

2258

R.R./29.

September 3rd, 1937.

Advocate D.B. Molteno, M.P.,  
Temple Chambers,  
4 Wale Street,  
CAPETOWN.

Dear Sir,

Senator Rheinallt Jones has asked me to send on to you the enclosed correspondence in regard to Kuruman Crown Reserve which he has received from the Rev. H.C. Thompson, for your information.

Yours faithfully,

ADVISER'S SECRETARY

Senata Taxes.

Acknowledged  
2/2 13/9/37

FRIENDS OF AFRICA.

The question of the payment of enumerators for the forthcoming agricultural census was raised by one of my constituents, who claimed that the Government was going to pay European enumerators 40/- per day and Natives 5/-. He said he and a friend - both men of education - refused to accept the work on this basis and asked me to get the Government to appoint them at 15/- per day.

I could not move on the information supplied to me as I was sure it was not correct. I accordingly wrote to both the Secretaries for Native Affairs and Agriculture, asking for information. After a month's delay, I received the statement enclosed from the Department of Census. I considered that it gave some grounds for criticism, and I interviewed the Director of Census and the Secretary for Native Affairs on the matter.

They agreed (1) that 2/6d. per day for a Native horse against 10/- per day for a European horse was at least anomalous; and after some insistence on my part (11) that 5/- per day for educated Natives on a job of this kind is not living up to the proposal for a better wage standard for Natives.

I enclose a copy of my latest letter to Mr. Mangen, for your information. I propose to go into the whole question of employment and payment of Natives in services of this kind, and shall hope for your co-operation in the statement of any case which may arise out of the information collected. I should also welcome your co-operation in the collecting of information.

(Signed) MARGARET BALLINGER.

9th September, 1937.

# FRIENDS OF AFRICA.

137, EXPLORATION BUILDINGS, COMMISSIONER STREET, JOHANNESBURG

Southern Africa Representatives and Advisers:

W. G. BALLINGER, Esq  
MARGARET BALLINGER M.A

Postal Address:

P.O. Box 3907, Johannesburg

Telegrams and Cables:

Ballinger, Box 3907,  
Johannesburg.

Telephone: 33-5965

9th September, 1937.

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**Southern Africa Special**

**Correspondents:**

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Imbumbulu, Natal.

Mrs. Mabel Palmer,  
21, Clair Avenue, Durban.

Mrs. Ethelreda Lewis,  
Kowie West, E.P., S.A.

Professor J. Boxwell,  
435, Reitz Street, Pretoria.

Douglas Back, Esq.,  
Allergaine, Ofcalaco, N. Tvl.

John Taylor, Esq.,  
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Mrs. Binnie, Twee Koppies,  
Naboomspruit, Tvl.

Walter Mears, Esq.,  
Capetown.

Gilbert Coka, Esq.,  
Johannesburg.

Dear Mr. Mangcu,

Agricultural Census - Payment  
of Enumerators.

I have now interviewed both the Director of Census and the Secretary for Native Affairs in connection with the above matter. The attitude of both was -

(a) that these are traditional rates of remuneration; and

(b) they have been generally accepted.

I urged their inadequacy on the Native side and the responsibility of Government Departments to pay a reasonable amount for intelligent work as essential to our campaign for better wages in unskilled work. Both were sympathetic and agreed to go into the matter again.

There is, however, very little likelihood that they will agree to pay anything like 15/- per day - nor did I feel justified in asking that amount. I imagine your own suggestion was based on the belief that Europeans were to be paid 40/- which, as you would see from the enclosure in my last letter, is not the case. I asked for 10/- per day and transport allowance, but the Secretary for Native Affairs was doubtful of our getting more than 7/6d.

As I said in my last letter, I am afraid we may not get any change in the rates for this census in time to make your appointment on terms you would accept possible. I can only repeat my advice to you to take the work with a reservation in favour of any better rates later agreed upon.

It is my intention -

- (i) to go into this matter again with Mr. Barrett when I am in Kingwilliamstown next week, since I understand the Magistrates (Native Commissioners) do make the original recommendation; and
- (ii) to go into the whole question, which has been raised by this matter, of payment of Natives in Government services of this kind.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) MARGARET BALLINGER.

Temple Chambers,  
4 Dale Street,  
Cape Town.

Sept. 15th.

Dear Senator, some little  
time ago I heard ~~the~~ from  
you that you were taking  
steps to call together  
the National Senators, N.P.'s  
and (possibly) N.P.C.'s this  
month. The time suggested  
was when the N.P.C.  
was sitting. I do not know  
when the date that the  
W.R.C. is to meet, and I  
should be much obliged  
if you could drop me a  
line as soon as possible  
letting me know whether our  
meeting has been fixed up,  
and, if so, when? I do hope  
I am not troubling you, as I  
know how busy you are, but  
I should like to know in

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good time, as, before coming  
up I want to hold meetings  
of my constituents in Saoyu  
and Cape Town, and possibly  
at Kimberley as well. My  
object is to explain the position  
to them and try to get their  
views on the subject so as  
to discuss.

I received from your  
Secretary copies of the letters  
of Mr. H. C. Thompson to  
you and to the Secretary  
of the Native Affairs <sup>Commission</sup> concerning  
the Kuruman Crown Reserves.

I am very glad to know  
about the matter. It is one  
which should be raised in  
the House and the Senate  
if the Commission show any  
signs of acceding to the request  
for removal. Perhaps however  
you have already taken the  
matter up in Pretoria?

Have you met Raalt, the  
D.P.C. for this area? He

is a young fellow and seems  
a live wire, but I doubt whether  
he has very much knowledge  
of political and social matters  
yet. He seems keen however and  
I think will be useful.

I am looking forward to  
seeing you and Mrs. Jones again.  
I also very want to ~~meet~~  
meet the other Native representatives  
of the Natives. Apart from Rumb  
and some of the N.R.C. members,  
the only one I know is Mr. Ballinger.

With kind regards to  
Mrs. Jones and yourself,

Yours very sincerely,  
Donald Ballinger

P.O.Box 97,  
JOHANNESBURG.

September 27th, 1937.

Dear

Mrs. Ballinger, Senator Brookes and I were able to meet together in Johannesburg last week when we discussed, among other things, possible dates for the proposed meeting of the Parliamentary (including the Cape Provincial Council) representatives. It was agreed between us that I should write to our colleagues to ask them to keep the dates December 1-13 as free from engagements as possible with a view to our meeting together on two days during the period.

The Native Representative Council is to meet at Pretoria in December, presumably before the 16th, but the exact dates are not yet known, so that if we are also to meet with the African members of the Council we must await the announcement of the dates before we fix the exact dates of our own meeting.

My colleagues and I feel strongly that we ought to meet the African members of the Native Representative Council; and indeed, a prominent African member has strongly urged that it would be unwise of the Parliamentary representatives to meet without arranging for at least one joint session with the African members of the Native Representative Council. He thinks it would create suspicion. Our view is that it is of the utmost importance for the Native Representative Council and the Parliamentary representatives to co-operate in every possible direction, and to know and understand each other. It would be unfortunate if the Parliamentary representatives could not speak and act with a proper appreciation of the views and attitudes of the African members of the Native Representative Council, especially when reports from the Council come before Parliament.

- We -

We, therefore, suggest that the Parliamentary representatives meet three days before the Native Representative Council meets, the third day being given to meeting with the African members. If it was then thought desirable the Parliamentary representatives could appoint two or three to act as a committee to keep in touch with the Native Representative Council during its sitting.

As regards the place of meeting, my wife and I, after consultation with Mrs. Ballinger and Dr. Brookes, offer simple hospitality at our home, "Glandwr", Florida (nine miles from Johannesburg), where we have a large garden with rooms large enough for the meetings. In this way, there would be convenient opportunities for friendly intercourse as well as for the business in hand. It is hoped that everyone would be free of outside engagements during these days.

If it is preferred that we meet in Pretoria, I can make arrangements there, both for Hotel accommodation and meeting place.

The following topics are tentatively put forward for inclusion on the agenda of the meetings.

1. ✓ The working of the Representation of Natives Act 1936:- possible amendments to the Act and improvements in its administration.
2. ✓ The working of the Native Trust and Land Act 1936.
3. 5/10 Natives (Urban Areas) Act - effects of promulgation.
4. ✓ Native Farm Labour.
5. ~~Taxation.~~
6. ① Wages and Economic Conditions. ②
7. ~~Education.~~
8. Protectorates.
9. South West Africa.
10. Police Commission Report and later Riots.
- ✓ 11. Co-operation in Parliament among ourselves and relationship to political parties.
12. Constitutional position of the Senate regarding Native legislation.

*Summary  
Hospitalisation*

*Ward Number*

*Ward Number Impersonation Act*



- 13. Relations with Natives Representative Council.
- 14. The General Election and Native matters.
- ✓ 15. Cape Town arrangements
  - (a) Parliamentary
  - (b) office facilities
- 16. Rail facilities for members of the Native Representative Council.

*Vandenberg  
M. J. R. K. R.*

Are there any other items you would like to include?

We strongly urge you to let nothing hinder you from attending the meeting.

Will you please reply to this letter at your earliest convenience and let me have your views on the points raised?

Yours sincerely,

JDRJ/KG

*Labouchere  
M. J. R. K. R.  
J. M. R. K. R.  
R. K. R.*

Temple Chambers,  
4 Dale Street,  
Cape Town.

28/9/37

Dear Senator, I was sorry that  
the meeting of representatives of  
the Natives could not come  
off this month, as I think  
that the sooner we meet  
the better. However, December  
would actually suit me  
better if it could be arranged  
then. I enclose a cutting from  
"Die Burger" giving an account  
of the Vereeniging protest meeting,  
in case you and the other  
Senators have not had  
your attention drawn to  
the passage I have marked  
in red. It is for you to say  
whether you think it so gross  
a libel, published by a

responsible South African  
paper, should be allowed  
to pass without action. Admittedly  
"Mr. J. Smit" is some complete  
& irresponsible, but that  
is no excuse for "Die Burger"  
diminuting the libel among  
its thousands of ignorant readers,  
to whom its extreme ridiculous-  
ness would not necessarily be  
obvious. The allegation that  
the Smiters had was inciting  
the Natives to attack the  
European population with  
"kieries", knives and assegais  
would be serious enough standing  
by itself. In its context of a  
protest meeting against the  
murder of constables it amounts  
to an accusation of incitement  
to the deed.

You may think I am taking  
the matter too seriously, but  
that is not the point. The  
point is whether or not papers

like the "Die Burger" <sup>are</sup> ~~is~~ <sup>to</sup> be allowed to publish with impunity the gravest libels against those of us who have the responsible task of representing the Native people and to disseminate such libels broadcast among the most ignorant, prejudiced and easily inflammable sections of the European population.

If we such statement is allowed to pass more will follow.

It may be that you and the other Secretaries will not feel like taking civil action in the matter. If not, we could ~~lay~~ put the matter in the hands of the Cape Attorney-General and ask him to prosecute. Put the words published amount to a criminal libel & don't think there can be much doubt. The prosecution would, of course, be

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against whom in "Die Kurier"  
is responsible for the publication.

As none of you are here, Douglas  
Buchanan and I could see the  
A-G. if you so instruct us.

I saw in the "Lage Zeitung" that  
you went to Vercenizing after the  
riot. I have no doubt that  
that you have more information  
about it than has appeared in  
the paper. I should like to  
hear all about it. On the face  
of it, it is a terribly damaging  
thing to all we stand for, but  
I simply can't believe that there  
was not some very special reason  
for the outbreak. The sheer  
unscrupulousness and wickedness  
of the "Nationalist" party in using it  
for their miserable political purposes  
gives some relief.

I hope that you and Mrs.  
Jones are well. My kindest  
regards to you both.

Yours very sincerely,  
Donald H. St. John

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