

WILLESDEN 2058

8, AYLESTONE AVENUE.
BRONDESBUURY PARK,
LONDON, N.W. 6

14th June, 1950.

Rev. Hanock M. Phiri Kayesa,
Kayesa Village,
P. O. Kasungu,
Nyasaland.

Dear Uncle,

Thank you very much for all your letters, which reached me safely. I am very glad to hear that you agree with many the things I said in my letter to you. As I stated in my letter, we must have a plan for our country. If we do not have a plan, our country will not develop or rise. It will remain a backward country. My idea is to take part in the development of the country, by farming on a large and scientific scale, just as Europeans do. Therefore, I want to have a farm, not only at Thimbi, but also, in other places. And Lusa is a very good place, indeed. I am glad you chose it for your farm. For then, I can join you there and we can farm together.

Yes, I quite agree with you about the trees. Please, do as you say. Plant trees for me at Thimbi. Trees that give orange fruit. Trees, that give mangoes and trees that give lemons and other fruit. Also, please, plant trees that will give me timber or matabwa. Do this for me this year or early next year, please, when the ground is wet in January or February, so that they will grow quickly. I am writing to Hanock at Thimbi, to show you nice places, where to grow these trees. I want them grown in lines, straight lines, so that they will look very nicely.

As you say, my place must be very nice. N. A. Mwase wrote to me, saying that he wants Thimbi to be an example, so that Europeans can see what an educated African can do. Therefore, Uncle, please, help me make the place very nice. So that the Europeans, especially, the Government will see that I am really developing the country and make things look very nice on my farm.

About the farm at Lusa, yes, have only about two or three men there now. Let them build your house and do a little clearing. Then

2, AYLESTONE AVENUE,
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LONDON, N.W. 4

WILLIAM ZOE

next year, I shall send money for buying animals for the farm. I quite agree with your ideas, about buying cattle in Ngoniland. They are cheaper there than they are at Kasungu. First, I think I shall buy pigs, then cattle and chicken or fowls. You can employ the abúsas to look after all these animals. We can sell milk, as you say. And also, we can sell meat of pigs, eggs, and fowls. In this way, Uncle, we can make money. I want you to be in charge of the farm at Lusa and Manock K. Banda, in charge of the farm at Thimbi. The farm at Lusa will be chiefly for cattle, pigs, fowls and, later on, tobacco first. The farm at Thimbi will be for maize, beans, ground-nuts and tobacco. There will be no cattle or pigs or fowls at Thimbi. I want all these to be at Lusa.

About the gun, I have already ordered one from Plantyre. I wrote to Plantyre for it and they said they will send it to Kasungu at the same time they will send the chigayo and the lorry. So you need not go to Northern Rhodesia to buy it now, as it is coming from Plantyre. I shall, however, send you some money later on. I am glad you received the £3.0.0 which I sent you, which makes it £18.0.0 I have sent you this year, so far, I shall send you some more later. I want you to have £36 altogether this ^{year}. That is, as from January, 1950, a total of £36 up to the end of the year. This together with what the Church pays you, should enable you to have food and buy some clothes and other things you want to do at home. When the farm is paying, I shall help you more, for then, I shall have more.

This year, the Government here is taxing me very heavily. Taxes are very heavy in England. I have to pay more £900 a year in taxes here. Out of every one pound £1 I make, the Government takes nine shillings as tax. If it were not for heavy taxes, I would be a rich man and would help you and chief Mwase much more than I am doing now. But I have very high taxes to pay in England, which they call "income tax". This takes a great deal of my money away. This is why I can only help you up to £36.0.0 a year. But later on, when the farm and the chigayo are producing something for me, I hope to help you better than I am able to do now. So, please, Uncle, help me with the farm at Thimbi, as well as with other things at Lusa and Thimbi.

About the lorry, I am very glad that atate A Adam Msokera is willing to come to Thimbi to drive the lorry for me. I have bought it now and it will soon be delivered at Kasungu by Brown & Clapperton Limited

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Tell them to help me with the work at Thimbi. They must work for me more willingly, and much better than they did for the Europeans, because I am their own flesh and blood. If the farm at Thimbi succeeds, it will be good for all of us and the country, our dear Kasungu. When they are working for me, they are really working for themselves. For what is mine is also theirs, in the long run. If I succeed, they will have someone to help them. If I fail, they will have no one to help them. They will have to go to Europeans or Indians for work. I shall not treat them badly as Europeans or Indians. All I want them to do is to do their work properly and I shall pay them properly. But tell them that to work for me at Thimbi is far better than to work for Europeans or Indians. I am a Chewa. All the money made at Thimbi will be for the Chewa people and the Africans of Nyasaland. It will not go to India or to other foreign countries. I hope you make them understand this, so that they can work for me with real understanding.

Tell both of them that you, yourself, are working for me, both at Thimbi and at Lusa, because by working for me, you are helping your own people and your own country. Because I am a Chewa, your own son, and your own flesh and blood.

About our men learning driving. No, Uncle, I must send our men to Blantyre. Only when they already know how to drive must they be allowed to drive my lorry. Because, if they learn to drive on the lorry, they will break it. Therefore, only Mr. Adam Msokera must drive the lorry. He must not use it to teach others. I shall send all those who want to learn to Blantyre. Then when they come back, they can drive, because then they will not break the lorry. I want you to tell Mr. Adam this, please, Uncle. Because I want the lorry to be looked after very carefully. It must not be broken. He alone must drive it or someone else, who knows how to drive. People who do not know how to drive must not be allowed to learn on it. The lorry is not for teaching but for carrying things to and from the farm.

4
S. WILKINSON AVENUE
BRONX, N.Y.
WILKINSON 5025
You see, Uncle, there is a proper place at Blantyre, where our men can learn how to drive. They have many cars there, used ~~for~~ teaching only and not for carrying goods. The lorry at Thimbi is the only one I have. Therefore, it must be used only for carrying goods and not for teaching. Only those who already know how to drive must drive it. Those who do not know must go to Blantyre first to learn and then, come home to Kasungu to drive the lorries or cars at the farms, either at Thimbi or at Lusa. This is the best plan, Uncle. Then the cars and lorries will not be broken by people, who are ignorant of driving.

Yes, I quite agree with your idea that I can use the lorry to carry people's fodya from their places to the market and charge for it. Write to me and tell me all the places, where there is fodya that need to be carried to the market. Then I shall know what to tell Mr. Hanock K. Banda. You should also tell me how much Europeans charge the Africans when they carry their fodya. For example, how much does the Nyasaland Transport Company or the North Charterland Company charge the Africans, when they carry their goods? Do they charge them per lbs. or per load or what? Tell me fully, please. For example, how much do they charge for a bag of 200 lbs over a distance of ten miles?

About chigayo, I also want to know how much the Europeans charge Africans, when they grind their maize for them. For example, how much do they charge when they grind a bag of maize of 200lbs? You said they charge 8/- or 9/- at Lundazi. How much do they charge at Kasungu? I want to know all this, Uncle, so that I can decide how much to charge for my lorry and chigayo at Thimbi.

When we have cattle, pigs and fowls at Lusa, I want you to employ honest and truthful men. Because, if you employ men who are not honest and truthful, you will not get all the money that comes from selling milk, eggs and meat. Therefore, Uncle, be very careful and employ men that can be trusted. Men that know how to keep money. Men that do not fall to temptation and steal other people's money.

Please, write to me as soon as possible. Tell me if atate Mr. Adam Msokera is driving the lorry and if my brother, Mr. Reuben Banda is in charge of the chigayo at Thimbi yet.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Shashup K. Banda

Rev. Hanock M. Phiri Kayesa,
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8, Aylestone Avenue.
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