

11th March, 1954.

Mr. Quintin Whyte,
P.O. Box 97,
JOHANNESBURG.

Dear Mr. Whyte,

You are no doubt aware that during the summer of 1954 a Conference sponsored by the University of California, the University of Chicago and the University of Hawaii is to be conducted at the University of Hawaii with the theme "Race Relations in World Perspective". The Director of the Conference is Prof. Andrew W. Lind of the University of Hawaii who writes:

"The need for a world perspective upon a problem of such explosive potentialities has become increasingly apparent to administrators and scholars alike during the past few years. Only recently, the necessary funds have been obtained to enable a small group of qualified observers and analysts from the more distinctive areas of race relations around the world to gather in Honolulu for a period of four weeks of undivided attention to the common problems resulting from race and culture contacts"... Briefly stated the Conference is designed, through its preliminary papers and discussion sessions to review the state of scientific knowledge regarding race relations, and to evolve, if possible, the lines upon which subsequent research might profitably be conducted."

"It is believed that the objective of the conference can best be achieved by the meeting and close association over an extended period of persons who combine scholarly attainments or administrative skills in the field of race relations with a breadth of vision and facility of communication. Probably not more than 25 persons will be selected for active participation in the conference, although an additional group of observers may also be admitted".

I am writing to inform you that I have been invited to participate in this conference as a full member and to read one of the papers. I understand that Prof. N.J. Olivier of the University of Stellenbosch has also been invited to attend. I have consulted the College authorities about the matter and they have no objection to my accepting the invitation. But I have pointed out to the sponsors of the conference that as the Union Government is not particularly anxious to allow educated Africans to visit overseas countries, I am not very optimistic about my obtaining the necessary passport facilities. I have made application to the Secretary for the Interior and will await the results with interest. Anything which you personally or the Institute can do to be of assistance to me in this regard will be appreciated. What I am anxious to know fairly soon is whether there is any likelihood of my getting a passport. The sooner I know the better, so that I can give the sponsors of the Conference sufficient time to make other arrangements if I cannot go.

I have been hearing very good reports about the Institute Conference which took place in Port Elizabeth and which I was unfortunately not able to attend. I am sure the Conference stimulated greater interest in the work of the Institute among non-members who were able to attend some of the meetings. By the way I find I have not got a copy of the excellent paper you read on "Recent Legislation on South Africa". I should be glad if you would send me a copy if you have one to spare.

How is Mrs. Hoernle? I hope she is making progress towards recovery. Please let her know that we are always thinking of her and of the incalculable debt we owe to her and to her late lamented husband for their invaluable contribution in the field of race relations in South Africa.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

PERSONNEL FOR 1954 CONFERENCE ON RACE RELATIONS IN WORLD PERSPECTIVE

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| <u>NAME</u> | <u>PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS</u> | <u>TITLE OF PAPERS</u> |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. GEORGES BALANDIER | Social scientist, Institut d' Etudes Politiques, Paris | Cultural and Political Aspects of Race Relations in Central and West Africa. |
| 2. JOHN A. BARNES | Social Anthropologist, University of Manchester | Race Relations in the Development of Southern Africa. |
| 3. RALPH BEALS | Social Anthropologist, University of California | Indian-Mestizo-"White" Relations in Hispanic America |
| 4. HERBERT BLUMER | Social psychologist-sociologist, University of California | A Theory of Race Relations in the Contemporary World (Tentative) |
| 5. J.H. BOEKE | Professor of Tropical Economy, University of Leiden | Colonialism and Dualism; The Economic Situation of the Masses in Transition (Not announced) |
| 6. RALPH BUNCHE | Director of Trusteeships, U.N. | Religious and Nativistic Movements and of Race Relations in the South Pacific (Tentative) |
| 7. A.P. ELKIN | Social Anthropologist, University of Sydney | The Integration of the Negro into American Society |
| 8. FRANKLIN FRAZIER | Sociologist, Howard University | Racialism and Nationalism in Southeast Asia (Tent.) |
| 9. J.S. FURNIVALL | Adviser, Government of Burma | The Muslim Minority in British and Republican India (Not announced) |
| 10. G.S. GHURYE | Sociologist, University of Bombay | Social Roles and Social Types in Race Relations |
| 11. W.K. HANCOCK | Director, Institute of Commonwealth Studies | Demographic Aspects of Race Relations |
| 12. CLARANCE GLICK | Sociologist, University of Hawaii | New Peoples; An Aspect of the Political Process Involved in Race Relations. |
| 13. BERNHARD L. HORMANN | Sociologist, University of Hawaii | Race Relations in the Soviet Union |
| 14. EVERETT HUGHES | Sociologist, University of Chicago | Occupational Succession in Certain Racial Frontiers (Not announced) |
| 15. WALTER KOLARZ | Journalist, Soviet affairs expert, British Broadcasting | (Not announced) |
| 16. ANDREW W. LIND | Sociologist, University of Hawaii | Race Relations in Formosa Under the Japanese |
| 17. KENNETH LITTLE | Social Anthropologist, University of Edinburgh | Race Relations in Brazil |
| 18. L.K. MATTHEWS | Professor, Native Law and Administration, South African Native College | Problems of Personal & Social Adjustment of Negro Elite in Europe and Africa |
| 19. YUZURU OKADA | Sociologist, Tokyo University | (Not announced) |
| 20. DONALD PIERSON | Sociologist, Escola e Livro de Sociologia | |
| 21. T.S. SINEY | Sociologist, University of Liverpool | |
| 22. SOEDJATMOKO | Director, Indonesian Council of World Affairs. | (Not announced) |

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August 14, 1953

Dr. Z. K. Matthews
South African Native College
Fort Hare, Cape Province
South Africa

Dear Dr. Matthews:

"Race Relations in World Perspective," is the theme for a conference to be conducted at the University of Hawaii during the summer of 1954. On behalf of the Steering Committee of the conference, I am writing to extend to you an invitation to participate as a full member of the conference to be held in Honolulu from June 28 to July 23, 1954.

The need for a world perspective upon a problem of such explosive potentialities has become increasingly apparent to administrators and scholars alike during the past few years. Only recently, the necessary funds have been obtained to enable a small group of qualified observers and analysts from the more distinctive areas of race relations around the world to gather in Honolulu for a period of four weeks of undivided attention to the common problems resulting from race and cultural contacts. Three American universities especially concerned with research in this area--the University of California, the University of Chicago, and the University of Hawaii--have jointly agreed to sponsor such a conference. The Steering Committee, representing these three institutions consists of Dr. Robert Redfield, Dr. Herbert Blumer, and myself.

The enclosed prospectus indicates something of the conceptual framework within which this conference is being conceived. Briefly stated, the conference is designed, through its preliminary papers and discussion sessions, to review the state of scientific knowledge regarding race relations, and to evolve if possible, the lines upon which subsequent research might profitably be conducted.

It is believed that the objectives of the conference can best be achieved by the meeting and close association over an extended period of persons who combine scholarly attainments or administrative skills in the field of race relations with a breadth of vision and facility in communication. Probably, not more than twenty-five persons will be selected for active participation in the conference, although an additional group of observers may also be admitted.

Participation in the conference, should you find it possible to accept our invitation, would involve you in the following respects:

1. The preparation in advance of the conference (by March 14, 1954) of a paper summarizing your observations with regard to one or another of the areas of race relations outlined in Part II of the prospectus. Because of your special interest and accomplishments in the study of the adjustments between native and European peoples which have occurred in Africa, we assume that you might wish to focus attention upon that general area of race relations. Your suggestions on the matter will be greatly appreciated. The precise topic can be defined within the next month or two. It is hoped that the papers prepared by the conferees may constitute a significant contribution to the theory and empirical research of race relations. It is planned to distribute these papers in mimeographed form for the members of the conference by April of 1954, and these papers will provide the basis of one of the major published volumes to emerge from the conference.
2. The Steering Committee is able to offer you a maximum of \$300 for secretarial and research assistance for the preparation of your manuscript prior to the conference.
2. Attendance and active participation in the conference sessions extending from June 28 through July 23, 1954. Afternoon and evening sessions (Monday through Friday) will be devoted to the discussion of the subject matter of the conference (details to be worked out later).

Your expenses for travel to Hawaii and return by the most direct route, and for food and housing accommodations during the period of the conference will be met by the conference. Although it is not possible to pay a salary to the conferees, an honorarium of \$500 will be provided.

We believe that this conference can contribute to the future peace of the world by its assistance in funding and re-ordering knowledge with respect to race relations. We earnestly hope that you may find it possible to participate.

Sincerely yours,

ANDREW W. LIND
Director,
RACE RELATIONS CONFERENCE

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It seems appropriate, for many reasons, to focus attention at this conference upon the common factors which facilitate or interfere with effective communal living in areas of race and culture contacts around the world. Analyses thus far completed of the literature available reveal certain common sources of social tension wherever diverse ethnic stocks intermingle; and one of the major functions of the conference will be to examine the nature of these tensions, to determine if possible the universal sequences involved, and to ascertain the most effective means of dealing with them.

The rapidly changing demands for labor and the shifting opportunities for economic advancement have usually set the stage and provided the matrix for race relations in the modern world, and as a consequence, the initial contacts tend to be upon a strictly impersonal basis of economic utility and interdependence. Not always apparent but universally significant under these circumstances is the competition among the ethnic groups for biological survival. At the outset particularly, there is evidence of sharp differences in their reproductive tendencies and in their susceptibilities to disease in the new environment, and the entire pattern of subsequent race relations is frequently governed to a large degree by the nature of this unconscious biological struggle. There is much to be gained for both science and sound administration by a more adequate understanding of what happens at this level of differing racial immunities and fertility. Further case studies of what appears to be the inevitable diminution of differences in the reproduction and biological survival of races within the same environment might assist materially to allay some of the fears and tensions relating to "race suicide" and "population peril".

The widely observed tendency of immigrants to be assigned places in the existing economic structure in accordance with the social status achieved by their ethnic group suggests a second area of interest for the conference. The struggle for economic survival, although assuming an impersonal character at the outset, tends inevitably under the circumstances of modern life to become highly conscious and personal as the process continues. Certainly, one of the major source of racial tension throughout the world is the tendency of the ethnic groups "to get out of place."

The relations of races and people are never for very long merely economic and utilitarian, and no efforts to conceive them in this way have ever been permanently successful. We have imported labor as if it were mere commodity, and sometimes we have been disappointed to find, as we invariably do, that the laborers were human like ourselves. The struggle for existence terminates in a struggle for status, for recognition, for position and prestige. (Robert E. Park, Race and Culture (1950), p. 150)

The barriers of caste or race discrimination which interfere with the free participation in this rivalry for status and position differ markedly, of course, between areas such as Brazil and South Africa and within the same area from time to time. Moreover, the collective frustrations and resentments resulting from the existence of such barriers assume widely different forms. The discovery of such common elements as do exist and the formulation of the more important factors responsible for the varied types of racial cleavages along economic lines might constitute important problems for pre-conference and conference consideration.

Closely associated with the problems just mentioned are the racial stresses and strains in colonial areas arising out of the conflicting values and practices of the self-sufficient native economy on the one hand, and of the invading trading

economy of the west of the other. Basic to much of the racial unrest and the associated nationalism in the colonial areas of the world are the conflicts inherent in what Boeke calls economic dualism. Although a number of effective studies of economic dualism have been conducted in separate areas, little has as yet been done to evolve a common body of theory.

At the level of political and administrative relations between racial groups are a number of problems which merit the attention of such a conference. Whether or not all of them should be included depends largely upon the specialists who are available. Because of the complexity and highly sensitive nature of many of the issues here involved, it seems important that the conference avoid over-involvement with administrative detail and concern itself rather with the description of what actually transpires under given conditions and the discovery of principles of effective functioning.

The systems of political sovereignty and of citizenship which have evolved in the critical areas of races and culture contacts are, of course, symptomatic of the type of race relations to be expected. Regardless of the protective powers involved, the nature of the relations between ethnic groups tend to assume a somewhat common pattern in all trusteeships, for example. Similarly in areas more advanced politically, second or third rate citizenship on the part of certain racial elements reflects a disparity in social and economic status which potentially breeds strife. Especially in regions where nominally there is political equality across race lines but political discrimination is widely practised, the dangers of conflicts are, of course, much greater than if the pretense did not exist. A careful comparison of such areas with reference to the political status of all the ethnic groups involved--of their real position in contrast to those allegedly conferred by law--might reveal significant and unsuspected points of similarity as well as light upon the points of difference.

The growth of nationalism and the struggle for political self-expression on the part of racial minorities would command considerable attention by the conferring specialists. The comparative effectiveness of contrasted administrative policies--domination, assimilation, and emancipation, to mention only three of the more general types--might be carried considerably further than has yet been attempted particularly insofar as a few typical cases are presented by well-informed conferees. The importance of a relatively small conference with the possibility of extensive, informal, and off-record discussions among competent specialists is perhaps nowhere more apparent than in this area.

Problems of education and language as affecting race relations become apparent at this point. The policies adopted by the central government or by the colonizing powers on the racial frontiers with respect to the amount and character of formal education permitted to the minority groups affect very profoundly the attitudes developed within and between the various ethnic groups. Quite apart from official policies, however, the spread of ideas and techniques by the various mass communication media and their effect upon the racial outlook of the so-called colored peoples of the earth has been frequently sensed by scholars but only slightly investigated. The Christian missions have been generally recognized to be among the most influential of the propaganda and educational agencies in colonial areas, but their net effects upon race relations have yet to be determined. The conference might also profitably examine the functioning on the frontier of the various standard languages, as well as of the usual created languages--the plantation creole and the trading pidgin--if only as symbolizing the character of the race relations which exist.

A variety of other social movements and institutions characteristic of the modern ethnic frontiers are known to influence markedly the interaction across racial and cultural lines. The plantation, mine, mission, and trading post--each affords its own unique facilities for interracial contacts and association. The family and tribal organization tend commonly to interfere with interethnic cooperation while labor,

religious, and nationalistic movements more commonly facilitate it. Only within the past two decades has any considerable attention been directed to the widespread malaise among colonial people resulting from the detribalization and the atomization of society following contacts with the West. The exotic religious sects and nativistic movements, as well as the more formidable nationalistic movements, represent the collective efforts to reorganize life on a more satisfying basis. The funded knowledge within this field, however, is still surprisingly limited.

Finally, there is much still to be learned about the obliteration of race lines through biological amalgamation. The rate of miscegenation is known to vary strikingly in different parts of the earth, but relatively little has yet been done to formulate precisely the principles governing this phenomenon. The part played by the mixed bloods in facilitating racial crossing and in the total pattern of interracial relations, despite its dramatic and striking character, has still only partially been told.

The striking range of problems available for study by the conference is, of course, both a threat and a challenging promise. Care will need to be rigorously exercised to keep the preliminary research, the prepared papers, and the discussion to the central problems of race relations. The conference cannot--must not attempt to--define the principles affecting all of the topics mentioned in this section. With the proper selection of personnel, adequate preparation, and effective organization and guidance during the session, it can, we believe, make significant contributions to both the scientific and the practical knowledge in this critical field.