

Copy for RY/8.

In reply please quote:
Ref. RY/35/VRH/HM

26th July, 1961.

Harold J. Laite Esq.,
P.O. Box 4240,
CAPE TOWN.

Dear Mr. Laite,

Many thanks for your letter HJL/PC dated 21st July 1961.

As soon as Mr. van Wyk returns to Johannesburg, I will discuss details of our trip to Cape Town with him and advise you immediately.

With reference to the visit of Mr. Brouwer I am afraid that it does not appear possible for him to meet Rotary in Cape Town unless they have their luncheon meetings on Tuesdays. But I am under the impression that Thursday is the universally observed day. We have been forced to accept the Thursdays of 14th and 21st September for Rotary in Port Elizabeth and Pretoria. These were long outstanding requests should Brouwer or Casson visit this country and consequently we were obliged to give these two Clubs first choice.

Thank you for your offer of assistance and we hope that you will have full co-operation from local citizens.

It would be a good idea if arrangements can be made for Mr. Brouwer to address a combined Women's meeting. In other centres the N.C.W. and their affiliated societies are working in this direction.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

V.R.Hicks.
SECRETARY.



THE SOUTH AFRICAN REFUGEE ORGANISATION
DIE SUID-AFRIKAANSE VLUGTELING ORGANISASIE
W.O. 2246

CAPE TOWN
KAAPSTAD

HJL/ PC

RY/8.

21st July, 1961.

V. R. Hicks, Esq.,
Secretary,
S. A. National Committee for WRY,
P. O. Box 672,
JOHANNESBURG.

Dear Mr. Hicks,

I am much obliged for your letter No. RY/8/VRH/HM of the 18th instant, and am pleased to note that Mr. van Wyk and yourself would like to meet me to discuss the points in my letter of the 26th June.

As it is unlikely that I shall be in Johannesburg in August, I would like to take advantage of your suggestion that Mr. van Wyk and yourself should come to Cape Town. I think that this would be an excellent idea and I would like you to meet my Committee while you are here. If, therefore, you can let me know when it will be convenient for you to visit Cape Town, I shall be pleased to arrange a meeting of the Committee accordingly, as I feel that any misunderstanding which may have arisen can easily be clarified.

So far as concerns the visit of Mr. Brouwer, I will certainly get in touch with the Rotary Club and ask whether they would be willing to arrange for him to address one of their luncheon meetings, and if this can be arranged, I will then have a word with the Mayor of Cape Town to see whether she would be willing to arrange a Cocktail party as you suggest.

I will let you know on both these points as soon as I have made the necessary contacts.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Handwritten signature

Please make me copy for RY/35 (Brouwer) [initials]

file

RY/8.

Phonogram
± 10 am. 21/8/61

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.—POSKANTOORTELEGRAAFDIENS.

Class. Klas.	Office of Origin.—Kantoor van herkoms.	Words. Woorde.	Code. Kode.	Service Instructions. Diensaanwysings.	Sent. Oorgesein.
TO AAN	LAITE BOX 4240 CAPE TOWN				

VAN WYK ACCEPTS WITH APPRECIATION
YOUR SUGGESTION TO CANCEL
MEETING ON 28 AUGUST LETTER
FOLLOWS.

FROM
VAN

HICKS

NOT TO BE TELEGRAPHED.—MOENIE OORGESEIN WORD NIE.

Signature of Sender

Handtekening van afsender

N.B.—The Department is not liable for losses incurred through incorrect transmission, delay or non-delivery of telegrams.

Address

Adres

L.W.—Die Departement is nie vir verliese gely as gevolg van onjuiste oorsending, vertraging of nie-aflowering van telegramme, aanspreeklik nie.

In reply please quote:
Ref. RY/8/VRH/HM

21st August, 1961.

Harold J. Laite Esq.,
P.O. Box 4240,
CAPE TOWN.

Dear Mr. Laite,

I wish to confirm my telegram of today's date, which read :-

"VAN WYK ACCEPTS WITH APPRECIATION YOUR SUGGESTION
TO CANCEL MEETING ON 28 AUGUST LETTER FOLLOWS".

This was in reply to your letter of 18th instant.

Mr. van Wyk has asked me to convey to you and members of your committee his sincere appreciation of your approach to this matter. He agrees that possibly you will discuss the whole matter with him when next you visit our city.

He will be away from South Africa from end of October to end of December and hopes that you will be in Johannesburg before that date.

With kindest regards from us both,

Yours sincerely,

V.R.Hicks.
SECRETARY.

S. A. R. O.



S. A. V. O.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN REFUGEE ORGANISATION
DIE SUID-AFRIKAANSE VLUGTELING ORGANISASIE

CAPE TOWN
KAAPSTAD

W.O. 2246

18th August, 1961.

V. R. Hicks, Esq.,
S. A. National Committee for WRY,
P. O. Box 672,
JOHANNESBURG.

Dear Mr. Hicks,

My Committee has given further consideration to the proposed meeting on the 28th inst., and asks me to say that while it will be very pleased to meet Mr. van Wyk and yourself, it wonders whether it is necessary to put you to the trouble and expense of making a special journey to Cape Town for the purpose. Only just over four months have to elapse before the work of the National Committee will be concluded, and in view of this my Committee feels that the clarification of the points raised in our letters, while helpful in many respects, is of less importance than might otherwise have been the case.

It had intended to discuss with Mr. van Wyk and yourself the activities of SARO after the National Committee ceases to function, but this matter, it is felt, can be considered at a later stage especially as in the course of my business I have to visit Johannesburg from time to time, and a suitable occasion to discuss this matter may arise before the end of the year.

I shall be glad if you will discuss with Mr. van Wyk the points mentioned briefly above, and advise me whether, under the circumstances, he feels that the meeting should proceed on the 28th or not. My Committee will be happy to abide by his decision in the matter, and it will be appreciated if you will kindly telegraph the decision so that I can advise my Committee accordingly.

There is nothing further to report re Dr. Beermann's visit, but I will keep in touch with Mrs. Grieve and inform you of the final details as soon as I receive them.

Yours sincerely,

RY/8
JW

C O N S T I T U T I O N .

1. The Organisation shall be known at THE SOUTH AFRICAN REFUGEE ORGANISATION.
2. The Organisation is a voluntary organisation, not for gain or reimbursement, of persons interested in assisting indigent refugees, formed with the object of promoting, and assisting in the immigration into the Union of South Africa of refugees and the general welfare of such refugees after arrival, and to provide such assistance, both financially and otherwise. There shall be no concentration on profit making by trading or investment and any interest received on any funds which may be invested by reason of not being immediately required shall be devoted solely to the furtherance of the objects of the Organisation.
3. AIMS AND OBJECTS OF THE ORGANISATION:
 - (a) To promote, assist, subsidise and generally support measures for the immigration into the Union of South Africa of indigent refugees.
 - (b) To establish and maintain transit camps in the Union of South Africa for the reception, temporary housing and rehabilitation of such indigent immigrant refugees.
 - (c) To assist in the general welfare of indigent immigrant refugees and their families.
 - (d) To prevent indigency and social maladjustment amongst such immigrants.
4. The Organisation operates in the Union of South Africa.
5. MEMBERSHIP:
 - (a) Membership of the Organisation shall consist of adult persons who are interested in the aims and objects of the Organisation and who pay a membership subscription of not less than £1-1-0 per annum.
 - (b) Life Membership: A donation of not less than 50 Guineas shall qualify for life membership.
 - (c) Honorary Life Membership: The Organisation, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, may elect any person as an Honorary Life Member in recognition of special services rendered to the Organisation.
 - (d) Qualification for Membership:
 - (1) Any member whose annual subscription of not less than £1-1-0 is a year in arrear shall forfeit the right of membership.
 - (2) No member shall exercise the rights of membership at any annual or other meeting of the Organisation whose subscription has not been paid at least one month before the date of such meeting.
 - (e) The Executive Committee shall have the right to accept or refuse membership to any person desiring to join the Organisation and shall not be required to state reasons for any refusal of membership.

6. VOTING.

Every member shall be entitled to vote at any General Meeting and shall be eligible for any office by a majority vote unless disqualified in terms of 5(d) hereof.

7. ADMINISTRATION.

- (a) The affairs of the Organisation shall be administered by an Executive Committee which shall consist of:

Chairman,
Vice-Chairman,
Treasurer,
Eleven Members,
Secretary (who shall be ex officio).

- (b) No person shall be eligible for election to the Executive Committee who is directly or indirectly employed by the Organisation in a salaried capacity.
- (c) Any member of the Executive Committee who fails to attend three consecutive Committee meetings without leave of absence or sufficient reason in the opinion of the Committee shall be deemed automatically to have resigned as a member of the Committee.
- (d) The Executive Committee may appoint an honorary President and one or more Vice-Presidents.
- (e) The Executive Committee shall have the power to fill any casual vacancy in the number of elected committee members, subject to confirmation by a general meeting at the earliest opportunity.
- (f) The Executive Committee may:
- (I) Raise funds for the furtherance of the aims and objects of the Organisation.
 - (II) Rent, lease, purchase or sell movable or immovable property required for the furtherance of the objects of the Organisation.
 - (III) Raise loans, borrow money on the security of mortgage bonds over immovable property and obtain any other financial assistance that may be required.

8. The Executive Committee shall be elected at the Annual General meeting and shall hold office for one year. Every Committee Member shall be eligible for re-election.

9. The Organisation may sue and be sued in the name of the Chairman in any Court of Law in the Union of South Africa. All processes of law, notices and the like shall be regarded as sufficiently served on the Organisation if served on the Chairman personally. The Chairman shall not however personally be liable for any loss or debts of the Organisation.

10. All property of the Organisation, both movable and immovable, shall be vested and registered in the name of the "Trustees of the South African Refugee Organisation". Such Trustees shall be elected by a General meeting. Such Trustees shall not be obliged to furnish security under any Law whatsoever.

11. MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

- (a) General and Executive Committee Meetings shall be presided over by the Chairman, or in his absence by the Vice-Chairman. In the event of the absence of both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman from any meeting of the Executive Committee, the members present at the meeting shall elect one of their number as Chairman of the meeting. Six members shall form a quorum at an Executive Committee meeting.
 - (b) The Executive Committee shall not meet less than once a month.
 - (c) The Chairman may call a special meeting of the Executive Committee for such purposes as he may deem fit, or on a written requisition by not less than six members of the Committee in which the particulars of the matters for discussion shall be set out.
12. The Secretary shall keep a record and minutes of all General and Executive Committee Meetings and shall be responsible for all correspondence and for sending out notices for all meetings; and shall further keep an attendance register to serve as a record of the attendance of members at such meetings.
13. The Annual General Meeting of the Organisation shall be convened by the Executive Committee at the beginning of the financial year but not later than the month of August in each and every year.
14. An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be convened at the request of not less than twenty members who must submit such request in writing to the Executive Committee which shall convene such meeting within three weeks after receipt of such request.
15. At all General and Executive Committee Meetings a majority of votes shall be decisive. The Chairman shall have a casting vote.
16. The minutes of all meetings, when confirmed, shall be conclusive as evidence of the matters contained therein.

17. FINANCE.

- (a) The Treasurer shall keep proper books and accounts, shall be responsible for the collection of all amounts due to the Organisation, shall pay such accounts as are approved by the Executive Committee and shall submit a monthly report on the financial position of the Organisation.
- (b) The books and accounts of the Organisation shall be audited by an auditor, who shall be appointed by the Annual General Meeting. The audited balance sheet and the auditor's report shall be submitted to the Annual General Meeting. The financial year of the Organisation shall be from the first day of July to the 30th day of June inclusive.
- (c) All moneys received shall be deposited to the credit of the Organisation's Banking Account promptly and without abatement. All payments of over one pound, unless otherwise duly authorised, shall be made by cheque which shall be signed by any two of the following:-

Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, or
in their absence by any duly authorised
two members of the Committee.

- (d) No contributions shall be raised by the Organisation for any purpose not set forth in the constitution approved by the National Welfare Organisations Board, and no money or property of the Organisation shall be applied to any other purpose, without the approval of the Board.
18. SUB-COMMITTEES:
- (a) The Executive Committee may from time to time appoint special sub-committees for such purposes as may be considered necessary; such sub-committees may include persons who are not members of the Executive Committee.
- (b) The Chairman and Hon. Treasurer of the Executive Committee shall be ex officio members of all sub-committees.
- (c) Any member of a sub-committee who fails to attend three consecutive meetings thereof without leave of absence or sufficient reason in the opinion of such sub-committee shall be deemed automatically to have resigned as a member of such sub-committee.
19. The Constitution shall be amended or added to only by an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting, such proposed amendments to be notified to all members by the Secretary at least one month prior to the General Meeting. Such amendments shall be passed only if accepted by two-thirds of the total votes cast.
20. The Executive Committee shall have the power to prescribe rules and by-laws, not inconsistent with the Constitution to regulate the affairs of the Organisation.
21. DISSOLUTION.
- (a) The Organisation may be dissolved if at least two-thirds of the members present and voting at a general meeting of members convened for the purpose of considering such matter are in favour of dissolution. Not less than twenty one days' notice shall be given of such meeting and the notice convening the meeting shall clearly state that the question of dissolution of the Organisation and disposal of its assets will be considered. If there is no quorum at such meeting, the meeting shall stand adjourned for not less than one week and the members attending such adjourned meeting shall constitute a quorum.
- (b) If upon dissolution of the Organisation there remain any assets whatsoever after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, such assets shall not be paid to or distributed among its members but shall be given to such other registered Welfare Organisation or Welfare Organisations preferably having similar objects as may be decided either by the members at the General Meeting at which it was decided to dissolve the Organisation or, in default of such decision, as may be decided by the National Welfare Organisations Board.

This amended Constitution was approved and adopted at a meeting of the Interim Committee held on Tuesday 26th November, 1957.

J.M. Pols,
Hon. Secretary.

Gen. K.R. van der Spuy,
Hon. Chairman.

Copy for RY/8.

In reply please quote:
Ref. RY/18/VRH/HM

28th November, 1961.

Dr. Hansi Pollak,
135a Marriott Road,
DURBAN.

Dear Dr. Pollak,

Thank you for your letter of 24/11/61. Your apologies for the meeting on Monday 15th are noted. This meeting is now being changed to Friday 12th January.

A memorandum and copies of both constitutions will be sent to all members of the National Committee, as well as members of the Executive well before the meeting.

Yours sincerely,

V.R.Hicks.
SECRETARY.

SOUTH AFRICAN REFUGEE ORGANISATION.

P.O.Box 3137
CAPE TOWN.

22.8.62

Dear Mr. Hicks,

Thanks for the copies of Minutes of your Committee meetings of 2nd and 9th August.

I hope the drive for funds will be successful, but the decision seems to raise a question of tactics. When do you think the proposed new constitution will be available? I thought it might be this month, but judging from the Minute, it may be delayed. The point I have in mind is that if the drive could be linked up with an existing organisation, which takes the place of the National Committee, it will have a strong and direct appeal which could be publicised with, I believe, good results. To have such a drive when the new organisation is in a nebulous state, which it must be until it is actually formed, will, I fear, cause it to lose some of the appeal it should have, because, in spite of the patronage of the Mayor and Mayors, there is nothing definite to publicise or talk about. I wonder whether your Committee will agree with this? To my thinking, it would be better to postpone the drive until it can be on behalf of the formed and active National Refugee Organisation, or ROSA or whatever its new name will be.

Another point appeals to me as worth considering. That is whether when the organisation is formed, it would be possible to arrange a street collection on the same day throughout the country, especially Joburg, Cape Town, Durban, Port Elizabeth, East London, Bloemfontein and Kimberley. If the organisation asked for it, probably all the Mayors would be prepared to set aside the same day, and lend the effort their patronage. It might be worth the effort to organise. Think of the publicity which could be obtained for a National street collection, the first I imagine in the country. The National Council of Women, which has branches throughout the Republic could no doubt be induced, through the

2.

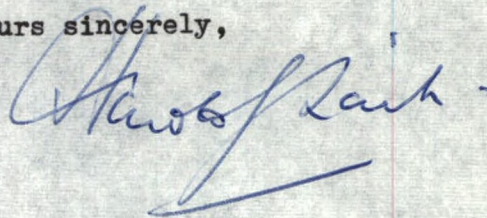
the good offices of Miss Kussel, to undertake organising the collectors.

Failing that, I suggest that when the organisation is formed, the Chairman and yourself, or if the Chairman is not available, you, as National Secretary, should make a tour of the chief centres and hold meetings and get the publicity, and that in each centre this be followed up, immediately, by a Street Collection, so as to strike while the iron is hot. If the itinerary could be laid out well in advance, it should be possible to arrange collection dates, so that no time would be wasted in getting the work going.

These are some thoughts on the position which you may feel should be brought to the attention of Mr. van Wyk and your Committee.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "V. R. Hicks", with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

V. R. Hicks Esq,
Johannesburg.

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

LEGAL NOTICES:

Copyright Notice: All materials on the Historical Papers website are protected by South African copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

Disclaimer and Terms of Use: Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of paper documents and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

This document forms part of the archive of the South African Institute of Race Relations (SAIRR), held at the Historical Papers Research Archive at The University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.