schools, but we are determined to make conscientious attempts over the designated period allotted in this program to have rural Colored schools of the parish serve the purpose of education. We intend to do all that we can personally, we intend to work with the community people to make them school and community-minded, and we intend to make our efforts so outstanding that they will call to the attention of those in authority the things that can and should be done in order that Negro girls and boys of the parish may meet effectively their obligations as American citizens.

It is desired that this supplement and subsequent supplements be attached to the program submitted last (1925-36) session. The objectives for this session are the same as for last. They may be summed up in one major objective, "The Creation Of an Ideal Rural School". The word ideal is not to be confused with some unattainable goal of elaborate pretentiousness, but is meant to be synonymous with physical and mental equipment necessary for attaining those ideals embodied in the seven general objectives of education, the training for which is the greatest purpose of the school.

Part II-Objectives.

The major objective for 1936-37 is the continuation of the experiment begun at Foreman Rosenwald School as a beautification project . The purpose is to create as near to an ideal situation as is possible in order that the activities there will serve as the criteria for all of the rural schools of the parish.

As stated in Part I, we believe that the greatest purpose of the school is to train individuals for the ideals embodied in the seven cardinal principles of education. With this in mind, and with the needs and conditions of the rural schools in mind, the selected objectives stated below are, in sense, identical with those submitted last session, and are the goals toward which we are working. There is planned cooperation among pupils, patrons, teachers, supervisor, superintendent, and school board members for the realization of these.

Objectives selected for creation of the ideal rural school

1. Improvement of hygienic and health conditions of buildings and grounds; instruction and training in physical habits, healthful routine of living; work, and play; and in the promotion of public health, involving training in safety of self and others.
2. Improvement of teachers in service and improvement in the quality of instruction, involving the tool subjects and the integration of all subject-matter.
3. Provision for lacks due to negative conditions of home environments, involving instruction in the right relationships of both adults and younger members of the home.
4. Provision for pre-vocational training, involving exploration and guidance.
5. Provision for the acquisition of knowledge of social and political life in order that the pupil may become an intelligent and participating citizen.
6. Provision for acquisition of knowledge of literature, art, music, drama, and social intercourse as a means of worthy enjoyment of leisure.
7. Character education, involving encouragement of desirable character traits and emotional attitudes.

Note: Part III of this document ^{contains} is the actual over-view of the unit designed as the means of attaining this major objective.

Part III-Supervisory Program.

"Our Ideal School"-East Baton Rouge Parish.

I. Factors to be considered in evaluating an ideal school:

- A. According to Salisbury the first thing to be considered is the school site." The model school site for a rural school comprises at least two acres of land. On it are planted suitable shade trees. At one side is a school garden, planted and tended by the pupils. At the rear, is outdoor athletic apparatus, and good outbuildings. One of these may be the fuel house, or better still, the fuel may be kept in the basement (a desirable new feature for rural schools). The lawn is cut with a lawn mower; and the whole premises are beautiful to the eye and educational in their effect."

The provision, up-keep, and location of outbuildings are of vital importance.

A teacher's cottage should replace long drives to and from school.

- B. School Building- " The old time country school furnished a striking example of "how not to do it". The building should be well-erected, should contain sufficient number of classrooms, cloakrooms, industrial rooms, library, etc. It should be centrally located to the school population, or transportation provided for easy accessibility.

General and special equipment should be provided.

Special attention should be given to seating, lighting, heating, ventilation, blackboards, and other factors conducive to the health and comfort of the pupils and teachers.

- C. School Session- It should be sufficiently long to warrant pupil progress in a normal manner.

1. The term should provide for the achievement of objectives, and for pupils completing units of work in the time required by other schools into whose systems he must fit after leaving the rural school.

2. The term should provide for the realization of teacher purposes, and at the same time provide for her peace of mind through elimination of that ever present query " After this six months-WHAT?"

3.
D. Reasonable number of pupils per teacher.

- E. The teacher- She should be selected according to her training and rural-mindedness. She should be well compensated for service. An interested, energetic teacher can work wonders with community people in securing school and community pride.

If the teacher is well paid she is better enabled to motivate activities which make for school and community betterment. Not only does this financial security warrant her peace of mind, but it also places her in position to have something to spare for tangible incentives for encouragement of efforts among patrons and pupils.

Sufficient salary also provides for continual professional growth by the teacher.

F. Health Program-

1. Not only through training for better health and safety habits, but also for health inspections, and services of nurses and doctors.

G. Recreational Program- There should be a distinct program of recreation provided to replace the drab existence of community children, in general. This can also serve as a means of creating interest in school welfare.

H. Provision for Pre-Vocational Training- (Reasons given in other sections of this program.

I. Provision for business and social organizations-

1. P.T.A's, G F A I A's, 4 H Clubs, N F A's, etc. for the welfare of the school and community.
2. Reading clubs, music clubs, dramatic and art clubs for cultural development.

The parish and state should take the responsibility for providing the major facilities for all school children. Community organizations should function to provide the minor needs.

Good teachers will take the initiative in launching campaigns, organizing forces, making plans for supplementing working facilities to meet what parish officials have provided.

Regardless of race or creed wherever children must attend school conditions should be as nearly ideal as possible, for many, if not most, rural Colored children come from homes that have shifted to the school the responsibility for training along all lines. This can be traced as a direct result of inefficient and insufficient training of parents who have had to make it as best they could through conditions worse than those that face rural Colored children of this generation. No systematic effort has been made to give to these children or their parents the type of training that would fit them for life after school days.

It is a fact that most rural Colored children of this parish leave school in the fourth or sixth grade and go almost directly into adult-life situations. There is a need for a type of school in each community that will lay foundations that will make boys and girls efficiently self-sufficient physically, mentally, morally, and socially and at the same time give a foundation to those who wish to continue their studies through high school and or specialized fields.

The ideal rural school can do much toward fitting the unfit for desirable citizenship and eliminating the "riff-raff" from the communities. This type of school is possible through the cooperation of local, parish, and state agencies.

Note: The over-view and unit lesson plan, including teacher and pupil activities, are being worked over from the term paper "Organization of Courses of Study for One-Room Schools" that I submitted at the close of summer school. I am asking permission to reserve this part of the program to be submitted after I have had a hearing from our parish superintendent and the secretary of the Rosenwald Fund. I am inclosing a copy of the outline that I sent to them concerning the proposed experimentation as the first step in the creation of this ideal rural school.

Diagram of Five Year Supervisory Program in
East Baton Rouge Parish.

