

THE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA.

Following on the deliberations of the Bloemfontein Conference of 24th June, 1936, called by the Mott Conference Continuation Committee for The Christian Council of South Africa, the first meeting of The Christian Council of South Africa was held in the Trinity Methodist Hall, Charles Street, Bloemfontein, on Thursday, 25th June, 1936, at 9 a.m., the Chairman of Conference, Rev. A.F. Louw, presiding.

Devotions were conducted by Rev. A.W. Wilkie, D.D.

Roll-call was held, 36 representatives of Churches and Missionary Societies taking their places in the Council. Altogether 44 persons signed the attendance register, as follows: Rev. Robert H.W. Shepherd; Dr. Arthur W. Wilkie; Dr. James D. Taylor; Rev. Henri Ph. Junod; Rev. T.S. Gibson; Archdeacon J.W. Mogg; Rev. Joh. Baumbach; Rev. A.J. Haile; Mrs. J.W.L. Hofmeyr; Mr. J.D. Rh. Jones; Rev. James J.R. Jolobe; Rev. N. Matshikwe; Rev. F. Stakes; Dr. D. Wark; Rev. B. Terrisse; Rev. H. Mabile; Rev. W. Bourquin; Rev. P.W. Schaberg; Rev. G. de C. Murray; Rev. Martin Knight; Dr. E. Brookes; Adj. James Stobart; Rev. J. Reyneke; Rev. Kenneth G. Grubb; Miss Margaret Wrong; Rev. E.W. Grant; Rev. Arthur C. File; Rev. Wm. Eveleigh; Rev. E. Bottrill; Mrs. E.B. Rh. Jones; Rev. Henry W. Goodwin; Rev. K. Hallendorff; Rev. J.E. Hallendorff; Rev. L.M. Titlestad; Mr. A. Lefatle; Rev. N.S. Motshumi; Rev. I.L. Mogorosi; Rev. A.F. Louw; Rev. John S. Likhing; Rev. Ernst Muller; Rev. R. Swensson; Rev. A. Cardross Grant and Rev. Arthur Amor. A sincere apology was received from Rev. J.A. Persson.

"You are at God's disposal, you who have passed from darkness to light", said the Chairman as he inaugurated The Christian Council of South Africa. The Bishop of Kimberley and Kuruman expressed the appreciation of the meeting for the way in which Mr. Louw had lead the activities of the Continuation Committee. The Chairman now handed over the meeting to the Secretary, who called for nominations for a Chairman. Dr. Taylor, seconded by Archdeacon Mogg, proposed Rev. Wm. Nicol. As there were no other proposals, Mr. Nicol was unanimously elected Chairman of that meeting, and was immediately asked by the Council upon the proposal of Dr. Taylor, seconded by Archdeacon Mogg, to become President of The Christian Council of South Africa. Mr. Nicol thereupon took the chair.

The President asked for the co-optation as members of this meeting of four visitors, Mr. Kenneth Grubb, Miss Margaret Wrong, Mr. Rh. Jones and Mrs. Rh. Jones, to which the Conference agreed. The President now asked for nominations for two Vice-presidents. Mr. Junod proposed Rev. H.W. Goodwin, suggesting that the vacancy for the second Vice-president should be filled after nominations had been received from the Church of the Province. The Bishop of Kimberley and Kuruman said he felt convinced that a unanimous nomination could immediately be put forward, and he proposed, as a representative of the Church of the Province to fill the position of Vice-president, the Bishop of Pretoria. Mr. Junod accepted this suggestion and Mr. Goodwin and Bishop Parker were thereupon unanimously elected Vice-presidents.

The Council confirmed the appointment of Rev. J. Murray du Toit as General Secretary, and appointed Rev. R.H.W. Shepherd as Literary Secretary.

The Council now proceeded to elect its Executive. The Chairman suggested that, as several Churches and Societies had not yet become members of the Council, a number of vacancies should be left on the Executive. There were suggestions to the effect that the Executive might be an Interim Executive, but the meeting felt that since the Council was launched it would be foolish to act in so uncertain a fashion. The election of the Executive

was postponed for an hour, after which the following members were appointed:- Dr. A.W. Wilkie; Dean Kempe; Rev. H.Ph. Junod; Rev. J. Reyneke; Rev. A. Cardross Grant; Rev. F. Stakes; Rev. P.W. Schaberg; Rev. E. Bottrill; Rev. N.S. Motshumi and Dr. E. Brookes.

The following reports were handed in and accepted: The Continuation Committee Report; The Financial Report; The Vernacular Meeting Report. The following resolution was accepted by the Council:- "That the following suggestions be commended to the earnest consideration of the Christian Council as a means whereby the vernacular could be furthered:

- (a) The formation in each language area of a Committee on which each Society working in that area shall be represented, to deal with the need for literature in the particular vernacular of the area.
- (b) The formation of a Central Committee, consisting of the Conveners of the several language area Committees; the Conveners of this Central Committee to be an additional member appointed by the Christian Council.

The following Committees were appointed, Conveners mentioned in brackets: The Committee on Education (Dr. Wilkie); The Committee on Evangelism (Rev. J. Reyneke); The Committee on Literature (Rev. H. Shepherd); The Committee on Medical Work (Mr. Rh. Jones); The Committee on Native Welfare (Rev. H. Ph. Junod); The Committee on Womens' Work (Mrs. Bridgeman); and The Committee on Youth Movements (Rev. E.W. Grant).

Correspondence from the Y.M.C.A., concerning study groups and the 1937 World Conference, was noted.

A letter from Dr. Mott and a telegram from the Rhodesian Conference were received and the Secretary was instructed to reply to these.

In reply to a question the President gave the following ruling: "In the event of a primarius member of Council not being able to attend, the Church or Missionary Society represented is responsible for the appointment of a secundus".

Upon the suggestion of the President, Rev. A.F. Louw was co-opted a member of this meeting.

Suggestions were made regarding the inclusion on the Executive of a Non-European member whose presence was deemed desirable. The Council agreed that the desirability of this matter be pointed out to the Executive.

Upon the suggestion of Dr. Wilkie, the Council decided to adjourn just before lunch for prayer in connection with the All-Africa Conference to be held in Bloemfontein.

In reply to questions the President gave the following rulings: "Members of the various committees need not necessarily be Council members, but it is hoped that there will be a fair sprinkling of Council members on the Committees". "Conveners of Committees shall outline their proposed line of action, and report to the Executive for approval".

Correspondence from the I.M.C. was received and the Council took note of the World Conference to be held in Hangchow in 1938. The Council realized the importance of South Africa's being represented, and referred the matter to the Executive with power to act.

Mr. Kenneth Grubb of the World Komunion Press now addressed the Council and outlined his scheme for the South African Mission Directory. Upon the proposal of Mr. Rh. Jones, seconded by Mr. Shepherd, a hearty response was urged to this suggestion, and it was decided to consult further with Mr. Grubb. The President added his personal and sincere appreciation of Mr. Grubb's proposal.

Dr. Taylor introduced the following matter which claimed the interest of the Council - The Financing of Native Education.

Dr. Taylor felt that it was time a cry - a howl - was raised over this matter. Rev. Mr. Grant, in supporting this sentiment, said that the cry should be to Heaven as well as to man, so that the country might know here was a wrong that must be righted. The following resolution was passed. "This meeting of the Christian Council of South Africa desires to give expression to its distress over the present inadequate support of Native Education. The rapidly increasing demands upon the Government-aided Mission Schools, over a long period of stagnation, so far as any increase of support is concerned, has resulted in the turning away of large numbers of children from the schools thus throwing upon the Missions burdens impossible to bear. The Missions are driven by their interest in the Spiritual and Moral welfare of the Natives to attempt to meet in some degree the needs of these children, although they are already carrying a considerable part of the burden of Native Education. The Council instructs the Education Committee in consultation with the Executive to arrange for an interview with the Government at an early date".

As it was almost lunch time the Council spent a while in prayer "for Christians among native men who are leaders of men and followers of Christ".

After lunch Mrs. Rh. Jones explained The Girl Wayfarer Movement Resolution which was before the Council, reading: "This Conference expresses its earnest hope that the Girl Guide Council will even now reconsider the amalgamation of the Wayfarer Movement and agree instead to the Movement being recognised as a parallel organisation, and in this way avoid the break up of the Wayfarer Movement in South Africa", with the request "That the Christian Council be asked to endorse the resolution and to support it before the Girl Guide Council". After discussion, the following decision was taken: "That the statement be referred to the various Missionary Conferences and Native Education Advisory Boards for such information and advice as they may be able to offer, the Executive Committee to report to the Council".

The Budget was accepted as set forth in the minutes of the January Meeting of the Continuation Committee.

Upon the proposal of the Rev. Mr. Eveleigh it was decided that "The reports of the Council and Executive Meetings shall be supplied by the General Secretary of the official newspapers and magazines of the Churches represented on the Council".

The Executive was given authority to approve the minutes of the Conference on 24th June and of the first Council Meeting.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Bloemfontein Methodist Church for the use of its hall, and to the Secretaries. In replying Mr. J. Murray du Toit said: "The world has invented many machines, some very cruel. Perhaps the most complicated of all is the mechanism of Organised Christianity.. In spite of this I have taken on the Secretaryship of the Christian Council of South Africa because I believe it will be used by God to bring souls to His Kingdom. I wish, however, to state my clear conviction that Christ has called us to change lives, hence lifechanging will ever be my primary concern".

Closing devotions were conducted in German by Rev. E. Muller, followed by a prayer in Sechuana by Rev. Mr. Motshumi.

Committee on literature.

Summary of Activities.

1. Personal
2. Churches and Missionary Societies touched
3. Areas covered

Arrangements have been made for the functioning of Regional Committees in Xhosa, Zulu, Southern Sotho, Northern Sotho, Tswana, Western Secwana and the Shangaan-Ronga-Tswa cluster.
The Committees are as follows:

Xhosa Regional Committee

Mr. E. G. Barnes	S. A. G. M.	P.O. Mqanduli, Tembuland.
" W. G. Bennie	Pres.Ch.S.A.	Sunbury, Rondebosch.
Rev. F. C. Bota	C. U. S. A.	East Bank Location, East London.
" A. J. Cook	Meth. Ch.	Fort, Hare, Alice.
" R. Godfrey	Ch. of Scot.	King Wm's Town.
" J. J. R. Jolobe	Pres.Ch. S.A.	New Brighton.
" J. W. Joyce	Baptist Ch.	4, Mildura St., Kensington, Johannesburg.
" Dr. J. Lennox	Ch. of Scot.	P. O. Box 4962, Johannesburg.
Ven. Archdeacon J. Mather	" " Prov.	P. O. St. Luke's, East London.
Rev. Z. C. Mtshwelo	A. M. E.	Queenstown, C. P.
" G. G. Ndzotyana	Bantu Pres.Ch.	East Bank Location, East London.
" L. Ngqakayi	Moravian Ch.	Goshon, Cathcart.
" G. Pakendorf	Berlin M. S.	115, Topham Road, Pietermaritzburg.
" E. B. Pape	Baptist Ch.	P.O.Box 9, Berlin.
Ven. Archdeacon C. Wyche (<u>Convener</u>)	Ch. of Prov.	P. O. Box 181, Grahamstown, C.P.

Zulu Regional Committee

Rev. A. F. Christofersen	American Board	Esperanza, Natal.
" T. Dahle	Norwegian M.	Mapumulo, Natal.
Dr. C. M. Doke	Baptist	P. O. Box 1176, Johannesburg.
Rev. D. H. Eriksson	"	16, Tenth Street, Boksburg, North.
" J. B. Gardiner	Pres.Ch.S.A.	85, Raleigh Street, Yeoville, Johannesburg.
" K. Hallendorf	Ch. of Sweden	P.O. Rorke's Drift.
Mr. D. M. Malcolm (<u>Convener</u>)	(C. U. S. A.)	P. O. Box 395, Pietermaritzburg.
Rev. E. Ntuli	(Natal M. Con.)	Ladysmith, Natal.
Chief Ben Nxumole	Bantu Pres. Ch.	Bremersdorp, Swaziland.
Rev. I. N. Nyembezi	A. M. E.	Newcastle, Natal.
Rev. G. Pakendorf	Meth. Ch.	115 Topham Road, Pietermaritzburg.
Rev. F. Suter (<u>Acting Convener</u>)	Berlin Mission	Dumisa, Natal.
	S. A. G. M.	

Southern/

Southern Sotho Regional Committee

Rev. E. Bezencon	P. E. M. S.	P. O. Morija
Bro. B. Bunce, S. S. M.	Ch. of Prov.	St. Patrick's Priory, Bloemfontein.
Rev. J. A. Davidson	Ch. of Scot.	Mafube, Matatiele.
Rev. G. Dieterlen	P. E. M. S.	P. O. Morija.
" E. Dugmore	C. U. S. A.	Tiger Kloof.
" G. Mabile	P. E. M. S.	Thabana Morena, via Mafeteng.
(Acting Convener)	"	Mohlanapeng, P.O. Qacha's Nek.
" H. Mabile	"	"
(Convener)	"	"
" J. H. Mbulawa	Bantu Pres. Ch.	Springside, Matatiele.
" T. L. Mokau	A. M. E.	Bethlehem, O. F. S.
" S. Mokitimi	Meth. Ch.	Healdtown, C. P.
Rev. A. R. S. Poho	Pres. Ch. S. A.	P.O.Box 105, Heilbron.
Mr. Z. D. Mangoaelo	Swiss Mission	P. O. Morija.

Northern Sotho Regional Committee

Dr. R. D. Aitken	Ch. of Scot.	Gooldville, Sibasa.
Chief W. Z. Fenyang	Meth. Ch.	P. O. Box 17, Thaba 'Nchu.
Rev. W. Letsalo	Bantu Pres. Ch.	P. O. Leshoane, via Pietersburg.
Rev. S. K. Letuku	A. M. E.	39 9th St., Location, Benoni.
" H. M. Maimane	Ch. of Prov.	St. Cuthbert's M., Marabastad, Pretoria.
" P. E. Schwellnus	Berlin Mission	959 Pretorius St., E., Pretoria.
(Convener)	"	"
" G. P. Stegmann	D. R. C.	P. O. Saulspoort, via Rustenburg, Tvl.

Northern Tswana Regional Committee

Rev. K. Buhr	Hermannsburg M.	Bethanie, Rustenburg D.
" F. Jensen	"	Linokana, Tvl.
(Convener)	"	"
" R. Jonsing	"	175 Bodenstein St., Krugersdorp.
" E. Muller	Berlin Mission	3 Goddard Street, Bloemfontein.
" H. Penzhorn	Hermannsburg M.	Kana, P.O.Rustenburg.
" G. P. Stegmann	D. R. C.	P. O. Saulspoort, Rustenburg.
" H. Wenhold	Hermannsburg M.	Kana, P.O.Rustenburg.

Western Secwana Regional Committee

Mr. K. Chelenyane	P. O. Kanye, via Lobatsi, B.P.
Rev. Fr. H.H. Firkins S.S.M.	P. O. Box 2, Modderpoort, O.F.S.
Mr. J. S. Gape	P.O. Box 14, Mafeking, C.P.
Rev. A. J. Haile	P. O. Tigerkloof, C. P.
" J. Kgaladi	P. O. Serowe, B. P.
" M. Lekalake	Batharos, P. O. Kuruman.
" K. T. Motsetse B.D.	Tati Train. Inst., Tsessebe, B.P.
" N. S. Motshumi	African Methodist Parsonage, Bloemfontein, O. F. S.
Mr. J. Mpotokwane	P. O. Tigerkloof, C. P.
Rev. K. Raditladi	P. O. Serowe, Bech. Prot.
Rev. A. Sandilands	P. O. Maun, Ngamiland, via Serowe.
(Convener)	"
" I. B. Sekgwa	P. O. Maun, Ngamiland, via Serowe.

Shangaan-Ronga-Tswa Regional Committee

Rev. R. Cuenod	Swiss Mission	Elim Hospital, N.Tvl.
" A. A. Jaques	" "	Masana, Bushbuckridge.
" G.W. MacMichael	Ch. of Prov.	P.O.Box 56, Inhambane, via Lourenco Marques.
Mr. D. Marivati	Swiss Mission	Valdezia M.S., via Louis Trichardt.
" Penn	Ch. of Nazarene	
Rev. J. A. Persson	Meth. E. Ch.	P.O.Box 75, Cleveland.
" Jules Ryff	Free Methodist	P. O. Box 183, Germiston, Tvl.
" B. Terrisse (Convener)	Swiss Mission	2, Flora Str., Kensington, Johannesburg.

Generally speaking the first duties assigned to the Regional Committees have been as follows:

(1) Survey of the literature available in the particular language; each item to be listed under the heads: Language, Title, Author, Number of pages, Publisher's names, Retail Price, and an assessment of the character and value of the book or pamphlet.

(2) Report on MSS. already written and waiting publication with an account of their nature and value, and a statement of what has prevented publication hitherto.

(3) Statement of the gaps waiting to be filled. What new literature in the particular language would receive priority?

(4) Statement as to the mission presses working in the language area. Is it feasible to recognize one mission press as the press of the area?

(5) Report as to most successful methods of distribution and new methods that might be attempted.

(6) Any other particular tasks the Committee feels should be undertaken.

4. Information received.

5. Statistics available.

6. Success attained.

It is too early yet to give a report on the large tasks assigned to the Regional Committees. It is hoped, however, within the coming months to have the following meetings and to assign a whole day to each, viz.,

- (a) Meeting of Conveners of Regional Committees
- (b) Meeting of Representatives of Mission Presses
- (c) Meeting of African authors

After these meetings it will be more possible to assess the extent of the progress made.

7. Difficulties experienced.

Difficulty has been experienced in setting up a Committee to deal with Afrikaans literature for Coloured people. The following representatives have been appointed:

Rev. A. Knottenbelt/

Rev. A. Knottenbelt	Meth. Ch.	Stellenbosch.
" D.S. Kroneberg	Moravian Ch.	Maitland, C. P.
" W. H. Lloyd	C. U. S. A.	"Glan-yr-afon", Paarl.
Mr. E. J. Moses, B.A.	Meth. Ch.	Principal, Coloured Sch., Stellenbosch.
" A. F. Pietersen	C. U. S. A.	C/o "Glan-yr-afon", Paarl.
Principal, Moravian School	Moravian Ch.	18, Ashley St., Cape Town.
Rev. P. W. Schaberg	" "	" " " " " "

Suggested members from the Dutch Reformed Church:

Revs. Messrs. J.M.N. Breedt, P.G.J. Meiring, G.L. van Heerde, Joubert (Paarl).

Unfortunately the Dutch Reformed Church of the Cape Province has intimated through the Rev. G. L. van Heerde as follows:

"You asked me how I view the proposal of the Committee and whether I can take the necessary steps for the appointments of those connected with our Church. At the present time I am afraid I am not able to do anything at all. We are waiting for definite proposals from the executive Committee of the Council."

A further difficulty is that it is felt in some quarters the Regional Committees are too large; it is believed that smaller Committees would be more effective, particularly as it might then be possible for the members to meet. The inability of the Council to meet travelling expenses of Committee members is to be a seriously hampering factor.

Though not coming under the work of the Literature Committee but allied with it, is my own work as Literary Secretary. Tasks undertaken have been:

- (a) Preparation of Council's Report of meetings in January, 1937.
 - (b) Preparation of pamphlet on HELP FOR THE BANTU AUTHOR.
 - (c) Editorship of official organ THE SOUTH AFRICAN OUTLOOK.
 - (d) Various articles on non-European questions, e.g. THE SEPARATIST CHURCHES OF SOUTH AFRICA (International Review of Missions), MORAVIAN BICENTENARY, etc.
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THE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA.

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Sectional Committee on
Evangelism

Somerset Road,
NIGEL.
25th Oct., '37

Dear Friend,

In the Report of the January 1937 Meeting of the Christian Council in Johannesburg, dealing with the work of the above Committee, it was urged that our Committee should not postpone the organisation of an active missionary campaign in the near future. Our Committee is therefore anxious to investigate the possibilities in connection with such an Evangelistic forward movement.

I shall endeavour to give you some idea of what is being aimed at.

a) The Idea of an Evangelistic Campaign.

In 1938 the Voortrekker Centenary will be celebrated.

In 1938 the Methodist Church will celebrate by an Evangelistic Campaign the 200th Anniversary of John Wesley's Evangelical Conversion.

In 1938 the General Conference of the I.M.C. will be held in Hangchow, and speakers at that Conference will pass through South Africa on their way to China; cf (c) below.

There is a strong expression from the leaders of the Churches of the world-wide need for Evangelisation in our day.

1938 therefore seems the opportune year for such an undertaking by the Churches Universal in South Africa.

b) The Time for such an Evangelistic Campaign.

The opinion of the Advisory Sub-Committee is that "this Campaign should be held between the close of the Missionary Conference next winter (1938) and the departure of the South African delegates for Hangchow (25th September - 14 October, 1938.)"

c) Speakers for the Evangelistic Campaign.

Speakers are to be sought from South Africa as well as from delegations for Hangchow.

d) The Scope of the Evangelistic Campaign.

This Campaign should extend to, and include, all European, Indian, Coloured and Native Communities in South Africa.

e) The Object of this Evangelistic Campaign

is to be two fold - i) its aim is to be primarily a positive evangelistic effort to reach the unevangelised and unconverted;

ii) it should at the same time afford an opportunity for studying the evangelistic methods of all those organisations which have joined hands in this Campaign, as well as of the methods employed in their missionary spheres of work; questions as the following: (a) the Church's sense of Evangelistic Responsibility; (b) the Church's local efforts; (c) local methods; (d) training of ministers, lay and other Evangelists; (e) missionary agencies: medical, educational, etc.; (f) successes - failures; (g) hindrances.

All this can be achieved through small Committees appointed locally, and working through sectional meetings - with a view to crystallising data into useful results.

With all this in view I shall be most grateful to you for a reply to reach me not later than the 15th of November. Kindly give this most important matter your earnest thought and prayer; and please express your considered opinion on the advisability and practicability of such an Evangelistic Campaign in 1938, and make suggestions in the above scheme freely.

As soon as the replies of all the members of the Committee on Evangelism have been received, I shall endeavour to coordinate them into an agenda for an early meeting of the Committee on Evangelism probably to be held at Pretoria.

This Meeting of the Committee on Evangelism will be a preliminary to a joint Meeting of the Advisory Sub-Committee with the Committee on Evangelism with the object of drawing up a circular letter to be sent to all bodies likely to co-operate.

Yours sincerely,

(Rev.) W.A. Malherbe

(Interim Convener.)

THE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA.

P.O.Box 1107,
PRETORIA.
Christmas, 1936.

Dear Friend,

While it is difficult to realize that 1936 has gone, upon reflection one cannot be other than grateful for so much that has happened during the course of the year.

On January 15th and 16th the Continuation Committee of the 1934 Mott Conference met for definite arrangements towards the formation of a Christian Council for South Africa. Preliminaries were by no means spectacular; what a lot of spadework there was, gathering the opinions of Church and Mission leaders, learning the needs of the field, comparing the different and varying suggestions, drawing up a draft constitution, encouraging the fearful, conferring with the valiant, urging participation in the proposed conference and making the necessary arrangements for its success.

How quickly all this is written. How long it took to plan, check, advertise, execute. Only one human factor made it possible at all - the deep need and keen desire on the part of the Churches and Missions for more understanding and cooperation. And only one superhuman factor assured its success - God's Grace.

Then came the Conference. A report has been published, and so has the photograph, but those whose names and faces appear are only a small percentage of the large number who have assisted in the launching of the Christian Council of South Africa.

In addition to the Minutes of this Conference, those of the First Council Meeting, and of the various Executive and Advisory Committee Meetings, have been freely circulated, and so has "A Statement" and the adopted Constitution. The Secretary has addressed many meetings, synods, and conferences, has conducted various services, has corresponded with innumerable friends about the work, has visited many institutions, including Stofberg, Adam's and Modderpoort, has endeavoured to acquaint himself through personal contact and through reading with the work, opinions, aims, needs and difficulties of the affiliated bodies, and he is keenly sensible of the positive contribution which can make to this great cooperative scheme in the field of mission work.

The Council has been specially active through its seven departments on Education, Evangelism, Literature, Medical Work, Native Welfare, Women's Work and Youth Movements, each under the care of a specially appointed Convener who is aided by a committee the personnel of which must be approved by the Council. These departments are studying their various fields, are comparing methods of activity, are reviewing suggestions for future work, and have not only coordinated existing activities but also initiated work hitherto untouched.

From many quarters, ecclesiastical and governmental, have come expressions of gratitude that the Christian Forces of South Africa have at long last marshalled their ranks and presented a united front. Already the results of this cooperative spirit are evident. Already there has been achieved collectively what has proved impossible individually. But without doubt the greatest achievement is not any material result, but rather what the Constitution calls "the promotion of such fellowship amongst the churches as will create an atmosphere of respect and confidence, and will lead to united thinking, interceding, planning and action on the part of the Christian forces of the country." It is no exaggeration to say that this fellowship IS steadily growing. The atmosphere IS changing. Respect and confidence are more evident. There has been united thinking and doing. Whether there has been enough intercession is for each reader to decide on a personal score.

"Is a Council necessary?" asked the President in his inaugural address. By the showing of each one of the dozens of

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(page two.)

mission secretaries connected with the work of the Council the answer is " Decidedly yes! "

" Is a Council possible? " was the Presidents second question. His own reply was " Distinctly yes, if we make it possible if we determine to succeed, if we are not afraid to undertake work of the First Magnitude, " but his qualifying condition was our mutual respect and confidence in each other's sincerity. Respect and Sincerity! And even these Christian virtues can be given in answer to prayer by Him Who gives liberally, without upbraiding us for our past disrespect and insincerity.

A question: " Are you optimistic about the success of the Council? " An answer: " No, I am not optimistic, I am sure that He Who has begun this great work of a new spirit of respect, sincerity and cooperation will perform it. "

The six methods of assistance enumerated in " A Statement " are recommended again. The need for financial support is stressed. The literature available is emphasised. The meetings of the Conveners of Committees, of the Committees themselves, of the Advisory Committee, of the Executive Committee and of the Council itself, all to be held in Johannesburg on January 20th, 21st and 22nd, are brought to your notice with the request that they may be given a very special place in your prayers.

To those who ask " But what is the Council doing? " the reports of these meetings will be an adequate reply. The Secretary will gladly place your name on the mailing list of the Council should you so desire. The Secretary is ever at your disposal by telephone, (1107 and 9307,) by telegram, (SENDING PRETORIA,) by letter, (P.O.Box 1107,) or by personal interview, (224 Visagie Street,) and the Conveners of the various Committees will gladly give a full report of the work of their respective Committees.

We know that boredom tempts when innumerable circulars arrive, that procrastination and inaccuracy creep in when schedules have to be completed, that doubt as to the worthwhileness of "another organisation" arises, but even these bombs, loaded with hard schrapnel or subtle poison, are harmless when they strike against the impervious shield of faith. May " this assurance of the hoped for, and this present proof of the unseen " be your possessions anew (or for the first time?) this Christmas.

With every good wish,
Sincerely yours,

(Rev.) J. Murray du Toit.

J/T.

SECRETARY CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF S.A.

Hierdie Kersgroet is in Engels - ons Nuwejaarsgroet is in Afrikaans.
This Christmas Greeting is in English - our New Year Greeting is in Afrikaans.

THE CONTINUATION COMMITTEE OF THE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA

Telegrams: SENDING
P.O.Box: 433,
PRETORIA.
21 March, 1936.

Bloemfontein Conference, 24th June, 1936.

Mr. J.D. Rheinalit Jones.

Dear Sir,

With reference to, and in further elucidation of, my correspondence re the above-mentioned Conference, I wish to say that it has been pointed out to the Advisory Sub-Committee that the formally correct procedure to adopt would be:

- 1) to ask the Conference of 24th June, 1936, at Bloemfontein to undertake a further revision of the Draft Constitution;
- 2) to submit the Draft Constitution as approved by the Conference to the Constituent Bodies for adoption;
- 3) to call the first meeting of the Council, consisting of the representatives of bodies adopting the Constitution, finally to ratify the Constitution and to proceed with the work.

The Advisory Sub-Committee has however taken into consideration:

- 1) that such action as detailed above would cause further delay in the launching of the Council which has already been held up all too long;
- 2) that the Draft Constitution as now circulated among the proposed constituent bodies has the unanimous approval of members of almost all these bodies acting on the Continuation Committee of the Mott Conference, and that there is every likelihood that the Draft Constitution will be generally adopted without any further radical alterations.

Accordingly the Advisory Sub-Committee wishes to restate its request as follows:

- 1) that the proposed constituent bodies should, where possible, consider and provisionally adopt the Draft Constitution;
- 2) that representatives from these proposed constituent bodies should be appointed to the Conference of 24th June to discuss such possible amendments to the Constitution as may have been proposed by the constituent bodies -- such discussion to be by representatives from these bodies, (who therefore ipso facto become members of Council) with individuals who are members of Conference but who may not necessarily become members of Council;
- 3) that these representatives of constituent bodies if they are satisfied that no radical alteration to which their respective bodies would object, has been made to the Draft Constitution, should be authorised to take part in a first meeting of the Council to be held immediately after the Conference on the basis of the then approved Constitution, and to proceed with the work of the Council subject to ratification by the Constituent bodies.

I trust that your Church or Society will see its way clear to approve of this procedure and so expedite the launching of the Christian Council of South Africa.

If you have not yet received a copy of the Draft Constitution, and desire one, please notify the Secretary immediately.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. J. ...
SECRETARY

THE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA.

THE COMMITTEE OF NATIVE WELFARE.

(Convener: H.Ph. Junod, 376 von Weilligh St., Pretoria.)

SECOND CIRCULAR TO MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

Dear

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Christian Council of South Africa, held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Pretoria, on Wednesday, 14th October, 1936, various matters concerning the terms of reference of our Committee on Native Welfare were discussed, as well as the possibility of increasing the membership of our Committee.

1) Membership of our Committee: I have now received a few definite answers to my first Circular and the following persons have accepted to serve on our Committee:

- Rev. J.E. Hallendorff, Church of Sweden Mission, Box 1126,
Johannesburg.
Mrs. Rheinallt Jones, Box 1176, Johannesburg. (Institute of
Race Relations.)
Rev. E. Bottrill, Methodist Church, 778 Pretorius St., Pretoria.
Rev. G.de. C. Murray, D.R. Church, Umtata, Transkei.
Rev. Martin Knight, S.S.M.C. of England, St. Patrick's Priory,
Bloemfontein.
Mr. R.S. Steensma, D.R. Church, Stofberg Gedenkskool, P.O.
Viljoensdrift, O.F.S. (Has accepted provisionally.)
Rev. H. Mabille, Paris Evangelical Miss. Society, Motlanafery,
Basutoland.

From Rev. A.J. Haile, London Missionary Sty., Tiger Kloof, we have learned that Mr. J.C. Mogorosi has been appointed on our Committee by the L.M.S. and we are very grateful to have an African member to represent the Bechuanaland Protectorate.

Mrs. Z.K. Matthews has been unable to answer our call, but we intend to ask for the co-operation of Mrs. J.S. Moroka of Thaba Nchu. It has also been suggested that if the co-operation of Bishop Lee of Zululand could be obtained, his help and information would be most valuable to the Committee. It is also proposed to add to our Committee the Rev. Jaeckel, as representative of the Berlin Mission. As for the Swaziland Protectorate, it is proposed that Mr. Kuhne, the present principal of the National School be asked to co-operate with our Committee. Mev. Ds. J.W.L. Hofmeyr is provisionally co-operating with us also, as the president of the Women's missionary Union of the Dutch Reformed Church of the Cape. It has also been suggested that Mr. L. Marquard of Bloemfontein would be a very useful member of our Committee.

2) Terms of Reference:

- a) Question of the incorporation of the Protectorates into the Union and Bantu opinion.
- b) Comprehensive Study of the influence of the Compound system on Bantu life, constructive criticism, and suggestion as to new labour policy in the mines.
- c) Bantu citizenship, and study of the Bunga with a view to furthering this form of Government to other parts of the Union.
- d) Policy of the various municipalities towards the urban natives and native wages in town.
- e) Disintegration of Bantu communal life in towns and the necessity of building up a new morality. Question of separatist bodies.

- f) Chapter 4 of Native Land and Trust Act and the question of "released areas" as affecting the Churches and missionary societies.
- g) Pass-laws and their abolition.

3) Work Already undertaken: We have in hand a very useful and valuable letter from the Rev. H. Mebille, our member for Basutoland, giving a careful description of the situation in this Protectorate as regards eventual transfer. We will bring it to the notice of our members as soon as we have also the description of the situation in Bechuanaland and in Swaziland. We suggest that Mr. Mogorosi and Mr. Kuhne might send us such a description as soon as possible.

The Rev. G. de C. Murray has accepted to write a paper on the working of the "Bunga" system in the Transkei, and we suggest that this paper may be submitted to our Committee in January, 1937.

A letter from the Rev. Harold Bollen, Methodist Church, Bensonvale, draws our attention to a very serious state of affairs in the Ciskei as regards Native marriages. "A man may marry according to Christian rits, and soon afterwards take another wife according to Native custom, and there is nothing beyond moral persuasion to stop him, and under such circumstances that is admittedly not very strong." The writer of this letter suggests that our Council, I suppose rather our Committee of the Council, might care to discuss this question, and if it is deemed fit, move in the matter.

The Executive Committee of the Council has asked us to inform the Secretary of Native Affairs of its attitude regarding the Token System on the Natal Coal Mines. The Executive Committee was of opinion that this System was iniquitous and urged that every effort should be made to remedy this evil.

.....

The Christian Council will meet on the 21st and the 22nd January, 1937, in Johannesburg. The Executive Meeting shall meet on the 20th at 2 p.m. The various Conveners of the Committees of the Council shall meet for one hour in the morning of the 20th at 8 a.m. So I suggest that Our Committee should meet on the 20th January, 1937, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and I shall send all members who answer the present Circular an official intimation of the meeting. The work of Committees is of paramount importance, and if it is carried out properly, the Council will be helped considerably in its own work. In the proposed meeting of our Committee, we may review the situation, as far as our terms of reference are concerned, and formulate concrete proposals on a few points, where united action seems necessary.

Thanking all the members who have already answered our call and those who have already contributed to our work, I wish to urge all those who have not yet done so to let me know as soon as possible if they can accept to collaborate in the work of the Native Welfare Committee. I wish also to ask for all practical suggestions which may help us to do useful work and to enlist the support of members of the various churches and missionary societies who are most capable, by their training, their ability and their experience, to bring the work of the Native Welfare Committee to real efficiency.

Yours in Our Master's Service,

Henri Ph. Junod.

DIE CHRISTENRAAD VAN SUID-AFRIKA.

I/s Finansiële Oproep.

Geagte Vriend,

Soos u weet het die Uitvoerende Komitee besluit om 'n Finansiële Oproep te doen, en 'n sameroeper in elk van vyf hoofafdelinge is gevra om al die Raadslede in sy afdeling om hom te skaar as 'n komitee. Die Transvaalse afdeling sal MAANDAG 17 JANUARIE om 10 UUR V.M. in die IRENEKERK, pleinstraat 88, Johannesburg, ontmoet om hulle relinge te tref i/s die veldtog.

Sal u asseblief, indien enigsins moontlik, teënwoordig wees? Kan u nie kom nie, verwittig my asseblief, en stuur ons enige voorstelle.

Dit is my onnodig u te verduidelik wat die Raad genoodsaak het om hierdie oproep te maak. Die oorspronklike begroting was £1500. 'n Lid van die I.S.R. het die gedagte uitgespreek dat dit 'n besonder klein begroting was. Tog is kort daarna die begroting vasgestel as £750, omdat gemeen is dit makliker deur Suid-Afrika aanvaar sou word. Ons finansiële verslag toon hoe die onkoste die inkomste maar steeds wil oortref, en daarby staan ons voor die oortuiging dat daar nog lang nie genoeg verrig word nie. Hierdie saak word Maandag terdeë bespreek, en u teënwoordigheid is dringend nodig.

Hartelik die uwe,

Nicolsonstraat 152,
Brooklyn,
Pretoria.
13 Januarie 1938.

J. M. du Toit,

SEKRETARIS.

THE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA.

Re Financial Appeal.

Dear Friend,

As you are aware the Executive Committee decided to make a financial appeal, and a convener in each of five main areas has been asked to rally all Council members in his area round him as a committee

The Transvaal Area will launch its campaign on MONDAY 17th JANUARY, at 10 a.m., when the committee will meet in the IRENE CHURCH, 88 Plein Street, Johannesburg, to make final arrangements.

Will you please be present? Should you be unable to attend, kindly inform me, and send in any suggestions you may wish to make.

It is unnecessary for me to explain the necessity for this appeal. The original budget was fixed at £1500. Even then a member of the I.M.C. remarked that it seemed a low figure. Yet it was decided shortly afterwards to halve this figure, as it was thought that by so doing it would be made easier for South Africa to raise the sum. Our financial report shows how expenses have consistently threatened to exceed income, and in addition we are faced with the conviction that our work is being curtailed sadly for lack of funds. This matter is being discussed carefully on Monday, and your presence is urgently required.

Sincerely yours,

152, Nicolson Street,
Brooklyn,
Pretoria.
13th January, 1938.

J. M. du Toit,

SECRETARY.

17, Priscilla Street,
Belgravia,
Johannesburg,

March 27th, 1943.

Dear Friend,

You will be surprised to receive this letter as nearly two years has elapsed since a meeting was called of the Women's Section of the Christian Council. It has not seemed necessary as all of you were very busy with war work and perhaps still are engaged in that type of work but we must get together and either decide to disband or reconstruct the committee. I have been waiting for a lead from our convener Mrs Creed, who took the position after Mrs. Lew Hofmeyr's death. I am sending you excerpts from her letter.

"With the dawning of the New Year I have been brought face to face with the same question, that many of you have faced I expect. - What are my commitments for this year? St. Paul's words have come afresh - "For me to live as Christ". His will must be paramount. That being so where do my activities lie?

January was not far advanced before a new avenue of service arose, created by the crying needs of the cosmopolitan crowds one meets at the Cape these days. Truly Capetown was never more truly named - "The Gateway to S. Africa", than today, and I have seen it as a "Gateway to a New Christian World". From many quarters comes the vision, and the willingness to help to make that vision real, of a "Christian Council International Bureau", or rest room. The Communists have their centres throughout the world. We feel the need of a Christian Community Centre, where people can meet in ones and twos, or in greater numbers, irrespective of colour, race or creed. A place where hearts can be unburdened, temporary rest and shelter given, and where necessary, food supplied, and directions given.

While the Cape is the "Gateway" from land to sea, to and fro up into the heart of Africa, out to the wider world, and consequently probably the natural centre for such a Bureau to first be established, we feel many of you may think your own towns are equally in need of such a centre.

Here some of us are thinking more particularly of the women and children. Such centres could be homes for the "live cells" we talked of before, to congregate; they could be real power centres for breaking down prejudices and race pride, and for creating and fostering a truly Christlike family unity of spirit and purpose. They could be centres where we could face our commitments to each other in the spirit of unity and love; where we could realise one of the last prayers of our Lord and Saviour - "Holy Father keep, through Thine Own Name, those whom Thou hast given Me, that they may be one as we are one." (John XVII.2)

I should dearly love to be able to visit various centres in this glorious land of ours, to acquire first hand knowledge of the real needs of each place, but we know how difficult travelling is those days. Will you co-operate therefore, in helping to contact people in your own localities; and will you do all you can to foster the Spirit of Unity between the various sections of the community around you?

Yours in loving Fellowship,
Lydie Creed.

"

A new Chairwoman must be found if we go on and a plan of campaign for reconstruction after the war.

Will you therefore attend a meeting at Miss Beale's, Sherwell Street, Johannesburg, at 10.30 a.m. on May 3rd.

Yours sincerely,

Katherine G. Taylor.

CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA
Women's Section (Johannesburg Branch)

The Tenth Meeting of the Women's Section (Johannesburg Branch) of the Christian Council of South Africa was held at Miss Beale's on May 3rd, 1943, at 10.30 a.m.

PRESENT: Mrs. Dexter Taylor (in the Chair); Misses Beale, and Brown, Mesdames Clinton, Phillips, Rogers and Rouse.

After full discussion it was agreed to carry on with a small General Purpose Committee until it seemed advisable to call the full Committee together for a special meeting. Mrs. Taylor and Miss Beale agreed to convene the next meeting.

The General Purposes Committee is as follows:-

Mrs. Taylor, Miss Beale, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Henderson, Madame Borel, Miss Brown, Miss Weir, Mrs. Clinton, Mrs. Joyce, Mrs. Rouse, Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. Aston Key, Mrs. Persson, Mrs. Ritchie, Miss Jones and Mrs. Pratt-Nickels.

You will be interested to know that Mrs. Rheinallt Jones has agreed to be Convenor for South Africa, (Women's Section).

We shall be hearing from her in due course.

(Sgd) Katherine Guernsey Taylor,
Chair.

" Agnes C. Beale
Secretary.

Christian Council

THE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA

An Association of Churches and Missionary Societies of South Africa for the extension of the Kingdom of God

President :
The Most Rev. the Archbishop of Cape Town.

Vice-Presidents :
The Rev. A. J. Haile, M.A.
The Rev. S. M. Mokitimi.

Hon. Treasurer :
The Rev. A. A. Wellington,
Healdtown, C.P.

Hon. Secretary :
The Rev. E. W. Grant.
Lovedale, C.P.

Telegrams :
"Grant, Lovedale."

Telephone :
51, Alice.

LOVEDALE, C.P.

9th November, 1943.

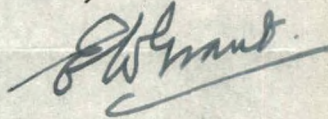
Dear Mrs. Jones,

I am so delighted that you can join us for dinner on Tuesday next. We shall be able to discuss your plans for women's part in the Christian Council as embodied in your letter of November 1st. I am greatly stirred by the suggestions you have made and can see a wonderful opening up of service in many directions. It will be a happiness to have a chat about this and about other matters in which we are mutually interested.

Thank you too, for your note of the 4th November. I do hope it may be possible for you to be at the Conference at Bloemfontein if the plans go through as we suggest. Thanks also for sending on the names of Miss McLarty and Mr. Paton.

Looking forward to seeing you next week.

Yours,



P.S. Thank you very much for sending ^{me} you a copy of your very valuable letter to Dr. Kerr.

Mrs. J. D. Rheinallt Jones,
P.O. Box 97,
Johannesburg.

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SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS (SAIRR), 1892-1974

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