

6th September, 1957.

My dear Peter,

I was very much interested in reading your letter when I got home this week from Dorset. I am very glad to know that you and your Brother had some good advice from Mother Margaret and have had a good deal of consultation as well as correspondence with one another. I think it would be a very good thing if you could see the Bishop of Exeter, you would find him very understanding and sympathetic. He also has the great advantage of being the Chairman of the Church of England Advisory Committee, and deals with Religious Communities. I think it would also be very useful if you came to Chichester and had a talk with Canon Browne-Wilkinson. There is something to be said, is there not, for a connection with the Woodard Schools, and the possibility of your serving an apprenticeship in one of the Woodard Schools in this Diocese should not be overlooked. I also note that you have seen Father Gofton Salmond about the possibility of your spending a year in that Community. That might be quite a good plan unless there is an advantage from the point of view of development later in a large Community like Kelham or Mirfield. I take it that the Vicar knows all about your wishes. If a good practical plan could be worked out on the lines :-

1. A year's experience in a Boarding School;
- and 2. A year in a Religious Community;

I should personally be prepared to agree to your leaving Rottingdean at the end of two years instead of the ordinary three years. But this plan should also have the good will of the Vicar. I shall be seeing the Bishop of Exeter at the beginning of October and can talk the matter over with him, in fact it might be a good plan to ask the Bishop of Exeter if he can see you when he is up for Convocations, October 1-4. I note that your Brother would be going with you to live in the Religious Community chosen. Don't commit yourself in any way to a Religious Community before we have got a little further, for I should also like to talk to the Bishop of Exeter about the time he has seen you.

Yours affectionately,

The Revd. P. Ball,

**DPA**

**BLUE FILE**

**LAMBETH PALACE**