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the payment of so many head of cattle as dowry unless it was shewn that there was a distinct and definite undertaking that that number should be paid.

I only want to say now that, up to the time when I left the service, I employed servants in my own house, both male and female. So satisfied were the Native males which I had in my employ that, for a period of over fifty years, I have drawn my servants from one Native family with just a few interludes when I have moved from place to place. But for over fifty years I have drawn my Native menservants from one clan. One of the men of that clan, at the time when I left Umtata, was being better paid by me than the Government was paying its policemen. I paid that man well. He did not know "a" from "b". At home he was a red kaffer. He could talk English well. I paid him £3 a month in cash and I clothed him. He never bought a pair of boots. He fed at my expense and I paid for his clothes. I trusted him and he rode my horses and he did not have a penny of expense so his £3 was clear profit. The Government were paying the police £4 a month. Out of that, they had to provide for themselves and their horses and they had to pay for a uniform and for everything else. So I reckoned that my man was better paid than a policeman.

My wife has a cook who has been in our service for very many years. She is drawing £2 a month and her food. I will not say that she is clothed by my wife, but she receives presents of clothing at very frequent intervals, and you can say that she gets practically everything that she needs from my wife. She has no expenses to maintain herself and, out of the money which she gets from us, she manages to keep her aged mother. I am saying this to shew that, from my experience, the wages which we have paid to our servants have

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always been satisfactory.

(Mr. MOORE): I just want to endorse what Mr. Brownlee has said about these vagabonds, the people who migrate from the country to the towns, or who go to the mines, and I would suggest that the only solution is to have compulsory deferred pay and not voluntary deferred pay. That is for the young men. There is no doubt that they seem to be wasting a lot of their substance and their money on the mines and they do not bring back the same amount of money as they used to ten years ago. In fact, they do not bring back sufficient money to supply the wants of their family.

(Mr. Brownlee): May I put a question here? I would like to know from Mr. Moore whether he has had any experience of this sort of thing, of a young fellow going to the mines and remitting his earnings to some young lady here in the Territories. The money does not go to the family. He has met a young lady, either here or ^{outside} the Territories, and his remittances go to her and not to his family.

(Mr. Moore): I cannot say that I have heard of that, but I know that the families do not get the same money which they used to get. (Mr. Brownlee): That is a practise which is arising in my part of the country.

DR. ROBERTS: Has the young man got the young woman into trouble? We have not gone so far as to enquire into the causes or the reasons, but probably you are near the point.

CHAIRMAN: In advocating compulsory deferred pay, do you advocate that in regard to people generally, or only in regard to minors? (Mr. Moore): I would suggest that only in regard to minors. (Mr. Brownlee): I think that is a very strong point.

A minor, according to the European law or the Native law? A man is a minor so long as he lives at his parents kraal, but we established the age of majority at 18 years

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It is a factor which you will find militates very strongly against the output of our young men - militates very strongly against our young men going to the mines or to other labour centres, because the fathers are most reluctant to allow their young sons to go to these labour centres, simply because they know that, once they go they do not come back, they simply disappear. And even if they come back, they do not bring anything back with them. Even if they do not disappear, if there is no deferred pay, they spend what they have earned on the mines in riotous living and, if they do come back, it is very much like the prodigal son - they come back with nothing. The parents disapprove of that entirely. If the parents knew that, when the minor son came back from the fields, he had a nice handful of money, they would not be so reluctant to let their young sons go out.

CHAIRMAN: It strikes me that Mr. Brownlee and Mr. Moore are neutralising each other. Mr. Moore suggests compulsory deferred pay for minors, but you point out that it should be a minor according to European law? - (Mr. Moore): No, I am mentioning the fact.

Well, should it be a minor according to European law or according to Native law? - Is there any very great difference?

I think there is a great difference. If a man lives to sixty in his father's kraal, he remains a minor according to Native law. But the difference is this, that the mines do not take Natives under 18 years of age. So it would mean that you could only defer the pay of people who cannot go to work? - (Mr. Brownlee): I would say that I would apply it to the unmarried men.

On what legal principle could you make the question of marriage the dividing line? - (Mr. Moore): I would make it an economic principle in this way, that the married man

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usually leaves his wife behind and she is unable to make ends meet and he does not send her his money. That is the great trouble which we are faced with here today.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: We have had complaints that even the married men do not send their money back?— Well, quite a lot do not do so, as I have said, but the majority do. (Mr. Brownlee): We do not want to make a rule which has no exceptions, and we do not want to say that there are no exceptions in this case. We say that it was an exception for the married men not to send their money back.

Why cannot you apply the principle of deferred pay to Natives going to the mines all round? What objection have you to that?— (Mr. Moore): Do you mean voluntary boys as well?

No, we would leave them out?— We want to get at the voluntary boys, they are spending all their money.

DR. ROBERTS: Why not make it imperative for all of them, why not lay it down that everyone who goes to the mines must send a portion of his money back?— Yes, I would agree to that. (Mr. Brownlee): I think we would all assent to that.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: That would be class legislation?— We need not travel very far to find class legislation in this country. You need not travel further than the South Africa Act before you find certain class legislation, you have some very good examples there and there does not seem to be any great need to shy at it here.

MR. LUCAS: Are you putting this forward in the interests of the whites or of the Natives?— I am putting it forward in the interests of the Natives. It is the fathers of the young Natives who are reluctant to allow their sons to go away because they bring nothing back. It is in the interest of everyone concern, both of the Natives themselves

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and of the country generally, including the white men, that such a step should be taken, but I did not make the suggestion primarily for the benefit of the Europeans.

Do you regard it as an ideal system - this taking away of a man from his family for twelve months at a time? - No, it is not ideal.

Do you not think, looking at it from the point of view of the Natives, that the question should be what could be done to obviate this absence from his home? - That, undoubtedly, is an aspect which should not be lost sight of.

Is not your suggestion rather aiming at forcing more of them to go out? - No, that is not my object.

Bringing pressure to bear upon them, or rather upon their fathers? - No, sir.

But I gathered that one of your arguments in favour of this was that more Natives would then go forward than go now? - The father would consent, but it would not be a question of compulsion on the fathers at all. I had in contemplation this, that those fathers who would like to let their sons go, but who are reluctant today because they have spent all their money on themselves --- these people would withdraw their objection because the danger of their sons disappearing and not coming back would no longer exist. I did not contemplate the possibility of fathers compelling their sons to go, but the point is that the son is a potential wage-earner. In many cases the father is not and it is necessary that someone should go out and earn the necessary money for their family. Today many of the fathers are reluctant to let their sons go, because of the risk of the entire disappearance of these young fellows.

What do you consider are the effects upon Native life of these long absences from their families over long periods? - The late Mr. John X. Merriman referred once

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to the City of Johannesburg as "The university of crime". Well, I do not know whether I would go as far as that, but I should not like to dispute Mr. John X. Merriman's opinion and I would say that we have all sorts of customs creeping in here which these young men bring back with them, and that is one of the reasons why we are so anxious that these young men should come back as soon as their contract time has expired; that is one reason why we are so anxious that these men should not become wasters and wanderers there, but that they should return to their tribes.

You will not be able to prevent the influence of the surroundings during a long period like that on the mines. If you send them away, you must take your chance of whatever they come in contact with?— Yes, we are taking the chance because they are going without our sending them.

But you want as many to go as can go?— Naturally. We want as many to go as possible and earn money, in the hopes that they will come back.

What is the effect upon the wives of these men who go? Do they reckon that they are entitled to have a lover during that period?— Not any more than before. In that respect their absence has very little influence. The woman would not be any more disposed to take a lover because of the absence of her husband, than she was before in the presence of her husband.

We have been told at one place that, because of the absence of the men, there are now roving bands of women going about the countryside?— Precisely. Those are the wives of these men who have gone away. That, I am sorry to say, I must admit. I think enquiry would shew that that class of woman is produced by the class of men who themselves become vagrants.

DR. ROBERTS: What would be the class of women

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who are round about the station here waiting for the men to come from the mines. Who would they be, would they be roving bands? - Well, I do not know, but I believe my friend Mr. Barry the Magistrate of Umtata, could give you some valuable information on that point.

MR. LUCAS: What is the effect on the agricultural advancement as a result of the men being away for twelve months at a time? - I suppose it would considerably retard agriculture. It must have a very bad effect.

Is that not in itself a serious price to pay? - The usual term is nine months.

Yes, but with travelling and so on, it comes to nearly twelve months? - The usual time they go away from here is about six months. I have had a considerable controversy on this point with the Native Recruiting Corporation, who wanted to lengthen the term of contract and, wherever it has been possible for me to do so, I have opposed that on the very grounds that you mention, that these people, the married men, should be allowed to return to their homes and their kraals so as to attend to their agricultural allotment. I have always urged that they should be allowed to return to cultivate their allotments, because of the fact that I recognised the point that a contract of 270 days may well be spread over twelve months. That has always been my argument in favour of the six months contract, which would represent an absence from their homes of not more than nine months in all, and that would give a man three months for the cultivation of his lands. But that is not the view of the Native Recruiting Corporation. (Mr. Wood): In that respect, I would say that anyone with a sense of justice to the Native would agree that the Native should not be bound for more than six months. No one with a sense of justice would think of having a Native bound for more than six months. In respect

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to the agricultural development of the country, and in connection with the boys who go out to service, I might say that, in many cases you find young men saying "I want to go to a recruiter". You find that, as soon as it rains and ploughing operations begin, they go away and they do not do any ploughing. What I want to say is that these young men do not do the work; it is the little boys and the women do the work, and the big fellow does not do anything. You find, nowadays, that it is the girls who drive the ploughs.

Is not that driving of the plough by the girls the cause of the absence of the men?— No. There are, of course, men who purposely stay at home to do the ploughing, but generally, if you went through the country, you would see and be surprised at the absence of really fullgrown able-bodied men carrying on these operations.

MR. LUCAS: Was it not against the Native custom for a woman to handle the cattle?— (Mr. Brownlee): It is quite unusual, it is contrary to custom. It is not customary, but it is not a matter of law. It is contrary to practise.

That custom has been broken down in a very large number of instances, anyway?— Not generally.

Are not those instances attributable to the fact that the men are away in the labour centres?— I am not familiar with any such instances myself.

Looking at the question generally at the moment, is not the system a bad one?— Yes, it is not good.

A system which takes the Natives away from their homes for a long time and then does not allow them where they are working to stay long enough to become efficient and each year makes them lose a good deal of what they have learned before - is not that a bad system?— From a miners point of view, it is bad.

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Is it not bad from both points of view, from the Native point of view because it prevents his advancement and from the mine's point of view because it means broken periods of service?— Well, the broken periods allow a man to go back to his kraal to cultivate his lands.

You have dealt with one side, but does it not seem to you a bad system economically to employ labour which perhaps works a year and then is away for a time?— Yes, undoubtedly. But what is the remedy? I have not got to find the remedy. You have to. Here we have the labourer who gives his labour at Johannesburg. If you are able to bring his labour down here, I shall take off my hat to you.

You would prefer to have his labour here?— Yes, if he can get the same labour here as up there. I entirely appreciate your point and I am in agreement with you, but those are the circumstances in which we find ourselves and I do not know what to say as to how it can be improved.

Have you not got any ideas as to what could be done here? Has anything been done to improve the Native's conditions here, his agriculture, for instance - do you think enough is being done in that direction?— I shall put it this way. The only thing that is being done here is by the Natives themselves through their own officials.

And they are doing very good work?— Yes, they are. They have made a beginning and a very good beginning. It is perhaps slow, but it is there, and it is entirely done by themselves and, as I have said, through and by means of the guidance of their own officials.

Looking at it from the point of view of the interest of the Natives, do you think that something could be done by the Government to assist in their further development?— In what direction do you mean?

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Agriculture, for one thing, and industries dependent on agriculture for another? - I think we are prepared to get all the help that we can from the Government.

Yes, but I want your suggestions as to how you think they can help? - I have not studied the question as far as that.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Do you not think, on the other hand, that it is a great advantage to the Native, where his chief occupation is a precarious one - the occupation of a farmer - to be able to go to work on the mines. He has to contend with diseases, drought, etc. Now, is it not an advantage to him that he has the privilege of going out during the slack seasons, for six months in the year, to earn a living and supplement his income? - (Mr. Wood): Certainly, it is a great advantage.

And do you not think it would be very foolish if we were to stop that altogether and say to him "You have to stay in the Territories and improve yourself there"? - It would be disastrous.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Is there any organization for keeping in touch with these Natives who go to the mines. You spoke of their disappearing. I do not know whether the recruiting organization does anything, but is there not a voluntary organization to keep in touch with them? - (Mr. Moore): No, there is not.

Would it not be possible to form an organization of that kind? - (Mr. Wood): It could only be done through some system of passes.

I thought there might be room for a voluntary organization? - Yes, there might be.

CHAIRMAN: ARE there many cases of these people not returning at all to the Territories? - (Mr. Brownlee): Yes, there are. There are quite a number of cases.

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Is that now a serious drain on the population of the Territories?— (Mr. Moore): I should think it is hardly noticeable. (Mr. Brownlee): It is not a drain. As a matter of fact, the population is increasing so rapidly and so largely.

Considerable numbers never come back?— That is so.

The impression which one gets that they come back freely to their homes in the Territories - more so than to other parts nearer to Johannesburg?— I suppose it would be so.

That is the impression which I got. Have any of you got any experience of any two areas which you could compare from that point of view?— No, I have not. (Mr. Wood): I think, on the whole, seeing the large number of labourers who go out from these Territories, that the position is fairly satisfactory. The few who do not come back are usually bad eggs and they are welcome to remain where they are.

DR. ROBERTS: As a matter of fact, you do not want them back?— No, they are a drain on their parents at home and they are a source of trouble and we are very pleased to see them remain away.

CHAIRMAN: You said that the father is not generally a wage earner?— (Mr. Brownlee): I said that very often he is not. When a man gets on in years, he is not, as a rule, a wage earner.

At what age in his life would you say that he would no longer be a wage earner?— It is impossible to fix an age. It is dependent on the man's circumstances. If a man is well off, if he has a flock of sheep or cattle on his allotment, he ceases very early to be a wage earner.

Could you, more or less, say at what age?— (Mr. Moore): They are not supposed to be recruited over 45 years of age.

Do they go voluntarily?— Yes, some of them go up to 55 and even 60 years of age to the mines.

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Is that exceptional? - No, quite a number of them go. Of course, I cannot give you many details about those who go voluntarily, but quite a number go.

How common is that - could you say, more or less, what proportion of people over 45 go out to work on the mines, or go out to work at all? - It depends on the seasons. If they have bad crops, they go out more, but if the crops are good for two or three years they stay at home. You can say that it is the economic pressure which pushes them out.

Now, let us take the bad crops. Would a smaller proportion go out than would go out if you had an European population to deal with? - Oh no, I do not think so.

Could you hazard a guess at the proportions that would go out, in relation to what it would be if they were Europeans? - (Mr. Wood): Well, the Europeans all have to go out to work, economic pressure forces them.

With certain exceptions of course - those who are sick, etc. But let us put the Europeans who have to go out to work at 100%. Now what would be the relative percentage among the Natives? - Normally, not more than 50%, but in bad seasons about 75%.

That is in relation to Europeans? - Yes.

MR. LUCAS: Have you any views on the amount which the Native contributes on indirect taxation? Can you give us any guide as to how we should proceed to ascertain the amounts? - That, of course, is paid through the customs.

There are other ways as well, but customs is the first big one? - Of course, I only have the general idea, I know that he contributes very largely.

What we have to try to do is to find some figure which approximately represents the amount? - I am afraid that I cannot give you that officially.

Could you tell us what items we should look at? -

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I am no longer in business, but the two items would be cotton blankets, sheetings and woollen blankets, and then clothing -- well, of course, they are producing clothing in the country now.

Yes, but nothing like that which is produced here is --- the customs duties have a certain effect on imported goods, but only Europeans are benefited by the goods that are produced here, because there are no Natives engaged in the manufacture of these goods here? - (Mr. Moore): One of the biggest items they buy is red ochre. That is one of the things which they use very largely.

And is there a duty on that? - Yes. (Mr. Wood): And then there is another item of commerce which carries a heavy duty, and that is beads, - beads carry 100% of the cost.

Do you think one could reckon generally that the bead trade is entirely for Natives? - Yes, almost entirely.

Now, take a blanket which carries a 2/6d duty. What is the proportion now in the sale of the locally made blanket and the imported blanket carrying that 2/6d duty? - (Mr. Moore): I think, before long, the Colonial blanket will get all the sale and they will not be able to sell any more of the imported blanket.

That is because you can make a bigger profit on the local blanket than on the imported? - Yes, but the only thing is that they have not got the right article now.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Is the price the same? - The price is much lower, there is no duty on it.

MR. LUCAS: Let us take the imported blanket, the lightest imported blanket on which you have to pay 2/6d. What can you sell that at today? - That is over one pound in weight. If it weighs over 1lb. you have to pay duty.

Those twelve ounce blankets are not much use. What do you charge for an imported 2 lb. blanket which has that duty of 2/6d on it? - That would cost about 6/-.

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the local article at the lower price because of the small size of the colonial article. It is more weighty, but it is not so durable and the Natives have now begun to find that out, and so they prefer the other.

Supposing there were no duty on the imported article, would you be able to sell the imported article at 4/6d then? - Certainly, but you could not make the colonial article sell at that price.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: What was the price at which you sold the imported article in the past? - The prices fluctuated. The cotton blankets were costing 11d and they were sold at 1/-d, and the woollen blankets were landed at 2/3d and they were sold at 2/6d. The profit was very small.

DR. ROBERTS: What would be the weight? - Any weight.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Now, the 2/6d duty is clapped on and you have raised the price to 6/6 and 7/-? - Yes, but the price of the blanket has gone up too.

What was the difference before the duty came in. Has the Native got to pay more than the duty? - The 2 lbs. cotton blanket was sold here at 3/- for the whole thing. The woollen blanket was a little different.

You sold it for 3/- and the 2/6d duty is added on to it now? - No, when I said 3/- I went back to a time many years ago.

The question is this, did the traders raise the cost of the blanket only by the amount of the duty? - Yes.

MR. LUCAS: Does the Native have to pay anything more than the duty? - No.

Do you not have to recoup yourself? - If you are paying a 2/6d duty, naturally there is a small percentage in addition to that.

How much would that be? - Very little.

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How much would that be - would it be as much as 2/3d? - I do not think it would be as much as that, but you can put it at that.

CHAIRMAN: There is just one point I want to put to you as representing the Transkeian European Civic Association. What attitude does your association adopt with regard to the question of the issue of general dealers licenses to Natives? - I am the president of the Civic Association, but this is a question which has never been raised. I suppose that the Native has just the same right to secure a license as anyone else. I suppose that Natives have secured licenses in the Transkei and have traded there, but they have not done well and most of them have gone under. At the same time, I do not know that there is any bar to their putting up a trading station and getting a license.

There is no legal bar but there may be things which are perfectly legal but still are not done because of opposition? - I do not know that there is any opposition. There can be no opposition in commerce to that, because competition is the lifeblood of commerce.

Your Association would not take up the attitude that licenses should not be issued to Natives? - Certainly not.

And you say that Natives who have taken that up have not been very successful in that enterprise? - No.

Take the Native as a novice in trade. Would you still say that the success has only been moderate? - I would say that he has not been very successful so far. He has not proved himself capable in commerce.

Are you looking at the matter from an European point of view - are you not judging him from that point of view? - No, I can only say that he has not been a success.

To what causes could their non-success be ascribed? - I suppose to a lack of that particular business acumen which

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appertains to commerce. I have known a Native trade in a small way with grain and he is able to get on fairly well, but he gives you the idea that his heart is not really in business. I once had a Native buying mealies and transporting them. He was paid 10/- per bag, rail free. A customer of mine brought me 40 bags supposed to contain 195 lbs. each. The Native brought it to me and, when he got his money, I offered him further transport. He said No, he wanted to go and buy mealies for himself. He went all the way to Kokstad and was away two or three months and on the way lost two or three head of cattle. He brought the mealies up @ £1 per bag and he told me about it and he reckoned that he had done very good business. I reckoned the whole thing out for him and I pointed out to him that if he had done my work he would have made a very much better profit, but he could not see it and it did not appeal to him. Still, I do not see why educated ~~xxx~~ Natives should not go into business any more than anyone else.

The non-success which has attended their efforts in that direction so far, could that be ascribed to their giving too much credit? - No.

Do they not give credit? - No. They do not to any extent.

Could it be ascribed to the social communism of the Natives as a whole? - Yes, everyone thinks that he is entitled to be helped by someone who has something, but I do not know whether that is the reason. All I can say is that they have not made a success of trade.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Would the lack of capital be a cause? - No, I do not think that lack of capital would militate against their success to a great extent. After all, they were people who began with a fair amount of stock. They

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sold for cash and their expenses were very small, so even with a small business they should have been able to keep going and they should have increased the capital of their business.

MR. LUCAS: Have not the traders today more or less got a monopoly in this country, so that there is no chance for a Native to come in?— Well, under the five miles' radius there certainly is what you might regard as a bar. That is a protection for the people themselves, as well as for the traders. You see, with the business conditions obtaining in the Territories, it is necessary that we should have something like that. These conditions are particularly bad and trade is very poor just now. The prices of goods today are such that conditions have got worse and worse. Things are bad everywhere. The Natives are not doing well either, because they can get no prices whatever for their produce. We have the price of wool gone down, grain has gone down and there is no money in anything. There is practically no product they can put on the market which will give them anything like a decent profit and, under those conditions, this five mile radius bar is a very necessary one.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Where does the advantage to the Native come in under this five miles radius?— It is of more advantage to the trader. After all, you must admit that a five mile radius is fairly close. The Native, as far as crops go, is very well served. He has not got very far to go to take his crop to the trader.

MR. LUCAS: Would you have any objection to making it a $2\frac{1}{2}$ mile radius and restricting all new shops to Natives?— I certainly think that that would be one way of ruining all the traders who are here.

Do you see any prospect of Natives being able to get any trading rights in the Territories, although it is

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their own country?- Well, they have these rights.

Yes, but the Europeans have all the trading sites?- I do not know that that obtains right through the Territories. Round about here I do not think you could get a site, but farther afield, perhaps in Pondoland, there may be places where one can still get sites. I am not very well conversant with conditions there.

Would there be any objection to a Native being allowed to open a store in the Kopolweni location?- I do not know anything about that location. The question is, what would be the distance from the nearest trading station. I think there is a station there already.

MR. MOSTERT: Do the Natives apply for trading rights?- I have never known of their doing it.

So that is why it is in the hands of the Europeans?- Yes, I suppose so.

Now, in your experience do you find that the Natives sort their wool?- No, they do not.

They bundle it all together?- Yes, generally.

That is why they always get a much lower price?- Yes. Our price, after all, for Transkeian wool, compares more than favourably with some parts of the Union. British Kaffraria farmers who have a good class of wool, have always beaten us in the market. But when you come to the Transkeian wool and you compare that with Basutoland, Maclear and other parts and much of that wool is produced by European farmers - we have always got a better price.

That is unsorted wool?- Yes.

What about the Kaffrarian wool, is that sorted?- Yes, it is.

CHAIRMAN: But the other wool, the Maclear wool, for instance, is that sorted?- I could not say. It is a

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different class of wool. It is a heavy wool and ours is a light wool, but we always do very well and we compare very favourably with other parts.

DR. ROBERTS: I only want to ask a few questions with regard to lobolo. When the woman goes to the husband's place, she becomes the servant of the man's other wives - the mother is her mistress? (Mr. Brownlee): That is her husband's mother.

Yes, is that the case? She is under the control of her husband's mother if they are living in the same homestead.

Does not that indicate the idea of possession under lobolo? I do not think so. Usually it is an accepted thing. She accepts the position that her mother-in-law is the head of the family and she submits to her control.

She has nothing more to do with her own family except that she may visit her own people? That is so, but she has entirely left her father's family and control.

She is the servant of her mother-in-law? Yes, I suppose one could say so.

That, of course, is quite contrary to our way of looking at things? In what way?

We do not regard the wife as the servant of the mother-in-law? No, that is so.

"The son is a son until he gets a wife, but the daughter is a daughter all her life"? Yes, I suppose so.

And that saying still holds good? Yes, with the Europeans, but not with the Natives. Here the position is entirely different.

When the woman leaves her father's kraal, she has no longer any connection with that kraal, and she enters her husband's family? Yes.

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son

Mr. WILLIAM THOMAS WELSH, Chief Magistrate of the Transkeian Territories,
MR. REGINALD DOUGLAS HEROLD BARRY, Magistrate of Umtata,
MR. GEORGE MAXWELL BRUCE WHITFIELD, Secretary of Transkeian Territories General Council.

called and examined:-

CHAIRMAN: Are there any points, Mr. Welsh, on which you and your colleagues wish to make to the Commission before we start plying you with questions?— No, we have not prepared anything in the nature of a general statement, as we preferred to deal with matters generally and answer any questions which you may care to put to us. Of course, there are certain points which we would like to emphasize. We realise that you have taken a mass of evidence and we may be giving you a lot of superfluous information and, therefore, we thought that you might ask us question. First of all, I should like to make a few general observations as to what the Transkei is, and so on.

The Transkei consists of 27 districts, one of which is European practically entirely, that is Kokstad, and another one is half and half European and Native. Mount Currie is European, and Matatiele is divided between European and Native; Umzimkulu is rather more Native than European. Otherwise, except for the villages and a few isolated farms, the country consists entirely of scheduled Native areas.

For instance, a district like Kentani, to which reference was made the other day, that is a scheduled Native area and we are now negotiating for the purchase of these farms there.

The title is all Crown title?— Yes. The whole area is about 16,000 square miles, of which 13,532 square miles is scheduled Native area. The Native population is 1,096,000. That is not the census figure, but it is an estimate which was recently made by the magistrates. Of course, we shall know

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next year exactly what the population is. The approximate area under Native cultivation is 810,000 morgen. That is in Native areas. The figures which were given the other day by the Transkeian General Council witnesses as to density, are rather out of date. We have not got the exact figures, but it is estimated, and the estimate, I think, is fairly correct --- my office did not agree with the estimates of district officers and we queried them and we came to this, - the density throughout the Native area is 78.4 per square mile, ranging from 34 in the Mount Fletcher area, which is largely rocky and barren, to 127 per square mile in the Kentani district.

Kentani is the most densely populated then? - Yes, but there are other districts which run it very close. You have other districts with figures such as 120 per square mile, 118 per square mile, 109, 102 and so on.

If I remember correctly, the census of 1921 gave Elliotdale as the most densely populated area, with 102? - Elliotdale now is 120.

For what reason has Kentani gone ahead so much faster? - Well, you see, a good many people move in from the Cape Province. It is a favoured district in many respects, especially from the point of view of natural resources. Mr. Barry was Magistrate there for some years and he would be able to tell you a good deal about it. It is a very good district. I have a list here giving the estimate of densities. I think, for your information, I should put that into the evidence. This gives the density of Natives per square mile:- First of all I give the district, then the scheduled Native area, next the population in 1930. As I said before, this is more or less an estimate until we get the census next year, and then the final column gives the density per square mile.

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District	Scheduled Native Area sq. miles	Population 1930 (Est.)	Density per sq. mile.
Bizana	700	50,000	71
Butterworth	234	24,000	102
Elliotdale	296	35,700	120
Encobo	1052	65,000	61
Flagstaff	421	40,000	95
Idutywa	439	33,000	75
Kentani	434	55,000	127
Kokstad (Mount Currie)	13	1,541	118
Libode	522	34,108	65
Lusikisiki	923	66,000	72
Matatiele	560	45,000	80
Mount Ayliff	359	23,182	65
Mount Fletcher	924	31,684	34
Mount Frere	676	48,000	72
Nqanduli	504	49,713	98
Ngqeleni	440	48,000	109
Nqamakwe	418	42,000	100
Port St. Johns	305	24,000	78
Qumbu	546	30,000	55
St. Marks (Cofinvaba)	463	37,962	82
Tabankulu	509	42,744	83
Tsolo	633	40,200	63
Tsomo	395	34,500	87
Umzimkulu	312	33,500	107
Willowvale	532	58,000	109
Xalanga (Gala)	354	17,000	48
Umtata	566	51,000	90

This gives the total density for the Transkeian Territories of 78.4 per square mile. I also give the density per square mile in 1921, of Europeans and Natives and then the total:-

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Cape 2.35 Europeans per square mile, 7.70 Natives, making a total of 10.05.

Natal, including Zululand, 3.88 Europeans, 36.33 Natives, total 40.51.

Transvaal, 4.92 Europeans, 13.98 Natives, total 18.90.

Orange Free State, 3.74 Europeans, 84.74 Natives, total 12.48.

(Mr. Barry): I might just say that the Kentani district is occupied for the most part by Gaikas from the Cape Colony, and there is a tendency for the Gaikas to join the others on this side of the Kei.

Do you find that the segregation principle which is at work is forcing the population into the Territories, chiefly into the border districts?— Yes, I think so.

(Mr. Welsh): The European population of the Territories is about 16,000, nearly all in the villages or in the farming areas and at the trading stations. The trading stations number something like 650 - in fact that is the exact number. The council system operates throughout the Native areas. We have now the two systems, the Transkei General Council system, and the Pondoland Council, which will be amalgamated on the 1st January.

I have a statement here of the number of stock. This is at the end of August last. This is what it shows:— Cattle 1,568,475; horses 139,223; mules 230; donkeys 8,871; pigs 179,966; wool sheep, 3,175,530, other sheep 9,123; Angora goats 81,905, other goats 1,115,896. Dogs are so numerous now that we have not put them down. They were more numerous at one time and a suggestion was made to tax them, but we have not done so.

MR. LUCAS:

On Sunday, at one place, five dogs ran out, and a remark was made that that must be a red man's place because nobody else would keep so many dogs. Do you agree

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with that? - Yes, possibly that is so. The dogs have to fend for themselves a good deal, and they are not fed like we feed our dogs. They are not much of a liability so far as food consumption is concerned. They have a very good time when the cattle plague comes along. They get very fat then. You find most of the dogs near the forests. They go hunting in the forests. Then we endeavour to extend the land tenure system. We have a Deeds Office here and I can now give you the number of allotments to which I referred the other day. I have a statement here shewing the total number of surveyed buildings and arable lots in each of the surveyed districts, and also the vacant lots as at the 12th November of this year.

	Total arable Allotments	As at 12.11.30 Vacant		Total Building Lots
		Gdn.lots	Blg.lots	
Cala	2270	61	61	2008
Engcobo	18354	1812	25	1026
Butterworth	4231	14	6	652
Tsomo	6394	176	5	91
Nqamakwe	6580	4	3	122
Umtata	13241	1484	1627	8377
Edutywa	8444	348	11	179
	<u>59514</u>	<u>3999</u>	<u>1738</u>	<u>12455</u>

I have also a statement shewing the number of cultivated lots. I have a statement here shewing the number of arable and building lots forfeited in each surveyed area for the years 1928/29/30.

	1928		1929		1930	
	G.L.	B.L.	G.L.	B.L.	G.L.	B.L.
Cala	-	-	50	48	40	40
Butterworth	93	9	98	14	53	8
Nqamakwe	288	10	-	-	113	4
Tsomo	191	-	-	-	139	-
Engcobo	25	9	68	2	15	-

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	<u>1928</u>		<u>1929</u>		<u>1930</u>	
Idutywa (1927 (126 G.L., 8 B.L.))	•	•	308	8	168	•
Umtata	55	13	112	72	480	421
Totals	652	41	636	144	1008	473

The Deeds Office has been in operation for ten years and I have a statement here of transfers and re-allotments executed in the Deeds Registry at Umtata from 1921 to 1930.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Reallotments</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
1921	92	-	£11.10.-
1922	582	272	£140.15.3
1923	1284	403	£261. 5.-
1924	1083	673	£303.12.-
1924-	1083-		
1925	1046	579	£275.10.-
1926	1479	459	£299.12.6
1927	1245	311	£233. 7.6
1928	3066	526	£514.15.-
1929	1394	819	£379. -.-
1.1.30) 16.11.30)	962	479	£240.-
	12,233	4,521	£2,659. 7. 6

We have no record in my office of the number of unsurveyed lots held. The council system operates here and we have endeavoured to supply you with copies of the blue books which would shew the various activities, especially under the headings of the estimates. It covers a pretty wide range and it is ever growing. No district, except one, has been forced into the council system. They are supposed to have come in voluntarily. Some little pressure

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has been brought to bear, but not much. Generally they come in voluntarily and I do not think that any district would give up being under the council system without vigorous protest.

Are the semi-European districts under the council system too? - Kokstad is not, but the other districts are.

Kokstad is outside the whole scheme? - Yes, it is bounded entirely by other districts and a short piece along the Drakensberg which has Basutoland on the other side. A little bit of it touches Natal. The Transkei Administration is entirely under the Minister of Native Affairs, including the magisterial branches. The police are not, they are under the Minister of Justice, and the ordinary courts are too.

MR. LUCAS: Does that apply to the veterinary work as well? - No. The Native Administration. There are sub-departments of the Forest Department and so on, but the main administration is. All the council system is under the control of the Native Affairs Department, and all the Magistrates are. It is the only part where the magistrates are not under Justice. That has now been extended to the Cape.

The opening of parts for veterinary purposes is under the Minister of Agriculture? - Yes, that is so.

What is the relation of the Director of Native Agriculture to the Territories? - He was appointed a little over a year ago. We have our own system here and we have our own Director of Agriculture here, who is a Council Official and is paid by the Council. There was a little friction and I was called to Cape Town and the matter was discussed and the Minister ruled that the Transkei must carry on with its own Director and its own Administration. That means that the Union Secretary of Agriculture has no

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administrative functions in the Transkei, but he is available for consultation purposes.

In quarantine matters, are you, or is your Administration consulted by the Director of Veterinary Services? They enforce quarantine. We have local veterinary offices and we had the Chief Veterinary Officer who did reside here but is now in East London and he is in charge of the Transkei and the whole of the quarantine and the cattle diseases acts are administered by them.

Have you any power to call on the services of Mr. Thornton? I take it that I could do so through the Secretary for Native Affairs.

DR. ROBERTS: But you cannot call on him direct? No, we have our own men and we would work through them. As the Natives say, "You cannot have two bulls in one kraal".

You want to avoid that round about way of going to the Secretary and so on? If we were to ask for Mr. Thornton's services, I have no doubt that he would be available. He was here at the Bunga last time to give advice. But there is one matter which we want to bring prominently before your notice in the hope that you will assist us - it is the matter of overstocking and it is a matter which is pressing on us very hardly.

We have been a quarantine area for twenty years and the cattle have not been allowed out to be transported and to me it is amazing that the people have submitted. Any other nation would have risen in rebellion if they had had to submit to the regulations as we have had to do. Since 1910 we have been in quarantine. We have a great number of cattle now, far more than the country can carry. I am only speaking as a casual observer who has no knowledge of farming matters, but anyone travelling about can see that

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the country is overstocked with cattle and sheep. We are not allowed to export cattle at all.

There are certain districts in these Territories which are and have been free from East Coast fever for years - they have always been free and they have never had it. And even those districts which have had East Coast fever many years ago - where they have had one outbreak years ago - are in a position today that they are entirely under quarantine. I have a return here shewing the clean districts - districts which are quarantined all the same. There are nine districts which are, so to say, infected, which leaves eighteen districts absolutely free of disease.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Are these districts quite clean - are they near the Kei? - Practically all these districts are clean - practically all on this side are clean. Excepting Ingcobo and Willowvale, there is not a district between here and Cape Town that is infected. I shall put in this statement to shew what the position is. I shall mention the districts which are entirely free from East Coast fever:- Xlanga, Nqamakwe, St. Marks, Tsomo, Matatielo, Qumbu, Port St. Johns, Umtata, Mqanduli, Idutywa, Mount Fletcher, Elliotdale, Mount Currie, Tabankule, Mount Frere, Mqgeleni, Butterworth and Kentani.

Then the following districts had outbreaks:-
Engcobo, on the 30th June; Libode March 1929, May 1929, October 1929 and January 1929; Lusikisiki, May 1929, April 1929, July 1929 and July 1930; Mount Ayliff, February 1930; Tsolo, May 1928 and May 1930; Bisane, May 1929, July 1929, March 1930, April 1930; Flagstaff, March 1938 and July 1930; Willowvale, February 1930, and Umzimkulu, February and May 1929 and January and April 1930.

These outbreaks which I have mentioned were at different places in the particular districts.

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CHAIRMAN: I notice from this statement that it is the Coast belt where your chief infection is?— Yes, Libode and Flagstaff are the chief areas. Willowvale has been a troublesome district in the past, but it is very much better now than it used to be.

It is the Coast belt?— Yes, the other districts do not have much. Umzimkulu has always been more or less infected. It does not come from this side, because Kokstad has been clean but for one outbreak for a dozen years or more.

MR. LUCAS: One point which appears to be raised is the difficulty of separating one district from another. How are these districts separated from the Cape?— By the Kei river.

Does that extend the whole way?— Yes, practically the whole way.

Is it a serious obstacle to the movement of cattle?— (Mr. Whitfield): No, it is not.

So, from the point of view of administration, it is just as artificial as any other boundary?— (Mr. Welsh): Yes.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Is the other side of the Kei clean?— I do not know. It was anything but clean a year or so ago. Khomga was badly infected. Khomga and Stutterheim were both infected.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: The Kei gives you a distinct boundary which you have not got in the Territories?— Yes, there is the Kei river, but it is fordable all the way.

Yes, but you know where the cattle come from. The difficulty in the Transkei is to know where the boundary is of an infected district and a clean district?— The people know. If Libode is infected and if it is quarantined, everyone in that district will know where the boundary is. The police and the headmen and everyone will know.

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MR. LUCAS: From the point of view of the veterinary people, from the point of view of enforcing the quarantining of an area, is there any more difficulty in segregating a district in the Transkeian Territories than there is in segregating the whole of an area outside from other areas? - Well, of course, the cattle are registered. Naturally, a beast can walk across the Kei river. There is no fence and there is no impassable river except when the river is in flood. Every animal is registered in our dipping books.

Is not that true of the other areas too? - Outside the Kei - I do not know, but I question it. If a man comes today into the Transkei with seven head of cattle and tomorrow he has only got six, he has to explain where the other one is. (Mr. Barry): I am informed that in the Khomga district many of the cattle have not been dipped for months and months. They simply disappear into the scrub bush and nobody worries about them at all. That is in an European area. I should like to say a few words on this question of overstocking. Now, if they deal with the matter in a conservative way, you find this, that if you quarantine a whole district you impose very great hardship. If there is one outbreak today they quarantine the whole district. We have today over 8,000 square miles of clean districts which are entirely uninfected. In those clean areas we have 918,000 head of cattle, but we cannot export one of these cattle from the clean districts into the market to sell them. That is one of the great causes of overstocking and that is what we want to see remedied.

MR. MOSTERT: Are those clean areas more or less connected - what is the size of the block? - From Umtata

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to the Kei river is one hundred miles.

Take 8,000 square miles, that is half of your Territory?— Yes. The infected districts total 5456 square miles. But now the unreasonableness of the veterinary administration is illustrated in the Engcobo district, which extends from Maclear to here right across the Territories to Tsomo district, which is on the Kei. There has been one solitary outbreak in the mountains, near the Maclear border, and the whole of the Engcobo district, which comprises 1050 square miles, is closed. Just to make it clear to you, I want to put it this way, that if one beast dies from East Coast fever in Nylstroom, no cattle could be moved in the Middleburg district of the Transvaal. I am putting that forward as an illustration of what we have to put up with.

MAJOR ANDERSON: For what period do they enforce the quarantine after an outbreak?— For two years after an outbreak. I can give you a concrete case to shew you what is happening. One beast died on the banks of the Umzimvubu river and those people there were quarantined for over two years. The upper part was allowed free, the Mount Frere district.

MR. LUCAS:
Are there any interests which consider that they are protected financially by preventing the export from the Transkei?— On whose part?

I do not know, but the way in which it is continued, makes it look as if some people are interested in preventing the export of cattle from the Transkei into the open market?— Well, one hesitates to say so, but it would appear as though competition from the Transkei is feared.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: That is a general rule with the Veterinary Department, that they are very stringent?— Yes, that is so.

I remember a beast dying on the commonage of Nylstroom. As a matter of fact it was a very sickly beast and everybody knew all about it, but the whole district was put into quarantine?— Yes, that is the sort of thing that happens.

MAJOR ANDERSON: They make it contingent on fencing too?— (Mr. Welsh): A select committee of the Council dealt with this matter during this year. We realised the difficulty of fencing in territories such as these, which are largely communally occupied, but what we suggested to the Agricultural Department was that they should fall back on branding and that they should brand every beast in the dipping area. Each district is again divided into dipping areas, and each dipping area is served by one tank. If there is an outbreak in a dipping area, brand each beast in that dipping area and, if necessary, also in the adjoining dipping area, but not necessarily in the whole of the area. In that way you would be able to keep control and you would know where the animals come from and, if you should find them outside, if necessary you could shoot them. As a matter of fact, if they are found outside today they are shot.

MR. MOSTERT: I want to get at this. Say you have an area in a block which is a clean area. You say that more than half of your area, almost two thirds of your 16,000 square miles is clean?— Yes, that is so.

Now, what I want to get at is this. What block have you got - as a block - that is clean as a whole?— Well, take St. Marks, Cofinvaba, Malanga, Tsomo, Matatiele - all these, Butterworth. About seven whole districts.

They form a block?— Not quite rectangular, but it is a block without anything intervening. I have set

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all these districts out in that one statement I have put in. On this side from here to the Kei there are only two infected district, Engcobo and Willowvale and the others are perfectly clean.

MR. LUCAS: These dates on this list that you have put in, are these deaths all in this year? - Yes, some are quite recent.

All these months are this year? - No, they are not all this year. But, even assuming that there might be some justification for not allowing cattle to go over on hoof, we have tried hard to get permission from the authorities to allow cattle to be exported by rail to East London, where the Imperial Cold Storage people will absorb quite a considerable number, but we have been told that they must be quarantined for thirty days on a fenced and tanked farm and that they must be removed under European supervision from railhead. Well, there are no such things as tanked and fenced farms in this area, so it really comes to this, that it is total prohibition. Our argument is that these animals should be put into trucks and driven to East London. The train goes to the pens and the animals would walk about as far as this room and are then slaughtered. There is no risk whatever, so I am assured. Well, we have had a lot of correspondence on the subject, but we have not been able to get these barriers removed and we have not been able to get any further. Writing seems to be of no use, and so Mr. Barry and Mr. Hughes, our Director of Agriculture, are going to Pretoria to interview the authorities personally and see what can be done.

In the meantime, we feel that it is a distinct hardship on the people to be quarantined for all these years.

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People should be able to put their cattle into trucks and send them to East London where the Imperial Cold Storage Company would purchase them. I shall be pleased to inform the Commission as to the result of the interviews which Mr. Barry and Mr. Hughes have in Pretoria. We shall be quite satisfied if they will allow us to move the animals to the Railway and transport them out of the Territories.

It is not an enormous number. The Imperial Cold Storage Co. are prepared to start taking 80 head of cattle every second day to start with, and that number may grow. Today we have an accumulation of cattle here and the number has been increasing for many years. Very few have died.

MR. LUCAS: The Imperial Cold Storage would take about 15,000 per year?- Well, that is better than nothing and it certainly would be a start and would lead to more being taken later on.

CHAIRMAN: Now, you say that the quarantined period is two years after an outbreak?- It was supposed to be fifteen months, but in practise they keep about two years from the last case.

Where there has been a period of two years such as you shew on this return, why is the movement still stopped?- We have always been restricted and we cannot understand the reason.

The point I want to get at is when does the quarantine stop?- In the Transkei it apparently never stops.

What is the meaning then of the two years quarantine?- Of course, no district movements are restricted, but inter-district movements are restricted.

Is quarantine actually in the district and, in addition, there is a fence all round the area which has been

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going on for twenty years - is that the position? - We have been quarantined for 20 years as a whole community. (Mr. Barry)

There are four districts which have never had East Coast fever at all and they are granted facilities which the other parts of the Territories do not enjoy. These four districts are Cala, Nqamakwe, Tsomo and Cofinvaba. (Mr. Whitfield):

Yes, that is so, but even there the movement is subject to 30 days quarantine and a double branding, that is to say, they are branded when they come in and when they go out.

MR. MOSTERT: Where is the quarantine? - In the district itself.

CHAIRMAN: What about the European cattle in Mount Currie, Kokstad? - They go to Durban.

Does not the quarantine apply there then? - It may.

MR. MOSTERT: Say you were to quarantine for 30 days --- near a railhead. What would be the position? - They are kept under observation. They are branded and then kept under observation at the place where they are running and, at the end of 30 days, they are again branded and allowed to go forward. That is the position in those four districts, Cala, Nqamakwe, Tsomo, Cofinvaba.

And then they move towards railhead? - Yes.

And that may be many miles away? - It may be twenty miles or more away.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Is East Coast fever decreasing now? - (Mr. Barry): Yes, I think so.

You have not got any figure shewing the incidence? - No, I have not got figures shewing the number of deaths, but I think that the number is exceedingly small. We are just having sporadic outbreaks where two or three head of cattle get the disease and then you do not get another case, but that particular area is then quarantined all the same