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**Letter from W.H. Andrews to G. Zinoviev,
17 May 1921**

Johannesburg,
May 17th 1921

Mr. Zinoviev,
President,
Communist International,
Moscow.

Dear Comrade,

A movement was initiated at a meeting in Johannesburg on January 2nd this year, with the object of linking all Communist and revolutionary Socialist sections in S. Africa in one Communist Party. Negotiations have proceeded from that date and a meeting was held on Easter Sunday to discuss Socialist unity, at which were represented the International Socialist League, South Africa, the Social Democratic Party, Durban and the United Communist Party, Capetown (which latter is an amalgamation of the Social Democratic Federation of Capetown and the Communist Party of Capetown), and the Jewish Socialist Society (Poalei Zion) Johannesburg. All these sections have agreed to unite on the basis of the twenty-one Points (conditions of admission) to the third International)¹ with the exception of the Social Democratic Party, Durban which remains faithful to the social patriotism and reformism of Hyndman and Co. in England and distributes his organ 'Justice'.

It is intended to call a general Congress of delegates from the various sections on or about August 1st this year in Cape Town, when there is no doubt the new Party will be definitely launched. We therefore desire to have the ruling of your Executive as to the eligibility for membership of the United Communist Party of the Johannesburg Branch (of Poalei Zion). We have attached a memorandum herewith which was handed in to the meeting on Easter Sunday which will explain the position taken up by local representatives of Poalei Zion. We have provisionally decided to accept them as a branch of the United Communist Party pending a decision from your Executive.

I believe the general question will be discussed at the meeting of the International in June and probably the decision there arrived at will be sufficient guide for us in South Africa.

I hope by the time this reaches you that you will have made the acquaintance of Comrade D. Ivon Jones, who with Comrades S. Barlin and J. Den Bakker officially represent the International Socialist League of South Africa in Russia.

1. See footnote 4 to document 5, vol. I.

Trusting that the Congress will be a great success and that the International Proletariat will be immensely strengthened by the deliberations which will take place in Moscow.

We are Yours for the Social Revolution,
W.H. Andrews.
Secretary, Socialist Unity Committee.

RGASPI, 495/64/5/42-4.

Original in English.

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**Letter from D.I. Jones to L. Trotsky,
2 June 1921¹ (Extract)**

REPLY OF THE DELEGATE OF SOUTH AFRICA, COM. TOM JONES²
(TO C. TROTSKY'S QUESTIONNAIRE, 29.IV.21)

[...]

Dear Comrade Trotsky.

I have answered some of your questions from the point of view of the general British situation. Now I shall discuss the situation in South Africa.

Your questions mainly deal, of course, with America and Europe. As far as South Africa is concerned I feel that they are not quite applicable to the conditions there and that you would have formulated them differently.

True enough, we in South Africa have a vast gold mining industry, concentrated in Johannesburg, based on completely new modern foundations and strongly centralised, with capitalised value of 500 million.³ Nevertheless all

1. This letter was enclosed with Jones' response to L.D. Trotsky's questionnaire about the economic crisis in Europe and the USA, circulated to the delegates of the 3rd Congress of the Comintern.
2. Jones could have used the name 'Tom' instead of his own (David Ivon) for conspiratorial reasons.
3. Most probably, pounds: British currency was used in South Africa at that time.