

MEMO

March 5, 1971

To Kendall Landis

From Robert Agard

Re: Goldstein's Offer of "Black Library"

As a matter of policy the Bennington College Library is interested in collecting black literature and has made, comparatively speaking, extensive purchases in the last three years. We have concentrated on acquiring fiction, poetry and drama written by American blacks. I think--in terms of the amount of money available for books for this library--we have been quite generous in expenditures for this purpose. We also have subscriptions to a select number of important black periodicals.

Neither Mr. Lehrman nor I recognize the black library which Goldstein refers to as any special entity. I should be very glad to have the collection in so far as it does not duplicate existing materials in the library. This library has a well established and very wise policy of extreme caution in the acquisition of duplicate titles. We also have an established policy of avoiding special collections.

In summary--the library would like the collection of black literature well integrated with the rest of the collection in order to make it most useful to students and faculty. We would thus put it to good use or would return any unneeded duplicates. If we could be provided with a list of the titles, we would be glad to accept those useful to us instead of accepting a block of books.