YALE UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

28 Hillhouse Avenue, New Haven, Connecticut

June 3, 1933

Mr. Z. Matthews, Adams Mission Station, Amanzimtoti Institute, Natal, South Africa

Dear Mr. Matthews: -

I have just received your letter of May 1 and have forwarded it, together with the application forms, to the Dean of the Graduate School.

I hope that by now you will have received the two documents required by the American Consul. If you have not, it will be necessary for you to cable at once to the Dean of the Graduate School, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.

It will be quite in order for you to apply for permission to take the M.A. exemination in one year, but the decision will depend on the showing that you make in your studies here. With us at Yale it is not so much a question of length of residence at a university, or the number of courses passed, as ability to show that you are an able student, capable of doing work of a research nature. Postgraduate education in America emphasizes the research side, and we shall be interested in finding out if you are able to write critically and constructively on your essay subject. The topic you suggest should give you ample scope for bringing in your knowledge of the sociology of the Bantu people and of the existing curricula in native high schools in South Africa. Be sure to bring with you copies of all the high school curricula you can obtain.

I have already written to you about rooms. I think you will be satisfied with the arrangements that have been made.

It does seem hard that so accomplished a linguist should be required to satisfy in French, but I am afraid that you will have to jump this hurdle. You should, I think, give as much time as you can on the voyage to this study. Get one or two simple French stories, with vocabularies, and dig out the English meaning. It is quite possible you may find someone on the ship more than willing to help you.

If I have not written to you regarding passage, my suggestion would be that you travel third class to England and tourist third class

from England to New York. I say this, because I have traveled that way myself and I know that it is sufficiently comfortable and the most economical. Be sure to travel from England to New York tourist third and not ordinary third. The difference in price is not much and the passengers in the tourist department are treated a little more kindly than the ordinary third class passengers when they arrive in New York. I think that if you write to Mr. L.A. Roy, care of the Phelps Stokes Fund, 101 Park Avenue, New York City, and give him the name of the steamer by which you are traveling and the date of its arrival in New York he will arrange to have you met. In any case, be sure to telephone to him if you have any difficulty when you arrive. I personally shall not be in the United States when you come, so will not be able to help you then.

I think it would be a good plan for you to spend a few days in New York before you come to New Haven. My suggestion is that you apply to International House, 500 Riverside Drive, New York City, for accommodation. This is the residence hall for students from overseas who are attending Columbia University, and if the authorities know that you are coming to Yale they are quite likely to let you stay there at a reasonable figure. Be careful in New York, for you will find quite a number of people willing to lead you astray, and this applies to colored people as well as to whites. If possible, go about with some of the other students who are living at International House.

Questions regarding your courses, your length of stay in this country, etc., can be safely left until we have an opportunity of meeting.

By this mail I have also had a letter from Principal Kerr, speaking enthusiastically about you and referring in particular to your fine attitude on the difficult question of race relationships. I have guaranteed your conduct and industry with the University authorities here and am quite sure that you will do even better than I have promised for you.

Looking forward to your coming with great interest and pleasure, I am

Sincerely yours,

Charles T. Lovan

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