costly; and he goes on to say that it would prove a great lesson to the natives and probably prevent many cases of illness amongst European families. Will you deal with that?—Yes; I fully agree that would be the finest thing for our locations. It would mean, however, carrying the sewerage a considerable distance; somewhere about two miles at least.

Have you ever gone into the question of a comparison between your interest and redemption charges on the one side with the sewerage system and your present cost with the pails?—No, I have not. The greater portion of the town has not had the sewerage installed yet.

But under the conditions under which natives have more generally to live, it is difficult to get cleanliness in these matters than it is among Europeans?—Yes, that is quite true.

Now, you have a lodger's fee here. Do you have any difficulty about that?—None whatever.

Any dissatisfaction?—Occasionally we get complaints, but our fee is so low and it is not enforced against women the same as in other centres.

At Kroonstad we were told that the difference in the physique in the town and country native was most marked in favour of the country native—the native coming in from the country. Could you express an opinion on the same point as for Kimberley?—Yes; I think that is more due generally to the vicious habits that the town native develops through his close contacts with the European and the coloured.

Are you saying that the town native in Kimberley is of a poorer physique than the country native?—Oh yes, undoubtedly.

Might it be due to less healthy forms of living, in the way of housing, or foodstuffs?—I would say, less healthy forms of food; also of living; most probably overcrowding. Also the vicious habits that he eventually develops
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in the urban areas.

DR. ROBERTS: But, in time, may that not pass away?—Yes. The native at present is passing through a very peculiar stage. In the course of time this will right itself. Then of course there is also the syphilis taint which is in the natives of this district.

That will work itself out?—Yes, that will work itself out.

MR. LUCAS: Did you hear Mr. Mowbray's evidence?—Yes; I could not catch it all, though.

He said that employers generally preferred to take on a country native rather than a town native?—Yes.

Could you express any opinion on that?—It depends to some extent on the class of work. If it is for hard-labour work, such as digging trenches, laying water pipes, railway work and that sort of thing, then undoubtedly the country native is the better worker, and they prefer him.

That follows from his being physically fit?—Yes; but if it is for a more intelligent class of work, then of course you have to go on to the urban native.

Now in this town, can you point to the effect of competition between coloureds and natives? Do natives displace coloured people or coloured people displace natives in any line of work?—Yes; principally in the more intellectual positions not in physical labour.

What has happened?—Their places have been taken by the coloureds and they have simply drifted away to other things.

Can you mention the particular class of occupation you have in mind?—Yes; take office boys, builders, and different other trades—-the building trade especially; that is practically in the hands of the coloured person today.

When you say the building trade, do you mean the
actual building, or the builder's labourers?— The builder's labourers. The bricklayer, the carpenter, and such like.

I do not quite follow. Take the builder's labourer first—the man who mixes the mortar?— They are usually natives.

They have always been natives, I take it?— Yes.

Are there any native bricklayers who have been displaced by coloured people?— No, I would not say that.

Or carpenters?— Yes; we have several natives in the location who are carpenters, but who find it very difficult to get work today.

You say coloured people have taken that work?— Yes, the cheap carpenter. The European has been practically displaced, you might say, by the coloured.

DR. ROBERTS: Coming down both this morning and this afternoon along where they are working at the sewerage works, I noticed that the bulk of the men who were digging were coloured?— Yes; that is relief works.

That struck me as being very strange, because usually it is in the hands of the natives?— But that is relief work, and I think the Council are getting a certain subsidy from the Government in order to employ these men. If the Council were doing it entirely on their own, they would employ natives.

MR. LUCAS: Are there any occupations outside the building trade where there has been substitution of one race for another?— I would not say that.

Such as waiting in hotels or boarding houses?— That is principally in the hands of the coloured people. We never have European waiters.

No; I am talking about natives in the hotels we principally have coloureds—Indians and such like. The cheaper class of boarding house has natives principally, of course. The Blantyre boy from Central Africa.
CHAIRMAN: Is the Blantyre pushing out the coloured from the boarding houses?—Yes, he is also pushing out the native female servant.

MR. LUCAS: Have you anything like a Labour Bureau for finding work for the natives?—No.

How does a native find a job when he is out of employment?—Well, they generally send word round to the locations that a certain number of boys are wanted for such and such a job, and they send them down, but we have no recognized system.

Have you ever tried one?—Yes, but it was so unsatisfactory.

Why was it unsatisfactory?—More especially in connection with female servants. You would get an application from some lady for a servant. You send the servant down; you judge that the girl is in your opinion perfectly capable of the job, but unfortunately you find that this lady has only applied to you as a last resource; that she has already got a reputation amongst the servant girls of the town.

You get that boycott, do you?—Yes. The consequence is they come back and say: "Yes, boss; we know that woman; we are not going there!"

Do you think that is enough to condemn the system?—I think it was.

SENIOR VAN NIKKERR: Have you any idea how many Blantyes you have?—No, but they are gradually increasing; they are considerably increasing.

MR. LUCAS: Are they decreasing wages?—No; but they are undoubtedly taking domestic service away from the Union native.

DR. ROBERTS: Not only the Blantyes, but the boys from Nyasaland, and even Tanganyla?—Yes, that is right.

CHAIRMAN: But are they not prepared to take jobs
at, say, less wages, and gradually work up?-- Yes, they are.

And does that not mean that it is easy to substitute a girl who has been in employ for some time at a higher wage but putting in a Blantyre at a lower wage?-- Yes.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Is it not the other way round; a Blantyre usually wants higher wages?-- No, when he first comes here, but then eventually, when he has saved sufficient money up to get very posh clothes, and such like, he demands a higher wage.

CHAIRMAN: And the rural native, drifting in here for a job, is he not also prepared to start down at the bottom and substitute others?-- Oh, yes; the rural native coming into the town is what keeps the urban natives' wages down at such a low level.

CHAIRMAN: He is always undercutting?-- Yes.

That is probably the most important factor in determining the level of wages?-- Undoubtedly it is, because he comes here for a few months and then goes back to his farm with what he has earned and saved.

MR. LUCAS: Apart from your dispensary work, is there any native welfare work undertaken in the location?-- Yes, by the St. Mathews' Church; they have certain lay sisters who do work in the locations.

What sort of work?-- Attending to the sick, their children, and such like.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Have you a permanent native population?-- Yes.

They are fixed here altogether?-- Yes.

Is it a large proportion?-- No; I should say our permanent population will be perhaps between 33% and 50%.

DR. ROBERTS: That is about seven or eight thousand?-- Yes.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Is that increasing?-- I think it is on the increase.
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Slightly but not rapidly? — Yes, slightly, not rapidly.

Where do you get your permanent residents? — They drift in from the territories, or from other towns; principally from other towns.

Are there many farm labourers? — No, not many. Occasionally we get a man coming into the location and wanting to stay there with his cattle, but that we discourage.

There is not a drifting to any extent? — No; our principal drift is natives from the native territories coming to work in the mines, and natives from towns and other centres looking here for work.

Major Anderson: Would you care to express any opinion on the question of wage determination for natives in the towns — or perhaps you would rather not? — No; I would rather not at the present moment.

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Mr. Zacharias Richard Mahabane, called and examined:

Chairman: I notice that you refer to the rent and such charges as taxation? — Yes.

I take it that you do not understand by that taxation as generally understood, but purely as an amount that the native must pay? — Well, that is what I would call incidental taxation, sir; this is a form of taxation to my mind.

But what is in your mind when you use the word "taxation"? — What the authorities levy on the people for services.

So that, if we had a complete socialist state, everything would be taxation? — I do not know if I can say that.

I wanted to get at your definition. It is quite all right now. You state that employment is given to the lowest or any bidder. Do you find that the fact that large
numbers of Natives come in from the country areas tends to keep down your level of wages here?—Yes.

Is it a considerable influence or is it only slight?—I think it is a big influence, sir, because the people who are resident in the towns have more wants than those who come from the country, and they would ask for a higher wage, and those from the country would be satisfied with anything they get.

So it is bearing very very hard on the people who have definitely become town dwellers?—Yes.

You heard what the previous witness said about Blantyre boys. What is the feeling of the Natives here about the Blantyres?—Well, I have not tried to find out what the feeling is, but I find that the Blantyre boys receive different treatment from that which is being given to the Union Natives.

In what way?—For instance, they are not liable to carry passes or to pay poll tax.

To carry passes, did you say?—Yes.

Are you right? It is only a Native who is not exempted who has to carry a pass?—Of course, there are the curfew regulations in some parts of the Cape, even in this town.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: They fall under that, do they not?—No.

CHAIRMAN: How is a policeman to know when it is a Blantyre boy or an Union Native?—They have different characteristics; they have different physical characteristics; visual characteristics.

I do not know that I would recognise that. Does every policeman know those, especially in the dark?—I think they are very easily recognisable.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Are you quite sure on that
point?—I am not quite sure, but that is my general impression.

Now, to pass onto the poll tax. They do not need to pay poll tax here if they pay it in their own country?—I do not think they pay it in their own country.

Are there any other differences in treatment?—I think they get preference in employment in, say, hotels, as waiters. I do not know why, or whether it is because they are better waiters or cooks; I cannot say, but I find they get employment there where the Union Natives do not.

CHAIRMAN: So you feel that it is competition which is not quite fair to the Union Native?—It is not quite fair to the Union Native.

Now, you say that the boys who leave school fail to obtain employment and betake themselves to undesirable forms of occupation; are you referring to recent times, or do you make that statement generally?—Well, it has been like that before. I have seen it since I came into this town—since 1927. I came into this town in 1927 and I found that these boys who cannot go further with their education loiter about the market entrance asking for employment from those who are purchasing groceries.

Would one be justified in concluding from that that there has always been rather more Natives here than there has been work for—then could find work?—Well, those are small boys—boys of 14 years of age.

DR. ROBERTS: You mention here about the Lyndhurst School; what about "perseverence"?—The perseverance school is mainly a coloured school, but Native pupils have been allowed to get in there when there was room for them, but the general policy is not to admit that.

You think, then, there would be room—would there be
for two training colleges, one for Coloureds and one for pure Natives?—Certainly, sir.

With Tiger Kloof being so near?—Yes, I think so.

Would you restrict the students or pupils to Kimberley or would you take them from anywhere?—I would not restrict them.

Well, Tiger Kloof would meet your wishes, surely?—Yes; but you find that many pupils who pass Standard VI at the Lindhurst Road School, wish to continue at that school and they cannot go further.

MR. LUCAS: Is that because of the expense of boarding to their parents?—Yes, because of that.

DR. ROBERTS: So, you would have a high school where the pupils could go on?—As a matter of fact, not only is a high school being asked for, but normal training. We have been told we might rather ask for secondary education than for normal training, because a limited number is taken for normal training at the Perseverence School.

I think you would be wise rather to push for a high or secondary school than for a normal school, the idea being to restrict normal schools much more?—Yes.

Now, I see you say exactly what your friend said this morning, that the scale that was introduced by the Native Affairs Department is lower than the previous scale?—Yes.

All though?—Not all through, but especially in the case of female teachers; whereas the female teachers used to receive a salary of £72 before the present scale—

Beginning at £72?—Yes, beginning at £72, and now they receive a salary of £54, plus the cost of living allowance of £9, which brings it up to £63.

Are you sure £72 was the beginning salary of all women teachers?—Yes, I found it like that when I came in 1927.
You must remember this scale was drawn up for the whole of the Union; you know that?—Yes.

And it may be lower for the Cape—of that I am not sure, but it was certainly higher for the other parts?—Well, I am speaking about the Cape. You can ask any teacher in the Cape and he will bear out my statement.

MR. LUCAS: Do you mean that nobody in Kimberley was getting as low a salary as the scale now laid down; that they were brought back to that scale?—No, not prior to the scale of 1928.

Did the scale that was introduced reduce any teachers in Kimberley?—Not those who were already in appointments.

They kept their pay?—They were not affected, but the newly appointed teachers were maximally paid according to the scale of 1928 and it became apparent that they were at a disadvantage compared with those prior to the 1928 scale.

DR. ROBERTS: What I think the Commission learned from the evidence before was that they were reduced?—Well, I think the point that the previous made was that, at the Lindhurst school, which is practically the central Native school in the district and the principal Native school in the district, the teachers used to be paid at the rate of not less than £100.

Would a teacher in Standard II get that?—The lowest paid teacher was paid at not less than £100, but now the lowest paid teacher gets £65.

MR. LUCAS: But are any who were getting £100 now getting £65?—No, it did not affect those.

Who paid that £100?—The Education Department through the School Board; that school is a School Board school.

Did anybody lose any increments by the scale coming in who had been entitled to increment under the old scale?—
No, but the increment has been provided for in the scale but it has not been applied.

What I meant was, supposing somebody was getting £90 and, according to the scale, and with the same experience, would only be entitled to £75, was that person kept at £90 instead of being raised to £100; or did he still get his increments as if there had been no change?—Well, the increments have not been paid annually; it is only this last year that there were cases of small increments of the old teachers.

In previous cases, there were no increments at all except at the goodwill of the inspector?—You mean, there was no laid down increment?

Yes; it was at the benediction of the inspector, was it not?—Yes; but the trouble now is that while the scale makes provision for annual increments, these increments have not been paid.

DR. ROBERTS: Well, none are more sad about that than myself; but, if the money is not there, what are you to do?—Yes.

I know it is a very wrong thing not to keep a promise, but an increment usually depends upon the possibility of the money being there; but it really is not there. It will come all right?—I see, a from a statement here, that there is some balance.

And, in three years, what will happen to it? Is that the balance of £184,000?—1930 to 1931, there is a balance from the previous year of £145,000.

Yes. Well, and then?—And the estimates for 1931/1932 make provision for a balance of £126,000 and so on. Q. Decreasing in each year and, in five years, it has gone?—Yes. The contention is, why not use this balance to redeem the promise of giving increments?
SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: But, then, you cannot expand; if you use up your balance in this year, you have nothing for expansion; we cannot open a single school next year?—Our experience is that, since the coming into operation of the 1925 Act, there has been no expansion—no new schools have been sanctioned.

We opened more than 50 new schools last year?—(No answer).

DR. ROBERTS: I do not think that is exactly the case. As you know, many new schools have been opened throughout the country. As is well known, the Government cannot open all the schools it would like to, but they open a number each year, but not the number one would desire?—Has this expansion only applied to where there is a suitable building in existence? The Government is not itself prepared to help in the erecting of buildings?

No; the Government will not take any responsibility for the buildings. You have the figures there; how much is paid to the Free State?—£40,000.

And the Cape?—£345,000.

And to the Transvaal? ) £92,000.

And to Natal?—£110,000.

If you add it up, you will find that the Cape gets as much as the other three put together?—That is not the contention of the Cape people, sir; they do not contend that they are getting less than the other provinces, but the contention is that their amount has been reduced somehow or other, although we are not in a position to quote the amount provided for previous to this, but we base our arguments on the salary that teachers who are appointed under the present scheme, get, which compares unfavourably with what the former teachers got.
Now, when this one was just coming into operation, the amount that the Free State paid for Native education was in the neighbourhood of £5,000. Perhaps you know that?—It was £4,000.

Thank you. Now, how much is being paid now?—£20,000.

That is to say, to the Orange Free State alone, the Government is paying ten times what was paid for education eight years ago?—Yes.

I forget what it was in the Transvaal, but it was less than £50,000?—The trouble is not with the Free State. Although the Free State gets £40,000 now, we do not consider that it is sufficient; we consider that it is a big improvement on what the position was formerly, but even then we do not think it is sufficient.

No; no man will say that?—(No answer):

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: I see, in your statement, you are pleading for a minimum wage?—Yes.

Now, you do that partly so as to do away with this competition from the countryside, so that the country Natives cannot come into Kimberley and take on jobs for less than what the Natives here are receiving today?—Yes, partly that; because at present there is no minimum wage fixed and so the employers can offer any wage, and those who come from the country places, because they want just sufficient to pay poll tax or for other necessaries, accept it.

This view of the urban Native is very interesting to me. He now begins to look to his own protection; he primarily begins to look to his own protection; he says, "We are urban Native; we must protect ourselves; and the country people must look after themselves"?—No, sir. The town Natives do not object to the country Natives coming into town; they object to their accepting a very low wage.
Do you think a minimum wage would protect you? - Yes.
Now, in the permanent trades in the town, does the country Native compete there as a storeboy, messenger, etc.? - A storeboy?
Yes, in the trades? - Well, storeboys not to a great extent.
Where do they compete? - In the ordinary work of the streets.
Municipal labour? - Yes.
Does the Municipality not pay a fair wage? - I do not consider it a fair wage.

MR. LUCAS: Am I correct in saying it is 15/- a week?
- It is from 15/- to 18/- a week.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: What would you consider to be a minimum wage? - Well, I consider, to start with, 30/- a week.

DR. ROBERTS: That is 5/- a day? - Yes. I consider that, in fixing a wage, consideration should be taken of the cost of living of the people and that it should be fixed on that basis.

But can you do that? - I think it can be done. The Joint Councils have tried to find out the cost of living per family.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Would you not be satisfied with the minimum wage that has been laid down in Bloemfontein - 3/6d a day? - No, I am not satisfied with that, although I think it is a fair deal.

DR. ROBERTS: You quote here a figure of mine; it is some years since you took that figure, is it not? - What figure?

With regard to indirect taxation; it is on page 27, I think that was in 1924.

Yes; I would not accept that now. I would say now
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it would be between 25/- and 30/-?—I do not accept it
myself, but I quoted it as your estimation at that time.

Well, at that time, but not now?—I believe it is
even more than 25/-.

I say 25/- or 30/-; I want you to remember that. It
would have been better if you had stated the year for which
this was—1924; that is seven years ago. In that time
there have been great changes?—Yes.

SENATOR VAN NIKKERES: Has the cost of living come down
considerably?—No, sir; it has gone up.

Food is cheaper today, is it not?—I do not think it
is cheaper. Cheaper than when, sir?

Then, say, in the last ten years?—I do not think so,
sir. People are spending more now than they used to spend
ten years ago.

But in ordinary shops you will find that things have
come down—such things as clothing, boots?—Well, I have
not tried to compare the prices that obtain today with those
that obtained ten years ago.

MR. LUCAS: You suggest the fixing of a minimum wage
under the Wage Act. Have you thought about whether any
changes are necessary in the Wage Act for its application to
Natives?—I have not studied the Wage Act.

Has this matter you referred to, of children developing
the habits of beggars and loitering round become serious?—Yes.

Could you give any idea of the number of boys that do
this sort of thing?—I think, here, there would be 15 to 20,
or even more.

They are boys that ought to be at school?—Yes; there
are some also at the Railway Station. You find them loitering
about the Railway Station asking passengers to be allowed to
carry their luggage for a penny, or whatever they get. They
give their parents a great deal of trouble.

Has this been going on long enough for you to see any
of the bad effects of it?—No, I could not say, because I have only been here four years; but I can see that those boys are going to become morally not good.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Those boys would not take kindly to permanent work?—They would, sir, but there is no work offered to them. Perhaps the trouble is that we have no juvenile affairs board amongst our people to take care of the Native juveniles who leave school before the proper time.

Is it not possible for you to set up a board of your own? If the Europeans cannot see their way to help you, could not the Natives do something for themselves?—Well, I do not know if they could; I do not know if it would help if they had a board of their own, because it would need to have influence with the European employers of labour.

DR. ROBERTS: You have travelled from Cookhouse all the way down to East London, have you not?—Yes.

You know that there it is even worse than here; there is a chain of beggar boys the whole way from Cookhouse. When the one group runs out, the next group goes on for 120 miles—boys begging from people?—Yes, I have seen that.

Is there no way of stopping that if men like yourself appeal to the parents?—Well, I think there are difficulties in the way. The whole thing comes back to the question of wages and of employment offered to the Native people. Many Native people are starving and there are some who do allow their people to go and get what they can in order to supplement the earnings of their fathers.

Do you not think it lowers the real fine quality of independence that the Native has—this begging?—It does, undoubtedly. It means that the whole Native question must be considered and that that must also be taken into consideration; a remedy found, and I think the remedy lies
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in education and in paying the Natives better wages and also the question of finding land for the Natives, so that they may be placed on the land. That would obviate their children having to run along the railway lines.

SENATOR VAN WINKEL: I have found the same tendency amongst White people on the Railway lines. The children will come up to the Railway and beg for food tickies; and if you do not stop it by saying, "You go home," it becomes a habit even with well-to-do parents if the people themselves do not stop it. I would like to suggest, sir, - this is not in my statement - the question of subsidizing Native education should be reviewed; instead of giving the block grants to education, that a system of per capita grants should be introduced, because that will allow for expansion for the increase of population and the increase of children in the schools.

DR. ROBERTS: That is, your block grants would be determined on a per capita basis? - Yes.

MR. JOHN SEKWA LIKHING,
called and examined:

CHAIRMAN: Do you think, if the Native Land Act were repealed - as so many Natives ask for it to be repealed - that the European farmers would again allow the Natives to farm on shares? - Well, in my opinion, a good many of them would.

Do you know anything about farming? - A great deal.

You have lived on a farm? - Yes.

You have noticed the farms are a good deal smaller than they were twenty years ago? - Some of them were small, but the Crown lands still are open.
Most of them are smaller, I should think?—Yes, but
the Crown lands are as they were before.
You are hoping the Natives will get room to farm on
Crown lands?—(No answer):

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Where are they?—We come
across a good number of them in the Transvaal; we have some
owned by certain private companies.

CHAIRMAN: There are Natives living on many of those
now. The general character of Native farming is not very
advanced. I think you will agree with that?—It will
settle down like any other thing.

At present it is not very far advanced?—No.
Now, with the smaller farms, do you think the European
farmers are likely to give Natives land to farm when they can
farm it better themselves?—I take it that, generally, they
accept the Natives taking part in farming.

Now, you say that when the Native man has cattle, he
is well reckoned: is that the chief cause why the Natives are
so fond of cattle?—Well, I take it that that is one of
the causes.

Are there any other causes why the Native is so
very much more fond of cattle than is the European? I can
understand it in their natural condition, but now that they
have learned from the European to prize quite a lot of other
things, why do they stick to cattle, even when it is not to
their advantage?—They never take it that it would be to
their advantage, because they have no other process of owning
anything else.

They can own money?—How can they own money when
there are no facilities for earning money?

If they sell their cattle, for which they have no
grazing, surely they would have money from that?—Well, if
they had the possibility of having some cattle that they
could sell for a particular amount.

MR. BOYLE NGOTAKOTA
MR. HAMMOND MASIZA
called and examined:

CHAIRMAN: There is only one point here. Most of the
points have already been dealt with very fully by witnesses
here and in other places; but there is one point here I want
to ask you a question about. You speak of the competition
of convict labour with the Natives. Will you tell us a
little more about that?—Sir, in the local mines, here, there
were, when I got the figures from the owners, about 1200 convicts
in the mines locally.

DR. ROBERTS: In the Kimberley Mines?—Yes.

I see that the people who sent you from No. 2 Location
have also appointed Mr. H. Masiza: is he here?—Yes.

... Now, the presence of these convicts here is detrimental
to the people who are resident in these areas, because it has
kept out 1200 free labourers from working in the mines.

What do you think we should do with our convict labour?—
I think convict labour should be used on the roads outside; the
Government should see that the convict labour is used by the
Government for public works and not to compete against free
labour.

But if the convicts are used on the roads, surely the
free Natives would not be used there?—Yes; we know at
present there is not much work on the roads; there are not many
Natives on the roads and I think the convicts could be used on
the roads and other public works.

But not in the Mines?—Not in the mines.

CHAIRMAN: Do you think they would not compete with
the Natives there?—No, I do not think so. I know the
country is very anxious to have some good roads, and it would
be to the benefit of all concerned.

You mean, if there is more money available for roads
than there is now, they could use the convicts?—Yes, sir.

Which do we start with first—get the money first, or
get the convicts first?—The Government has the convicts;
you have to keep them; and the best way is to use them
elsewhere. But, supposing it were necessary to use those
convicts in the mines—if they must be used in the mines,
it has been said, even this morning here, that the Johannesburg
mines are always short of labour, and it would have been
better than to use the convict labour where there is a shortage
of labour; but locally, here, there are many Natives out
of employment and it is not in the best interests of Natives
that convict labour should be used locally.

SENATOR VAN NIKKERK: Your idea is not a bad one. We
can see your point of view. Now, if we were to send these
Natives underground, to the gold mines, where they would be
likely to pick up miner's phthisis, what would the Native people
say then?—Miners phthisis is not confined to gold mines
only.

Do you get it in Kimberley?—Everywhere where
people have got to work underground.

DR. ROBERTS: Are we to understand that you are quite
agreeable to convicts working publicly outside?—Yes.

MAJOR ANDERSON: You are in favour of the home brewing
of kaffer beer. We had a suggestion made to us in Bloemfontein
that a system of licensed public houses for the sale of kaffer
beer in the locations would work well. Would you favour that
in your locations here; something on the lines of the European
?—To give licenses to Natives to trade?

Yes, on payment of a license and so on, and under
proper control of ourselves and so on?—I am not against that, sir, but I still think at present it would be bringing another competition in, in making it a money-making business. Beer, to the average Native, is what tea is to the White man and, when we speak about beer, we do not think about brewing it with the object of doing business, but just in the same way as Europeans would speak of tea; something that they must use.

Yes; but it is subject to abuse where tea is not; it is hardly a fair comparison, is it?—Where there is proper control; in Barkly West I have personally investigated the working of the system, and at Windsorton, and it is very satisfactory. I asked Mr. Farrar(?), who is now in Pretoria, when he was there, whether he had any complaints or illicit liquor traffic there.

What is that; domestic brewing?—Yes, domestic brewing. In those districts they brew by permits, but he was absolutely satisfied with the system and up to this day I have not heard of any abuses in these districts.

MR. LUCAS: You mentioned these different cases, why labour conditions are unsatisfactory? Have you any suggestion for dealing with the methods, or about wages; you say wages are utterly inadequate?—Yes, sir.

How would you deal with that?—In the first place, sir, we are helpless; the first thing would have been for wage determinations, but since we made an application about August 1928 for a determination, when the Minister refused or failed to make a determination, some of us have thought it useless to make any more applications because they may—like that one—I am referring to the Kromstad one—be put aside and never be thought of again, Before I go into that, sir, I would point out that there is a difference which
Native Witnesses:

Europeans generally do not want to recognise, namely, a
difference between the urbanised Native and the rural Native.
Whereas the local Native depends solely on the wages he
earns for his livelihood and the support of his family, the
rural Native, say from Taungs or Bechuanaland or the Reserves,
has something behind that he depends on, and he comes here
to work to supplement what he has at home.

Yes: we have got all that quite clearly. But my
question was how are we to stop his bringing your conditions
down? — It is for employers to give preference to the
local Natives.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Are the Natives satisfied with
the Natives paid by the Mines here? — I have not heard
definite complaints about those payments. There is a point
which I do not know if you will excuse — I do not know whether
this point has been raised, but if it has not been definitely
raised, I would like you to permit me to bring it up.

What is it? — It is the question of the constitution
of the Advisory Board. We have been particularly instructed
to bring this before the Commission. The constitution of
the Advisory Board locally is by selection, as the Superintendent
has admitted, but it has been said this morning here
that local Natives were satisfied with the system. Un-
fortunately, that is not the case. While I admit that
generally the Europeans locally here are well disposed towards
Natives the same cannot be said of the Local Authority. Time
and again, Natives have protested to the Council, shewing
the Council that the system is not a satisfactory one and
that it was liable to many abuses, but the Council has
absolutely turned a deaf ear to these requests. I have a
copy of the "D.F.A." which would shew the Commission that
only this last Sunday there was a big meeting of Natives in No. 2 location who protested. One of the Councillors was there and, after hearing the protests that the Natives made, he agreed with them that the system was bad, so that practically we are not represented in the local government here. There is such a question, for instance, as that of sanitation; some people have, for a long time, been asking why Natives - it would appear as if the Local Authority does not encourage Natives in the Native-owned houses to have lavatories of their own, because, if I build a lavatory today I have to pay 7/6d a quarter in addition to the 15/6, as if I am still using the public lavatory. This has also given great dissatisfaction, and there is no channel whereby we can be heard. These things, sir, are of very, very urgent necessity, as far as the Natives are concerned, and we have been specially asked to lay these points before you.

CHAIRMAN: How would you want the Advisory Council to be appointed? - We want the Advisory Board to be elected. The only objection that has been made against the election of the Advisory Board is that Natives were not competent to do so, but the Commission will remember that the local Natives, or most of them, are capable of returning members to Parliament and also to the Provincial Council.

Most of them? - £900 are. But we are told we are not competent to return members of an Advisory Board. Take the whole of the Free State and the Transvaal; Natives are not franchised there, but they return these members by popular election.

DR. ROBERTS: I think the arrangement was that half should be elected and half should be nominated? - That is what is done in other cases. As I say, sir, in my statement, the Urban Areas Act gives the Municipality the right to
interpret it anyway they like; the word "may" appears so
often in the Act that it gives any local authority who is
not sympathetic towards the Natives a chance to do as they like.

DR. ROBERTS: Would you like a "shall"? - Yes, sir; it should be "shall". The other point is in connection with
the Council houses. The residents of No. 2 feel that they
should be allowed not to rent these Council houses for a
lifetime and pay -- I know of a specific case where a woman
has stayed a little more than five years in a place; this
woman had only one son. This son got ill, went to hospital,
and the officers of the Council came along and ejected this
woman and threw her out in the street. The result was,
if she had had no friends, she would have had to go to the
farms until her son came out of hospital. The request is
that we should be allowed to buy these houses and pay for
them until they are paid off.

MR. TOBIAS PIETER XMASTE, Representing Advisory Board,
called and examined:

CHAIRMAN: You state that insufficient attention is
paid by the Council to the recommendations of the board of
which you are a member. Can you tell the Commission what
sort of recommendations you have in mind? - Well, sir, there
is the recommendation for instance of the Council to help
the people in the locations to build their homes. We have
made a recommendation or suggestion that the Council should
provide material, on the understanding that the owners
will pay back over a certain time the amount that they helped
with. That suggestion has been turned down and has been
dealt with as if it is of no importance at all.

DR. ROBERTS: But they have listened to it? - They
have taken it on, but they have always cast it back to us.

CHAIRMAN: When you make a recommendation and the Council, for some reason or other, does not see fit to adopt it, do you mean that is insufficient attention?—No, sir; there are others; for instance, there is the suggestion which has been made that whenever there is anything in the locations which affect the Natives as a whole, such things should come through the Advisory Board first, or at least the Advisory Board should be consulted by the Local Authorities. That has not been done at all.

Cannot you, as a member of the Advisory Board, raise any question on your own account; cannot you bring a matter before the Advisory Board yourself; or can you only discuss the matters that have been brought before the Advisory Board by the Council?—We are there in an Advisory capacity and we are told we have simply to go and advise the Council of things the Council want to consider.

Cannot you start talking about a subject and pass a resolution as an Advisory Board to be sent forward to the Council?—We have not done it yet, sir.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: The Council takes certain initiative in the location with regard to the Natives without consulting them?—Yes.

DR. ROBERTS: You hold it should not do anything in the location without consulting you?—Yes.

Do you want that there should be a veto, or do you just want them to consult you?—Yes, to consult us. On the question of the location revenue, we have been making suggestions for the good order of the location—the Advisory Board members should be informed in detail about the expenditure and income. We thought it might help a lot to school our people in the
affairs of the location, too, but the Council never took notice of it.

CHAIRMAN: Did not the Council consider it at all?—It was never considered.

How do you know that?—Because it was told us at the meeting: one of the Councillors who is our Chairman, told us that he could not take a thing like that to the Council.

MR. LUCAS: Do you not have access to the revenue books?—No.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Is there no statement published?—There is a statement published in the "D.F.A.", a sort of balance sheet, but, as we have explained, we do not understand the thing at all here; we want to know the details, and on what certain monies have been expended.

MR. LUCAS: Well, I put to Mr. McDonald the next point you make, about complaints being made direct to the Council by residents. Are there many cases of that sort?—I know of two during my time, and there are three in the Advisory Board now.

Do you consider it serious if there are only two?—Well, they were of such a nature that I thought it very serious to the good order of the location.

THE COMMISSION ADJOURNED AT 5.30 P.M., UNTIL 9.30 A.M., FRIDAY 27TH FEBRUARY, TO TAKE EVIDENCE AT VRYBURG.