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## James W. Silver to Miss Greenfield, 20 October 1962

James W. (James Wesley) Silver (1907-1988)

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October 20, 1962

Miss Meg Greenfield  
Room 1107  
National Press Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Greenfield:

One thing has been bothering me since your letter came this morning. It is whether, if you had asked someone such as Claude Sitton or Tom Buckley or Hodding Carter to do such a piece as I sent you, you would have sent them a check for \$75.

When I talked with you and when I sent you what I had written I did not think in terms of money. The only question in my mind was whether I should write such an article at this time, in view of the fact that I am hard at work on a book having to do with southern leadership, and would like to be on the faculty here when it comes out. Anyway, I did write it and on several occasions for two or three days I came close to asking you to use my name on it. I suppose the main reason that I did not was that I expected you to call me early in the week, possibly for an explanation or further information.

I suppose that you can see what I'm getting at. I'm not overly concerned with cash, but it is also true that I am not available at bargain rates, regardless of the worth of my product. I feel that I know as much about this situation in Mississippi as any man alive, and certainly more than anyone who came in to report the situation. For a good two weeks I furnished a great deal of information to Sitton, Buckley, and several dozen others, at no cost, simply because I wanted them to get the story straight. But this, I think, is different.

Anyway, I'm sending a carbon of this to Lillian with the request that she return the check to you (if she has already sent it, I'll send it back to her). Anyway, I'm going up to Earlham College in Indiana and will use what I sent you as a part of a 35 minutes speech (for which the college is paying me \$200 plus my expenses).

I don't mean to be sarcastic (and it could be that I'm wrong) but I'm afraid that I am a little sensitive at this point.

Sincerely,

James W. Silver