

Compiled by Marcella Jacobson, 1978

### Introduction

The papers of Silas T Molema and Solomon T Plaatje consist of 2679 items spanning the years 1874 to 1976, the majority of the documents covering the years 1874-1932. They also include the papers and literary manuscripts of S Modiri Molema. The provenance of the papers is varied. Those of Silas Molema, which include family papers, correspondence with Plaatje and papers relating to the Rolong tribe, were in the possession of his son Morara T Molema. Victor Molema, the son of Plaatje's daughter, Violet, had miscellaneous material of Plaatje's, which included photographs, press clippings and a TS presumably written by Plaatje describing a visit to the United States of America. Lucretia Molema, the widow of S M Molema, had an unpublished Plaatje MS, Sekgoma: The Black Dreyfus, photographs and postcards given to her husband by Plaatje, as well as her husband's literary manuscripts.

The documents were located by Tim Couzens, African Studies Institute (formerly Department of English), University of the Witwatersrand, and Brian Willan, School of Oriental and African Studies (formerly Centre of International and Area Studies), University of London, and were subsequently purchased by the library. Most of Silas Molema's papers were found in a wooden box in a storeroom in Mafeking. The papers were in no particular order although the Rolong tribal papers had been kept separate from family papers. They were in bad condition and deterioration had been caused by insects, dust and vermin.

As all the papers are so closely interrelated they have been grouped as one collection. The basic arrangement of the papers is based on the following principles, a) individual by whom the documents were created, b) individual by whom the documents were collected, c) individual or group to whom the documents refer.

A substantial proportion of the documents are in Tswana. The Rolong tribal papers were easy to identify as most are on paper with the tribal letterhead. Most of Plaatje's correspondence is in Tswana, and as he discusses important developments in South African history, the correspondence had to be translated. Thus a calendar could be compiled to describe the documents. The calendar format has also been used to describe the papers of Chief Montshiwa.

In the body of the inventory names and places are spelled as they appear in the documents, and because of the inconsistency in Tswana orthography the same name may have various spellings. The term "native" instead of African or Black reflects the usage current at the time, and has been retained when describing documents. All references to the Rolong refer to the Tehidi branch of the tribe, and where other branches are meant they are referred to specifically e.g. Rapulana Rolong.

In the index (unpublished) modern spelling of names has been used, thus Montshiwa and not Montsioa. Where there are various spellings the one most commonly used has been chosen and the variations in spelling appear in brackets after the chosen form. If a person is usually referred to by his English first name, the Tswana name appears in brackets after the English names, thus Chief Wessels (Boccie) Montshiwa. It is a Tswana custom to refer to a person by the name of his father thus Seetsele Modiri Molema is sometimes referred to as Silas Modiri Molema.

It is also customary to call a woman after the name of her first born thus Elizabeth Plaatje is often called Ma Sainty, Sainty being the nickname for St Leger, her eldest son. Married women have been indexed under their married name with a reference from their maiden name. Place names are indexed under the English or Afrikaans name rather than the Tswana name and the modernised spelling of the name as used at the time of the compilation of the documents is preferred, thus Bechuanaland and not Botswana. In general, references to Bechuanaland in the documents do not differentiate between British Bechuanaland and the Bechuanaland Protectorate, therefore most references in the index will be to Bechuanaland unless a document refers specifically to either of these territories. The prefixes from the names of Bantu tribes have been dropped in accordance with current usage but have been retained in the body of the inventory, thus Rolong in the index and not Barolong.

Many of the people have been difficult to identify and family relationships are often difficult to establish. Therefore in order to increase the value of the index elementary biographical information has been included. In general, R F Hunnisett's Indexing for editors (British Records Association, 1972) has been consulted.

The papers cover a wide range of subjects such as history and local history in particular, politics, ethnology and social anthropology and Black literature and journalism. The papers of Chief Montshiwa document the encroachment of the Boers, the Warren Expedition and the annexation of British Bechuanaland in 1885. Others document the South African War, in particular the siege of Mafeking in which the Rolong played an important role; the formation of the South African Native National Congress; the Native Land Act (1913) and the delegations to England in 1911 and 1919 to protest against the legislation and in particular Plaatje's participation. General tribal administration is reflected in the documents, both by the chiefs and the British (later South African) government officials. From the ethno-sociological point of view the papers represent a bourgeois, educated and Westernised

Black family. The papers are also of literary interest, both Plaatje and S M Molema having made significant contributions to South African Black literature,

I would like to acknowledge the valuable assistance of Tim Couzens and Brian Willan. Mr Couzens was able to obtain information from living members of the Molema and Plaatje families, which helped to identify individuals and photographs. In order to establish complicated family relationships he has compiled a family tree of the Molema family (p.xiii, based on information obtained from Mr Morara T Molema, in interviews which took place on the 2-3 June 1978.

The following abbreviations have been used:

L - Letter; is neither written nor signed by the sender

LS - Letter signed; is not written by the sender but is signed by him

AL - autograph letter, unsigned

ALS - autograph letter signed; is written and signed by its creator

D - Document; is neither written nor signed by its creator

TD - Typed document, unsigned

HG - Holograph; a manuscript, other than a letter, wholly in the handwriting of the author.

Df - Draft; a letter or document which is not in its final form

TL - Typed letter, unsigned

MS - Manuscript

TS - Typescript

SANNC - South African Native National Congress

Marcella Jacobson, May 1978

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

## THE MOLEMA FAMILY

Helena, the younger brother of Montshiwa, converted to Christianity in about 1840, which caused a rift between him and Montshiwa. Molema founded Mafikeng (Mafeking) in 1857, and Montshiwa settled at Sehuba. In 1882 Montshiwa's territory was threatened by the desire of the Transvaal Boers to expand westwards. He was attacked by the pro-Boer Tswanas chiefs Moshwete and Mntlaba, and eventually he had to take refuge in Mafeking. Molema gave him supremacy over the town on the condition that he would not interfere with the spread of Christian teachings.

Molema's sons, Joshua and Silas, feature prominently in the history of the Tshidi Rolong. Joshua, the elder son, acted as regent to John (Bakolopang) from 1915-1917. His papers cover the years of his chieftainship from 1896 until his death in August 1910.

Silas Thelensho Molema was born in Bechuanaland c1852-55. He received his education at Healdtown, obtaining a teaching certificate in 1877. Thus, on his return to Mafeking in 1878 he established a school for the Rolong, probably the first in Bechuanaland. When the Royal Commission was out in 1881 at the end of the first South African War and marked out the western boundary of the Transvaal, Molema served as one of Montshiwa's counsellors, protecting against the encroachment of the new convention line. He was appointed private secretary to the Paramount Chief in 1808. He served the British during the South African War, and commanded a Rolong detachment under Baden-Powell during the siege of Mafeking 1900-1901. He was a landowner and trader. In 1901 he gave financial support to Solomon T Plaatje, whom he regarded as a son, to publish a Tswana newspaper, *Koranta ea Becoana*.

Molema supported the formation of the South African Native National Congress (later the African National Congress) and helped the delegations of 1914 and 1919 which went to Great Britain to get the Native Land Act (1913) repealed. Before his death in September 1927 he successfully led a deputation to General Hertzog in Cape Town, to protest against certain provisions of the Native Administration Act (1927).

Seetsele Modiri Molema was Silas Molema's oldest son. He was born in 1892 in Mafeking and received his education at Healdtown and Lovedale. He matriculated in 1912 and taught at the Lyndhurst Road Public School until his departure for Great Britain in March 1914. He studied medicine at Glasgow University, graduating in 1919. While in Scotland he wrote and published *The Bantu, past and present* (Edinburgh: Green, 1920). After graduating he continued his studies and worked for a time in Dublin and Glasgow, before returning to South Africa early in 1921.

On his return to Mafeking he opened up a surgery for the Indian and Coloured population. Subsequently he opened up a nursing home for all races but due to difficulties had to close down the home. He was an active member of the Rolong tribe, always supporting the Bechuanaland government, and served as a member of the Native Advisory Council. He also served as Treasurer-General of the African National Congress. S M Molema was also an active church member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church.

He married c1927 Anna Moshoele, the daughter of Rev M J Moshoele of Klerksdorp, one-time secretary and friend of Chief Montshiwa. His second wife Lucretia is still living in Mafeking. He died on August 13 1965.

His published works include *Chief Moroka: his life, his times, his country and his people* (Cape Town: Methodist Publishing House, 1951) and *Montshiwa 1815-1896: Barolong chief and patriot* (Cape Town: Struik, 1966).

## SOLOMON TSHEKISHO PLAATJE

Sol. T. Plaatje was born on the farm Doornfontein in the Boshof district on October 9 1876. He was educated at Pniel at the mission school established by the Berlin Missionary Society, from 1884 to 1890. In 1894 he worked as a postman in Kimberley, while studying for the Cape Civil Service Certificate. He moved to Mafeking where he became a court interpreter and magistrate's clerk, having at his command a knowledge of about ten languages. He rendered valuable service as an interpreter to the British during the South African War.

In 1901, backed financially by Chief Silas Molema, he began editing the *Koranta ea Becoana*, the first Tswana-English weekly newspaper. In 1910 he moved to Kimberley where he edited the *Tsala ea Becoana* which changed its name to *Tsala ea Batho* in 1912. The newspaper ceased publication in 1915 because of Plaatje's presence in Britain.

Plaatje was not only an interpreter, journalist and an author but also a politician. When the South African Native National Congress was formed in 1912, Plaatje became General Corresponding Secretary. When the question of native land arose in 1913 Plaatje became a member of the delegation which went to Britain in 1914 to petition the British government. Despite the outbreak of World War I, which prevented the delegation from achieving its mission, Plaatje remained in England. During this time he wrote *Native life in South Africa, before and since the European war and the Boer rebellion* (London, 1916), arguing the cause of the deputation and the land issue. Returning to Kimberley, he then established The Diamond Fields Men's Own Brotherhood, a body which propagated racial harmony. He returned to Europe in 1919 heading the African National Congress delegation, which attempted to get the Native Land Act discussed at the Peace Conference at Versailles. Subsequently he visited the United States and Canada in 1921.

Plaatje wrote extensively, contributing articles to English and Black newspapers, as well as producing literary works such as *Mhudi: an epic of South African native life a hundred years ago* (Lovedale, 1930), as well as translating some of Shakespeare's works, *The Comedy of Errors* and *Julius Caesar*, into Tswana.

In 1898 he married Elizabeth Mbelle, the sister of I. Bud Mbelle, an important court interpreter and one time general secretary of the African National Congress. They had four sons, St. Leger, Richard, Halley and Johann Gutenberg, and two daughters, Olive and Violet. Plaatje died on June 19 1932, while on a visit to Johannesburg and was buried at Kimberley.

#### The Rolong (Tshidi branch)

The Rolong are a Tswana tribe. About 1775 a split occurred within the tribe resulting in four branches, the Ratlou, Tshidi, Seleka and Rapulana, the Tshidi forming the largest branch.

The Molema-Plaatje papers include the records of the Tshidi Rolong from the later years of Chief Montshwa's rule. Montshwa became chief in 1849 on the death of his father Tawana. The tribe had traditionally settled at Lotlhakane but were constantly on the move because of threatened attacks. Mafeking was established as a settlement by his brother Molema, and Montshwa finally joined him there after losing his land at Dithakong in a dispute with the Rapulana Rolong of Polfontein.

As a result of the threat of the Boers, the freebooters and the loss of their land when the Republics of Stellaland and Goshen were established, the Tshidi Rolong eagerly accepted John Mackenzie's offer to declare the territory a British protectorate. Thus in 1904 with the signing of the London Convention, Bechuanaland came under British protection. However the freebooters launched another attack on the Rolong at Mafeking, and the Transvaal broke the convention by annexing the Rolong territory. Subsequently the Warren expedition of 1885 ensured the Rolong of British protection.

In 1895 the territory came under the administration of the British South Africa Company. After the Jameson Raid which was launched from the Rolong's country, British Bechuanaland was annexed to the Cape. Montshiwa retained his headquarters at Mafeking although many Rolong living north of Ramathlabama Spruit came under the administration of the Bechuanaland Protectorate. Thus the country of the Rolong was divided.

#### Barolong chiefs (Tsidi branch)

Montshiwa 1849-1896

Wessels (Besele) 1896-1903

Badirile 1903-1911

Lekoko 1911-1915

Joshua 1915-1917

John (Bakolopang) 1917-1919

Lotlamoreng 1919-1954

#### CLASSIFICATION

- A MOLEMA FAMILY
  - R TSHIDI BAROLONG PARAMOUNT CHIEFS
  - C TSHIDI BAROLONG TRIBAL AFFAIRS
  - D SOLOMON TSHEKISHO PLAATJE
  - E PRESS CLIPPINGS
  - F PHOTOGRAPHS
  - G MAPS AND SKETCHES
  - H MISCELLANEOUS AND EPHEMERA
- 
- A MOLEMA FAMILY
  - Aa SILAS T MOLEMA
    - 1 Family correspondence
    - 2 Personal correspondence
    - 5 General correspondence
    - 3.1 Pitsani siding business correspondence
    - 3.2 Invoices
    - 3.3 Receipts
    - 3.4 Promissory notes
    - 3.5 Legal matters - agreements, contracts and disputes
    - 3.6 Koranta ea Becoana (newspaper)
  - 4 Tribal affairs
  - 5 Notebooks
  - 6 Printed material
  - Ab JOSHUA MOLEMA
    - 1 Correspondence
  - P Accounts and receipts
    - 3 Agreement
  - Ac SEBOPIOA MOLEMA
    - 1 Correspondence
    - 2 Court case
  - Ad SEETSEle MODIRI MOLEMA
    - 1 Correspondence with Silas T Molema, father
    - 2 Correspondence with Sefetogi, brother
    - 3 Correspondence with Seleje and Harriet, sisters
    - 4 General correspondence

- 5 Personal documents
- 6 Literary manuscripts
  
- Ae OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS
  - 1 Harriet Molema Montsioa
  - 2 Morara Tolo Molema
  - 3 Miscellaneous
  
- B TSHIDI BAROLONG PARAMOUNT CHIEFS
  - Ba CHIEF MONTSIOA
  - Bb CHIEF WESSELS
    - 1 Appointment
    - 2 Correspondence
    - 3 Papers
  - Bc CHIEF BADIRILE
    - 1 Correspondence
    - 2 Agreements
    - 3 Disputes and court cases
      - 3.1 Phoi case
      - 3.2 Motsiakhumo case
      - 3.3 Ramosiane Motlahabani case
  - Bd CHIEF LEKOKO
    - 1 Correspondence
    - 2 Agreements
    - 3 Disputes
      - 3.1 Rietfontein-Lotlhakane dispute
      - 3.2 Lekoko Montsioa vs the Union Government and the Mafeking Divisional Council
      - 3.3 Fees due to attorneys
  - Be CHIEF JOHN
    - 1 Papers
    - 2 Agreements
    - 3 Disputes
    - 4 Legal affairs
  - Bf CHIEF LOTLAMORENG
    - 1 Correspondence
    - 2 Agreement
  
- C TSHIDI BAROLONG TRIBAL AFFAIRS
  - Ca ADMINISTRATION
    - 1 Hut tax
    - 2 Passes and permits
    - 3 Stock certificates
    - 4 Receipts
  - Cb LEGAL AFFAIRS
    - 1 Agreements
    - 2 Disputes
    - 3 Legal costs of disputes
    - 4 Miscellaneous
  - Cc PAPERS
    - 1 Genealogy
    - 2 South African War
    - 3 First World War - native service
    - 4 Councils

- 4.1 Barolong National Council
- 4.2 Advisory Council of the Bechuanaland Protectorate
- 5 Barolong National Fund
- 6 Education
- 7 Labour and recruitment of labour
- 8 Native franchise
- 9 African National Congress (formerly South African Native National Congress)
- 10 Government proclamations and regulations
- 11 Miscellaneous papers

- D SOLOMON TSHEKISHO PLAATJE
- Da CALENDAR OF CORRESPONDENCE.
- Db WRITINGS
- DC LEAFLETS
- Dd PRESS CLIPPINGS
- De OBITUARIES
- Df PHONORECORDS
- Dg MISCELLANEOUS

- E PRESS CLIPPINGS

- F PHOTOGRAPHS (Note: Stored in Room 27)
- Fa BAROLONG TRIBE
- Fb MOLEMA FAMILY
- Fcf S T PLAATJE
- Fca Individual
- Fcb Groups
- Fcc Family
- Fcd General
- Fce Postcard photographs
- Fcf Unidentified

- C MAPS AND SKETCHED

- H MISCELLANEOUS AND EPHEMERA

- A MOLEMA FAMILY
- Aa SILAS T MOLEMA
- Aa1 Family correspondence 35 items, 1899 Dec -1927 Aug

Correspondents:

Molema, Harriet

Molema, James

Molema, Joseph

Molema, Joshua

Molema, Kotlareng

Molema, Molalanyana

Molema, Morara

Molema, Sebopioa J

Molema, Sefetogi

Moshoela, Rev Molema J

Subjects:

Correspondence from his wife, children, niece and nephews about family affairs, matters relating to the education of the children and tribal affairs.

Aa2 Personal correspondence:130 items, 1898 Apr - 1927 Nov

Correspondents:

Bathoon I, Chief

Coppin, L[evy] J[enkins]

Cox, N.

Fonyang, Chief W Z

Gaboutloeloe, Theo

Gaseitsiwe, Chief G B

Goronyane, J D

Houghton, K A Hobart

Lekoko, R D

Leteane, John

Letsapa, William

Lloyd, Edwin

Mabusela, E

Makaka, Mangaliso

Mankuroane, Chief Molale

Maretola, J K

Marshumi, J

Marumolwu, Stephen R

Maseloanyana, Cornelius

Maseloanyana, Makhabele

Massigo, J L

Massigo, Bp J D

Mathiba, Gaof G

Mbelle, Isaiah Bud

Menoe, Samuel R

Mobatsing, J

Moikangoa, Cornelius Rakhosi

Molebeloa, James M

Monnamorwa, Lucas

Montsioa, George

Montsioa, Chief Lekoko

Montsioa, Chief Lotlamoreng

Moroka, Dr James S

Mosaka, J M R

Motshegare, Joel K

Motshegura, P K

Motshegare, Phetojane

Motshegaro, Silas

Metahegare, Tatinyane

Motsiakhumo, Kgosidintso

Ncapeli, Sefitholo

Ngetu, Nqabisa

Ngubenkomo, Alex

Panzera, F

Plaatje, Elizabeth

Rapula, S T

Schilling, Rev W W

Sebele, Chief Sechele

Sekgoma, Chief D Raditladi

Smartt, Sir Thomas William

Tacana, Tiego



Thaele, Jas  
Tshosa, Chief B G  
Twala, Abraham Zephaniah  
Weaver, Geo.  
Willughby, Rev W[illiam] C[harles]  
Zibi, Maud M  
Zini, Tom M

Subjects:

Personal and family news

Sebopioa Molema's studies in the USA; S Modiri Molema's schooling and progress, his departure for Great Britain in 1914 March to study medicine, the publication and reviews of his book, *The Bantu, past and present*, his marriage in 1927 and his troubles in establishing a hospital in Mafeking.

Politics and history

The effect of the South African War on the native tribes in Bechuanaland; the Native Land Act (1913) and the deputations of 1914 and 1919 to Great Britain to get this legislation revoked; a grant of land to the Bechuanaland Protectorate in 1922; Silas Molema's meeting with General Hertzog in Cape Town 1927 re the segregation laws.

Church affairs

Enlargement of the Tswana (Sechuana) hymnbook; Silas Molema's correspondence with clergymen of the African Holy Catholic Church.

Tribal affairs

Cattle and horse trading; drought; welfare of tribe; the murder of Puoeng and the subsequent arrest of Chief Tatinyane Motshogare; the death of Chief Lekoko Montsioa; Rev W C Willoughby's book, *Native life on the Transvaal border*.

Ethnology and anthropology

Bakaa and Barolong tribes.

Aa3 General correspondence 272 items 1893 Nov — 1927 Jul

Correspondents:

Ashley, Joseph Leo  
Boyes, George J  
Fleming, James  
Frost, H J  
Gordon, Sundel  
Green, E Graham  
Hall, Chas.  
Henderson, James  
Kent, H E  
Klatzky, P[olly]  
Lekoko, Dick  
Mabusela, G  
Maseng, Thos.  
Moses, Jacob  
Motshegare, Joel  
Motshegare, Silas  
Roberts, A W  
Ross, V L  
Rowland, G  
Rowland, R  
Stewart, James  
Transfeldt, R  
van Jaarsvelt, Albertus Stephanus  
Wright, R C S

Attorneys:

de Kock and de Kock  
Joyce, Edward Walter  
Minchin, Spencer  
Rice, M E

Subjects:

Agriculture and farming:

Leasing of farm; produce; damage by cattle trespassing on land; dipping of cattle; sale of stock; fencing of farms.

Education:

Demands for payment of school fees from Lovedale and Healdtown for Molema's children and relatives; granting of bursary to son (Modiri).

Business and trade:

Demands to settle outstanding debts; loans; summons to settle disputes in court; application by S T Molema for a general dealer's licence, correspondence from W Green and Son Ltd., publishers of S M Molema's The Bantu, past and present.

Local administration:

Collecting of particulars of cases of cruelty to Barolong by the Boers; commandeering of horses by Bechuanaland Rifles and supplying of forage to British troops during the South African War; claims for war compensation; taxes; government population census of 1911; problem of squatters on the Molopo Native Reserve and Silas Molema's right to lease these lands; increased subsidy to headmen; licences to possess arms and ammunition; working of boundaries.

Other:

Queen's Memorial Fund 1901; correspondence courses; dispute over debt with Chief Gaseitsewe; Silas Molema as executor of estates; labour recruitment for the mines; granting of prospecting licenses and concession certificates.

Aa3.1 Pitsani siding business correspondence 191 items 1911 Mar-1927

Correspondents:

Beukes, G  
Burger, B J  
Dickerson, D T  
Fincham, Phoebus M  
Higgs, James  
Oosthuizen, J  
Ruthenberg, A W  
van Rensburg, G

Subjects:

Pitsani is a trading post on the railway line to Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) which lies 45 km north of Mafeking, on the western border of the Transvaal. It is famous for being the assembly point for Dr L S Jameson's followers prior to the raid in December 1895. Silas Molema owned a farm, Mabeti, in the area which he leased to white traders and farmers. His chief correspondent is P M Fincham. The correspondence deals with disputes between the farmers over farm boundaries and trading rights; the building of a school house at Pitsani in 1913; sinking of wells and disputes over rights to water cattle; trespassing and damage caused by cattle; fencing of farms.

Aa3.2 Involces 107 items 1889 Jan - 1927 Aug

Invoices for general supplies, clothing, school fees and books, repairs to wagons, food, clothes, farming requisites, livestock and cattle, and attorneys' fees.

Aa3.3 Receipts 228 items 1888 Aug - 1927 Jun

Receipts from tradesmen, attorneys and the educational institutions of Emgwali Training School, Healdtown Training Institution, Lovedale Missionary Institution and the Transkeian Territories General Council School of Agriculture, Tsolo.

- Aa3.4 Promissory notes 36 items 1894 Jun - 1921 Mar  
Includes partially used book of promissory notes 1902-1916.
- Aa3.5 Legal papers 19 items 1898 Jan - 1919 Mar  
Leases  
An unusual system of land tenure was devised by Chief Montsioa in the hope that the tribe would be able to prevent Whites from seizing tribal lands. Grants of land were given to important individual members of the tribe. Originally this land was inalienable except to other Barolong, but by 1896 the land could be hired or leased to Whites. Rights could be transferred from one member of the tribe to another, but there was a strict prohibition against the mortgaging of holdings. For the most part this system known as the Barolong Farms was effective, although in 1914 there was some consternation amongst government official when it appeared that White lessees were treating Blacks living on the land as squatters.
- Aa3.5.1 Undated. Silas T Molema, lessor, J W Hull, lessee, of the farm and lands called Kromdraai, situated in the division of Mafeking on the Native Reserve. Incomplete and unsigned. MS. 1f.
- An3.5.2 1891 Oct 2. Agreement between Silas Malammo (Molema) and P Crause whereby in consideration of the latter building a three roomed house, the former agrees to lease free of charge for a period of five years a portion of Erf situated in the Native Reserve. MS copy. 1f.
- Aa3.5.3 1898 Jan 1. Silas T Molema, lesser, and Frederick J Paynter, lessee, of a piece of ground situated on the Native Reserve for five years for the sum of £17.10 per annum. Unsigned by Paynter. MS draft. it.
- Aa3.5.4 1898 May. Memorandum of agreement between Silas T Molema and J J van Beyen whereby the former agrees to lease a piece of ground known an Tantanyane to the latter, subject to stipulated benefits from the land. Incomplete and unsigned. MS draft, 1f.
- Aa3.5.5 1899 Apr 1. Memorandum of agreement between Silas T Molema and Mr Ferreira, that in consideration of the latter repairing a certain house belonging to the former, Ferreira will occupy the house for ten months free of charge. Unsigned by Ferreira. MS draft. 1f.
- Aa3.5.6 1899 Sep 1. Silas T Molema, lessor, O Noll, lessee, of one small two roomed house and a piece of ground for ploughing for a term of six months. Unsigned by O Nell. MS draft. 1f.
- Aa3.5.7 1900 Apr 23. Silas T Molema, lesser, John Kay, lessee, of certain irrigated lands about five morgen extent, situated on the Mafeking Native Reserve for the term of two yearn. TS. 2p. Additional copy.
- Aa3.5.8 1901 May. Silas Molema, lessor, Harry Roland Wright, 1essee, of the farm Kromdraai on the Mafeking Native Reserve, for a period of five yours. Unsigned. TS. 2p.
- Aa3.5.9 1902 Feb 10. Silas Molema, lessor, John Kay and Ah Ling, lessees, of a piece of irrigable land situated on the Mafeking Native Reserve, for a term of five years. TS. 2p.
- Aa3.5.10 1904 Jan 1. Silas T Molema, lesser, Pon Mee Chain Hong, lessee, of a garden for £30 per annum. MS draft. 1f.
- Aa3.5.11 1905 Oct 16. Silas Molema, lessor, Edgar and Richard Rowland, lessees, of the farm situated about three miles west of the Barolong Town, for a term of six years. Unsigned. MS draft. 1f.
- Aa3.5.12 1905 Oct 21. Silas Molema, lessor, Richard Rowland, lessee, of the farm Kromdraai for a term of six years. MS. 2p.
- Aa3.5.13 1912 May. Silas Molema, lessor, unnamed party, lessee, of a piece of the Native Reserve, in extent about thirty morgen, more or less on the Molopo River, west of Mafeking, a portion of the place known as Kromdraai, for a term of four years. Unsigned. MS draft. 2p.
- Aa3.5.14 1912 May 30. Silas Taoana Molema, lessor, P F Meintjes, lessee, of a piece of garden on the Molope Native Reserve, west of Mafeking, a portion of the farm known as Kromdraai, for a term of one year. Unsigned by Meintjes. MS draft. 2p.

- Aa3.5.15 1919 Mar 24. Memorandum of agreement between Silas Tawana Molema and certain Fingoes and Xosas, whereby the latter may reside and plough on the former's land on condition that they allow themselves to be subject to Baralong jurisdiction and carry out improvements on the land. Unsigned. TS. 2f. 2 additional undated and unsigned copies.
- Aa3.5.16 1927 Jun. Deed of lease between Silas Taoana Molema, executor, and guardian of Mametsi, a widow of Badirile Montsioa, and her stepson Mokoli Montsioa, lessor, and John Maretius Visagie, lessee, of the farm Devondale for five years. MS. 1f.  
Miscellaneous
- Aa3.5.17 1901 Oct 3. Memorandum of agreement between Silas T Molema N C Honore, whereby Honore agrees to build or enlarge a house belonging to Molema for the sum of £40. MS draft. 1f.
- Aa3.5.10 1904 Oct 7. Bond of indebt from Silas Tawana Molema to Charles Wenham for the sum of £300. Bond cancelled on 1907 Feb 9. MS. 7p.
- Aa5.5.19 1905 Apr 10. Power of attorney appointed by Silas Tawana Molema to Hermann Rosenblatt and Reginald Edmund de Beer to appear for Molema in the Vryburg Office of the Registrar of Deeds to acknowledge a debt due to Spencer Minchin and to pass a bond for the said account. MS and printed document. 2p.
- Aa3.6 Koranta ea Becoana
- Aa3.6.1 Legal documents 5 items 1901 Sep - 1910 May
- 1901 Sep 5. Memorandum of agreement between George Nathanael Henry Whales and Silas Molema whereby the former agrees to sell all his right, title and interests in and to the said paper Koranta Ea Becoana but shall continue to undertake printing of the said paper and the latter shall edit and be responsible for succeeding issues. TS 2f.
- 1902 Mar. Memorandum of agreement between Russell Paddon, lessor, Silas Tau Molema and Solomon Tshekiso Plaatje, lessees of portion of building to be used as a printing office and stationery shop for a term of two years. TS draft. 1f.
- 1902 Apr 4. Memorandum of agreement between Russel Paddon, lessor, Silas Tau Molema and Solomon Tshekiso Plaatje, lessees, of room in building known as Paddon's Store for a term of two years. TS. 2f.
- 1904 Jul 15. General bond passed by Silas Tau Molema and the firm of "Silas Molema" in favour of Charles Wenham. MS. 7f.
- 1910 May 11. General covering bond passed by Solomon Tshekiso Plaatje in favour of Sarah Louise Clucan. TS. 4f.
- Aa3.6.2 Correspondence 21 items 1901 Aug - 1914 Nov
- Correspondents:  
Bathoen I, Chief  
Goronyane, J D  
Minchin, Spencer  
Molema, Silas T  
Plaatje, Solomon T  
Whales, G N H
- Subjects:  
Plaatje persuaded Silas Molema to finance the first Tswana-English newspaper in 1901 and the papers reflect the financial difficulties suffered by Molema and Plaatje in order to keep the newspaper going. The paper ceased publication c 1906 and later, on Plaatje's removal to Kimberley, he established the Tsala ea Batho referred to by Gorinyane in his correspondence with Molema.
- Aa4 Tribal affairs 53 items 1900 Jun - 1927 Aug
- Correspondents:  
Frost, H J  
May, B  
Montsioa, Chief Lekoko  
Montsioa, Chief Lotlamoreng

Nicholson, C H  
Seme, P Ka I  
Wessels, Daniel Hendrik Willem  
Subjects:

Correspondence addressed to Silas Molema in his capacity as tribal chief as well as secretary to the Paramount Chief of the Barolong. The correspondence is chiefly with government officials dealing with all aspects of administration, taxation, losses of cattle during the South African War, visit of Joseph Chamberlain in 1903, meetings between chiefs and government officials, water supply in Stadt, orders to protect land, prevention of the spread of diseases to livestock, report of deaths among natives caused by epidemics and the tracing of missing tribal members. Also includes tribal debts due to law suits and Chief John Montsioa's debts and lunacy. There are papers concerning Daniel Hendrik Willem Wessels, representative for Bechuanaland in the House of Assembly, about political matters and election campaigning during World War I.

Aa5 Notebooks 2 items 1909 - 1925

Aa5.1 Notebook with list of individuals who have paid special taxes 1909-1917 and a list of permits given to sell livestock 1923-1925.

Aa5.2 1923. Notebook containing permits to sell livestock.

Aa6 Printed material 1 item

Souvenir of the Passive Resistance Movement in South Africa 1906-1914. Golden Number of Indian Opinion, 1914. Inscription reads: To His Hon Chief S T Molema Chief of Barolong Nation With my Compliments to you and your nation let your intelligent won read let your intelligent men read these and arise now it is the time Keep this in remembrance of the Indian Community. P K Naidoo. Copy mutilated.

Ab JOSHUA MOLEMA

Ab1 Correspondence 8 items 1909 Jul - 1919 Mar

Correspondence with Rev Amos Burnett of the Wesleyan Methodist Church on the matter of the appointment of circuit stewards; notice of the funeral of Chief Lekoke, 1915 Jun 21; miscellaneous correspondence about tribal matters; outstanding hospital fees; a request from John Leteone for photographs of Chiefs Montshioa, Wessels and Badirile to be hung in the dining hall of Tiger Kloof Native Institution.

Ab2 Accounts and receipts 16 items 1896 Mar - 1922 Jun

Ab3 Agreement 1 item 1913

1913, Apr 23. Memorandum of agreement of lease between Joshua Molema and unnamed party, of the farm Ditlharapa in the Bechuanaland Protectorate. TS. 3p.

Ac SEBOPIOA MOLEMA

Act Correspondence 29 items 1904 Jul - 1926 Mar

Correspondence with:

Gaboutloeloe, Theo

Makgobi, Ketlareng Molema

Molema, Joshua

Molema, Silas

Subjects:

Criticism of conditions and education for natives at Zonnebloem College in 1904; studies in the United States of America at Wilberforce University 1904-1910; tribal affairs, in particular the appointment of Joshua Molema in November 1915 as acting chief for two years and subsequent friction between him and John Montsioa; Sebopica's service in the Bechuanaland Protectorate as Court Interpreter 1915-1918; death of Joshua Molema in August? 1918 and Sebopica's inheritance; epidemic among the tribes in the Bechuanaland Protectorate in 1918; the preparations of the SANNC delegation to England in 1919; application for exemption from Native Law in Natal 1922; registration as a voter; work at Afrikander Mine near Klerksdorp.

- Ac2 Court case 1 item 1926  
1926 Jul 7. S J Molema, complainant, Pholo Thari, defendant. Charge: (1) Contravention of forest regulation (2) Contempt of, and disobedience of orders. TS and MS. 4.t.
- Ad SETSEELE MOLIRI MOLEMA
- Ad1 Correspondence with Silas T Malemo, father 72 items 1908 Jul - 1920 Dec  
Correspondence with father while at school at Healdtown and Lovedale Institution, and later working in Cape Town and Kimberley while waiting to take up medical studies in Britain. S M Molema left South Africa in March 1914 and started studying to become a medical doctor at the Glasgow University. His letters describe his progress, his financial difficulties, he mentions the visits of Plaatje and the other native delegates in 1914 and 1919 about the land question, life in Glasgow and the effects of the war on living conditions, the Zeppelin raids on Edinburgh, the publication of his book, *The Bantu, past and present*, his plans for providing improved medical care in Mafeking, his need for an intelligent and educated wife and his return to South Africa early in 1921.
- Ad2 Correspondence with Sefetogi, brother 4 items 1920 Mar - 1921 May  
Correspondence written towards the end of his stay in Glasgow and on his return to Mafeking, detailing a visit to Kanyo where he was received with open arms and asked to practice medicine among the tribe, and informing Sefetogi of the surgery he has opened in Mafeking for the Indian and Coloured population.
- Ada Correspondence with Seleje and Harriet [Tshadinyana], sisters 15 items 1911 Sep - 1920 Oct  
  
General personal letters to his sisters written from Lovedale and during the course of his studies in Scotland.
- Ado General correspondence 20 items 1912 Dec - 1928 Nov  
Correspondents:  
Ada [Anna Moshoele Molema]  
Gaseitsiwe, M K  
Klipin, W  
Makgobi, Kaitsalio K  
Moshoele, Rev M J  
Naidoo, M  
Rowland, R  
Willoughby, Rev W C  
Subjects:  
Application for a teaching post at Tiger Kloof in 1912; life insurance policy; business affairs; patients; correspondence with publishers re *The Bantu, past and present*; death of Silas Molemo in 1927 September and telegrams of condolence in his bereavement.
- Ads Personal documents, 5 items 1901 - 1917
- Ad5.1 1901 Sep 13. Junior certificate of the Tonic Sol-fa College certifying that Moliri Molema has passed the examination in musical memory, singing in time, singing from the modulator and in ear exercises.
- Ady.2 1902 Oct 20. Elementary certificate of the Tonic Sol-fa College.
- Ad5.3 1904 Mar 9. Intermediate certificate of the Tonic Sol-fa College.
- Ad5.4 1912. Certificate from the University of the Cape of Good Hope that Xoliri Silas Molema passed the Matriculation Examination and was placed in the Third Class. Signed by Thomas Walker, Vice-Chancellor and V Thomson, Registrar.
- Ad5.5 1916-17. Glasgow University, Surgical Clinique. Junior Dresser's Certificate issued to S Modiri Molema.
- Ad6 Literary manuscripts 6 items
- Ad6.1 History of the Barolong; an ethnological and historical survey (study) of the Barolong tribes. 538f (various pagination). TS with MS corrections.
- Ad6.2 Montshiwa 1015-1896, Barolong chief and patriot. 2 drafts (various pagination). TS with MS corrections. Published Cape Town: Struik, 1966.

- Ad6.3 The Scapegoat of the Boer War (General Piet Cronje)  
 - Draft 1. (iv) 245f. Includes bibliography.  
 - Draft 2. Incomplete. Title page reads: The Scapegoat of the Boer War or Gen Piet Cronje.  
 - Draft 3. 1-96, 99-190, 6f bibliography. Includes genealogical table of Piet Cronje.  
 General survey of the history of the Boers from the Great Trek to the establishment of the Afrikaner Republics; genealogy and biography of General Piet Cronje and his participation in the South African War; his victory at Magersfontein and later his defeat at Paardeberg and his subsequent exile to St Helena.
- Ad6.4 Sol T Plaatje 1965? [i1 96f. TS.  
 Biography of Sol T Plaatje, written in Tswana. Includes extracts in English of Plaatje's writings.
- Ad6.5 Tsela Ya Damaseko; Tho Road to Damascus  
 i) MS df. 32f.  
 ii) TS df with MS corrections.  
 iii) Duplicate drafts. 96f.
- Ad6.6 Yuropa le Jerusalem. 112f. TS with MS corrections.
- Ae  
 OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS
- Ae1 Harriet Molema Montsioa 4 items 1912 Dec - 1922 Dec  
 Application for job; advice of salary increase; account and receipt.
- Ae2 Morara Tolo Molema 3 items 1917 Dec - 1927 Jun  
 1917 Doc 31. ALS to mother (Molalanyana)  
 1926 Sep 25. Licence to possess firearm  
 1927 Jun 16. Reminder to pay insurance premium.
- Ae3 Miscellaneous 8 items 1911 - 1927
- Ae3.1 1911 Aug 6. F J Molema to Mmasemila Molema. ALS.
- Ae3.2 1911 Oct 7. Circular letter to ex-pupils of Emgwali Institution from the principal Janet McGregor, inviting girls to Jubilee Reunion.
- Ae3.3 P M Fincham to Khiba Molema (second wife of Silas), felicitating her on her marriage. ALS.
- Ae3.4 1926 Jun 4. Sefetogi Molema's half-year report for Std VIII at Lovedale Missionary Institution.
- Ae3.5 1927 Feb 5. Circular letter to Headman, Officer Molema from C H Nicholson (Superintendent of Natives, Mafeking).
- Ao3.6 1927 Feb 24. Dinah J Molema to Rev N B Melward, Superintendent, Mafeking. ALS. 2p.
- Ae3.7 1927 Jul 11. Morax (Morara) Molema's report from the Transkeian Territories General Council School of Agriculture.
- Ae3.6 Undated. Bafiti J Molema to a brother while at Healdtown Institution, Fort Beaufort. ALS. 12.
- B TSHIDI BARALONG PARAMOUNT CHIEFS
- Ba CHIEF MONTSIOA  
 Calendar of documents and correspondence 16 items 1874 May - 1895 Aug
- Bal Melvill, Samuel, Lichtenburg. To Chief Montsioa, Mafeking. May 5 1874  
 Refers to Montsioa complying with government demand to release men and cattle Of Chief Machabi (Matlaba) at Polfontein; rejects Montsioa's claim that Polfontein and adjoining farms lie within his territory; Montsioa's permission is not, required to give people rights of domicile in disputed area.  
 Copy.  
 LS. 1p.
- Ba2 Lanyon, W(illiam) Owen, Kimberley. To Chief Montsioa, [Mafeking]. Apr 11 1876

Acknowledges receipt of letter of Mar 6 and refers to alleged ill-treatment of Barolong people; accepts with pleasure the assurances sent by the Barolong via Molema of their confidence in and love for the British Government which is highly esteemed; sends by Molema, a saddle and bridle as a token of good will. LS sealed. 3p.

Ba3 Moysey, Charles John. To Chief Montsioa, [Mafeking]. Feb 7 1880

Acknowledges receipt of letter of Jan 28; is pleased that Montsioa will comply with the wishes of the High Commissioner not to participate in the Anglo-Boer War; details progress of war, in particular Sir George Colley's unsuccessful attempt on Jan 28 to take more British troops from Natal to the Transvaal over the [Drakens]berg; Britain does not want to involve the Barolong in the fighting but she does want their friendship; pro-Boer sentiments of Chiefs Moshetta and Machabie do not pose a threat; predicts that Sir George Colley will attack the Boers in about twenty days. ALS. 4p.

Ba5 Barton, Henry S, Kimberley. To Chief Montsioa, [Mafeking]. Dec 8 1880

Acknowledges receipt of letter and Montsioa's continued attachment to the Church; are considering carrying out missionary work in his territory on condition that they have a free reign, that suitable sites for churches, schools and houses be provided, "that the missionary committee shall have full liberty to introduce and utilize Native Agency whenever it may be deemed desirable to do so"; if Montsioa agrees to these conditions, a missionary will be sent and they will be placed under the care of the Transvaal district. ALS. 4p.

Ba5 Wood Evelyn, Newcastle. To Chief Montsioa, [Mafeking]. May 11 1881

Introduces himself as the general replacing Sir George Colley in command of the British troops; has heard with sorrow of the trouble between Montsioa and Machabi (of Polfontein) and that war has broken out; a Royal Commission (for the settlement of the affairs of the Transvaal) is sitting and will shortly proceed to Pretoria to enquire into the affairs of the Transvaal and the disputed Keate Aard territory; is sending Major Ernest Buller to enquire into the cause of the fighting; Major Buller will disperse Boer commandos to prevent the Barolong being attacked. LS sealed (mutilated).

Ba6 Moffat, John Smith, Lehurutse. To Chief Montsioa, (Mafeking). Jul 16 1881

The Royal Commission has brought forward the date when it will have an interview with the chiefs; it will now meet on July 30 and each deputation is to consist of not more than the Chief and six persons in attendance; it is not necessary for Montsioa to come to Pretoria as his son is already there and will probably be granted an interview with the Royal Commission. ALS. 1p.

Ba7 Chief Moptsioa, Mafeking. To Henry Nourse, Bechuanaland. Nov 2 1881

He will not agree to an armistice with Moshete as requested by Captain Nourse; in 1881 May Major Buller and Pete [Piet] Joubert came to negotiate peace between himself, Moshete and his sub-chief Matchabi; all agreed to keep the peace, but no sooner had they left when Matchabi stole his horses and cattle and was not punished for his offence; in addition Moshete has prevented his people from taking their corn to the Diamond Fields to sell; fears that the Boers want peace so that the British troops will leave, and subsequently they will again support his enemies; will agree to an armistice for two months on the condition that his stolen cattle are returned and justice is meted out; questions Captain Nourse's threat to send troops as he was given assurances by Colonel Moysey that he could rule as he pleased in his own country. Copy. L. 2p.

Ba8(a) Chief Montsioa, Mafeking. To N Gay (Nicolaas Claudius Gey van Pittius), Freebooter Lager, Rep. of Goshen. May 9 1883

Reminds Gey van Pittius that they have encroached upon the territory of the Barolong as determined by the Pretoria Convention and therefore must remove themselves; anyone buying farms in his territory will lose their money.



- Copy. Enclosed in 8. L. 1p.
- Ba8(b) Chief Montsioa, Mafeking. To Chief Moshette, (Kunwanu). May 10 1883  
 Be has written to the freebooters and encloses a copy of the letter so that Moshette will know the true contents of his letter.
- Copy. Enclosed in 8. L. 1p.
- Ba8(c) Chief Montsioa, Mafeking. To N Gay (Nicolaas Claudius Gey van Pittius), Freebooter Lager, Rep. of Goshen. May 26 1883  
 Reminds him that they are on territory belonging to the Barolong and that they are forbidden to plough the land at Rooi Grond, the Molopo River or anywhere on the Barolong's side of the convention line.
- Copy. Enclosed in 8. L. 1p.
- Ba8 Chief Montsioa, Mafeking. To the British Resident of the Transvaal (George Hudson), Pretoria,. Jun 2 1883  
 Acknowledges receipt of letter of May 21; confirms tha he and the chiefs Sechele and Gasisebe (Gaeiteiwe) have combined but only in order to drive the freebooters out of their territory and not to interfore with Mashette; unlawfulness, of the freebooters who stop traders and take their belongings as well as mistreating Barolong; the Transvaal has supplied the freebooters with a cannon and ammunition; their cattle has been captured by the freebooters and driven over the Transvaal border and therefore irretrievable; suggests that Hudson come and Judge the situatien himself; encloses copies of his letters to the freebooters and Moshette.
- Copy. Encloses 8(a), 8(b), 8(c). L. 2p.
- Ba9 Treaty between Paramount Chief Montsioa, his Sons and councillors' and the Imperial Government, Mafeking. May 22 1884  
 According to the wishes of the Barolong the territory comes under the protection of the British Government, Montsioa conceding power to the Queen to maintain law and order.
- Copy. D. 2p.
- Ba10 Ratchard, A C. To Chief Montsioa, Mafeking. 1892 Apr 6  
 On behalf of the Administrator he acknowledges receipt of a report by Mr St Quentin on the dispute over land between Montsioa and Motsiakhomo; the Administrator is of the opinion that as the lands in dispute are more than a mile from Montsioa's lands, Motsiakhomo should be allowed to reap his crops.
- Ba11 Boles, George J, Mafeking. To Chief Montsioa, [Mafeking]. Feb 9 1893  
 The Acting Administrator has received a complaint from Kgositala, a sub-chief of Moshette, that Montsioa is demanding payment from him for cattle sent to the Maritzani; despite a settlement with Phoi in 1887 Nov  
 as to respective rights in the Setlagoli Re
- Ba12 Rowland, Edgar, Mafeking. To Chief Montsioa, [Mafeking]. Jul 28 1894  
 Advises Montsioa to refuse Boers permission to encamp on his land as he has little available land left after losing a lot of land to the Kanye natives; the grass has been burned and his cattle need grazing lands.
- Encloses 12(a). ALS scored through. 1p.
- Ba12(a) Chief Montsioa, [Mafeking]. To George J Boyes, [Mafeking]. Jul 28 1894  
 He cannot allow the Boers to camp on his land as there is not enough grazing land for his own people and cattle; had it been summer he could have helped.
- Enclosed in 12. L Df. 1p.
- Ba13 Shippard, Sidney, British Bechuanaland. To Chief Montsioa, Mafeking. Aug 3 1895  
 Informs Chief Montsioa that by the annexation of his territory to the Cape Colony, his successor will receive on his death half the amount of his present pension i.e. £150 per annum for life as long as he holds the office of Chief.
- Copy. L. Signed by George Weavind, Pretoria, 1913 May 17.
- Ba14 Shippard, Sidney, Mafeking. To Chief Montsioa, Mafeking. Aug 29 1895

Places on record the terms and conditions on which Montsioa and his Headmen agreed to withdraw the petition against the annexation of British Bechuanaland to the Cape Colony. ALS. 3p

Ba15 [Chief Montsioa, Mafeking]. To the Administrator of Britiuh Bechuanaland, [Sidney Shippard], Vryburg. (1895?)

Has received complaints from his people that the Dutch farmers in the district are having a petition signed, asking the High Commissioner to annex British Bechuanaland to the Cape Colony; was assured in 1884 and Subsequently that his country would always be under Imperial rule; encloses a petition signed by the principal chiefs and headmen of the Barolong against annexation; denies reports that the majority of the people are in favour of annexation.

Undated. L Df. ?p.

Ba16 Chief Montsioa, [Mafeking]. To the Queen ... [1895?] and her ministers, [London].

Protests against annexation to the Cape and expresses fear of losing the land; requests that the sale of brandy be forbidden for fear that it will cause fighting; also fears that their land will be given to the British South Africa Company; as the Barolong are a loyal, industrious nation, why does the British Government want to get rid of them?; refers to his division of the land among individual members of the tribe; the petition is being carried by his son Wessels and Stephen Lefeynya to the Queen.

Undated. L Df. 2p.

Bb CHIEF WESSELS

Bbl Appointment 2 items 1896 Oct - 1897 Mar

Correspondents:

Dayes, George J Rose-Innes, Sir James

Subjects:

Correspondence between Boyes and Rose-Innes (Under Secretary for Native Affairs) re death of Montsioa and the advisability of appointing a successor to honour the pledge given by Sir Sidney Shippard (see Ba12, 13); recommends appointment of Wessels Montsioa. Confirmation of appointment of Wessels Montsioa by Rose-Innes.

Bbl Correspondence 5 items 1900 Feb - 1903 Oct

Correspondents:

Green, E Graham

Minchin, Spencer

Moffat, J B

Pringle, C S

Snyman, Jacobus

Subjects:

Letter to Jacobus Snyman in Dutch 1900 Feb 3 replying to his message that he (Wessels) should take his people out of Mafeking, but he does not trust the message which might be an English plot to put him in trouble; Lord Methuen requiring hire of 30 wagons to carry goods from Mafeking to Cowan's farm; looting of cattle by Barolong tribe members; eviction of illegal squatters on Setlagoli Reserve; loyalty of Barolong during South African War and losses sustained; inability of the government to relieve the Barolong from the balance of payments on farms in lieu of war losses.

Bb3 Papers 7 items 1903 Jan

Correspondence and petitions presented to Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies on the occasion of his visit to Mafeking in 1903, expressing the loyalty of the tribe to the British Government prior to coming under their rule and throughout the South African War and the siege of Mafeking in particular; the petitioners draw Chamberlain's attention to the fact that prior to 1873 they occupied the Polfontein Reserve in the Transvaal and were subsequently expelled; after the relief of Mafeking they approached Major General Baden-Powell and the Civil Commissioner of Mafeking Mr Bell requesting that the Polfontein Reserve be granted to them in recognition of the services rendered by the tribe; they protest against efforts to annex Bechuanaland and to the Transvaal.

In a supplementary petition they draw his attention to their privilege of being under the jurisdiction of the Paramount Chief and subject to Native Laws; that they should not be deprived of lands preserved for the tribe in the Bechuanaland Protectorate; negate fears in South Africa of a native uprising, confirming their loyalty; recognise the labour problem in South Africa and draw attention to the fact that their young men are working in the mines and suggest the increase in wages to enable them to live. Includes a list of headmen and councillors of the Barolong, and accounts sent to Sol T Plaatje by the attorneys who drew up the petitions.

D detailing boundaries of farm Coed Hope belonging to Wessels Montsioa. ND. 1p.

Bc

CHIEF BADIRILE

Bc1

Correspondence 33 items 1903 Jul - 1910 Oct

Correspondents:

Green, E Graham

Jameson, Leander Starr Welsh, E C

May, Barry

Pringle, C S

Stubbs, C C

Wenham, Charles

Subjects:

Tribal affairs; opposition to dog tax; collection of hut tax; 1903 Jul petition against the alienation of their land; prevention of the spread of contagious diseases among members of the tribe; controlling the spread of disease among cattle and livestock; evidence to be given to the Inter-Colonial South African Native Affairs Commission in 1904 Sep; dealings with British government officials; visit of Lord Roberts to Mafeking, 1904 Sep; 1905 Mar petition against incorporation of Native Reserve within boundaries of Mafeking; erection of fence between native reserve and farms; granting of licenses to establish private locations on farms; granting of permits to possess ammunition; TLS from Dr L S Jameson, 1907 Jan 7, expressing the hope that his administration will advance the welfare of the native population; programme of the visit of the Duke of Connaught and Princess Louise in 1910.

Bc2

Agreements 1 item 1907

1907 Jul 9. Agreement between Badirile Montsioa {Chief of the Barolong}, Jeremiah Moses, Phillip Moseana, Kgosimane and Johannes (four natives of the Barolong tribe) of the first part, and the Rhodesia Railways, Limited, of the second part, whereas by British Bechuanaland Proclamation 199 of 1894, a strip of land, 100 yards in width, was granted to the contracting parties of the second part for the purpose of a railway, and whereas the encroachment exists upon the said 100 yards strip vested in the Rhodesia Railways, Ltd., the Rhodesia Railways, Ltd., agrees to allow certain buildings to remain on the strip of land upon certain stipulated conditions. Encl. TS copy. 3p.

Encloses diagrams A & B of the encroachment on Rhodesia. Railways Property, 41 x 33 cm.

Bc3

Disputes and court cases

Bc3.1

Phoi case 18 items 1903 Dec - 1910 Apr.

Correspondents:

Cumming, W G  
Dower, Edward  
Green, E Graham  
Moffat, J B  
Montsioa, Chief Lekoko  
Pringle, C S  
Stanford, W F

Subjects:

Correspondence concerning the dispute between Chief Badirile and Chief Phoi of the Setlagoli Reserve. In 1903 Dec Chief Weasels died and Badirile Montsioa, the brother of Wessels was nominated as successor. Badirile was in fact the eldest surviving son of of Chief Montsioa's proper Barolong wife but was too young to assume the chieftainship on Montsioa's death. In 1904 Jan his appointment was confirmed by the British Government, as chief of the Barolong in the division of Mafeking. The terms of his appointment were opposed by Chief Phoi who claimed that he was chief of the Ratlou Batalong in the Mafeking area who recognised Moshette as their paramount chief. It was determined that Badirile had jurisdiction over the area north of the Maritzani River and the southern boundary was determined. Badirile was acknowledged as chief throughout the district who could appoint headmen in charge of the various locations. Thus Phoi came under Chief Badirile.

Includes copies of statements given to determine the southern boundary.

Bc3.2 Motsiakhumo case 10 items 1908 Mar - 1910 Aug

A dispute arose in 1908 between Chief Badirile and Chief Motsiakhumo, Badirile's people claiming the right to take wood from the portion of the reserve occupied by Motsiakhumo and his people. As a result Motsiakhumo detained the wagons of a certain Mokgatle and delivery of the wood was refused until 1910 Mar 19.

The papers include correspondence, summonses, statements of witnesses and the records of the case between Mpotsang, minor son of the late Mokgatle, in his capacity as the legal representative of the estate of his late father Mokgatle, plaintiff, and Mokgobi Motsiakhumo (alias Atlhapa) in his capacity as the legal representative of the estate of his late father Motsiakhumo Mokgobi, defendant, Mafeking, 1910 Apr 15.

Witnesses include Silas Molema and Edward C A Welsh, Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate for Mafeking.

Bc3.3 Ramosiano Motlahabani case 2 items 1910

Fees and disbursements due to attorneys in case Badirile Montsioa, plaintiff, Ramosiane Motlahabani, defendant, whereby plaintiff applied for interdict to restrain defendant from trespassing on a portion of the native reserve near Maritzani. Summons served on Badirile Montsioa to pay outstanding attorneys fees. Copy. TS. 1p.

Bd CHIEF LEKOKO

Bd1 Correspondence 106 items 1900 Jun - 1916 Apr

Correspondents:

Betts, C E  
Burton, Henry  
Carnay, J  
Daly, George  
Dovey, C E  
Dower, Edward  
Frost, H J  
Gaheutloeloe, G  
Caseitsiwe, Chief S B  
Gore-Browne, Jip Wilfred  
Green, F Graham  
Hall, W H

Kempen, Stevans  
Lloyd, R C  
Marumoloa, Dichukudu  
Minchin, Spencer  
Molema, Joshua  
Molema, Seboipioa J  
Molema, Silas  
Metohegare, S  
Panzera, Col F  
Pringle, C S  
Rolland, George  
Schreiner, W P  
Taberer, Il M  
Weavind, George  
Welsh, E C  
Williams, Ralph

Subjects:

Distribution of arms and ammunition among the Barolong in 1902 during the South African War; unsanitary conditions in the Stadt; general British administration during South African War; agriculture and care of livestock; taxes; Silas Molema informing government in 1911 of the appointment of Chief Lekoko; petition to ncrease the allowance of the chief; petition to W P Schreiner re proposal to take away power of Bechuana chiefs; forest regulations; fencing between Mafeking and the Setlagoli Reserve; visit of Henry Burton to Mafeking, 1912 Nov; Native lands deputation 1914; permits to purchase ammunition; land revenue (quitrent) due on farms; death of Sekgoma Letsholathebe (nephew of Khama III) 1914 Jan; protest of Barolong against the Mafeking Town Council taking a certain piece of the Molopo Native Reserve;

petition to the Goversor-General-in-Council, 1914 November, for a representative in the Senate, proposing James Denoon Duncan; application for permission to build an Anglican church at Rietfontein; crimes committed and general maintenance of law and order; murder of young girl Pueong and arrest of petty thief Tatinyane Motshegare; labour on the mine; grazing of cattle; rental of farms; tuition of son Dichkudu Marumoloa; illness and death of Lekoko in 1915; winding up of his estate.

Bd2 Agreements 4 items

Bd2.1 Undated. Agreement between Chief Lekoko and L Nel whereby Lekoko agrees to lease ten morgen of ground with grazing rights on the farm Ngwalsahu. MS draft. Mutilated. 52.

Bd2.2 Undated. Memorandum of agreement between Chief Lekoko Montsioa, lessor, and unnamed party, leasee, of a piece of ground on the Mafeking Native Reserve known as Lekoko's garden. MS df. 12.

Bd2.3 1899. Memorandum of agreement between Lekoko Montsioa and C J Burger, that in consideration of the said Burger building a four roomed house within a month of the agreement, Lekoko Montsioa agrees to lease free of charge and for a period of three years a portion of erf situated in the Native Reserve on the west side of the Stadt.

Bd2.4 1915 Feb 12. Momorandum of agreement between Lekoko Montsioa representing the Barolong and William Letsapa representing Gaesegol Phoi whereby the two parties agree to liquidate the costs of actions taken against the Government and the Mafeking Divisional Council and to create an Educational and National Fund. MS copy. 4p.

Bd3 Disputes

Bd3.1 Rietfontein-Lotlhakane dispute 22 items 1912 Jan-1917 Nov

Correspondents:

Barrett, E  
Frost, B J  
Weavind, George

Welsh, E C

Subjects:

Correspondence and statements given in dispute between Chief Lekoko and George Mothuba. Lekoko claimed jurisdiction over the whole of the Molopo Native Reserve including Rietfontein. On the other hand the Rapulana Barolong claimed that this land was theirs, and George Mothuba their chief and the Tsidi Barolong under headman Paul Montsioa of Rietfontein had no right to evict them and plough their land. The dispute was settled in favour of the Rapulana Barolong.

Bd3.2 Lekoko Montsioa vs the Union Government and the Mafeking Divisional Council 10 items. 1913 Jan - 1915 Jun

Correspondents:

Schultz, B J

Schreiner, W P

Subjects:

The dispute arose from the refusal of the Barolong to pay the dogtax to the Mafeking Divisional Council, the Barolong preferring to come under the direct administration of the Department of Native Affairs. They claimed that the imposition of the tax was a direct violation of their rights as given to them by the Treaty of 1884 May (Ba8) and the letter of Sir Sidney Shipyard, 1895 Aug (Ba13). Includes correspondence, summonses to the trial and evidence given to the commission by Chief Lekoko Montsioa, Stephen Lefenya and Silas Molema.

Bd3.3 Fees due to attorneys 2 items

Fees and disbursements due to the attorneys Haarhoff, Hertog and Burke as between attorney and client, including amounts taxed off party and party bill of costs, in the matter between De Kock and be Kock, plaintiffs, Lekoko Montsioa, defendant. 1913 Aug.

Includes summons to Silas Molema to testify on the part of the defendant. 1913 Aug 21.

Be CHIEF JOHN

Be1 Papers 36 items 1915 Jul - 1926 Feb

Correspondents:

Barrett, E

Marumoloo, Stephen

Mbelle, I Bud

Mbelle, Richard G

Minchin, Spencer

Molema, Sebopioa J

Molema, Silas

Mothuba, George

Nicholson, C H

Tawana, Tau R

Subjects:

Papers relating to the death of his regent Lekoko in Jul 1915 and John's appointment by the tribe as successor; the government's opposition to the appointment in view of the unsatisfactory reports about him; the appointment of Joshua Molema for two years as acting chief; John's appointment in 1917 Feb as acting chief; his rule of persecution and looting especially the harm done to the Rapulana Barolong at Rietfontein; the petition sent by the Tshidi Barolong re the chieftainship in 1920; his demotion and commitment to a mental home in Pretoria in 1920 Jul; his discharge in 1922.

Be2 Agreements 2 items 1913 - 1923

Be2.1 1913 Jun 17. John Montsioa, lessor, Annie Phaal and her children Frederick, John and others, lessees, of the farm Devondale for eight years. TS certified copy. 2l.

- Be2.2 1923 May 14. Prospecting agreement between John Bakolopang Montsioa, owner of farm Devondale, and James Fleming and Joseph Leo Ashley, prospectors, granting them the sole option and preferent right to prospect and search for gold, silver, platinum, diamonds and other precious or base metals and minerals. TS. 6p.
- Be3 Disputes 5 items 1917 - 1920
- Be3.1 1918 Apr 24. The Industrial and Mercantile Trust, Limited, plaintiffs, and John Montsioa, T Tawana, P Ka I Seme, Mary Klatnky and I Cherfas, defendants, whereby the plaintiff transfers to Polly Klatzky right, title and interest due to them by the defendants, whereby the plaintiff transfers to Polly Klatzky right, title and interest due to them by the defendants.
- Be3.2 1917 Dec - 1970 Dec. Montsioa v Matlaba and others in a dispute over land and the collections of taxes. TS. 4l.
- Be4 Legal affairs 19 items 1925 Feb - 1927 Feb  
Papers relating to the liquidation of the estates of Badirile Montsioa and John Bakolopang Montsioa. Silas Molema appointed an executor dative. Estate includes the farms Devondale and Hartbeestlaagte.
- Bf CBIFF LOTLAMORENG
- Bf1 Correspondence 5 items 1923 Mar - 1927 Jul  
Correspondents:  
Minchin and Kelly, attorneys  
Montsioa, Paul  
Nicholson, C H  
Rosenberg, W A  
Subjects:  
Fencing of the boundary of the Molopo Native Reserve and the adjoining white farms; claims against the estate of the late John Bakolopang Montsioa; unsigned copy of a petition 1926 Mar 31, requesting the right of the tribe to dispose of their mineral rights and objecting to independent mining companies pegging out claims on the assumption that the land belongs to the Crown; Paul Montsioa while acting chief seeking the wife of one of the members of the tribe who has run away to the Lichtenburg Diggings; account.
- Bf2 Agreement 1 item 1925  
1925. Terms of agreement relative to the establishment of an Assemblies of G-d Mission Station and Industrial Training School within territory of Chief Montsioa's jurisdiction in Bechuanaland, situated within the Union of South Africa. TS copy. 2l.
- C TSHIDI BAROLONG TRIBAL AFFAIRS
- Ca ADMINISTRATION
- Ca1 Hut tax
- Ca1.1 Hut tax receipts 108 items 1907 - 1926  
Includes hut tax receipts of Ephraim, Joshua, Sebopioa, and Silas Molema and James Plaatje.
- Ca1.2 Special hut tax receipts 176 items 1907 - 1926
- Ca1.3 Exemptions from hut tax 3 items 1925 Nov - 1927 Jul
- Ca1.4 Lists of tribe who have paid hut tax 30 items 1916 - 1927
- Ca1.5 Miscellaneous notices and legislation re hut tax 2 items 1926 - 1927
- Ca1.5.1 Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the taxation of natives and to provide additional funds for the development, education and local government of natives. 1925. TIS mutilated. 12l.
- Ca1.5.2 Notification of the collection of hut taxed by Superintendent of Natives (C H Nicholson) 1927 Aug 19. TS. II.
- Ca2 Passes and permits 8 items 1916 - 1971  
Passes to move from one area to another and to remove stock from one area to another.
- Ca3 Stock certification 1 item 1923 - 1926  
Counterfoils of certificates to transport animals.

- Ca4 Receipts 1 item 1898 Nov - 1927 Aug  
Incomplete receipt book with counterfoils bearing name G Gaboutloeloe?
- Cb LEGAL AFFAIRS
- Cb1 Agreements 8 items 1901 Apr - 1923 May
- Cbl.1 1901 Apr 1. Memorandum of agreement between Stephen Lefenya, lessor, J J Robertson, lessee, of a piece of ground situated on the north side of the Molepo River, for the purpose of cultivating the land for a period of one year. Unsigned by Lefenya. MS df. 2l.
- Cbl.2 1913 Jan 24. Memorandum of agreement between Gaeshele Montsioa, lessor, Sundel Gordon, lessee, of the farm Devondale for five years. Incomplete. MS draft. 1l.
- Cbl.3 1913 Mar. Memorandum of agreement between Bogoen Mokgoetse, lessor, France Zoa Venter, lessee, of a portion of the farm Hebron for 12 years. EFnc. MS draft. 2l + copy.  
Encl. Spencer Minchin to the Assistant Commissioner Gaberones forwarding contract of lease for signing. 1915 Apr 16. PLS. II.
- Cbl.4 1915 Jun 28. Agreement between Rupert Corden Lloyd in his capacity as Civil Commissioner and Magistrate for the district of Mafeking, acting for and on behalf of the Government of the Union of South Africa, lessor, and Arnoldus Neveling, lessee, of a site about half a morgen for smithy purposes in the Native Stadt, Mafeking. TS Copy. 1l.
- Cbl.5 1913 Sep 10. Memorandum of agreement between Headman Seru Tawana of Mafeking and Cornelius Peypero of Stinkboomhoud, near Zeerust, whereby the party of the first part allows party of the second part to conduct blacksmith work at his farm, at Maroyana in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, for a period of four months. TS. it.
- Cbl.6 1923 May 15. Memorandum of agreement between Ephraim Molema, lessor, and Charles Rhodes Hulme, lessee, of a certain portion measuring 10 morgen situated at the dam of the western half of the farm "Lotlaye" situated in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, for a period of five years. TS. At.
- Cbl.7 Undated. Memorandum of agreement leasing the farm Hebron, situated in the Bechuanaland Protectorate for seven years. No names of parties mentioned. MS Of. it.
- Cb2 Disputes 7 items 1897 Oct - 1925 Mar
- Cb2.1 1897 Oct 28. [Mosikare] Mothupi and Abraham [Motuba Goutlwetswel dispute as to cultivation of fields at Lotlhakane [Rietfontein]. Decision by C G H Bell, Resident Magistrate. ALS copy. 1l.
- Cb2.2 1901 Apr 9. Zyakkia Motogcamolimo Sebaetse, plaintiff, Paul, defendant, in an action for damages and ejectment. Civil record of case heard before J B Moffat. TS copy. 121.
- Cb2.3 1910 Mar-Apr. John Masibi, appellant, and Petrus Masibi, respondent. Plaint: To show cause why the decision of the Chief Badirile Montsioa regarding the appointment of Petrus Masibi as Headman at Disanong in place of Methuselah Masibi, deposed, should not be reversed and why the said John Masibi should not be declared Headman [of the Batiharo tribe]. TS copy. 21p.
- Cb2.4 1911 Oct 10. Simeon Monye, plaintiff, and Modibedi, defendant, in an action brought by the plaintiff by way of appeal from the decision of Lekoko Montsioa wherein the said Modibedi was plaintiff and Simeon Monye was defendant, and wherein the said Modibedi recovered against Simeon Monye judgement for the sum of £103. Civil record. TS copy. 234. Encl. Correspondence referring to case. 2 items.
- Cb2.5 1913 Mar 7. Gabohioe Gaboutloeloe, in his capacity as Executor Testamentary in the estate of the late Lenkeme Tsikoe, plaintiff, and Mareko Lesetedi and Tsakgosi, defendants and respondents, in claims from the estate. TS copy. II. End copies of will, 1909 Mar 10.
- Cb2.6 1913 Apr-May. William Thepe Moloantoa, plaintiff, and Kgosikomane Makgobi, defendant, in a claim that the defendant owes the plaintiff 190 head of cattle. Includes statements and subsequent agreements between the parties. 19p.
- Cb2.7 1925 Mar 10. James Fleming, plaintiff, and W G Bernard, defendant in dispute over lease, plaintive claiming payment of the sum of £200 as and for compensation in respect of improvements effected and rates and taxes paid by him on the said farm. TS copy. 4l.



- Cb3 Legal costs of disputes 4 items 1904 — 1918
- Cb4 Miscellaneous 7 items 1878 Jan - c1927  
 Evidence of David Ncupelsang that he had been assaulted by a Boer, Jacob Siljie (Cilliers) in a dispute over ownership of land at Makohosi (Bultfontein), 1878 Jan 21; petition to Her Majesty's Government by the Barolong of Thaba Nchu because of dispute over the successor to Chief Moroka who died on 1888 Apr 8, one Samuel disputing the claim of Sepinare (Tshipinare) to the chieftainship; contracts of service to construct houses; will of Bathobatho Motshegare; petition of Barolong to Union Government referring to the Native Administration Bill of 1927 which will cause hardship to the tribe in times of drought.
- Cc PAPERS
- Ccl Genealogy 4 items  
 Family trees. 3 items  
 Historical account of the Barolong. TS. 25l.  
 Taken from Chief's Letter Book. The writer was possibly Silas T Molema and the history is traced from the early origins of tribe to the rule by Chief Montsioa, prior to the annexation of Bechuanaland by Britain.
- Cc2 South African War 26 items 1900 Feb - 1903 Apr  
 Correspondents:  
 Baden-Powell, Robert  
 Bathoen, Chief Leigh,  
 Bell, Charles C B  
 Green, E Graham  
 O Moseley  
 Subjects:  
 Includes correspondence, statements, reports, notices and lists. An incomplete TS letter, probably from Baden-Powell to Bell, commends the Barolong on successfully defending Fort Abrams against the Boer attack, c.1900 Feb; report of Boer movements in the Polfontein-Lichtenburg areas, as well as a report of the progress of the war and Lord Methuen's relief of Kimberley, and the flying column sent up to relieve Mafeking; complaints against the Black Watch at Mafeking which prevented natives from bringing cattle looted from the Boers into the Stadt;
- correspondence with Chief Bathoen about the complaint of the Mafeking district commissioner re the Bangwaketse in Mafeking -the Barolong do not want to force them to leave as they will be killed by the Boers, and as Bathoen is on good terms with Gen Snyman he should contact him about getting his people out of Mafeking safely; claims for war losses and detailed lists of losses suffered by Silas Molema, Joshua Molema and Molema Mashoela; list of the occupants of various camps in particular those, of Josiah Motshegare, Tatinyana Motshegare and Joshua Molema; list of those employed as Stadt guard during the siege of Mafeking at Major Godley's camp; list of those accused of High Treason; list of those who supplied grain to the British Government. Some documents are probably in the hand of Solomon T Plaatje.
- Cc3 World War I - native service 1 item  
 Natives, Pretoria. To Magte, Mafeking.  
 Desire of Gen Botha to make personal appeal to all Magten, Native Commissioners and Officials in the Native Affairs Department, to stimulate recruitment of natives for the S A Native Labour Contingent for Overseas. Undated.TS. copy 2p.
- Cc4 Councils
- Cc4.1 Barolong National Council 1 item

1918 Apr. Notice calling a meeting at Kunana 1918 Apr 15 to discuss the constitution; to form branch committees to enrol members and collect fees; to discuss the purchase of the farm Kunana and other landed property; to make arrangements to purchase all stock from the people as well as to buy their produce; to discuss the advisability of securing land to have as a stockfarm, to improve the breed of cattle and sheep. TS. 1l.

- Cc4.2 Advisory Council of the Bechuanaland Protectorate 4 items
- Cc4.2.1 Minute addressed to Dr Molemn suggesting that a fixed and general, system of electing delegates to the council be adopted; also suggests that matters to be discussed, be communicated to the chiefs about two months before the sitting of the council; the minutes are to be printed every year in an abbreviated form, resolutions being printed in full. TS. 1l.
- Cc4.2.2 Resolution of fourth annual meeting of the Advisory Council expressing pleasure on the appointment of Mr Julius Ellenberger as Resident Commissioner. TS. 1l.
- Cc4.2.3 Representation to the Protectorate Government to improve their economic conditions by providing a market for their cattle; to employ an engineer to undertake boring for water; the question of shop licences; restrictions on permits to purchase ammunition; refusal of travelling passies to the Bakwena; to stop minors (boys) and unmarried girls from going to the industrial centres without the knowledge of the chiefs; Bangwaketse complaint of mismanagement by school committee in the payment of teachers; locust officers becoming prospectors for gold and diamonds in the Bangwaketse Reserve. TS. 2l.
- Cc4.2.4 Balance Sheet 1921-22 including notes on taxation and motions put forward concerning taxation. MS. 6p.
- Cc5 Baralong National Fund
- Cc5.1 Miscellaneous 4 items 1914 - 1926  
The establishment of the Fund; list of money collected among miners at the Nourse mine, Transvaal; application to draw money from the Fund to provide the delegation sent to Europe in 1919 with cash: accounts of the Fund 1917-1926.
- Cc5.2 Receipts for payments to the Fund 131 items 1917 - 1926
- Cc6 Education 3 items 1907 - 1908  
Correspondence in the name of K A Hobart Houghton re an Inter-State Native College scheme; a convention to be held to discuss the findings of the Inter-Colonial South African Native Affairs Commission; the election of representatives on the district committees.  
Appeal from Baralong chiefs and headmen to Mr Fourie, Administrator of the Province of the Cape of Good Hope, to build a school building which will accommodate more children. c1926.
- Cc7 Labour and recruitment of labour 4 items 1902 Feb - 1914  
Recruitment of Barolong as transport drivers towards the end of the South African War; ill-treatment of servant; recruitment of labour for the mines; conditions of service.
- Cc8 Native franchise 4 items  
List of native voters in Mafeking; election propaganda: question of disenfranchising the natives, 1920.
- Cc9 African National Congress (formerly South African Native National Congress) 17 items 1910 Jan - 1924 Sep  
Correspondents:  
Dower, Edward  
Tribe, John L  
Fonyang, Chief F Z  
Jabavu, J Tongo  
Leteleba, William  
Makgatho, S M  
Maseng, Thomas  
Molema, Silas

Montsioa, Chief Lekoko  
Msimang, H Selby  
Phahlane, Peter  
Seme, P Ka I  
Tawana, Tiego

Subjects:

Money collected for Delegation Fund; appeal from J T Jabavu in 1909 to the representatives of the native tribes to convene and take a stand against attempts to disenfranchise them; the holding of the South African Native Convention, Bloemfontein 1910 Mar 74; the resolutions passed at the conference and a reply from Edward Dower in response to issues raised at the convention; the establishment of the South African Native National Congress 1911 Nov; TLS from John L Dube to Chief Lekoko Montsioa, 1912 Apr 13, about the delegation sent to Cape Town by the

SANNC - Dube has put forward the money for Plaatje's expenses but he requests that the Barolong cover the expenses of their important representative; memorial address to H M King George V by the Special Session of the SANNC, on the occasion of the cessation of hostilities, 1918 Dec 16, referring to the loyalty of the native people to Great Britain during the war, the services that they had offered, and bringing up the questions of land ownership for natives, the enfranchisement of natives and the hope that the South African constitution would be revised; the deputation sent to Europe in 1919 and the meeting of delegates in Bloemfontein 1919 Mar; proposed round table conference on industrial and territorial segregation and the development of the natives, 1924 Sep; the constitution of the SANNC.

- Cc10 Government proclamations and regulations 10 items 1904 Apr - 1924 Feb  
Notice of census 1904 Apr 17; fixing of boundaries; regulations for the guidance of hawkers; land tenure; erection of fences between the Mafeking Native Reserve and surrounding farms; Native Chiefs' Jurisdiction (Transvaal and British Bechuanaland) Act 19
- Cc11 Miscellaneous papers
- Cc11.1 Correspondence 22 items 1900 Aug - 1930 Sep  
Miscellaneous correspondence referring to general family matters; the constitution of Healdtown Old Boys' Association legal claims; leases; permission to shoot game on the native reserve and sheep inspection and dipping. Correspondents include Chief Sebele of the Bakwena.
- Cc11.2 Notes, fragmentary papers, etc. 150 items  
Includes miscellaneous receipts; lists of money collected for various purposes; lists of tribal members; notes on stock, inspection of stock and dipping of stock; reminders, etc.
- Cc11.3 Miscellaneous writings 11 items  
Includes poetry in Tswana.
- D SOLOMON TSHEKISHO PLAATJE
- Da CALENDAR OF CORRESPONDENCE 66 items 1901-1929 Feb  
Undated items have been included in the chronological sequence where the approximate date could be surmised, otherwise they are filed at the end of the calendar.
- Dal Plaatje S T. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. [1901 -1908]  
Refers to the financial difficulties of the newspaper Koranta ea Bechuana; people are complaining that they have sent in their subscriptions but have not received the newspaper; there is a need to hire a clerk as well as to obtain more advertisements:  
ALS. 2p. Mutilated. Tswana and English.
- Da2 Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To unknown addressee. 1904 Aug 29  
Refers to need to raise money and appeals to addressee to try hard to raise even £60 from the friends so that there should be over £200.  
ALS. 2p. Fragment. Tswana and English.
- Da3 Plaatje, S T. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1906 Nov 14

Has heard from Mr Maseng that there had been an answer from Cape Town which the White people had not passed on; must discuss matter with Molema before the Whites arrive to negotiate with them.

ALS. 1p. Tswana.

Da4 [Plaatje, S T], Mafeking. To Rev - . 1908 May 8

Refers to the receipt of correspondence on orthography, which he has delayed replying to; he does not have a copy of the "Protocol" which is the basis upon which members base their arguments, and therefore he cannot deal with the matter adequately.

TL Df. 1p. Incomplete. English.

Da5 Pl.aatje, S T. To Bra [Silas Molema]. 1910 [Apr or Nov 2]

Admonishes Silas Molema for not answering his important letters, and requests that he reply about the matter. ALS. 1p. Mutilated. English.

Da6 Plaatje, S T. To Bra [Silas Molema]. 1910 Oct 15

Refers to meeting in Thaba Nchu and the work of the "Committee" to raise money; as Thaba Nchu alone has given £250, the aim of the committee should be to collect £500 or more in the Orange Free State, Transvaal and Bechuanaland; requests Molema to pass on news to committee; refers to a meeting of the Bechuanaland chiefs with the Duke of Connaught at Gaborones on Nov 24 and suggests interview between chiefs and Mr Jabavu or Mr Makgothi, Mr Masibi or Rev Goronyane.

ALS. 2p. Mutilated. Tswana and English.

Da7 [Plaatje, G T]. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. [c1910 Oct]

Has just returned from Thaba Nchu where he attended a successful meeting; Molema's proposal was not put forward and advises him to contact Rev Gorenthane; has troubles which will place Chief Joshua in serious difficulties, Molema must make an address to the "Duke" of Connaught but must first consult Mr Algie as to whether it should be made in Mafeking or Gaborones.

AL. 2p. Mutilated. English and Tswana.

Da8 Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Morena [Silas Molema]. 1911 Jan 17

Informs him of debts for which Chief Joshua is responsible which have to be settled; if a summons is issued he will be in a bad position; in going to attend the Tsala's quarterly meeting in Thaba Nchu.

ALS. 1p. Photocopy (original in possession of Molema family).

Tswana and English.

Da9 Plaatje, S T. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1911 Mar 1

Complains about not receiving replies to his letters, nor has Mr Gaboutloeloe sent him insurance papers; is forwarding Mr Fenyang's letter which promises the money owing to Mr Rosenberg; Chief Joshua is in financial difficulties.

ALS. 1p. Tswana and English.

Da10 Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1911 Mar 5

Has received his letter although there was no full explanation of how Chief Joshua disposed of his debts; Gaboutloeloe has turned against him because of newspaper funds and insurance documents; Gaboutloeloes told him that Kgabo's firm had been taken by Michin [lawyer] but he had been unable to sell it; regrets that he did not know as he would have got a buyer and thereby settled their debts; Mr Gaboutloeloe is uncertain if he will buy the farm but had not let him know his decision; needs time because if his creditors claim the Tsala will go under.

ALS. 2p. Tswana and English.

Da11 Dower, Edward, Cape Town. To Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. 1911 Mar 31 -Apr 1

An article in the Tsala oa Becoana has been brought to his notice, about an assault case in which the accused was acquitted; explains that the reason for the acquittal was the unsatisfactory and conflicting evidence given by the defendant; assures Plaatje that the Department of Native Affairs is always ready to assist him in cases where real injustice has been suffered, but exaggerated article, such as the one referred to will only prejudice his cause.

TLS. 2p. English.

Da12 Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1911 Apr 2

Has received telegram informing him of Chief Wessel's death; should ask Chief Lekoko if he should approach Mr Dower and Advocate Buxton about the dispute with the stipulated salary of the chief; also wants permission to mention Chief Lekoko's efforts to establish a Reserve Fund (according to Proclamation 62 BB of 1889) in order to build schools, dams etc.; fears that Mr Green, the magistrate of Mafeking, will withhold the salary from the chief as he hates the Barolong.

ALS. 2p. Tswana and English.

Da13 Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking] 1911. Apr 24

Refers to financial problems and debts; Harriet (Molema) is happy; is not keen that she work for Mr Hlangwana; has recently heard that there are a few vacancies for teachers at the Lutheran School of R Brune and a school for Whites belonging to the School Board housed in the buildings of the Wesleyan Church; would prefer her to take either of these positions as the pay is more certain.

ALS. 3p. Tswana and English.

Da14 Plaatje, S T. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. [c1911 Apr]

ALS. 3p. Mutilated. Tswana and English.

Da 15 Plaatje, S T. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. [c1911 Apr]

Refers again to his financial difficulties; it is now certain that Harriet will get a job in Kimberley) and will not have to go to Kilnerton; Modiri has written to say that his eyes were bad but are now better.

ALS. 2p. Mutilated. Tswana and English.

Da16 [Plaatje, S T], Kimberley. To Bra [Silas Molema, [c1911?] Mafeking ]

Refers to his expenses and income expected; his wife and child and himself were ill.

AL. 1p. Tswana.

Da17 Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. Unaddressed. [c1911?]

Has found no work or employment; asks him to plead with Linde to help him out of his difficulties; fears to lose his job [editing the newspaper?] and even his smaller jobs selling insurance and writing for the Pretoria News can easily be lost.

ALS. 2p. Incomplete. Tswana and English.

Da18 [Plaatje, S T]. Unaddressed. [c1911?]

Has got a job with an insurance company which has enabled him to pay off some of his debts; Mr de Kock, the attorney is now claiming and he asks Molema to ask Mrs Clucas or Mr Wenham to take over the debt for a few months until he can repay them.

AL. 2p. Mutilated. Tswana.

Da19 Plaatje, S T, Bloemfontein. To Silas Molema, Mafeking. 1912 Aug 8

Has railed the machinery [for printing press] but had no money to cover costs; was successful in trying to raise money in Thaba Nchu and Kimberley; is disheartened especially as sympathetic Zulus bought them the machinery whereas the Tswana have been unable to raise money to support their own newspaper; Mr Msimang has arranged concerts in order to raise money; has heard no news from home and he dreads his return as he is penniless.

ALS. 2p. Tswana and English.

Da20 Plaatje, S T, Fordsburg. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1912 Aug 14

Has had difficulty in buying the printing press of "Motsualle wa Johannesburg"; Advocate Seme tried to discourage Mr Cele from lending them money; subsequently a Mr Jeebe of Natal enabled him to buy the machinery;

on Monday they will begin printing the new paper, Tsala ea Bathe, in Serolong, Sepedi and English; people in the Transvaal are supporting this project by holding concerts in various centres as they regard it as a union between the Barolong and Bapedi people: the object is to raise a working capital to pay the workers initially and to gain the support of the people; urges Barolong to involve themselves to show that they support the union ...

ALS. 3p. Last page faint and illegible. Tswana and English.

Da21

Plaatje, S T. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking], 1912 Sep 14

Regrets death of Chief Joshua Motshegare; is having difficulties with the printing of the newspaper, explains that the £25 he asked for from the chief was for the newspaper and not for his expenses to go to Pretoria and that the money would buy the Chief shares in the newspaper.

TLS. 1p. Mutilated. Tswana.

Da22

Plaatje, S T. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1912 Dec 12

A few days ago he went with the Seleka Barolong of Thaba Nchu to see General Hertzog, a report of this visit to appear in the Tsala the forthcoming week; Hertzog is stubborn and although he sees the injustice he spares no pity for the natives; his motto is that now the English no longer dominate, the Afrikaner must be master in his land; despite their pleadings he is continuing to implement his segregation policy; on his return to Kimberley he found his printing works in a mess; the lack of capital retards the development of Tsala; deploras fact that the Tswana give no financial support whereas through their Fund they have given financial support to Mr Mashwa and Mr Moshueshue (Moshoeshue); asks Molema to get a loan of £100 for him, to improve the machinery and provide a working capital to enable him to print a readable newspaper; in return he will send him ten bags of grain; regrets inability of Seleka and his people to communicate with and understand an interpreter.

TLS. 2p. Tswana and English

Da23

Plaatje, S T. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. [c1912?]

They still need help for the newspaper; refers to a strike in Randfontein; asks him to plead with the Chief for help; there will be a congress in July and the Chief and other chiefs of the Protectorate have been sent invitations to come to Johannesburg.

TLS. 1p. Mutilated. Tswana and English.

Da24

Fenyang, W Z, Thaba Nchu. To S T Plaatje. [c1912?] Feb 27

Chief Tshabadira Molale has complained that Plaatje corrected his article before publishing it; are still arranging to pay him for the last three months; Makgothi T who was trusted by Chief Tshabadira has turned against them; will be demanding money from those who owe money for the support of the newspaper.

ALS. 2p. Mutilated. Tswana.

Da25

Plaatje, S T [Johannesburg]. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1913 Jan 16

Has made little progress since his arrival because of ill health; mentions those who have not settled their debts and asks for money; has not been able to discuss business because of a disturbance which took place on Tuesday night which excited the people, is doing his best to popularise the newspaper and Molema must be patient; reminds him of the importance of making profits to satisfy the shareholders.

ALS. 2p. English.

Da26

Plaatje, S T. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1913 Jan 16

Has received his letter which has given him hope to extract himself from his difficulties; asks him to approach Chief Lekoko to lend him £100 which would allay his fears.

TLS. 1p. Tswana and English.

Da27

Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Chief Silas Molema, Mafeking. 1913 Feb 5

Regrets that he has not replied about Leeds Hospital and medical training in England or America but he has been troubled by sickness and death in the family and tribe; this also affected their work in the Transvaal as they were not able to get any money from there which made things worse; Chief Tatinyane [Motshegare]'s arrest has caused great sorrow because of his position; deploras uprising of the children of Mosele from Thaba Nchu; hopes that the year will end well, as it started with sorrows.

TL. 1p. Mutilated. Tswana.

- Da28      Plaatje, S T. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1913 Mar 10-12  
Dennison who has previously spoken out for them at elections is bankrupt; asks him to speak for them and also to approach someone called Aldred; regrets that Chief Lekoko has not helped him and that he [Molema] has not sent his biographical sketch of Ma Siako. TLS. 1p. Photocopy (original with Molema family). Tswana and English.
- Da 29      Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Era [Silas Molema, 1913 Mafeking]. Apr 17  
Requests Molema to persuade Chief Lekoko to keep a promise which he has not fulfilled; mentions offering a temporary job to Modiri [Molema] at the school [Lyndhurst Road].  
ALS. 1p. Tswana and English.
- Da 30      Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Silas T Molema, Mafeking. 1913 May? 12  
Has received letter from Monnoapula about the financial problems and informing Plaatje that Maduo has given away his plot of land to Ephraim Molema, and even wanted to rob his house as it was on his land; Plaatje asks Silas Molema to intervene as Maduo had given him the land before witnesses; was unable to attend Congress's interview with Mr Sour [Sauer] and thus their affairs were not represented.  
TLS. 1p. Tswana and English.
- Da 31      Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Bra Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1913 Aug 11  
Acknowledges receipt of a telegram from the Chief; has written to him that he is still in trouble, and that if he does not get help he does not know what is going to happen; will be satisfied with even less than the £100 he requested; as matters are so serious requests Molema to send him the Koranta [ea Becoana] book file as he wants to copy something immediately.  
  
ALS. 1p. Tswana and English.
- Da 32      Plaatje, S T. Te Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1913 Oct 13  
Has not received a reply to his letter about going to see the Chief personally to ask for help; wants to see the Chief to print news of the case involving Jache Dikokonyane, but the Diamond Fields Advertiser would not do this for nothing.  
ALS. 1p. Tswana and English.
- Da 33      Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Chief Silas Molema, [Mafeking.]. 1913 Dec 3  
Regrets that his time has been wasted by coming to Mafeking to see the Chief; reports that Mr Welsh will be going to Mafeking, and that he states that their land does not belong to them but on migrating to the south the Baralong were diverted to the east by the Matabele War; they then killed the Hottentots living in the mountains and as a result they are now being penalised;  
  
Plaatje refutes argument stating that the land from Mafeking to Lohurutse belongs to the Baralong and Bangwaketse; blood was not shed deliberately but caused by provocation of the Matabele; they fought together with the Boers to expel the Matabele, yet now the Boers are troubling them.  
  
ALS. 2p. Tswana.
- Da34      Plaatje, S T. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking] [c1912?]  
Has been requested by people to help in the matter concerning Jabavu and the Land Bill; the natives have become a laughing stock to other nations.  
ALS. 1p, Mutilated. Tswana.
- Da35      Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Modiri [Molema]. 1914 Feb 16  
Informs him of fees and expenses for the course in medicine at Leeds University; he will have to be there by June to be ready to commence.

- AL. 2p. incomplete. English.
- Da36 Paramount Chief of the Barolong Nation and councillors, Mafeking. To Plaatje, S T, Mafeking and Kimberley. 1914 Apr 13  
Commission Plaatje to represent the natives of Bechuanaland, and to obtain from the Secretary of State for the Colonies a renewal to the assurance made by J Chamberlain at Mafeking in 1903 respecting the safeguards embodied in the Annexation Act of 1895, and the right to appeal to the Imperial Government in the event of any change being contemplated; also commend him and their case to the Aborigines Protection Society, the Native Race Committee and the Wesleyan Missionary Society.  
Copy. Enclosed in 38. TD. 1p. English.
- Da37 Paramount Chief of the Barolong Nation and 1914 councillors, Mafeking. To Plaatje, S T, Mafeking May 11 and Kimberley.  
Copy of 36. Enclosed in 38, TB. 1p. English.
- Da38 [Anonymous] To Plaatje, S T, Kinfauns Castle, Capetown Docks. 1914 May 13  
Is enclosing a letter of recommendation signed by the Paramount Chief, Chiefs, Councillors and Headmen of the Barolong, giving Plaatje power to represent the nation; is unable to send the letters of [Sebele]  
Sechele, Chief of the Bakwena and Chief Seopapits of Kanye as there were no responsible parties to sign them; refers to the scheme of Chief Montsioa whereby the Barolong secured farms in the Bechuanaland Protectorate on the north-east of the Molopo River; the strip of land to the west became known as the Barolong Reserve; subsequently this piece of land has become known as the Crown Reserve and Plaatje is to attempt to regain the land for the Barolong.  
Copy. Encloses 35 and 36. TL. 1p. Incomplete. English.
- Da39 Plaatje, S T Leyton,, Essex, England. To Chief Lekoko Montsioa, [Mafeking]. 1914 Nov 6  
Has received his letter complaining that he has not written; replies that he has and moreover the Chief can get news of his activities by reading the newspaper; has had to borrow money to cover living expension; while others have left he has remained to see if their cause has been understood; the war has affected the mission; if the mission is successful, Lekoko and his children will be proud for the rest of their lives that one of their people stood up against the lies directed against natives; reports disagreements among delegates, and that men like Rubasana tried to prevent him from speaking out; the only alternative is to publish a book; asks the Chief to send him money for the book as well as his picture to be used on the cover page and a copy of a document in Lord Roberts' hand sent to Chief Lekoko, Paulo and Silas Molema from the Honourable Hanbury Tracy; their advisors say that if this document appears in the book it will reveal what has been done to the black people; has not approached Gen Baden-Powell as he no longer has power and the land he fought for has been given to the Boer, by some parliamentarians; Baden-Powell will be giving a speech at a rally and he will try and pass on the Chief's greetings to him; requests that the tribe send him money.
- Copy. TL.. 2p. Mutilated. Tswana.
- Da40 Baden-Powell, Robert, London. To Plaatje, S T, [England]. 1914 Nov 20  
Regrets that his telegram asking for a ticket for Lord Roberts' funeral has just reached him, due to his absence; hopes that he went to the War Office and received one; would have liked to have helped especially for the sake of Chief Lekoko and the Barolong; hopes to return to South Africa after the war.
- TLS. 1p. English.
- Da41 Plaatje, S T, Leyton, Essex, England. To Moshosho [Moshoeshoe]. 1915 Jun 16



Reports on threats by the printer; has contacted the Chief; the situation is serious but has refrained from borrowing money; has received promises to push the sale of the book but no help to release it; has received queries about the book at meetings which he has addressed; regrets that even after correcting page proofs the scheme may miscarry in which case the natives can give up appealing to anybody with their grievances; requests them to help him.

TLS. 1p. English.

Da42

Plaatje, S T, Leyton, Essex, England. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1915 Jul 15

Mr Moshoeshoe has replied that he has discussed his case with the Chief who was interested but due to ill health unable to respond immediately; general ignorance in England about Blacks in Africa but those he has spoken to have promised to distribute his book to their friends as soon as it is published; has been correcting proofs assisted by Advocate Cross, Miss Alice Werner of Cambridge University and Sir Harry Johnston who have commented favourably on his work; has not been successful in borrowing money; would be tempted to give up were it not for the fact that he would disappoint people and be sued by the printer; Dube and Rhubasana are conspiring against him and do not want the book to be published; Mrs Saul Solomon has tried all means to borrow money, even from Dr Colenso, but people have no spare money because of the war; if the Chief would send him money he would be helping not only the Barolong cause but their friends, the British.

Copy. TLS. 1p. Tswana and English.

Da43

Plaatje, S T, Ga Khunoana? To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1917 Aug 18

Passed by Mafeking on his travels; went to his home but was not allowed to sleep there as Chief William Letsapa wanted to see him; Letsapa informed him that those who did not have two shillings could bring him corn which he would exchange for money; arrived here today; the Chief dismissed the Batlou people's case until they can bring more witnesses; heard that he missed meeting Rev Moshoea who has gone to Mafeking; the Barolong arrived on Saturday with a sum of money; is hurrying on to Kimberley on Sunday and will send him his agreement.

Copy. ALS. 1p. Tswana.

Da44

Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Chief Silas Molema, Mafeking. 1917 Aug 30

Jewish traders want to make a deal with Mr Mbelle who in away so he has referred them to him; they want to buy cattle for slaughtering and want a trustworthy man to work with them and will pay him per head of cattle; they want a large quantity and hope to persuade the Bechuanaland Protectorate chiefs to give them the monopoly; he will be interested to hear that they know Gordon and want to compete with him; he will have to bargain for a price but they are not stingy with money; the runners will be paid monthly and not per head of cattle.

TLS. 1p. Tswana.

Da45

Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1917 Aug 30

Is sending him the envelope which he asked him to address; was ill but is now going to Kroonstad, Orange Free State; had previously asked what he thought about him returning to Mafeking as he has been warned that his possessions might be taken; sends greetings to his mother; his family find it funny that he was in Mafeking yet did not see anyone.

ALS. 1p. Tswana.

Da46

Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Chief Silas Molema, [Mafeking]. 1917 Oct 15

Has given a letter of introduction to the cattle buyer; while in Mafeking visited his home to find out why he had not written; was told by Molema's wife that Mr Slaughter would not be able to come because of urgent business in Johannesburg; was worried about his appointment with him and the collection of the Barolong; there in drought all over; is wondering about their agreement about the type.

ALS. 1p. Tswana.

Da47

Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1918 Aug 3

Has new troubles; Teto scalded her arm when she fell with a pot of boiling water; Sainty [St Leger Plaatje] is in trouble at school and they have asked him to go down to Lovedale at once; cannot go as he is preparing for the reception of Lord Buxton who is to lay the foundation stone [ of the Lyndhurst Road Native Institute Assembly Hall] on Aug 7; asks that Chief John send a telegram of congratulations, and donates a sum of money; Rev J S Moffat has promised to send £10 and he has received money from Makgatho and Chief Fenyang; is still waiting for other contributions but because of his troubles has not written to all that he wanted to; has heard of Chief Joshua's sickness; the Natal Congress is sending Dr Meshach Pelem to represent them at the ceremony.

ALS. 2p. Tswana and English.

- Da 48 Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1918 Aug 10  
Regrets that all donations could not be announced at the ceremony, but they will be announced at the next rally; the Chief should send a wire by Tuesday so that it can be announced with Mr Minchin's donation; in Mr Boyes' speech he mentioned Chiefs Montsioa and Kgama and they should therefore wire money; refers to trouble caused by Boyce Skota who, supported by Mr [E] Barrett of the Department of Native Affairs, proposed that the money collected should be given to the latter; they want to turn the Black people away from him and not support his activities; the situation became dangerous but Rosane, Makapela and Mr Mbelle and Christian ministers supported him as well as the Governor [-General, Lord Buxton]; his opponents were Boyce Skota, Ko-Kozela? James Ngcezula and the Wesleyan preachers Sidlai and Diphuko; regrets Chief Joshua's illness.

ALS. 2p. Tswana.

- Da49 Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1918 Aug 11  
Enquires further about Chief Joshua's illness; while he was having the trouble with Boyce Skota, his mother fell ill, Teto scalded her arm and Lovedale threatened to expel Sainty [St Leger]; the Boyce Skota trouble is over as he has gone to the Cape, his mother has recovered, Teto's arm is healing and Sainty has not been expelled; the supporters of Barrett and Skota have turned away from them; would appreciate it if a representative of the Barolong could attend the ceremony and also send a donation.

ALS. 2p. Tswana.

- Da50 [Plaatje, S T]. To [Silas Molema]. [c1918 Aug]  
Draft telegram which Chief (John) Montsioa should send to Plaatje in Kimberley apologising for not being able to attend the ceremony but to convey to Lord Buxton the loyalty of himself and the Barolong to the Imperial and Union Governments, as well as their thanks to the Directors of Mgibisa [Ds Beers] as most of his workmen go to Kimberley [Refers to the opening of the Lyndhurst Road Native Institute Assembly Hall in 1918].

D Df. 1p. English.

- Ea51 Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Morolong. 1918 Nov 6  
Arrived home from Basutoland on Oct 4 to find his wife and nearly all the children ill, as well as relatives from Pniel; relates many deaths of family and friends including Elias Plaatje, the Evangelist, his brother [Ramokoto?'s son and Lucas Mashoko; there were also deaths at Thaba Nchu; at home Richard Mojanaga has a lung disease and Robert Setlogelo and his wife, the daughter of Mbelle have died a few days after their marriage; at Bethany people were sick but did not die and at Lovedale School where his wife Ma Sainty teaches, seven hundred were ill but only six died; Kimberley has been left desolate.

TLS. 1p. Tswana.

- Da52 Plaatje, S T, Johannesburg. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1918 Dec 20

Attended the meeting and is sending him the newspaper reports; regrets that he lost the Tsala [ea Batho] after it had been built up with so much difficulty; if he had not gone to England it would not have ceased publication; this time he will not go unless he is given £1000; the Mbelle children are with him on their way to Lovedale.

ALS. 1p. Mutilated. Tswana.

Da53      Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1918 Feb 15  
Informs him of debt to Miss Klusky [Klatzky]; the money was borrowed in 1917 by Tau, Chief John [Montsioa] and others with the help of Mr Seme, and the promissory note signed by Miss Klusky [Klatzky], Mr Chofas [I Chorfas] and Mr Seme; when the note became due Miss Klusky [Klatzky] paid the debt but is now threatening to sue the Chief for the money.

ALS. 2p. Tswana.

Da54      Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1919 Mar 5  
Wrote the previous month about the Chief's accounts in Johannesburg, the Barolong message from England and the interpretation for Hae Kortong; is disappointed that he has not replied; the Barolong need to be compelled and asks whether the Barolong of Thaba Nchu would accept an agreement with the British Government as it must be presented as if all the Tswana are in agreement; his family are all sick; the natives in the Cape are preparing for the peace conference and they are the only ones who are lagging behind.

TLS. 1p. Tswana.

Da55      P1aatje, S T, Kimberley. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1919 Mar 14  
He was asked to go to Thaba Nchu where Rev Goronyane, [Chief] Fenyang and Messrs Makgothi, Setlogelo, and Nyokong and others committed themselves to pay for his expenses in England; saw Tiego and Sebopioa [Molema] at the station on their way to Bloemfontein and they asked if he would write to him [Molema] to add more weight to the telegram they sent and to show the magistrate the memorandum to King George; the Governor-General [Lord Buxton] has seen the memorandum and says they have full rights to see their chief especially as the Nationalists want to divide the chieftainship; secondly they must show the British government that they are a people and that their chiefs should be treated with respect; therefore Tiego would like him [Molema] to send messengers to the chiefs to help with money and blankets, the blankets being for the delegates who will carry their message to King George.

TLS. 2p. Tswana.

Da56      Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1919 May 10  
Has returned from Queenstown via Bloemfontein and Thaba Nchu; the people in Thaba Nchu sent £230 to England in January and are anxious to hear from those in Mafeking; was unable to leave on the Llanstephan Castle with Rev Amos Burnett and Mr William Hosken; there may be room later in the month; the congress was interesting although Rubasana had spread a bad feeling among the people, which they were able to wipe out; he can get all the news from Gaboutloeloe.

ALS. 1p. Tswana and English.

Da57      Plaatje, St Leger, Kimberley. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1919 Jun 16  
They are all well, and informs him that his father left the previous Wednesday, and had said that Mr Malan had promised to find out about their money.

ALS. 1p. Tswana.

Da 58      Plaatje, S T, [on board Llanstephan Castle]. To Bra [Silas Molema, Mafeking]. 1919 Jun 16  
Describes activities prior to his departure for England; had difficulties before sailing from Cape Town on June 11, because Mr Gumede's passport was not in order; before he left home he received a telegram from Mr Molema informing him that the Government refused them money which was to assist them in their trip; he contacted Mr Malan and saw him together with Rev Mahabane and pointed out that the Barolong had collected the money in order to finance the trip and the Government had no claim to the

money; all the White people on board are sick while they are well; they are busy making their plans so that on arrival they can start immediately; hopes that they will be able to send them money as without it their work is hampered.

TLS. 1p. Mutilated. Tswana.

- Da59      Plaatje, S T, Longfield, Kent, England. To Fen [Chief Fenyang, Thaba Nchu]. 1919 Aug 2  
Is enclosing the report of their case in Parliament which confirms his opinion that the English people are more amenable to reason; is unhappy about their financial position which will impede their success, has had to settle some of the old debts; is addressing meetings in Kent and hopes to get further resolutions sent to Parliament; Thema and Mvabasa are working in the London area because there is no money, but their main hope is in the country; was promised £100 by Mr Makgatho but has not received it yet; the cost of living is higher than his last visit and the delegates are losing heart because there is no money; if the delegation is disgraced they will never again manage the Boer; before he departed he spoke to Mr Malan who promised to investigate the question of the Barolong money at Mafeking but he has heard no further; asks him to find out if his wife is receiving the money from Makgatho and Pilane as promised.

ALS. Ap. Enclosed in TLS, W C Fenyang to Silas Molema, 1919 Sep 18. English.

- Da60      Plaatje, S T. To Bra [Bilas Molema, Mafeking]. [c1919?]  
Met the Barolong at a conference attended by all Free Staters; Mr Nyokeng (Nyokong) is upset that Molema has not contacted him; hopes that the Thaba Nchu people will help him out of his difficulties he is faced with in England.

ALS. 1p. Mutilated. Tswana.

- Da61      Plaatje, S T, London. To [Dr S Modiri Molema, Glasgow]. 1920 Jul 11  
Congratulates him on the excellence of his book [The Bantu, past and present] and discusses the difficulties in getting people to buy it; regrets that Joshua Molema did not live to see it; unfortunately F Z S Peregrino the journalist who would have ably reviewed his book in the South African press has also passed away; comments on the humour in the book; has asked his friends to try and get reviews published; comments on arrangements between his publisher and Juta, as the latter claims commission on all books sold in South Africa; asks if he can obtain three copies which he will use to his advantage.

Copy. TL. 1p. Incomplete. English.

- Da62      Plaatje, S T, London. To Bra [Silas Molema Mafeking]. 1920 Aug 25  
Has not heard any news from home; is happy about the release of Dr Modiri Molema's book and was surprised at his writing ability; it is a tremendous task and wonders at his knowledge and the time spent to undertake such a task; he met Modiri Molema in Glasgow in May and from there they went to Edinburgh on the day that his book was released; thinks that the Barolong will now be scorned and hated by the other tribes as they will be jealous; is busy writing two books, one is a novel, a romance based on historical facts of Baolong history, "Just like the style of Rider Haggard when he writes about the Zulus"; is now looking for a publisher and is also finishing a political work, an updated version of "Native Life"; when he was in Edinburgh a Scottish doctor wanted to engage Dr Molema as his assistant but he did not accept as he wants to return home; hopes that he will find work near home and that he will not have to go to Johannesburg; he has also received an offer to go to Johannesburg but if he goes he will lose all his political rights; he [Silas Molema] could help him revive the Tsala so that he would not have to write in other language newspapers; he nearly died of hunger but the Thaba Nchu people came to his rescue.

Copy. PLS. 2p. Tswana and English.

- Da63      Unsigned. To S T Plaatje. [c1921?]  
Describes evidence and recommendations given to the commission by the Barolong who point out the effect of the Native Lands Act.

AL. Unsigned. 4p. English.

- Da64      Plaatje, S T, Kimberley. To [Dr S M Molema, Mafeking]. 1929 Feb 20

Is coming with his wife to Mafeking; De Beers have requested that he [Molema] come to Kimberley to treat the invalid wife of one of the chauffeurs; has just returned from the Orthography Conference at Pretoria and thinks that their findings will displease the various tribes.

TLS. 1p. English.

Da 65 Richardson S[ally], Cape Town. To S Plaatje, Kimberley. 1929 Feb 21  
Note from General Smuts' private secretary referring to his correspondence and informing him that Gen Smuts is giving the matter his attention.

ALS. 1p. English.

Da66 [Plaatje, S T]. Unaddressed. Undated  
Reports financial trouble.

AL. 2p. Fragment. Badly mutilated.

Tswana and English.

Db Writings 2 items

1 Account of visit to Canada and United States of America, 1921 Jan - 1922 Oct. TS, incomplete, p6-23. Unsigned.

2 Sekgoma: The Black Dreyfus; detained for three years at Gaberones Prison without trial, by orders of the Earl of Selborne, His Majesty's High Commissioner for South Africa. Undated. MS, incomplete. 53l. Includes "The Essential Interpreter", and a few leaves written in Tswana.

Plaatje, as an interpreter, dwells on the functions and importance of the interpreter in courts of law, and the miscarriage of justice in British courts of law in Southern Africa, because of unreliable interpreters. A case in point is that of Sekgoma, whose right to the chieftainship is disputed.

Dc Leaflets 7 items 1914 - o1922

Leaflets advertising meetings at which Plaatje gave addresses while in England as a member of the delegation protesting against the Native Land Act, (1913). Includes leaflet advertising records made by Plaatje.

Dd Press Clippings 2 items

1 Mr and Mrs Sol. T Plaatje in the Transvaal. Reprinted from Abantu-Batho, 1917 Jun 28.

2 Letter to editor re Plaatje's teaching activities.

De Obituaries 3 items 1932 Jul

1 Molema, Morara. The strange life of Sol T Plaatje by Vere Stent; his statement repudiated. TS submitted to The Star, 1932 Jul. 1l. TLS enclosed from A Harrington, Assistant Editor, returning letter.

2 Bokako, Edison Malebe. To Sol Plaatje. Eulogy. Healdtown, 1932 Jul.

3 Obituaries by Prof C M Doke, Rev Bernard Huss and Rev John L. Dube. TS. 2l (fragmented).

Df Phonorecords 1 item

Plaatje, Sol T. Singa Mawele (We are Twins) and Pesheya ko Tukela (Across the Tugela). British Zonophone Co. Serial 4168. Also several other songs: see leaflet in Dc.

Accompanied by Miss Sylvia Colenso.

Singa Mawele - dance melody in Xhosa

Peshoya ko Tugela - a Hlubi folk song.

Phonodisc damaged.

See tape recording and CD: A1742 Top

Dg Miscellaneous 4 items 1910 - 1976

1 Minutes of Orthography Conference, Johannesburg, 1910 Feb 23-24. TS. 8l.

2 Girl Wayfarers' Association. Cape Western Province. Leader's Certificate. Issued to Violet Plaatje, 1936 Sep 1.

3 Programme for the unveiling of the tombstone for Violet Nomthetho Molema. 1976, Apr 18.

4 Sainty [St Leger Plaatje] to Mme Vie, [Violet] TLS. 3l.

E PRESS CLIPPINGS 8 items 1917 - 1923

Report on court case, Silas and Joshua Molema vs Sundel Gordon, a Tshidi Barolong dispute concerning the chieftainship 1920 Nov; conference on native affairs 1923 Oct; political situation in South Africa.

- F PHOTOGRAPHS 152 items (Stored in Room 27)  
Negatives of some items are available.  
Photographs Fa, Fb and Fca-Fcd have been scanned and are available on 2 CDRS.
- Fa BAROLONG TRIIBE
- 1 2 Chief Wessels Montsioa.
  - 2 Chief Badirile Montsioa (removed from frame)
  - 3 Chief Lekoka Montsioa.
  - 4 Barolong guard, Mafeking, during the siege?
- Fb MOLEMA FAMILY
- 1 Molema, founder of Mafeking? (missing since mid-1990s)
  - 2 Chief Joshua Molema (removed from frame)
  - 3 Seetsele Modiri Molema and a young boy,
  - 4 Sebopioa J Molema (framed?).
  - 5 Morara (Rex) Molema at Healdtown 1923,
  - 6 Dame? Morara Molema's dog, c1938)
  - 7 One CD with scanned images of the Molema family, donated by Mr M S Molema, March 2006. (No prints of these). Permission needed for reproductions.
- Fc S T PLAATJE
- Fca Individual
- 1 S T Plaatje.
  - 2 S T Plaatje, Mafeking, portrait.
  - 3 S T Plaatje, England. Mrs E Plaatje, Mafeking. Portraits for his book, Native life in South Africa. (Two plates and duplicates)
  - 4 S T Plaatje, portrait.
  - 5 S T Plaatje, England.
  - 6 S T Plaatje, England, taken at same time as above.
  - 7 S T Plaatje at memorial to Saul Solomon, England. On verso, postcard to Mr Morgan, Eastbourne re developing plates for his postcard series. 1916 Nov 28.
  - 8 S T Plaatje, England, portrait.
  - 9 Copy of above portrait used for his lecture series with inscription in Plaatje's hand "Mr Sol T Plaatje South African Delegate to the International Conference of Brotherhoods at the City Temple". (Plate from book)
  - 10 S T Plaatje, England, portrait.
  - 11 S T Plaatje, certified portrait, probably taken for his Canadian passport, 1922? Oct 15. (Damaged)
  - 12 S T Plaatje, portrait, c1931. (Damaged)
  - 13 S T Plaatje, copy of photo in book (the original belongs to the MacGregor Museum, Kimberley)
- Feb Groups
- 1 Printers. Group outside the printing works in Mafeking. Front row, second from left: S T Plaatje, Elizabeth Plaatje, S T Molema.  
Rack row, left: James Plaatje.  
FOLIO. (2 smaller duplicates and one photocopy).
  - 2 Dance and choir group started by Plaatje in Mafeking, c 1901-1906. Back row, second from left: Emily Samson, S T Plaatje, Margaret Moshoeshe, Michael Leshoane? Front row, second from right: Sarah Gwabeni, James Mpunda?  
In frame, in Room 2)
  - 3 Copy of above. (Copy missing)

- 4 Lyndhurst Road Public School, Kimberley, 1902-1913. Teaching staff and school committee. Identified on photograph. Includes S T Plaatje, I Bud Melle and S Modiri Molema. FOLIO and duplicates.
- 5 S T Plaatje (centre) with brothers? 'Front right: James? Mafeking.
- 6 African National Congress deputation to England 1919, to protest against the Land Act of 1913. Back row, left to right: R V Selope Thema, J T Gumede, L T Mvabaza. Front row: S T Plaatje, Rev H R Ngcayiya.
- 7 Left: S T Plaatje, a member of the delegation (Gumede?) and Coloured man. England, c1919.
- 8 Interpreters. Clockwise: S T Plaatje, I Bud Mbelle, Meshoeshoe, Patrick Lenkwane (Lenkoane).
- 9 African tribal dancing performance at a London cinema showing of the film, The Cradle of the World. S T Plaatje is in centre. (Missing since mid-1990s)
- 10 S T Plaatje and two young girls, probably taken in Canada.
- 11 S T Plaatje, wearing hat, child and typewriter.
- 12 S T Plaatje, hat under the table, child and typewriter.
- 13 Group. S T Plaatje, fourth from the right.
- 14 Group. S T Plaatje second from left, photographed at his motor-car.
- 15 Group. S T Plaatje, second from right and behind him Ben Benjamin?
- 16 S T Plaatje speaking at gathering.
- 17 Group of South Americans and a Nigerian (identified on verso) Back row, left: S T Plaatje, c1922 American tour.
- 18 Group bearing coffin at Plaatje's funeral, Kimberley.
- Fcc Family
- 1 Richard Sebeka Plaatje and a baby, Mafeking.
- 2 Richard Plaatje with bicycle. (Not original photo)
- 3 Richard Plaatje with watering can. (Not original photo)
- 4 Richard Plaatje. (Not original photo)
- 5 Richard Plaatje in sports gear. (Not original photo)
- 6 Group. Front left: Richard Plaatje. (Not original photo)
- 7 Group. Front: Richard Plaatje, taken while interpreter at Kimberley. (Not original photo)
- 8 Group with Richard Plaatje in front row wearing a rosette. (Not original photo)
- 9 Richard Plaatje. Two photographs on a postcard. (Not original photo)
- 10 Richard Plaatje at his father's grave. (Not original photo)
- 11 Group. Left: Halley Plaatje. Right: Richard Plaatje? (Not original photo)
- 12 Group. Back, right: Violet Plaatje, c1923. (Damaged)
- 13 Group. Second row, extreme right: Violet Plaatje?
- 14 Violet Plaatje and the Rhythm Girls. (Missing since mid-1990s)
- 15 Group of women in a field. Violet Plaatje, second from left?
- 16 Group at river. Left: Anna Molema. Centre: Violet Plaatje.
- 17 Violet Plaatje at Angel Street, Kimberley.
- 18 Group taken at Barkly West Show, 1930 Aug 4. Centre: Violet Plaatje. Right: Halley Plaatje. Inscribed "Loving greetings to Rex from Doodles".
- 19 Olive Plaatje.
- 20 Olive Plaatje.
- 21 Group. Right: P. M Tau Mbelle.
- 22 Isaiah Bud Mbelle with wife and three daughters, Grace (centre), Victoria and Jane.
- 23 One of the Dlopu family? Addressed to Mrs Jane Ntingana (sister of Elizabeth Plaatje), from Rev and Mrs Dlepu. 1920 Nov 27.
- 24 Notemba Dlopu. Addressed to Grandma Sainty (Elizabeth Plaatje), 1932 Jan 17.
- 25 Notemba and dog. 1932 Jan 17.
- 26 Notemba (right) and her sister. Addressed to Ma Sainty (Elizabeth Plaatje) from Rev and Mrs E Dlepu, 1937 Feb 4.

- 27 Ebbie's family. Addressed to Elizabeth Plaatje. Ebbie was one of Mbelle'e (Elizabeth's father's) nephews.
- 28 "Auntie Maria's last late baby boy".
- Fcd General 23 items
- 1 Sophie, Irma and Sylvia Colenso, England.
- 2 Lyndhurst Road School, Kimberley, Standards 4, 5 and 6. 1915 Feb 24. (Front row, 3rd from left, one of the Plaatje's?)
- 3 Notemba Vuyelwa and others.
- 4 Group with S T Plaatje's motor car, inncribed "on the way to Barkly Show".
- 5 Shrimati Sarojini Naidu.
- 6 E Wood.
- 7 Morwa Fenyang, daughter of Chief Fenyang, staff nurse at UBS.
- 8 Z K Matthews in graduation gown.
- 9 John K Peacock.
- 10 G W Xala.
- 11 Master Fenyang Molefo.
- 12 Mercy Elizabeth Lillieth Mpama, aged six months.
- 13 Mr and Mrs Theo M Kakuza.
- 14 Mr and Mrs E Jeffries.
- 15 Mrs E Jeffries.
- 16 David R Mahuma, St John's College, Umtata, c1919.
- 17 Alfred Potter.
- 18 Ben (Benjamin?).
- 19 Healdtown.
- 20 Machore Sesedi, now Mrs Melk, Bloemfontein. 1934 Dec 25.
- 21 Daniel Jones, portrait.
- 22 James Stewart, portrait.
- 23 Eva Mahuma Morake from Victoria West, who worked on Plaatje's newspaper.
- Fce Postcard photographs 31 items
- 1 General 3 items
- a) Princess Josephina, Sinter, Prince Solomon Dinizulu.
- b) Piccanins.
- 2 Visit to the USA 13 items
- Religious cards; Anglo-American Exposition - The Famous Piccanniny Bond; Booker T Washington.
- 3 Visit to the Belgian Congo 11 items
- Pictures of tribes and chiefs.
- 4 Tyreoid advertisements 4 items
- Photographs of men and boys with bicycles in the bush, using Tyreoid adhesive to mend punctures. Probably taken in Regents Park, London.
- Fcf Unidentified photographs 30 items
- Individuals and groups.
- Fcg Two computer scans of photos of the house in Leyton, London where S T Plaatje stayed, and of the plaque on the house. (Sent to us by The Vestry House Museum in London).
- G MAPS AND SKETCHES 4 items
- 1 Sketches of Barolong farms, Bechuanaland Protectorate with a list of the occupants of the farms.
- 2 Map of native reserve, Mafeking. Scale 400 Rds = 1 inch.
- 3 Sketch of layout of Silas Molema's farm.
- 4 Sketch of Silas Molema'o farm Mabeti, indicating proposed land for leasing.
- H MISCELLANEOUS AND EPHEMERA 4 items 1916 Jun - 1927
- 1 Native National Land Settlement and General Corporation of South Africa. Constitution. Johannesburg, 1916 Jun 15. TS. 9l.



- 2 United Workers, London. An appeal to all Britons overseas. London, 1916 Jul. Appeal to those in the colonies to help the war effort by conserving resources.
- 3 Appeal to erect a memorial church at Kilnerton Institution to commemorate the distinguished service of the Rev A Burnett. 1927.
- 4 Race relations in South Africa. Address to the Synod Missionary Committee [Wesleyan Methodist Church] on the segregation laws in South Africa. Unsigned, but writer refers to an international conference attended in Glasgow in 1921 and could possibly be Dr S M Molema. TS. 5l.
- 11 Koranta ea Becoana, 1901-1904  
Tsala ea Batho, 1910-1911  
(On microfilm only)
- 12 Tsala ea Batho, 1911-1915

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