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MISS MARY BENSON

69 GREAT PETER STREET,
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Telephone: Abbey 4946

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xxvth February 1955.

My dear Alan,

Thank you so much for your letter & cable.

The Executive met a couple of days ago and asked me to write formally to say how very grateful they are that you have consented to become an adviser. I should have written before but there has been so much to do - we got off to rather a difficult start as the professional advice we had wanted on appeals had not been forthcoming when we launched it. However we are now retrieving that and some papers have been very good. We hope to have quite a campaign with the Bishop, Michael, and Fr. Raynes, amongst others speaking in various parts of the country.

Bishop Reeves was specially anxious that we have an "elasticity" clause in the appeal as we might want at any time to appeal also for something in connection with apartheid in the universities, for instance, or the Western Areas Removals, etc. The Trustees here would look to the advisers in South Africa for advice as to disposal of funds collected, and as to new needs for which we should appeal. We have asked Dr. Sangster, Sir Maurice Bowra, Canon Raven, Lord Pakenham, Gilmore Lee, from Zululand, and Mr. Peter Lake (a lawyer) to be trustees, as well as Michael.

I have today written to Prof. Harris along these lines, and if I can before the office forcibly puts me out at 1, I'll write to Judge Lucas, Mr. Marquard, and Edgar Brookes. (Will send them to you for forwarding on when I do write to them.) We also wonder whether you agree that Dr. Z.K. Matthews and Rabbi Weiler should be invited - and which Freechurchman might be invited. You may feel the group is getting too large. Perhaps Dr. Matthews is a freechurchman? If Rabbi Weiler came in there could probably be a good deal of support from his people in this country, and we thought there was a need for a freechurchman as there has been so much feeling between denominations over here on all this! But we accept your advice on all this. We are not asking Mr. Coaker - it was him or Judge Lucas and it was thought that the latter would be more helpful.

Let me have any queries you have - I'm afraid my letters are very scrappy and I'm not sure what Trevor makes of some of them which are written from the top crust of my mind in a great hurry. I wrote you a long personal letter which I'll send off sometime provided you promise to reply nicely.

It was wonderful to have your remarks on the Digest and gave a nice glow as it's always a tussle to cope.
P.S. We'd also like to know

Love Pixie how you feel about our present appeal.

any thing you can do there with British press refs. to give it a boost would be fine.

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JUSTICE IN SOUTH AFRICA - AFRICAN SCHOOLS
AND FAMILIES FUND

Signatories to the Appeal:-

The Very Rev. Principal John Baillie (former Moderator of the Church of Scotland, now Dean of the Faculty of Divinity, New College Edinburgh)

Lady Violet Bonham Carter D.B.E. (Vice-President of the Liberal Party Organisation)

The Bishop of Birmingham, the Rt. Rev. J.L. Wilson C.H.G.

Sir Maurice Bowra (Warden of Wadham College, Oxford, former Vice-Chancellor of the University)

Sir Hugh Casson (the well-known architect and designer)

The Bishop of Chichester, the Rt. Rev. Dr. George Bell.

Rev. Canon L. John Collins (Canon and Precentor of St. Paul's Cathedral)

Rev. Fr. T. Corbishley, S.J. (Master of Campion Hall, Oxford.)

Mr. James Crawford J.P. (General President, National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives)

Rt. Hon. A. Creech Jones M.P. (former Colonial Secretary)

Rt. Hon. Isaac Foot (a leading member of the Liberal Party)

Mr. Philip Fothergill (Vice-President of the Liberal Party Organisation)

Rt. Hon. James Griffiths M.P. (former Colonial Secretary)

Lord Hemingford (former Principal of Achimota Training College, Gold Coast, Conservative member of House of Lords, Chairman of the Africa Bureau)

Rev. Fr. Raymond Raynes C.R. (Father Superior of the Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield, Yorks and formerly Provincial of the order in South Africa)

Rev. Dr. W.E. Sangster (Moderator of the Methodist Church)

Rev. Michael Scott (Hon. Director of the Africa Bureau)

Rt. Hon. Lord Winster K.C.M.G. (a former Governor of Cyprus, and Minister of Civil Aviation in the Labour Government)

Lynton Road,
KLOOF,
Natal, South Africa.

21st February, 1955.

Dear Pixie,

I have sent off today your letters to Leo Marquard and Judge Lucas and I sent one to Dr. Edgar Brookes some days ago.

As far as I know Dr. Matthews is a Free Churchman. In any case, he is a good person, and I like Rabbi Weiler, too.

By the way, the SUNDAY EXPRESS phoned me from Johannesburg. I was not quite clear however whether they thought your money could be stopped from coming into the country, or whether they thought a person acting as advisor would be committing an offence. You may remember that there was some trouble during the Passive Resistance Campaign and, if my memory serves me aright, such a fund, it was contended, incited racial feelings. Have you taken any advice on this.

Yes, you can send a personal letter if you wish. It will be quite a change to receive something unofficial.

Kindest regards.

Yours ever,

Collection Number: AD1169

Collection Name: Alan Paton Papers, 1952-1988

PUBLISHER:

Publisher: Historical Papers Research Archive, University of the Witwatersrand

Location: Johannesburg

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