

CARTON 5:24

STRONG IN THE STRUGGLE

CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS

1951-1952

QUANT, TED

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Lee Brown, acting executive secretary of the Louisiana Civil Rights Congress:

(Letter included...)

Dr. Oakley Johnson was the leader of the Louisiana Branch of the Civil Rights Congress in New Orleans, Louisiana. I was involved in the Civil Rights Congress myself, and I worked with Dr. Oakley Johnson. We worked on a number of cases, e.g., Paule Washington, Ocie Jugger, Willie McGee. We were also involved in the registration drive in New Orleans to get more Blacks registered.

I left Los Angeles in 1944 and I was also voting in Los Angeles. I voted for Roosevelt during that time. When I came to New Orleans, I went to the registration office and I brought all my papers to prove I was a registered voter in California. A man working there gave me a form. It was a simple form to fill out for eligibility. They asked for: 1) your name, 2) present address, 3) year of birth, 4) father's name, 5) mother's maiden name, 6) party affiliation, 7) signature. I returned it to the registrar. He looked at it and said: " I'm sorry. You didn't qualify." That was in the year of 1945.

I was turned down 14 more times. And I kept asking: "I would like to see your rules or regulations on what makes me eligible to become a registered voter in Orleans parish."

Also, I was a member of the Civil Rights Congress in that period. And I went and spoke to Dr. Johnson and consulted with him about the

Then he cleared the courthouse out. And, the jury returned that same day with the verdict 'not-guilty'. It was Jim Crow justice or a legal lynching.

When Oakley Johnson left, he asked me to act as director of the Louisiana Branch of the Civil Rights Congress.

WILLIAM L. PATTERSON
National Executive Sec'y

November 17, 1952

COPY

Mr. Lee Brown
420 Gravier St.
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Lee:

You have probably heard that we have projected and are now zealously preparing a Christmas holiday crusade to visit Mrs. Rosalie Ingram on Christmas Day, December 25, 1952.

The visitors will come from all sections of the country. New York, however, will bear the major responsibility for the preparations and the delegation.

The purpose is three-fold; (1) To focus again the attention of the world of decent people on the horrible situation in which this heroic, innocent woman finds herself and her two sons who defended her honor and life; (2) To quicken the tempo of action for her freedom through legal action and mass support; (3) To bring greetings from friends and sympathizers.

We believe that the progressive South will respond heartily and readily to such a Call (incidentally, the formal Call is a beautiful thing and will be in your hands shortly). We are writing contacts in Kentucky, Tennessee, Louisiana, the Carolinas, Florida and Alabama, informing them of the program and plans and soliciting support.

We feel, however, that your active participation can help guarantee success. Your numerous contacts will be, we are certain, deeply sympathetic and helpful in making the project the magnificent program that it is in essence.

We are asking you, therefore, to reach them immediately.

The crusade will include only women, Negro and white, of all ages.

All steps to assure transportation from the rail end to the prison will be taken. The widest publicity will be given to the trip as a security measure and in order to assure the greatest attention from sympathizers who cannot actively participate.

The warden will be notified of the Christmas season visit.

The New York people, and those from other points North will arrive at the rail end point early on the 24th.

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Lee Brown

-2-

November 17, 1932

We are seeking your active participation as one of the directors as well as sponsors. We desire you to contact all those you feel can and will add prestige and dignity to the event. By that we are not thinking of the prominent personages but of community people, labor people, etc., who have the respect of their neighbors.

All proposals that you may have will be welcomed and utilized if the bugbear finance permits. Church and labor and the professionals in the community should be spoken to. The number that you secure will, of course, not be too large. Contact all. If we need to cut, it's better than starting with too few. New York will probably have ten or fifteen. There may be one or two from the West Coast.

Try to move the press once you have the Call.

Good luck, and good work,

William L. Patterson

William L. Patterson
National Executive Secretary

2

COPIA

Mrs Corinne Hollis
Sgt Charles H Williams
1917 MONROE ST NW
Washington DC

COPY

2

Lee Brown

-2-

November 17, 1952

We are seeking your active participation as one of the directors as well as sponsors. We desire you to contact all those you feel can and will add prestige and dignity to the event. By that we are not thinking of the prominent personages but of community people, labor people, etc., who have the respect of their neighbors.

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William L. Patterson

William L. Patterson
National Executive Secretary

WESTERN UNION

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LT=Int'l Letter Telegram

MLT=Int'l M. L. Telegram

10 1952 FEB 7 PM 12

...lift telephone receiver...
UNION...from office or company

YOU SEND TELEGRAMS
APPEAR ON YOUR RECEIPT

Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

11 DO 30 PD=SH 3 149

BROWN EXECUTIVE SEC

AN ANSWER LOUISIANA CIVIL RIGHTS

YOU HAVE BEEN ASSURED THAT EVERY POSSIBLE PRECAUTION IS
BEING TAKEN

CHARLES K. LONG GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS

COPY

CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS

SUITE A • 23 WEST 26th STREET • NEW YORK 10, N. Y. • MURRAY HILL 4-6640

WILLIAM L. PATTERSON
National Executive Sec'y

COPY

February 4, 1952

Mr. Lee Brown
420 Gravier St.
New Orleans, La.

Dear Mr. Brown:

The new and final dates for Mr. Patterson's
visit to New Orleans are March 1 and 2nd.

Please wire your acceptance of these dates.

Sincerely yours,

Aubrey Grossman
Aubrey Grossman
Nat'l Organizational Secy

dpowa-65

August 9, 1951

Mrs. L. Bailly

216 Coy Street
Hattiesburg, Mississippi

Dear Mrs. Bailey:

The Louisiana Civil Right Congress has heard about you from our National office in New York, and we are interested in helping you if we can. . Since our office is in the South, it will be easier for us to get in touch with you than for New York to send someone down from up north.

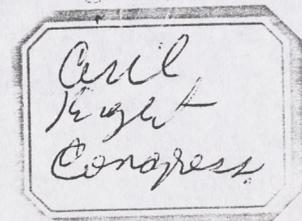
Now, we want you to send us more information about your brother, James A. Hall, and his wife. Please answer the following questions:

1. What was the charge they were convicted of? Was it murder robbery or rape or what?
2. Who was the Lawyer who defended them? When were they arrested, When tried, when convicted.
4. Do you have newspaper clippings about the case, and will you send them to us?
5. Could you, or some other relative, come to New Orleans later on and tell us all about the case?

If we can get more information about the case, so we can know whether we can help or not, we will be very glad.

Very truly yours,

Lee Brown, Acting Executive Secretary
Louisiana Civil Rights Congress



August 8, 1951

Mrs. L. M. Bailey
216 Coy Street
Hattiesburg, Mississippi

Dear Mrs. Bailey:

The Louisiana Civil Rights Congress has heard about you from our national office in New York, and we are interested in helping you if we can. Since our office is in the South, it will be easier for us to get in touch with you than for New York to send someone down from up north.

Now, we want you to send us more information about your brother, James A. Hall, and his wife. Please answer the following questions:

- ~~1. What was the charge they were convicted of (was it murder or robbery?)~~
- ~~2. Who was the lawyer who defended them? What is his address?~~
3. What was the date of the trial? When were they arrested, when tried, when convicted.
4. Do you have newspaper clippings about the case, and will you send them to us?
5. Could you, or some other relative, come to New Orleans later on and tell us all about the case?

If we can get more information about the case, so we can know whether we can help or not, we will be very glad.

Very truly yours,

Lee Brown, Acting Executive Secretary
Louisiana Civil Rights Congress