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Our ref.

Your ref.

Date 8 August 1986

Dear Mr Brown

I am a DPhil student in history at the University of Pretoria my theme being the Political Career of Margaret Ballinger. As a former chairperson of the now defunct Liberal Party your views about Mrs Ballinger's role in the Party will be of immense value. Due to the fact that it is at the moment impossible for me to visit Pietermaritzburg I took the liberty of compiling a list of questions about Mrs Ballinger. I would really appreciate your assistance in answering these questions. I can assure you that such answers will only be used with discretion in my research. Your information will also be acknowledged in my references.

1. What was your impression of Margaret Ballinger as person and politician?
2. Why did Mrs Ballinger resign as the leader of the Liberal Party?
3. Was Mrs Ballinger regarded as too conservative by members of the Party?
4. What was your relationship with Mrs Ballinger?
5. What was Mrs Ballinger's attitude towards the:
 - (a) Congress of Democrats
 - (b) Congress of the People
 - (c) Freedom Charter
 - (d) Helen Suzman
 - (e) Progressive Party
 - (f) More radical Native representatives like S Khan, B Bunting and L B Lee-Warden?
 - (g) United Party
6. What was the Liberal Party's and Mrs Ballinger's attitude towards Mr Walter Stanford for joining the Progressive Party?

7. What was your impression of W G Ballinger as politician and person? Did he play an active role in the Liberal Party?
8. What was the Liberal Party's attitude towards Sen Cowley as Native representative in Natal?
9. What was your impression of Leslie Rubin as person and politician? Why did he resign from Parliament?
10. Did Mrs Ballinger still play any active part in the Liberal Party after the removal of the Native representatives from Parliament?

Mr Brown, I would also appreciate it if you could send me a copy of your paper on the history of the Liberal Party that was delivered at the July 1985 Liberal Party Workshop. I will of course refund you for any expenses incurred.

Thank you for your time and trouble.

Yours sincerely



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