

26 Loch Ave.

Johannesburg
Jan 24 /29

My dear Winifred

I send you a batch of recent cuttings
which I shall be glad if you could keep
as you & various people may care to read them.

Things are very bad & shabby just
now - all will have been given up
but for your work & that of others - in
sandy and money, things arising at
critical moments. This week, for instance,

we hear of £100 being things De Cuiris
- just in this ^{I.C.C.} to save the collapse of a
~~North~~ Congress of Nations at Bloemfontein
this week which is kept a new secretary
maybe elected & R. definitely put out
of action. Four or five men's monthly wages

✓ travel expenses for all, upkeep of hall & office, the high economy car, the payment of unimendable debts ~~left~~ left. from months ago - these are all part of the expenses paid for out of the money sent by you & other ~~same~~ ^{others} sums loaned by me.

You can see by some of them cutting ^{has increased} ~~is~~ ^{safe} appeared - it is that a useful ~~committee~~ organization of natives is a vital & urgent necessity. And yet we can get no local people to see that - to the extent of supplying to I.C.H. in a practical way, with money.

Worst of all the languages we chose so carefully for I.C.H. work, have this week in front as they can no longer undertake their work, as they fear it will do them harm with their principlal clients

3

the Chamber of Mines, or various mining
groups, who look upon the I.C.H. as a
"menace".

We can see the damage these unwilling &
selfish rich men have done to the
cause: they were to have secured various
assets in the way of a property in Natal -
amounting to a thousand pounds at least.
This they have practically let slip by not
being energetic & wisdom as it, although
the case was safe & clear. Then,
smaller cases where creditors have sought
payment - on grounds most unfavorable to
themselves have been lost through sheer
(✓ I can see now) - inattention - apathy on
the lawyer's parts: so that these Cape Town
creditors were empowered to seize furniture
of the I.C.H. Johannesburg office - & now
Ballhugan has lost several typewriters &

4

to Dr. Lewis

B.

a duplicator by this maddening process
 & the office furniture as well. Also, has
 had to return the motor car wheel is and
 a necessary mile then by distances.

Mr. Puri is considerably upset by this
 attitude of the firm who are his social
 friends & who, he admits, have done us
 great damage by this deliberate, dilatory
 behavior.

Balrajji says he knew
 all along that we ought to have
 engaged a shady lawyer instead of a
 rich firm. He did intend the day
~~to~~ the lawyer was doing nothing at all
 the matter was so urgent.

I shall never forget my interview with
 the head of the firm three days ago. For
 barefaced rapacious hypocrisy these rich
 lawyers are impossible to beat.

We have serious contemplations going back to
 in order to save good money for going
 after land.

But to fight must go on & will go on.

Mr. Pini has promised he will go to purchase
 to I.C.H. when I am away in England
 & I am sure he would: he is not the
 other business man - a hard & complacent
 wolfish hypocrite.

We are now looking for a young lawyer who
 has not yet been successful except when
 employed by rich mining grants.

All that cheque - I am so sorry I wish
 you had written letter but I will put it
 before next week, & see to matter right.

My brain-fog is complete & fighting
 me sometimes. But I hope to get away
 for Jy. to the Cape for a month, red before
 sail on Paul 1st. The voyage

while rest we & I hope to do some
propagandizing in London later on, &
try to get money for quarters
not yet staffed.

I shall not be depressed if I were
not mentally involved. You know what
that is.

All the same, to work is just & will fit
help. You have saved us so far.

Love from

S. L.

26 Loch Avenue

Parkston Wood

Oct. 15th 1927 J.Y.

My dear Winifred

I am delighted, & very grateful of -
for the mention of my books in your
Bookman article. My only regret is that I
did not see that ancient photo which makes
me look too young by ten years, although my true
years old. I could have given you my worst
Parrish one - a very grim affair.

I was sorry you did not mention Norah Stevenson
whose African Harvest seems to me a very good
& sympathetic study of a Dutch family on
the diamond. Thonin Bitterant published it.
I am sorry to get to Revel with you

which on Lucy's Marriages in it. The bookseller
here are making.

I am sorry you to-day about Balguy's ^{position.} ~~salary.~~

I told I told you I had it on in May
to Mr. Pini, telling him to let B. know
that, whatever else happens, his salary (£30
monthly) was safe until Dec. 31st, he told

to not say exactly its source: too discouraging.
There was a default since that had nothing

whatever to do with I.C.H. contributions from
other people in Engl.

When I arrived I found it had all been used
for other purposes than salary. Since then
he has had no regular salary as I stipulated.

I then wrote & remonstrated with Mr. Pini who
then said that £65 had "been up" in the
accounts. This I relied upon for two months

Salary at any rate. But now I hear that
Mr Pini went wrongly to B. & said that
was a mistake & to L.C.H. acc. is overdrawn
at B Bank.

You know, I have got a cold suspicion that
Mr P. is starting him out. And this is
strengthened this week by a conversation B.
had with Mr. Pini in which Pini warned
him that the Chamber of Mines is getting
annoyed by his presence. They say he is more
dangerous than any of the Communists (I
suppose because more reasonable & orderly &
therefore more likely to succeed in getting wages
raised) & the employers of Labor here & that
they are going to make an effort to get him
deported. (He has been touring to Eastern Province &

4 N.

make a few allusions to the Reserves (but might
react on to labour supply.)

I do think this is very strange behavior on the
part of Price. I fear he is playing a diplomatic
game against me, to have let B. down on
the salary.

If they show B. out, I shall feel strongly
inclined to join the communists as a
— if they will have me, of course.
protest. If you know to sacrifice B.
Les mals. He has done a wonderful piece of
defensive work that few appreciate.

Now I must write even more firmly to Mr Price
& ask him to pay the salary until Dec.

He to meantime, from B. is being hit any of
us who will put him up.

I felt awfully hooked when, three weeks ago,

Mr R. Jones offered him a letter under the

for Racial Co-operation

new Carnegie Trust Fund, as ~~intended~~ Research
 office into native industrial conditions, of
 £300 a year with opportunity to go on helping
 I.C.H.

It now turns out that R.-J. had not even
 discussed the appointment with his committee
 which is scattered all over S.A. & will not
 meet until December! So we cannot depend
 on that at all.

In December R.-J. & wife go to America to
 study Racial Co-operation. Good God, I had
 dozens of pamphlets here five years ago
 with all necessary information: there is no
 need to waste money on the shelf of conditions
 which are entirely different from ours.
 But, as someone wisely said, "The Times looks

body in need of a holiday.

Why can they not see that to spend that money on keeping B. here will be far better for S. Africa. Spend it on hurrying the native workers, in the of more church work, clubs, Buy seats etc ~~etc~~ which so many are working for.

Well, we gave up a trip to America (one reason - the other was Joe's health) because we thought it better to ~~spend~~ ^{save} money on keeping B. here. It fills me with rage to think he never got it, & is now penniless.

Goodbye, love from us both & my love to Vera B.

If we go down now, I will rather lose that way than in more platitudes or the expenses of a Rolls Royce. There is something left.

Yours Affectionately
S. Lewis

P.S. Just got a letter from Mrs. Miller. I hope for something.

Butter not mention these letters to
the others I think, unless really
necessary. All be very innocent
of it when writing to Paris.
Avoid writing just now perhaps.

26 Loch Aor.

Tobacco

Oct. 23^d 1929

My dear Winifred

The ~~first~~ parcel of letters I ordered for
arrival last week but too late to acknowledge by the
mail. Thank you for expediting. The reason
I wanted them was, that Kaldie has begun
quoting from my letters to him at meetings &
in his newspaper.

It was to be expected of course. But I want
to have my duplicates — also knows how to
right alter or garble to suit himself?

I could shut him up (he accuses Balegier
of using I.C.L. moneys for himself) & by producing

various documents & receipts he has signed
when receiving money. But unless it gets too
bad it is best to ignore him.

I have had a very hazy sleep with Mr Peni -
on the £180 we sent in May for B's salary
until December. (I told you the circumstances I told)

A meeting was held in his office yesterday at
which Ray Phillips, Dr Dexter Taylor, Rhoads Jones
& Ballinger & self were present. And Mr Peni.

He began by saying that for the first time in his life
his handling of money had been questioned. (The
meeting by the way was called "to consider B's
present position." This present position is of
course, a penniless one. He is big with various
frills.) I then, when by all looked myself,
explained that Mr Peni was alluding to a
correspondence between myself & him on the

disposal of a sum expunged intended for B's salary & utility etc. I pointed out, that had the money been used as directed, there would have been occasion at all for the meeting to be held. Mr B. will be independent & will have been able to return to England in December had he so willed.

Mr. Pini asked two of the members to kindly read to correspond & give their opinion. They looked so unhappy, from this, he promised to do so.

R-Jones came to see us before dinner to say every & said how upset they had all been. He also said that Pini is "very peculiar" about money & never gives an account of how he spends it, altho' recklessly generous as well. He had more than once thought they would have to ask him to resign for to J. C. Smith; he is so

very autocratic, & difficult. He left the
School Board for the same reason.

R.J. said he disliked very much the idea of
reading our letters but I pressed him to do so if
he possibly could. He said "I know he's wrong.
And when we have to tell him so, it will be
dreadful." He says he always fears a
crisis of my kind for him, on account of his
health.

Oh, dear! Why will men regard perfectly
good & simple plans made by women?

The only plan they will think of (in the mean) to
produce the missing salary was to get about
twenty or more people in S.A. to promise
so much each for two months. But that
does not replace the six months salary that
had been provided.

I feel to explain that, just because I had been so responsible for B's arrival here, I did not want to humiliate of seeing him go begging like this for a living - & that I had provided against that possibility.

B. read his report - a splendid effort, very simple & in very good taste, if so I may put it.

There is just a possibility that the Labor Party here ~~they~~ may break up & reorganise. I believe they have made an offer to B. concerning organizing work.

Well, if he definitely takes a Labor job, I can see that Mr. Puri, who is on the capitalist side, & my cause found out of kindness to help us - will be on my side that he has pushed B. (by not giving him this salary that was his) into such low company as to S.A. Leblanc.

Love for Joe & me. You do a day in work time. A. J. [unclear] your

But nobody will blame B. for taking up the work.
After all, he is a Labour man & is quite the
right person for them to approach.

I really hope it will materialise, if the I. C. G.
has to die. Balleji will then have
an unenviable opportunity for keeping a
friendly eye on the black man.

What a tragedy it is that I did not scribble
sent the money to Balleji direct - as I
did do in January when I left S.A.

He would then have given it to Mr. Thomas
who will have tried it up carefully in a
leap or a stocking & done it out
regarding matter by matter.

Of course, if B. had not recklessly shared his
license with the black appeals & in propaganda &
henceforth, he will have to look for a new
job with all staring staring over it. He's a poor little man.

Dec. 4th
1929

My dear Winifred

Since giving you what I might
call nut-shell information by cable
last week another interesting situation has
arisen.

On Friday, Col. Cresswell visited Mr. Pini
& frankly asked his advice in an
impossible situation which he feared to handle.
So a meeting was arranged, & took place this
week, ~~between~~ between Pini, Cresswell, Ballinger
& Malan, of which as yet I have had no
reports from Ballinger.

So you see Mr. Pini's practically forced ^{- affairs} & ^{unusually}
involvement in the I.C.W., brought to action by the
presence here of a Trade Union adviser & organizer.
has become a very good deal of fruit lately, in
these various national crises. He has become,

from a slightly pompous + always immaculate
 proper chairman of a Joint Comal which
 consist largely of "dead wood" of a high
 conventional type, a fighter of very great
 force + value without ~~whom~~ whose co-operation
 on work would have gone under + Ballgie's
 prestige perished (after his impudent offence +
 speaking at the Effigy-Burning meeting on Nov. 10th.)

I have for some time been wondering if Pein's real
 aim + intention was to starve Ballgie out of
 the county by that strange act of his whereby he
 withheld his salary provided for him from June
 to December this year, which has led to a breach between
 him + me + some very strange conduct on his
 part: I feel absolutely so bias against Mr Pein
 for treatment which was so sudden + outrageous
 that - after the meeting at which it occurred - Mr
 Rhinell Jones + Mr Ray Phillips made special
 visits here to disown themselves + to apologise
 for what I had had to go through.

He (Pini) was suffering, as I told, from a sudden fit of rage due to finding himself so deeply implicated in matters far outside the ken of Jewish Councils - & all my fault.

Then, I told, he felt deep remorse at his loss of manners, & also, I told, at the fact that he had done wrong in not using the money provided for B's salary as we had stipulated.

But being a proud business man he will not admit any fault in business matters or manners.

He was once (after the row about the salary affair) gave £100 to the I.C.W. to ease his conscience.

But it was of no use to the penniless Ballgier who naturally could not find money given to the general funds.

He also provided a motor-car, to be paid off by ~~misdelment~~; now being used as a taxi (I told by the I.C.W.) in order to pay for itself.

~~There came Pini's historic descent~~

But at this period I really thought Pini had been

influenced by the Chamber of Mines people to
 freeze Bally's out by withholding salary.
 It looked like it: ^{to} ~~at~~ to some kind of
 was slackening off in his efforts to win
 on legal cases in Natal. And both
 Bally & I could not help to surmise
 that the mining firms + interests were
 proving too strong for Mr Puri to stand
 against.

In the meantime, Bally was, & is, being on the
 chief of police. Staying with Ray Phillips,
 with Canon Parker for weeks on end.

Benny ^{from Mr Thomas} ~~is~~ ^{is} to have his feet out & so
 on. His clothes are shabby & hot, ^{so} ~~the~~ ^{an} easy one
~~assistance~~ ~~is~~ ^{is} to the little hero is ~~too~~

of suits of white drill. And so on - all these
 odd ramifications, the tangled web we
 weave when first we Labour do deceive.
 Isn't that a nice parody?

Then, in the midst of these unpleasant fears of ours, 5
Mr Pinn drops his ^{Public Act} bombshell & he ~~has~~
- goes & so on, & the Dublin row occurs.

Mr Pinn rises up, shakes off his necktie, &
✓ becomes really great. At the moment ~~when~~
Balliger's name strikes into the nostrils of all
S. Africa for having spoken at a violent
meeting, Mr Pinn takes him, under great publicity,
as his colleague in ~~involvement~~ in the Dublin
affair on behalf of the Joint Council.

It is all very hand written - up in the paper.

People were puzzled about Balliger's participation
into Mr Pinn after his exhibit of "violence" on
Nov. 10th. It led to discussion everywhere.

It led to indignation in the Joint Council that
their chairman should have worked in public cooperation
with a wicked Balliger.

A special meeting was convened a fortnight ago, to
discuss this & to hear Mr Pinn's report of his
Dublin visit & his explanation of the fact that

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