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Dick to Jim, 18 October 1960

Richard N. Current

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THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
MADISON 6

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
BASCOM HALL

October 18, 1960

Professor James W. Silver
Box 404
University, Mississippi

Dear Jim:

I am forwarding at once a copy of the poll to each of the following: W. B. Hesseltine, Fletcher Green, David Smiley, Robert F. Durden, David Donald, Robert R. Woody, Kenneth M. Stamp, Francis Simkins, Carroll Quenzel, C. Vann Woodward, Rembert W. Patrick, E. M. Coulter, James W. Patton, George Tindall.

I trust that my list will not overlap yours or Joe Frantz's. I suppose that we cannot hope to get a hundred percent return, but your idea is a good one and any information we get will be a help.

Unfortunately, I will not be able to get to the Houston meeting, since I will have to be in Washington on November 12 for a meeting of the Beveridge Prize Committee of the A.H.A. My own rating of the best five books would be the following:
1. Elkins, SLAVERY; 2. Daniels, PRINCE OF CARPETBAGGERS;
3. Chambers, JACKSON; 4. Grantham, HOKE SMITH; and 5. Harlan, SEPARATE AND UNEQUAL. I should add, however, that I consider all of these books to be very good and would be glad to see any of them get the prize.

Sincerely,

Dick
per RBC

Richard N. Current

RNC:rbc