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## Sheldon Meyer to Mr. Silver, 29 November 1962

Sheldon Meyer

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# OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, INC.

417 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 16, N. Y.



TELEPHONE: OREGON 9-7300

VIA AIRMAIL

29 November 1962

Professor James Silver  
Department of History  
University of Mississippi  
Oxford, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Silver:

I attended the recent Southern Historical meeting in Miami Beach, and was privileged to hear your remarks about the situation at your university during the recent riots. Your eloquent statement cleared up much that I had worried about, and it was particularly impressive in contrast to this week's Nation, with its article by a professor fifteen hundred miles away, who was asking why your faculty did not "do anything about the situation."

I am also writing you because your address made me aware of a book that it seems to me needs writing. This would be a study of the changing political situation in the South, covering the period since World War I, since the New Deal, or since World War II. It seems to me there is much to be said about the different political attitudes and conditions which exist today in contrast to forty or fifty years ago, and I think you would be admirably qualified to examine them and to draw significant conclusions from them.

One reason why I have had this idea is that Tom Clark published his THE EMERGING SOUTH with us. In that book Tom emphasized entirely the changing social and economic picture in the South but deliberately avoided a discussion of the political side. The kind of book that I have mentioned to you would make an admirable companion volume to Tom's excellent book.

I would like very much to hear if you would be interested in writing such a book. You might drop me a note when you have the chance. I noticed that you will be attending the forthcoming American Historical meeting in Chicago, and, if the project interests you, perhaps we could talk about it there. In any case, I would welcome the opportunity of meeting you there.

Sincerely yours,

Sheldon Meyer, Editor  
Trade Department

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