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'PHONE NO. 8.

MIDDLEDRIFT.
CAPE PROVINCE.

7th February 1939.

My dear Chief,

It is a long time since I wrote you last, and that was when I was making arrangements for Mrs Paul Robeson's projected visit to Bechuanaland.

In spite of this apparent lapse in writing, my wife and I have often talked of a visit to you and your great country. We have gone so far as to promise ourselves a run up when next we can get a few weeks' holiday. This, however, I fear may not be for some time yet as we only recently took a fortnight's holiday and saw something of the Free State, Transvaal and Basutoland. So that it should be the turn of the Protectorates next!

I am to-day taking the liberty of writing you in connection with the "Lovedale appeal to old Students' Scheme" which, as an old Lovedalian you will no doubt be interested in. The idea, briefly, is to collect a sum of money by and from old students in order

to donate something substantial to the old place in appreciation of what service it has done during the 100 years of its existence. Its Centenary is to be held in 1941 which promises to be a momentous occasion. Some of us have thought it would be most fitting on that occasion to be able to present the Institution with a block of building (?) or some other suitable gift. Such we may regard as our special donation. This is a big undertaking indeed but I have undertaken the responsibility of promoting the scheme in the full hope that old Lovedalians will rise to the occasion. I have already had gifts from a few old students who have made good and are prominent as leaders amongst our people. It is our special wish that every student of Lovedale should join in with us.

I should deem it a great favour, chief, if not only by donation but by your interest in this scheme you helped us to gain our goal.

My mother and other members of the family, I know, would wish to join me

in sending our respectful regards
to you and yours.
My own family for the present consists of
"three of us" a post-card of which I enclose
and hope you will accept with our
respectful regards and kind wishes

I remain
Yours most obediently
R. T. Bikus

P.S. I enclose under separate cover
our little appeal booklet.
R. T. B.