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## J.R.C. to Jim, 20 May 1963

J. R. Cofield

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Oxford, Miss.  
May 20th/63

Jim:

I claim you are a prophet, and I have the direct proof at hand--yesterday I happened to be rummaging around through some old memoirs I had saved and ran across an article of yours that was published in the Oxford Eagle, as of May 8/1952 (almost 11 years ago to the day eh?) The title of the item was "New Englanders "PAINC" as Textile Industry moves to the Southland in ever-increasing Building plan"---remember this?

You had been on an extended trip to Mass. and visited several industrial towns (notably FALL River, Lawrence, New Bedford, etc., etc., and interviewed several prominent biz people on the subject---- I will sum it all up by re-quoting your closeout paragraph (whereas you practically warn the South of the Yank's ingenious ways of retaining his industry. As follows: "LONG WAY TO GO" - "We still have a long way to go. Though we certainly sympathize with the plight of ~~XXXX~~New England and shall help wherever possible, it must not be done at the expense of holding back the South. There is no doubt that our section ~~that~~ will drive on until the nation's ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ economic problem number one will be found only in the history books.

(/ The wave of the future is undoubtedly with the South. It's leaders will do well keep their eyes on the maneuverings of New England whose Yankee traders have ~~XXXXXXXX~~ lost none of their skill and cunning.) (How right you IS.)

And in a previous early part of the article, you mention that the young Congressman John Kennedy announced he would displace Senator Cabot Lodge this fall 's election (WHICH HE DID) and later went on even unto the White House eh? (you also mention that he ran against Lodge on the platform of "doing something drastic about the textile industry---well what better drastic measure could possibly be any better than to stir up the South's peoples against one another, and all this hate created mostly by the exploitation of religion, but ~~when~~ they stoop so low as to utalize small school children (n B'ham)---this gags one, and I believe would make even their old Pilgrim forefathers squirm in their sod, (as possibly other Yanks?)

I have always claimed the whole "racial movement" WAS economic from the outset, but I firmly believe that "egro or no Negro, Bostonite or no Bostonite, there is NOTHING, no NOTHING gon'na stop those Northern biz men's investments in this area, simply because of the raw ingredients, the richest top-soil on earth (Delta), and that huge reservoir of FRESH, PURE and PLENTIFL supply of undreground WATER (wheras, it is fast playing out in the Eastern and far Western sections of our country) I heard it predicted over TV not long ago, that eventually the far West would have to completely give up irrigation farming, as all the water would be need for human-consumption (also their factories), and ~~there~~ has already been a vast shortage of good water in the far North, Yep! every drop of that precious liquid in our old "BIG DITCH" some day, will be just as valuable as liquid gold, eh? So we'll have to not only run the country's factories, but feed the teeming millions of the big cities as well---and that is'nt all, I've got me an idea that some day a John L. Lewis (of Southern extract) will come along and Unionize these butt-headed farmers down here, and then they can just disband that bunch of robbers of Wall Street (that have for a 100 years undervalued our produce)--- ~~in~~ in other words "the market be hanged" these folks will dictate their own prices eh? (course by that time there will be just about as many ingenious Yanks living down here with us (as displaced Northerners) who will teach up some of the "tricks of the trade" eh? The Far West and the SouthWest have already broke away from the cluthes of the New York strangle hold of the "money bags" (and now even leads it in population in California--they have their own banks there eh?

So I gather from all this industrial revolution, and that is really what it is, is mainly WHY John Kennedy and his clan are fighting such a desperate last ditch fight, but I am afraid IT is inevitable that he loose out---in fact if it had'nt have been for the first Civil Strife this country here WOULD have naturally forged ahead ~~not~~ ago (you might say the first conflict was actually and excuse for invasion (and virtually slavery to the Northerner's money eh?)

WOULD HE POSSIBLY RESORT as the last measure to ANOTHER CIVIL WAR in order to regain Mass. prestige? To my feeble mind, IT WOULD APPEAR SO.

(enjoyed chattin)

J. R. (Col.) Cofield