# PRETORIA JOINT COUNCIL OF EUROPEANS AND NON-EUROPEANS

The Secretary, Land Tenure Board, Libri Buildings, PRETORIA.

Sir,

re: Land Tenure Advisory Board Investigation in terms of the Group Areas Act 1950 (Act 41 of 1950) as amended: Pretoria and Environs.

I, Mark Nye, do hereby on behalf of the Pretoria Joint Council of Europeans and Non-Europeans and on my own behalf lodge objections to the desirability of proclaiming

Lady Selborne (area 78 on map A) for either European or Coloured occupation,

The Asiatic Bazaar and Cape Location for European occupation,

The area numbered 214A to 216, 218 to 221 and 239 on map F for occupation by members of the Indian group,

## on the following grounds:

1) Lady Selborne was established in 1907 by the then Lieutenant Governor of the Transvaal as a native township. In 1913 it was proclaimed a native territory,

The Asiatic Bazaar was set aside in 1890 by the Republican Government for occupation by Asiatics,

The Cape Location was given as a dwelling place to the Coloured by President Kruger.

- 2) The natural and man-made boundaries make these areas suitable for occupation by their present inhabitants.
- 3) The present inhabitants and private bodies have invested much capital there and have entered into contracts on the strength of the present condition.
- 4) The new proposed area for the Indian group is not suitable for business purposes and only a small fraction of the shops presently conducted by members of the Indian group in the Asiatic Bazaar could earn a livelihood in the proposed area.
- 5) The lack of proper accommodation and amenities in the new areas as all building either by the people themselves or by the authorities would have to await financial provision which always takes time.
- 6) The cost of compensation to the State would be enormous.
- 7) Higher transport costs for individuals and a high outlay of capital for the Railway Administration and bus companies.
- 8) Lower general labour efficiency as workers would have to travel longer distances to their work and accordingly would suffer greater fatigue.
- 9) Unhappiness and frustration would be caused by loss of land tenure and freehold rights.
- 10) Compulsory removal of these freehold groups (from Lady Selborne, Asiatic Bazaar and Cape Location) would be contrary to the following principle:

  Justice and fairplay should be used in our dealings with Non-Europeans.

It is respectfully submitted that we/I are/am entitled to appear in person and/or represented at the meeting of the Board to adduce evidence and/or raise arguments in support of our objections, and I request that you advise me of the place, time and dates of the meeting.

Yours faithfully,

CHAIRMAN

Pretoria, 179 Proes Street June 5th, 1955 THE PRETORIA JOINT COUNCIL OF EUROPEANS & NON-EUROPEANS

PRETORIA

13 Windsor House,
643 Church Street,

The Director,
S. A. Institute of Race Relations,
P.O. Box 97,
JOHANNESBURG.

JULY 1 5 1955

Arcadia, PRETORIA.

13th July, 1955.

Dear Sir.

As you probably know, there are proposals before the Land Tenure Board for moving Africans from Lady Selborne. The Jont Council is opposing such proposals, and is attempting to collect as much information as possible about conditions at Lady Selborne.

I have been directed to inquire whether the Institute would be able to assist in making a Social and Economic Survey of Lady Selborne. It was suggested that you might be able to make available the services of a Social Worker.

The sort of information we were thinking would be valuable includes: rents, transport costs and regular modes of transport, where residents ate occupied, to what extent Pretoria shops are patronised and whether Pretoria shops deliver to Lady Selborne.

It is likely that Father Nye will have to appeal on behalf of the Joint Council some time in August.

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Yours faithfully,

C. M. Elder.

C. M. Elder (Miss) Act. Hon. Sec.

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NO. OF	PUPILS	ATTENDING	SCHOOL	IN	SELBORNE.

Name of School	No. of Pupils.	Teachers.	Cl-rooms.	Ch-hall
l. African	423	6	4	2.
2. A. M. E.	689	14	9	1.
3. L/S High	630	12	14	_ 4
4. Lutheran	597	12	3	2.
5. Methodist	796	15	11	2.
6. N. G.	328	5	5	-
7. Rebone	215	3	3	-
8. St. Peter's	985	16	7	1.
9. Swiss Mission	484_	9	6	1.

Roman Catholic has \_\_\_\_\_ 1,414 pupils.

There are also no less than 500 children who are in the private classes and the teachers being paid out of private funds .

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3. Transport. Est a strain on workers - blayching how the 4. Will Companyation over cost of equally good houses I can this: be crecked before removal? (. Constructive: L.S. is a Nature unit + not a Black Spot.

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2. South; railray + buffer land - Small minority

1) Writing & Word can easily be removed 
3. Estimation & West - Overcrowding on east side can

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schools + shops - recreation from do etc

This can leave the bull of L. S. as it is + it is in no case a Black' shot -

Saving of money: disputes, frustration: etc. etc.

**Collection Number: AD1715** 

#### SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS (SAIRR), 1892-1974

#### **PUBLISHER:**

Collection Funder:- Atlantic Philanthropies Foundation Publisher:- Historical Papers Research Archive Location:- Johannesburg ©2013

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