

ground do you plough? Will you show us ?- It varies from a few inches to over a foot.

What do you do most commonly ?- We go mostly deep; we find that by going deep we get better crops.

Do you plough as deep as the white man does ?- As a rule he ploughs a good deal deeper than we do.

What does "as a rule" mean ?- As a rule we do not plough as deeply as the white man.. There are exceptions.

Do you use the dung of your cattle for fertilising your lands ?- (Nkosi): How can we, Sir, when, as we told you, the white people take our cattle dung from us.

Do the white people in every case, where they have natives on the farms ?- Yes.

But in the case of natives in this district farming on their own lands, do they use the dung ?- No, Sir.

When you object to the white man using the dung, on what grounds do you object, if you do not want to use the dung yourselves ?- We would use the dung if we were not deprived of it. After all, we do not need it merely for putting on our fields, for manuring.

For what other purpose ?- We would then allow the cattle dung to accumulate in our kraals and make use of that; or those who were more progressive would take it and put in on their gardens. Of course, we use dung for cleaning the floors of our huts.

But, first of all, would you make use of it by allowing it to accumulate ?- (The Secretary): They allow the cattle dung to accumulate and then they plough up the cattle kraal.

MR. MOSTERT: How many able-bodied men are there in your tribe ?- (Nkosi): I do not know.

Where did you originally come from ?- Here.

How many European farms do they occupy ?- I do not know. I do know this, that they cover a great extent of country.

All private farms ?- Yes.

Is the payment to the owner by ninety days, or is it part cash ?- I do not know of any instance where money is paid.

Do you all have to work for ninety days ?- Yes; at least ninety days; sometimes more.

How much more ?- Sometimes those who have for example taken away sheep to graze in areas are away for two or three years at a stretch.

THE CHAIRMAN: How much have you worked in the year for occupation ?- Yes, even there it is not only just for the whole year; there are instances of natives having to work for their landlords sometimes for more than a year.

In some cases you have to work ninety days in the year for the right of occupation. Sometimes it is more. How much more have some of you to work for the right of occupation ?- A year, and sometimes more. It is continuous: one year, two years, three years, for the privilege of living on the lands.

In the case of those who have to work the whole year, do not the conditions imposed by the landlord differ in excess of the ninety days ?- That is where the 1/- a day comes in; 30/- a month.

MR. MOSTERT: Well then, you pay for it. How many head of cattle are you allowed ?- It varies a great deal. Some landlords object to cattle, others do not; in the case of those who do not, a tenant may have as many cattle as he wishes.

Are they allowed to keep goats ?- The white man

does not wish to see a goat on his land, Sir.

Sheep ?- Just a few here and there, but the white man does not like the native to keep sheep.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do you have to work more than ninety days without pay in one year ?- After the ninety days there is payment. There is also the option; the worker may take advantage of it by going to seek work elsewhere. There are examples of natives having to work over the ninety days without pay.

MR. MOSTERT: For years and years you have been living under these conditions and now you want ground from the Government for nothing ?- Yes.

MR. LUCAS: You said that a lot of young boys run away because of the difficulties of farm life; what difficulties do you mean ?- Difficulties?

Yes; or what is it that makes young boys run away; ~~2x~~ what is it that they do not like ?- Poor pay; ill-treatment.

What sort of ill-treatment ?- Pressure of work.

What do you mean by that ?- Some employers also strike their servants.

You said that the conditions on farms ought to be improved so as to make them more attractive and to keep the natives there; what improvements do you suggest ?- We should be given places where we can live.

Do you mean land or houses; I do not understand what the answer means ?- No, what I mean, Sir, is that conditions should be made more agreeable; the Government should set aside land for us natives, where we should be free from the conditions imposed upon us now by farmers.

What is it about life on the farms that you do not like; that is what I am trying to get at ?- We have to work on the farms; we get no pay for part of the time we work, and that

applies, as I have said, to the whole of our families.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: Do you wish the Government to give you land for nothing, or would you be willing to pay for it, or would you be willing to buy it; which of the three?— The best, Sir, would be that the Government give us land.

How much land do you think you would require; how many farms?— We are very many people, Sir.

Is it the intention that if your people were given farms every one of your people would leave the farmers and settle on these farms?— Yes.

If the white man is dissatisfied with his master, does he want the Government to give every white man a farm to live by himself?— That would be for the Government to decide.

The Government does not give every white man who is dissatisfied with his master a farm to live on; do you know that?— (No answer).

Do you representatives of the Chief all live on one farm, or are you scattered about?— We all represent our Chief, but all do not live on one farm.

Do you live on the farms near each other, or are you scattered?— We are scattered.

You spoke about the dipping of cattle. How often have you to dip?— Every week, Sir.

Once a week?— Once a week.

Are there actually farmers who make you pay 1/- a month for dipping?— Yes.

What is the average land you get from the farmers here to plough; how much land do you get?— Only a little, and that very often where we do not wish it.

You complain of the farmers not allowing you time to eat your food properly; is that the exception or the rule?— We were only speaking in general terms when we said that.

It does not apply to every farm.

Are the natives who live in the towns better off than the others ?- The conditions are irksome in both areas.

These natives on the farms; do they ever have more than one wife ?- Yes.

Are there many who have more than one wife ?- Yes, Sir.

Does the lobola system still exist amongst you ?- Yes.

What do you pay for a wife ?- 11 or 12 beasts.

If you are able to buy more than one wife, you cannot be so very poor ?- It is exactly the same ~~q~~ with us as with you white people; we have observed that some of you white people are not so well off as others.

There are some of you who are quite well off under the conditions under which you live ?- So few that you could hardly reckon them.

What is your idea of wanting land now; do you think you could be much happier then and be much richer if the Government were to give you land for nothing ?- No, Sir, we do not think there would be such a big change as all that, but we would be better off. Although conditions would not become all of a sudden very much improved, they would be better, and even if the Government were to ask us to buy land from the Government, we would make at least an effort to satisfy the Government's demands.

I want to know whether the change that you want to bring about - that is, that the Government should give you land for yourselves - is due to bad conditions on the farms, or is it more the idea that you feel it sort of infra dig that your chief has to live on a private farm ?- No Sir; we are merely crying out for better conditions, not only for

ourselves but for our Chief, and undoubtedly if we were to be given land there would not be a general exodus of natives from the farms, of our tribe, to that land unless it happened to be a very large area ; only those who felt they were hard-pressed ~~xxxx~~ on farms would leave.

MR. LUCAS: Are there many who feel they are hard-pressed ?-. If you ask for a specific number I could not tell you, but I say in general terms there are many.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: Have you any idea as to the living conditions of natives in other districts ?- No Sir.

You do not know whether the natives are living under better conditions than you are ?- No, we do not know.

This land that you said you had before you lost it; how did you lose it; was it during a war, or what ?- There was no war here; the white man came and settled - took possession.

MR. MOSTERT: There are natives living on private farms today who can go to their reserves, but they prefer living on private farms ?- Yes.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: Is there any location, or could you go back to Swaziland, if you wished ?- There is no location in this district to which we could go, nor could we go to Swaziland, because we do not regard Swaziland as our home; our home is here, where we originated.

Were you all born in this area ?- Yes.

DR. FOURIE: Did you belong to the tribe of a certain Chief Semkuba in Swaziland ?- All this land was part of King Swazi's land; the boundary has been changed.

There was a certain Chief, Semkuba, who broke off from Swaziland ?- We do not belong to his tribe. It was

he who left our country and this was then part of the whole of Swaziland.

Was this part of Swaziland too ?- Yes.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKARK: If the Government were to say you could buy land somewhere, would you be willing to go to another district - the Northern Transvaal for instance?

It would be very difficult for us to give up our own land; that is the land where we were born.

PROFESSOR LESTRADE: Before the white people came, you say you were independent and had your own land; that was here, was it ?- Yes.

And were you living close together as a tribe under a chief or sub-chief at that time, subject to the paramountcy of the Swazi Chief ?- Our king was the Swazi king, and he had his Indunas over us.

Were you living close together or in a scattered condition ?- As you find in ordinary native areas at present. There are some places closely occupied and others scattered, but the King had his great place, which was a large kraal, in our midst.

THE CHAIRMAN: Where was that ?- At Hjindina, and that name is now used for the whole of the locality thereabouts by us.

PROFESSOR LESTRADE: Do you remember the time when the South African Government allotted farms to the various tribes ?- That is news to us, Sir. We know that the Boers came here in a friendly way and said that we were to help them by burning veld in certain places, and that they would reward us: the next thing was, we lost our land.

But about 1880 or 1884, there was a definite Commission appointed by the then Government to go round and inquire into the land necessities of the various tribes. Did you never hear about that ?- We know nothing about that.

Did you never hear that other tribes had locations allotted to them ?- That was common knowledge.

Why did not you take any steps to get locations allotted to you then ?- What could we do ? We were simply not given any.

But did not you ask for any ?- We have never ceased asking.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: Are you speaking only for your own tribes ?- Yes, we speak only for our Chief.

Did not you get a tribal name ?- The tribe takes its name from the Chief's principal kraal, Njindini; we call it the Njindini tribe. Our own tribe's name is the Royal Sebongo of Swaziland; he is called "Nkosi."

MR. ERNEST THOMAS EDWARD ANDREWS, called and examined:

THE CHAIRMAN: You have come here to give evidence in your capacity as Chairman of the Cotton and Tobacco Co-operative Companies?— Yes. They are both limited liability companies. I have not come here prepared with a statement, but I shall be very pleased to answer any questions which you may care to put to me.

Perhaps you can tell us something about the native labour available in this district?— Can you tell us, is that labour permanent, is it on the labour/^{tenancy}~~tenancy~~ system or on the wage system?— Do you mean the three months' tenancy?

Yes, the ninety days' work, or is it wage labour?— The farmers here who grow tobacco and cotton have not got a sufficient number of tenants to do their work and as a result they have to have others as well, they have to have boys on daily or monthly pay.

Are they on a wage basis?— Yes.

Generally speaking, do I understand that the farmers depend for their normal labour requirements on their natives who work on the ninety days' basis?— There are a great many farmers who pay their boys even though they reside on their farms; they pay them throughout the year for all the labour done, and they do not take advantage of the three months for labour.

Do these boys live on the farms, do they plough their land, and do they graze cattle?— Yes. They are allowed to plough a small quantity of land and as to cattle they are allowed to graze as much as the farmer can afford to let them have.

Can you give us any idea of the number of morgen

of land which they normally plough ?- Farmers who plant tobacco and cotton cannot afford to allow them to plant a very great deal - not enough for their general requirements, but simply small gardens, in which they can grow small quantities of various vegetables and so on. They can also plant one or two things along the river-side or in some of the out-of-the-way places, but they certainly cannot go in for growing big quantities of maize. They are able just to have small bits of mealies, a few vegetables, and such things, but you cannot say that they have enough land to enable them to farm.

It means that the native cannot depend on his staple food supplies in these areas ?- No.

And it is for that reason that wages are paid for all labour ?- I am not speaking of sheep farmers who come down to winter here. They allow as much grazing as the boys want. I am not speaking of them, but I am speaking of farmers who have comparatively small farms, say 2,000 or 3,000 acres, and they cannot afford to allow their boys a great deal of grazing land or land for growing products.

They plant cotton, tobacco and various kinds of fruit, the farmers do. Is that the position ?- Yes.

And with these farmers the natives are chiefly on a wage-paying basis ?- Yes.

And so far as the other farmers are concerned, do they chiefly go in for sheep, or is it sheep and cattle ?- The main thing is sheep along the mountains. The people who own land go in largely for sheep of the mountains, or otherwise they let their land to sheep-farmers.

In those cases, do they have the ninety-day's labour tenants?- Yes, I believe so. That is so with those that I know of.

And do they hire labour for the rest of the year ?-
I really do not know what they do.

You are not conversant with that state of affairs ?-
No, I am not.

Are cases known to you where more than ninety days have to be worked by the natives to be allowed to stay on the farms ?- Yes, I take my own instance. I would not allow my boys to live on the farm unless they worked at least six months.

Is that for the place, is that without payment ?-
Oh no; their work is paid for. I do not allow any boys to work anywhere else except on my farm.

For six months ?- Well, I say that if he does not work for at least six months for me he is not a good tenant. The only reason why I have boys is to get their labour, and unless they give me a reasonable amount of labour they are no use to me.

Are they ~~always~~ all wage labourers ?- Yes, all the work done for me, even up to half a day, is paid for.

These places which the natives hold from the farmers, are they reasonable well cultivated ?- No, it is just the ordinary native work. They plough or hoe the land, but they do not do a great deal.

These natives who have to do the agricultural labour on the farm, do they plough nowadays, are they learning from the farmer how to employ new methods ?- I cannot say that I have noticed it.

Can you account for that ?- Well, I think it is just that it means more trouble. They realise that they must hoe their lands, because it is necessary, as otherwise they may die of drought, but I can assure you that they do not do more than is absolutely necessary.

It is pure laziness ?- Yes.

Is there no other reason?- I think they recognise that it is desirable to do more, but it is just pure laziness that they do not do it.

Is there any indication that the younger men are changing ?- I cannot say that I have noticed it.

They are very much inclined to do exactly as the older ones did ?- Yes.

Is there any difficulty in finding sufficient labour for farming operations in this district ?- Yes, there is.

And is that a seasonal or a permanent difficulty ?- It is getting worse and worse now. Ever since -----

MR. LUCAS: Ever since when ?- There are many factors that are making for the labour shortage. One big factor is that more land is being taken up and more labour is required. We do start with the local labour. We get labour from Swaziland, labour from Portuguese East, and since about 1920 labour from north of 22° south, Nyasaland boys. The recruiting for the Rand Mines in Swaziland has made labour from that territory scarcer. The restrictions put on the labour from Portuguese East Africa has been going on, with serious results, especially in the lower parts of the district, but here as well, and of course the prevention of labour from north of 22° south is also a contributory cause. There are four main reasons.

THE CHAIRMAN: Would you say that the shortage is permanent or temporary ?- I must conclude that it is a permanent shortage. Not only in the agricultural seasons but in the normal time as well. It is becoming a shortage of labour altogether in this area. Of course, there are seasons when it is relieved. This year there has been

rather an influx of Swazis, for some unknown reason, in the last three months, and I know that the mines, ^{after} ~~after~~ many years, have sufficient labour and also the farmers for the time being. I put it down to an influx of Swazis. They have been offering their services lately for some unknown reason. I do not know whether it is quite evidence, but I made an inquiry into the causes of the shortage which we have had for the past few years, and I can tell you what the natives have told me. In our area it has been because the Paramount Chief in Swaziland has been building kraals, and he has been doing a great deal of planting for some time, and his subjects in Swaziland have had to work for him. We used to get most of our voluntary labour from that particular Chief's subjects, but owing to his activities they had been unable to come here. Today they are coming in again. The natives tell me this was one of the reasons, but I think there is perhaps another, bigger reason - and that is the question of recruiting for the Rand.

Do you notice in this district any difference between the facility with which the farmer who can give the natives free grazing and a good deal of land to plough, ^{can get labour,} and the one who pays wages? - The farmers who give the natives land to run as many cattle as they like to have get lots of labour. That labour is not compelled to work for such long periods as otherwise. Where a man allows a native to run as many cattle as he wants to he has very little difficulty, but on the farms where the farmer himself has a scarcity of grazing land and where naturally he objects to having native cattle, one finds that the natives are not keen to go. Of course, the farmer has to allow them a certain number of cattle otherwise he would not get any labour at all. He is compelled to have a certain

number of squatters on his farm in order to be able to farm at all during periods when labour is not offering. He must have something to rely upon, and he has to go without grazing for himself in some instances in order to have boys on the farm.

Do many farmers from the High Veld keep winter veld here ?- Yes, quite a number.

And do they take labour from here to work their High Veld farms ?- Yes, boys have told me of labour from some of the farms here having to go to the High Veld to help in the harvesting.

According to the law, the Squatters Act, which is still in force, a farmer may not have more than five native families on his farm. Is that observed here ?- No.

Is there any likelihood of the Government being able to enforce it ?- I am afraid that the farmers will be very much against it. I am sure they will be.

Do you think all the farmers would be against it ?- I think so.

Even those who experience difficulty in finding labour ?- Yes, I take it so, because it means that a farmer who is farming on a great deal of land and wants a lot of labour and can employ all the labour all the year round - every bit that is there - can do with more than five families.

Do you think that some of these farmers on the High Veld who keep farms in this district for labour purposes use their labour fully ?- No, I am sure they do not.

May not that be one of the reasons for the shortage of labour ?- It is one of the reasons.

Therefore, would it not be to the interests of the whole community if that law were enforced ?- Yes, if you could do it, but I think it would meet with a lot of

objection.

I want to know whether there are farmers who are not using their labour to capacity ?- Yes.

They are not using their labour and they are keeping it from the others ?- That is so.

MR. MOSTERT: I want to be clear on this point, that the rule here is ninety days' free work from the natives who live on the farms ?- That is the rule, and one could enforce it.

I understand that you do not do that ?- No, I pay for every hour that the native works for me.

Although you are entitled to the ninety days ?- Yes.

And therefore you do not give the same land in the same ratio as the other men ?- Probably not.

Now you are badly in need of labour ?- Yes.

Do you have boys on your farm who work for you all the year round for wages ?- Yes.

That is probably the only way in which you can get your labour ?- Yes, I encourage my boys as far as possible to do the work in the same way as the white man does and to work the whole year round. That helps me a lot.

You used to get a whole lot of East Coast Boys - Shangans ?- Yes, we were largely dependent upon them for our labour.

Now, since the new Agreement, has that ceased ?- Yes, some of our boys, some of our best natives, have to leave us.

That is your best labour ?- Yes. Some of our best boys are Shangans.

What wages do you pay your labour ?- The ordinary taxpaying boy I pay 30/- to £ 35/- for a ~~maximum~~ thirty days' work.

That is from 1/- to 1/2d. per day ?- Yes, that is for boys who are casual labourers. As soon as a boy can drive or plant, or do really useful work, he gets perhaps up to 40/-, 45/-, or 50/- per month.

MR. LUCAS: Would that be for thirty working days? - Yes.

MR. MOSTERT: But how do you come out on these wages ?- Well, you see we have to compete with the mines, and we have to pay that. But they start at about 30/- to 35/-. This is nearer town, but as you get away further the wages are not so high. I am also interested in a farm about forty miles away. There the boys do not get more than 35/-, but here, nearer the town, and with the competition of the mines, we have to pay these higher wages.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do the boys get anything in addition to the money ?- Yes, they get their rations and they get monkey nuts, or things like that.

These rations, are they only for the boys or for the families ?- The married boy gets 25 lbs. of mealie meal and the single boy gets 20 lbs. per week.

Is that maize meal ?- Yes, plus probably a lb. of beans, of monkey nuts, or whatever there is, and he occasionally gets meat.

How frequently do they get meat ?- They get 1 lb. or 1½ lbs. now and then. I have natives who come perhaps once a month for it. My neighbour I know, that is one of them, gives them a weekly allowance of meat.

MR. MOSTERT: You know that it is a good ration of mealie meal which you give them. They cannot eat as much. 2½ lbs. is as much as they can eat. Now, at the rate of wages which you pay, can you make your farming pay ?- Well, Sir, I am trying to make my living out of it.

What I am getting at is the present rate of wages which the farmer pays. Is it an economic wage ?- You cannot grow many crops on these wages, I admit that. At present the only two payable crops here are cotton and tobacco, which will stand that.

And other things, such as mealies and vegetables ?- Yes.

Now, can maize stand this price ?- You cannot grow maize here.

MR. LUCAS: Would you be able to grow maize here if the wages were lower ?- No, you could not.

So it is not a question of wages ?- No, it is not. You cannot grow it here.

I am following that out. As you have to pay this wage, which is so much higher than the wage which generally prevails, have you noticed any re-organization that is taking place, any improved methods following upon your having to pay this higher wage ?- You mean the 35/- ?

No, I mean the 40/- and 50/- ?- Well, these after all are special boys, planter boys, or ploughing boys, and there are only a few of them. That is not the general run of wages. 30/- to 35/- is the general run, and only the special boys get more than that. I am only speaking of tax-paying boys, not the umfaans, who go from 5/- up. I am speaking of full-grown boys. Only the special boys who have proved themselves able to do certain classes of work get more than that.

Would you say that there is any wastage or any excessive number of natives kept on a farm when the wages are 35/-? Would you say that in this district there is a waste of labour where these wages are paid ?- Well, I want to say this, that to be successful you have to be very careful with your labour.

But when you have these labourers on the squatting system the position is somewhat different ?- I ~~think~~ treat them exactly the same.

I am taking the people who take advantage of their ninety-days' free labour. Do you think that they ever use the labour as economically as could be done ?- No, I am sure they are not. I know of a case where the natives turn up very late in the morning and they do very little work. I know of a case a year or two ago where, in order to get a certain deviation put through, a number of farmers co-operated with us to do this work. We agreed to supply the material if our neighbours would send the special labour, each of them were to send two or three, so that we should have thirty or forty men working there in all. Well, the free labour was very unsatisfactory. The natives do not like working with free labour. They call it themselves "forced labour", and they are very difficult to get on with. As a matter of fact, those men do not obey their masters, and that is why we are against it, and it upsets all your other labour.

THE CHAIRMAN: By free labour you mean the ninety days' labour ?- Yes.

In other words, the squatting system is uneconomical ?- It is.

And it is only put up with in order to make sure that you have labour ?- Yes, that is so.

If these natives could be concentrated in the reserves, provided sufficient labour came out of the reserves, you would prefer that system? You would think that there could be a more economical use of labour ?- Yes, I think so.

MAJOR ANDERSON: What do you pay for cotton picking?-

What do you pay for cotton picking ?- 3d. per 10 lbs, plus food.

And you have had a good crop this year - a good cotton crop ?- Yes.

That means quite a considerable additional amount spent by the natives of this district ?- Yes, quite a good deal.

What is the average amount earned by cotton - pickers ?- I have paid as much as 2/6d. for a day's work to an ordinary Swazi woman. They come here from Swaziland to pick cotton. They come from the surrounding mountains of Swaziland.

You say that you get women from Swaziland ?- Yes, they come and go as they like. It is what you call "togt" labour. They get 2/6d. per day.

Do you employ your daily paid boys on picking too ?- It is done, and the way I myself and some of my neighbours do it is to say that supposing they are 1/- per day boys, if they pick 40 lbs. for their ordinary days, for every 10 lbs. which they get over they get 3d. They like doing that. If a boy makes 1/3d. a day it means that he has picked 50 lbs. It means that he has to pick 50 lbs. before he gets a bonus. One of my neighbours shewed me his figures and he had natives who averaged 50 and 60 lbs. a day.

If cotton growing goes ahead here, it will mean a good deal of improvement in the economic condition of the natives here?- I think so, yes. I think that one of the ways in which labour will be increased. is by making the boys work here and earn more. By increasing the wants and the needs of the natives you create an inner urge and you will get a more constant supply of labour.

Is there much additional land which could be put

down to grazing, and is there much land which could be put down to cotton growing in the future ?- Yes, there is a great deal that could be put down for cotton growing. With the increase in the cotton which has come this year the pickers have come out this year to get the wage. There being a bigger amount of cotton they could pick more. Natives have come from all over Swaziland and elsewhere, and this year I have not had to resort to my ordinary monthly labour. I had about 420 farm bales from 185 acres of cotton and it was all picked by tog labour - women and children.

They like the work ?- Yes; there is one matter which might be of interest to this Commission. It is in regard to cotton picking. I feel that women and children are most useful for our seasonal cotton work and also for hoeing; they come in for that as well. We have a big source of labour, which has been very little tapped, and those women and children who wish to work to get money for themselves supply that source. There is a very big source and that labour cannot be taken from us. The man labour can be taken to the Witwatersrand for the mines. But while the men will go, the women will not, and if we build up our industry on that basis I am convinced that a very much bigger industry will be the result. The man labour will be recruited more and more by big industries, which come here and pay more wages. The women and children must be looked after when they come here. Now, Sir, the usual rule is that when women and children come here from the kraals they want to make money to buy nice things for themselves. They want to buy clothes and such things. They come to a farmer and they

ask him for work, and the farmer says "yes, I will take you on; I want all the labour I can get". And then he tells them to go to John, or Jack, over there, and he will tell them where they can sleep. Well, these are seasonal women coming there and they are thrown on the mercy of natives from all over. They are timid and frightened, but they have no option and they have to go and sleep where they are told. Now, my contention is that these women should be protected. In my case I have what I call a women's compound. No ~~xxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxx~~ native male of any description is allowed there at all, under any circumstances. I ~~xxxx~~ try to make these women as comfortable as possible. I have a woman cook for them and other amenities. There is a white Manager's house between this compound and the other, and no native male is allowed in that women's compound. The only time when I have had to lash boys is when I have found them approaching that compound. I have given them lashes in those cases, and that is the only time ~~x~~ I believe in doing so. It is a most serious offence on my farm, because I rely on women very much. And I feel that if this idea could become more general, so that these native women would know that they would be protected if they went to a farm, I feel that we would get all the labour that we want. The result is this. I was farming up to two years ago, when I had to go back to the mines. When I came back here I had no labour, but this year I have had all the labour I want. When labour comes to me I tell them that I do not want them if they just want to come and go. I tell them that I want to keep them. I tell them that if they want to remain for at least three months they can remain, and they do remain.

When the hoeing comes in the summer-time I know that they want to go home, but there are a certain number who work right through the year. I think it is a very important point, and if the farmers would only realise that these women are under their charge, and if they look after them, we should have all the labour we want. You must realise that the fathers and mothers really do not want their children to go away. They do not want their daughters to go and work elsewhere. The young men make love to them, and the parents lose.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: Do you allow your natives whom you pay a regular wage to keep cattle on the farm?— Much against the grain, yes. I am forced to do it.

Is there much desertion of piccanins on the farm?— I have had a few cases. But I make a point of ~~making~~ getting them to remain on the farm.

We have been told that these piccanins run away on account of the treatment which they get?— It may be so, but I do not know.

What was the case with you?— Well, of course they want to knock about town. I am only three miles away from the town and my great difficulty is that these boys want to knock about the town in the evenings.

This ninety-days' system, from the farmer's point of view is it an economical system?— No, it is not economical. I am convinced of that. It spoils all your other boys.

Do you think the idea that the farmers should draw their labour supplies from the Reserves is practicable?— It is desirable, but not practicable. They are too far away. I shall give you an idea of where it is practicable. We own a farm forty miles from here, on the Swaziland border.

There are two locations near each other. On that farm we get all the labour we want, because the boys can go home for the week-end and even in the evenings.

Are you aware that there is any great desire on the part of the natives living on the farm to have education for their children ?- Yes, there is.

Do you think that some natives leave the farms because they cannot get their children educated there ?- I could not say that, but there is a desire among the natives to learn.

Are there any educational facilities on ~~xxxx~~ any of the farms ?- Yes, there is a school quite near by.

MR. LUCAS: You said that in this district there are where the farms/~~xxxx~~ a number of natives is excessive, that is where they are allowed to squat ?- Yes, that is so.

Does not that point to the fact that as you have a shortage they are not satisfied with the conditions elsewhere ?- As these natives said this morning, they are compelled to work all the time and if they are on a farm where there is an absentee landlord they can do as they like, and the conditions please them. They can work under conditions which please them.

They can make a living, they are satisfied, and it is only some sort of pressure which drives them out to work elsewhere ?- Yes, but they prefer to live on an absentee landlord's farm, and then go away and work for a time. That is what they like.

THE COMMISSION ADJOURNED UNTIL 3 p.m.

ON THE COMMISSION RESUMING.

DR. MR JOHN HENRY SYPKENS, called and examined:

THE CHAIRMAN: You are the Medical Officer of Health for Barberton ?- Yes, I am. The Health Committee of this town asked me if I would appear to give evidence before you and the points on which they wish me to speak are really in reference to the prevalence of venereal disease amongst natives. Barberton is one of the few towns in the Union, excepting perhaps Cape Town and Durban, which has a Venereal Diseases Clinic. I think Barberton is about the only Dorp which has such a Clinic. Now this disease seems to be on the increase, and it certainly is not diminishing amongst the natives. Lately we have had a number of cases of householders who have brought along native girls suffering from syphilis. These native girls were in charge of children and it was suggested that I should bring this matter to your notice. The Health Committee would like these native women to be examined, but there is no legislation at present under which it can be done, except through the employer sending these girls to the doctor. This really also came about by our receiving a letter from the Secretary of Public Health dated the 9th of August, in which he urged the necessity for the reduction of expenditure, and this sounds rather alarming where this disease is prevalent that one should be asked by the Health Authorities to cut down. These are the words which are used in the letter: "Even if this involves restricted temporary facilities for the treatment of disease." The Health Committee felt that it was very alarming that there was a possibility of these facilities being restricted. The only other point which I was asked to

raise here was in regard to natives living in townships in a district like this. They are chiefly, I may say they are all, infected with malaria and hence they are a source of infection for other domestic servants who have their sleeping quarters near European houses; they are also a source of infection to Europeans. They come from their kraals in the Low Veld, where they are often infected as children, and they come into the towns; they are employed as domestic servants or otherwise, and they are a very real danger to the white people. There is an effort being made at present to have adequate housing here at the location, but on account of some minor technicality under the Urban Areas Act these houses, which were built eighteen months ago, have not yet been put into use. There is apparently not that elasticity under the Act which one would welcome, and which would have enabled the natives to live in these houses. I do not know what it was, possibly there was no bathroom or some minor thing like that which has held things up. But the Health Committee feel that if the Act was more elastic they would have been able to put the natives into these houses by this time. The houses are certainly very much superior to those in which the natives are living now, and the conditions are certainly very much better than those under which natives are allowed to live at the present moment in the location. On the whole, I think that the housing of natives here is very bad indeed. They are put into any sort of hovel in the backyard.

You mean the housing of natives who are resident on the premises of their employers? - Yes. The standard is very low and it is a very hard thing to try and

induce householders to build decent houses for their natives.

Are these houses which the Municipality has built in the location ?- Yes, in the location.

What construction are they ?- They are made of Kimberley brick; a very big brick, with a window and a door.

We were told this morning that the bulk of the houses in the location are of corrugated iron and that they are not lined ?- That is so.

Is not that most unsuitable ?- Very much so. And this Nissen hut, too; that also is very unsuitable.

Is this tendency to build with Kimberley brick due to the desire to get away from corrugated iron ?- Yes.

Can you give us any indication from the records of your Clinic what the incidence is of venereal disease among natives in the urban area ?- No, it is impossible to do that. They come from all over. We get them as far as from Rustenburg. I had one last week. He had had his brother treated here, and he came too. His brother has apparently been cured, and this boy paid his ticket from Rustenburg to be treated here. We get them from Swaziland and from all over the place.

How many cases do you deal with in the course of a year, I mean individuals ?- I could not give you any number, but I would say that during the year there is an average of about 25. This clinic of ours is a hospital.

You say about 25, are they regularly treated ?- Yes; I may say that this hospital is run exceedingly cheaply. I think the average cost amounts to somewhere about 2/- per patient per day. There is no light there. They cook their own food, because after the first week

they are practically healthy and they do most of their own wood-gathering. They are only supplied with blankets and simple food. The cost, so far as the Government is concerned, is very, very small indeed.

This morning we were given evidence that hospital treatment for natives costs 3/- per day. Does that refer to the treatment at this Venereal Diseases Clinic? - No. It does not cost them anything. The cost is about 2/- per patient per day.

MR. MOSTERT: So there are no charges from the natives for venereal treatment? - No, it is entirely free and they are also given their medicines free. They come of their own free will, I may say.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are they given food free? - Yes, they get everything free; food and blankets.

And medicine? - Yes, they get their medicine free and also their injections. Everything is free.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: How long do they stay in hospital? - I give them for about six weeks. There is no actual time. The treatment of syphilis should really continue for two years, that is what is reckoned for a white man. During the six weeks they get seven weekly injections and daily they get mercury in unctions, that is rubbing. If you treat them as out-patients, the moment the external sores disappear they disappear too. And as happens in this Lazaretto at Rietfontein, even there the treatment is very perfunctory and the disease is inclined to break out again. It may not be apparent when he leaves, but it comes back. Of course, what I say about Rietfontein was ^{the} ~~a~~ case some years ago and it might not be so nowadays. When I was on the Rand, we sent natives from the mines there,

and they used to come back after two or three months with the sores broken out again. It is useless just giving a couple of injections and ~~xxxxxx~~ thinking that that will cure it.

THE CHAIRMAN: This system of intensive treatment for six weeks, do you think that that is of more use ?- Yes, it is, but still they come back and have relapses.

Why is it that the treatment for Europeans, who presumably pay, is for a few years? Is it more effective if the injections are spread over a longer period ?- This treatment of six weeks is not really a cure. We hope it is, but the trouble is that the Government will not spend any money on curing the natives properly; it is much too expensive a process. There are other things too, but I do not know that one should speak of them. I believe there was a tendency some years ago to give them just two injections. Well, that is absolutely useless.

DR. ROBERTS: You say that this disease is on the increase ?-, Well, it is very difficult to say, but it appears to be on the increase.

Because there is another view that it is not on the increase and I think that that view is held by the Department, is it not ?- Yes, but I do not know where the Health Department get their figures from.

You think it is on the increase here ?- Yes.

Have you any idea why it should be that syphilis should be so bad here and in Bechuanaland, and does not appear at the Cape or in Natal much ?- No, I could not say; when I was at the Cape at the New Somerset Hospital I spoke to the Doctor in charge there. They had a Specialist in charge there.

These men who come from Namaqualand -- I am talking now of pure native Territory, where it does not appear to be serious -- ?- The more educated they become the more I think you find venereal disease increasing, because there is more promiscuous sexual intercourse.

Among the natives ?- Not among the ^{un-}educated but among those who come more in touch with civilization when they lose the influence of the Chief. They do not belong to particular kraals where an eye is kept on them. Round about the mines you find it very much.

I should say that that is rather a general statement, because in the Transkei and in Natal it is rare as a disease ?- That may be.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: Is this a disease caused by sexual intercourse ?- Not only that.

DR. ROBERTS: Do you urge the examination of native girls ?- Only when asked by the employer.

But why by the employer ?- Because there is no legislation for native girls to be examined. The boys are examined by the Health Officers as they come from for work. The Native Affairs Department has given them passes to allow them to look for work, and they are sent to the District Surgeon.

You know of course that the general feeling is against examination ?- Yes, I know that.

Would you set that aside ?- I do not quite follow.

You know that the general feeling is against the examination of women. Would you set that general feeling aside for the sake of one or two employers ?- I have no personal views on the matter. It was the Health Committee of this Municipality who thought it was desirable.

Now, in your hospital how many patients would you have ?- Sometimes we have forty, and sometimes fifteen; the average would be about 25.

And that is drawn from how large an area ?- Probably the whole of the Barberton Magisterial Area, from Komatipoort to Waterval Onder.

Which would give probably 100,000 natives?- I do not know. I could look that up for you.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: Now you say that they come willingly ?- Well, some do, and some are sent in by the police. You will find that the man gets that disease and the other men in the kraal do not like the look of him, and they report him to the police.

DR. ROBERTS: You know, as a medical man, that it is suggested in America and Germany that the syphilis which the natives suffer from is slightly different from that which Europeans suffer from ?- Yes, I know that that theory is put forward. I have read of it.

May not that be the case ?- No, I do not think so. I think the theory is quite wrong.

You think it is the same pathological thing ?- I think so, in every respect.

Now, with regard to your location; you say that the Urban Areas Act is not elastic enough ?- That is the view which the Health Committee have asked me to put forward. I am simply representing their views.

You said that the housing was very bad ?- Yes, the housing of the natives in the town is very bad.

Only in the town ?- It is not too good at the location.

Why have you set aside Kimberley brick for these

houses which you have built ?- It seems very good.

MR. MOSTERT: That statement which you made with regard to the semi-educated native, is that perhaps owing to the fact that in the locations you always find prostitutes ?- I do not think so, because it is in their interests to keep clean. That is a great thing.

But you admit that there are ?- Yes, I do.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do they know enough about the subject to fight clear of the disease ?- To a certain extent they do, but they do not altogether.

MR. MOSTERT: You will agree that where there is perhaps one who has this disease she would infect dozens ?- Yes, I think it is more where the native loses respect for his Chief, where he becomes a detached sort of being, where he becomes detribalised. I am not personally keen on the strict clearing of locations of all women who are suspect, because I think that the danger to attacks on white women is very much lessened by having these ladies of easy virtue in the location. There are a lot of these natives who are away from their homes, perhaps for a year or two, and they go and look for women. They have their ordinary, even stronger sexual feelings than the white man has, because they lead a more natural life. They are away from their women folk for a year and more, and my advice when asked would be not to clear those people out. I was not keen on the Location Superintendent chasing these women out, because I think they are a very good safety valve.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Are there any pauper patients at the hospital, or are they all required to pay ?- They are nearly all free. The only patients who pay at the general hospital here are patients from the mines and works,

as we call them. Their employers pay and none of the natives themselves pay.

One of the complaints this morning from the natives who came from the location was about having to pay 3/- per day, which they said was more than they earned?- I think that if you were to investigate that you would find it to be unfounded, because I have never known any of the natives here to pay.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does the Municipality pay? - No, this hospital gets a subsidy of £3,000 per year.

Is that a Provincial hospital then? - Yes.

MR. LE ROUXVAN NIEKERK: Do you get any native women patients at your clinic? - Yes, we get lots of women and children, and we treat them all.

And do they come of their own free will? - Yes, or where a man is brought in the Police have^a/look at the kraal and see^{whether}/~~if~~ many women and children have been infected. They may have been eating out of the same eating or drinking utensils.

DR. ROBERTS: It might be congenital? - Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Can you distinguish congenital cases from others? - Yes, one can do that.

Can you say anything about the percentage of cases which come in which are congenital? - I should say it would be about 1% or $\frac{1}{2}\%$. There are very few. In fact, practically none. The danger of this disease not being treated properly is that perhaps in ten or twenty years you find your native brought to the hospital practically paralysed. He has developed paralysis and he is a burden on the State or on his kraal. Or otherwise they may develop diseases of the arteries, which incapacitate them for work.

DR. ROBERTS: Do you find the disease affects the brain ?- Yes, and it affects the spine as well. You have several cases like that. That is in those cases which have not been cured, or in self-cured cases.

MAJOR ANDERSON: What proportion of cases are there that are caused by other causes than intercourse, by infected utensils for instance ?- Perhaps one in four, 25%. Very often the father becomes infected and he infects the whole of his family, and if he has two or three wives, it is very serious indeed.

MR. WILLIAM PATRICK GRANT MACPHERSON, called and examined:

THE CHAIRMAN: You are the Superintendent of the Native Location ?- Yes.

Are there any points which you wish to make with regard to the work of this Commission ?- No, I have nothing to say but if you wish to put any questions to me I shall be pleased to answer them.

Can you give us any indication of the number of people living in the location ?- I took a census last year; there are 170, including youngsters.

Can you distribute that figure into sexes, children and grownups ?- I shall let you have the list. I have got them all down.

You could not give us any idea of how many of these are adult males and how many are females ?- The majority are children. They are all married in the location. There are youngsters there lodging with the other people and going to school.

Do these children come from outside ?- Yes.

And they lodge with the families in the location ?-
Yes, they live with them and they go to school.

Does the Municipality make an additional charge for these people who have lodgers ?- No, they do not charge anything extra for the children that are there to go to school, but they do charge for the others.

What do they charge for regular lodgers then ?-
The Municipality makes me charge 5/- per month.

And what do they charge for a family occupying a Municipal house ?- 10/-, or 12/6d. per month.

Is that because there are different sizes of houses ?-
Yes, the rent for a house of two rooms is 10/-, but for a house with two rooms and a kitchen it is 12/6d. per month.

These houses are of corrugated iron ?- Yes, nearly all.

And are they unlined ?- Yes, they are mostly unlined.

Do you know what they cost the Municipality to put up ?-
No, I do not know, they were mostly bought from the British Government at the time when the Military were here; the majority of them were.

And the amount which they have to pay for rent, does that include service ?- Yes, it includes sanitary and water, and everything else.

Is there any provision for recreation ?- Very little.

What is there ?- Well, there is a tennis court, but that is about all. There was a football ground, but they say it was too far from the town for them.

How far is it from the town to the location ?- About one mile. They say it is too far.

DR. ROBERTS: Can you tell us what are the figures with regard to males and females ?- Adults - male and female - 78; male youngsters under 18 - 45; female 41. Males over 18 - 2;

females 1.

There cannot be many prostitutes then ?- We do not allow the females employed in the town into the location. They have to stay with their employers.

Have you light in the location ?- No.

You do not think it is a necessary thing ?- Well, I have applied for lights but the Municipality will not grant them.

What is the general health of the location ?- The health is good, I should say.

Have you got a native council to assist you in your work ?- I have not got a Council but I have got an Advisory Board.

How many are there on it ?- I have six members on it; three are elected and three appointed.

Do they operate well ?- Yes, they operate very well, but they have very little to say and very few complaints. Most of them do not live in the location.

Where do they live ?- There are some ministers and school teachers on that Advisory Board, and only two of the people who are members live in the Location.

But they are of considerable help to you ?- Oh yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Where do they live, these ministers and school teachers ?- In the town and outside. There are four ministers among them, and they live in their church mansees. They are exempt from living in the location.

DR. ROBERTS: Now, what do the bulk of these children do, do they work in the shops or do they do nothing - I am referring to those of 15 years of age and over ?- Some of them work in the town.

If they work in the town, and their parents are in the

location, they can stay in the location, but others have to stay with their employers?— Yes, that is so.

DR. ROBERTS: That is on the assumption that their employers have got rooms for them?— Well, they are supposed to have rooms for them.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is there any provision for temporarily putting up families who come from outside to look for work?— There are buildings, two large buildings, which are called "rest-rooms" or "hostels", but they have not yet been used. They are not yet properly finished. They are about 70 feet long each. The floors are only being made now.

DR. ROBERTS: Who will take charge of these hostels, some woman I take it?—, No, I have no women there at all; I have only got two native boys there.

You have got two native boys to take charge of a women's hostel?—, Yes, so far they have taken charge of everything.

MR. LUCAS: Have you put up any new buildings in the location in the last few years?— Yes, we have put ~~some~~ up some in the last few years.

What did they cost?— I could not tell you.

How much of the 10/- or 12/6d. do you reckon for water and sanitary services?—, I do not know what the total cost is to the Municipality. It all belongs to the Municipality.

What I want to find out is how much you reckon is just rent?— I could not say.

What was your object in charging for lodgers; you do not supply a room for them?— To pay for their sanitary and water.

Is not that rather a higher figure just for sanitary and water?— It is high even for Europeans here.

The way the natives look at that is that you make them pay rent for the house, and if they have someone to live with them, they have to pay again ?- Well, I cannot help it; that has only been passed by the Municipality just lately. It is only last month that I got distinct orders to charge this 5/- per month for rent for lodgers.

And prior to that you did not charge ?- No, before that it was free. But at present my instructions from the Municipality are that visitors or relations coming to visit them for a fortnight can have the first fortnight free, but after that a charge of 5/- is made. After the first fourteen days are over they have to pay 3d. per night. Those were the last instructions which I received from my Council here, and I have to carry them out.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: Does not the location become over-crowded ?- No, not at present.

DR. ROBERTS: You mentioned the Municipality. Now do you deal with the Town Clerk or have you a committee of the Municipality to deal with Native Affairs, or what is your position here really ?- I am Superintendent of the Location. At present there are two Committees; the Works Committee and the Health Committee are combined. There are six Councillors on it, and they deal with me.

And you have to deal with them ?- Yes, of course. I get all my instructions in writing from the Town Clerk.

There is a definite Council dealing with the Location ?- Yes, one of the Sub-Committees.

You said the figures are high "even for Europeans." What did you mean by that, why did you use the word "even" ?- I do not know. I meant to say that they are a good bit higher for the Europeans than they are for the natives. That was all.

I thought you meant it as an excuse and that you meant to

say that the Europeans had to pay also. Because that after all is no excuse for the natives having to pay ?- Per-annally I have to pay 19/6d. per month and the natives only have to pay that for rent and all. I pay 19/6d. per month for water and sanitary.

DR. ROBERTS: That is a very high figure ?- Yes. I want to say that there are another 24 rooms just being built in the location, but they are intended for employees in the town. According to the new bye-laws it seems that they are going to turn all employees, except domestic servants, out of the town and that they want them to go to locations.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Do the natives themselves object to these unlined wood and iron houses, or do not they mind them ?- Well, they do object, and sometimes they ~~ask~~ ask to have them lined, but we cannot do that. If they want to have them lined they must do it themselves.

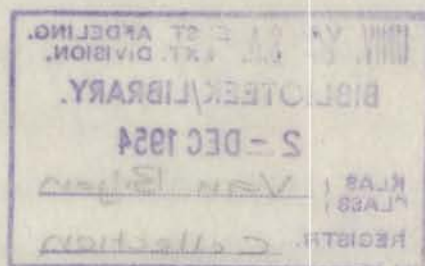
And do any of them line them themselves ?- Yes, sometimes they line them with canvass or something in that way. But there is not very much of that.

THE COMMISSION ADJOURNED AT 3 p.m., AND SUBSEQUENTLY PROCEEDED ON AN INSPECTION TO HECTORSPRUIT, THE NEXT PUBLIC SITTING OF THE COMMISSION BEING SET DOWN AT 2 p.m. AT HELSPRUIT, on FRIDAY, AUGUST 15th, 1930.

(Nelspruit).

INDEX.

Mr. S.C. Brown,	pp. 537 - 544.
Mr. L.J. Hall,	pp. 545 - 578.
Native Witnesses: Ephraim Zwane, etc.			pp. 579 - 590.



(Reprint)

INDEX

Mr. S.O. Brown, pp. 537 - 544.

Mr. L.J. Hall, pp. 545 - 548.

Native Witnesses: Ephraim Swane, pp. 549 - 550.

UNIV. VAN CAPE TOWN AFDELING.
OF S.A. EXT. DIVISION.

BIBLIOTHEEK/LIBRARY.

2 - DEC 1954

KLAS / Van Bilzen

CLASS

REGISTR. Collection

NATIVE ECONOMIC COMMISSION.

EIGHTH PUBLIC SITTING.

NELSPRUIT, AUGUST 15th, 1938, 3 p.m.
XXXXXXXXXX

PRESENT:

Dr. J.E. Holloway (Chairman),
Major R.W. Anderson. Dr. A.W. Roberts.
Mr. F.A.W. Lucas, K.C. Senator P.W. le Roux van Niekerk.
Mr. A.M. Mostert, Dr. H.C.M. Fourie.
Professor G.P. Lestrade (attended at the request of the
Commission).
Mr. C. Peye, Secretary.

MR. SAMUEL CLARKSON BROWN, called and examined:

THE CHAIRMAN: You are Superintendent of the Nelspruit
Native Location ?- Yes, and Town Clerk.

Could you tell us how many natives you have in your loca-
tion ?- Approximately 400.

Is that including families ?- Yes, men, women and
children.

Have you any idea how many families you have got there ?-
We have about 130 families, roughly speaking.

Could you give us an indication of the conditions under
which the natives live in the Location; the size of stands, and
so on ?- The size of a stand is 75 x 75 feet.

Are the buildings put up by your Council ?- No, we
could not afford to do that; we have no money for that
purpose.

So it means that the stands are there rented to the
natives ?- Yes. That is the position.

They building their own huts ?- That is so.

And what payment do they make for the stands ?- They pay
2/- for the site, and 6d. for sanitary, at present.

So that they pay 2/6d. per month ?- Yes, and when we get water there we shall give them the water to put on and it will cost them another 6d. per month.

What water is there at present ?- At present they get it from a canal there.

Is there $\frac{1}{2}$ a canal just above the location ?- Yes.

And those are the only services which you render to them ?- Yes, that is all we do at present.

How far out is the location from town ?- The location is about a mile from here, just about that.

Is there any facility for doing any gardening for these natives in the location ?- I am afraid not. The stands do not lend themselves to any gardening being done, to any extent. They are too small and we are hampered for room, and as a matter of fact we have not got too much space on the town lands. Unfortunately, we cannot do anything.

Are the natives allowed to graze animals on the town lands ?- Yes, they are allowed to do that.

And are they limited to any number ?- No, there are no restrictions put on, so far, and they are not charged for grazing. All they pay is dipping fees.

Do they graze on the town lands ?- Yes, they do.

Have they got any number of cattle grazing there ?- No, the number they have there is not considerable; only three or four families living in the location have any cattle.

Do they have any milk cows ?- Yes, most of them have cows, and they graze them there.

MR. MOSTERT: What are the sizes of the houses which they build ?- They vary tremendously, according to the work of the boys who put them up. As a matter of fact, I may say that we shifted them from a bad position here. We had them here on a very swampy place and I got them shifted to a better plot and they had to build their own houses and naturally some

of them put up very decent houses, but there were others who could not afford very much, they could only afford £5 or £6, and you can understand that they built accordingly.

Did I understand you to say that the size of a plot is 75 x 75 feet ?- Yes.

The house would not occupy the whole of that ?- No.

The house would occupy only about half of that ?- Yes.

So there would be plenty of room for a small garden ?-

Oh yes, for a small garden, but I was not talking of that.

I was talking of planting seelies, and so on, but they can have vegetable gardens, and they do.

THE CHAIRMAN: They can have any sort of garden where they can grow things ?- Yes, and they do that.

MR. MOSTERT: Gardens where they can plant such things as beans and potatoes ?- Yes, they do that.

DR. ROBERTS: But you have plenty of room outside the town. You are not restricted for space ?- Yes, we are restricted in regard to healthy positions.

75' x 75' seems small ?- The law lays down 50' x 50'.

Yes, I know what the law says ?- As it is at present we have utilised all the ground we have there, and we have no more ground available. There are boys wanting plots and we would have to make a second location if the present location gets much bigger.

Now, these 130 people, what would they mainly be occupied in, in stores ?- Yes, mostly in stores and working in town.

Domestic servants are allowed to live in town ?- Yes, they are.

What wages does the Municipality pay its native servants ?- Those wages range from about £2.10.0. to about £4, £4.10.0. would be the highest.

Is that with or without food and quarters ?- That is without food and quarters.

And do these boys live in the location or do you have a compound for them ?- No, they live in the location.

What class of work would a boy be doing who is getting say £4.10.0. per month ?- Well, it all depends, the boy who would be getting £4.10.0. - our police boy would get that, and then in town there are a shoemaker, a tailor, a baker, and so on. Very few get anything like £4 and £4.10.0.

Those others whom you mentioned just now, are they natives working on their own behalf ?- Yes.

And you cannot say what they earn ?- No.

They cater entirely for natives ?- Well, the shoemaker works for anyone, but the others for natives.

Is he the only shoemaker here, or are there white shoemakers as well ?- There is a white shoemaker as well.

And is £2.10.0. the minimum paid by the Village Council ?- £2.10.0. is what is paid for a grown-up boy. The umfaams of course we pay less to.

Dox the Municipality employ umfaams ?- Yes, leaders for scotch-carts, and herding, and so on.

And do you lay down any restrictions in regard to the type of houses that may be built ?- No. It all depends on what a boy can afford. We do not lay down any restrictions, but we try to get them to build as decent a house as they can; but as to laying down any restrictions I am afraid conditions are not such that that can be done.

Now you spoke of this particular area where the location is as being healthy ?- Yes, it is a healthy area.

I take it that that matters only at night for sleeping ?- Yes, what I am particularly referring to is the mosquitoes.

Have you thought of the possibility of providing small holdings in other areas, where a certain amount of work could be done by the work for themselves ?- Well, we have not thought of it because we have not got the available land.

What is the area of your Village Council ?- About 800 or 900 morgen, and some grazing in the hills.

Is there anything that could be set aside for agricultural purposes ?- No, there is not, because you would have to get water. To get water is practically an impossibility. We are now trying to get enough land ourselves for our own domestic use.

You are at ~~xxx~~ present arranging to lay on water in the location ?- Yes, from our reservoir.

Will that be done soon ?- We have made enquiries for the laying down of the pipes. It is only a matter of time now, and it will be done within the next few months.

And will that be extended to the location ?- Yes, that is the intention.

And what about light ?- Well, ~~xxx~~ we cannot give them light in the location. We are restricted for light, and I may say that we ourselves are very near our peak load from the railways. Our position is that we get our light from the Railways and at night we get very near our peak load.

Are there any schools in the location ?- Yes, they have a school of their own there and also a mission school.

Are they both in the location ?- Near the location.

Do all children of school-going age go to school ?- I do not know.

Is there any pressure brought to bear by the Council to make them send their children to school ?- No.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: You have no houses in the

location yourself ?- No, we have not built any ourselves.

Does not the location lend itself to becoming overcrowded ?- We are thinking of building a second location very shortly, because we are finding that the railway boys are badly housed in the railway camp, and as a result it may be necessary for us to build a new location to accommodate those railway boys, and probably we shall be doing so shortly.

Would you put up your own buildings ?- No, they would have to put up their own houses in that location, just in the same way as is done in the present location. We could not afford to put up any houses for them.

And the present location, is that rather overcrowded ?- No, not to any extent. I cannot say that it is overcrowded.

MR. LUCAS: This present location, is that in a healthy part ?- Well, it is in as healthy a part as we can find. The canal runs above the location and there is running water in the canal, and as a rule mosquitoes do not breed in running water. That is what we understand.

Some kinds of mosquitoes do breed in running water - that is the latest theory ?- Yes, but not a real mosquito.

Is there any charge for lodgers in the location ?- There is no charge at present for lodgers in the location, but we are seriously thinking of making a charge for lodgers of 1/- per month. That is under consideration at present.

Why are you considering doing that ?- Because they use water and sanitary.

It has been provocative of a lot of trouble in other locations ?- Has it? As a matter of fact, it has been suggested by the Advisory Board of the location itself.

A number of natives look upon it in this way.

They say that they are paying rent and if they have a lodger their space is to that extent restricted and then they still have to pay in addition to the rent. That is the way in which they look upon it. Is there any provision for recreation in the location? Well, we have not made any ground, but they are utilising ground there for football and there are other areas which we allow them to use.

Is there a hall of any sort? No, there is no building of any sort there.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: What is the total in rates? At present it is 2/6d. per month.

Does that include water and light? No, it does not include yet, but when we do supply them with water we shall charge them another sixpence per month.

What do you charge Europeans for sanitary rates? For sanitary rates they pay 11/- per month.

I suppose your sanitary rates in the location are on a communal system? Yes, in the location they have communal latrines. That is the present position.

Does the sixpence cover that? No, so far they are in debt to us. As a matter of fact, I may say that we have never collected more than we have spent on the location.

DR. ROBERTS: You have 130 houses? Yes.

Now, each one pays 2/6d? That is so, but I suppose we collect about ^{£15}~~250~~ out of all of them for the whole of the location.

MR. MOSTERT: You get a certain amount for sanitary rates? Yes, we have a certain number of buckets there and we charge accordingly.

You get £3.5.0. from them for sanitary rates? It amounts to about that.

MR. LUCAS: It works out at about sixpence per house?

?- Yes, roughly speaking it is about that.

It is on the basis of so much per pail for the householder ?- Yes, that is the position.

How many pails are there in the location ?- About sixteen, I think, so far.

There is this about it, that they are easier to collect and treat than if each household had its own, because they are all close together ?- Yes, that is so.

Is there any refuse removal service ?- No, not so far from the location; we have not got that yet.

What do they do with their refuse ?- They throw it outside the location at present, but that is a thing which we are going into at the next meeting of the Council. We have been trying to get them to put their refuse into definite collecting places, but I may say that so far we have not been very successful. We are going into that at our next meeting and the intention is that some regulation of that kind shall be enforced.

You have an Advisory Council ?- Yes, we have.

Has it brought up any points for consideration lately ?- No, it has not done so yet, because they are only holding their first meeting this month.

~~xxx~~ It has only recently been put up ?- That is so.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Do you do anything for tree planting ?- No, we have done nothing so far, but we intend giving them ~~xxxxxxx~~ a few trees to plant there in their street in the location.

MR. LUCAS: Have you thought of the possibility of encouraging them to keep fowls for shows and prizes ?- No, we have not gone into that so far.