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ABX 270630

Personal - Professional
Education

30/6/27

The

Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh

I hereby certify that Mr. Alfred B. Xuma

has acted as Clinical Clerk

in my Wards from April 1927

to June 1927 and has performed

his duties satisfactorily

David Matthews

Edinburgh,

W. J. Law
June 1927 Treasurer & Clerk.

DR. VANCE SPENCER MULLON
1240 S. FRANKLIN STREET
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

12-9-27

Personal -
Professional
Education

Dr. A. B. Xuma,
Rugbees, Tambulard,
Cape Colony, S. Africa

My dear Xuma:

I am very grateful to you for your very detailed and painstaking letter. It has been of extremely great service to me. First of all I have a true and accurate impression of what European post graduate work in Surgery is and is not. In the next place I can see the gradual escalation of tuition which will be at infinity perhaps when I go over.

I am in a peculiarly advantageous position here in New Orleans. I am on the surgical staff of our only Negro hospital - which is to be rebuilt and enlarged to 175 beds in the next two years. There are

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DR. VANCE SPENCER MULLON
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NEW ORLEANS, LA.

three others on the staff, but all of the work is being done by Dr Jones and me. Dr Jones is House Surgeon. He graduated from Macbrary ten years ago and came to the hospital as an intern. He was made House Surgeon a few years after leaving the hospital. In his position he was trained and tutored by such excellent surgeons as Watas, Jeff Miller, Stone, Howie Perry et al of 'New Orleans' leading surgeons. Due to the custom prevailing here most of the surgery on negroes is done by white surgeons in Flint Goodrich Hospital. Dr Jones in his ten years has developed an easy technique and has good sound surgical

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judgment. His weakest point is diagnosis. He is unselfish to a fault and tries to push me faster than I would progress. You and I both. If I remember, we have a certain tenacity and reluctance for doing things we have never done before or don't do well. I am developing I believe into a careful operator in a couple or three years I might feel at ease in a belly with two interns or assistants

I am enclosing an excerpt from the Howard Medical paper which brought me the shocking news - first I heard - of "Booze head" Nelson's death. I was electrified when I eye fell on his picture in New Orleans. We both diagnosed him tuberculous you remember but not in a serious vent
(over)

I am sincerely saddened by
his untimely death.

You received the announce-
ment of my marriage? Yes
I finally walked in the "bounds"
of matrimony. It was imperative
that I have a wife so I
took the youngest, most charm-
ing beautiful I could find
in the city of beautiful girls.
The first month has been
very pleasant. You know
I am a cynic and therefore
expect nothing too much
of anything.

Write me at you con-
venience and I shall
give you what news I
can accumulate of your
old friends.

Fraternally
Vance P. Muller

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Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity

(INCORPORATED)

ΑΦΑ

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September-15-1927

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NEW YORK CITY

Dr. Alfred B. Xuma,
Surgeons' Hall,
Nicolson Street,
Edinburgh, Scotland,

Personal - Professional Education

My dear Brother Xuma:

I have your good letter dated August-8-1927 which came during my absence. I was very pleased to be so remembered by you from Scotland. I trust that you will let me hear from you when you reach your final destination.

I note your address to be Surgeons' Hall. I presume from this that you are doing some special work there in surgery. I am glad if you are for it shows you are trying to obtain the best preparation before engaging in your life work. I wish more of the young doctors would so act.

Do you remember Elkins at Minnesota? He graduated last June and is in the Glenn Lake Tubercular Hospital near Lake Minnetonka a few miles outside Minneapolis where he is getting some fine experience.

Xuma, I wish you would send a message to the next convention from where ever you happen to be. The members would so appreciate it. Brothers from distant parts are in the habit of doing this. We receive all kinds of messages and they mean a great deal to the fellows to think that wherever a man goes he takes his Alpha Phi Alpha with him. We are going to expect them this year from Bishop Gregg, Bishop Brooks, if he is still there, Minister Francis, and yourself. Francis of St. Paul was recently appointed by President Coolidge Minister & Consul General to Liberia.

After you get over to Africa again look into the feasibility of establishing a chapter. Some of the fellows there tried it some time back but there was a hitch. I don't remember what it was but it was, I believe, lack of requisite number.

I trust this finds you well and happy and doing nicely. Write to me when you find it convenient.

You might also drop a line to LaJoyeaux Stanton who is pres. of the chapter at Marquette Univ. Milwaukee now. He is trying to build it up and a little encouragement from you as a charter member might help him and the rest of the members. He is now at 726 Walnut St., Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

With best wishes and kindest regards,

Sincerely and fraternally, *Raymond W. Cannon* General President

ABX271024

Personal

522 J Calumet Ave
Chicago, Illinois
Oct 24, 1927

My dear Alfred B.

I am ashamed to look up and remind you of the date of your last letter lest you will feel indignant and not write me any more. But really dear friend I have thought of you often.

I was indeed very glad to hear that you were getting along so well and ~~enjoying~~ enjoying yourself across the ocean.

I suppose you have taken what a terrible examination by now and I truly hope you were successful in passing.

Mother spent last week with me and I enjoyed having her. We had a lovely visit. She did not want to go home but we are having an early fall and because of the extreme cool weather she thought it best to go back.

A few Sundays ago I attended a meeting at my church (Saint Mark's M.E.) of the Africa Students Aid Association. It was very interesting and I enjoyed it very much.

I suppose you have heard of Attorney

Francis's appointment to Africa. He was royally
entertained all over the country before he
left for his new work.

Ruth Brown, of Saint Paul, ~~mother,~~
Senora Brown, died a few weeks ago. It was
quite a surprise to every one.

You remember Francis Smith and Dr.
Donald Brown were married last year, well
they have a very fine baby boy. Alice
Miller was married last week to a young
man from Seattle Washington.

Now that I have told you the history of
Saint Paul I will give you mine. I am quite well
and as you said in your last letter I am just
as fat and sassy. ^{as ever.} Weigh 139 lbs. I have stop eating
lunch and very little breakfast.

One of my bosses ~~are~~ away and of course that
means more work for me. I work an hour later
every night.

Have you decided what you are going to do? I
should think the hospital in Johannesburg
would be the better. Then you would have
an opportunity to help your people. Please dear Alfred
write me all about it for I am so anxious to

know. Auntie will always pray for your success
as well as send you her best best wishes.

Anytime there is any thing I can do for
you in this country please don't hesitate to ask.
For you are truly an exception so many come to this
country and never return home to help the less
fortunate.

When you visit your parents please
remember me to them won't you?

Just as soon as I dare I am going back to
school for we can never know too much you
know. If ever I fall in love I'll tell you
dear, first all -- But don't tell me when it
happens to you. I'm different. Not kind, like
you. Don't tell me for a long, long time.
It isn't in me to take it - happily. I don't
know why you have never given me cause to
feel that way now have you? Oh! well here's
to luck and happiness for both of us. God will
straighten out things in his own way.

With best wishes to you as ever

Yours

Auntie

8. 11. 27

Rondeborch

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ABX 27 11 08

S. Africa

Dear Dr Xuma,

Dr Jesse Jones has sent me a copy of your letter to him dated Aug 22.

I write to let you know that the Commission you speak of has completed its labours and will shortly present its report to the Prime Minister.

I am sure that you and others will be pleased with the report although it may not go as far as you could hope.

You will find that it does make recommendations for the training of Natives as

medical men in S Africa ⁷⁵
as well as overseas

I hope that the Govt will
print the report before
next session a parliament
but I have no assurance on
that point.

I presume that you will
be returning shortly to this
country.

You will find a good
many difficulties in the way
of acquiring a practice but
these will be overcome if you
can show some Aggrey's
patience and optimism.

If I were called upon to
advise you I would use
the following:-

1. Get into touch with Dr. 76

Donald Fraser, Missionary
Secretary of the U.F.C. of Scot-
land. His office is in St.

Vincent St Glasgow but there
is a branch office in Edin-
burgh. Ask him for advice
& if possible that he could
send you out as a Mission
doctor. I have doubts but
you can at least ask

2. If you take up private
practice in S.A. prefer a
country to a town centre &
if possible go into a
Native area.

3. Feeling being what it is
in S.A. avoid as far
as possible treating

European patients alone 77

all European female patients

4. Send me several copies of a short account of yourself giving age, ancestry, birthplace, school educⁿ, medical training, qualifications. Add testimonials especially those dealing with character. You will understand what I want when I tell you that I shall send these to Natal and Southern Rhodesia as well as to parties in the Union in the hope that you may be offered an appointment. I do not guarantee an appt or even ~~that~~ hold out great hopes. I shall however do my best

5. If you are continuing your studies further I think it would be of advantage to take the D.P.H. diploma made that you might be fully qualified for Govt. work if it shd. be available on this point, however, I think you should consult men more competent to advise than I am.

In conclusion I do not think I can support too strongly the wise words of Dr Jones in his letter to you dated Sept 9 which I hope you accept I am

Yours sincerely
 C.T. Loran

P.S. I presume you did not get a letter I sent to your
care via Donald Fraser.

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2. I get back to the life about Dec. 20.
Travelling but as from Rondebosch

9.12.27

Doctor A B Xuma
Engcobo C.P.

Personal - Professorial Education

Dear Dr Xuma,

Welcome back to South Africa. We are proud of the determination and ability which have enabled you to succeed. Although the difficulties in front of a native medical man in South Africa are very great we believe that your good sense and Christian character will enable you to surmount them.

I shall be glad to help and advise you to the best of my ability. I am afraid you may regard my advice as coming on the side of caution but I think I know my people and they are finding it hard to adjust themselves to the "New Native".

I am in communication with Southern Rhodesia about a Govt appointment for you there but the replies so far have not been very encouraging. On your way to Engcobo be sure to see Mr. Norton Chief Native Commissioner Kingwilliamstown, Dr. Henderson & Macvicar of Lovedale, Mr. W.T. Welsh Chief Mag. at Umkata, Mr. A.B. Payne M.L.A. at Umkata. If you have not fixed up anything by January would it be worth your while to attend the Pract. Course in Bachelor Studies at the Univ. of C. Town Jan 9 - 30. You will get back into the sunnier atmosphere of N. Studies & more important still will meet Govt representatives from N.S. Rhodesia as well as from the Union. It is a rare chance.

Yours sincerely
C. J. ...

P.S. I have just seen one of the Assistant Secretaries
for Health on your behalf. Speaking quite im-
pressively he points out that there is no hope
yet of the appt. of a native as District
Surgeon or even as Assistant Surgeon. Here
I feel that if you could secure an appt as
medical officer in charge of a mission hospital
which catered only for native patients we
might later on work in you, your hospital, two
health officers and some nurses as a
Govt. aided medical unit under the
scheme to be outlined in our forthcoming
report (You may have heard of this im-
pending report of the committee of which I

am chairman). We are careful to
promise nothing but if I were you I should seek
an appt at a mission hospital in N. Zululand
or some other Native territory. Accept a small salary
as a start. Show yourself careful reliable
cooperative + keep in touch with me. Such
hospitals are Mseleni, Kosi Bay, Hlpenkula
(near Kongoma) ? Reunion near Durban (C of M
Mission Sta at Umhlangi) ~~Umhlangi~~ above
all don't attend whites unless you have
to and don't take charge of a hospital where
there are many white nurses.

C.T.L.

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XUMA, A.B., Papers

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