

ABX. 471007  
Politics - General

MIDDLEDRIFT

7th Oct. 1947

My dear Doctor Xuma,

The Rev Z. Mahabane has sent me a duplicate of a letter he has addressed to you, and the letter is reminiscent of one I wrote to you some time ago, at your own request conveyed through Dr Moroka, and also my own personal request to you for a brief interview at Johannesburg last May.

I am patiently awaiting your reply and leadership to the above-mentioned overtures, especially to the direct question from Mr Mahabane.

Hoping for a speedy and favourable answer, I am  
yours sincerely,

D.W. Jabavu

Bantu Welfare Trust

P. O. Phoenix,  
Natal.  
October, 8, 1947.The Secretary,  
Bantu Welfare Trust,  
P. O. Box 97,  
Johannesburg.

Dear Sir,

I am writing on behalf of the Ohlange Institute Board of Trustees to place before the Bantu Welfare Trust a request for financial aid in connection with the raising of funds for the further development of Ohlange Institute.

The attached circular, which we have prepared especially for the raising of funds amongst Africans, gives something of the history of the Institution, its present organisation, and its needs.

We have launched a campaign to raise £20,000 during the next two years. Up to now we have received wide and encouraging support from African people in all walks of life, within the province of Natal, where we have for the meantime confined our campaign. Our list of donors includes business men, ministers, teachers, doctors chiefs, herbalists, clerks, social workers, and politicians. We later intend to make appeals to the African common man who has consistently given, in the past, his little towards the support this school.

We hope to raise from among the Africans, £5,000 from the Europeans and Indians, and we appeal to the Bantu Welfare Trust to give us a grant of £3,500 to make £10,000.

With this amount, we are hopeful that we shall be able to raise from Government sources another £10,000 to reach our target of £20,000. It shall not be easy, but we have had tentative promises that if we can raise an amount such as we have indicated from private sources, the government departments would consider putting in their share to raise their total.

Our needs are most pressing:

#### CLASSROOMS:

Our classrooms at the present time are scattered all over the campus. Classes are conducted wherever we can find an empty room to house them. And most of the plant used as classrooms consists of old iron buildings which are now most unsuitable for that purpose. The only department that is properly housed is the Industrial Department.

We enclose a photograph of this building.

#### THE DAY SCHOOL:

Our Day school which caters for the educational needs of a large surrounding African community on private lands is housed in three old iron buildings, two of which used to house in the olden days the printing press of the "Ilanga lase Natal". They are ill ventilated, now almost beyond repair, and ill fitted for the present use. Our roll is about three hundred, and we could take in about 100 more children if only we had room. The nearest mission school is about four miles away in one direction, and the other is 8 miles in the opposite direction. On account of our lack of funds and the poor accommodation at our disposal, we even thought of closing down the school, but the needs of the people were so insistent we had to carry on.

STAFF HOUSES:...

#### STAFF HOUSES:

We have at present on our staff, including the Day school 29 teachers but there is only one staff house on the school premises and even that one is a mud-brick cottage build by Dr Dube for himself in 1915. This cottage is at present occupied by our headmaster, whilst the Principal and his family occupy an altered wing of the Girls' Hostel. For a stable and contented staff, we need homes on the campus for our staff, who at present have to leave their wives at their fathers' homes, or rent rooms in the neighbourhood. This not only entails

long walks to and from school for the teachers concerned, but also leaves us shorthanded in regard to the supervision and the general conduct of extra-mural activities.

With the £5,000 indicated in our programme, we plan to build a Principal's house, 4 staff cottages and a bathelory and dining room for single teachers.

#### WATER AND LIGHT

Because of the new developments which we have in mind, our present water and lighting system will prove inadequate. And we have planned therefore to extend these, so that these essential services will prove equal to the new demands.

I might say, finally, that our Board of Trustees is particularly well fitted to organise, guide and direct these new developments. We have on the Board a group of representative and well known Africans working together with a group of experienced European business men and an experienced educationist: Mr T.W. Griggs is proprietor of T.W. Brigg & Co., Booksellers; Mr W.A. Campbell is Chairman of Directors, Natal Estates Ltd.; Mr W.T. Mitchell is manager of an Insurance concern, and Mr D. Mok Malcolm is ex-Chief Inspector of Native Education Natal.

These men are an assurance that any grant that the Trust may decide to give us will be used to the very best advantage in putting through these schemes, which are for the welfare of African youth, and the development of African people as a whole.

With these explanatory statements I now beg to place before the Trust our appeal for a grant of £3500 towards the development of Ohlange Institute.

Yours faithfully,  
signed: D.G.S. Mtinkulu  
Principal

Under separate cover I am submitting for the better information of the Trust the following photographs of the school and the work of the school.

- (1) The Boys' Hostel.
- (2) The Girls' , ,
- (3) The Industrial block.
- (4) The Carpentry shop.
- (5) The Tailoring shop.
- (6) The Leathering shop.

10/10/47

Notice

The meeting of the Bantu Welfare Trust will be held in the office of Lt. Colonel J. Donaldson D.S.O., A.B.C. Chambers, at 11.00 a.m. on Friday 10th October, 1947.

A G E N D A

1. Confirmation of minutes.
2. Matters arising from the minutes.
  - (a) Ophirton property.
  - (b) Overseas publicity for South Africa.
  - (c) Springbok Legion - report.
  - (d) African Surveyors.
  - (e) B.E.S.L. and Springbok Legion.
  - (f) Council of Non-European Trade Unions - report. *by Mr Moroka*
  - (g) National War Memorial Health Foundation - report. *social purposes*
  - (h) Moroka-Jabavu schools - report.
  - (i) Public Utility Company.
  - (j) L.M.S. Ngwabe.
  - (k) E. Manyosi.
3. Applications for assistance
  - (a) Transvaal Interdenominational African Ministers' Assn. *support the national*
  - (b) Lydenburg Bantu Secondary School - for a building loan. *South African*
  - (c) Bridgmen Memorial Hospital - for a grant. *£650*
  - (d) Edith Ntise - for a grant to enable her to take Nursing. *Robert Shapira Trust*
  - (e) Ingathering Appeal (Seventh Day Adventists) for a grant.
4. Bantu Sports Club.
5. Sophiatown Youth Clubs.
6. Letters of thanks
  - (a) Girl Wayfarers' Association.
  - (b) L.M.S. Ngwabe.
7. Donaldson Awards.

29/9/47

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BANTU WELFARE  
TRUST HELD IN THE OFFICE OF LT. COLONEL J.  
DONALDSON D.S.O. ON THE 5th SEPTEMBER, 1947.

PRESENT:

Lt. Colonel J. Donaldson D.S.O. (Chairman), Mr J.D. Rheinallt Jones, Dr A.B. Xuma, Mr Quintin Whyte, Mr P.R. Mosaka, Mr G.H.R. Edmunds and Dr Ray Phillips.

In attendance: the Assistant Secretary.

APOLOGIES

The Rt. Hon. J.H. Hofmeyr.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 8th August, 1947 having been circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(a) Delegation to South West Africa: Mr Quintin Whyte reported that Mrs Ballinger who was a member of the proposed delegation to South West Africa had withdrawn. She had been appointed to two government commissions and stated that although she was anxious to accompany the delegation, and might be free to go in six months' time, she was unable to continue on the delegation at present. The Chairman stated that his main reason for his proposal to send a delegation to South West Africa, as to advise the Natives there to oppose incorporation of their country with the Union unless they were granted suitable representation in parliament. If the delegation was not going to do this, then he felt that it was not going to serve the purpose he had in view, and there was therefore no point in sending it. Dr Xuma and Mr Mosaka supported the Chairman and stated that already visitors and government officials had been going round the country, and unless there was an African member on the delegation, it would receive very little cooperation from the inhabitants of the territory, and our purpose would be defeated. After a lengthy discussion in which several proposals were made,

IT WAS AGREED that the idea of the delegation should be abandoned.

(b) Ophirton Property: The Secretaries reported that the Governor General to whom they had written had replied that he had referred our application to his ministers. On the proposal of Mr Mosaka,

IT WAS AGREED that another letter should be written to the Secretary for Native Affairs.

(c) African Artists: Reported that Sekoto was going to Paris towards the latter half of September. He was paying himself for his visit overseas and was still looking to the Trust for assistance.

IT WAS DECIDED to make him a grant of £25.

(d) Native Cooperative Societies:- reported that the Secretary for Native Affairs had replied that they were at present considering the appointment of an officer to organise Cooperative Societies.

Noted

(e) Public Utility Company: reported that the sub-committee had not been able to meet as Mr Rheinallt Jones was away from Johannesburg during the month of August.

Noted

(f) African Trade Union Technical Advisory Committee: There was no report.

Noted

(g) Overseas Publicity for S. Africa: The Assistant Secretary tabled a memorandum in which it was proposed periodically to prepare publications on South African conditions for local and overseas consumption.

IT WAS DECIDED TO ASK the Institute of Race Relations to prepare a model of a suitable pamphlet for publication along the lines proposed and submit it at the next meeting of the Trust.

(h) African Surveyors: reported that no reply had been received yet from the Department of Native Affairs.

Noted

(i) Springbok Legion: No report available.

Noted

(j) J.L. Vabaza: No report.

Noted

(k) Reciprocal membership: The Assistant Secretary read a letter from the National War Memorial Health Foundation requesting the Trust to exchange reciprocal members with their Association.

IT WAS DECIDED to inform the Secretary of the National War Memorial Health Foundation that the Trust as prevented by its constitution from exchanging members with them and to state that two members of the Trust were already serving on their committees.

#### APPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE

(a) L.M.S. Ngewabe: - for assistance to publish a book of Xhosa poems.

IT WAS DECIDED to accept Dr Kerr's recommendation that he should be granted a subsidy of £50 on condition that he acknowledged the assistance in his book and donated a copy to the Institute of Race Relations.

(b) National Council of African Women (Randfontein branch) - for a grant towards their nursery school.

IT WAS DECIDED to refer their application to the National Council for Child welfare.

(c) Girl Wayfarers Association: for an annual grant of £200 for the running and maintenance of a car for their organiser.

IT WAS DECIDED to make a grant of £200 and to inform them that the Trust was not prepared to make an annual grant, but if they made an application at the end of twelve months, it would always be considered.

(d) Keith Nkabinde:- for a loan of £240 to enable him to take law.

IT WAS DECIDED NOT to grant the loan.

(e) Edward Manyosi:- for a loan of £400 to enable him to take law. The Secretaries reported that they had requested him to provide sureties and testimonials of character and they had not yet received a reply.

Noted

(f) N.R. Mandela: - for an increase of the loan he had received from the Trust by £102.

IT WAS AGREED to grant the loan subject to his being able to produce sureties to cover the additional amount.

B.E.S.L:-

A letter was read from the B.E.S.L. proposing to form a sub-committee to administer the £1000 which had been given by the Trust for the welfare of African ex-volunteers.

IT WAS DECIDED that the Trust should itself form the sub-committee and invite the B.E.S.L and the Springbok Legion to appoint their national Secretaries to serve on this sub-committee.

#### COUNCIL OF NON-EUROPEAN TRADE UNIONS

The Secretaries reported that a new secretary had been elected at their annual conference, and as nothing had been heard from the previous secretary about the Trust's proposal made three months ago that their Council should appoint an official to collect membership fees it was necessary that he should be approached on this matter.

IT WAS AGREED that Mr Mosaka should ascertain from the officials of the Council why this official had not been appointed.

#### NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL HEALTH FOUNDATION

A letter was read from the National Secretary of the National War Memorial Health Foundation asking to meet the Trust about the possibility of obtaining a grant for their non-European work.

IT WAS AGREED to form a sub-committee consisting of the Chairman, Dr Xuma, Mr Edmunds, Dr Ray Phillips and Mr Rheinallt Jones to meet this deputation.

#### MOROKA-JABAVU TOWNSHIPS

The Chairman reported about the conditions at these two Townships and read a letter from the Manager of the Johannesburg municipal Native Affairs Department offering to cooperate with the Trust in providing educational facilities for the squatters' camps. He put forward two alternative proposals:

(a) That the Trust might cooperate with the municipality by undertaking to pay to the Council the excess of 2% interest ~~but not~~ which the Council considers necessary to cover redemption charges and maintenance costs, over the interests payable by the Government.

(b) That the Trust should make an outright

grant of £1000 to enable the Jabavu school committee to complete a school building of eight class rooms towards the erection of which the Council had already given the value of £250 in the form of breeze blocks.

IT WAS DECIDED TO appoint a sub-committee consisting of Dr Ray Phillips (Convenor), Mr P.R. Mosaka, Mr Rheinallt Jones and Mr Edmunds to discuss this proposal with Mr Venables and to spend £1000 on any emergency scheme which the sub-committee might agree to, including the subsidising of the Teachers' salaries.

Mr Quintin Whyte stated that he had been informed that a site would be granted for the school so that the tents could be used.

Noted

#### ANNUAL REPORT

IT WAS AGREED to print two ~~hundred~~ thousand copies of the annual report which should have a picture of Colonel Donaldson, and to adopt the title HUMAN LIVES recommended by Mr Rheinallt Jones as an appropriate title taken from Professor Hoernle's book.

#### ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Mr Quintin Whyte stated that the Assistant Secretary had been invited to serve on the Witwatersrand Technical Advisory Committee of the National War Memorial Health Foundation and wished to know if he had permission to accept the invitation.

IT WAS DECIDED to grant permission.

This concluded the business.

-----000-----

WBN.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BANTU WELFARE TRUST HELD IN THE OFFICE OF LT. COLONEL J. DONALDSON D.S.O. ON THE 10th OCTOBER, 1947.

PRESENT

Lt. Colonel J. Donaldson D.S.O (Chairman) Dr Ray Phillips  
Cr. R.V. Selope, Thema, Mr W.F. Hunter, Mr Quintin Whyte, Mr  
J.D. Rheinallt Jones, and Dr A.B. Xuma.

In attendance: the Assistant Secretary.

APOLOGIES

The Rt. Hon. J.H. Hofmeyr, and Mr G.H.R. Edmunds.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

(a) The minutes of the meeting held on the 5th September 1947 having been circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

(b) The minutes of the special meeting held on the 19th September, 1947, were read and confirmed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(a) Ophirton property: Reported that the Native Commissioner had already sent his recommendation to the Secretary for Native Affairs, for the approval of the transfer.

Noted

(b) Overseas Publicity for S. Africa: Reported that the Institute's Publications Officer was away on leave and had not been able to attend to this matter.

Noted

(c) Springbok Legion: Mr Rheinallt Jones reported favourably about the Legion and recommended a grant.

IT WAS DECIDED to make a monthly grant of £25 for three months after which the position should be reviewed.

(d) Training of African Surveyors: No reply received from the Native Affairs Department.

Noted

(e) Welfare of African Soldiers: Reported that the Springbok Legion had appointed Mr Williams and the B.E.S.L., Colonel Sayer to the committee formed by the Trust to administer the £1,000 which was given for the welfare of African Soldiers.

Noted

IT WAS DECIDED to appoint Mr G.H.R. Edmunds and Cr R.V. Selope Thema to serve on this committee, and Mr Edmunds, with Mr Hunter as his alternate, to be the chairman.

IT WAS FURTHER AGREED to use the Bantu Press for publicising the formation of this committee.

(f) Council of Non-European of Trade Unions: No report was available.

Noted

(g) National War Memorial Health Foundation: Mr Rheinallt Jones reported on the interview of Dr Donohy of the National War Memorial Health Foundation. He stated that as their national appeal had only just been launched, the Trust might wait and watch public response before deciding to make a grant.

Agreed

(h) Moroka Schools: Dr Phillips stated that he and the Assistant Secretary had visited the schools at Moroka three times and that after making investigations, he had paid the teachers' salaries and brought them up to £5 each per month to the end of August. He also gave a report of the meeting of the Moroka school sub-committee with Mr Muller of the Provincial Education Department. He stated that according to Mr Muller, the Provincial Council would place at the disposal of the Trust a team of African builders if the Minister of Labour could exempt the school from the wage determination. An application had been made for this exemption, and the Provincial Council had also been asked if it could consider giving the Trust a £1 for £1 subsidy and at the same time pay a rent grant on the Trust's contribution to the school. Dr Phillips stated that should the Government pay this subsidy, then the Trust could be able to build two schools instead of one. The Chairman offered to write to the Minister of Labour about the application.

(i) Public Utility Company: Mr Rheinallt Jones stated that at the request of the sub-committee, he had drafted a memorandum of Association of the proposed Public Utility Company. The draft would be circularised among the Trustees in due course.

Noted

(j) L.M.S. Ngcwabe: The Secretaries reported that they had noticed that when the Bantu Literature Fund was created, it was meant for loans and not for grants, and they had informed Mr Ngcwabe that he had been granted a loan and not a subsidy as the Trust had decided.

This action was confirmed

(k) E. Manosi: Reported that he had not yet found sureties.

Noted

APPLICATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE:

(a) Transvaal Interdenominational African Ministers Association for a grant.

IT WAS DECIDED not to make a grant.

(b) Lydenburg Bantu Secondary School: for a building grant.

IT WAS DECIDED NOT to make a grant

Bridgman Memorial Hospital: for a grant.

IT WAS DECIDED to make a grant of £650.

(d) Edith Ntisa: for a bursary to enable her to train as a nurse.

IT WAS DECIDED not to make a grant.

(e) Harvest Ingathering Appeal: for a grant.

IT WAS DECIDED not to make a grant.

(f) A.M.E. Church (Sobehem): for a building grant.

IT WAS DECIDED not to make grant.

(g) Bantu Animal Welfare Society: for a grant.

IT WAS DECIDED not to make a grant.

(h) Durban Bantu Cooperative Society: For a building grant.

IT WAS DECIDED to obtain more information from the Johannesburg Joint Council.

JAMES DONALDSON AWARDS:

The Secretaries states that the response to the advertisements of the Award, had been very poor and only four names had been submitted.

IT WAS DECIDED TO ADVERTISE AGAIN

LETTERHEADS:

The Secretaries wished to know if the Trustees desired ~~any~~ to continue using expensive embossed letterheads.

IT WAS AGREED to have ordinary print on the letterheads.

D.O.C.C. BUILDING FUND

The Secretaries stated that it would be necessary for the Trust to decide whether it was going to pay the building accounts, ~~as these departments~~ of the Donaldson Centre, and then reimburse itself when the Department of Social Welfare and the Non-European Affairs paid their shares of the accounts, as those departments have stated that they will only be able to pay periodically. They also stated that the Johannesburg City Council, had decided to make an additional grant of £5000 towards the building but this sum would only be available after the beginning of their next financial year, in June 1948.

IT WAS DECIDED THAT the Bantu Welfare Trust should pay all the D.O.C.C. accounts and reimburse itself as they receive payments from the Non-European Affairs Department and the Social Welfare Department.

CAR FOR ORGANISING SECRETARY OF THE D.O.C.C.

The Chairman reported that the Organising Secretary of the Donaldson Orlando Community Centre had discussed with him the possibility of a grant to enable him to purchase a car for use in connection with the Centre.

IT WAS DECIDED to ask him to apply through the Board of Management of the Centre.

This concluded the business.

---

ABX. 4710106

A. N. C.  
(Tol)

The Grootvlei,  
Box 243, Room 3,  
Springs.

10th Oct., 1947.

Dr. A. B. Xuma,  
85 Toby Street,  
Sophiatown.

Dear Sir,

Please furnish me with  
the cost of the Atlantic Charter and  
where to get it.

I also want to subscribe in  
the Race Relation. Inform me by givi-  
ng me all particulars.

From the official address of Senator  
Buzones I learnt that it is wise to  
join the National Congress. Therefore  
I wish to follow that step.

Thanking you, Sir,

Ever cordially yours,

Goodwin P.N. Sondiyazi (GOODWIN. P.N. SONDIYAZI)

A.N.C.  
12/10/1947

ABX 471012a

The University of the Witwatersrand,  
Milner Park  
JOHANNESBURG  
October 12, 1947

THE MEETING OF AFRICAN JOURNALISTS, AUTHORS, etc.  
DECEMBER, 1947  
at  
BLOEMFONTEIN

GENERAL opinion and feeling among African writers, authors and journalists strongly indicates that the time is most opportune for summoning together, at a most convenient place, a meeting of all linguistic groups. A circular was sent early in August 1947 to some authors and journalists. It revealed a cross-cut opinion favouring BLOEMFONTEIN as the most convenient place where the first meeting could be held, just one or two days before the general conference of the African National Congress, in December.

Since this meeting will be primarily meant to formulate schemes of operation, and methods of approach to problems which engage all African linguistic scholars, authors and journalists or newspaper men, it is generally felt that it must be most representative. In order to achieve the representative aspect of this proposed meeting, this circular is addressed to active writers representing the following groups in South Africa:-

- (i) Sotho-Chuana, Nguni, Shangani, etc., authors
- (ii) African authors and journalists using the medium of English and Afrikaans
- (iii) The African Ministers' Association
- (iv) The different Teachers' Unions and Associations, and
- (v) Any organised bodies, other than those mentioned above, who are interested in the growth of literary art among the Africans.

There are many burning literary questions relative to Orthography, Authors' Royalties, Assisting budding writers, African Academy, African owned Press, etc.,

The enormity of the task before the proposed meeting seems to call for more than a one day's meeting. Beside the ordinary meeting wherein there will be the shaping out of things, there is necessity to have at least two or more eminent persons to give enlightening talks on what their experience in the field of writing or contact with the outside world, have been. It may be of assistance, for instance, to know how Afrikaans literature and Academy have grown to be what they are within such a short period. And in this connection two names of Afrikaans authors have been cited as possible men to give a talk to the meeting. Further, some names of Africans have been suggested to lead a ~~discussion~~ on the possibility and great need of establishing an African Press.

The aim of convening this meeting is of national importance, and no nation can expect to assess the shape of things to come, to build its own culture and civilisation, to voice its feelings and to educate public opinion, without a strong press and internationally recognised writers.

- IT IS SUGGESTED
- (i) To hold the meeting for TWO days just before the conference of the African National Congress
  - (ii) To have two or three talks by leading persons in the literary field.

WILL YOU OR YOUR ASSOCIATION BE REPRESENTED?

Please send in your suggestions for a tentative program. An Action Committee is being formed in Johannesburg to assist in drafting such a program. Your timely assistance is urgently solicited.

Yours faithfully,

.....  
DR B.W.VILAKAZI  
CONVENOR.

Handwritten text at the top center, possibly a page number or reference, appearing as "451014 X 207".

A: Kuyafana

Faint handwritten text at the bottom right, possibly a date or signature, appearing as "1911".

Race Relations 12/10/47  
ADx 471026

TEXT OF SPEECH: Delivered by - - A. George Daly, M.D., United States, L.R.C. P. & S. Edinburgh; L.R.S.P. & S. Glasgow. Vice-President of the African Academy of Arts & Research; Chairman West Indian Conference Committee; Member of the board, Carver Loan Association.

Dr. Daly's speech was delivered during Open House and viewing of AFRICA HOUSE, at 459 West 140th Street, on Sunday, October 12th, 1947, in a meeting of the Academy.

Mr. Chairman, our distinguished Delegates to the United Nations, Ladies and Gentlemen:

This is a historic hour in the history of the African Academy. It is therefore a distinct honor for me to welcome you in an hour and period such as this, our first public meeting in AFRICA HOUSE, the building purchased by the Academy. This is indeed a dream come true - a dream for which we have worked to realize. Today, we are gathered within these walls, representing Africa, Haiti, America the West Indies and Europe - all hoping and dreaming of one thing, human brotherhood. Each of you represent the embodiment of what this building intends to accomplish. You have therefore become its emissaries of goodwill to carry its message of a clearer understanding of Africa wherever you may go, or wherever you may find yourselves.

AFRICA HOUSE, is an embodiment of tears, sweat and enormous sacrifices, and will be dedicated to the service of Africa and the world next year about this time when it will have its official opening. Africa will be given sufficient time to send her delegates of goodwill to participate in the ceremonies.

Less than four years ago, the African Academy of Arts and Research came into being. It was founded by Africa's own son, I refer to none other than our friend, and brother, K. Ozuomba Mbadiwe. He had an extreme fondness and great enthusiasm for his country, this same fondness soon swept us into the fold of his dreams - a dream for a greater tomorrow for Africa, a continent which but a few years ago was known to us as "darkest Africa". As almost overnight it became known to us as "brightest Africa" styled by the Herald Tribune, immediately after the Academy's first festival at Carnegie Hall.

This organization which began with six chartered members today has over 10,000 followers to its festivals, 1,000 to its lectures and several thousand school children to its programs. Above all, it has the sympathy of the American people, the ear and admiration of the American press and the strongest confidence of the leaders of America who have gathered from time to time to help in its activities.

Not long ago, one gentleman remarked: "When you wish to discover who is who in America, you often reach for a book, but the easiest way to see these people personally is to attend one of the festivals sponsored by the Academy." At the height of the 1946 festival, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt said: "The Academy has accomplished what at first was thought impossible." What is there in this Academy? Nothing but faith, hard work, sleepless nights, absolute confidence in the cause for which it champions and a simple philosophy of life: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

The Academy was forged upon the shoulders of Mr. Mbadiwe. Its burden has almost crushed him before his gallant allies arrived. He had to lay every stone, one after another, since nothing was provided for to take up this heavy task. Those in a position to help know little or nothing about Africa, to them it was the "dark continent" where people were supposed to have tails and the like. American philanthropists were concerned with . . . . . see Pg. 2

America and not with Africa. Many of us came when the light was on.

History shall catalogue that this son of Africa dared plunge where angels feared to tread. As his physician, I have repeatedly warned him of the possibilities of an ultimate collapse and ordered a rest. He would say: "How can I sleep upon the pillows of bills that must be paid." I still say, he needs a rest. Problems of Africa cannot be solved overnight.

I also pay tribute to our members. What sacrifices have they not been called upon to make? It touches the heart to see these women after a hard day's work return to the Academy to give long hours of labor, cleaning, sweeping, decorating and so on. What effect has it upon you to learn that one of our lady members is donating one-third of her salary each week to help ease the financial burden. How do you feel to know that another lady donated to the Academy two barrels of her dishes, so that the Academy members and the students may have something to eat in. Of these many sacrifices, numerous others belong in the history of the Academy.

This summer, we accommodated thirteen students from Liberia, Sierra-Leone, the Gold Coast, Nigeria and Ethiopia in this building. That is a sample of what is yet to come in AFRICA HOUSE. These students received their first lessons in co-operative living in the new building. The President moved from where he resided to live with them. Because the students were happy, we were happy.

Now that the foundation upon which to build the superstructure has been laid, the time has come for joint leadership of Africans at home and Americans to integrate for the full realization of these dreams. It is in the effort to accomplish this most important objective that Mr. Mbadiwe will leave for Africa next month. I want to emphasize here again, that first of all Mr. Mbadiwe needs rest.

Our future program is far-reaching. If we have a financially strong organization, we will be in a position to act as a research center for the African countries in the United Nations, since they are not in the position to carry with them many experts as other powerful nations. The Academy will be in a position to supply them with the needed talents. The Academy will also be in a position to supply all Africans with newspapers of current events, since most of them cannot afford to send press representatives abroad to serve the interest of their readers.

We also have a training program designed to train students who will be absorbed in the expansion program of the Academy, especially in connection with its work in Africa. We have plans for motion pictures that will help in combating illiteracy in Africa and an Information Bureau in Africa itself. It is needless to emphasize the importance of research in various phases of African life, there must be a university in Africa. It must be African in mind and temperament. There must be literature which will reflect the African spirit. This is also the task before the Academy.

All of these many things cannot be done without money. For this reason, a campaign will be made in all sections of Africa for 50,000 pounds. It is now being planned. Considering the needs today, 50,000 pounds cannot go very far. We represent the poor group of the world and we must bear this in mind. Approximately half of this money will be in the form of an endowment to enable the Academy to be assured of a regular income from year to year. The rest will be distributed under the four departments of the Academy.

If this sum is raised successfully-in Africa, then the campaign would have merely begun. If poor people all over Africa can make such a sacrifice, it will then seal the lips of the world that Africa is not ready to undertake her responsibilities. That will be the opportune time to call upon America to rise and demonstrate her faith in the future of Africa. America should give four or five times as much as Africa could give. Scholars and technicians should be prepared to give their skills and knowledge to Africa.

Here I could foresee a university in the very heart of Africa, directed by its people. One American columnist wrote during our last campaign that the Academy was seeking \$25,000, for a \$5,000,000 job. But, remember faithfulness in small things points to faithfulness in larger ones. We were happy when the New York Times, a leading American daily wrote of the Academy that what at first seemed like a dream is now being realized.

We are calling upon the people of Africa to rally behind what has become their only structure in the New World. The Nigerian Spokesman, a Nigerian Daily once predicted without knowing it that what was being forged here will one day reach Africa in a finished form. How true. That hour is now. African organizations should get together and decide upon what to do in advance. We hope that this campaign will bring organizations and individuals together - to form a nucleus, or what we call here a campaign committee. Such centralization of effort will facilitate selection by the group delegate to come to America for the opening of the AFRIC. HOUSE, as well as a representative from each country. We seek unification or nothing.

The contribution of His Majesty, Emperor Haile Selassie of \$2,000, to this organization, marked a new epoch. It also marked the first time that we appealed to Africa since the inception of this work. We appeal to His Majesty for \$2,000 as an emergency measure and he sent the exact amount requested, shortly after the request was made.

Dr. Nnamdi Azikiwe, has also demonstrated his concern for the future of the Academy. I assure you, ladies and gentlemen, that that gallant fighter will do his best when the campaign opens in Africa. With the confidence that Mbadiwe has for his country and with his complete devotion to their cause, I have no doubt that his country's press, organizations, clubs, churches, schools and trade unions will rally for this one cause - New Day for Africa and the peoples of African descent at home and abroad.

In conclusion, I wish to pay tribute to the administrative staff of the Academy. Miss Hanley has carried the load of five persons in the Academy. She is responsible for the thousands of mails that leave the office of the Academy. Her devotion has been a challenge to all of us. Also in Africa is our field-secretary, Mr. Mbonu Ojike, carrying back the message of unity to his people. Our good wishes go to him and his wife. We look forward to having him return with Mr. Mbadiwe during the dedication of this building. We cannot but help being provoked at the thought that a stranger in his country had the audacity to push him without provocation. Mr. Mbadiwe is studying the matter with our legal adviser. The board will hear more of this.

As Mr. Mbadiwe prepares to leave this country, I appeal to the members to have faith in the growth and the future of the Academy. Last year I opposed to Mr. Mbadiwe's return to Africa. I further suggested that it not be said, but now I feel he should return, especially to take a rest. The longer he remains here, the less chances of his getting the rest required.

I wish to say in closing, that I urge each and every one of you to work

hard during the absence of the president - harder if necessary than we have done in the past, so that the reports sent him in Africa will be so encouraging that upon that basis alone it will enrich and make easier his task there.

As for my part, with a simple faith and an unshaken confidence that I have in the Academy, I shall play my part. Now that the burden of the Administration falls upon me, I would have been frightened, but knowing all of you as I do, I know you will work harder than ever that the miracle man will be away for one year.

The budget of this year is now before us. We must raise it. Mr. Mbadiwe has repeatedly stated that he will not leave until he is assured that all things we have acquired by blood and tears will in no way be threatened. Please let us rise to the occasion and raise this sum immediately. We have gone much too far and there can be no turning back.

#####

ABX. 471013a

Race Relations 13/10/47

PRESS STATEMENT BY REV. MICHAEL SCOTT, OCTOBER 13, 1947

I was asked to come to the U.N. by the Chiefs of the Herero people of South West Africa and other Africans belonging to that Territory in order to place their case before U.N. They themselves were refused permission to do so by the Union Government last year and again this year on the plea that the Union Government delegates would state their case for them. This they claim not only was not done by General Smuts and the South African delegation last year, but they charge that the true wishes of the South West African Native inhabitants were misrepresented, that the referendum was not conducted impartially and that the issue of U.N. trusteeship versus incorporation of the territory in the Union was wrongly presented to them.

They maintain emphatically that they do not want to be incorporated into the Union of South Africa, but more than that they say that the South West Africa Mandate should be taken away from the Union and placed under U.N. trusteeship, preferably under the protection of other powers.

They consider that the Union of South Africa has lost all moral right to claim to be guardians of the African people because of the fact that instead of keeping the promise made to South West Africans after the first World War that their lands would be returned to them, the government actually forcibly ejected them from fertile lands in the north and central part of Southwest Africa and, moreover, enacted oppressive legislation against them.

In view of the claims of the Union of South Africa that the Native inhabitants of South West Africa want the Union Government as their guardians, the petitions sent to the United Nations by Native South West Africans (see U.N. document A/C.4/96, dated September 26, 1947) ask that an impartial Commission of Enquiry be sent out from U.N. to investigate the true opinions of all the African inhabitants of South West Africa and also their conditions of life and labor.

The petitions further ask that the traditional lands of the Herero people be returned to them. They were dispossessed of these by "stealth and force" by the Germans during and after the Herero war when, in a foreshadowing of the later devastation of Europe, the Hereros were reduced from 85,000 to 15,000 in perhaps the most dreadful episode in the whole history of colonial development in Africa. (This history is recounted in British Government Blue Book C.D.9146 of 1918, later withdrawn by the Union Administration in S.W.A. at the behest of the Germans there who were allowed to remain in possession of their lands after the first World War and were given the vote in S.W.A. while remaining German nationals and continuing to vote in the Nazi Reichstag.)

The Paramount Chief of the Hereros, Frederick Mahareru, is still in exile in Bechuanaland under British Protection. He now asks permission for the Hereros in Bechuanaland to trek back across the Kalahari Desert with their ten thousand cattle, occupy their rightful lands, and be reassembled as one tribal unit. (At present they are scattered in eight different reserves.)

The issue raised by these petitions is not only the Union Government's right to retain control of S.W.A. There is the further issue of the right of us white people in the Union to raise in an acute and urgent form our attitude and policy towards the non-white groups who comprise the four-fifths majority of the population of the Union. We are most deeply concerned with the Union's land and

policy whereby the Africans have been dispossed of their lends and forced to become migrant laborers. The question of South West Africa throws into sharp relief the politico-economic color bar which extends throughout South Africa's economy and is preventing balanced development of the Union's great mineral and industrial as well as human resources.

One may well ask whether the development of the whole African continent is to be dominated by the Union of South Africa with its "white supremacy" theories, or whether we are to rebuild a black and white civilization in Africa allowing for the economic and political development of the non-white peoples as well as the white.

South Africa has many acute problems arising out of its color bar policies. There is undoubtedly a rapid deterioration taking place in the relations between whites and non-whites. The political system denies any effective voice to the non-white four-fifths of the population, so that it is impossible to secure needed reforms. That is why these non-white peoples, the African majority and the Indian minority, are looking in desperation to U.N. to help them and to prevent the great danger that is threatening in Africa.

###

*Rare Relations*  
ABX. 4710136

For information of Delegates and Press.

October 13, 1947

Request for a Commission of Enquiry to be sent to South West Africa

It is submitted that the General Assembly, in order to arrive at a just decision with respect to the question of South West Africa, should take into account the testimony presented by tribal chiefs, headmen, and other leaders among the African people of South West Africa as set forth in document A/C.4/96 and in other recorded statements, minutes of meetings, and other memoranda which can be made available to delegates.

It will be noted that, in the document mentioned above, representative leaders of the Hottentot (Nama) people (pages 4 and 7), the Ovambos (page 6) and the Hereros (page 16) have made the request that an impartial Commission of Enquiry be sent by the United Nations to South West Africa "to see the conditions under which our people live, and before whom those like ourselves who have not had an opportunity of expressing our views before an impartial body may give evidence" (page 6, document A/C.4/96).

On behalf of these and other African tribes of South West Africa who have made a like request, and whose petitions I have been requested to lay before the General Assembly of the United Nations, I respectfully urge the adoption of a resolution calling upon the General Assembly to make arrangements in consultation with the Union of South Africa for an impartial Committee of Enquiry to be sent to South West Africa prior to the next meeting of the General Assembly in order to establish the facts regarding the claims and counter claims made respectively by the Union Government and the Native inhabitants of South West Africa.

(Reverend) Michael Scott  
Hotel President, West 48th St.  
New York City.  
October 13th, 1947.

document  
apc/4/96

APC 4710131

October 13, 1947

For information of Delegates and Press:

Request for a Commission of Enquiry to be sent to South West Africa

It is admitted that the General Assembly, in order to arrive at a just decision with respect to the question of South West Africa, should take into account the testimony presented by tribal chiefs, headmen, and other leaders among the African people of South West Africa as set forth in document A.C.W.A. 96 and in other recorded statements, minutes of meetings, and other memoranda which can be made available to delegates.

It will be noted that, in the document mentioned above, representatives leaders of the Hottentot (Nama) people (pages 4 and 7), the Ovambos (page 6) and the Hereros (page 10) have made the request that an impartial Commission of Enquiry be sent by the United Nations to South West Africa "to see the conditions under which our people live, and before whom those like ourselves who have not had an opportunity of expressing our views before an impartial body may give evidence" (page 6, document A.C.W.A. 96).

On behalf of these and other African tribes of South West Africa who have made a like request, and whose petitions I have been requested to lay before the General Assembly of the United Nations, I respectfully urge the adoption of a resolution calling upon the General Assembly to make arrangements in consultation with the Union of South Africa for an impartial Committee of Enquiry to be sent to South West Africa prior to the next meeting of the General Assembly in order to establish the facts regarding the claims and counter-claims made respectively by the Union Government and the Native inhabitants of South West Africa.

(Reverend) Michael Scott  
Hotel President, West 48th St.  
New York City.  
October 13th, 1947.

ABX. 471013c  
A.N.C.  
(O.F.S.)

923 Gonyane Street,  
4/6 Location,  
Bloemfontein.  
13/10/47.

Doctor A. B. Xuma,  
A. N. C. Headquarters,  
104 End Street,  
Johannesburg.

Sir,  
Could Headquarters please send me 300 Tickets. I find myself in a very difficult position. Throughout the O.F.S., people are clamouring for tickets. In Harrismith alone, there is a demand for at least 50 tickets. (Membership Cards.) The lack of Cards, has made it difficult for me to do any satisfactory work. It has also, made it difficult for me to travel to these branches. This situation grieves me, as the O.F.S. still earnestly desires me to carry on the work for my people.

Should it be impossible for the A.N.C. to send me 300 Cards, I shall be glad to accept whatever Headquarters can send.

It grieves me to state that Congress work has not made much progress this year.

Thanking you, sir, in anticipation of your speediest reply,

I beg to remain,

Yours Humbly,

*Martha J. Motlakoane*.....

Organiser for the African National Congress,

O. F. S. .

**Collection Number: AD843**

**XUMA, A.B., Papers**

***PUBLISHER:***

*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 is part of the archive of the South African Institute of Race Relations, held at the Historical Papers Research Archive at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.