

26/2/62  
Minister's Secretary told me  
passports for Prof. M. Matthews  
granted. Would and  
write Prof. M.  
pm

[ 34 ]

P.O. Box 81,  
Alice, C.P.,  
31-1p-62.

Mr P.A. Moore,  
House of Assembly,  
Cape Town.

Dear Mr Moore,

I wonder if I may ask you to do me a favour?

I have been invited by the World Council of Churches which has its headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, to join the staff of their Division of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees as Area Secretary for Africa. As I understand it, the nature of the work involved is non-political and concerns the organisation of welfare work by the interested Churches among refugees in different parts of the Continent. As you may know the Churches have done similar work among persons in need in Europe and Asia, and it ~~is~~ is only recently that the need for this kind of work has developed in Africa. The World Council of Churches would like me to join their staff, even if it is for a limited period, for the purpose of helping with the work in Africa.

I am interested in the work, but if I am to accept, it will be necessary for me to obtain passport facilities from the Government. I have made a formal application for a passport, but as you know I have for some time not been persona grata with the Government. It seems to me, however, that they ought not to stand in my way as far as this work is concerned. In a way I think it is a feather in the cap of South Africa that a South African should be invited to take up this work.

I should appreciate any assistance you can give me in connection with my application for a passport. ~~With~~

Yours sincerely,

S. K. Matthews