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Nancy Balfour to Doctor Silver, 14 June 1956

Nancy Balfour

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The Economist

22 Ryder Street, St. James's, London, s.w. 1

Doctor James Silver,
History Department,
University of Mississippi,
University,
Mississippi,
U.S.A.

14th June, 1956.

Dear Doctor Silver,

Thank you for sending the article and for your two long and most interesting letters. The article is full of fascinating material, as are the letters, but it needs tightening up a good deal and, in view of the changes which will be necessary as a result of the points covered in your letter of June 7th, I wonder if perhaps you would like to do the rewrite job yourself, as you have offered. If not, just let me know and we will cope with it here.

If you are doing it, I think that there are rather too many quotations and names, particularly in the first two pages of the article. None of these people mean anything to our readers and I think it only confuses them to give them a long list, while we usually find that it is shorter and clearer to make the points covered in quotations in our own words. If you can get in something about the conflict between labour organising and increased industrialization, which you mention in your first letter, I think this would be very helpful. One other point - you mention Louisiana's right-to-work law as outlawing the ~~Clothes~~ shop, but is it not the union shop that it outlaws? The whole article does need a certain amount of tightening up as, at present, some of the points get rather lost in the detail. However, I repeat that it is something that we are delighted to have and ^{we} are anxious to use it very soon.

I do hope you have finished the book in time. I do not think that we are giving our readers too much about racial questions - after all, between now and the election I think nearly every issue is going to be affected by it more or less. *We'll keep an eye on it, though -*
thanks for the warning.

Yours sincerely,

Nancy Balfour