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COPY OF LETTER FROM GEORGE HEARD



September 7, 1938.

I am deeply sorry that the RDM did not take a stronger line on the Fourie issue. For some reason that I cannot begin to fathom Ellis took the view - and pressed it very strongly with Mr. Mcleod - that this was not an important enough matter to justify your adopting drastic measures, and that you should submit. In the end I had to fight every inch of the way to persuade Mr. Mcleod to make the leader as strong as it was. Ellis suggested an addition to the effect that, while the principle was important, it did not justify your resignation. Mr. Mcleod wrote this in, but I objected most strenuously, and pointed out that you would not be influenced by this sort of thing and would only despise us for saying it. In the end it was deleted again. I also had to battle hard for the deletion of a statement to the effect that you were inclined to parade your political conscience in public. Here, too, I was successful, but I was unable to gain any further improvements. I felt, however, that the leader in its final form was acceptable enough, and that I would hardly have been justified in pursuing my objections further, especially as I have now to see that the "Sunday Times" takes the right line, and that the "Mail" does not waver. If I fail in that I am afraid that I shall have to resign. Perhaps I should already have done so.

I feel, however, that the real fight has only just begun, and that I may still be useful. As you know, I feel as strongly as you do about the whole thing, and I admire the stand you are taking for the ordinary decencies of our public life. I fail to understand Smuts's attitude, especially in view of what he said to me in Cape Town. If I may offer one word of advice, I would say that you are right not to contemplate leaving the U.P. Therein lies your strength. When the country realises that Hofmeyr has been sacrificed for Fourie there will be swift retribution for some people.

With respects to Mrs. Hofmeyr and yourself,

Yours truly,

George A. Heard.



a new party)

rights

It must at all times champion the ~~rise~~ of SA and South Africans as free citizens of a free country in which all men are considered as born equal and as having equal rights to a good education and an opportunity to serve his fellows.....it must forbid all shades of racialism within its ranks.....

Tommie Theron.

Are you going to finish your law exams at once and come to the Bar here?...The idea appeals to me, from various angles.....

Oliver Schreiner.

What I hope you will realise is that this is not only a matter affecting your personal honour, but one that vitally concerns the honour of those who believe in the equal and just treatment of all races in the Union.....who feel with me that you have in your hands a great trust which we hope and believe as a result of your present action you will not and cannot ignore.

Denys Lefe-?

I used to have boys recite your speeches when I taught at Parktown High School because of the noble South Africanism so beautifully expressed. It is a great tonic to me to see the same sentiments equally ~~ex~~ beautifully expressed in action.

? Williams

When I see you struggling more or less alone against these evils I think of your prototype Benjamin Franklin....and yet won through and left a never to be forgotten name in his country. You will do the same.

Allan Davis.

I may be dense, in fact I know I am, but does it not strike you as savouring of dishonesty to resign from the leadership of a party because of its political dishonesty but yet at the same time to continue to be a member of such a party?

D. Buchanan.

I was so grateful that for the first time there was in our Cabinet a Christian gentleman with such breadth of vision and loyalty to principle.