

November 16, 1948

Dear Friend:

In November, 1947, a small group of people held a meeting at Creighton University, in order to discuss the problems of social injustice that are caused by racial discrimination. They were mostly young people, full of zeal and high hope, and a club was soon organized, the Omaha DePorres Club. The creed of the club is that there is but one race, the human race; and the intention of each member is to fight against racial discrimination, and to try to realize in his daily life the unity of the human race, and the dignity of the human person.

Two months ago, the Omaha DePorres Club opened a center at 1914 North Twenty-Fourth Street, to be used as a meeting place for discussion groups of the club, and as a place of contact in the Negro community. Some of the activities of the center are: library, clothing distribution (for the poor), children's clubs and recreation (stories, hikes, games -- for children who would otherwise spend the day in the street). Forums on topics of general interest, are being planned.

But there is just one difficulty -- one thing that is holding us back, and that is why we are calling on you. We have no money, and we need to buy fuel to keep the storefront (the center) warm; we need money for rent soon; we need chairs (to borrow or rent) to accommodate the people who come to the forums. We wish to enlarge our facilities for children's clubs, and to be able to give small hungry boys a cup of cocoa on winter days; but all this takes money -- and there isn't anything left in our pockets, because we are just students, most of us, and we have nothing but our time and effort and love to offer. We believe that our small offering is not in vain, that the cause of interracial justice and charity is Christ's cause, and that what you give to us to help people less fortunate than yourselves, you will be giving to Him Who said: "What you have done unto these, the least of my brethren, you have done it unto Me."

Address books, clothing, food, to Omaha DePorres Center, 1914 North Twenty-Fourth Street. Write checks to Omaha DePorres Club, at the same address. Visit us any time; the open hours are 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday; 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m. Saturday; and 2:00 - 9:30 p.m. Sunday. Regular club meetings are held at Creighton University, Room A330, every Monday evening at 7:30.

Gratefully yours,

for The Omaha DePorres Club