

Dear L.K.

Ford Hall. C2.29
March 29. 1953

Thank you very much for your long letter of the 1st of March. We are all back in the full work of the second session, with the College absolutely full, and about 80 to whom we have had to refuse admission. These are not all good applications as some of them have had repeated failures, and have had to make way for students who have not yet had a chance, and of course some were Indian and Coloured students, but I do feel sorry to have to say this to students who have come so far, and are ready to go on. Another headache we have is Staff Housing, and the money to build four or five houses as a form of endowment to the College would be a very great help. We can't borrow from Building Societies because they do not recognise as security the houses we would build on land that cannot be alienated, and even if we could they would have to be financed somehow, by putting rents beyond the means of the staff or subsidising from College funds which could only come from an increase of fees. We really need some sponsor or sponsors with means who ~~we~~ would recognise the value of the work and feel it worth while to make it possible to do these things properly. Foundations

Reports of your progress with the Ford Corporation is encouraging, though we are getting to know what it is to build up one's hopes to a high level and then to have to see them fade away. I am glad to hear that the Ford Representative is visiting Ford Hall; we will make him welcome and show him all we can. Getting him to include us in his programme is an achievement. You have asked for photographs; we have not a big supply, and the negatives are not in our hands, but I have packed and am sending by air mail today, at a cost of £3-7-6 for postage, all I have on hand. You will know what they all represent.

There is another matter about which I have received a letter from Dr. W.A. Vosse 't Hooff. It is an urgent request from the World Council of Churches to allow you to serve as a member of the Commission on "Inter-Group Relationships - The Church amid Racial and Ethnic Tensions," preparing the Second Assembly of the World Council at ~~London~~ Evanston, U.S.A. It would mean attending a conference to be held at Bossey, near Geneva from Aug. 11-19, 1953. I have not yet replied to Dr. Vosse 't Hooff, because I do not want to provide a channel for even that group to bring undue pressure to bear on you, but to you I am authorised by the College Council to say that if you feel that this is another opportunity for service that should not be missed, the Council is prepared to grant to you the required special leave on full pay from the first of July, to enable you to accept this invitation. This is not to suggest that we are not missing you here; we are, and we want you back

with us, but it does give you the chance to decide in which direction your major duty lies. It is an opportunity of meeting people, and of speaking, that cannot be just lightly turned aside, but we want you to feel free to judge of its importance in relation to the whole field of your service. If you do decide to stay, you could write direct to Dr. Voser & Hooff, who, I understand, has already written to you, accepting the invitation. If you ~~do not~~ decide other wise, write to me at once and I will inform Dr. Voser & Hooff that it cannot be done, unless you wish to write to him to that effect yourself. If you do stay, I am practically certain I could arrange for you to be with me

FIRST FOLD - EERSTE VOU

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS
NAAM EN ADRES VAN AFSENDER

G. P. Dent
University College of Fort Hare
P.O. Fort Hare, Alice C.P.

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED THIS LETTER
WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL

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BRIEF PER GEWONE POS GESTUUR WORD

SECOND FOLD - TWEEDE VOU



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AIR MAIL

LUGPOS

Professor Z. K. Matthews

99 Claremont Avenue

New York 27.

N.Y., U.S.A.



at the Congress of Commonwealth Universities to be held in Cambridge in July, as we have ~~not~~ a right to more than one representative. Further, if you decide to stay, you should make it clear that the World Council of Churches will have to be prepared to meet all the costs involved in your attendance. I think they should provide all additional travelling, and the cost of your maintenance over there for all the additional time required.

This is all business, and very little news. You will have heard that we have had good rains and promise of the best crops in ten years. You may not have heard that Len and Pandy have a son, our seventh grandson! We are leaving you and Frieda behind, but I dare say you will catch up and pass us in time. Kindest regards to you both. Yours sincerely, G. P. Dent.