

303 Tecumseh Ave. Mt. Vernon, New York
November 29, 1959

Dear Friends,
Zack and Frieda Mathews -

You have doubtless wondered many times at not hearing from me over these many months.

Last spring I began to find myself slowing down in my pretty heavy schedule of work and in the early summer developed a bronchial trouble which did not yield to treatment of my personal physician and a specialist. Finally, last month I went to the Health Center of our State Medical College and a thorough examination disclosed a condition which after a short session in the hospital has been brought into hand and I am glad to say that now I am back home, but still an out-patient, climbing back to health. Hope to get back to my teaching next week.

Fortunately for your matter, I was able to attend the September meeting of the African Studies Association (in Boston) and agreed with Harold Isaacs to contact President Henry VanDusen, Union Theological Seminary, about the possibility of an engagement for you, which I did early in October.

It seemed almost providential that they were just considering selection of the Visiting Professor for next year. Harold Isaacs did the follow-up, and you know the results in the offer you had from Pres. VanDusen. Isaacs has also kept me informed of developments at your end about which you have written him and your decision to resign.

Of course you may rest assured that my interest and prayers are with you in all these days of strain.

A word about family matters:

Daisy had an operation last fall; she returned to work the first of the year and is still under the doctor's care. Edmund is well and carrying on his work as usual. The boys are both in a special public school for accelerated instruction, on Convent Avenue not far from the old home, and both seem to be doing well.

The small amount of spare-time I could give the past year has been devoted to the finances of the American Committee on Africa, which has grown most rapidly from scratch three years ago. Now we have expanded our Defense Fund to a general African Aid and Defense Fund, with a staff of eight people in the office and a program that is making some impact on American public opinion, and, we hope, American policy.

I am about two-thirds through with my study of South Africa and hope with returning health to complete it early next year. With one graduate course on Africa each semester at City College I have kept a pretty full schedule and still dream of some day getting back to Africa at least to visit some of the countries where there have been such profound changes.

With the warmest of greetings, I remain
Yours sincerely,

George Edmund Haynes

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Love to the children. Write when you can.