

QW/OMA.

2nd September, 1946.

Senator Dr. The Hon. E. H. Brookes,
88 Pietermaritz St.,
PIETERMARITZBURG.

Dear Senator Brookes,

Thank you very much for your letter of 27th August about the proposed conference on the Silicosis Act. Actually Mr. Waterson wrote a note enclosing a copy of his letter to you. I return his letter to you. When Mr. Rheinallt Jones comes back, on September 16th, we shall get busy on a memorandum and try to have it ready before the Conference in November.

Mr. Damant has not yet gone into the matter of the Trust and the possible changes in our Constitution. He has promised to do so immediately.

Dr. Van Eck says he is sorry that he cannot let us have Reports 8 and 9 of the Social and Economic Planning Council. You did suggest that you would let us have your copies. The Sub-committee on migratory labour will be very glad to have them and also the Report of the Native Affairs Commission if that is possible.

Yours sincerely,

Quintin Whyte,
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR.

Enclos:

FROM

SENATOR EDGAR H. BROOKES.

RAILWAY STATION.
AMANZIMTOTI (8 MILES)

TELEPHONE:
ADAMS MISSION STATION, No. 1.

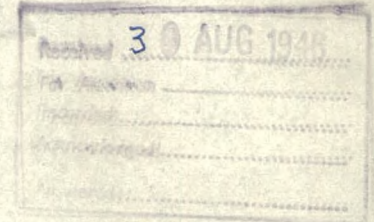
"EMSEBENI"

P.O. ADAMS MISSION STATION,
NATAL.

88 Pietermaritz Street,
Pietermaritzburg.

27th August, 1946.

Q. Whyte, Esq.,
C/o S.A. Institute of Race Relations,
P.O. Box 97,
Johannesburg.



Dear Mr. Whyte,

I am sending you an original letter from Mr. Waterson and a copy of my reply, regarding the proposed conference on the Silicosis Act. Kindly return Mr. Waterson's letter after perusal.

I hope that my reply satisfies you. I suggest that the Institute could help us all by preparing a memorandum on the points raised by the Minister.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

ENCL./

88 Pietermaritz Street,
Pietermaritzburg.

27th August, 1946.

The Honourable S.F. Waterson,
Minister of Mines,
Pretoria.

Dear Mr. Waterson,

I thank you very much for your letter No. M M 60/24 of the 19th August regarding the proposed conference with regard to pensions under the Silicosis Act. I think that a conference in November would be quite satisfactory. As you say it would give us time to think out our answers to some of the difficulties which have arisen.

May I respectfully suggest that among those invited to the conference should be the Deputy Chairman of the Native Affairs Commission, Dr. D.L. Smit, who has taken a very lively interest in this matter, and indeed, if possible, the whole Commission together with the Native Representatives in Parliament. The Institute of Race Relations will presumably be asked to send a representative also.

If you could get your department during your absence to fix a date, it would be helpful to all concerned if we could have fairly good notice of the date and place of meeting.

May I take this opportunity to wish you every success in your very important visit to Europe. I hope that you will have a pleasant as well as a successful time, and a safe and speedy return.

Yours sincerely,

QW/OVZ.

28th Aug, 1946.

Secretary for Mines,
Department of Mines,
PRETORIA.

Dear Sir,

re: SILICOSIS ACT.

I write to thank you for your letter No. M.M.60/24 dated 19th August, 1946, together with a copy of the letter of Senator Brookes.

Yours faithfully,

(Quintin Whyte)
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR.

Telegramadres } "Mineralogy."
 Telegraphic Address }

Meld in u antwoord asb.
 In reply please quote

No. M.M. 60/24.....



UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.
 UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

DEPARTEMENT VAN MYNWESE,
 DEPARTMENT OF MINES.

19-8-1946
 PRETORIA.....19....

The Assistant Director,
 South African Institute of Race Relations,
 P.O. Box 97,
 JOHANNESBURG.

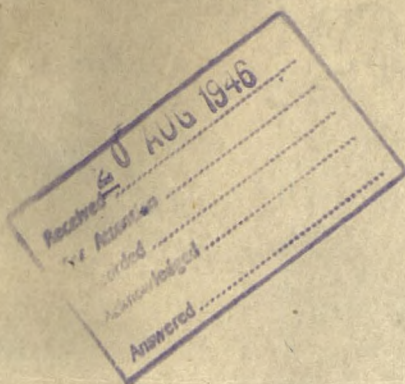
Sir,

RE SILICOSIS ACT.

With reference to your letter of 1st August, 1946,
 addressed to the Honourable the Minister of Mines, I am directed
 by Mr. Waterson to hand you the attached copy of a letter which
 he has addressed to Senator the Honourable Edgar H. Brookes, which
 will speak for itself.

I have the honour to be,
 Sir,
 Your obedient Servant,

W. E. ...
 ACTING SECRETARY FOR MINES.



M. M. 60/24.

P R E T O R I A .

19-8-1946

My dear Senator Brookes,

RE SILICOSIS ACT.

I have received a letter from Mr. Quintin Whyte, Assistant Director of the South African Institute of Race Relations, in which he refers to the fact that, during the course of the abovementioned measure through Parliament, I agreed to a conference during the recess for discussion of the principle of including Africans in the pension provisions contemplated by this piece of legislation.

I recollect that I did so agree and I am willing to participate in such a discussion. Apart, however, from the many practical difficulties inherent in the application of a pension scheme devolving on a complete industrial history of the subject and the lifelong identifications of the African mineworker and his dependents, all of which calls for careful deliberation,

my/.....

My own movements will render it impracticable to hold a conference in the near future. I am to go on a fairly extensive visit to Europe at an early date and it seems to me that the proposed conference can best be called at some date in November. This will also afford you and those with you to devote some thought to the best methods of overcoming the practical difficulties on which I have touched above.

Will you please let me know how you feel about the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Signed: Sidney F. Waterson.

Senator the Honourable Edgar H. Brookes,
Ensebeni,
P.O. Adams Mission Station,
NATAL.

AAE/EduP.

9pc
QW/OMA.

1st August, 1946.

The Honourable,
The Minister of Mines,
Department of Mines,
New Law Courts,
Von Brandis Sq.,
JOHANNESBURG.

Sir,

Silicosis Bill.

At the last meeting of the Executive Committee of this Institute, the President, Senator Dr. the Hon. E.H. Brookes, informed the meeting that you had agreed in principle to the inclusion of Africans in the pension provisions of the Silicosis Bill and that you had agreed to call a conference during the Parliamentary recess on this matter. The Executive Committee will be very grateful if you will accord it the right to send a representative to such a conference.

The Institute, to which are affiliated Universities, Churches, the principal municipalities as well as other bodies, has a wide and varied membership which represents a certain cross-section of the community. It has, as you may know, interested itself in matters of Non-European welfare for the past seventeen years, and has in the persons of its officials and Executive Committee acquired an intimate knowledge of Non-European needs and inter-racial difficulties, which it can bring to bear on any particular problem.

Yours faithfully,

Quintin Whyte,
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR.

*Silcock's
file*

*attached to insert
from the minutes of
Annals.*

QW/GVZ. (Dict.)

1 November, 1946.

Senator N.E. Brookes,
88 Pietermaritz Street,
PIETERMARITZBURG.

Dear Senator Brookes,

I write on behalf of Mr. Rheinallt Jones to acknowledge your letter of 27th October, 1946 and to thank you very much for the figures which you have managed to obtain for the Year Book. The Director is in Cape Town and has been there for the last three weeks. He returns on November the 3rd when I will put your letter before him.

Yours faithfully,

Quintin Whyte
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

MRS

FROM

SENATOR EDGAR H. BROOKES.

TELEPHONE 2714.

~~From~~
LA

Received	29 OCT 1946
For Action	.....
Recorded	.....
Acknowledged	.....
Answered	.....

88. PIETERMARITZ STREET.
PIETERMARITZBURG.

27th October, 1946.

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

My dear R.J.,

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter from the Secretary for Mines and a copy of my reply thereto on the subject of the proposed conference on pensions for Natives under the Silicosis Act. I shall be glad to know whether you agree with the line that I have taken.

You will notice that the Mines Department gives you the opportunity of submitting a memorandum or making suggestions.

I also enclose an original letter from Mr. Young of the Native Affairs Department which gives you some of the statistics which you asked for in connection with the Year Book. I doubt if I should be justified in asking the Department to circularise every Native Commissioner as suggested in the last paragraph of the letter.

Please return the letter when you have dealt with it.

With kind regards,
Yours sincerely,

Edgar H. Brookes

ENCL./

No. 60/24.

Department of Mines,
Pretoria.

23/10/46.

Senator Edgar H. Brookes,
88 Pietermaritz Street,
Pietermaritzburg.

Sir,

CONFERENCE RE PENSIONS FOR NATIVES -
SILICOSIS ACT.

With reference to your letter of the 27th August last, addressed to Mr. Waterson, I have to advise you that it is proposed to hold the conference during the third week in November next. You will be informed in due course of the exact date and venue.

As regards the suggestion put forward in the second paragraph of your letter, I would like to say that while it is appreciated that interested parties should be represented it is felt that if representation is allowed on too broad a basis it will render the conference unwieldy. After careful consideration it has, therefore, been decided to confine the representation to the South African Institute of Race Relations, the Department of Native Affairs, the Chamber of Mines, the Silicosis Medical Bureau and the Silicosis Board.

An invitation is accordingly extended to the South African Institute of Race Relations through you as President to nominate a representative to attend the conference.

I shall be glad if I can be kindly notified in due course of the Institute's nominee.

Any comments or suggestions which the Institute may wish to offer prior to the conference will be appreciated.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

(Sgd.)

SECRETARY FOR MINES.

27th October, 1946.

The Secretary for Mines,
Pretoria.

Dear Sir,

I thank you for your letter No. 60/24 of the 23rd October. I note that it is proposed to hold the conference on pensions for Natives and the Silicosis Act in the third week in November.

I would, however, draw your attention to the fact that the Native Affairs Commission is meeting on the 18th and 19th November and that the Native Representative Council has been called together for what may be a very critical session on the 20th. I would, therefore, respectfully suggest that you consider the fourth week in November rather than the third.

I should very much like to attend the conference myself and that the Institute of Race Relations might also be represented by the Director Mr. J. D. Rheinallt Jones. If only one representative is allowed from the Institute, it should be Mr. Rheinallt Jones.

While I appreciate the necessity for not making the conference unwieldy, I feel somewhat unhappy that neither the Parliamentary Representative of the Natives in the Transvaal nor the Parliamentary Representative of the Natives in the greatest recruiting area, namely the Transkei, is being invited to be present. As the co-operation of these gentlemen would be important in any discussions in Parliament, I hope it may be found possible to include them.

I am passing on to Mr. Rheinallt Jones your very kind offer to consider any comments or suggestions from the Institute prior to the conference.

Yours faithfully,

JDRJ/DAR (Dict.)

19th November, 1946.

The Secretary for Mines,
Department of Mines,
PRETORIA.

Dear Sir,

CONFERENCE RE PENSIONS FOR NATIVES: SILICOSES ACT.

VII. I thank you for your letter of the 12th instant No.60/24

I note the change of dates which will be quite convenient.

Yours faithfully,

J.D. RHEINALLT JONES
DIRECTOR.

Telegramadres }
Telegraphic Address }

"Mineralogy."

UNIE VAN
SUID-AFRIKA.



UNION OF
SOUTH AFRICA.

Meld in u antwoord asb.
In reply please quote

No. M.M. 60/24. VII.

DEPARTEMENT VAN MYNWESE,
DEPARTMENT OF MINES,

PRETORIA, _____ 19__

J.D. Rheinallt Jones, Esq.,
Director,
South African Institute of Race
Relations,
P.O. Box, 97,
JOHANNESBURG.

12-11-1946

Received	13 NOV 1946
For Attention	.....
Recorded	.....
Acknowledged	.....
Answered	.....

Sir,

CONFERENCE RE PENSIONS FOR NATIVES : SILICOSIS ACT.

I have to invite your attention to paragraph 2 of my letter of the 4th instant in connection with the above matter.

Owing to unavoidable circumstances the Honourable the Minister of Mines will not be in a position to attend the above Conference on the 22nd instant. He has consequently decided, after consultation with Senator the Honourable Dr. Edgar Brookes, that the Conference should be held on the 5th proximo. The time and venue thereof will remain unchanged.

It is hoped that the date decided upon will be convenient to you.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

V. H. ...
SECRETARY FOR MINES.

Received 5 NOV 1946
For Answer
Recorded
Acknowledged
Answered

M.D. 460.

Telegramadres } "Mineralogy."
Telegraphic Address }

Meld in u antwoord asb.
In reply please quote

No. M.M. 60/24 VII.



UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

DEPARTEMENT VAN MYNWESE,
DEPARTMENT OF MINES,

PRETORIA 19.....

4-11-1946

J.D. Rheinallt Jones, Esq.,
Director,
South African Institute of Race Relations,
P.O. Box, 97,
JOHANNESBURG.

Sir,

CONFERENCE RE PENSIONS FOR NATIVES : SILICOSIS
ACT.

During the discussion of the Silicosis Bill in the Senate, Mr. Waterson agreed to a conference being held during the recess to discuss the principle of the inclusion of Africans in the pension provisions contemplated in the bill.

It is proposed to hold this conference on Tuesday the 22nd instant at 10 a.m. in Room 604 Sixth Floor, Volkskas Gebou, Central Street, Pretoria.

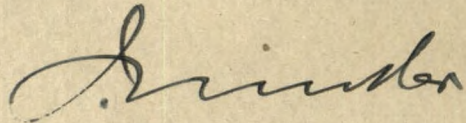
It is understood that you have been made aware of this conference by Senator Brookes who has intimated that the South African Institute of Race Relations might be represented by you. I am, therefore, to enquire whether you will be prepared to attend the conference as the Institute's Representative. Senator Brookes has intimated that, circumstances permitting, he will also attend the conference.

In conclusion I may add that the conference will

be /.....

be attended by representatives of the Department of Native Affairs, the Chamber of Mines, the Silicosis Board and the Silicosis Medical Bureau.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,



SECRETARY FOR MINES.

RT.
28/3/46

6-12-1946

Dear Mr. Muller,

Pursuant to the deliberations of the Committee which met yesterday to consider the possibility of devising a pension scheme under the Silicosis Act and, further, to the ruling given by the presiding Minister that such a scheme was impracticable until certain statistical data was available, I write to ask that you will kindly ascertain from your actuary the precise nature of the data which must be available before he can consider any proposals submitted for a pension scheme. I shall appreciate it if you will give this request your early consideration.

My officers will continue to give the question of dependency their further consideration with a view to submitting some formula possible of general application in the circumstances of Native family life.

I cannot but be alarmed at the picture presented by Dr. Smith to the Committee, revealing the deplorable lack of medical facilities available for carrying out the requirements of the Act. In the majority of the rural districts the District Surgeon is the only officer appointed by the Department of Health. Dr. Smith told us how inefficient their services are for the purposes of the Act.

I am reliably informed that District Surgeons obtain very little assistance for the performance of this important work. From the Department of Health's point of view, these duties are regarded as normal and included in the scope of the District Surgeon's contract. Further, when exhumations and post mortems take place, the District Surgeon is required to provide a container for the transmission of lungs etc to Johannesburg for examination.

It is not my function to argue the legal position of the District Surgeon vis-à-vis the Health Department but if the information given me, as detailed above, is correct, it does indicate that little effort is being made to secure the co-operation of the District Surgeon who is a vital link, particularly as the overwhelming majority of mine labourers is drawn from rural areas. In my view the least that can be done is to provide containers for the viscera: there is much to be said for the payment of a special fee for this work, the costs to be borne from the special fund. Dr. Smith indirectly conceded that this work is not the normal work of a District Surgeon.

Dr. Smith also stated that the X-ray plants at most of the hospitals are useless for the purpose of the Board and that in any event it was doubtful whether there were qualified radiographers at the hospitals.

J.F. Muller, Esq.,
Secretary for Mines,
PRETORIA.

The possibility/.....

The possibility of assistance through the medium of Health Centres is slight. The establishment of such centres must be a long term programme.

The purpose of re-stating the position is to indicate as clearly as I can to you that the finding of a solution to the difficulties rests not only with my Department.

It is essential that all Departments concerned should, within their own spheres, take immediate steps to remedy the deficiencies of the present set up - that is if we are in earnest in our desire to provide a pension scheme for Native sufferers, and after what transpired at our meeting, I am satisfied that we are.

I shall accordingly be glad if you will use your influence with individuals or Departments concerned to secure their co-operation for the attainment of the purpose we have in view.

Yours sincerely,

G. MEARS

6-12-1946

Rheinallt
Dear Mr. Jones,

For your personal information.

Yours sincerely,

G. Mears

J.D. Rheinallt Jones, Esq.,
c/o S.A. Institute of Race Relations,
P.O. Box 97,
JOHANNESBURG.

Received	10 DEC 1946
For Answer	.....
Recorded	.....
Acknowledged	.....
Answered	.....

SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS

(INCORPORATED)

Head Office: at the

University of the Witwatersrand,
Milner Park.

Telephone: 44-3781.

Telegrams: *Ubuntu*.

P.O. Box 97,
JOHANNESBURG.

In reply please quote JDRJ / DAR.

13th January, 1947.

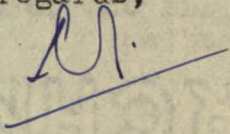
Senator Dr. the Hon. E.H. Brookes,
The Senate,
CAPE TOWN.

Dear Brookes,

I enclose a draft report on the Silicosis Conference.
Will you please put in any corrections, and insert such of your
remarks as I may have omitted. I have no record of what you and
I said.

Please let me have the copy as corrected at Capetown as
it must be duplicated there for the Executive and Council. I shall
be at the City Club from the 16th instant.

Kind regards,



*This seems
adequate &
correct.*

Reports
EB
14/1/47

SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR ON A CONFERENCE ON PROPOSED PENSIONS FOR
NATIVES UNDER THE SILICOSIS ACT.

-----oOo-----

On the 5th December 1946, a conference was held, convened by the Honourable the Minister of Mines, at which the Institute's Director was invited to attend, at which the principle of giving to Africans pensions under the Silicosis Act was discussed. There were present the Honourable the Minister of Mines, the Secretary for Mines, the Secretary for Native Affairs and other representatives of the Department of Native Affairs, representatives of the Chamber of Mines, the Miners' Phthisis Bureau, the Silicosis Board, Senator Dr. Edgar H. Brookes, and Mr. Rheinallt Jones, representing the Institute of Race Relations.

The Secretary for Native Affairs supported the principle of pensions, pointing out that under the War Pensions Acts Nos. 44/1942 and 33/1943, pensions for African disabled soldiers and the dependants of deceased disabled soldiers are being administered by the Department of Pensions which experiences little or no difficulty. The scheme is worked through the offices of magistrates and Native Commissioners. The War Pensions Act takes cognisance of customary unions including the wives and children of polygamous unions. Whilst he admitted there might be difficulties under the Silicosis Act in this connection he thought that his department would overcome them.

Mr. Barry, representing the Chamber of Mines, said that all present would agree to the principle of pensions, but he felt that the difficulties of applying the principle were too great. Of the 200,000 underground Native workers, only one-third (80,000) were Union subjects. It would, he held, be quite impossible to extend a pension system to extra-Union Natives. The lack of facilities for medical examinations both in the Union and outside would make it impossible to ascertain the progress of the disease. The attempt to provide ex-gratia further payments on the advance of the disease had not been a success. The Workmen's Compensation Commissioner had said he couldn't work a pension scheme under the Workmen's Compensation Act. He thought that under a pension scheme the African sufferers would be worse off. In ante-primary cases they would only get £50 and without a proper system of medical examination (and having regard to the poor results from the attempt to provide ex-gratia payments) they would get no more in most cases.

During discussion on the existing facilities for X-Ray examination the medical expert present said that scarcely any of the hospitals in Native areas were adequately equipped for this and that the reports received from district surgeons are in most cases of no value. The discussion revealed a lack of any effort to organise the medical facilities which the successful carrying out of even the ex-gratia payment of further compensation on the progress of the disease would require. The Minister spoke of the programme of health centres to which the Union Government is committed, but this programme will take many years to carry out, and even then the Centres may not be equipped for work under the Silicosis Act.

The Minister held that in the absence of Native life tables, registration of Native births and deaths, and other data it was not possible to institute pensions at the present time. The probable cost could not be ascertained. Mr. Rheinallt Jones, however, held that no life table would become available until pensions were instituted. He advocated as a beginning the institution of a uniform rate of pension, as recommended by the Majority Report of the Commission, which could be applied within the framework of the present Act.

Quoting from the Majority Report of the Miners' Phthisis Commission, he said that an average of 2,000 new cases of compensatable diseases of the lungs every year (an average of 275,000 Natives employed underground) would be a high figure, especially when over 1,000 of the cases for the year ended 31st July 1942 were in respect of

uncomplicated tuberculosis, and therefore greatly reducible by more stringent initial medical examination, and mass miniature radiography. But taking the high average of 2000 cases, it should be possible to take the European sufferers' life table as the basis of expectation of life, more especially as the medical expert at the meeting had been definite in his statement that the African sufferer had a very much shorter life than the European. He urged that this should be done, to begin with, under the present undifferentiated pensions. The provision of graduated pensions would follow as medical facilities became available.

The Minister, however, held that there were not sufficient data to enable him to introduce pensions at the present. When pressed to indicate the exact nature of the data required he suggested that Mr. Rheinallt Jones might enquire of the Government actuaries.

Senator Brookes pleaded for the introduction of pensions on a permissive basis.

There was discussion on the difficulties which might be encountered in making periodical payments to sufferers or their dependants. There was general agreement that periodical payments to sufferers were practicable.

The Director of Native Labour, whose office administers compensation payments to Africans under the Act, said that there would be many difficulties in respect of payments to dependants, e.g., in determining which of polygamous wives, and their children should benefit. There was considerable discussion on this aspect, Senator Brookes and Mr. Rheinallt Jones holding that such difficulties were not insurmountable, and could be dealt with in the same way as is done under the War Pensions Act, or in Native estates under the Native Administration Act.

The Director of Native Labour urged that the most urgent need was to provide sanatoria for sufferers.

Finally, the Minister declared that he was satisfied that no pension scheme could be introduced at the present time, and the meeting was then closed.

J.D. RHEINALLT JONES

-----oOo-----

*attent to copy
MM + RA*

JDRJ/DAR.

13th January, 1947.

The Secretary for Native Affairs,
Parliament Street,
CAPE TOWN.

Dear Mr. Mears,

SILICOSIS ACT: BENEFITS FOR NATIVES.

I enclose a draft report I have prepared on the discussion with the Minister of Mines, and I shall be grateful if you will correct any error, that may have crept in, more especially in respect of your Department and let me have the corrections. Please send them to our Capetown office - P.O. Box 1998, Capetown.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

J.D. RHEINALLT JONES
DIRECTOR

JDRJ/DAR.

13th January, 1947.

Senator Dr. the Hon. E.H. Brookes,
The Senate,
CAPE TOWN.

Dear Brookes,

I enclose a draft report on the Silicosis Conference. Will you please put in any corrections, and insert such of your remarks as I may have omitted. I have no record of what you and I said.

Please let me have the copy as corrected at Capetown as it must be duplicated there for the Executive and Council. I shall be at the City Club from the 16th instant.

Kind regards,

JDRJ/DAR.

JDRJ/DAR.

JDRJ/DAR.

13th January, 1947.

The Secretary for MI King George VI

re of the staff of the Home Office
It is noted that you have been for the Executive and Council. I shall
please let me know the copy as collected at Customs as

I am
Lestly as I shall have omitted. I have no record of what you and
will you please let me know the copy as collected at Customs as
I enclose a draft report on the Atlantic Conference.

Dear Bloeker,

Yours faithfully,
The Secretary
General of the Hon. E.H. Bloeker

JDRJ/DAR.

13th January, 1947.

JDRJ/DAR.

13th January, 1947.

The Secretary for Mines,
Parliament Street,
CAPE TOWN.

Dear Sir,

SILICOSIS ACT: PENSIONS FOR NATIVES.

I have prepared a report on the discussion which took place on this subject last month, under the chairmanship of the Honourable the Minister of Mines, and I enclose a copy. Will you please tell me if there is any objection to this report being placed before the Council of the Institute when it meets in Capetown on the 22nd Instant, involving possibly publication in the press thereafter? Also, I shall be grateful for the correction of any error or omission.

Please reply to P.O. Box 1998, Capetown.

Yours truly,

DIRECTOR.

In - please quote -
 Geliewe in u antwoord te verwys na :

No. _____

UNION OF
 SOUTH AFRICA.



UNIE VAN
 SUID-AFRIKA.

Office of the
 Kantoer van die

DEPARTMENT OF NATIVE AFFAIRS,
 CAPE TOWN.

15th January, 1947.

Dear Mr. Rheinallt Jones,

Silicosis Act Pensions for Natives.

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 13th January, 1947, and the annexure thereto in the above connection.

I have no notes of the discussion before me but it appears to me that the draft covers the various expressions of opinion in broad terms.

Yours sincerely,

SECRETARY FOR NATIVE AFFAIRS.

J.D. Rheinallt Jones, Esq.,
 P.O. Box 1998,
 CAPE TOWN.

Telegrams: } "MINERALOGY."
 Telegramme: }



Ref. 2/22/7

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.—UNIE VAN SUID-AFRIKA.

MINISTRY OF MINES,
 MINISTERIE VAN MYNWESE,

CAPE TOWN.

15th March, 1947.

Dear Sir,

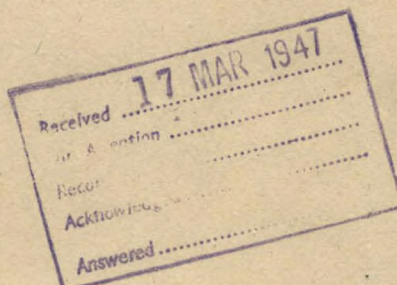
I am directed by the Hon. the Minister of Mines to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant in regard to the payment of pensions to Africans under the Workmen's Compensation Act and the Silicosis Act.

The Minister has noted the request contained in the concluding paragraph of your letter.

Yours faithfully,

J. J. K. Hoff
 PRIVATE SECRETARY

The Assistant Director,
 South African Institute of Race Relations,
 P.O. Box 97,
JOHANNESBURG.



QW/EMH.

11th March 1947.

The Rt. Hon. The Minister of Mines,
The House of Assembly,
CAPE TOWN.

Sir,

Following on discussions at the meetings of the Council of this Institute held in January 1947, the following resolution was passed after careful and informed discussion:-

"The Council of the Institute of Race Relations made efforts when the Silicosis Bill was before Parliament to secure that the conversion of lump sum payments to Africans under the Workmen's Compensation Act and the Silicosis Act to pensions form part of the principle of the Act.

"This was not done and the Institute still urges the amendment of the Act introducing pensions for undifferentiated compensation. The Council urges the extension of facilities for medical and radiographic examinations and that the Native Affairs Department make special efforts to acquaint African workers both on engagement and on discharge of their rights under the Act."

I understand from the Director of the Institute that certain investigations are being undertaken in this connection and shall be very grateful for any further information that may become available. The Institute will be only too willing to help in any way it can.

Yours faithfully,

Quintin Whyte,
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