

PROFESSOR C. A. DOKE:

As a member of the staff of the University of the Witwatersrand I desire to pay my tribute to Sol. Plaatje's labours for the advancement of Sochuan literature and the rightful recognition of the Bantu languages in this country.

In many ways Plaatje's literary work was remarkable. Quite apart from his journalistic career, in which amongst other things he edited "Tsala ea Batho", he probed deeply into language study from an ardent love ~~for~~ for his mother tongue. He assisted Professor Daniel Jones as far back as 1915 to produce the well known "Sochuan Phonetic Reader." Professor Jones testified then that he "found him to possess unusual linguistic ability."

It can be claimed for him that he was the first, still I believe the only one, to attempt to render into Bantu language any of the plays of Shakespeare.

The initiative, the industry, the perseverance in the face of little encouragement, the study ~~under~~ ~~of~~ dif ~~erent~~ which only the Bantu in South Africa can understand, is bound to his credit, and we honour the memory of a man who achieved what Sol. Plaatje was able to do.

In the death of Mr. Plaatje the Bantu people have lost one who has contributed greatly to their uplift, and who has enriched their literature in no small degree.

We honour his memory for his writing efforts for the good of his people.

REV. BERNARD HUSS:

Just like so many other Europeans I held Mr. Plaatje in highest esteem, for he was really a splendid African gentleman and an example of what Africans can become under the influence of European culture. His death means, and is mourned as, a great loss to whole South Africa.

REV. JOHN L. DUBE:

Natal.

I greatly regret the death of our great leader, ~~a~~
loss which is shared by all Bantu in South Africa.

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Silas T MOLEMA and Solomon T PLAATJE Papers

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