

has developed from the pick, which is not used now, except in the gardens or in picking in the seed. They all use ploughs. The ~~plough~~ ploughs are very extensively used, but there is no attempt made to stump. They burn off and they simply cut off the branches of the trees and they pack them up together and set them on fire. Naturally, in the course of time you have a fairly level surface, but the stumps are always underneath and ploughing becoming useless, although as I have said ploughs are used.

MR. VAN NIEKERK: They use a light plough do they not ?- Yes.

MR. LUCAS: Is not that because it is cheaper if ?- Yes, and it is easier to handle. Invariably it is the little girls and boys who do the ploughing.

Is that because the men are away ?- Yes, to a large extent that is so. The little chaps are supposed to be able to do it just as well, seeing that the oxen really do the work and they walk behind them.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kirsten mentioned instances which he had seen - instances of natives manuring; are they exceptional ?- Yes, I should say that they are very exceptional.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: Do they go in for any rotation in crops ?- They do not go in for any actual rotation, but I think that probably through years of experience and through tradition they plant mealies and kaffir beans together, and that probably keeps the fields going longer than would otherwise be the case.

THE CHAIRMAN: They plant the two in the same year in the same crop ?- Yes. I do not think that they really know the reason for it, but probably it is traditional.

DR. ROBERTS: What conditions of contract have your tenants got with you ?- It is an annual contract - it is renewable annually on payment of rent.

You can dismiss them at the end of the year ?- Well, the tenancy terminates on the 30th of June. It is made that in order to suit the annual crop.

You do not think that this tenancy system would naturally prevent them from bettering themselves and from improving ?- No, because they have no reason to suppose that they will be removed from that ground.

But they have no reason to suppose that they will stay ?- I agree with Mr. Kirsten that the native is very fond of his own home. I do not think that they consider that they are in any way prevented from bettering themselves under present conditions.

MR. VAN NIEKERK: Now in twenty years have you chased off any ?- Hardly any. The only reason why they are ever chased is when they do not pay their rent. The native knows that so long as he pays he is safe, and generally speaking he pays.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do you experience any difficulty in the collection of your rents ?- No, none.

Do they come in to pay their rents ?- No, I have to chase them.

You have to chase them - do you have to apply three or four times for your money ?- I X would not say that - you have to make two or three calls, but generally speaking they are very reasonable and they pay reasonably.

Are the natives more or less dependent on agriculture now than they used to be ?- It is difficult to say.

I should say they are less dependent than they used to be.

Have you any reason to give for that ?- I should say that the opening up of communications is responsible. The whole of the district is opened up now and there are roads leading everywhere. The railway is nearer by.

* In the conditions of the past were they faced with such difficulties as shortage of grain ?- Yes. In 1896 there was a very serious shortage; in that year we had rinderpest, locusts, and a partial drought. Crops were a complete failure. The whole of East Africa and the whole of Portuguese East Africa had famine conditions, and the same applies to the greater part of the low country here. The Government had to supply grain, Argentine grain, which was sent from Pretoria by mule waggon. The position was very serious and oxen could not travel on account of the rinderpest, which was ravaging these areas. There was no grazing on the roads for the mules owing to the drought, so they had to carry their own food. Grain was distributed among those people, while other people again sold to the natives at I think 4/10d. per bag, but I have it on good authority that in many areas the natives had to pay £10 per bag for grain, which meant £ 1/- per lb.

How did they get the money to pay for that ?- They either had to find it or starve.

How could they find it ?- Well they paid through barter, and then they bought in a shilling's worth. Many of these people used to go out to work in those days, but you know the nature of the native - when there

was starvation at home they came back to die with their families.

They came back to die rather than live and have food elsewhere ?- Yes, rather than have their families suffering. Then again later on there was a big scarcity but I do not remember particulars of that. I can tell you gentlemen that in 1896 it was a common occurrence to find a dead native - a man who had starved along the road. .

MAJOR ANDERSON: It has not happened since then, has it ?- No, it has not happened since the Anglo-Boer war, although things have been very scarce here, but we have the railways, and it was possible to rush up food, and things were not so bad.

MR. LUCAS: When you say that natives are not so dependant on agriculture now as formerly, you mean if there is a famine you can rush food up ?- Yes, that is so.

But there is another aspect, do the natives produce nothing else except agricultural products ?- Well, they produce stock of course.

That is an agricultural product - anything else ?- No.

So for their own maintenance they are still as dependant on agriculture as they were formerly ?- Yes, but not to the same extent as formerly, because prices never ruled so low. The price of transport nowadays is moderate as compared with what it used to be in the olden days.

DR. ROBERTS: Do you find the natives borrowing much in your part of the country; do they borrow much from traders and others ?- No, I do not think so.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do they buy on credit from traders - do traders give them credit ?- I could not say - I hardly think so. Probably in exceptional cases they would.

Generally it is a case of barter ?- Yes, barter or cash, but I do not think there is much credit given.

Are you conversant with the conditions of contract between farmers and their natives on the farms ?- Yes, I am conversant with these conditions in a general way. Contracts are almost invariably three-months' contracts. But the contracts are not always registered, because the owner generally knows his boys and the boys know the owner.

The three-months' contract is a general thing throughout the district ?- Yes.

You do not find natives working longer than three months and being given additional perquisites for that ?- No. Of course that may happen occasionally, but I do not think it is a general rule. Generally the farmer gets the three months' work and then the boy asks for a pass and goes to look for work.

And afterwards ?- Afterwards he comes back.

That means that the farmers must sometimes have four times as many families on his farm as he requires for labour ?- Yes, that is so.

Does a considerable portion of the natives remain after they have worked their three months ?- Would you say that the majority of them go out to work for the remaining nine months ?- Yes, all the younger men go.

What age approximately do they go up to ?- Very little over 45. They go away till about 40 and 45.

How do the older men above 45 make a living ?- Well, their requirements are very small, and then invariably they have the assistance of their sons, and in addition they have a few cattle.

And presumably lobola applies ?- Yes, that is so.

They get cattle in that way ?- Yes.

Do the older men work on the farms to any extent ?- Generally they do the soft jobs. But I may say that over 45 they would still work on the farms for at least another ten years.

And what happens after that ?- Well after that it is perhaps a matter of grass cutting or occasional work. I am talking of the general rule, and generally also the women are supposed to work.

MR. MOSTERT: In the area in your charge you have between 60,000 and 70,000 morgen ?- No, I have more. That is the area occupied by natives, but I have numerous farms not occupied by natives. I have only referred here to the native areas. There are other farms on which I have no natives residing at all.

And you get about £6,000 in rent from these natives ?- Yes.

What do you reckon is the value of these farms per morgen ?- The average value is about 35/- to 40/- per morgen.

So that you are getting a very poor return for your money ?- Yes.

MR. LUCAS: What was the price paid per morgen ?- I cannot say. You see a lot of these farms were required by uittreksel. They were bought forty or fifty years

ago by the present owners. The original owner did not have the money to take up the uittreksel and the present owners came along and took them up. I may say that many of these farms have passed from one company to another. You will find many cases where one company has liquidated and another company has come in.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: Do you find that many of your natives leave your farms? - Not many; as a matter of fact many of the natives we have come from the locations to the farms.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do they come from European farms? - Yes, they do.

Would you say that many come from European farms? - A fairly large number do.

Under the contract which they have, can the natives plough as much as they want to? - Yes, just as much as they want to.

Are there any restrictions with regard to the cutting down of trees? - They are restricted, but if they want to make lands then they are not restricted. For domestic purposes they can use as much as they want to.

Is there a tendency to cut out the trees and finish them? - Yes, and it is very difficult to prevent. We do everything we possibly can to prevent them cutting down the big trees, but we cannot do it, and you find that trees are cut down all over.

It is often said in regard to the contract system that where a man has natives on farms, and even on your farms, that the contract is too much on a loose footing and that it prevents natives from making progress. Do you think it would make any difference to

the native in his life if you had given him a year's contract or a three years' contract ?- I do not think so. The only reason why a native may have to be moved from the farm is that the place may be sold to a white man, who may say to him "I do not want you on the farm." That would be the only thing to make a native nervous. Otherwise he would have no reason to be afraid of his contract being cancelled.

Do the natives prefer the hire conditions to the other conditions ?- Yes, they do. It may be that the purchaser of the farm may say "I do not want hire natives on my farm, you must work or go".

MR. LEROUX VAN NIEKERK: Maar die feit dat 'n kaffer op kontrak is meen nie dat hy nie beter kan ploeg nie of nie beter kan werk nie?-- Nee, seker nie.

Is daar skole op u plase?-- Die sendelings maak voorsiening, nie die eienaar van die plaas nie; maar ons neem dit in oorweging en ons laat altyd toe vir 'n leeraar om heeltemaal vry op 'n plaas te woon. In die Lage Veld is daar 'n half d_osyn skole en daar is altyd leeraars beskikbaar; dit is buite die sendelings skole.

VOORSITTER: Die manier waarop kaffers 'n plaas bewerk is 'n soort van roof boerdery ?--Ja dit is so.

Hul kap die bome uit?--Ja, en wanneer 'n stuk grond uitgeput raak neem hul 'n ander stuk grond.

Het die Maatskappye ooit op die kwessie ingegaan of die inkomste wat hul uit die plase kry genoeg is om hul te kom-penseer vir die vermindering van waarde?-- Nee, die eienaars van die land het die omstandighede aangeneem soos hul is . Die kaffers is op die land en hul kan hul nie van die land afkry en hul moet die beste maak van die omstandighede.

Is dit moontlik dat die waarde van die plase meer is as die inkomste wat hul daaruit kry?--Dit kan ek nie se nie.

Daar is altyd 'n voortdurende verbetering in die waarde van die land..... maar hul versleg dit.

MENEER MOSTERT: Die land raak uitgeput?-- Ja, die kaffers maak dit nie beter nie. hul put die grond uit deur die manier waarop hul dit gebruik en hul kry nie die beste daaruit nie.

Hul verniel die land?--Ja.

Do you know that the natives on the farms are working better ?- I cannot say that offhand. I do say this - they plough now, but they do not improve their methods generally. They do not pick anymore, that is so; they only use the picks to pick in seed, and they use the picks to clean, and they use them for cultivation. They do not use hoes or cultivators.

They do not use cultivators at all ?- Not in these areas.

THE CHAIRMAN: Can you tell us which system is more largely used, that of ninety-days' work or of two days a week? I am referring now to native tenants on the farms of Europeans ?- So far as I know, the system which is generally used is that of working ninety days in one stretch.

Is that in vogue more than the two days per week ?- Yes, the other system is used very little.

Do the farmers find that that system answers, or do they find that during reaping seasons they are very short of labour ?- I cannot say - there are a few months here when more labour is required. Many farmers use the women to clean the lands and to assist them in various other ways during the busy seasons.

The ninety-days' contract, does that include the labour which the native himself has at his disposal ? Does it include his sons and his women folk ?- Yes, it includes

his family. But there too I believe that the practice varies. What I want to say is this: many of the contracts are not registered. Where a native knows his boss he is satisfied to go along and work for him according to the custom which generally prevails in the area. The women are called upon to come and work in the kitchen and they work for three months, but generally speaking they are only called out to do certain classes of work. They are called out to cut the grass and to clean, to hoe and to help during the reaping season generally.

Looking back over the period you have been here, can you indicate any particular changes in the economic conditions that have taken place - can you indicate any changes now that have taken place as compared with forty years ago? The plough has come in, so you have told us. In regard to provision of food, they are no longer dependent absolutely on local production. Now, apart from the introduction of the plough has there been any farther progress in their cultivation methods? - Yes, I should say that his cattle are better secured against disease.

MR. LUCAS: That is a thing which the European has introduced, it is not? - Yes.

Has he better cattle nowadays, or were his cattle just as poor forty years ago? - No, the cattle are just the same. There is no attempt made to improve the cattle. Occasionally you come across some cross-bred cattle, but as a rule you may say that the natives do not like them and do not like a good class of cattle, because they are not so hardy as the scrub type.

So they go in for the hard-bred cattle? - Yes.

Now in the cultivation of their fields, apart from the introduction of the ploughs, has there been any further progress that you can speak of ?- No; that I can speak of, no.

Have the lands been more wastefully worked latterly than was the case before ?- No, I should say it is very much the same.

Are the conditions which we see now the result of wasteful cultivation ?- I think the old methods still persist. When the land becomes sterile they leave us alone and simply take another piece.

The cutting down of trees, is that in your development ?- Oh no, that has been going on for quite a long time.

At present the position may not be serious, but it may become a serious problem in the future. If that thing has been going on for forty years one can say that it has probably gone on for longer and that being so it would probably have become a serious problem before that. Now, do you think that it is a serious problem now, whereas forty years ago it was not ?- Well, forty years ago it was not as wasteful as it is now. I think one can say that things are more noticeable today than they were in the past.

But if it had been going on then surely the bush should not have been so thick, because after all the natives have been here hundreds and hundreds of years ?- No, that is not the point. There has been a big increase and the natives today are more concentrated than they were in the past, because they have left the areas in which they were to a large extent and those areas are today occupied by the whites.

THE CHAIRMAN:

/There is an increase of population both black and white ?- Yes, in these particular areas. All the circumstances have led to the concentration of the natives in the way I have indicated.

And I presume there has been an increase of stock as well ?- Yes, that is so undoubtedly.

And they have more stock today than they had in the past ?- Yes, that is so.

MR. LUCAS: I take it that the white man has also been responsible for a great deal of the destruction of trees, and so on, which has gone on ?- Yes. The white man has done a lot of burning, but not otherwise. Of course, near the towns the natives have brought in firewood, and so has the white man, but miles away the white man has not done ~~xxxx~~ that.

THE CHAIRMAN: The natives do not practice grass burning as part of their method of farming ?- I should not say that.

Do they do it now ?-x They burn patches and they cultivate them, but they are very often careless about the spreading of fires.

The burning of patches of land in order to get green fields, - do they go in for that ?- No, that is purely a white man's method.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: The grass has been fed off very short ?- Yes, of recent years with the increase of stock that is so. On certain farms the neighbours are very reckless in respect of the number of cattle they have. They very often over-stock, and that is more noticeable in the locations than elsewhere. But that is not a matter on which I can say much.

Would there be a tendency for the natives to go

out to work more than was the case forty years ago ?-
Yes, undoubtedly. Our natives from here used to go to
work in Kimberley.

Did they go out in such large numbers ?- Yes,
they used to go out. Nowadays too.

You have noticed a change in that ?- Well, they
still go out - probably more than in the past.

DR. ROBERTS: Do you consider that the natives
individually spend more today than what they did forty
years ago ?- Undoubtedly.

You would not venture on saying how much more ?-
I am afraid not.

Well if he spends more he must be earning more ?-
Well, he is earning more.

And he is better clothes nowadays, is he not ?- Yes.

And he is better fed ?- Yes, I think he takes
care of that. There is a very consistent complaint
among the people at home that the sons go away and that
they eat up all their money - all the money they earn
at work and that for eight or ten years they do not come
back.

So that his condition today is better than it was
forty years ago ?- I have no doubt about that.

And education is spreading ?- Yes.

And bigger ideas, wider ideas, are prevailing among
the natives today. Do you agree with that ?- Yes.

Now, do you think that that will go on, or is it
likely to come to an end with progress ?- That is diffi-
cult to say. There is a very strong inclination on the
part of the natives to maintain their old traditions,
customs and habits. That tendency is very strong indeed.

Do you find that ?- Yes.

Do you find that more today than it was forty years ago ?- It is difficult to make a comparison, but it is very strong. There is a very strong underlying tendency to maintain their own traditions.

That is not so with the younger men, except to a limited extent ?- I should not like to commit myself on that.

MR. MOSTERT: Do you say that he prefers his native customs ?- Yes.

He prefers his native kraal ?- He prefers his old home.

And do you think he feels the influence of the tribe to which he belongs ?- I think so.

And what is the position in the locations ?- Well I think the same applies to the locations, but not to the locations attached to the towns.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Are these farms of yours fully occupied by natives, or would you be able to take more natives on them ?- Some of them are thickly populated while others have only a few natives.

Do you want more natives on your farms, or are you refusing to take any more ?- It is no use trying to refuse them. Say you refuse a man, you later on find him trespassing in all probability. If a native wants to go on to a farm he will squat there and you cannot turn him off. You cannot use physical force, and if you turn him away today, he will be there again next year. For that reason we take the line of least resistance, and if a ~~man~~ native wants to reside there, he makes the usual application, or we do it for him, and if it is granted he remains.

Generally speaking, could you take more families than you have ?- Yes, we could.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: Could you give us any figures as regards the numbers of natives who have trekked on to your farms during the last ten years ?- I could not give you that off-hand, but in a day or two I might try and I could send you the details.

DR. ROBERTS: Do you not think Mr. Menne that the economic conditions which are arising in this country will necessitate his going into the towns, the very fact of recruiting going on for the services of natives would indicate that the conditions of the country necessitate his going into the towns ?- No, it only necessitates a temporary town residence. I do not see why the circumstances should make him go to the towns permanently.

But naturally when he goes to the town there must be a residuum which must always remain, and that residuum will always increase ?- Yes, and then of course there is also the question of his permanent employment.

Of course, there are people who require their boys to remain with them permanently ?- Yes.

They like them to remain with them in the towns ?- Yes, there is that.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Is there any more willingness on the part of the natives now to sell their cattle for cash than there was forty years ago ?- Yes, and I think they would be more willing, too, if they had banking facilities. I think that would develop. In many cases they do find that they have too many cattle, but they do not know what to do with them because ^{of} their lack of banking facilities.

MR. MOSTERT: What do you mean by "banking facilities" ?- Some simple method by which the natives can be

induced to bank his money.

The banking facilities are very great today?—
I do not think the native realises it. My idea is
that by an extension of something like the post office
savings bank or some institution under the Native
Commissioners, good effects might be achieved.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do you think the Native Commissioner
might be an agent for the Post Office Savings Bank?—I think
so.

Why do you mention the Native Commissioner?—Well,
I do not mind some other officials possibly as well.

Is it the confidence in the Commissioner which you
think would make him suitable to play that role?—Yes,
I think so. They are in close touch with the natives.
There are natives now, quite a fair number of them, who
go to the Bank, or even more to the Post Office, but if
one could induce them to make more use of the Post Office
Savings Bank facilities, it would be a very good thing.

In regard to this selling of cattle, do they sell to
natives or to white men?—Mostly to whites.

And is there a good deal of it?—Whenever there is
a demand for cattle, or whenever their cattle are in good
condition. It is only a certain type which they sell.
There is never a sale for cows or for heifers. Those are
only saleable to the natives themselves. But they sell to
the white man anything that is not suitable for ~~breeding~~
draught purposes or for slaughter.

Why are not cows suitable for the slaughter market?—
Well, the cows of the natives are generally small. The
peculiarity about the native female cattle is that they
are always small, although the oxen always appear to be on
the big side.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: They start breeding very early ?- Yes.

And would that be the cause of the cows being small ?- Yes, probably it would be. It is a very noticeable thing among all the native tribes that the female stock are small, although the male stock are big.

THE CHAIRMAN: In other words, there is no control in regard to the age of breeding ?- That is so.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: Have you had any experience where natives have tried to better the standard of their cattle ?- I have often suggested it to the natives, but it has never led to anything.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is there any fencing off of agricultural lands in these areas ?- No, only some old East Coast fever fences.

Is there nothing that the natives have put up ?- No. I may say that the native fences are also a cause of the destruction of timber. Wherever there is game about they cut down the bush and they put up fences round their houses.

MR. LUCAS: On your lands, are there any schools ?- Yes, there are three schools.

Are they on thickly populated farms ?- Yes.

Do you know how many children there are attending them ?- There are sixty children at one of these schools. I happen to know that because as it happens I made an inquiry the other day.

Is that the largest school ?- That probably would be.

Can we take it that there is no schooling for more than 150 children ?- Not actually on the farms.

And is there any schooling available in accessible areas ?- No, I am afraid not, because even these schools

are twelve miles apart. They are 12 miles apart and six miles apart. That is to say the nearest to are six miles apart and the next school is 12 miles away.

There are just the three ?- Yes, but there are mission schools on the farms in between.

DR. FOURIE: Wat soort van naturelle het U op die plase -- is dit kaffers van verskillende stamme?--Ja: daar is Shangaans, Basutos en Mavendas.

Kan U se of daar 'n neiging onder die kaffers bestaan om vervreemd te raak van die lede van hul eie stam: is daar party van die jong kaffertjies wat weg trek en nooit terug kom nie?-- Die jongetjies loop baie weg.

Die stam lewe breek baie af?--Ja, en ek denk dit is jammer, baie jammer dat dit so is.

Die meeste wat daar is erken hul kaptein?--Ja, so lang as hul by die huis is.

En as hul van die werk terug kom?--Dan is hul weer heelmaal mak. Ons hoor van kaffers wat terug kom en wat groot Amalaitas is, maar wanneer hul by die huis is, is hul heelmaal mak. ENN WORD HUL OPGEVAS DEUR DIE ANDERES.

MENEER MOSTERT: So wanneer hul terug is van Johannesburg dan is hul mak?-- Ja, heelmaal mak, selfs die man wat beskop word as 'n kwaai Amalaita.

Denk U dat dit goed sou wees om die Amalaitas na hul stam terug te stuur?--Daar sou miskien te baie van hul wees. There is just one other thing I want to say-- there are a lot of natives moving on to the farms, but there are also a number moving off.

MR. DANIEL NICHOLAAS DURING, and
MR. PIETER BERNARD WILLEM ELFFERS, called and
examined:

THE CHAIRMAN: I believe you are the Town Clerk, Mr. Elffers, and Mr. During is the Superintendent of Locations ?- (Mr. Elffers): That is so.

You have an urban location here, which I think is under the Native Urban Areas Act ?- (Mr. During): Yes.

Could you give us any indication of the conditions under which the natives live in the location, what they pay for the stands ?- They are given stands for a monthly rental of 10/- . They have no lease at all, and they are there just from month to month.

Do they build their own houses ?- Yes, but they have to submit their plans and we pass the plans.

What type of house do they build ?- They are built of burnt brick, with iron roof, or pitched roof. Generally they have four or five rooms and the natives sublet the rooms to individual tenants.

The bulk of these houses you say are from four to five rooms ?- Yes, those they are building now have four or five rooms.

But surely there are smaller houses as well ?- Yes, there are some smaller ones.

Are there many smaller ones ?- No, not many.

For building these houses does the Municipality make any provision in the way of lending money to the natives ?- No.

The natives have to find the money themselves ?- Yes.

And do they do the building themselves ?- Yes.

That 10/- per month, what service does that

cover ?- That covers the rent, sanitary services and water.

How is the water arranged for ?- The water is laid on from the town.

Have they got taps in the location ?- Yes, there are taps ~~and~~ in certain positions in the location. I believe they have about six taps there.

And light ?- No, there is no light there yet.

MR. LUCAS: What is the size of the location ?- We have 45 stands, 33 cottages, and 39 rooms.

What is the size of a stand ?- 50 x 50, not less than that, and some are a little bigger.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: Where do the natives get their building materials from ?- They have the brickfields there and they make their own bricks.

Have they got any place for gardening ?- No.

THE CHAIRMAN: The brickfields are Municipal property ?- Yes.

Are they allowed to use as much material as they want ?- Yes, they pay a licence of 10/- per month.

How long is the licence for ?- It is a monthly licence and they can make as many bricks as they like.

They really hire the right to work in these places ?- Yes.

And how do they get the timber which they use for their houses ?- They have to buy that locally.

What sort of timber is it ?- Well they buy it here, ordinary timber.

They do not go in for thatched houses ?- No, they do not. The Municipality regard it as a failure.

Why ?- Because the thatch gets full of vermin and we are actually taking it down. Besides those stands we have a lot of other buildings. The Municipality built 33 cottages. These cottages and rooms belong to the Municipality.

And are they let out ?- Yes.

What is the rental ?- A two-roomed cottage is £1.10.0. per month, and then we have some semi-detached ones at £1.5.0. per month.

What are these cottages built of ?- They are also of burnt brick and pitch roof.

MR. LUCAS: What did they cost the Municipality to build ?- They cost about £90 each. The rent includes water and sanitary fees.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: What is your sanitary and water rate for the Europeans ?- (Mr. Elffers): The sanitary rate is 5/- per pail with a minimum of 10/- for private houses.

And the water rate ?- That is on a sliding scale. The first 2,000 gallons are 5/- per 1,000, and after that 2/6d. per 1,000 gallons.

MR. LUCAS: That 10/- minimum for the European house means of course ~~x~~ separate pails for each house, but for the natives ~~xxxxxxx~~ you only put up a place for general use. It is much easier and cheaper to build these places for separate houses ?- (Mr. During): Some of these advanced natives have their own pails.

How many have their own pails ?- I should say about ten.

THE CHAIRMAN: Can any native at the location get that by building his own latrine ?- Yes, we do not

not restrict them, nor do we restrict them in the use of water.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: What is the average charge for water in the town ?- (Mr. Elffers): The minimum is 5/- per 1,000 gallons for the first 2,000 gallons. I think the minimum is 5/- per month. Some people do not use the minimum but there are others who use more.

MR. LUCAS: And there of course they have taps laid on in each house ?- Yes.

Have any of the natives got taps laid on in their houses ?- No.

MAJOR ANDERSON: In regard to these houses which they built themselves, do you put a minimum value down as to what such a house must cost ?- Well, we do not lay down a minimum value, but I should say the minimum would be about £150.

MR. LUCAS: But the Municipality has built at £90 ?- Yes, but the houses which the Municipality have built are not as big.

Are you only getting a type of native to build there who can afford to put a £150 house or more? Are you not getting any of the poorer natives to put up a house there ?- Oh yes, we are getting them too.

Well, what sort of houses do they put up ?- As a matter of fact they mostly go in for renting a room.

£1.10.0. is a very high rent for a native to pay out of the wages which he gets here ?- Yes, it undoubtedly is.

MAJOR ANDERSON: How are these £150 houses financed ?- I do not know where they get the money from, but they put up very decent houses.

MR. MOSTERT: What is the number of natives in the location ?- The census for this month is 779. That is, 139 men, 156 women, and 484 children.

These men in the location, are they all married ?- Yes, a very big majority.

Is there much beer making going on ?- Yes.

But that is against the law is it not ?- Yes, and we make raids occasionally.

And are any arrests made ?- Oh yes.

In other words, it is a menace to the place ?- Yes, it is.

CHAIRMAN: Why do you think this beer brewing goes on ?- My opinion is that they cannot afford to pay the rent and they have to make something on top of what they earn. Their wages are very small.

But ~~the~~ somebody else has to pay for the beer. Who pays for the beer ?- A lot of natives come in from outside the town.

You mean, natives who live on the premises of their employers ?- Yes.

And they go to the location because they can buy beer there ?- Yes.

MR. LUCAS: And beer is brewed because the wages are so low that they have to augment their earnings somehow ?- That is a big reason.

MR. MOSTERT: Do you find invariably that a boy living in the location with his wife makes beer --- with few exceptions of course ?- It is generally the single woman who does the beer making.

Not the married women ?- No.

What do these single women do ?- They generally

take in washing in the town. They work in town.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are these single women the daughters of men living in the location, or do they come from outside?— No, they live there.

Now, but what I want to know is this: are they the daughters of location residents; do their fathers live there?— Not all of them.

Are they women who come in from the rural locations and hire rooms there?— Yes.

Have you a number of these?— Oh yes, we have quite a number.

And they work in town?— Yes.

What sort of work do they do?— Generally they do housework and washing.

The domestic servant, the predominant domestic servant, is the male?— Yes, the piccanin, but the women do the washing and ironing, and other housework as well.

DR. ROBERTS: And they do the nursing, too, do they not?— No, not much. The piccanins do the nursing.

THE CHAIRMAN: Nursing the children?— Yes.

Taking the baby out in the pram?— Yes, you generally find the piccanin doing that.

Have you many prostitutes in the town location?— That is hard to say; there are not many illegitimate children born; there is a certain amount of it going on but you cannot stop it.

Do you find a tendency on the part of natives to come to your location from the rural areas in excess of the needs ~~naikwa~~ of the town?— Yes. Especially women.

More than you want here?—Quite.

How do these women make a living?—Brewing beer and

the general occupation is washing.

In excess of the needs of the town ?- Yes. There are many more than we need here.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: Don't you limit these women coming here ?- It is hard to do that. If they have an occupation you cannot stop them.

MR. LUCAS: Can you tell us why they come here ?- I think mostly for the purpose of brewing beer. They make a lot of money out of that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are any of the stands in the Municipal Location held by natives in private ownership ?- No, none.

Is there any tendency for natives to congregate on areas outside the urban area, immediately outside ?- They are trying to buy some properties just outside the town now. There is an old township there which they are trying to buy.

Is that in a proclaimed township ?- Yes.

And there is nothing to stop that ?- No, I do not think there is.

Would not that be a rural area in which natives cannot buy land ?- It is part of the Municipal area; it is a derelict township on the outskirts of our area.

Is that under your jurisdiction ?- Yes.

The proclamation of Pietersburg under the Urban Areas Act, does not that prevent it ?- No it does not stop it at all. There is nothing in the Urban Areas Act to prevent natives from buying land in the urban area. The Natives Land Act does not apply either.

DR. ROBERTS: Are you sure of that ?- Yes, I can refer you to section 8 of the Natives Land Act. The Urban Areas Act does not prevent a native from buying land

within the Municipality. (Mr. During): We have taken legal opinion on that and that is the position.

MR. MOSTERT: You say that the native builds his own house in the location. He has to buy the bricks and build the house himself. Do you mind telling me what happens to that house if he goes away? - He can sublet it or sell it.

But in case he dies? - If he dies it goes to his estate. The only danger is that the Council may perhaps do away with the location.

MR. LUCAS: So there is a defect in his title? - Yes, and they realise it. As a matter of fact they made application for a lease, but the Native Affairs Department has consistently turned it down.

It is a very serious position for the native who puts up his house there? - Yes, they quite realise it and they have made application to the Native Affairs Department, but they always turned it down. The argument of the Native Affairs Department is that it would encourage natives to come to town.

Have you not got the power without the Native Affairs Department to give title to that man? - No, we have to refer the matter to the Minister of Native Affairs.

This is land belonging to the Municipality? - Yes.

How far is the location from the town? - It is just about a mile from here.

THE CHAIRMAN: I understand, in regard to the Native Urban Areas Act, that under certain sections you can proclaim certain areas as areas in which natives

may not live, and that Pietersburg has not been so proclaimed ?- No, that is so.

Has your Municipality taken any steps in that matter ?- (Mr. Elffers): Yes, we have. We have been working on this for the last four or five years, and we have had permission to maintain our location, but the Council tried to get for the native some security to tenure of ground in the locations on which the natives had built their houses. They were unfortunate in not being able to get the consent of the Native Affairs Department. It has been pointed out that at present the natives have no right of tenure at all. They have built their houses, and if they are kicked out tomorrow they would lose their property without any recourse to law. The Council approached the Native Affairs Department and suggested in the first instance that we should be allowed to lease the sites for a period of twenty years to the natives. That was submitted to the Department and after some delay it was turned down. Then we suggested that we should be allowed to let to them on a ten years' lease. They also turned that down. Then we said five years, and again they wrote saying that they should not entertain the suggestion. Now in the natives are beginning to buy in their own name/the derelict township, and now the matter is being revived again, but the Council has not come to any actual decision. We are certifying this extension to the location and the cutting up into stands.

Do you know on what ground the objection to giving them tenure in the location is based ?- I have no idea. Their official letter in the last instance was that they regretted they could not entertain our suggestion without

giving any reason at all. But I understand from Mr. Wheelwright, the Native Commissioner, that the Department is afraid of encouraging the detribalisation of natives and of getting a very large location here in the course of time.

MR. MOSTERT: Do you live in the location ?-
(Mr. During): I do not live in the location, but I live close to it - about 300 yards from it.

And you know what is going on there ?- Yes.

MR. LUCAS: They have an advisory council ?- Yes.
How is it elected or appointed ?- It is elected.
The residents elect three members and the Municipality elect three.

So it consists of six members altogether ?- Yes.

And what powers has it got ?- It has no powers at all; it is purely advisory.

Does the Council consult it ?- (Mr. Elffers):
We submit all regulations and recommendations with reference to the location to the Committee for its opinion.

And do you find it helpful ?- We have not had any case in point since I have been here.

MR. VAN NIEKERK: Under the Urban Areas Act you have to give an account of your revenue and expenditure from the location to the Government ?- Yes.

And you have to spend any surplus which you have on the location ?- Yes.

Have you got a surplus ?- There is an accumulated surplus, but it is gradually disappearing. At the beginning of the last financial year, the 1st of June, 1929, it was approximately £125, but our estimated deficit this year is £114, which of course will reduce it.

MR. LUCAS: What is the deficit due to ?- In the principal instance to extraordinary expenditure in the shape of alterations to the roofs of these cottages. We are changing over the roofs to iron roofs, and furthermore we have done a certain amount of drainage. Our approximate ordinary expenditure for the year was £1123, and our income was ~~£1122~~ £1173, which gives us a surplus on the ordinary working of £50. The alterations to the roofs was £133, and £33 on drainage.

MR. LUCAS: In that £1123 how much is allowed for water ?- £181.

MR. VAN NIEKERK: What do you base your water charges on ?- (Mr. During): They have a meter in the location. (Mr. Elffers): It is approximately 33) per 1,000 gallons.

MR. LUCAS: Do the natives know that their water is metered ?- (Mr. During): Yes, they know where the meter is.

I was thinking of the question of preventing waste ?- I do not think there is much in it.

MR. MOSTERT: Is the pipe left open ?- We do not restrict them.

CHAIRMAN: Do they allow the water to run to waste ?- No.

With how much do you credit the Council for interest on the capital expenditure on the location; what is the rate ?- (Mr. Elffers): We did all this expenditure mostly out of revenue. We have not advanced any loans to the location as such. There is only one loan, and that is for these houses.

Yes, but this from municipal expenditure ?- Yes.

How have you charged it ?- It is charged ~~out of~~

at the same rate as we pay to the Provincial people.
It is a 5 per cent housing loan.

And you debit the location with the service of that loan ?- They pay interest and redemption on the capital account.

Do you charge them for administration ?- Yes, administration £5 per month, and a proportion of Mr. During's salary, £240 per year.

MR. LUCAS: Do you allow anything for maintenance and repairs ?- Yes. We spent approximately £60 and we allowed for £90.

DR. ROBERTS: How many items have you got there on your Estimates ?- I shall read them out to you.

Administration charges,	£60. 0. 0.
Salaries,	240. 0. 0.
Native wages,	146. 0. 0.
Sanitation,	123. 0. 0.
Water,	181. 0. 0.
Materials, repairs, etc., (sundries),	60. 0. 0.
Interest and Redemption Housing Loan,	288. 0. 0.
Grant to Child Welfare Clinic,	<u>25. 0. 0.</u>
TOTAL:	<u>£1123. 0. 0.</u>

Alterations to roofs,	£131. 0. 0.
Drainage,	33. 0. 0.

I take it that a number of these natives are working in the town ?- They are mostly employed in town, but the boys employed by the Municipality I believe mostly reside in the Municipal Compound.

(MR. DURING:): There are about half a dozen in the location.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: Do the Provincial

Authorities check your Estimates?- Yes, we have to send to the Provincial Authorities for approval, and we have to send a copy of the Accounts, which I take it they compare with the Estimates.

And do not they do any auditing?- Yes, these accounts are subject to Government audit.

The Government Auditor will worry if you charge the natives too much?- Yes, ~~xx~~ he is sometimes quite concerned about it.

THE CHAIRMAN: That £25 to the Child Welfare Clinic: what is that?- It is a clinic run by Bishop Fuller, of the English Church. They have a nurse.

This re-roofing is done out of profits?- Yes, out of the accumulated surplus.

MR. LUCAS: Is there any refuse removal service?- Yes.

Is that included in the 10/-?- Yes.

DR. ROBERTS: Would you welcome an official for the whole of the Transvaal to come round and check these accounts and generally have supervision?- (Mr. Kliffers): In what way would that help? Do you mean to say, to see whether we are not doing them down, or anything like that ?=

No, certainly not. The Urban Areas Act does permit of that, it provides for one officer, a Chief Inspector of Native Accounts?- It would make absolutely no difference to us. These accounts are passed by the Council and they are audited by the Local Government Auditor.

It would be testimony of your honesty?- Yes, I suppose so.

MR. LUCAS: Does the Advisory Council have regular meetings?- (Mr. Daring): They meet once a month.

And what sort of subjects do they discuss ?- Take the last meeting, what happened there ?- At the last meeting one item was that they should get a monthly statement of their affairs, and they wanted some fencing done.

Are there any questions of general administration of the location which have been raised by the Advisory Council in the last year ?- No.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: Are the natives in the location allowed to have cattle ?- Yes.

And do they run on the commonage ?- They pay grazing. They are allowed six head of cattle free and thereafter they pay 6d. per head for the surplus.

And have they got a fair amount of stock ?- No, they have not got too much.

THE COMMISSION ADJOURNED FOR LUNCH.

ON RESUMING AT 2.15 p.m.

DR. PERCY ANDREW GREEN, called and examined:

THE CHAIRMAN: You are district surgeon of Pietersburg ?- Yes, I have been here for 31 years.

We would like you to give the Commission an indication of the general state of health of the natives in the district and the prevalence of disease ?- Yes, I can give you some idea of that. A little while ago some ladies came out here from England. They were interested in helping the natives and they started a clinic here in the Native Location, in the town location, and they also went out to Malitsiland, which is fifteen miles out. That is in the location with about 30,000 natives. I have been going out there weekly for the last 11 months. We started this clinic last September

and the average attendance has been 64 each time. I took figures over 21 visits during the last six months. Of that attendances of over 60, 38 were for diseases not syphillitic. The other 28 were all syphillitic. I think that is about the proportion. For five years I have been running a clinic at Mphlau's Location. That is 40 miles out. There they do not attend so well. The place is not so well situated. It is on a farm which they bought, but the proportion of syphilis to the other diseases is about the same I think. The native has very little cattle, with the result that he has no milk. For ten months in the year the natives never see milk. They are always so poor, or just recovering from poverty, that they never have anything. We run this clinic at Malitsiland free of charge, and all they have to do is to pay for the medicine. We charge them very little, 1/- for a 12 oz. bottle, or something of that sort. I have nothing to do with the finance, but I know that they are quite unable to pay any more. I have quite a number of people both in the location, here and outside, women whose husbands are away, and they are stranded. Either they are quite cut away from their husbands or they hardly ever see them, and when they get sick there is no one to send. I had a very bad case of that kind in Malitsiland the other day. It was a case of child birth and there was no-one to send. All the men were away, and the woman was in a terrible state, and she died. I have had several cases like that, of women being quite cut off from their men. These women are alone, either temporarily, or the husbands have left them altogether. A large proportion of the syphillitics

are congenital. A very big proportion is, and as a rule they come in for treatment, and they come in quite willingly. They have a great belief in the injection treatment, but the great difficulty is to get them to come in regularly and to be treated regularly. You get them once or perhaps twice, and some I have had who have come in for as many as seven injections, but once they have gone away I do not know what becomes of them. You see them later on with their noses and their throats destroyed. There is no regular system. I may say that the Government has no system of attendances, and I have really taken on this work on my own.

This proportion of 40 to 25, do you think that could be influenced by a possible greater willingness on the part of the native in syphilitic cases to come in ?- Yes, I grant you that he is on the look out for it. Sometimes I differ from them. They say it is syphilis and I do not agree with them. It is so common among them that they are not very often wrong.

They are afraid of it, and they go and look for medical attention as soon as they suspect that they have it ?- Yes.

Now these other forty cases, what disease predominates ?- All kinds of things, ulcers, ear trouble, tonsils, a certain amount of malaria, and so on. We do get a certain amount of malaria at particular times of the year round here. Sometimes they get bad attacks, and bad epidemics, but they may go on for years and not get much.

DR. ROBERTS: And tuberculosis ?- Of course it is more of a chronic type here in the men, but occasionally

they get them acute. You get lots of tubercular glands in children, but it does not seem to be such an acute disease as what we call rapid consumption in Europeans. It is comparatively rare, but there are lots of cases of tubercular glands: you also come across a lot of bone disease and diseases of the joints and things like that.

MR.LUCAS: Have you got any records showing the mortality among the children?--There is, of course, no registration of deaths among the natives. The only registration of deaths for natives is in the towns. In the location they cannot get buried unless death has been registered, and the result is that the only figures I have are in respect of the towns. The last 12 months, from July 1st to June 30th, within the municipal area-- that is according to the last census of the population ---showed a population figure of 3296. There were 29 registered native deaths.

When I make up my returns I exclude all natives who are not in residence. So these figures are actual figures of residents, of people who are actually working in town or the location. As I have said there were 29 native deaths, which worked out at about 10 per 1,000, and under one year there were fifteen out of the 29. The figure of the native deaths was about 10 per 1,000, roughly speaking.

You have no record of the number of births?-- No, we have no registration of native births whatever. We started the clinic in the location because of the death rate among the children.

When was the clinic started in the location?-- Just about a year ago. We have a native nurse there. I do not know where these ladies get the money from, but they pay for the nurse and everything. This nurse is a trained native nurse and ~~in~~ she lives in the location and they have managed to put up a maternity ward there as well. That is partly for the

natives in the location and also because quite a number of native women, who have had trouble, come into town. There is no place for them where they can be put up. And we help them in that way.

Are you called upon to attend to maternity cases in the location ?- Well, only if they are in difficulty.

CHAIRMAN: Is there any tendency for women in the location to go back to their kraal after their confinement ?- I do not think so. Most of the natives in the locations are fairly resident there.

MR. MOSTERT: What is the death rate among the white population ?- I did not bring these figures with me, but it is about 6 to 8 per 1,000. In town the rate is from 6 to 5.

That is for the town and district ?- Yes, that is for the town and district.

How many of these would be malaria cases ?- In the town there were none, but in the districts I think there were eleven malaria deaths.

What is the percentage; would you be able to give us that ?- Yes, I will be able to look it up, but I have not got it here.

Now, taking it at 6 to 8 in town, that is for Europeans, would you be able to give us the ratio of malaria ?- No, I have not got that here but I will look it up.

Would the death rate from malaria be heavy ?- No. The population of the whole district is about 12,000, and I should say it would be about 1 per 1,000 from malaria.

DR. ROBERTS: You give the deaths as 29 for the natives here. Do you attribute that rather low death rate for natives to the fact that they are mostly young people in the location ?- Yes, of course, they are all

young comparatively speaking; we have no aged natives here.

And therefore it is not quite a fair test of what the whole of the death rate would be? - No, but it is the infantile death rate which I think is serious.

I know of certain parts of the Union where it rises to nearer 50 per 1,000? - Yes, that may be.

MR. LUCAS: 50 per cent of the deaths ^{are} ~~xxxx~~ of children in one year and you think it is enormous? - Yes, I do.

DR. ROBERTS: Your infantile death rate is 20 per 1,000? - If you take it that way. But the figure does not help you, because only one-tenth of these people there are married.

MR. LUCAS:
/These figures which you gave us about syphilis - do they in your opinion represent the average condition in the locations, or do you think that there are a lot of cases which you do not know of? - I am sure it is greater. You see they do not all come to be attended to.

And not only do they not all come, but a number do not continue coming. You said that of the cases which you dealt with there were five syphillitics to eight others. Do you think that that represents anything like the correct proportion of the syphillitics? - No, rather more than less.

THE CHAIRMAN: Of the instances of morbidity cases that come to hospital or to a clinic - that gives (five-thirteenths) you 5/13 of the total of the cases coming into hospital for syphillitic treatment. Now, is that proportion a fair one for the whole population? - I think so.

There must be an enormous amount of syphilis in the

district ?- I think so; I am sure there is. As I have said, there is a tremendous proportion.

And you say that it is largely congenital ?- Yes, I am afraid it is so. That means that the mothers and fathers must have it as well.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Do you think it is increasing ?- Well, the more you come into contact with them the more you find that it is.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: Now, where you cure a father and a mother, is the off-spring cured as well ?- Yes. That is really the point, that there is no scheme for dealing with the matter. We have a hospital out here - at Bochun - almost entirely for syphilis. That used to be a very important place. Dr. Francis is there now, but it used to be under me. But there also the magistrate, Mr. Wheelwright and myself, started on the same basis as the missionary. There is another one which we started, but there is no scheme and the result is that we cannot do as much as we want to.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: But as the district doctor, do not you get instructions from the Government ?- Yes, it is part of your duty as district surgeon to attend to syphilis, but that is all. I mean to say, even at this clinic at Malmesland, I put it up to the Government that they should support it, but they would not. I have been doing all these journeys and attending to all these cases, but I get nothing extra for it.

DR. ROBERTS: You want a comprehensive scheme to deal with the older and the younger ?- Yes, we had a meeting of the Chiefs with these ladies, and we put it up to them that they should put up buildings and provide for a nurse, and pay for their medicines, and they all agreed.

and they also agreed that the Government should provide medical attendance and the drugs for the treatment of syphilis. But so far nothing has come of it. I used to go out twice a month. I used to have the Roman Catholic Sisters there, and they ran the clinic, but that tribe is not a very satisfactory one, and these sisters have now gone to another location, and they are anxious to have a doctor.

And where the weak link in the chain, is it the Government? - It is want of system, and there is no encouragement to do this. I suppose it is a matter of finance.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: Is it an expensive treatment? - Yes, but I must say that these ladies have never spared anything. I can get as many drugs as I need, and no money is spared. I can get anything. There is nothing in that way to prevent me, but it is simply a matter of lack of encouragement so far as the authorities are concerned.

THOMAS MOLOTO, representing Chief Moloto,
MASETI RAMOKGOPA, representing Chief Ramokgopa,
JUEL MATLALA, representing Chief Matlala,
NKUPU MARELI, representing Chief Mareli,
and CHIEF MASHASHANE,
called and examined.

THE CHAIRMAN? Whom do you represent? - (Moloto):
I am an Induna in my tribe and I represent my Chief.
(Maseti Ramokgopa): I am the son of the Chief.
(Juel Matlala): I am the younger brother of the Chief.
(Nkupu Mareli): I am a member of the Local Council.

MR. LUCAS: How many are there in your Council ?-
There are six of us.

How long has there been a Council ?- Over two
years.

And what is the principal work which the Council is
doing ?- At present the Council is not doing any particu-
lar work. We have no money and the young people do not
pay up what they should. Most of the people pay £1 where
they should pay £1.10.0. The money which we get from
the Council is for schools, and hospitals, and repairing
roads.

And for dipping ?-, Yes, and dipping.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Commission will be pleased to
hear what you have to say ?- (Thomas Moloto): All of
us have appointed someone who is going to speak on our
behalf. There are two spokesmen who will speak on our
behalf. They are our mouthpieces and they will express
our feelings. (MR. S.H. THEMA): I have been asked
to put the position of these Chiefs before you, and this
is the statement of the Chiefs, which I shall read to the
Commission on behalf of the Chiefs Moloto, Ramokgopa,
Matlala, Mareli and Mashashane, and also on behalf of
the detribalised natives. I have the honour to state
that I appear here in a representative capacity on
behalf of the detribalised natives of this town. Before
making suggestions we shall endeavour to trace the causes
of migration into towns. Before the Europeans took
possession of the land we were a happy and contented
people with enough land to plough and graze our stock, with
but a few wants. With the approach of Europeans and
their civilization our wants began to increase. Land was
taken away from us, with the exception of the already over-
crowded scheduled locations and reserves. The undesira-
bilities under which we laboured were intensified by the

passing of the Land Act No.27 of 1913, the operations of which caused the evictions of some of us from white areas and forced us to migrate into towns. The imposition of heavy taxations on us, the adoption of European mode of living, and other requirements, brought to us by the march of European civilization, are other factors which caused the migration into towns. The congestion of the locations and reserves and bad management of the control of natives by farmers hastened the migrations. Now that the water has flowed to its level and the valleys of the towns are overflowing, we are confronted with painful undesirabilities of the operations of the Urban Areas Act of 1923, which aims at controlling the influx of natives into towns. This Act, like its contemporary the Land Act of 1913, made certain provisions which have not been yet fulfilled. The legislators of the Land Act made us believe that further provisions for land would be made available for us, and that the recommended areas under the Act would be given us permanently. The legislators of the Urban Areas Act also made us believe that Native Villages in which stands could be acquired by us approved by the Municipalities, under such leases covering a period of years as would justify the erection by the leases of suitable dwellings and other improvements would be established for the detribalised natives. To our great astonishment the detribalised natives of Pietersburg after getting the approval of the Pietersburg Municipality to establish the village so much desired got a rebuttal from the Native Affairs Department, saying that the policy of the Government is not to encourage the influx of natives into towns. There are no provisions for the outlet of

the influx of natives into towns. The operations of the Land Act forces us to migrate into towns; on the other hand the operations of the Urban Areas Act force us to get out of town. We are therefore between the two horns of dilemma. The question naturally arises where shall we go to? We are therefore forced to the conclusion that the European Laws provide for situations which could not really exist.

We are prepared to admit that with the more knowledge of scientific ploughing natives could make the congested areas more attractive. With every respect, Mr. Chairman, we wish to draw the attention of this Commission to the evident ignorance of some of the European farmers who own large tracts of farms in the Northern Transvaal and we therefore deplore the suggestion of apprenticing our peasants to farmers who are unqualified in the scientific ploughing. The Natives in Towns:

~~111~~ There are three groups of natives in towns: (1) The detribalised native who has lost all connection with his pastoral origin and dependent entirely upon wages earned in town; (2) the tribal native who works for a few months in town to supplement his agricultural livelihood. There is another group of natives who form the greater number. This peculiar group is neither tribal nor detribalised. (3) These natives simply work in town in a confounded way for a meagre wage, which they spend in intoxicants and etc., and are provided with food and lodging by their employers. This group has lost connection with their families, which they fail to support at home and are creating families in towns, which they also fail to support. Measures to prevent the increasing

migrations into towns: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, we now come to the measures we consider would more or less prevent the increasing migration of natives

more or less prevent the increasing migration of natives into towns. We propose to deal firstly with tribalised natives. (1) That the Government be requested to extend the present native locations and reserved, as they are over-crowded. (2) That the Government be asked to fulfil the provision in the Land Act of 1913 of giving further land to natives or repeal the Act. (3) That the Government be requested to establish agricultural schools for the training of native youths. (4) That the Government be asked to make provision for a Land Bank to enable the tribal natives to obtain loans in time of depression.

The Peculiar Group: (1) That the Government be requested to make provision for land settlement schemes for the Peculiar Group. (2) That the Peculiar Group be repatriated to the Settlements.

The Detribalised Natives: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, it is needless for us to mention the fact that we, the detribalised natives, are here to stay and therefore we propose to make the following suggestions for improvements:-

(1) That the Government be requested to fulfil the provision in Urban Areas Act of 1923, which provides for native villages in which stands could be acquired by natives approved by the Municipalities under such leases covering a period of years as would justify the erection by the lessess of suitable dwellings and other improvements; (2) That the Government be requested to provide for the security of tenure in the Municipal Locations; (3) That the Government be requested to make provision for native landlords, to enable them to acquire more than one stand in the Municipal Locations. Squatters: (1) That the Government be requested to repeal the squatting laws

and make provision for natives to pay rent for their tenancy.

The last, but not least, that the Government be requested to constitute an Industrial Board, consisting of representatives of farmers, employers of labour, and native representatives to control the influx of natives into towns by controlling bureaux, land settlements, etc. (Mr. (MATTHEWS MALEPO): As Mr. Thema has already said, I am here to read this paper as evidence on behalf of the urban natives and I wish to state that when the papers were read to the Chiefs they thought that they would do for them as well as for their children, who are now urbanised. My statement reads as follows:- Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, I also have the honour to state that I appear here in a representative capacity with Messrs. A. Tekgetha, E. Mashibi Langa, and Sehlapelo, on behalf of the Urbanised Natives to give evidence, not only on their wages, but also on the question of mortality of adults and children in urban and rural areas. As you have already learned^x the causes of the migration of natives into towns from the previous representative, I wish humbly to point out to this Commission that we urbanised natives are here to stay permanently, as we have lost all connection of our pastoral origin and dependent entirely upon wages and in towns. We are here as permanent workers and as such should be considered as part and parcel of the other urban citizens. We depend solely on the wages we earn and therefore serious consideration should be made to the need of an increase of our wages. It should be observed that a small wage is attended by temptations to steal in order to supplement what remains. Consequently

employers suffer losses through theft by their underpaid employees, and the Government has to employ more police to cope with increasing crime of theft and thus spend large sums of money every year. It is our contention that if wages are increased less crime will eventually take place. It should be remembered that where two groups live side by side and one group is not cared for the other is bound to be affected, and an undesirable state of affairs will follow. It is very essential that the wages of native workers should be adjusted in a manner that will enable the urbanised native to live in accordance with the European mode of living, which has increased his needs. He has to pay for clothing, tax, education, etc. and he has to build a home according to hygienic methods of European civilization. His average wage in this town is £2 a month and that of his wife for washing 10/-, out of which he has to get all necessaries, as will be seen from the budget of a family of five, drawn at the end of this memorandum. Is it possible that he should not steal to make ends meet? He is to steal and his wife has to resort to illicit liquor selling for he has no other source to raise the balance to cover other requisites. As we have said before that the urbanised native is here permanently, it is for the European to turn him into a good citizen by adjusting his wages to enable him to live according to the European standard of civilization.

Family Budget of 5 per month.

Rent,	£1.17.6.	Mealie Meal,	£0.15.0.
Burial Society,	0. 1. 0.	Candles at 1 candle	
Wood per day 6d.	15. 0.	per day,	0. 1. 6.
Sugar 1 lb. two		School fees,	0. 1. 3.
days,	0. 7. 6.	Church Fees,	0. 1. 0.
Tea 1 lb.	0. 2. 6.	Tax,	0. 1. 8.
Bread 3 loaves			
a week,	0. 4. 0.		
Meat 1/- daily,	1.10. 0.	TOTAL:	£6. 1.11.
Coal twice per			
week,	0. 4. 0.		

The budget excludes clothing, vegetables, and medical attendance, and is calculated on the lowest economic basis. It will be seen, therefore, that out of the average wage of £2.10.0, when £1.17.6. for rent is deducted, there is a balance of 12/6d, which deplorably fails to cover up other necessities. The Municipal cottages which are rented at £1.10.0. are not capacious to accommodate a family of five, as these contain a bedroom and dining room used as a kitchen as well. The rent for Municipal cottages is out of proportion with the wages of the workers. Mr. Chairman and Members, with all respect, the urbanised native is a citizen, and as such should be treated with due equity. He should at least be paid a minimum wage of £6 a month here in Pietersburg for he is not only ~~xxxxxx~~ confined to mealie-pap, but to other kinds of ~~xxxx~~ foodstuffs for which he pays the same price as European citizens.

Mortality of adults and children in Urban Areas. Let us now trace the causes of mortality of adults and children in urban areas. The transition from rural to urban life, and the inevitable adoption of European mode of living, lack of knowledge of hygienic methods of livelihood, inadequate housing, and inadequacy of wages, and some of the causes of the mortality of adults and children in urban areas.

The question naturally arises, how are these causes to be tackled to combat the mortality? The following suggestions will probably meet the question:-

(1) The Government should establish centres where lectures could be given to natives by experienced Europeans how to keep their homes according to civilised methods, and an experienced European appointed to visit their homes at

times. ^{Baby} ~~Baby~~ clinics should be established and controlled by the Government with the assistance of qualified native nurses. Wages should be increased to meet proper feeding, housing and medical attendance. As regards the rural native he, like the urban native, is also in a stage of transition. The mortality in his case is similar to that of his urban brother. Witchcraft still plays a prominent part, and is far from assimilating European modes of living in a more or less profitable way. What is required in this case is: (1) the establishment of Government hospitals in reserves. (2) a system of compulsory health education and the encouragement of habits of cleanliness. (3) Native health officers should be appointed in reserves, with a European Superintendent to pay periodical visits. (4) People should undergo a certain amount of health training by means of lectures, translated into their languages. (5) A whole-time doctor should be appointed for the Reserves, and there should be clinics in each Reserve. (6) Natives should be trained as doctors on the level of Europeans.

In regard to native education in the Transvaal Province, native education is confronted with obstacles today. There are 100 unregistered schools in this circuit, and a large number of the registered schools are understaffed. One teacher has to perform the duties of two yet we pay £1 tax annually, out of which 4/- is allotted for native development and should enable the Government to handle our education properly. Why are our schools unregistered and a large number understaffed? Where does the 4/- go to? There are large numbers of natives in the reserves who are not benefited by their tax because

education is under missionary control and these people do not wish to send their children to Mission schools for fear that they might become Christians. We therefore feel that time is ripe for the Government to take full control of native education, for under Government control the following benefits will accrue:-

(1) Schools will be amalgamated. (2) Compulsory education will be introduced to benefit vast numbers of natives whose taxation does not at present benefit them. (3) Public schools will be established in native reserves. (4) Adequate teachers will be employed than they are at present. (5) Teachers may enjoy the benefits of pension as other civil servants. We most humbly request the Government to take native education under their control for the benefit of the African race.

Whilst thanking Ministers of Religion for their valuable services in giving us the education we have, we feel that time is come when teachers should be servants of somebody. When the teachers ask the Government for increases of wages they are informed that the Government is only aiding, whilst on the other hand the missionaries do not pay teachers' salaries.

MR. LE ROUX VAN NIEKERK: In regard to this budget of yours, what do natives require in clothing ?- (MR. THEMA): Well, it all depends on how long it lasts. (MR. MOLEPO): It is very difficult to give you anything definite.

Taking a fair average ?- I think the average man in town will require about £2 per month, if he has a family of five to support.

And vegetables, how much would that be ?- Probably 4/-.