



College, Broadclyst, Exeter.

January 3rd 1987

Dear Taffy

Many thanks for the card and its message. I was glad to do the Channel 4 programme largely because a good many of my neighbours (75% nice Tories, 24% Alliance) who had thought of me as some kind of wandering old crack pot, learned that there had been some kind of inner coherency in my efforts. Quite a shock for some of them!

So glad that you now add "and family"!

*Yours
Richard Acland*

How blacks could benefit from Spanish recipes

IT IS reported that black parents could help their children educationally rather more than they do. This spring, in Los Angeles, I met a remarkable woman, Marnesba Tackett, who is enabling the parents of similarly disadvantaged Spanish-speaking children to do exactly that.

There are two essentials. (1) The first approach to the parents must not be made by teachers. The class gap is too great. If we wanted to follow Mrs Tackett we should need to recruit literate out-going youngish men and women from amongst the black unemployed of Brixton. These have to become the

permanent friends of the parents.

(2) These black friends of black parents would need what Mrs Tackett called "recipes" — duplicated simple instruction sheets to show the parents how to help. Apart from the intangible benefits, the gain in straight reading achievement is significant.

It would cost money but it would work. I have single copies of ten of the "recipes" and could send copies to anyone who sends me £1 with large SAE. Please allow three weeks for reply.

— Yours sincerely,
Richard Acland,
Sprydon,
Broadclyst, Exeter.