

it. He had to make a business trip
to the South and West and he
managed to spend a few hours
with me — also a business necessity
en route, because I could not
go to Chicago to meet him.

We spoke of you when he
was here last Saturday.

I trust you may hear from
Mr. Chandler. Keep your courage
up, work on, believe on —

Sincerely your friend
Evelyn Riley Nicholson

POVERTY MAY END COLLEGE CAREER OF YOUNG AFRICAN

Medical Student, Once
Savage, Hampered in
Rare Aspiration.

WOULD HEAL PEOPLE

But Funds Give out as He's
Nearly Ready to Return
as Missionary.

By H. H. ROBERTSON,

United News Staff Correspondent.

Chicago, July 11. — Stalked for years by the specter of grim poverty, Alfred Xuma, once an African savage, now a medical student, faces the crash of his chief hope—that of returning to minister to his people as a medical missionary.

At the end of his third year in the Northwestern University medical school this struggling and persistent young African has no money with which to finish his course and obtain the coveted diploma. Nor has he, according to members of the faculty, any means of earning enough to pay for the completion of his course. Only a few weeks ago Xuma, who had been working at odd jobs to get money, that he might stay in college, was informed by a professor that the remainder of his course would be so filled with lectures and clinical work that he would have no time left for anything else.

May Give Up Struggle.

Sorrowfully he told friends, who had watched his plucky struggle to educate himself in one of the most difficult sciences, that he thought he would have to leave school soon.

As a boy Xuma had roamed African wilds with tribesmen. He saw his people engulfed in a wave of appalling savagery. He saw his own blood relatives subjected to torture by witch doctors seeking to drive out devils. He saw filth, ignorance and disease on every hand. Epidemics would come and his people would fall like broken reeds, while the witch doctors beat their tom-toms and spent days and nights muttering incantations to ward off the evil spirits.

A missionary in a Wesleyan Methodist school became interested in the the boy and before long the little fellow was running about in the school and attending classes there. Later his family and friends became members of the Wesleyan church. A few years passed and the boy grew up. He had a vision. He wanted to study medicine. He wanted to go to the United States and return to minister to his needy people.

"Worked Way" to U. S. and Up.

But his people had no money. So the young man worked his way to the United States on a ship, landed in New York with \$1 in his pocket and walked to Tuskegee, Ala., where he enrolled in the institute. He put himself through the school and then worked for a time to get money for his medical course.

He has spent all his money. The past year has been a hard one for him. Often he has gone hungry for two or three days.

Now, with the goal towards which he has plodded for years in sight, this young man wonders whether the ghosts that have constantly been beside him, the ghosts of poverty and disappointment, have finally become translated into realities to blast his dreams.

ABX 24 09 20

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS DEPARTMENT

31 WEST LAKE STREET. TELEPHONE RANDOLPH 4373

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C. D. PARKER, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

September 20, 1924.

Mr. A. B. Xuma,
848 St. Anthony Avenue,
St. Paul, Minnesota.

Personal - Professional Education

Dear Mr. Xuma:

Your good letter of several days ago came to the office while I was away on vacation. I am wondering what your plans are for your returning to the Medical School this year. I have kept you in mind in regard to employment, but we are having a very difficult time securing work for the Medical men.

Mr. Patterson tells me that he thinks you are planning to return. We certainly hope that you will find it possible to do so, for I know what a disappointment it would be to you, not to finish your senior year.

I wish you would feel free to talk over any of your problems with me on your arrival here, and we want to do the very best we can to see you finish.

Sincerely,

CDP: BH

C. D. Parker

ABX 2410 21

The University of Minnesota

Department of Agriculture
University Farm, St. Paul

DIVISION OF ENTOMOLOGY AND ECONOMIC ZOOLOGY

October 21, 1924

Personal - Professional Education

Mr. A. B. Xuma
3763 Wabash Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Xuma:

I am very glad to learn that you are back at your work and that all is going well.

The pathology outlines have not yet been printed and I understand that their publication will be delayed until the first of the year. The typewritten outlines are not available at present.

In response to your request I am very glad to send a note which I hope will be of help to you.

Sincerely yours,

Tom A. Riley

WAR: cc

Chief of Division.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
 YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
 CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

November 28, 1924.

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Personal - Professional Education

Mr. A. B. Xuma,
 3763 Wabash Avenue,
 Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Xuma:

Thank you for your letter of November 26th. I am now ready to try and see what I can do in the way of helping you this week. I plan to be at the Planter's Hotel, Chicago, Monday night and I hope you will plan to be there and see me not later than seven o'clock in the evening.

I called on a lady who I thought might help you, but she said that she would make a substantial contribution toward a set of surgical instruments when you return to Africa. I will talk this over with you Monday evening. Do not fail to come to the Planter's Hotel at seven o'clock.

Very sincerely yours,

G. J. Little

GJL:EML

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