AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS. (NATAL PROVINCE)

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374c Church Street,

PIETERMARITZBURG.

27th July, 1948.

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A.W.G. Champion Esq., M.R.C., Provincial President, A.N.C., 19 Old Dutch Road, D U R B A N.

My Dear President,

As promised, herewith the draft of a letter I suggest you should send to all the Chiefs who failed to turn up. Something should be done to get them tonidentify themselves with the National movement.

Mr. Campbell rang me up yesterday morning asking for a list of Chiefs who attended the meeting as he wanted to write to Pretoria on the subject. He further informed me that new regulations were being considered for tightening up control of moneys collected from Africans to sorve them from the Stokfellas. Somehow he seemed to have gained a wrong impression of our objects - namely, that the fund was raised solely to buy land. I was able to convince him that that was not the case although when the fund is well established and there was land offered for sale we would not hesitate to use it for the purpose. I emphasized that we were not prepared to commit ourselves in advance to any specific objective nor to define the aims and objects of same until the fund was well established; that in the meantime it was locked up in such a way that no withdrawals could be made therefrom, even for the costs of administration. Every person contributing to the fund got a receipt so that there would be no difficulty of refunds should the fund fail to materialise.

I am pleased to say he seemed to gain

a new light.

I do hope you will furnish me with the list of members you registered at Mtunzini for the purposes of record and for the drawing up of the Annual Statement. The costs of Printing Cards &c.

I was hoping you would indicate to me the attitude I should adopt at Bloemfontein in both meetings. Please do so and oblige.

I am seriously suggesting that the Annual Conference be postponed to January or February, 1949 and that in the meantime we should consolidate on the fund and enrolment of members through the Chiefs. Please give your direction which will be obeyed.

I propose to draw up my tursany Covering the Coast (touch) in during Aubau for October.

Yours truly, Helfleman PROVINCIAL SECRETARY.

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Allison Wessels George CHAMPION Papers, 1925-1959

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