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Commission on Interracial Cooperation
INCORPORATED
703 STANDARD BUILDING
Atlanta, Ga.

February 14, 1935.

Mr. H. M. Bond,
Flint-Goodridge Hospital,
New Orleans, Louisiana.

My dear Mr. Bond:

I am attaching a letter from Mr. Favrot which indicates that things in Franklinton are in a rather bad way, and that he has taken steps to help to ease over the situation. I shall see him here tomorrow night and will report anything new that he may have.

Sincerely yours,

Will W. Alexander
Will W. Alexander

GENERAL EDUCATION BOARD

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NEW YORK

LEO M. FAVROT, GENERAL FIELD AGENT
916 LOUISIANA NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
BATON ROUGE, LA.

February 12 1935

Dr. W. W. Alexander
703 Standard Building
Atlanta, Georgia

My dear Alexander:

I am at a loss to understand your telegram of this morning. It reads as follows:

"WORD FROM NEW ORLEANS STORY ABOUT FRANKLIN HOAX STARTED BY TEACHER CRAZED SINCE RECENT LYNCHING."

Presumably, "Franklin" means "Franklinton", the seat of government of Washington Parish, Louisiana. From what I have learned from Mr. Bateman and Major Fred C. Frey, the story you told me yesterday over the telephone is true. There was a white man killed on Saturday last and the feeling in that Parish is, I understand, pretty tense. Lewis left this morning for Franklinton to get a better understanding of the situation and to suggest to key people one or two things that may have a beneficial effect.

I understand from Bateman, who is a native of Washington Parish and a former school superintendent, that the Wood family, white, hasn't any too good a reputation. They have been in frauds and killings before. It is members of this family that have been killed, I believe. On the other hand, the Wilson family, colored, to whom belonged the man that was lynched, has at its head a man who has been a republican political leader. While I have heard nothing to his detriment personally, the position he occupied aroused at least some suspicions among white people.

I am told that since the killing on Saturday, the colored maids in the homes of white people in Franklinton have not appeared for work. This gives rise to the suspicion among the whites that there is an organized spirit of opposition among all Negroes. Bateman believes that some outside leadership, either agents of the Reds, the NAACP, or some other organization, is stirring things up.

Dr. W. W. Alexander

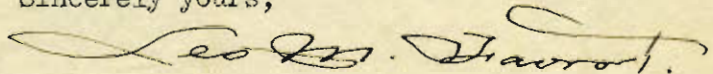
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Lewis hopes to talk to the sheriff and one or two level-headed individuals whom he knows, to a Negro Methodist preacher, and to the principal of the school at Franklinton.

He would like to have some members of the Negro race exert their influence to send the maids back to work. He also wants to suggest to the sheriff that he make the effort through peaceful channels to discourage meetings for a few days to give the people a chance to settle down to normalcy. Lewis hopes to get back tonight or tomorrow morning and will call me up.

I am planning to leave Baton Rouge Thursday morning in my car for Richmond, Virginia. I am going to spend a part of the forenoon on Friday at Birmingham and expect to go to Atlanta that night and stop at the Piedmont Hotel. If you are in Atlanta Friday night and have time to drop in the hotel, I'll be glad to see you.

Sincerely yours,



LMF:FM