

A. W. G. Champion, M.R.C.

UMKULUMELI WABANTU

MEMBER OF:
NATIVE REPRESENTATION COUNCIL,
ACT 12-1936.

MEMBER OF:
LOCATIONS
ADVISORY BOARD, DURBAN.
ACT 21-1923.

RESIDENCE: INANDA M. S.

19, Old Dutch Road,

Durban, Natal.

5th February, 1945.

My dear Teacher: Miss Frost,

I was indeed thankful to receive a letter from you once more. The clouds of this terrible war have brought to us many miseries. Starvation has played havoc with Natives. The country stores have not been able to supply all the needs of the people. While there is no rationing in S.A. but things are so scarce that one cannot get many things that one wants. Wednesday is now a meatless day. Brown rice is finished. Tea is hardly obtainable. We have not been getting any potatoes. The cost of living has risen up so much so that poor natives find it very difficult to obtain goods. Petrol is rationed through coupons.

Those of us who back up the allies are beginning to smile since the invasion of Europe who look forward to the destruction of the forces of aggression. As you are aware I am very much interested in politics. As a member of the Native Representative Council, I am in fact now a paid one. My daughter passed her first year T3 Teachers Examination in 1944 and is returning to complete it. I have not been successful to get married. My thought has been with my children as to who can look after them well. At present I have a trained Nurse who is working at home. She has been with us since April 1944. The one girl before that stole a lot of goods from the house and was convicted by the Court sentenced to 2 months hard labour. The one before her, we could not agree after staying with us for 1 year. I asked her to leave the house. The two previous ones were not educated. The present one is a qualified teacher and a trained nurse in Pretoria.

Yes, drunkenness is becoming noticeable and has done a lot of harm. If Total prohibition ~~fails~~ seems to fail in a country like America then what would be the position in South Africa? By proclamation all the Indians in this country have been allowed to get liquor as they wish. So that Indians are now on equal footing with Europeans so far as the Liquor Laws are concerned. Of course Natives still suffer prohibition. South African Politics still keep a native in his place. Adams College is encouraging natives to take up responsible jobs.

That is/

That is one good thing about Dr. Brookes. I have however failed to see the wisdom of a principal of the school taking up a position as a Senator while retaining the principalship. We have had an unprecedented period of drought. I expect more starvation next year.

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