

122 First Avenue,
Greyville,
Durban .
15th October, 1956.

My Dear Papa,

What a triumph the Bloemfontein conference was ! The proceedings were in such marked contrast to the rantings and emotionalism of Nationalist Party Congresses. The Press reported the conference very well. It was so refreshing to see the Natal Mercury -of all newspapers - printing the full text of the conference declaration . The declaration was a complete vindication of the standpoint adopted by the Congress in recent years . The call for a united front was a stirring one which is likely to meet with an unexpected response even among certain sections of the Europeans . The "New Age" has of course rushed to give full support for that aim and has called for an end to "old hates and habits" .

There appears to be general disappointment with uncle Selby's thesis of the feasibility of aspects of the Tomlinson recommendations viewed purely as regional planning . I was myself astonished by that . Even assuming we forget about the ideological aspects of the Tomlinson Recommendations is it possible to organise a kind of T.V.A. to develop the Reserves within the context of present day South Africa? What happens to our mining industry if there is no migration of labour from the reserves. Can we in fact abolish the reserves . If it suited S.A. they would have done that years ago. The whole point is that it does not suit certain powerful interests that we should do away with these feudal remains . I do not think an economist is justified in being so theoretical as to ignore fundamental factors in the economy . Regional planning of the reserves within the context of an economy whose pillar is the Gold Mining industry and the farming industry is out of the question . We will have to await the day when the Industries can cut the umbilical cord between themselves and these primary industries. That day has not yet arrived . Hence we have the Nationalists in power. Hence we have a tightening of pass laws ; hence farm prisons ; hence everything else.

The newspapers are agreed that Papa's paper was the best . I do not know whether that is because Papa is expert at saying what the press can catch on to . The insistent repetition of papa's summing up which I have already read in half-a-dozen papers shows that they have got a new slogan . Also the phrase in the declaration to the effect that the two alternatives posed by Tomlinson and Co., are not the only ones but that we have a third , namely, "co-operation and inter-dependence" is very intriguing . The Liberals have grasped it with both hands.

I find that no matter what I do I cannot be admitted before next year about March . I have resigned myself to that . I still have to do the practical and apparently that takes place during February and September . I missed it this time. I could have done it before passing the exams I believe. But then what would be the point of doing that ? No , the thing is not to hurry and just be patient. I am getting ready for what may be my last law exam in November. I still intend doing the M.A. however . I ~~may~~ still try to get a job at Fort Hare or something so that I can do academic work . I feel as if I have rushed through law too fast and require more profound study of some academic subject. In another two years I might try to get overseas if I can get a grant and if the Nats have been chucked out .

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As far as practising is concerned, I find that Durban is as good a place as any . It will naturally involve a bit of pioneering work but that is something to be expected . The possibilities are tremendous. The only snag is the fact that there is the difficulty over offices in urban areas. Durban is better for that as there are so many Indian offices near Court. In any case I see no reason why a place with this terrific African population which is feeding so many European firms should not provide at least a comfortable living for any African Attorney with a bit of initiative. As for the fantastic generalisation that Africans here (i.e. Zulus) do not delight in litigation - we can forget ~~that~~.

Tumie and Lesego are getting scarce now. We saw them this week-end. They are supposed to be swotting very hard. Mahlathi has lent me a book distributed by the South African Information Service entitled "What is Communism" . Its rather an insult to the intelligence of any well-informed person . But it is powerful propaganda to the uninitiated . Mangosuthu Buthelezi who came to see me told me he had also received a similar book . Incidentally he has been informed by the government that they are extending his period of probation , as ~~he~~ they are not yet satisfied that he is loyal. He says he has given them a go and today they will not carry Zululand in their schemes. He is prepared to be deposed any time as he is certain to find something else to do . He might do law for instance.

Well Papa that is all for the present . Tell Mama to carry on with negotiations about the Dresser . What is happening now. Greetings to all at home.

Yours truly
Balauwe .
