12-13-1962

Correspondence between Alberta Jackson and President Lloyd H. Elliott on University of Maine Anti-Discrimination Policies

Alberta Jackson

Lloyd H. Elliott
University of Maine

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The President Of The University Of Maine
Maine University Of Orono
Orono, Maine

Dear Sir:

The NAACP is pleased to hear that some Colleges in Maine have taken the initiative in seeking to end discriminatory practices in their institutions.

We of course wish to do all we can to end all discriminatory practices. For the sake of education and help with members and friends of the NAACP, we would like to know the practice of your college in regard to

1- admissions
2- social activities
3- fraternities or sororities

as these have reference to Negroes and Jews and their freedoms within our Maine Colleges and Universities.

Sincerely Yours,

Mrs. Alberta Jackson
Secretary
January 2, 1963

Mrs. Alberta Jackson  
Secretary, National Association for the  
Advancement of Colored People - Central Maine Branch  
949 Minot Avenue  
Auburn, Maine

Dear Mrs. Jackson:

May I reply to your letter addressed to me here in Orono as well as to the one addressed to the President of the University of Maine in Portland since that is a branch of the University of Maine.

In relation to the university, I am glad to report that in the administration of admissions, residence halls, student employment, scholarships, participation in general extra-curricular life, all students are considered as individuals. The same policy is effective in faculty and staff employment, also.

In relation to sororities and fraternities, the Board of Trustees took the following action on February 6, 1957:

"That it shall be the University policy to withhold approval of the establishment of any new fraternity or sorority which excludes persons from membership because of race, color, religion, or national origin."

As you know, the sororities and fraternities which were established on the campus prior to this trustee ruling have various national regulations and practices. They are under constant pressures to reconsider these, however.

Sincerely yours,

Lloyd H. Elliott  
President

Blind copy to: Mr. George Crosby  
Dean John Stewart  
Miss Edith Wilson  
Dean Mary Zink