

SUNDRY ODD NOTES

POLIT FILE

ODD N

Box 7, & 8.

PC/11/718-49

JHH elected one of the Vice-Presidents of World's Alliance of YMCA (August 1947)

D.J. van Niekerk wrote to JHH on 12.X.28 saying that H. must be the successor of Smuts.

20.XI.28 H. definitely refused offer from Barberton. States in course of letter that S.A.P. is the only party with which he could link up.

24.XI.28 Raikes writes urging H. to accept Honorary Degree from the University when he comes there as President of S.A. Association of Advancement of Science. .... "I know perfectly well that the Senate turned it down four years ago, and I am not asking you ~~at~~ to accept without having made informal inquiries as to whether I could be assured of a majority. This I have done since I saw you last and I can promise you that all is well. I have only met one objecting voice and that is only on the grounds that the member in question thought you were too young. Your speech last night indicated that on March 1 next, or so soon thereafter as you return from leave, we shall find you plunged into a political career in a party which does not number Gen. Kemp among its members..... Now is the time for you to accept and to allow any of the University staff who may have dug up their hatchets in your principalship to bury them decently in the full realisation that, although they may have felt years ago that they did not agree with all your actions and decisions, you always acted with the single purpose of the good of the University before you ..... I know your feelings were injured four years ago, and, as far as I can understand ~~it~~ the circumstances, you were justified in being injured. But do forget all that is past and start out on your new career, whatever it may be, with no barrier, however imaginary, on either side between yourself and the University, the creation of which may very well be shown to have been one of the greatest triumphs of a not uneventful and triumphal life.

10.X.28 Rev. H.J. Batts, Baptist Church, Grahamstown wrote:-

"It was kind of you to send a message on the occasion of my jubilee..... You have been much in my thoughts of late, and, like others, I have wondered about your future..... We are all asking, what is he going to do? No doubt you can almost anything you want in the public or scholastic life, but I am asking you, what about the service of God in the humble Baptist ministry? You will remember the ambition of your childhood - the Baptist ministry. That was all! To me it is still the biggest thing of all. Do you think so? Perhaps you think it narrow because we have some narrow people among us. But I think it is wide - wide as the truth of God, and full of big possibilities. What a shock to S.A. if it should be stated that the Hon. Administrator of the Transvaal with all his high attainment in the realms of State and learning is giving up everything for the Ministry of the Gospel..... What a boon it would be to the young student life of the country, and what it might be

to yourself also. Perhaps I am an old dreamer and quite out of date. Maybe I am, but this has come to me and I feel I must put it to you and leave it.....Write me a line, and perhaps the dream may come true."

28.11.29 Eugene van Wyk wrote from America saying that he did not wish to judge, but he thought that the 1929 election would have had another result if H. had not gone on holiday instead of fighting the election.

7.12.29 O.D. Schreiner wrote to H. reproaching him for ~~his~~ some of his election speeches in Johannesburg North. He felt that "skillful fencing" was not what he expected from H. "I feel that the platform is not the place for compromise. It is the place for saying what one really feels and what one hopes to persuade other people to feel." Ends his letter, "If I have written too frankly, tell me so".

27.12.29 James Rose Innes wrote to H. saying that he felt disposed to advise the natives to accept the franchise compromise as otherwise he feared they would lose everything. He points out also that the test for civilisation in the case of the Bantu is much higher than for the European. R.I. hopes to discuss all this with H. H. also wrote a memo with the following points:- He dates it February 1930, with a X. It appears therefore that he dated it much later. It appears that Freemantle had a non-racial franchise association. He went to Hertzog to ask if Hertzog would accept a discriminating civilisation test for natives. He found Hertzog favourable. Hoffie also sounded Krige, Duncan, and Collins. All favourable. Later that evening (Monday 17) Freemantle told H. that his association would not endorse the compromise. JHH was worried because it looked as though the PM would now force through the legislation. H. suggested to Freemantle to invoke the help of H.E. Next day H. saw Smuts and found him favourable. Now Freemantle could not see H.E. but saw Birch Reynardson, who expressed a wish to see H. H. strongly urged him to act and he said he would "do his damndest". H. later learned that PM had told Smuts he would have the second reading without further delay. On Wednesday, B.R. told H. that H.E. had seen PM and was hopeful. On Thursday, PM told Smuts he had agreed to a select committee before the second reading. H. pays high tribute to H.E. for intervening.

In 1930 people were still trying to persuade H. to start a Middle Party.

In August 1930 H. was offered a Carnegie Grant by Dr. Rowan(?) for the purpose of studying in America problems common to S.A. and America. H. replied saying he was very much honoured by the offer of grant and would like to avail himself of it, but could not do so before middle of the next year and asked to have the matter left over for the present.

19.9.33

Secretary of Victoria Club, PMB, writes:- "I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 16th inst. It is very good of you to intercede for the Indian waiter who was responsible for an unfortunate lapse at the lunch recently held in the Club. You will be pleased to hear that your request has been granted. The poor waiter was in a very distressed state and he has asked me to convey to you his humble thanks for your great kindness. Regretting the unfortunate incident, "

Statement by Lt-Col F.S. van Manen re Gen Beyers.

van M. was Gen Beyers' private secretary from 1912-14 and saw all his private correspondence. He states emphatically that there was no evidence to show that Gen B. was in league with Germans in S.W.A. About the end of September 1914, van M. visited Gen. B. on his farm, and B. said he had told Botha he intended remaining on his farm until the political difficulties were over, and that he had no wish to have "Rebel" written after his name. van M. thought that occurrences at Opera House on October 10 had caused Gen. B. to change his mind. (Dated March 21, 1930, and sent to Cresswell who passed it on to JHH as requested by writer).