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MINUTES of the Meeting of the Provincial Executive Committee of the African National Congress (Natal Branch) held at Greutville on the 26th and 27th of November, 1955. Ea/10-1.1

PRESENT: CHIEF A.J.LUTULI (President) Messrs. D.S.G.Nyembe, P.Simelane, S.Dhlamini, A.Nene, M.Mabhida, P.Bhengu and A.Gumede.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the President at 9.45 p.m.

MINUTES: Mr. Simelane reported that the Minutes of the last meeting of the Provincial Executive were not available and it was agreed that these be presented at the next meeting of the Committee.

ROLL CALL: A list on names of persons elected at the last Annual General Meeting of the African National Conference Congress (Natal) as members of the Provincial Executive Committee was read and confirmed correct.

ELECTIONS: The Annual Conference having re-elected CHIEF A.J. LUTULI as Provincial President the meeting elected Provincial Office Bearers as follows:

1. Deputy President Dr. W.Z.CONCO
2. Provincial Secretary..... Mr. M.B.YENGWA
3. Assistant Secretary..... Mr. A.GUMEDE
4. Provincial Treasurer..... Mr. P.H.SIMELANE
5. Provincial Speaker..... Mr.G.S.D. Nyembe
6. Provincial Chaplain..... The Rev. A.M.Sikakane

Other Committee Members, A.NENE, P.G.MEI, M.MABHIDA, P.BHENGU and S.DHLAMINI, N. YENGWA.

WORKING COMMITTEE: P.H.SIMELANE (CONVENOR), and MESSRS. S.DHLAMINI, A.NENE, P.G.MEI, A.GUMEDE, and Ex-Officio Chief A.J.Lutuli (President) and Mr.M.B.Yengwa (Secretary)

Secretariat: CHIEF A.J.LUTULI, MESSRS. M.B.YENGWA, S.DHLAMINI, P.H. SIMELANE, (Convener) and A.GUMEDE

PROVINCIAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE: (Substituting the Provincial Action Committee of the Congress of the People Campaign), Messrs. P.H.Simelane (Convener), S.Dhlamini, P.G.Mei, P.Bhengu, A.Gumede and the PRESIDENT, were nominated to represent the African National Congress in this Committee which will comprise of representatives of the Natal Indian Congress, Congress of Democrats, South African Coloured Peoples's Organisation and the South African Congress of Trades Unions - and the first meeting of which must be convened by the African National Congress(Natal).

1. **PEASANTS COMMITTEE:** Mr. M.B.YENGWA (Convener) and 5 other members to be chosen by the Working Committee from a list of not more than seven names to be submitted by Mr. M.B.Yengwa.
2. **TRADE UNIONS SUB-COMMITTEE:** P.H. SIMELANE (Convener) and Messrs. S.Dlamini, M.Mabhida, P.G.Mei and the PRESIDENT
3. **EDUCATION COMMITTEE:** To consist of the Working Committee with power to co-opt advisers such as a syllabus experts.
4. **BULLETINS & PUBLICITY SUB-COMMITTEE:** P.H.SIMELANE (Convener), The President and Messrs M.B.Yengwa, S.Dlamini and Koza, with power to co-opt additional members.
5. **YOUTH COMMITTEE:** The Working Committee was charged with the duty of investigating this aspect and reporting thereon.
6. **WOMENS LEAGUE:** The Working Committee was instructed to examine and report on the functioning of the Women's League: particularly as to its functioning in practice and it's relationship with the Congress Officials in view of a report submitted by Messrs Simelane and Nene regarding the activities of some of the lady members in Durban, further it was decided to request Misses B. Khiso, G.Kuswaye and R.Shabane and Mrs H.Ostrich to meet the

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to meet the President and discuss with him the issues raised.

Sub-Committees Numbered 1 - 5 above were constituted in accordance with the meetings decision for their formation under the charge and control of members of the Secretariat.

The Treasurer reported that the final figures to hand on Branch Membership showed that the Provincial Branch was entitled to be represented by a delegation of 34 at the Annual Conference of the African National Congress to be held at Bloemfontein in December 1955.

PREPARATIONS FOR REPRESENTATION AT THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS)

Mr. S. Dhlamini reported that arrangements had been made for the conveyance of 60 people by 'Bus at £3/-/-, each or at £180 for the return trip the fare depending on the number of people carried - he added that there was no indication of the total number of people going to the Conference, a sum of £10 had been paid as a deposit on account of the fare.

It was agreed that a directive be issued that a letter be addressed to the President of the A.N.C.(O.F.S. Branch) to arrange accommodation for the Natal Delegation.

Mr. G.S.D.NYEMBE was appointed Leader of the Delegation at the Conference and Mr. P.H.SIMELANE was appointed Organisational Leader of the Delegation.

It was agreed that all the delegates from the Province of Natal be supplied with stencilled copies of the Resolutions submitted to the Conference as well as copies of the draft Constitution and proposed amendments thereto.

In anticipation of the adoption of the draft constitution it was agreed that a meeting of the Provincial Delegation be held to nominate National Executive Committee members in accordance with the requirements of the new constitution the Provincial Executive Committee's suggested nominees being as follows:-

PRESIDENT GENERAL : CHIEF A.J. LUTULI
Deputy President : DR. W.Z.CONCO
Secretary General : MR. O.R. TAMBO
Treasurer General : Dr. A. Letele
Other members: Messrs. P.H.Simelane, G.S.D.Nyembe, A.Gumede, R. Resha and Tshunukwa

SPECIAL MATTERS:

(a) Passes for Women:

The Committee expressed its agreement with the Policy of ~~reference~~ to be implemented at the discretion of the National Executive as and when satisfied on organisational aspects thereof.

Further the Provincial Executive agreed to prepare and distribute printed matter for use in connection with meetings to be held early in the forthcoming year.

(b) Bantu Education:

That Congress continue to urge the withdrawal of members of School Committees and Boards from said bodies and agitation for the Boycott of schools and the formation of Cultural Clubs while proceeding with the campaign for the above objects

Discussion took place on the matter of making application for

for registration of a school and acceptance of a syllabus therefor and it was decided that the matter be referred back to the Working Committee for review.

Provincial Head Office:

Reporting on this subject Mr. P.H. Simelane outlined the history of the occupation of office premises in Durban on the basis of subtenancy and joint occupation with a business undertaking the direct one of the active Directors of which was adopting a hostile attitude to the African National Congress's presence on the premises, stated that owing to the A.N.C. having been in arrear with the payment of rent to the extent of £13.10/- the Congress had been threatened with ejection proceedings but was saved by the payment of the said sum by Dr. W.Z. Cence Deputy President, in these circumstances he proposed that other premises be sought and occupied if and when available. The proposal was accepted in principle and it was agreed that funds for the payment of rent be raised by levies payable by the Branches.

Congress Bulletin:

Mr. P.H. Simelane reporting on this matter stated that the First Issue was published in September, 1955, initial expenses therefor having been ~~substantially~~ met out of funds advanced by the Deputy President, Dr. W.Z. Cence, Contributions to the issue having been made by the President Chief A.J. Lutuli, Mr. W.Z. Cence, Messrs. M.B. Yengwa and P.H. Simelane, edited by the President, typed and stencilled by Mr. Bill Khosa, and compiled by voluntary helpers, and were distributed for sale, realising an amount of £14 to date: the report not being complete it was agreed that a full factual report showing the number of bulletins printed, sold and distributed and manner thereof, and total amount disbursed and realised be prepared and submitted by the Secretariat.

It was agreed that the next issue be edited as the previous one and to contain the Provincial Report and the Report of the National Executive to the Annual Conference the issue to be known as the Conference Bulletin.

Plans for Organising in Natal: The meeting discussed proposals for intensive work in organising in the Province in accordance with the requirements of the National Executive - It was agreed that further attention be given to this matter as soon as possible after the African National Congress Conference - The M Plan, and decentralisation of Branches to be put into operation.

FATHER HUDDLESTON :

It was agreed that it be recommended to the National Executive that a letter be written to Father Huddleston to thank him and to bid him farewell or invite him to a Farewell Sociao to be held in his honour where associate organisations of the liberatory movement could present appropriate addresses to him.

NORTHERN NATAL REMOVALS: Mr. G.S.D. Nyembe made a comprehensive report on threatened removals of Africans settled in various places such as Charlestown, Newcastle, Ladysmith etc. to other areas and conditions under which such unsettled persons may acquire rights of ownership of land in the proposed new areas. - the matter was after discussion deferred for consideration in the future.

Police Raids Report: Mr. P.H. Simelane reported that he had furnish a full report on the se raids to the National Executive

BANNED LEADERS : Mr. Simelane reported that few branches in Natal had paid the subscriptions called for by the National Conference in full. It was agreed that Branches in default be warned that default in payment may affect a Branch's right to be heard at the National Conference.

The Meeting was closed.

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RECORDS RELATING TO THE 'TREASON TRIAL' (REGINA vs F. ADAMS AND OTHERS ON CHARGE OF HIGH TREASON, ETC.), 1956 1961

TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961

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