Tom Swartz (1904 – 1975)

Tom Swartz was a South African politician and a leader of the Coloured people.

Thomas Robert Schwartz was born in 1904 and grew up in Umtata in the Transkei. He was educated at St John’s College and apprenticed in the printing trade as a compositor and linotype operator. He worked at the Territorial News in Umtata for 25 years.

He was active in Coloured People’s National Union (CPNU) and was elected Vice President at the Conference in 1947. In 1953 he was one of the Coloured leaders who met with Dr DF Malan (Prime Minister), Dr TE Dönges and Mr Havenga on the question of the Coloured people’s franchise.

Mr Swartz was nominated as a member of the Union Council for Coloured Affairs and appointed its first chairman in 1959.

The Federal Coloured People’s Party (FCPP) was formed in 1964. Mr Swartz was elected as the first president. He remained the party leader until July 1975. After he had suffered a serious stroke in 1974, he could no longer play an active role in politics.

In 1968 the Coloured Persons’ Representative Council (CRC) was established. Provision was made for 40 elected and 20 nominated members. The Council dealt with local government, education, community development, Coloured rural settlements, and the financing thereof. The FCPP lost the first elections in 1969. Mr Swartz was defeated in the Kasselsvlei constituency. The FCPP gained a majority in the House because the government filled the nominated seats with FCPP members and Mr Swartz was appointed Chairman of the Executive Management.

The Tom Swartz Collection (6.7 linear metres)

The collection consists of the private papers of Mr Swartz, including diaries, notes, political speeches, press statements as well as documents concerning the Federal Coloured People’s Party (FCPP) and South African politics between 1960 and 1974.

The collection was donated to the Unisa Archives in November 1975 by Mr Peter Swartz, son of Mr Tom Swartz.

The inventory denotes the contents by box. Some groups of boxes have a heading, eg CORRESPONDENCE (Boxes 6-16) and boxes following such a group has been noted in bold to indicate that they do not form part of the previous group, eg Box 17 University of the Western Cape

Annette le Roux
Dec 2011
TOM SWARTZ COLLECTION 6.7 linear metres

Box 1 Curriculum vitae
 Diaries
 Notes and drafts
 Invoices, accounts, etc.

Box 2 Church matters:
 Correspondence 1962-1972
 Newsletters of the Church of the Province of SA

Box 3 Moral Re-Armament (MRA):
 Correspondence 1971-1974
 Circulars 1971-1974
 Newsletters
 International assembly, Pretoria Aug. 1974

Box 4 Action South and Southern Africa (ASASA)
 Correspondence 1972-1973
 Minutes 1972-1973
 ASASA Trust, varia.
 Democratic Party:
 Broad principles 1973

Box 5 Telegrams of
 Condolences
 Congratulations
 Greetings
 Thanks

CORRESPONDENCE (Boxes 6-16)
 Box 6 General Correspondence I 1962-1972
 Box 7 General Correspondence II 1973-1975
 Box 8 Administration of Coloured Affairs 27.7.1971 - 15.12.1971
 Box 9 Administration of Coloured Affairs 9.11.1971 - 5.10.1972
 Box 10 Administration of Coloured Affairs 19.9.1972 - 6.11.1974
 Box 11 Coloured Persons Representative Council (CPRC)
 Chairman of the Executive 2.6.1969 - 27.4.1972
 Box 12 Coloured Persons Representative Council (CPRC)
 MCPRC 3.11.1969 - 7.11.1973
 Box 13 Correspondence and memoranda
 Minister for Coloured Affairs 1970-1973
 Box 14 Correspondence and memoranda
 Various matters; SA junior Coloured cadets, Eoan Group, etc.
 Box 15 Education I (re school appointments) 1970-1974
 Box 16 Education II (School committees, and other matters) 1963-1974
Box 17 University of the Western Cape
    Correspondence
    Advisory council
    Memoranda, petitions from students  1970-1973

Box 18 The Bailey institute for international studies. Papers read  1972
    SPROCAS, Social Commission  1970
    SAIRR  1970-1974

Box 19 Management, Committees and Ratepayers' Association
    also Voters roll Elsies River  1972

Box 20 Housing, planning and development

Box 21 Group areas
    Correspondence, memoranda re various areas

FEDERAL COLOURED PEOPLE'S PARTY (Boxes 22-25)
Box 22 Constitution and policy statements
    Correspondence  n.d. - 1974
    Reports  1965-1972

Box 23 Federal Council meetings  1971
    Caucus meetings  1970-1973
    Cape and Transvaal Provincial Executive meetings  1971-1972
    Provincial congresses  1968-1971
    National congress  1967-1974

Box 24 Swartberg by-election  1974
    Unity Talks  1972-1973
    Bond affair  1972

Box 25 Unity Federal party newsletter  1970-1972
    Tom Swartz’s contributions in MS form

Box 26 Labour party, and other political parties

Box 27 Coloured Persons Representative Council
    Executive meetings  1969-1972

Box 28 Ministerial meetings  1972-1974
    Meetings with Prime Minister
    Meetings with Minister of Coloured Affairs

Box 29 Parliament of South Africa
    Souvenir of H MacMillan’s visit  1960
    Volksraad

Box 30 Commissioner of Coloured Affairs
    P L Gaum - speeches and interviews with T Swartz  1969-1972
    Official visits to Coloured communities  1973

Box 31 Overseas visits  1971, 1974

Box 32 Invitations  Nov. 1969 - Jan. 1975
Box 33  Council for Coloured Affairs  1965-1969
   22nd sitting 1965 - 38th sitting 1969
      Memoranda  1962-1967
      Spec minutes
      Report

COLOURED PERSONS REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL  (Boxes 34-42)
Box 34  General
      Standing orders  1969
      Election
      Memoranda
      Recommendations

Box 35  1st Session  Nov. 1969
         2nd Session  Nov. 1976

Box 36  3rd Session  Aug / Sept. 1971
Box 37  4th Session I  Aug / Sept. 1972
Box 38  4th Session II  Aug / Sept. 1972
Box 39  5th Session I  Aug / Sept. 1973
         Budget Debate

Box 40  5th Session II  Aug / Sept. 1973
Box 41  6th Session  July 1974
Box 42  7th Session  Nov. 1974

SPEECHES  (Boxes 43-46)
Box 43  Speeches I: Tom Swartz and others  Nov 1969 - Nov 1971

Box 44  Speeches II: Tom Swartz (TS and holograph)
       Radiotalks
       Correspondence re speeches

Box 45  Speeches III: Tom Swartz
       Provincial congress  21.6.1973
       National conference  22.6.1973
         (Cassette tapes with transcript)

Box 46  Provincial congress  21.6.1976 (sic)
         (cont. cassette tapes)

Box 47  Media
       Press statements
       Correspondence with newspapers

Box 48  Various organisations
       Circulars, agendas, reports, constitutions, etc.  1972 – 1974

Box 49  Newsletters, pamphlets, magazines, government gazettes

Box 50  W J Bergins. M.Ed - dissertation on housing - education (signed)
NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS (Boxes 51-67)
Box 51  Newspaper cuttings, collected by Tom Swartz and photocopied (for CPRC)

Box 52  Visit of President Banda 1971
       Visit of Congressman Diggs 1971
       Sonny Leon
       University of Western Cape

Boxes 53 – 67
(includes cuttings about coloured politics, housing, education, health, group areas act)
Box 57  July 1971 July, 1971
Box 58  Aug - Dec 1971 Aug - Dec 1971
Box 59  Jan - Sept 1972 Jan - Sept 1972
Box 60  October 1972 - March 1973 October 1972 - March 1973
Box 61  April - June 1973 April - June 1973
Box 62  July - December 1973 July - December 1973
Box 63  January - April 1974 January - April 1974
Box 64  May, June 1974 May, June 1974
Box 65  July 1974 July 1974
Box 66  August, September 1974 August, September 1974
Box 67  October 1974 - Jan 1975 October 1974 - Jan 1975

Photographs
The photographs consist of negatives, mounted photographs, and framed photographs
1  African People's Organisation (APO) General Conference City Hall, Easter 1923
   All individuals on photograph identified (framed)
2  Coloured Persons' Representatives (framed) 1966
3  Coloured Persons' Representative Council, with State President Fouche ca1970
4  Mr Swartz with State President Fouche (mounted) ca1970
5  Mr Swartz greeting State President Fouche (mounted) ca1970
6  Mr Swartz with State President Fouche (framed) ca1970
7  Mr Swartz acting as spokesperson for the Coloured Representative Council (m) ca1970
8  6 negatives; fotos about an event and Mr Swartz addressing the crowd nd