

A. 1. 8
Yale Station 2687,
Yale University,
New Haven, Connecticut. U.S.A.
3-10-33.

Dear Mr Githens,

I think you will have gathered by now from Mrs Matthews that I arrived safely in your homeland after a very delightful trip from Cape Town to Southampton and thence to New York, although the latter part of the voyage we encountered fairly rough weather. By the time we reached New York everybody was quite anxious to get to land, but the delay in landing caused by the necessity of having to wait on the Immigration authorities was quite exasperating, with the result that now and again people made rather cynical remarks about the Statue of Liberty, and deplored generally the fact that strangers were so badly received in the United States. I suppose all countries have their immigration laws, and these have to be observed without respect of persons. When we finally did come into contact with the immigration officers, I found them quite ordinary people to deal with, and within about 5 minutes I had finished my business with them. Dr Loram had very kindly written to them about me, with the result that my papers were accepted without question.

I was met at the boat by Mr Roy of the Phelps-Stokes Fund, and fortunately I got my baggage fairly soon and passed through the Customs in record time and within about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours of landing I was comfortably settled at International House. I had warned on the boat not to mistake New York for the whole of America because the two things are very different. It was just as well that I had been warned, because I found I did not quite like New York and its people. They seemed so unnatural, so brusque and so indifferent to each other. Fortunately the city is well planned and it is easy to find one's way about the place. So the next day I was going about New York all by myself, and I was quite surprised at the incredibly short within which I was able to adjust myself to the new traffic conditions in Broadway, Fifth Avenue, Madison Avenue, etc.

Before I left New York I met Mr Yergan at the Headquarters of the Y.M.C.A. in Madison Avenue, and very kindly invited me to come and have dinner with him at their apartments in Harlem. We had a grand time there talking about Africa so much so that I forgot that I was in the land of the Almighty Dollar. I left New York for New Haven on Friday, September 22, by one of the Greyhound Buses, and was met at the other end by Mr Liebenberg who had got here the week before. He has already been down to Washington, D.C. That gives you the whole story of how I got to Yale.

I have now settled down of course, and we are already in the thick of things. Yale is certainly a wonderful University with excellent facilities for study and I mean to make good use of my stay here. My time is divided about evenly between Education and Anthropology in both of which fields there are some excellent men here. My only fear is that the work may prove too heavy for me. The Education Seminar is the one which we find the most interesting, because there are so many people in it with a wide variety of experiences. We have fellows from Oxford, Cambridge, Germany, Hawaii, New Zealand, and all the States, and of course from South Africa. The students have been very nice to me, and I have already some friendships which I think will last very long. The Graduate students have their meals right here in the Hall of Graduate Studies, at the cost of about 8 dollars a week which is very reasonable for the fare they give, and for the convenience. One thing that has amazed us about America is the fact that there are so many conveniences here of all kinds. The material civilization of the country has really reached a very high standard. No wonder the cost of living is so high. Still it certainly it does make things comfortable for one. How you can get on in slow Africa after enjoying all these things is certainly remarkable.

Last Sunday I went over to Bridgeport where I met Mrs Scott, Miss Scott's mother, and we had long talks about Africa. She knows almost as much about Adams as I do, so you can see what a good reporter we have in Miss Scott. I was asked to speak to the Young People there and have another engagement with them for November 12. I have not yet been down to Boston, but if I do not go before, I hope to go when the Yale Football Team goes to play Harvard at Harvard. We are going to see Yale play Maine this coming Saturday. The Bunkers are at Fairfield, and I am looking forward to seeing them this week at a missionary meeting in New Haven to be addressed by E. Stanley Jones, the famous missionary of India. Liebenberg has had two letters from Reuling who is at Cornell University. He tells that he is doing his own cooking, and we have decided that it would be great fun to pay him a visit and help him get rid of all that he cooks in a day, if we shall be able to stand the after-effects.

Now I think I ought to be going to bed. And how is the dear old school getting along? I suppose that the examination fever is beginning to spread. Well, there is only one way of dealing with exams, as far as I know, and that is to face them like a man and get done with them. I sincerely hope Adams will deal with them as they ought to be dealt with. My thoughts are with you daily and nothing will give me greater joy than to be with you again next August. Suggestions have been made to me about a longer stay, but I do think I shall entertain them. My work is not here, but in Africa. Tell Mr Murray Brown not to forget to send me "Iso Lomuzi" which must be near leaving the Press. Give my best wishes to the students. Ask them how they would like to be a school where they had only 8 hours of teaching a week, with the rest of the time to be spent in reading and in writing long essays about the problems raised in the books read. It sounds jolly easy, but it keeps most of the fellows here at work till about midnight every day. This certainly is no place for slackers. I am enjoying it because this is just the kind of thing we used to do at Fort Hare, except that the professors here use the seminar method more than the lecture method. I hope you are finding the job of H.S. Head Teacher to your liking. Or have you given it over to Mr Brueckner? With kind regards to the Staff and best wishes to Mrs Githens I remain

Yours sincerely,

J. K. Matthews