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45 Mount Street,

CAPE TOWN.

23rd October, 1961.

Prof. Z.K. Matthews,
P.O. Box 81,
ALICE.

Dear Prof. Matthews,

Many thanks for your letter dated the 9th instant together with your message, which you kindly honoured me to read on your behalf to the Coloured Convention held in Cape Town on the 14th. I appreciate this honour very much.

The Conference was well attended although I cannot say exact how many Delegates were there but I think official Delegates were very nearly 100. With the observants there were over 300 people. One thing I wish to point out to you confidentially is that many people spoke to me after I delivered your message. Everyone seemed to have felt that it was something ideal for that type of Conference.

My impression of the Coloured Convention I came out disappointed; firstly, because Africans who were there did not speak except in the case of Mr. G. Mbikwe of Port Elizabeth. There were 4 sets of Chairmen. The first Chairman of the Conference was Mr. van der Ross, a Coloured man, and Mr. Wright, a European man, of a Civil Right League, presided your paper and after he was a Mrs. Stott, a European woman, who also presided at one session, and then Dr. van der Ross, a Coloured man, presided for the last session. I felt this was a Coloured and European business again. We Africans were nothing but spectators or Junior Partners. Of course, I know you will say I am always critical, about things. However, I cannot help it but to react to this kind of thing.

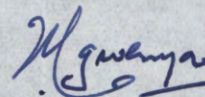
Mr. Daniels has told me that he would send you some information concerning the Convention from time to time.

I hope everything is well with you and your family.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Answered 31/10/61



T. NGWENYA.