

Rev. Makaluza

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What illicit way ?- They have to make ends meet by some means in the location and some of them are compelled to brew kaffer beer for the purpose of making ends meet.

Yes, but that would be only a few. You have about 20,000 people in this town, and there would not be 500 people selling illicit beer would there be ?- I could not say how many there would be.

There could not be 500. Your budget is drawn for a man who is drawing a high salary and the average Native cannot come near that ?- If I were to draw a budget for myself and teachers, it would be on a very different basis.

If I earn £1,000 per year, then I cannot go and draw a budget and say, "This is what a man needs". I might be using a lot of things which the ordinary man earning less than £1,000 would not be using? - I have taken this for the average ordinary Native, I have taken this on what they eat.

But how do they get on. Say a man earns £4, how does he make up the deficit of £2.? - They are hopelessly in debt.

A man cannot live on debts for ever ?- No, that is so.

DR. ROBERTS: With regard to this statement of yours that you do not see a change in the Native living outside, do you still say that ?- No, there is a change.

I want to press that, I want to say that the change is a great deal more than what you say. You can go from here to Alice and Fort Beaufort and you will not see many red men. I do not think you are right in saying that the only change is that they drink coffee now.? - I only gave that as

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On the face of the foregoing vital statistics, no sane man can deny the fact that the allocation of land between White and Black in this country is anything but fair and just. The mere fact of 1½ million Europeans owing 80% of the land as against 5 million Natives occupying about 20% speaks for itself, more especially when it is borne in mind that, while the population increases every year, the land remains the same. This state of congestion in the existing reserves of Crown locations, cannot be overstated; suffice is to say that, in the year 1926, it was reported that in the Glen Grey alone there were about 4,000 Natives who had not an acre of land for occupational and agricultural purposes; of course, additional land has since been provided. But the rentals charged for these plots and the conditions of tenure, viz:- £2 per annum in addition to the general tax and a very limited number of stock, are such that these people have no hope of improving their conditions.

I now come to rural legislation. The Natives Land Act of 1913, which was, and still is, regarded in some quarters as a necessary measure for the territorial segregation of the two races, has proved a dismal failure. The provisions of that act, prohibiting and restricting the purchase and lease of land by Natives in certain areas in the three Northern Provinces and the abolition of squatting and the system of ploughing in shares, or labour tenancy, have turned thousands of otherwise able-bodied Natives into homeless wanderers.

I can safely state, without fear of contradiction, that today that measure stands out as the framework of a huge edifice minus roof, ceiling, floor and other equipment, because recommendations of the commissions and committees appointed in terms of that Act, have not been acted upon.

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The result is that a new problem has made its appearance in the urban areas, and the urban authorities all over are finding it difficult to cope with the endless stream of Natives to their areas, and it would be unreasonable to expect the urban authorities to give employment and provide accommodation for these unfortunate people at the expense of the ratepayers.

On the subject of Native migration, I want to say this. The new problem of the townward drift of the Natives can be attributed to this, among other causes :- (a) Scarcity of land, (b) Effects of the Natives Land Act, restricting the sale, lease and occupation of land by Natives in certain areas, (c) Heavy taxation, (d) recurring droughts resulting in poor yield of crops in Native reserves, and (e) desire to meet their increasing wants, due to education and contact with Western civilisation.

As an illustration of my contention, I will take the figures of the local urban locations. According to the location office records, in 1900 the total Native population was 5651. In 1905, that figure more than doubled itself, and the population rose to 11,823. In 1911, the records shewed a big decrease, because the figures dwindled to 6,813. But, in 1919, the figures again increased to 10,000. From that year, the population increased every year and today the figure has risen to 17,600, an increase of 7,600 in less than twelve years.

Apart from the causes enumerated above, it should be remembered that, up to 30 or 25 years ago, the tendency on the part of the Europeans has been to induce the Native to abandon his mode of living and to learn the dignity of labour. His way of developing along the lines of his forbears was roundly condemned as the life of laziness, because the White

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man needed his services in the transplantation of Western civilization in the then dark continent of Southern Africa. Measures, like the Cecil Rhodes Labour Tax, were introduced for the purpose of forcing him to migrate to the towns in order to utilise his labour in the ~~exaggeration~~ construction of railways and harbours and the building of our beautiful cities. Gradually, the Native learned the truth of the scriptural say that "By the sweat of thy brow shalt thou eat bread". The inevitable result was that these Natives permanently settled in the towns and, therefore, became urbanised and some of them now have no other homes except the urban locations. Today, the position is that, even if some of them do not find town life to their liking, they have nowhere to go to, because there is no land available for them; and I understand that, whenever any strip of land becomes available for Native occupation, the usual procedure is to give preference to those who are taxpayers in that particular area or district in which such land is situated.

I now come to suggested remedies. With a view to remedying the influx of Natives into the towns, I would put forward the following humble suggestions.

- (a) Expropriation of additional land for Native occupation,
- (b) Establishment of a land board or boards to regulate and supervise the acquisition of such land.
- (c) Establishment of a Native Purchase and Advances Fund on the Lines of the Lands and Agricultural Bank, to assist progressive Natives desirous of acquiring land by purchase.
- (d) Education of such Natives on modern methods of agriculture and thereby increase the yield of their arable land.

(e) Modification of restrictions against squatting and labour tenancy, with a measure of elasticity to enable the farmers and the two former classes of Natives to carry on their contracts on give-and-take terms as before.

(f) Encouragement of individual tenure of land for certain classes of Natives.

(g) Introduction of legislation enabling Natives to redeem their quitrent lands.

(h) Improvement of Native wages and conditions of employment on the farms.

(i) Amendment of Native Land Act of 1913, in order to carry out suggestions contained in paragraphs (a). (b), (c). (e). (f) and (g) hereof and generally for bringing about an equitable land scheme which will be beneficial to both Europeans and Natives.

I understand that recommendations more or less on the same lines as these were made by the Johannesburg Joint Council of Europeans and Natives and also contained in Sir William Beaumont's memorandum, dated 4th March 1916, but I have not had the privilege of seeing these documents.

In my humble opinion, the foregoing scheme predisposes of all necessity for tightening up urban legislation in order to stop the influx of Natives into the towns, because I firmly believe that any legislation which has as its object the closing of the town gates against Native ingress, such as certain provisions of the Natives Urban Areas Act Amendment Act of 1930, would be like trying to save a ship with a bad leak only by pumping the water out without any attempt to stop the leak itself.

On the subject of urban Native legislation, at present the locations are governed under the Natives Urban Areas Act, an act which would have improved the social conditions of urban

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Natives, had Parliament not shorn the measure of its elevating feature by deleting the ~~proviso~~ proviso enabling Natives to buy land in urban locations, contained in the original draft. The insecurity of land tenure is a sore point with urban Natives, and some of them are reluctant to build costly houses on ground held on a monthly lease, a breach of the conditions of which might mean expulsion forthwith.

It is also felt by the Natives that, whenever any regulations are framed by the municipalities in consultation with the Natives under Section 23 of that Act, there should be less interference from the Native Affairs Department, unless requested by the Natives or municipalities to intervene.

As a case in point, I would quote a certain regulation No.11, of the East London locations, which had the effect of driving children above the age of 18 away from their parents or, alternately, putting a tax on the latter if they choose to keep their children with them.

At the request of the Natives, the Municipality tried in vain to amend this regulation by making it lawful for the Natives resident in the location to give shelter to their "bona fide dependents", but the Native Affairs Department would not have anything of the kind. The result is that, today, it is a crime for any Native in these locations to allow his aged parents and children over the age of 18 to stay with him.

However, on the whole, the measure may be regarded as the Magna Charta of urbanised Natives. As the result of its promulgation, no fewer than 41 conflicting bye-laws and regulations which were in force in the four provinces, were repealed in whole or in part. The Act seeks to provide for improved conditions of residence for Natives in urban areas and the better administration of their affairs in such areas;

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an example to shew that they are adopting European ways. It is not only coffee that they are drinking, they are gradually changing.

MR. MOSTERT: Are there any red Natives in the Ciskei? - Yes, there are.

The Commission, at one o'clock, adjourned until 2.30 p.m.

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On the Commission resuming at 2.30 p.m., the evidence of the Rev. Mr. Makaluza was continued.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Do you live in the location? - I have been living in town since 1930.

What is the general condition of the Natives in this town. Are they very poor or are they fairly well off? - I could not say that they are fairly well off. They are more or less inclined to be poor.

How do you compare their poverty? What is your standard of poverty for the Native. Do you compare him with a farm Native or with Natives in the Territories, or do you compare him with a clergyman or a teacher? - What I mean to say is that they are living from hand to mouth. They have nothing to put aside for the future.

Have they not got any deposit in the banks? They have, but it is under very rigid economy that they are able to do that. They press themselves to put aside something.

What do you think would be a fair wage for these people? - For ordinary workers, I should think more than 5/- per day. Say a man has to support a wife and three children and he has to work 44 hours a week.

What is the position of the town Native as compared with the Native who lives in the location or out on the farm; is he better off here? - It depends on the condition under

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which the man is employed.

Let us take it in general. You get very poor Natives here and you get Natives who have something. You have your clergymen and your teachers. Take your Natives as a whole, as a class, who is better off ?- Personally, I should say if a man has land in the country, then he is better off in the country.

MR. LUCAS: Are you one of the people appointed to speak for the location Advisory Board ?- Yes.

What are the points which you wish to bring up in connection with that ?- I wanted to speak on the tribal system.

These are the points mentioned in your statement ?- Yes.

How long have you been a member of that Board ?- About two years.

Have there, during that period, been any meetings between the Town Council and your Board at which any particular questions were discussed ?- I can only remember one occasions when three members of the Town Council visited the locations.

Once in two years ?- Yes, that is all.

What was the purpose of their visit or their meeting with you ?- The purpose was to discuss certain points in regard to health matters and also the brewing of kaffer beer and the question was also raised in regard to the Native village.

What is the proposal about the Native village ?- The proposal was that there should be a portion of land set aside where Natives should be given a chance to buy land and put up better houses.

What is the suggestion so far as the village is concerned, what size is the land to be ?- Roughly speaking, on that day the proposal was that they should be given sites of 50 ft x 75 ft. and that these sites should be sold to them. They should either be sold to the Natives or given on an

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extended lease.

MAJOR ANDERSON: In a separate location or independent location ?- In a separate location.

MR. LUCAS: And what do the Natives hope to gain from a system like that ?- They could put up better houses. There are large numbers of Natives who, it appears, will never go back to the country. They are permanent residents of the urban area.

The object was to provide for the permanent residents  
? - Yes.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Are the Natives very keen on that ?-  
Yes, they are.

And does the Town Council turn it down ?- I would not say that they turned it down; the question was dropped for the time being and it has not been raised since.

MR. MOSTERT: How many Europeans are there on your Council ?- Only the Superintendent of the Location.

And how many Natives ?- There are nine.

MR. LUCAS: Are they all elected ?- No; six of them are elected by the location people, and three are nominated by the Town Council.

Do you know that the wages of some of the Natives in some industries in East London are regulated under the Wage Act  
? - Yes, I know that.

Have you come into contact with any of the people affected by the determination, and could you say which effect the determination has had on them. Can you say whether they are living the same way as they did before and whether it has made some of the Natives dissatisfied ?- I could not say, but those who are treated as skilled labourers, seem to be satisfied.

You know that there are some in the sweets factories who are getting better wages than the other people are getting?

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Yes, I know that.

Do you come across some of them ?- Yes, I do.

And do you ever hear them express an opinion as to the system under which they get these new wages? - I could not say whether their complaint is well established or not, but I only know that some of them do not think they are fairly treated.

In what way are they not fairly treated ?- They appear to be more or less treated as though they are not skilled labourers, but I could not say whether that statement is correct, because I have not gone into the complaint myself.

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MR. GEORGE WILLIAM FREER, called and examined:

CHAIRMAN: You are the Senior Veterinary Surgeon for the Eastern Districts of the Cape ?- I am.

The Commission have asked you specially to come along so that we might be able to get some information from you with regard to the East Coast fever regulations in the Transkeian Territories. While we were there, we were given a fairly considerable amount of evidence on these matters, the gist of which was that, owing to the East Coast fever regulations, it was very difficult to get cattle out and that, in effect, on one side your Department is giving the animals life which otherwise they would not have, and on the other side your Department is making that life worthless to the owners, because it is increasing overstocking to an alarming extent. Many objections were raised to that and we naturally assumed that these regulations were framed with certain objections in view. - Yes; these regulations were framed in order to protect the people on this side of the Border.

We would like you to give us the Departmental view and also your personal view ?- As far as the restrictions

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are concerned, I do not think that we can relax them any further than we are doing at present. As a matter of fact, we are allowing them a considerable opportunity to come out of the Territories to the abattoirs in various parts. The cattle can go to Durban, to the abattoirs there, they can go to Cape Town abattoirs from certain portions of the Transkei and they can also go to the new abattoirs that we have here at East London. The Imperial Cold Storage Company have opened an abattoir here for the purpose of exporting meat to the Italian Government for use in the Italian army. I may say that they have erected a plant here for that purpose, and any cattle which are not fit for export alive, are put into the extractor and those not fit for anything but manure are put into the digester. We are giving any amount of facilities for these people to send their cattle to these abattoirs, but, as a matter of fact, they are not availing themselves of these opportunities and they are not coming out with their cattle. It comes down to this that the Native wants too much money for his cattle and he seems to think that his animals are worth three times as much as they are.

If we were to open the Transkei entirely, there would really be no sale at all here for their cattle, because in the Italian army, they only want lean meat, they do not want any fat meat at all. Now you may know, from what you have seen, that the cattle in the Transkei are 99% scrub, they are probably more than that, and if you were to see the cattle that come to the abattoirs, you would fall on your back, you would be astonished at the rubbish they send. And, as far as the scrub are concerned, there are more of that kind of cattle on this side of the border than the farmers know what to do with. So the result would be, if we

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were to open the Territories altogether, there would be no sale at all.

Could you say what the restrictions are now ?- Do you mean as far as the internal or the external movements are concerned?

MR. LUCAS: Let us have them both ?-

CHAIRMAN: Let us first have the restrictions in regard to moving out of the Transkei ?- Cattle can come from the Transkei from any clean area to the abattoirs which I have mentioned, viz:- Cape Town, Durban and East London. They can also come from certain districts, such as Tsolo, Qumbu to the Maclear district. But, before they can go anywhere else, they have to undergo 30 days quarantine on a fenced and tanked farm. After that, they are eligible to go anywhere in the Union, but they have to undergo this tanking and fencing quarantine in order to protect the people outside the Transkei. There is no great hardship in that. If the cattle have an average of 30 days in a clean area, we are certain that they are free from disease.

MR. MOSTERT: Can they be sent to Johannesburg ?- Yes, they can be sent anywhere after that time.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: But they can only come from clean areas ?- Yes.

CHAIRMAN: Which districts are clean ?- I can more easily tell you which are infected. We have East Coast fever at Willowvale, Engcobo, Libodi, Tsolo, which is nearly clean, Umzimkulu, and, unfortunately, in all the districts in Eastern Pondoland, which is the worst part of the country. East Coast fever is very bad in Flagstaff today, but even with that, we still allow cattle to go to the Durban abattoirs for immediate slaughter. They are railed from Kokstad station. The areas must be fairly safe and they must be

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under observation for thirty days.

MR. LUCAS: Yes, that is what they say, they say they cannot do that because there are no facilities. They say that that is the reason why they cannot send any stock out of the Territories ?- Still, three or four consignments go every week. They are sending out even now.

MAJOR ANDERSON: They complain very bitterly about these regulations and about the thirty days observation on fenced and tanked farms ?- Well, it is wrong.

DR. ROBERTS: Have they to pay during the thirty days ?- No, it does not cost them one penny.

MR. LUCAS: The officials of the agricultural colleges also complained and they were most detailed in their complaints ?- Well, it is wrong. The position is as I have told you.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Mr. Barry, the Magistrate of Umtata, and someone else, actually went to Pretoria to see your Head Office about it ?- Yes, but their complaint is quite wrong.

They said that they could get no satisfaction in the Territories? - I issued a certificate only yesterday for a consignment to come in after the cattle had been under observation for thirty days. That shews ---

MR. LUCAS: They say that those 30 days in effect constitute a barrier to almost all cattle coming out ?- Yes, that may be so, but we must protect the people on this side of the border. These cattle have to be railed at Kokstad Station and European farmers would be up in arms if the effect should be that their stock were infected.

The point is that the same provision, the same regulation, applies to areas which are clean and which have never had East Coast fever before ?- No. Take cattle from a clean district in the Transkei which are brought to the

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abattoirs here. Pretoria told me that I must insist upon 30 days quarantine, but I have ignored that instruction. The local officer tells me that the area is safe and then the cattle are allowed to go forward without any observation at all. Surely these people cannot expect me to do any more than that.

But that is not known in the Transkei ?- Well, all I can say is that it must be known. I may say that this has happened since you were there, because it must be three or four months ago when you were there, and these abattoirs only opened something like two months ago.

CHAIRMAN: You mean that since we were there there has been a relaxation in these regulations ?- Yes. There has been a tremendous relaxation. I have really relaxed more than I was told to do.

MR. MOSTERT: Could you tell us how many head of cattle this factory here uses per day ?- They could absorb 200 head of cattle per day, but just to show you, they cannot get them and, as a matter of fact, there are no cattle there now. They are waiting for consignments to come in but at the present moment there are none coming in. Of course, I have to know every movement of cattle coming to the abattoirs so as to prevent their being blocked up by too many coming in. For instance, if they were to send several hundred at once, it would be impossible for the abattoirs here to accommodate them. We cannot have hundreds of head of cattle coming here and having to graze them on the commonage. For one thing, it would be most unwise to do that.

MR. LUCAS: The officials told us at Umtata that the traders would be able to give a steady supply to these abattoirs here ?- Well, they have not done so so far.

They said that that was because of the difficulties

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which were placed in their way in getting these cattle out of the Territories? - I can only say that I have done everything I can to encourage this export and I have relaxed the restrictions more than I have been told to do.

MAJOR ANDERSON: What prices do they pay at the Factory here? - Everything goes by weight. The Company has nothing to do with the buying of the cattle itself. After the animals are slaughtered, the animals are weighed and the Government Inspector is present and sees what the weight is, and it is on that that the Company pays.

MR. MOSTERT: Would the price be in the neighbourhood of £1 per 100 lbs.? - I think it is 18/6 per 100 lbs. for extract meat and 22/6d for export meat.

In other words, it is all compound stuff? - It is absolute rubbish. As you know, the Italian army only want lean meat and no fat at all.

They want red meat? - Yes, red meat, no fat.

CHAIRMAN: Could you verify these figures which you have just mentioned to us and let us know if there are any changes? - Yes, I shall do so at once on the telephone. (Witness at once proceeded to the telephone to verify the figures and on returning stated..) It is 16/- for extract and 22/6d for export.

What steps have been taken to make this known? - The magistrates, the Chief Magistrate in the Transkei, and all his officials have been informed. Every stock inspector knows it and probably everybody else has been informed. Practically all the public know.

MR. MOSTERT: And all the speculators would know it? - Yes, they all know it.

And the traders? - Yes, they know it.

And you find that it is very hard to get the stuff? - Yes, it is very hard and then they want more than what is

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worth. I think they are holding back so as to get a better market.

CHAIRMAN:

When was this relaxation granted ?- Just about two months ago, but even before that cattle were coming out of the Territories in fairly large numbers.

MR. LUCAS: I should like you to have a discussion on this point with Mr. Welsh and Mr. Barry, because you have certainly put a different aspect on the position by what you have told us. They are both responsible men and the complexion which they put on it when they gave evidence before the Commission was a very different one ?- Yes, I know them well, but what they want is to have the Territories opened up completely, and that is impossible. It would be disastrous to open up a country like that. There is not a solitary fence between one part and the other and it would not be safe to do.it. Even the supposed clean areas are such that we are not astonished when we find cases of East Coast fever there. You will never stop the Native from indulging in illicit movements. It is true a register is kept of all animals, but only the numbers are kept and not the descriptions. It would be impossible to have any descriptions there. It is quite easy to make an exchange. It is quite a simple thing to put a beast into an affected area and to take another one back for the one that they put in. That is one of the difficulties which we have to cope with.

CHAIRMAN: Have you any statistics of the number of cattle that have come out since these relaxations have been granted ?- Yes, I have such statistics.

Could you get those made up and sent to us ?- Yes. Could you have them sent to us in about a month from

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now ?- Yes, I shall have it done.

Another point which was raised at one of our meetings in the Transkei was this, that there seemed to be a differentiation by your Department in the administration of the European areas and the Native areas, and the case in point which was mentioned, if my memory serves me right, was Komgha, where they said there had been an outbreak and 18 months later the area was clean? - Well, that is wrong, because it is still in quarantine, the whole district is, but we allowed a movement of cattle out on the same conditions as we allowed them out from the Transkei. As a matter of fact, our restrictions for the Komgha district are much more severe than for the other parts.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: We were told that they were up in arms and that all sorts of threats were made ?- No, they are quite peaceful, but the district is still under quarantine. I do not know of any threats.

CHAIRMAN: Since when has it been in quarantine ?- Since 1926, when the first outbreak occurred on a farm which is still infected.

The statement was made to us that the Territories have been in quarantine for the last twenty years and that, during that period, there has been practically no movement out and it was stated to us that that was one of the main causes of overstocking. ?- No; I shall tell you what is the cause of overstocking. Dipping is the cause. At one time, before dipping was introduced, the Natives used to lose at least 60% to 70% of their calves, but today, if a calf is born, you can reckon that at least 95% of those that are born are reared. In 1919, there were ~~half~~ a million head of cattle in the Transkeian Territories. Today,

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there are 1,560,000 head of cattle. Just think, they have trebled themselves in eleven years and you can put that all down to dipping. Then again, the cause of the overstocking in the Transkei is the small stock. Before they started dipping, you could not rear the sheep. They died from heartwater, but today there are over 6,000,000 small stock in the Territories and any man here who is a farmer knows that you cannot run sheep and cattle together and expect the cattle to survive. These are the main causes of overstocking.

MR. MOSERT: Of course, the Native will not see that ?- No, of course not. Dipping is the cause of the overstocking. We have saved the cattle and, as somebody said earlier on, we have made them valueless by saving them.

How many head of sheep were then eleven years ago ?- There were not a quarter of a million of them. They have been dipping now for several years. At first, the sheep would not survive the dipping, but after a few years, they kept on and now they have close on six million in the Territories; that is, sheep and goats. Of course, as you will realise, goats are the curse in the Territories.

The Territories are becoming a sheep country more than a cattle country ?- Yes, the cattle cannot survive on the short grass there with the sheep and, in time, the cattle will be diminutive miserable little beasts.

They are not much bigger now than the goats ?- No, they are not. Here and there you may see a beast of a decent size, but you will generally find that it is about 20 years old.

CHAIRMAN: I take it, the policy of your Department is directed to the end of ultimately eliminating the ~~bigxtick~~ altogether ?- I am afraid that is an impossibility. You have other animals breeding ticks, but our policy is to get

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rid of ticks which carry disease, but there are others which do not carry disease. Still, it is a big job.

My statement was perhaps not adequate. Let me put it this way. Your object is to get rid of disease carrying ticks ?- Yes, or reduce them to a minimum, but it will be a big job to say that it would be possible to exterminate them entirely and I do not think that you can do it.

Now, take districts like Eastern Pondoland, what reasonable prospect is there of doing that there ?- Well, if you went through Eastern Pondoland, you would hardly find any ticks at all. The Native dips well under supervision and there are very few ticks left. In that respect, a Native compares very well with the European. If you go to European areas which are not East Coast Fever areas, you will see heaps of ticks.

The Eastern Pondoland area is the worst part, is it not ?- Yes, the country lends itself to disease. The ticks prevail in the warm coastal areas. They prefer those areas. Eastern Pondoland is full of deep ravines and kloofs. In the low-lying parts it is warm throughout the winter and the ticks are constantly breeding there, but in the Highveld parts the ticks are dormant during the winter months.

MAJOR ANDERSON : Do you see any prospect of eliminating East Coast fever ?- Yes, considering it was infected from end to end when I took over in 1916, and it was not till 1919, when I got a proper staff, I am of opinion that we have made good headway and, with the exception of the Eastern Pondoland districts, the disease in the other districts will probably be stamped out in the next 18 months or so. But I will not say that in regard to Eastern Pondoland, because that part of the world lends itself too much to the disease.

Mr. Fraser

MR. MOSTERT: After the tick fever, there could not have been very many cattle left ?- Yes, there were. You see, they carried out a system of inoculation and it was a most drastic system. They saved a good many animals, but a very great many died. Still, it is not a system which you can carry on with. You would simply be perpetuating the disease.

Was that Koch's system ?- No, it was Sir Arnold Thailler's system. Of course, they saved very large numbers.

You still had half a million left ?- Yes, that was at the end of the bad outbreak which we had. When it first got into the Transkei, it went right through like wild-fire and it killed off a tremendous number. In the end, they only had about half a million animals left, but now they have increased to three times that number.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Are they taking cows at these meat extracting works as well as oxen ?- They take anything, but, of course, for export they only take oxen.

MR. LUCAS: In your opening remarks, you refer to internal and external movements and you pointed to restrictions which you want to speak on. What is there in regard to the internal movement ?- In a clean district, there is practically no difficulty in regard to obtaining permits, so long as the district is clean. The cattle within the district are moved on dipping certificates and on the authority of a certificate issued at the tank by the Native foreman. They can go from one district to another, but the consent of the magistrate has to be obtained. But that has nothing to do with us really. That is done under a special proclamation, under a grazing proclamation and it rests entirely with the magistrate.

Mr. Freer

What was the object of that ?- It was done in order to prevent overstocking taking place in a particular district and it was laid down that before there was any movement, the consent of the magistrate had to be obtained and, by arrangement with myself, I have agreed with the magistrates that no sub-inspectors shall grant a certificate unless the magistrate's consent has first been acquired. Of course, I may say that many of the Natives object to this, they object to the magistrate refusing permission, but if a magistrate feels that his district is getting overstocked, he should have the right to say, "We cannot have any more cattle coming in, and I decline to have any more".

CHAIRMAN: What permission is required to import cattle into the Territories from an European area ?- I control the whole matter, but the consent of the magistrates must first be obtained before any cattle is allowed in. That is also by arrangement.

Is there any considerable movement into the Territories, movement of cattle ?- No, there is very little of that. Very little is known of. Of course, sometimes you find that a farmer wants a bull to come in, that is an exceptional case, or you may have instances of Natives who have been working for a farmer and who have earned a few head of stock for their services. These Natives go back and they want to take their stock with them, but otherwise there are no cattle introduced for the purpose of sale.

Would your records shew over a number of years what certificates had been obtained to bring cattle into the Territories ?- I do not know. It would take some weeks to work that out. You see, the permit books are destroyed after twelve months, as there is no object in keeping them.

Mr. Fraser

MR. MOSTERT: Speaking generally, the Transkei is overstocked ?- Yes, frightfully so.

Is that not so in every district there ?- Yes, in every district. I do not think there is any district which is not overstocked.

Can you give us your view as to what you think is the right thing to do as far as overstocking is concerned ?- First of all, I should say castrate all the scrub bulls and that would help to stop it a good deal. Of course, the trouble with stock is the dowry question. The Native simply collects cattle for the purpose of dowry and, if one could only get rid of that, the Native would not be so keen on keeping cattle.

MR. LUCAS: The Natives say it is more fundamental than that. Cattle are sacred to the Native ?- That is so, and it will take many years to change their minds.

MR. MOSTERT: Let us put it this way. An area can only carry a certain number of cattle ?- That is so.

Well, you consider it is overstocked today, now what will be the result ?- Will you have further increase in the number of stock there ?- It will become a desert in time.

You cannot have further increase if it is overstocked today ?- No. That is a question for the Native Affairs Department. It has nothing to do with my Department.

I am a farmer and you are in charge of your Department. If you have 1½ million stock in the Transkei, then it means that it is overstocked ?- Yes.

Therefore, instead of their 1½ million increasing, there can only be a decrease ?- Well, yes ----

Because, owing to sheep and goats, the cattle will not be able to live there ?- No, they will naturally decrease.

They can only decrease and not increase ?- That is so

Mr. Preer

So far as the dowry custom is concern, then that goes to the wall ?- Yes.

Can that area stand more than a certain number and, if it cannot and you overstock, the number that are there will get less ?- Yes, quite so.

In other words, your area could carry 1½ million, but if you try to increase it it will mean that the present number there will go down. In actual fact, it cannot really carry the 1½ million and, therefore, that number must go down? Yes, I quite agree with you.

That is why I am asking your opinion ?- It is astonishing to see the number of cattle that die during the winter months. They cannot stand the severe months and the mortality among the cattle in those months is enormous.

And there is no food for them ?- No, none whatever. They have to rely entirely on the veld and on the mealie stalks which they get.

The real point is, that the veld cannot keep them and, therefore, so many must die ?- Yes, quite so.

CHAIRMAN: How would greater cultivation of the land in the Transkei affect the food supply of the cattle ?- Well, I think it will make things worse. I believe that even now the magistrates have great difficulty in finding lands for ~~black~~ natives and, if you cut up all grounds, it will mean that there is so much less grazing ground for the cattle.

Is not your grazing problem a winter problem ?- It is the same in summer. Sixteen years ago, when I went through the Transkei, one found large grazing areas, plenty of it, even in dry summers, but nowadays, even in wet weather, the grass has no chance to grow. It is a winter and a summer problem.

But if you cultivate your land, you will supply a greater winter store? - Yes.

Mr. Freer

But now, the difficulty is that you have closed it for the summer ?- Yes. But they have not got enough food in the summer even now.

MR. MOSTERT: Your trouble is that in summer you have little and in winter you have less ?- Yes, quite so. If they could only reduce the number of sheep and goats, it would help the cattle considerably. Of course, the slump in wool may affect the position.

Will it be wise to set apart a sheep area ?- Undoubtedly Sheep and cattle cannot graze together, there cannot be any mixed grazing ?- That is so.

Therefore, by setting aside your sheep area, you may have a better chance ?- Yes.

But your overstocking will kill everything ?- Yes.

Nevertheless, it will be better than it is today ?- Yes

CHAIRMAN: Is it at all practicable in the Transkei ?- No, the Native wants his sheep and cattle all around him.

Your fences are the piccanins ?- There are no fences. The piccanins are the fences ?- Yes, except here and there and then there is that new scheme whereby the Natives can get advances from the General Council to put up fences. That has been taken advantage of in some areas and it is surprising to see how well the grass grows in some of these parts where these fences have been put up. That really shews what is the cause of their trouble in those parts.

MR. MOSTERT: Immediately you overstock, your country is tramped out ?- Yes, that is so.

And you do not get the grass ?- That is so.

And you are not getting it for the sheep, either ?- Quite so, and when the rain comes, the rain takes the veld away.

And the result is that a beautiful area is simply turned into a desert ?- Yes.

Mr. Freer

What is the remedy ?- I could not say.

Have you no suggestion to make ?- No. I have something in my mind, but I would rather not say what it is.

What about taxing them ?- Yes, that would help, but in my position, I am not supposed to speak on that. I must be a little guarded and I do not want to bring in any politics.

CHAIRMAN: The Transkei as a whole has not reached the stage of bad erosion yet ?- Not as a whole.

It is nowhere like as bad as it is, for instance, in Glen Grey or Herschel or King William's Town ?- No, it is not as bad as that, but there are areas where it is bad.

Do you know those areas which I have just mentioned? - Yes, I know them well.

The Transkei is nowhere as bad as they are ?- No, and what is more, they are attacking it now, they are taking it up in time and they are spending a good deal of money on it.

MR. MOSTERT: In sending cattle to the Transvaal, it is the cost of railage which is very heavy ?- Yes.

And, seeing that compound meat is worth only 15/6 to 17/6 per 100 lbs., it is hardly worth while sending it there. ?- No, and there is very little going there. From various parts they are sending to the Durban abattoirs. For the local market picked cattle are sent. The bad ones are consigned to the extract abattoirs.

MAJOR ANDERSON: What is the average weight of the carcasses killed at the abattoirs here ?- I should say that they do not average 300 lbs.

CHAIRMAN: Picked cattle from the districts would probably be cattle coming from the European farms ?- Yes. Those cattle would come from Umzimkulu, from Mount Fletcher and such areas.

Mr. Freer

And are there any Native cattle in that lot ?-

Yes, the best of the Native cattle. They have a fairly decent type of animal there, because the grazing there is better, too. You take these districts of Matatiele, Qumbu and those areas. From Qumbu in the last few months 800 or 900 head of cattle have gone to the Durban abattoirs.

The direction is mostly eastwards and not westwards? -

Yes. I just want to say again that the statement to which you have referred about no cattle at all leaving the Territories and to this being the cause of overstocking, is wrong.

MR. LUCAS: I think it would ease things very much if you could discuss matters with Mr. Barry ?- I will tell you one thing. Say you found a bad outbreak of disease in the district. You know from the number of deaths of animals that the disease has been there for some time; but your difficulty is this, the smear which you get is putrid and you cannot say anything from it. You know for months that there has been movement of cattle all over the area. Well, do you think it is wise for us to allow movement of cattle from the area until we know exactly how the disease stands there? You simply cannot allow the movements to take place until you know you have localised the disease. But, say, an odd solitary case occurs, we do not quarantine the whole area, not the whole district. All we do is to quarantine the area itself and the contact areas.

MAJOR ANDERSON: How do you define such matters ?-

The districts are separated into locations and we quarantine the tanku areas. We would quarantine all the locations which use one tank, because it is there where the intermingling of cattle takes place. And then we also quarantine the immediate contact area. That's essential.

Mr. Freeer

MR. MOSTERFF: That would not be a big area ?- No, one tank area. Sometimes a location is big and a tank will supply only one location. On some occasions you have only one tank for one location, but on other occasions, one tank may be the meeting place of a number of locations.

CHAIRMAN: Do you quarantine the contact tank areas as well ?- Yes.

So that an outbreak at or near one tank may mean quarantining four or five tanks around ?- Yes. Contact areas are not kept under quarantine as long as the actual affected area.

MAJOR ANDERSON: How long is an area kept under quarantine ?- It is kept under quarantine usually for two years. At one time it was 15 months, but nowadays it is two years. We found that 15 months was not safe and it was, therefore, altered to two years. You have to have blood smears of every animal that dies.

CHAIRMAN: And the contact area, how long is that kept in quarantine ?- After a few months, if you find that everything is going on well in a contact area, you gradually relax your restrictions and you allow the cattle to go out.

So it is not 15 months there or two years ?- Not necessarily. As soon as you find that things are progressing satisfactorily, the restrictions are relaxed.

MR. LUCAS: Another point which Mr. Barry makes is this. He speaks about the whole of the community having been quarantined for 20 years and he states that there are four districts which have not had East Coast fever at all. (Mr. Lucas quotes from evidence given by Mr. Barry during Commission's visit to Umtata.) ?- Yes, everything has to be arranged so as to make sure that you are dealing with the cattle from a particular area.

Mr. Freer

He says that the difficulty is so great that it nullifies all movement ?- No, I do not agree with him there.

CHAIRMAN: You said those 30 days quarantine did not involve them in expense. What about finding grazing for the thirty days ?- There is no difficulty about that, the magistrate finds that and it costs them nothing. Say a Native wants to move some cattle and we insist upon putting them into a certain area which we know is clean. He simply goes to the magistrate or to the headman and they give him their consent and there is no charge.

But you want to have fenced and tanked areas ?- No, not in that case. Are you talking now about the internal arrangements, do you mean the supervision before or after they leave?

During the quarantine ?- In some cases there has to be supervision on this side as well as on the other side of the border. That, of course, is in doubtful cases. Do you mean in quarantining in the Maclear area?

Yes ?- Well, they may have to pay for that. A man who wants to get cattle out may have to get facilities. A lot of the local men go out to the Territories and find facilities for quarantining.

MR. MOSTERT: Is not really this the position, that most of that is done by the traders ?- Yes, as a matter of fact the Native does not worry much about it; most of it is done by the traders and you can say that these cattle which come out of the Territories are mostly cattle taken by the traders for debt. That, generally, is the position, and it is the trader who makes the arrangement.

Not the Native himself ?- Not as a rule.

MR. LUCAS: I want to refer you to page 3537 of the

evidence before this Commission, given by the College Officials on this subject. (Mr. Lucas quotes from evidence given by Mr. Butler at Umtata. Reference page 3537.) That is their point of view. What is your answer to the statement there? Is it true that it is useless to have these regulations -----? It is wrong. Cattle can go out by rail and I have waived the 30 days in areas which I consider safe.

But is it not so that that is new since we have been there ?- Yes, and I think you will find that they have changed their views since they have given evidence. As I have said before, the only thing which will content them entirely would be to throw open the territories completely for the free movement of cattle and that, as I have said, it is impossible for us to do. I should get into the most serious trouble. You take those farmers who go in for breeding thoroughbred cattle, why they would be up in arms if we allowed it. I can only say that we have given every facility which we possibly can and, as time goes on and if there is no fresh outbreak we shall do more, but today it is impossible for us to do more. I can tell you this, I am controlled by my Department and by the Minister and if I were to trip I would never hear the end of it. I am doing whatever I can, but to throw the Territories open completely would be absolutely impossible and might cause a serious setback.

MR. MOSTERT: But you say that, in spite of all the facilities which you have given, they are not sending out the cattle even today ?- No, they are not. Even with the facilities which they have today, they are not sending sufficient cattle out to meet the requirements of this factory which was opened up here some time ago.

That is the position today ?- Yes, that is so at present.

Mr. Godlo  
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MR. RICHARD HORBO GODLO, Representing the East Bank Location Advisory Board,

called and examined:

CHAIRMAN: You represent the Advisory Board of the Natives on the East Bank Location ?- Yes. I have a statement here, which I should like to place before the Commission. The main points which I deal with are in regard to the migration of Natives into urban areas. I have approached the matter from the point of view of the rural Natives. It would seem a truism to say that the crux of what is commonly known as "the Native problem" is the land question and it logically follows that one cannot deal adequately with any aspect of this problem without trespassing on the vital question of the inadequacy of land available for Native occupation.

At the present moment, the land issue is "The issue of all issues, the issue before, behind, beneath, beside, betwixt and above all other issues, because all other issues hang on it," and I am firmly convinced that, unless this question is satisfactorily adjusted, the chances of a solution of the Native complex are as remote as the Greek Kalends.

I should like to deal, first of all, with the question of the allocation of land. Needless to say, the statement made by Dr. Roberts and Dr. Loran before the Select Committee of the Native Bills, which has never been challenged or refuted, revealed the following revolting figures relating to the allocation of land to Natives ?- Cape, 4.3 morgen per head, Natal 2.6, Transvaal 3.7, and Orange Free State 0.3. The other side of the picture shewed that, with the Europeans in the four Provinces, the position was as follows:- Cape 108.1 morgen per head, Natal 47.2, Transvaal 45.0 and Orange Free State 73.6.

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for the registration and better control of contracts of service with Natives in certain areas and the regulation of the ingress of Natives into and their residence in such areas, etc. It aims at uniformity of principle in the administration of Native affairs.

In my opinion, its effects, socially and economically, have proved beneficial both to the Europeans and Natives.

The only provisions I think it will be difficult to enforce, are those of the 1930 Amendment to that Act, giving power to Local Authorities to restrict the ingress of Natives into their areas and providing machinery for the repatriation of redundant Natives and to prohibit the entry of females ~~females~~ into proclaimed areas. The machinery provided therein of repatriating these Natives to the districts to which they belong will be found unworkable for the following reasons:-

(a) Some of these unfortunate Natives have no homes but the farms from which they have been evicted, or the already overcrowded town locations,

(b) Others have been driven to the towns by forces over which they have no control, (e.g., seeking employment in order to meet the heavy taxation imposed upon them).

Therefore, unless something is done on the lines suggested in Item 4 hereof, I do not think there is any remedy for this state of affairs.

It must be admitted that the lure of town life has a certain amount of attraction to a certain section of the Native people, but their number is so negligible that it would not be worth one's while to labour the point. This number consists of young boys and girls who have broken away from rental control.

Now, I wish to say something on trading by Natives. Trading by Natives in areas set apart for their occupation,

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is one of the most important steps in their social development, more especially those who have completely outgrown tribal conditions and cannot possibly go back to them. The opening of trading facilities would enable them to live their lives and become an asset instead of a liability to the European community among whom they live. Wholesale business houses would extend their activities to Native shopkeepers and thus improve the volume of their trade.

As an illustration, I will take the case of East London, where general trading is not allowed in the locations, but Natives are allowed only to run fruit shops and eating houses. Last year, the number of these small shops was 75, and they employed no fewer than 170 Native assistants, bringing in a total revenue of £375 to the Government coffers and £437 to the Municipal Revenue account.

These figures shew that if general trading in the locations were not prohibited, Native trade would also help to solve the problem of Native unemployment and contribute to the industrial and commercial development, not only of the Natives, but of the country as a whole. Therefore, the Natives strongly feel that the Minister for Native Affairs should exercise this prerogative of compelling defaulting municipalities to grant trading facilities to Natives in urban locations.

I should like to point out that, in addition to the Government license of £5 per year, payable by general dealers, fresh produce dealers, the Natives in this city have to pay the Municipality an amount of £4.10.- in the case of fresh produce dealers. That is apart from the stand charges of 3/6d. The amount of £4.10.- payable to the Municipality is additional. That money goes to the Municipality. In the case of eating houses, the Government gets £5 and the Municipality gets £10.10.-

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DR. ROBERTS: That goes to the Native account ?- Yes, to the Native Revenue Account.

You profit by it ?- Yes, at the expense of other people who are unable to pay that amount. It is altogether too much to make an annual license of £15.10.-. The feeling of the Natives is that they are overcharged and that the Municipality at least ought to be satisfied with the amount of rent which they get for the stand, which is 12/3d.

I now come to the cost and standard of living of Natives in urban areas. The cost of living of and the wages paid to Natives are matters which receive very little or no attention from those in authority, despite the fact that we are all agreed that their wages have not advanced to the same extent as the cost of living, while their social needs have advanced enormously. The days are gone, never to return, when a Native worker needed little more than a "tin shanty" mealie porridge and odd bits of clothes to satisfy all his wants, while working for wages which were to supplement his subsistence, farming when he returns to his kraal. Today, he has his wife and family with him in town, and he needs a house of at least two rooms; the whole family eats European food and wears European clothes and the children go to school, and for all these things he pays the same prices as the European. In fact, the Native worker today, lives on a level with the unskilled European worker.

In order to substantiate my view, I may quote the majority report of the Economic and Wage Commission, paragraph 6, which reads as follows :-

"The urbanized Native, on the other hand, who has lost all connection with his pastoral origin and has become de-tribalised, is in the same position as the White wage earner.

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He finds the cost of living high, since he has to conform to urban requirements as to housing, clothing and transport and to pay urban prices for food; while the level of wages he is likely to receive is kept down in the neighbourhood of the standard set by Natives from the reserves, living in compounds and working to supplement their agricultural livelihood."

Paragraph 131 of the Minority Report of the same Commission, reads, inter alia :- "The detribalised Native has nothing but his wages to depend upon, for maintaining himself and his family .... The detribalised Native has no such aid, (i.e. land) and is in a similar position to the landless unskilled White or Coloured worker.

The inadequacy of the wages paid to urban Natives is shewn in the family budget annexed hereunto, prepared by myself in collaboration with other responsible Natives of this city, shewing the expenses of a Native worker in the city of East London, based upon the requirements of a family of five, namely, the worker, his wife and three children, living in a hired room in the location. This budget is for a month of four weeks.

Sugar, 25 lbs. @ 3½d lb.	7/3½d
Tea, 1 lbs. @ 3/- "	3/-
Coffee, 2 lbs. 1/-	2/-
Salt, 6d per bag	6d
Mealie meal, 30 lbs., 1½d per lb.	3/9d
Rice, 12 lbs. @ 3d per lb.	3/-
Samp, 30 lbs. @ 2d " "	5/-
Beans, 15 lbs. @ 4d " "	5/-
Candles, 30 pieces, 1d a piece	2/6
Paraffin, one tin, large	6/6d
Wood, 4 bags @ 1/3d per bag	5/-

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Meal, 25 lbs. @ 3½d per lb.	7/3½d
Meat, 36 lbs. @ 6d per lb.	18/-
Milk, 7 tins @ 8d per tin	4/8d
Rent, 1 room for five	18/-
Soap and blue, 4 bars of soap and 1 blue	4/3d
Vegetables, 2/- per week	8/-
Matches, 2 dozen boxes	1/6d
Breakfast and lunch for worker for 26 working days, @ 6d per meal ..	£1. 2. -
Clothing @ 16/- per month	16/-
Poll tax	1/8d
Sundries	10/-

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The above figures are based on the principle of the most rigid economy and it may be pointed out that Natives rarely buy anything but small quantities. The majority of their purchases are at a penny and threepence at a time. Take the case of matches. A packet of 12 boxes can be purchased for seven pence, but if they are purchased a box at a time, the cost is 1d each, or 1/- for twelve boxes. If the Native can afford to spend 3d at a time, he can get four boxes and even then, the cost is 9d per packet of twelve.

This is a difficulty that meets the Natives throughout the whole of their transactions, as they are unable to buy in the cheapest markets. Tea, coffee and other commodities come under this category.

It will be noticed that no provision is made in this budget for doctor's fees, taxi fares, burial society fees and church contributions, so the figures quoted above may be increased in this respect.

An analysis of the above quotations shews that £3.7.4 is the expenditure on food stuffs, and £4.7.7. the expenditure in other necessary directions. In other words, the

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cost of feeding a family of five on the figures submitted above is only 2/2½d per day for the five. It seems impossible for this figure to be reduced in any way.

Therefore, the conclusion arrived at is that the basis of employment, in order to keep a Native off dishonest means of living, such as stealing, illicit liquor selling and the brewing of kaffer beer, should be 5/- per day as an entrance wage for a raw worker, rising as the worker improves.

Before concluding, I just want to say this. One of the Commissioners asked a witness why it is that East London required a larger force of police than Bloemfontein. I just want to say a few words on that. I think the fault lies with the administration of our location, with the very system of advisory boards. I do not think that the members of the Native Advisory Board have an opportunity of getting into contact and are able to express the views of the Native residents of the locations, because the system obtaining in these locations is that the locations are not divided into wards. Even if members of the Advisory Board should be people who reside in one block, as long as they satisfy the Council, all is well. With regard to the Bloemfontein system, I may say I made a special study of their Board when I was in Bloemfontein. I have certain information in regard to their system here.

CHAIRMAN: We have all that information given to us by the Superintendent of the location there.

MR. LUCAS: I personally would like you to say whether their system could be applied here? As far as I am concerned, and I think all the members of the Advisory Board are agreed, that they favour the Bloemfontein system because the system of committees or blockmen enables the members of the board to get into touch with all the Natives in the locations.

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MR. MOSTERT: You favour the block system ?- I do.

MR. LUCAS: Then is there any reason why it should not work in East London ?- There is no reason whatever.

Have you put up the proposal to the Town Council here ?- No, we have not yet put the proposal to the Council, but, of course, it is under consideration by the Advisory Board. Now, with regard to the visits of the Town Council to the location and to the Advisory Board, I may say that I have been a member of the Advisory Board for the last nine years and, in those nine years, I have only seen the members of the Council visit the Board once and, even on that occasion, they desired to see the Board on the vexed question of the brewing of kaffer beer. On that, we could not agree. They had a discussion with the members of the Advisory Board and they thought some agreement might be arrived at.

With regard to this question of the block system, do you agree with Mr. Lloyd's statement that the main cause for requiring all those police in the locations is because of the drink ?- No, I do not.

What do you think is the main reason ?- I think there is the same amount of drink in Bloemfontein as there is in East London.

DR. ROBERTS: Are you sure of that ?- Yes, personally as far as I can judge. Of course, I was only there for a few days.

Did you see a drunken man in Bloemfontein ?- I saw quite a number of them, but they were practically harmless.

MR. LUCAS: Why should they be harmless and why should your Natives not be harmless ?- In my opinion, as I said, our people hold, rightly or wrongly, that they are not represented.

CHAIRMAN: But that has nothing to do with the question why they are harmless. Do you mean that the Bloemfontein

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people were so drunk that they were harmless ?- A man who is drunk has nothing to complain of ----- when a man is -----

MR. LUCAS: You mean that they are contented in Bloemfontein and not here ?- Yes, that is why I mean.

But when they are discontented and drunk, then they are dangerous? - Yes, that is so.

What are they discontented about here ?- They think that their grievances are not properly represented.

You mean, the system in Bloemfontein is better because they have a feeling that they can put forward their case and here the system does not allow them to do that ?- Yes.

Did you speak to many Natives in Bloemfontein about their system ?- Yes, I spoke to the Chairman of this Committee and to others who were members of the Board, and they told me that their system works well. As a matter of fact, they told me that the small block committees even settled small disputes. The result of that is that not every petty offence goes to the Magistrate.

The feeling is that they have a body of their own which they can refer to ?- Yes.

DR. ROBERTS: I want to put a question to you with regard to the Glen Grey lands. You know that certain farms were bought there by the Government and sold to the Natives who have to pay for them now. I gather that you object to that. Do you think that is fair ?- I do not object, but what I said was that the system of tenure was such that these people could not hope to improve their position and I think that they are overtaxed, seeing that they have to pay £2 per annum in addition to the general poll tax and, in addition, they cannot keep more than 40 sheep or 8 head of cattle.

They knew that when the ground was bought by the Government and sold to them ?- Oh, yes, they knew it.

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Do you think it is quite fair now, seeing that that was a bargain, for you to come and say that it is too much to expect that ?- Well, the reason why they accepted the ground on these terms was because they had no land, and they had to accept it on the principle that half a loaf is better than no bread.

Yes, we admit that, but a statement such as you made might debar the Government from buying farms for the Natives. Well, you see they might say "We have statements like this, so we had better not buy any more land in future" ?- (No answer)

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: And then, after all, do you think that £2 per year is too much ?- Yes, for my experience of these places, I think it is too high. I went there and I saw them and spoke to the owners and the yield of the crops is very poor indeed.

DR. ROBERTS: That is in times of drought when they have not had good years. The plots are about 10 acres ?- I do not know the extent of the ground, I cannot tell you what it is.

MR. MOSTERT: So much arable ground and so much grazing ?- The grazing is used by the whole of the location.

Is it up to ten acres ; what is the ground worth; what does the Government pay for the ground ?- (No answer):

DR. ROBERTS: The Government paid about £20,000.

MR. MOSTERT: The Government probably would not get more than the bare interest on capital outlay ?- Do you mean, if they charged less than £2 ?

You take five morgen, only arable and not grazing. It is only £4 per morgen, that would only be 4% on the money ?- It might be. Some of these people had no land for a long time and when they got this ground they had no stock and no capital to carry on, but the position is anything but good today.

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Because, if there is a restriction, as far as the numbers are concerned, it would be a good idea, because you will agree that it would only mean that the land would become overstocked again, and immediately it is overstocked, the value of it goes? - Yes, I quite agree.

DR. ROBERTS: In your suggested remedy, your first suggestion is for the expropriation of additional land for Native occupation. If that were done, you would have to be prepared to pay what would be a reasonable amount for that land? - Yes, sir.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Have you any knowledge of the conditions under which the Natives in the Transvaal are living? - No; as a matter of fact, I visited some farm once only last year.

And now you put down that the majority of the difficulties of the Natives are due to the land question and the Land Act of 1913. You deal with the Cape Natives, but the Land Act of 1913 does not apply to the Cape? - Yes, sir. But of course, although the letter of the Act may not apply to the Cape Province, it is the spirit of the Act which does apply.

CHAIRMAN: How does it apply? - I remember, if I am not mistaken, that in this very district of East London, there are areas in which Natives are not allowed to buy land unless they get the special permission of the Governor General, which, of course, means the Minister for Native Affairs, and in most cases that means Natives are not allowed to buy land.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Where is that? - Take the Gonubi Estates. It is stated in the title deeds that no Natives, Coloured people or Coolies shall be allowed to occupy that land.

Quite so, but if you lay out a park or a township you can make any conditions that you want to. Say you cut up a

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piece of land into small holdings, you can say "this is one of my conditions" ?- The position is that the conditions refer to applied to the land more than thirty years ago, before the land became a township.

That could not be affected by the Land Act. The Land Act had nothing to do with that ?- No, in that case it was not the Land Act.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: You said that about the Land Act. Personally, I think the Native in the Transvaal is much better off than the Native in the Cape. I know the whole of the Union and I have travelled through it, but we will leave that alone. Now, you come here and say that the influx of Natives into the towns is caused by the Land Act of 1913, whereas the Land Act does not apply in the Cape, so that your whole argument falls away. And, further, you say here in the figures which you give as regards the increase in the Native location, that there was a huge increase before the Land Act of 1913 ?- Yes, but the figures fluctuated.

You had the increase before you had the Land Act ?- The numbers increased.

It may be. You may have increasing numbers today and tomorrow they may be decreasing ?- My contention is that, since 1919, or a little before that, the numbers kept on increasing. There is no decrease at all.

As an educated Native, cannot you see that as the country is progressing and more industries are springing up in the coastal towns, as they have done here, that there will be a bigger demand for Natives and Natives will come where they can find more work? - Yes, knowing the conditions of East London as I do, I say that there are more Natives than the industries can absorb.

We are living in a time of depression all over. There

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are thousands of Europeans out of work. Yet we had evidence here this morning that there are only 500 Natives unemployed in East London, so the question is not so serious? - (No answer):

MR. LUCAS: Do you agree with those figures? - Personally, I think that the number is greater.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: You only think? - It is only a rough estimate. There is no record to shew that the number is five hundred.

Taken on the whole, you have not had much unemployment in East London in the last ten years? - Well, of course, I do not know as compared with other towns, that I must admit.

During the last ten years, was there a large amount of unemployment among the Natives? - Not a very large amount.

Then why grumble about it and say that it is due to the Land Act. It is a natural influx of Natives into the town to get better wages? - Yes.

You speak about the Europeans having all the land? - I just want to refer to the Free State. I do not know the conditions obtaining there, but when I came to East London about twelve years ago, there were no Basutos here from the Free State, but today, I think, there are nearly one hundred Basutos from the Free State, people who were actually evicted from the farms.

I do not disagree with you there. There are, here and there, Natives evicted from farms, say a couple of thousand, but my contention is that you cannot expect all the Natives to live on the land. Do you expect them all to live on the land? - No; I did not put down the whole of the influx into the towns to the Land Act, but I gave it as one of the causes, although I do not say it is the only cause.

What is your contention now. Should the Natives not come to the towns to work? - They should.

If there is work here, you must encourage them to come? - They must come.

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And we have done that all along ?- Yes.

And then you must expect that there will be times when there will be a surplus of Natives in the towns ?- Yes.

Now, you spoke about the land question in your statement, and you said that the Europeans had so much more land than the Natives. Have you taken into consideration that the Europeans have a large tract of country on which there are no Natives, no Native lands, land of a very inferior quality. The whole of the Karroo and the Kalahari belongs to the Europeans ?- Yes, I do take that into consideration.

And I think you will admit that, on the whole, taking the Union of South Africa, the Natives are occupying the best part of the country ?- I am not prepared to say. I have not been through the whole country.

What is your idea, must we allocate the land in proportion to the number of Europeans and Natives ?- No.

What basis have you got now ?- I think it would be much better if the Natives held, say, 40% of the land instead of 20%.

And the Europeans 60% ?- Yes.

Say, now that in 10 or 20 years time, we were to get a huge influx of Europeans and we were to equalize the Natives in numbers. What would we have to do then. Would we have to take away some of the land which the Natives have got now ?- That is a very difficult question for me to answer. I do not know what you are prepared to do if the Natives should double their present numbers.

Have you gone into the question whether the Natives should improve their holdings. Perhaps they could produce three times as much as they do today ?- The present system which the Government have undertaken, of training these Natives in agriculture, will, I think, help the Natives a very great

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deal.

You think it will be a better policy, first to educate the Native to improve the land which he has today, to make the utmost use of it, to produce three times more than he does today, before going and providing more land for him ?- That will be the ultimate position if these agricultural demonstrators are taken advantage of, and I do think that the Natives are taking advantage of these demonstrators.

And that would be one way of alleviating the position? - Yes, it would.

Would you be satisfied with that ?- Yes, that is one of my suggestions.

You say there is a hardship for a Native to be repatriated from an urban location into the country where he has practically got no home. You do not think that the policy of repatriation is sound. Should a man who is a criminal in your location not be sent out of your location ?- No; it is not sound unless some provision is made for that man.

No, no! Should he not be deported somewhere ?- If there were provision made somewhere for him.

What other provision could be made for him ?- I think if a labour colony existed, it could be used in the case of criminals. I personally think that a certain class of criminals from other towns come to the locations -----.

I do not understand exactly what you mean by saying that it is a crime for a Native in your location to house his family over the age of 18. What is the procedure ?- I refer you here to regulation No.11 of the location regulations, which reads, "No person other than the holder of a site permit who has erected a dwelling in the location and the holder of a residential permit, together with their wives and families, being children under 18 years of age, and their unmarried daughters shall be allowed in the location unless they have

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first obtained permission", (Witness proceeds to quote Regulation No.11). A breach of that regulation is a crime. If any person keeps a son or a married daughter of his who is above the age of 18, then it is a crime.

Only if he keeps him or her without a permit ?- Yes, I shall explain that. If a man wants to obtain a permit for his son or married daughter, or even for his father to reside with him, he will apply at the location office, and if he occupies his house with his family, being children under that age, he pays 3/6; but by registering a child over the age of 18, the house automatically becomes one in which lodgers are kept and that man will have to pay 12/3d.

What does he pay originally ?- 3/6d.

And if he has a son over the age of 18 and applies for a lodger's license, what does he pay ?- 12/3d.

That is an increase of 8/9d ?- Yes.

DR. ROBERTS: I thought your objection was a deeper one than mere money. I thought it was because of the fact that the father could not keep his children with him ?- Yes. Our contention is that the regulation would have the effect of driving the children away from the parents if the parents should be unable to pay the extra charge. It means that the children must stay somewhere else.

SENATOR VAN HIEKEK: Would you do away with the fee altogether, or would you reduce it ?- For people who are not keeping lodgers in the true sense of the word, who are only giving shelter to their parents or their children, we suggested at the Advisory Board, that the words "Bona fide dependents" should be put in and the Council agreed to that.

I remember well that Dr. Roberts and myself consulted the Municipality about that previously and their difficulty was that they got people into the location or into a family who

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did not really belong to that family and who were pawned off as daughters or as sons. Their trouble was that they would have no control, and there must be some control ?- Of course, in that case, our contention was that the location Superintendent would be in a better position to say who were bona fide dependents and who were not.

Could you not put it otherwise than as bona fide dependents? You would not confine it to children, would you ?- I do not see the reason why these words are objected to now, because, when we come to the section dealing with exemptions, people who are exempt from pass laws and Government regulations in regard to registered voters, the same words are used in the Native Urban Areas Act in this way, that these persons are exempt, "and their bona fide dependents".

DR. ROBERTS: Why use that at all ?- Why not make your objection that you do not wish the children to be taken away from the parents ----- ?- I want the wording of the regulation altered. As I have pointed out, the Council agreed with us and the regulation was drawn in a legal form and forwarded to the Native Affairs Department, but they objected and they said it was giving the Superintendent very wide powers.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Coming to this cost of living account, you say here that no provision is made in the Budget for doctor's fees, etc. How much would you put these things down to ?- Doctor's fees are a very difficult thing to fix, but I would not fix them at less than 15/- a month. It is very difficult to estimate, because, after all, there may be months without any sickness.

Do you say 15/- per month ?- Yes.

If you formed a sort of Society, each paying a subscription, do not you think it could be done for much less; you find it among the students at colleges who have to pay 2/6

per quarter?-- (No answer).

MR.LUCAS: I think it is 1/- per month in some locations?--Yes, I was referring to it per individual.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: With a system of co-operation, could it not be reduced ?- Yes, it would be a very good idea.

Now, leaving that out, say we make it 3/1d, that is these extras, that would bring your budget to £8 ?- Yes.

What strikes me is that when you people make up a budget like this, you all bring it to round about £6 or £8. But what actually does the average Native spend today, what is he actually spending? You see, I do not think that 5% of the Natives do spend £6 ?- In any case, I have tried to obtain these figures from responsible Natives.

What are they earning here ?- From 2/6d to 3/0 a day.

That works out at about £4 a month ?- Yes.

What would be the average wage ?- That would be the average wage, about £4 per month.

What struck me is this, that when your average wage is £4 for a Native - which I think is rather high - I think it is less - that you still budget for these heavy expenditures ?- Do you mean that the figure is too high?

Yes. Now you demand all at once that your Native requires £6 to £8 to live on. Surely your figure is somewhat absurd. Now, if you are taking people and said, "These people today are drawing £4 per month and on that wage they are short by £1 per month", one could understand it. But when the average Native is supposed to spend between £6 and £8,---? My experience as a small trader is that most of our people spend that. If a man happens to run up an account of £3, at the end of the month you will find that the man is only able to pay £1.10.- He cannot pay his amount in full.

What happens then, does he run up another £3.10.- the following month ?- Of course he does, if you do not stop him.

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Anyhow, it is only the fault of the trader. You should not have given him £3.10.- credit ?- It is not so with all of them. Some of them have other means of supplementing their small earnings. Take people who own houses in the location. They build four or five rooms and the man and his family sometimes occupy two of these rooms and he lets the other three. He gets something out of that in order to supplement his earnings. But it must be admitted that a certain section have to supplement their living by illicit beer brewing, although I would not like to say that a very large number of them do so, but some of them do it.

MR. MOSTERT: You cannot get away from the fact as a general aggregate, never mind how the money is expended, according to your budget that is what is required ?- Yes, that is so.

Never mind how the money is spent, you are giving the overall expenditure, you say so much is required in your budget ?- Yes.

No matter what he spends it on, or how the other man makes his money, the fact still remains that everyone who is a worker in this area, according to your budget, must get £7.14.11 per month, which works out at about 6/- per day ?- Yes, that is so.

Whereas today they only get 3/- per day ?- Yes; that is the position and I must explain that. This is taken under conditions of the most rigid economy. I would not frame a budget by taking the figures of people in my position, for instance.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Let us look at a few of your items ?- I would not live on that.

Never mind about yourself. You have an item here of meat 18/-. Now, does an ordinary Native buy 18/- worth of meat ?- Yes.

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Now, say I have a family of four, I pay 8d for my meat, and you pay 6d. My meat bill is not much more than £2 per month ?- I spend about £2.10.- on meat.

You have much more meat than you require ?- I do not think so.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Is it not a fact that the majority of the Natives are not living up to this scale, or anything like it ?- That scale is the average.

And you think they live up to this scale ?- Yes.

CHAIRMAN: Do you think that a family of the size which you indicate can eat all that food in 28 days ?- Yes, in 30 days. I think so.

I do not know what the Natives can do, but an European family could not do it ?- The position is this. I think Natives in town who have no opportunity of getting their amas use a lot of tea and coffee.

I am not talking of tea and coffee, I am talking of foodstuffs. You will get pretty fat on this budget, that I can tell you ?- (No answer):

MAJOR ANDERSON: I can quite understand your arguing that that is a desirable scale if you can get it, but is it not a fact that the majority are not getting it ?- There are some who are not getting it.

Quite a large number are not getting it ?- I would not say the majority.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Then the Natives must be fairly well off ?- (No answer):

DR. ROBERTS: Apart from whether a man gets £100 or £1,000 per year, is that the scale which you consider a man should be fed to keep in good health ?- Yes. I think, even if the figures might appear to be high, there are other respects

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in which they are on the low side. For instance, take the case of clothing. I have only put down 16/- and I cannot think how a man can keep a family of three children together with his wife and himself in clothes at 16/- a month.

SENATOR VAN NIKERK: What I am driving at is this, that if you put up a reasonable budget and if you were to say "This is what the ordinary Native requires", you might convince the European to see that these people are underpaid and that they must have a little more, but if you come with a budget and say that the average wage should be £8, they will simply laugh at you and say, "There are thousands of White people who do not get anything like it." ?- Well, sir, this very budget which I prepared was taken by the General Council and it was gone into very carefully and it was subsequently passed to the employers, it was given to the magistrate who interviewed the employers of labour on behalf of the Natives, and, as far as I could gather, the magistrate did not think that any exception was taken to the budget by the mercantile community. The only excuse which they put up at the time was that the times were bad and that on account of the depression they were not in a position to increase the wages of the Natives.

When the Natives in Bloemfontein approached the Wages Board, they demanded 3/6d per day and they thought it was a fairly adequate wage and, when that was given to them, they were fairly satisfied. The Natives in Bloemfontein are satisfied with their wages. That works out at a budget of about £4, but now you come here and you say "No" ?- As far as I am concerned, I do not think that any man can live in town on £4. Not a man with a family. I personally could not live on £7.14.-, not in town. I am taking good care, under this budget, not to bring in people who are in

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the same position as myself. I tried to get figures from those people who have to live on a much lower scale than I do and it is on those figures that I framed this budget.

You think it is a fair scale ?- Yes, I think so.

CHAIRMAN: I have taken the trouble of turning up the items of foodstuffs and of turning them into what is generally known as calorific value, turning into an unit, and I find that you have got to a total of 300,000 calories; you have about 40,000 more than is considered a very good diet. Then, I have allowed you one child over the age of 14 and two children under the age of 14 in a family of five, one grownup man and one grown-up woman. So, you will see that on the food side anyway, you will get very fat on that budget which you have put before us.? Well, I do not know. All I can say is that this thing did not originate from me only. I took the trouble of visiting quite a number of people and I saw a number of womenfolk and enquired from them. I went into a lot of detail.

Did they all give you the same figures ?- No, their figures, of course, differed. I asked them, for instance, "What do you pay for sugar"; then I asked them what they pay for coffee and what about tea and so on. I got different figures. The figures which they gave me varied a good deal, but what I did was this. I simply took the middle course and it was on that that I framed this budget which I put before you and I do not think that these figures are in any way out of the ordinary. As I have said, I myself could not live on the amount which I have set down there.

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At 5 o'clock the Commission adjourned until 9.30 a.m.  
on Thursday, March 19th.