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Fred to Dr. Silver, 8 March 1963

Fred W. Edmiston

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125 North Street
Chapel Hill, North Carolina
8 March 1963

Dear Dr. Silver,

Before long I'll have completed a year's work toward a Ph. D. here at UNC. But from here on, I believe that it would be a good idea, certainly financially, to teach during the regular school year and complete the degree program in summer sessions. I am going to send out some feelers and if you can remember enough about me to make any kind of recommendation, I'd appreciate very much using your name whenever the occasion calls for it. It has been nearly six years since you had an opportunity to observe my work, and I realize that after so long a time you may not remember enough to comment on it.

I thought about you quite a bit during the recent trouble at Ole Miss, and wish very much that I could get down to talk with you about it--¹ suppose you are well nigh sick of the whole business now. I remember reading--in Time, I think--that two professors had made an effort to shake a little sense into some of the students. The professors named were you and Dr. Willis. The pleasure I felt stemmed from my having been in the history department and in my being a native of the same city as Dr. Willis. There is no doubt in my mind but that the situation would have been much saner if the governor's office had not been occupied by someone whom I consider to be both an opportunist and an ignorant person. But to paraphrase Scripture, these people we have with us always. They are to be found in every society and invariably gravitate toward society's less wholesome aspects to capitalize on them. In Mississippi they find racial relations irresistible.

Many thanks if you can allow me to use you as a reference, and I'll certainly understand if you can't.

I saw Stan Campbell briefly a few weeks ago.

Best wishes!

Sincerely,

Fred

Fred W. Edmiston