

Houston, Texas.
March 30, 1927.

To the Hon. J. S. Cullinan,
Houston, Texas.

Dear Sir:

Fisk University comes to you, asking for help and in support of our prayer we offer the following:

Fisk is a southern institution and is the oldest, the foremost and the best organization for the training of black-folk north or south; It is within twelve hours of ninety per cent of negro population in the south; Its history, traditions and its aims are right, and it is at present serving the sanest and soundest needs of my people in the light of the nation's good, white and black, of any and perhaps of all other agencies in America combined.

Fisk is a liberal Arts College and is to its utmost capacity supplying the wants of thousands of negro youths, but there are many others who are each year crowding prominent white universities at the north --- And right here lies our chief anxiety; these young negroes, born and reared in the south, fail woefully to fit into the industrial and social machinery when, after graduation in northern colleges, they return to work among their people at home.

The General Education Board recently pledged to Fisk a permanent endowment of \$1,000,000 on condition that we raise \$250,000 in the entire south. Northern philanthropists told the president and regents that southern statesmen and the press of the south claimed a fuller knowledge of the conditions and needs of blackfolk and were ready and willing to furnish inspiration and support for these schools if the north would cease interfering and leave it all to southern wisdom and generosity. We have an extension of time until April 15th to raise the remaining \$75,000 to make the \$250,000 required to get this endowment of one million by the General Education Board.

Nashville, Tennessee answered this with a donation of \$50,000 and other southern cities promptly raised amounts not quite so large.

We are asking you to help us in your own way and to what degree soever you may see fit in our effort to win this permanent endowment and to make sane and useful the young negro of the south.

I was born and reared in Texas and am employed on the Fisk faculty. The President, the Dean, and I are now on the field trying to secure this endowment without pay or commissions, other than our salaries as teachers.

With great honor and faithfulness Sir, I am

Respectfully, Your obedient servant,

H. M. Garver