

African Studies

30-11-59

Dear Louisa, ^[Hooper]

I must apologise at the outset for my long delay in replying to your cable and your letter. Things at Fort Hare have been in such a disturbed state that it has not been possible for me to cope with all the correspondence I have had since my resignation. We have also been in the throes of final examinations and I have also had to start making preparations for leaving a place in which I have worked for 24 years, and all that takes time.

I am sending you the curriculum vitae which you have asked for. I trust you will find it in order and will be able to make use of it. Since I last wrote to you I have had three inquiries from the U.S. as to whether I would be prepared to consider a Visiting Professorship for the academic year 1960-61. These came from Union Theological Seminary, the New School of Social Research, both in New York, and Brandeis University in Waltham, Mass. They would all of course be for just a short period, but they would help to tide one over for that period until something more permanent turns up. The snag in the whole thing is that the Union Government would probably not agree to grant me a passport, and the same would apply to any other offer from outside South Africa, whether it be in the U.S. or in Europe or in Africa. There have been one or two suggestions of something in South Africa itself, but my son Joe says that my best bet would be to start on a legal practice which would give me independence. There is a lot in what he says, although I would welcome a short spell overseas before I finally settle down. Early in the new year I am going to apply for a passport in the ordinary way and await the results.

The Treason Trial has just been adjourned until January 1960. I am glad for the sake of the accused because that means they will be able to have Christmas at home, but it looks as if the matter is still going to drag on for a long time. The Fund is having difficulty in raising any more funds. I suppose people are beginning to lose interest in whole affair. Prof. Murray, the expert on Communism, was given a hard time in cross-examination. I do not think his evidence was of much use to the Crown. How is the fund-raising going in the U.S. I see the American Committee on Africa has started a new Defence Fund to help with cases all over Africa. Are you in contact with them?

I must close, with kind regards from us all,

Yours sincerely,