

R.R.21/38.

SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS (Incorp.)
SUID AFRIKAANSE INSTITUUT VIR RASSEVERHOUDINGS (Ingelyf)

P.O. Box 97,
 JOHANNESBURG.

May 23rd, 1938.

CONFIDENTIAL

- (1) Cr. R. Baloyi, M.R.C., P.O. Box 30, Bergvlei, Johannesburg.
- (2) Revd. J.A. Calata, Secretary, African National Congress,
 St. James Mission, Cradock, Cape Province.
- (3) Mr. H. Selby Msimang, Secretary, All African Convention,
 88 Tucker Street, Sophiatown, Johannesburg.
- (4) Mr. S.P. Mqubuli, Secretary, Congress of Urban Advisory
 Boards.

Dear Sirs,

Delegations on the Protectorates

The following persons from England and the United States are about to visit South Africa in connection with the Protectorates question:-

Representing the Society of Friends (religious denomination)
 Dr. T.E. Jones, Principal Fisk (Negro) University, U.S.A.
 Mrs. T.E. Jones (wife)
 Mr. R. Brayshaw, business man, England.
 Lady Harris, wife of Sir John Harris.

Representing the Aborigines Protection Society, London
 Sir John Harris, Secretary,

Private Individuals:-
 Mr. Ponsonby, M.P., England.
 Mr. de Bunsen, England.

They will proceed to Southern Rhodesia, but expect to be in Johannesburg on July 20th-27th. They would like to meet leading Africans, and so I am writing to you to ask if members of the Natives' Representative Council and Executive Committees of the All African Convention, African National Congress and the Congress of Urban Advisory Boards can meet them in Johannesburg during the week July 20th to 27th. If Bloemfontein would be more convenient possibly the meeting could be held there. It is desired that the discussions be confidential and not open to the public.

Will you please let me have your reply to the following questions:-

- (1) Do you think members of your Executive (the Native Representative Council) can arrange to meet the delegations during the week July 20th-27th?
- (2) Should the meeting be at Bloemfontein or Johannesburg?

Sir John Harris and others arrive at Cape Town on May 27th and I should like to have your reply soon so that I may let him know the arrangements in good time.

Please.....

2.

Please note that I have no funds at my disposal to pay the expenses of those who travel to this meeting.

Yours sincerely,

J.D. Rheinallt Jones.

PS. I am sending you copies of this letter in roneo form to make it easier for you to circularise it.

/ML.

5th May.1938.

Advocate D.B.Molteno. M.P.
Temple Chambers,
Wale Street,
Cape Town.

My Dear Molteno,

DELEGATIONS ON THE PROTECTORATES.

I have now received a further letter from Sir John Harris, in which he tells me that the first arrival will be Mr. Ponsonby, M.P. who is travelling on the Union Castle Steamer due at Cape Town on May 30th. He expects to stay a few days in Cape Town and will then possibly leave for Johannesburg and from there join Sir John Harris.

I shall be very glad if you will arrange to meet Mr. Ponsonby at the Docks on behalf of the Institute and do what you can to help him to meet the most useful people during the few days he is there. The Institute will defray any expenses you may incur in this connection. I shall be glad if you will telegraph to Ubuntu, Johannesburg, giving the day and time of Mr. Ponsonby's arrival there. I believe he is a brother of Lord Ponsonby and of the Revd Maurice Ponsonby, who used to be Dean of Johannesburg and who married the Hon. Phyllis Buxton.

Lord Noel-Buxton and Mr Riley have postponed their departure and may not come at all.

The Deputation from the Society of Friends will arrive on the Themistocles on May 27th. They will be - Dr. Thomas E. Jones and his wife and Lady Harris. Dr Jones is the President of Fisk University, (Negro) Nashville, Tennessee. Sir John Harris will be travelling on the same boat as the Representative of the Anti-Slavery & Aborigines Protection Society. I omitted to mention that a fourth member of the delegation from the Society of Friends will be Mr. Russell Brayshaw, a Manchester Business man.

Sir John Harris will not be able to attend the meeting of the Council of the Institute to be held at Durban on

July 11-13, as he expects to leave before these dates. He thinks, however, that the Friends' Deputation will be glad to be there.

He would very much like to meet the four Senators and three M.P.s for a preliminary discussion during the week-end following his arrival at Cape Town. Personally, I expect to be busy in the Northern Transvaal at that time - in fact my plans have already been made, but I will communicate with the others.

The following extract from his letter will interest you -

"You ask me in one part of your letter whether I can give an idea of the kind of things we want to look into. First and foremost, of course, is the question of the Protectorates, and we should all like to know, not merely what the Natives think, but what you and your colleagues think would be the best line for us to pursue. Naturally so much depends upon conditions of which we are at present ignorant. The next thing we should like to discuss would be what can be done with the Schedule. How much of it do you and your friends think should survive the Statute of Westminster.

3. How could the Schedule survive should it be in the form of a Treaty.
4. How are the Natives to be persuaded that they will be as well or better off under the Union than under Downing Street.
5. What part is South Africa prepared to play in making the transfer acceptable to the Natives.

Another main subject is the question of the amalgamation of the Rhodesias. What amendments are likely to be demanded to the Constitution. What about Hertzog's Native Policy. The final big thing, which is looming in our minds concerns the whole industrial condition of the Natives South of the Equator as compared with the position of the Negroes, say, in America. All these are points of great interest to us and naturally there are many others on which we should appreciate further information.

I am hoping to get a helpful article to Cape Town before I arrive. I hope this disarm any lurking hostility. "

The Cape Town Joint Council might be glad to have a lecture by Dr. Thomas Jones either on the position of the Negroes in the Southern States or on Negro Education. Sir John Harris appreciates the importance of any such speaker avoiding the South African situation.

With Kind regards,
Yours sincerely,

Temple Chambers,
4 Dale Street,
Cape Town.

26/5/38.

My dear Senator,

Thank you for your
letter of the 21st. inst. I met
Dr. Pearson and contrived
to see something of ~~them~~
him during his stay here.

I am meeting Sir John
Harris and party on
Saturday and have arranged
a meeting for them at the
Deans, with some of the
Institute and Joint Council
people here on Saturday
evening.

I have attended some meetings of the Committee of the Colonial Commission Convention, but fear I have not had the time to put in much work on it. Arrangements appear to be progressing satisfactorily.

I hope that you suggest a meeting between Sir John Harris and African Congress and Lower Convention representatives during the week June 20th. to 27th. If such meeting is arranged I doubt if I could attend as I have already arranged a tour of my constituency covering that period, and desirous to end up with attendance at the Cape African Congress meeting in Port Elizabeth on July 3rd.

A constituent of mine in

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Beautiful West has drawn my attention to a notice in the Education Gazette of Nov 5th. to the effect that Native teachers are not to ~~take part~~ serve on electoral committees in future. I doubt the legality of such a decision, but, in any event, it would seem to be a ridiculous ruling as surely in some districts teachers are the only people properly best qualified to serve upon and guide such committees? I should like to hear your views on this. If they accord with mine I feel that we should suggest joint action in the matter to our colleagues to attempt to get the ruling rescinded.

I hope this finds

both you wife and yourself
in good health. My kind
regards to you both.

Yours very sincerely,
Donald B. Holden.

May 30th, 1938.

Adv. D.B. Molteno, M.P.,
Temple Chambers,
4 Wale Street,
CAPE TOWN.

Dear Sir,

In the absence of Senator Rheinallt Jones I have to acknowledge and thank you for your letter of the 28th instant in connection with the visit of Sir John Harris and party and to say this has been forwarded to Senator Jones in the northern Transvaan where he is at present.

Yours faithfully,

NMSD/MMP

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