Dear Prof. Matthews,

My husband and I were very glad to have had the opportunity of meeting you and Mrs. Matthews a few weeks ago at Fort Hare. We were only sorry that we were unable to have had more time with you, as there were many matters we liked would to have discussed with you.

You asked me to write to you about this book which the Black Sash is compiling. It is to be called "South Africa - The Road Ahead", and will be published by Howard Timmins. Each contributor will choose the title for his own article, and each article must be limited to under 5,000 words. The list of contributors, besides yousef, is as follows:

Mrs. Ballinger, Mr. Japie Basson, Dr. Edgar Brookes, Prof. J. P. Bruwer, Prof. J. H. Coetzee, Mr. Arthur Lazarus, Chief Lutuli, Prof. E. G. Malherbe, Dr. Ben Marais, Mr. Donald Molteno, Prof. P. V. Pistorius, Prof. J. Sadie in conjunction with Dr. M. S. Louw, and Dr. R. E. van der Ross. In addition we hope to have a representative of the N.E.U.M., and one of the Nationalist press, and also Mr. Alec Hepple.

When I arrived home after our most interesting holiday, I got word that contact had been made by our Sash Committee in Natal with Chief Lutuli, and that they hope he is busy with his article, which will deal with the general theme of the future. But should it be necessary to write to him again, I am most grateful to you for advising me to do so through your son.
My Committee are very pleased indeed that you have agreed to contribute an article to our book. As I suggested to you, to avoid possible overlapping of views with those of Chief Lutuli, I shall be grateful if you would write on the future, as you wish it, of the educated African and the role he should fulfil in South Africa, and also the future of African education. Your views on these aspects of the general theme will, I am sure, add a great deal to the value of the book.

I realise that you will be extremely busy until the end of the academic year, but I shall be most grateful if you could manage to let me have your article as soon as possible after that.

Thank you very much for your hospitality to us in Fort Hare, and for so kindly acceding to my request to write for our book.

With kind regards to you and Mrs. Matthews,

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs.) Hildegarde Spottiswoode.

Will you please also give me a brief biographical sketch of yourself, to be used as an introduction to your article and also your signature to be added at the end? Further, I see I have omitted to ask you to choose the title for your article.