

as from Fort Hare  
ALICE.C.P.  
Sept 28th, 1935

My dear "Zek",

Your nice long letter of the 15th instant got to me while I was in Johannesburg busy giving eight lectures on the Native bills, and it is only now on my way back home that I am trying to answer it.

Last July I was looking forward to meeting you but heard you had come and gone before I could try to meet you. Nevertheless I am glad you have now written me, especially about problems in which our joint future is bound together.

Firstly, re division of classes, I am very glad to learn you have specialised in Sotho-Tswana Phonetics and Philology, for I myself would like to attend your classes in that line as I am only working along behind-date lines and will be thankful to discover where the modern world is, in order to bring also my Xhosa and Zulu classes up to date. Hence it is difficult for me at present to make very clear suggestions. When I spoke to Mr Kerr about this I was quite vague, and I have since revised my opinions in this direction -;

The main point is the number of periods to be distributed, and, the Sotho-Tswana classes, for I am very weak in Tswana and only tolerable in Sotho, although I have joggled along and managed to pass the students quite well. My first instinct is that you should take over all the Tswana classes. That means 18 periods a week for M.3. and M.4. respectively and one period each for Courses I, II and III, making seven periods in all. This number of periods suffices for each of the languages, in my experience. So that if you take both Sotho and Tswana you will be engaged for fourteen periods, plus three for Social Anthropology I, and three more for Soc. Anthr. II bringing your total up to twenty, leaving seven or eight for Law to make up the 27 or 28 which is the average we do, normally. So that it seems all the Latin should remain with me till the Matric. classes drop out, as they are due to drop out in 2 or 3 years' time. My periods then will be 7 for Xhosa, 7 for Zulu, 7 for M.3. Latin and 7 for M.4. Latin making up 28. That is my opinion and expectation at present, but it is sure to be revised in the light of further knowledge when we actually meet and talk matters over, as I hope to be home at Fort Hare from the beginning of January next, when you too might be near by.

It would take a very long statement to outline for you what you should know about the position in which we are on the matter of the bills. I am doing my hardest to educate my people on what these bills imply and am advising them to read and learn the analysis you refer to from the Race Relations Institute. I am able to count upon a solid following and backing from the Cape, Transvaal, O.F.S. and Mafeking, but in Natal I am suffering from opposition by J.L. Dube who admires the prospect of getting land and belittles the value of the vote, and he influences the chiefs to go against the vote. With regard to a general statement I am asking Dr Xuma and Thema to help by making a start, and meseems if you and Selby Ngcobo (who is endowed with real commonsense) could help by making your own statements and let me have them by November, I could then collate these beforehand and facilitate our task at Bloemfontein. Last week I analysed the address published in the Ilanga lase Natal by G. Heaton Nicholls, point by point and have asked Mr Marwick to induce both the Natal Mercury & Ilanga to publish this answer of mine, as it shows up the fallacies under which Nicholls and others of his persuasion, labour. Apart from that I intend to publish it in pamphlet form with the provincial resolutions within a few weeks in the Lovedale press, as a second series of my pamphlets on these bills. Please help me all you can. Yes, I was among those who voted for you as against other claimants, in re the grant for your field work and I am sure you will justify our vote. Kindest regards, from

Yours very sincerely,  
*D.D. Jabavu*