

By the end of
the week, → 432 W. Gilman
Madison, Wis.
53703

Dear folks,

Aug. 24, 1965

I was shocked to read about the shooting of Rev. Donald Thompson Sunday night in Jackson. (Perhaps you have read about it in the Minneapolis papers). It was Rev. Thompson's integrated church that I attended while I was in Jackson. Just before I left I enjoyed a Sunday dinner with his wife and a number of other friends in the apartment near which he was attacked. It is tragic that men like Rev. Thompson are left to face the dangers of racial hatred almost alone because there are so few leaders in the white community who are willing to stand with them in support of orderly progress toward an integrated society.

2

Rev. Thompson could hardly be called a militant civil rights activist, but he has worked with such groups as the Mississippi Human Relations Council, an interracial group working toward more communication and better understanding between the Negro and white communities.

As James May have told you, I returned to ~~in~~ Madison Aug. 10, approximately on schedule. My work in Jackson was mainly teaching in "freedom schools" (math, science, and Negro history). I don't know if I accomplished much, but I did learn a lot that should be useful if & when I return to Jackson to teach college in the fall of 1966.

There are 3 colleges in the Jackson area where I might be able to get faculty positions. One of them is Millsaps College, where Rev. Thompson's wife works. It is a white, Methodist school which has voted to integrate.

I had planned to visit Minneapolis the first week of Sept., but I'm moving into an apartment with a couple of friends at the end of the week and it may take me a while to get settled.

I hope you enjoyed your vacation in Canada.

Robert.