

19801 W. Pinecrest Lane
New Berlin, Wis. 53151
May 10, 1965

Dear Mary Sue,

I have been waiting for this news article (featured in the Saturday orange sheet) to appear so that you people in Shaw might see Ivan's impressions. He has spoken before our group, and we are glad that the entire community of Waukesha will have had the opportunity to read of this first direct contact with you. As you see in the post script of his article, the word of the actual labor strike arrived via the Measure for Measure office in Milwaukee. We had seen your explanatory sheet regarding this labor party, and Ivan and Nissley were quite amazed that already enough sentiment for striking had been engendered already. However, they felt that much has been and will be done under your dynamic leadership. Just to have the backing of the Negro community in regard to putting up bail was an indication of their rising spirit of protest.

Enclosed is the \$15. monthly check. Now, in the light of present developments with people losing their jobs due to the strike, of course daily income is reduced to nighl in many cases. Would clothing be of help, would packages of food, or would money for these be best to help the Shaw people? I have not been able to reach a woman in the Waukesha First Methodist Church who just wrote that their church wanted to do what was most needed. I would like to tell her what would be best-- outright gifts of food and clothing or money for same. We will use our bank account money likewise when you advise us what is best. I want very much to help you in the most effective way.

What about the trial date? I hope it is not being postponed too long, as you say some residents are wanting to move from Shaw, but are being detained for this necessary appearance they must make.

I only hope that the xset of Jr. Encyclopedia Britannicas and more clothing which got as far as Clarksdale, but was plainly marked SHAW has found its way to you. It was the nearest this truck went to Shaw, and we wanted to take a chance on sending there.

Emily was really overjoyed to receive Addie Ware's answer to her first letter. She is working on her return letter. Just a strand of communication we desire!

Just a short note in answer to this letter will help
us in knowing how to proceed.

Sincerely,

Malvina Franz

P.O. Box 547
Shaw, Miss. 38773
May 17, 1965

Dear Mrs. Frans,

I was so happy to receive your letter. It seems like I'm always saying that the check came at a good time, but that just always seems to be the case. It is a real help.

The union will write up something asking for the particular things they feel they need to survive. I hope this will be done soon. In any event I'm leaving that for them, since they plan to do it, and a letter from them would be much better than one from me anyway. But the biggest need right now is money. Folks have rent, water and light bills, and gas (cooking) bills to pay, and you can't smile these by. But if they decide to send to a broad mailing list, asking for help, you'll get word. They're also contacting their own friends and relatives in the north, which will be good to help organize in the ghettoes.

We don't know yet about the first trial date. A week ago we had a demonstration -- a march down the streets of Shaw, and were all arrested. 38 of us marched, knowing we'd most likely be arrested, supporting Mr. Andrew Hawkins, Shaw FPP chairman, for mayor, and protesting discrimination in voting. We're in the process of trying to get the law requiring a permit to parade knocked out. We will probably be successful in getting a temporary restraining order or injunction against the officials in connection with this law so they can't enforce it, and then a permanent injunction against its use.

the 18th

Hi again,

Yesterday we had a municipal Freedom Vote for the position of Mayor, in the democratic primary. The totals were Mr. Hawkins, 187, Mr. P.M. Bennett (local white segregationist, former mayor), 4, and Mrs. Raynold Chiz (local white lady who is supposed to be a bit ~~less~~ less had than Bennett), 2. In the official city election, Mr. Hawkins couldn't get on the ballot, and Bennett got about 150, and Mrs. Chiz 77. Of course only white people voted in that election. The Freedom Vote was open to all adults. Since more people voted for Mr. Hawkins than any other candidate, even considering both elections, the FPP considers him to be the Democratic candidate for mayor. June 8th is the general election. We don't know yet if anyone is planning to run against Bennett. If he is, the Freedom vote will probably have Hawkins v.s. him. The FPP will probably contest the "official" election, since it is illegal due to the systematic exclusion of Negroes from voting.

The union people are in their fields today, planting more food and chopping. This afternoon there'll be a meeting of Bolivar and Washington county's MFNL.

I have to take some folks to the other side of town, so I'd better close

love,

CCFO
P.O. Box 847
Shaw, Miss. 38773
May 30, 1968

Dear Mrs. Franz,

Thank you for your letters. Today the one came in response to all the mail you got last week. We had wondered what folks' reaction to the union mailing would be and were excited ~~at~~ your reaction.

..While I'm writing this a ~~12~~ 12-year-old girl is singing here at the center as she looks at some books ...

keep your eyes on the prize, hold on

which side are you on?

I'm especially glad you sent the union a check, since money is so badly needed.

This morning a man needed \$2.00 for gas to take some Shaw people to an F.L.P. meeting in Batesville along with some from Washington county, and I didn't even have the \$2.00 to give him. So guess who was glad when your letter came!

None of the white women in jail with me were for the movement, but they were friendly anyway, although only one was a southerner. One wants to help the movement when she gets out.

Thanks for sending the article in the Freeman . I do hope the person responsible for the headline "2 Arrested for Gym Break-in" will be more careful next time. We weren't even in the gym. We had hoped to have a meeting in the gym, but we didn't get that far. -- and we wouldn't have broken in, but only walked in if the door were unlocked.

I must close, since I don't have much time today.

Fredon,