

Mrs. Alton L. Bland
Blandhill Farms
Route 1
Pineville, North Carolina

July 28, 1963.

Mayor Ivan Allen, Jr.,
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mayor Allen,

I must say I have deep respect for your courage and sincerity in backing the civil rights legislation in the Commerce Committee hearing. I have seen nothing to equal it since the racial crisis arose. It must have been very hard to take a stand so unpopular in your area. I wish I could applaud the wisdom of your decision to testify.

I know it has been trying to cope with Negro demonstrators in a city the size of Atlanta. It is much easier to give in to them. Neighboring Charlotte has done much of this. However, the more I read of their aspirations the more I feel that their demands are insatiable. Where will they stop? Also I cannot see any ultimate good to the nation evolving out of the social mixing of the two races, nor how it can bring any more happiness to either race.

When the Supreme Court made it's fateful decision to define that the schools must be integrated, they opened Pandora's Box.. I think it was a great mistake. Perhaps we will need this legislation and the enforcing of the school integration to the letter all over the nation to wake people up. Conditions may be so unpleasant that they will demand that the legislation be repealed, and the 14th amendment be altered to correct the mistake, as in the case of the 18th Amendment. Whatever happens we are in for a great deal of racial trouble in the years to come in the North and South.

Sincerely yours,

Linda Bland