

Mr. Zwide

but now we have another school about a mile from Bethalsdorp and we have two schools at Veeplaats. We never had that before. We have a Native school and a Coloured school there - it is a mixed school on four plots of land. There are several other schools there as well.

DR. ROBERTS: What about Hambourg ?- Yes, sir, but that is far away from us.

MR. LUCAS: How many Native families are there at Bethalsdorp now ?- There would be about 20 at Bethalsdorp itself, but, then, of course, you have Veeplaats as well, and there are quite a large number of them there, too.

So the Native families at Bethalsdorp have doubled themselves in number - from ten to twenty? - Yes.

What do the Natives who are there do; do they farm or do they go out to work ?- They go out to work mostly. There is very little farming to be done. The ground which we have there is not fit for farming.

Where do they go to - do they go to Port Elizabeth ?- Yes, most of them go to Port Elizabeth and then some go to the farms to chop wood to send to Port Elizabeth. And during the shearing season, quite a number of the Natives go out shearing on the farms round about.

They go to work for the farmers ?- Yes, when the farmers are busy at shearing time, quite a number go out in that way, but most of our people go to Port Elizabeth.

DR. ROBERTS: You do admit that Native education has progressed of late years ?- Yes, I admit that, but I do say that a great deal more could be done so as to enable the Native to progress in the way he should do, so that he might, in time to come, be able to take his place in life.

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MR. JAMES PERCIVAL MCNAMEE, Superintendent of New Brighton Location,

called and examined.

CHAIRMAN: You are the Superintendent of the New Brighton Location ?- Yes, sir. I have prepared a statement giving you a number of details which may be of interest to you. The New Brighton Location was established by the Government of the Cape of Good Hope in the year 1902, as a Native Reserve Location and controlled by the Native Affairs Department of that Government, until the Act of Union. From that time, it was under the Union Native Affairs Department until the year 1923, when control was vested in the Municipal Council of Port Elizabeth.

On the question of influx of Natives into the town, I want to say this. The population which, at 30th June 1930, numbered 7327 persons, consists principally of Xosas and Fingoes, with a sprinkling of other Bantu tribes. This community must be divided into two groups, (a) Fixed population, (b) Floating population. Group (a) is made up of Natives who, so to speak, have become detribalised, who hold no land interests in the Native Territories and who know of no home other than the towns. This group comprises the majority of the residents, I should say from 70% to 75%.

Group (b) consists of Natives - mostly male - who come from the Native areas, principally Feddie, King William's Town and Victoria East District, for the purpose of obtaining temporary employment. Generally speaking, after their financial needs are satisfied, they return to their homes, repeating the process later.

Many of these people, however, form attachments in the town, gradually get out of touch with their homes and merge into group (a) or a fixed population. Families in the Territories

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are sometimes neglected and even entirely deserted in this way, while in other cases, owing to the husband's failure to return, he is followed by the wife who settles down with him in the town. The reason most frequently given by Natives for coming to town is "To obtain money with which to pay taxes".

Influx of women to any great extent is not noticeable, but, upon the loss of a husband, either by death or desertion, the widow, even though a home is awaiting her in the Native areas, usually elects to remain in town. Very few young boys and girls come to this area from the Territories without their parents, and no complaints have been received from parents or Native chiefs regarding this matter.

The influx of Natives is not due to the attractions of town life, but to economic pressure in the Territories. If economic pressure were removed, influx would hardly be noticeable. On the other hand, once a Native becomes well used to town life, he rarely desires to return and settle in the Native area or upon a farm. By the provision of additional lands, education and cultivation, intensive farming and grazing of cattle, etc., influx would be curtailed, but these provisions would not result in town Natives returning to rural areas to any great extent.

On the subject of labour, I want to say that there is no recruitment of labour for this area and normally there is very little unemployment. The existing depression has resulted in numbers of those who may be termed permanent residents being thrown out of work and left penniless.

Now, I come to the question of location conditions and I shall first of all deal with the subject of housing. In dealing with the subject of housing at New Brighton, it is also

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necessary to divide the dwellings into two groups and to deal with each group separately.

Group (a) consists principally of wood and iron structures erected by the Government of the Cape of Good Hope almost 30 years ago; the number of these dwellings is 1105 of seven different types. These buildings, by reason of the material utilised, and the manner of construction, are totally unsuited for Native occupation. They become verminous and cannot be maintained in a cleanly and hygienic condition.

At the time the location was transferred by the Government to the Municipal Council of Port Elizabeth, these buildings were handed over free of charge. There being thus no capital charges to be met, the rentals fixed are comparatively low and, in most grades, such rentals do not cover the cost of services. The following table shews existing dwellings under this group together with the rentals charged:-

	No. of Dwellings	Rentals per Month
(1) Wood and iron 2 rooms and kitchen semi-detached	174	9/-
(2) Wood and iron, 2 rooms and kitchen, semi-detached,	88	8/-
(3) Wood and iron, 2 rooms and kitchen, in blocks of 9,	72	7/-
(4) Wood and iron, 2 rooms and kitchen, in blocks of 9,	675	6/-
(5) Concrete, in blocks of 9,	27	6/-
(6) Rondavels	7	6/-
(7) Wood and iron, 2 rooms, semi-detached	62	X

X These are used as quarters for bachelors, each of whom is charged 5/- per month.

Floor measurements of rooms, 12 x 12 ft., and 10 x 10 ft.

Group (b) consists of dwelling erected by the Municipal Council since receiving transfer from the Government. These

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number in all 310 dwellings, built in brick under iron, while certain proportions are under patent roofing material. For the most part, these are in sets of four dwellings under one roof and are of two types; one type has only two rooms and kitchen with sanitary convenience, the other two rooms only. In addition to the foregoing, a brick building to accommodate 240 bachelors has been erected - they are single men's quarters.

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Just before I go on to deal with that, may I refer back to group (a). Group (a) deals with the whole of the dwellings which were handed over by the Native Affairs Department of the Council.

DR. ROBERTS: I see, roughly they pay £4 per year? - That is group (a) - the average would be less. The majority pay £6/- per month, that is £3.12.- per year. Now, if I may be allowed to go on with Group (b). With the exception of ten cottages, all the buildings under this group have been put up by contract, white skilled labour being used. The cost per dwelling (exclusive of bachelors quarters) work out at approximately (a) 2 rooms and kitchen £132 - and sanitary convenience; (b) 2 rooms £112.

In fixing the rentals of buildings under this group, capital charges have necessarily to be taken into consideration, with the result that rents are high when compared with rents charged for the old buildings. I have here a statement in regard to dwellings erected by the Municipal Council and rentals charged:-

	No. of Dwellings	Rentals per Month
(1) Brick under iron, 2 rooms & kitchen	188	22/6d
(2) " " " "	60	20/-
(3) Brick under patent roofing	52	20/-
(4) Brick cottage, 2 rooms	5	20/-
(5) Brick cottages - 3 rooms	5	30/-

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Floor measurements of rooms, 12 x 11½ ft., kitchens 8 x 7 ft.

DR. ROBERTS: That is considerably over £12 per year ?- Yes, it is 22/6d per month.

What did they cost ?- £132.

That is a fairly high price for a poorly paid man ?- Yes.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Where these houses built with skilled White labour ?- Yes.

On the question of local conditions, there is first the question of services. First of all, there is water supply. Water is supplied from municipal mains and may be drawn by residents at any hour - day or night - from stand pipes erected at convenient points throughout the residential areas. The quality is good and the service may be considered as entirely satisfactory. Water is metered at the entrance to the location, the Native Revenue Account being charged by the Water Department of the City at the rate of 2/- per 1,000 gallons.

During the year 1930, just over 10 million gallons were used.

Then on the question of sanitation, communal conveniences are provided generally, although the erection of the last batch of 188 dwellings marked a departure from this system, each dwelling being provided with a private convenience. The bucket system is in vogue and daily removals are carried out by the Department's own cleansing plant housed at the location. Each dwelling is provided with a refuse pail and refuse is removed by the same plant.

On the subject of medical services, the Medical Officer attends at the location daily, except Sundays, suitable accommodation having been provided for giving medical attention to residents who require such attention. Dispensing is performed on the premises and four trained nurses are permanently employed by the Municipal Council on district work in the location. No

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charge is made for attention or medicines, the cost of which is met out of rentals charged.

As to lighting, the streets are well lighted by current supplied by the City Electricity Department. Street construction, tree planting, maintenance of buildings, etc., are undertaken.

The costs of supplying services per family per month work out approximately as follow:-

Water	8d
Sanitation	1/9d
Medical services	1/3d
Maintenance of buildings	9d
Miscellaneous	3/8d

making a total of 8/1d.

Residents are not called upon to pay directly for any of the above services, the cost of which is met out of revenue derived from rentals and other sources of income.

In the event of an occupier of an old building taking in a lodger, such lodger is called upon to pay 5/- per month for single men and 6/- per family, man wife and children.

Occupiers of buildings let at from 20/- to 30/- per month have the greatest difficulty in paying their way and I am convinced that a satisfactory scheme of municipal housing for Natives on an economic basis is impossible. Either remuneration for work must be increased, or such scheme must be subsidized from the Local Authority's general rate fund, or from some other source.

This location is situated about five miles from the Market Square of the City, residents utilising both rail and motorbus as a means of transport; a thirdclass monthly ticket available for Native trains only cost 6/3d; busfares 3d per journey. I believe now that they are selling books of tickets at slightly reduced prices.

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On the question of Native trading, in addition to European traders, three general dealer's licenses and two butcher's licenses have been granted to Natives in the location. Two of these Native general dealers have carried on business since the year 1926 and the other since 1928.

An Advisory Board, consisting of four Natives elected by the residents and two nominated by the Municipal Council, function fairly satisfactorily as a medium between the local authority and the Native public.

I have some remarks here on the feeling between Europeans and Natives and I want to say that there has been a decided change in the attitude of Natives towards Europeans in recent years, view primarily to economic reasons. By contact with Europeans, the wants of the Native have increased, the prices of life's necessities have gone up, while his wage has not increased proportionately. This has created a spirit of discontent and it has provided a suitable field for the educated agitator, who openly abuses and speaks disrespectfully of citizens holding the highest positions in the land. As a result of this, the respect hitherto held by the average Native for the European, is rapidly changing. Recent Native legislation and proposed Native legislation are also used by agitators to play upon the feelings of the ordinary Native.

In addition to that, there are certain other questions which have arisen here -- questions have been asked in regard to the ownership of land, kaffer beer, Native wages in the City, and the Fingow and the Coloured location in Grahamstown and the Korsten locations here and the Native Urban Areas Act. Questions have been asked on this subject. I was in Grahamstown for a considerable time and I shall be pleased to answer any

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questions that you may care to put to me on this subject.

DR. ROBERTS: What rights has the Native to tenure ?- There is provision made in the Native Reserve Location Act, amended by the Act of 1905, whereby Natives could purchase land but apparently they never availed themselves of it during the late Government and it has only recently come up. But, as the law stands, the provision is still there. In regard to Korsten and the Native Urban Areas Act, the question was put here how the Act could apply to Korsten if it was not a location. Well, the Urban Areas Act applies to the whole of the land. They were prosecuted at Korsten for contravention of the Kaffer Beer Regulation and they can be dealt with under other parts of the Act.

MR. LUCAS: The special town location provisions have not been applied there ?- Those provisions can only be applied to Korsten by special Act of Parliament.

THE COMMISSION ADJOURNED AT ONE P.M. UNTIL 2.30 P.M.

On the Commission resuming at 2.30 p.m., the examination of Mr. McNamee was resumed.

CHAIRMAN: You pointed out in your evidence that the reasons why Natives go out to work are economic pressure in the Native areas ?- Yes.

But why do they seem to prefer the town to the country ?- If you put it this way, why are they drifting to the town, my opinion is this, that when they come here they do so with the intention of raising money, they can raise it more quickly here than on the farms. I want to say this, that in the Eastern Provinces I have a number of farmer friends whom I frequently visit and I speak to the Natives there - and I have come to the

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conclusion -- I may have been fortunate in striking sympathetic farmers -- but I have come to the conclusion that I would rather be a worker on the farm under those farmers than a worker in a town under the Wage Act, because they are ~~are~~ happier and better off and, especially after a few years, the Natives financially on these farms are ~~substantially~~ better off in stock.

But what is their position in town ?- Very few of them save anything. Those who come in from the Territories with the object of saving money to take back to the Territories, they do save, because they live on absolutely nothing.

This morning, one of our witnesses put in a budget under which Natives would have to eat about 40 lbs. of dry wheat and other food and, even then, he said that they would put aside a profit of about 7/- per week on a 4/- per day wage. Now, you do not think that they treat themselves nearly as well as that ?- I do not know how his figures were arrived at, but I can say that men come in from the Territories and they do live on very little. I do not know how a man like that lives, but he does it solely with the object of taking something back with him. I have gone into the question of a Native family living in town. Many of them live very carefully and I want to say that I cannot possibly see how they can live, how one can expect them to live respectably under about £6.10.- per month. And I have gone into that very carefully.

£6.10.- per month, is that for the family ?- Yes, that is for an average family of about five persons.

Would that be required to keep the family ---- ?- Yes, to keep the family decently and to pay rent charges.

Now, a family of five -- would any of the children in that family of five have any wage-earning capacity, or do you leave out children who have to be kept and who go to school ?-

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Yes; all the children have to be kept, none of them are wage earners.

So you consider that making allowance for food, shelter, education of the children and so on, would involve an amount of £6.10.- ?- Yes, that is the conclusion which I have come to time and again.

What evidence have you got that the Native from outside undercuts the local Natives ?- I have no concrete evidence, but I think it naturally follows, when you get a state of affairs of supply exceeding demand. In such conditions they will undercut, they have to.

Why should the Native from outside do the undercutting ?- Because he comes to town to seek employment and he will offer us his services for whatever he can get. He cannot go back without having found employment and without having earned some money.

DR. ROBERTS: With regard to that sum which you mentioned £6.10.-, that gives us a minimum of 30/- per week? - Yes.

And that would be 5/- per day ?- Yes.

Now, do you think that that would be a minimum ?- Well, that is the conclusion that I have come to. I am looking at it from the Native's point of view. I know nothing of the abilities of commerce or industry to pay that wage.

I am glad you mentioned that. The Port Elizabeth Riots Commission came to exactly the same figure and that it was impossible for the Natives to come out on less than 5/- per day. We make take it that that is your view? - Yes.

MR. LUCAS: Did you take part in the discussions leading up to the local agreement about wages ?- I did.

And what was the general view of the people present there as to the minimum necessary for a Native ?- Are you alluding to

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employers of labour?

Yes, employers of labour? - The meeting took place in the City Hall here and most of the big men in industry and commerce were present; you might say that all the leading people in town were present, and they were enthusiastic about a rise to five shillings that night. I went away feeling very very optimistic about the future and I thought that Port Elizabeth was making history in South Africa in regard to the matter of relations between employers and employees. But I feel now, as I felt then, that if it had been decided to sign some document making employers legally liable to pay that wage, these gentlemen would freely have signed it.

You mean, making them pay 5/- a day? - Yes, I felt that.

Then they agreed to 4/- later? - Yes. It was arranged at a meeting of employers and it was decided that a minimum should be 3/6d from the 1st December 1929 and 4/- per day from the 1st June 1930 and I might say that several of the leading people there at that meeting insisted on 5/- per day, but they were convinced that it was inadvisable and not in the interests of industry and commerce to give that rise at once.

But it was regarded as a possible thing later on? - Yes.

DR. ROBERTS: I think a little earlier on it was regarded that 5/- was reasonable? - Yes, that was the feeling at the first meeting.

I am speaking now about the riots meeting? - I do not know about that, I was not here.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Did the break down of that agreement have bad effects? - Do you mean, among the Natives?

Yes? - Yes, it had bad effects. It rather makes them distrust the good faith of the Europeans and they feel that they cannot rely on promises. I should like to point out, too,

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that that meeting of employers and employees did not arise from any agitators or anything like that. It was simply a discussion and the Natives said "If we approach the employers, we are sure that we shall be sympathetically received".

Has the breaking away from that minimum been general ?- No, I think that some of the bigger firms still stick to it and, as far as I know, the Municipality do not pay less than 4/- and some of the firms even pay more than that, but those are really isolated cases. There are some Natives receiving 5/9d and 6/- a day, but those are just individual instances.

DR. ROBERTS: How much ~~is~~ would a winch boy at the Jetty get ?- I am sorry, I cannot answer that.

MR. LUCAS: Can you say whether, in Port Elizabeth, whether any difference is made among the rank and file of the Native employees --- that is to say, is there any difference in the pay of those who just start work and those who have been working for six or twelve months for the same employer ?- Purely unskilled labour - I think it is almost for the newcomer the same as for the man who has been there for some time, but in the stores things are different and a boy, by long service, makes himself more valuable, and there are quite a number of such boys receiving from £2 to £2.10.- per week.

You mean, there are a fair number of individuals, but do they represent any appreciable proportion of the total number employed ?- No, it would not be a great number, it would only be a very small proportion.

Have you thought about the extension of the application of the Wage Act to meet the position that arose -- have you thought of the Wage Act being applied so that the object of that agreement might be achieved ?- Yes, I have and I felt at the time that if the Wage Act could be applied it would be

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better for the Natives and also the Europeans. It would protect the just employer from the unscrupulous one undercutting him, but I do not know whether it would be possible to apply that and I have always realised, too, that the employing public of Port Elizabeth do not like Government interference nor do they like being tied down by law. I know that.

CHAIRMAN: Is that a feeling which one should respect ?- Well, I do not know whether I could answer that. Their reason behind it is not that they want to lower the wages, but they feel that the relations in regard to European labour, so far as the Wage Act goes, have not been too pleasant.

MR. LUCAS: There has been a lot of misrepresentation about that ?- That may be, but there is that feeling and they would not like it extended.

Could you suggest any other way in which the principle of that agreement could be enforced ?- No other way except to make it legal and to lay it down that that shall be the minimum wage.

Would you consider it necessary that the principles of that agreement or something similar should be enforced ?- Yes.

CHAIRMAN: This morning, one of the witnesses here, a Native named Dippa, expressed doubt whether the effect of the application of the wage standard which was applicable to Europeans, as well as to Natives for the same class of work, might not be the throwing of the Natives out of work ?- Yes, if you made the minimum too high, I am afraid that that would be the result; I am afraid that it would throw large numbers of Natives out of work and the places of those Natives would be taken by unskilled European labour.

Taking the figure of 5/- per day which you mentioned. Do you think that there is any likelihood of a replacement of

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European labour for Native labour at that figure ?- I am afraid so, at present.

Have you any experience of the rate of wages paid to Europeans in some of the factories here ?- No, I have not.

DR. ROBERTS: Now, what work do you think they would be supplanted in? They could not be supplanted in the wool work, for instance. I take it that only Natives can do that work ?- (No answer):

CHAIRMAN: On your last page, dealing with the dwellings where private conveniences have been provided, does that mean an additional cost to the Natives, is the rent higher there ?- That is included in the original cost of £132. The cost of those conveniences is included in that.

You gave 188 dwellings, each with a private convenience, now is the rental higher for those dwellings ?- Yes, it is higher.

Is that owing to the private convenience ?- Very little, but it had to be taken into consideration when fixing the cost. It was part of the initial cost of the houses.

In this statement of yours, are these things shewn separately ?- It will be in group (b), No.1.

I see that the rent is 22/6d there - so the kitchen and private latrine is extra ?- Yes.

Now, does any number of Natives seem to prefer that class of dwelling to the others ?- No, practically all prefer the old dwellings on account of the comparatively low charges made. If my recollection serves me correctly, I had two residents in the old portion of the location who wanted these new dwellings, but out of the many thousands there, we have only very few who have asked to be given a house in what they call the new town, the new dwellings. As I say, only two out

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of all these thousands of people wanted to come into these new dwellings.

And the rest had to be taken by people who could not get other houses ?- Yes: I should say this, that practically all, if we would allow them to remove into the old portion of the location, would do so because of the cheaper rents.

Now you expressed the opinion that a satisfactory scheme of municipal housing on an economic basis is impossible ?- Under the present rate of wages, that is so.

Now, have all your municipal houses been built by White labour ?- Yes.

Is it not rather unreasonable to expect the Natives to pay rent on a White labour basis when they cannot earn money on that basis ?- Yes, I agree.

Have your Council ever considered the building of these houses by Coloured labour ?- Yes. When tenders were called for a provision was made that Native labour could be used but the tenderers did not avail themselves of the clause permitting them to employ Native skilled labour, probably because of an agreement among themselves.

Has your Municipality ever advanced money to Natives for building their own houses ?- No, but they are contemplating at the present time the establishment of a basis of assisted houses, that is, a Native will have to find the capital for part of the material and the Council will find the other portion of the money required. It will be repaid over a term of years.

Who will do the building ?- Either the Natives themselves or they will employ Native contractors. They will have to build to a certain type. There will have to be different types of plans which will be supplied by the Municipality and they will be able to employ Native contractors to do the work.

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between 65% and 70%. That is a rough estimate.

MR. LUCAS: But when the Native is allowed to build, as in Bloemfontein, he does a good deal of the work himself and in that way he can bring his costs down to considerably less than half of that cost ?- That is so. My Council have the suitable material for brickmaking on the location ground. We had 2400 morgen reserved for the Native location and I think they would establish brickfields where a Native could go and make his own bricks in his spare time.

Now that village you were speaking of, would this 70% to 75% of your population be eligible for that ?- No, a good deal less.

*A man would be expected to qualify; there would be something to aim at to get into the village where the better and more advanced Natives would reside.

I took your figure for the fixed population when I said 70 to 75%, but you think it will be a good deal less than that, a smaller proportion ?- Yes. A certain percentage of that fixed population would never be able to get the necessary money and some of them would not have the ambition.

CHAIRMAN: Incidentally, a scheme like that would stabilise your labour force ?- Yes, it would.

And you would get away from two great a dependence on people who drift in casually ?- Yes, and in addition, it would encourage thrift. In such a scheme, both the Natives and the Municipality should be safeguarded under an agreement. For instance, let me put it this way. If a Native, after a certain number of years, died and if he had not completed his payments, and if his widow wished to live on that property with her family, the Municipality would have to take over the house and resell it to her, not at a profit, but it would have to be quite fair and just. The whole position would have to be safeguarded.

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CHAIRMAN : There is one other point here which I want to refer to. You speak of the change of attitude on the part of the Natives to the Europeans and you attribute that partly to economic conditions ?- Yes.

Will you be more explicit and give a little more detail there ?- I feel that, owing to low wages and owing to the difficulties which the Natives have in making ends meet, they are discontented and, when a man is discontented, he is quite ready to listen to any sort of talk about his troubles. You can understand his state of mind. Someone comes along to him and says, "You are badly treated", he accepts that at once. He is told the European is to blame and he is made a serf and a slave. He accepts that and it makes him more discontented, and so he goes on.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Now, if you were to raise the wages to 5/-, that would alter the case ?- I do not know, but I feel that that is the reason. I do feel that he has a just grievance today and, having a just grievance, he is open to this sort of talk, which makes him more and more disgusted.

He would not have a just grievance if his wages were raised ?- I do not know.

CHAIRMAN: Do not these economic reasons go back a little farther. Is not what you have indicated a result of deeper economic causes. For example, is the low wage just the original sin on the part of the European, or is there something else behind it? Is the giving of a low wage the original sin on the part of the European ?- No, but the Native blames him for it.

I want to go farther back. Why are such low wages being given ?- I am afraid I cannot answer that question.

Have you not rather touched on it before, when you

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said that the continual moving in of casual labour was continually militating against the people who lived here ?- Well, if the demand were to exceed the supply, then, of course, wages would go up.

DR. ROBERTS: Do you not think that you should go back to the beginning of last century, when the farmer employed the Natives in his district and when the Natives were glad to get one or two shillings and that that one or two shillings became a regular wage ?- Yes, that is so, but I am not aware whether, in those days, conditions were the same. As a matter of fact, the purchasing power of the shilling in those days was greater than it is today. Then there is this, too. In those days, there was plenty of milk at a very cheap rate, but today the Native cannot even afford milk.

CHAIRMAN: But with your increasing population in the same area, do you not get greater pressure always on your economic resources ?- Yes.

And is that not ultimately behind a lot of the trouble ? It may be.

DR. ROBERTS: But, in the beginning, they did have a very low rate of wages, did they not ?- that was what started it all ?- Yes.

And the change had to be gradual ?- Possibly the supply kept the wage comparatively low.

CHAIRMAN: Now, coming to the additional subjects which you mentioned, the question of giving a Native ownership of land in European areas. I believe that you have some ideas on that. Yes, and I want to say that that must be taken as being purely my own private opinion and not as representing the Municipality. I have always felt that if Natives of the better type who could be considered permanent residents could obtain a bit of land under some circumstances, such Natives would be far better

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citizens. It would encourage thrift. The Natives who secured land under those conditions would have some interest in their town; they would feel that they were part of the town and, consequently, they would be better citizens of the town, they would be more law-abiding, they would be more concerned with the welfare of the town if they had some right and some title. I have always felt that and I still feel it today.

DR. ROBERTS: Would you not remove the biggest argument which the Natives have today ---- take Korsten, now ?- I should say that there should be an area set aside by the Municipality where you would have only Natives. You refer to Kosten where you have a mixed population. Things there are very difficult. An area such as I contemplate would have to be governed by building regulations. You could never allow the slum landlord to come in. That is one of the biggest arguments against Korsten, because it is there where the slum landlord has come in and you would have to have very strict regulations preventing a situation like that coming into being.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: The overcrowding at Korsten is a big thing. If you give people the right to have their own property in a village like that, they will overcrowd the place ? Is there any possibility of having special provision under the title to prevent that - it should be possible.

MAJOR ANDERSON: You could have certain restrictions ?- Yes.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: You cannot regulate it at Korsten ? That is what you want the restrictions for. You could deal with it under the Public Health Act.

MAJOR ANDERSON: You say, in effect, that Korsten is an example of the way in which not to do it ?- Yes, undoubtedly.

MR. LUCAS: Is not the main cause of overcrowding, so

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far as the Natives are concerned, poverty ?- Yes, that would be one of the causes.

Are there any other causes ?- Insufficient accommodation in town.

Yes, that is a secondary cause, but are there any other ?- That is all I can think of at the moment.

CHAIRMAN: Now, with regard to kaffer beer, have you any views on that ?- Would you like me to describe the system that is in force at New Brighton?

We have had it described to us, but if you can give us any details ?- I would just like to mention some of the figures which may be of interest. Convictions for drunkenness during 1928 numbered 64, that is, just under 9 per 1,000 of population. In 1930, the convictions for drunkenness numbered 44, that is just under 6 per 1,000. I have not compared that with other locations, but it seems to me to be fairly low. I saw some figures for Durban a few years ago and they were considerably higher, if my memory serves me correctly. Of course, we have this kaffer beer question here, but we have a system here that is somewhat different from what they have in other locations and it may be of value for you to hear the details.

CHAIRMAN: I understand that you have a division of the location into three areas and, in one area, they are allowed to sell beer ?- Yes.

MR. LUCAS: I should like to hear some further details. Is the whole of the location divided into three parts ?- The whole of the location is divided into two parts, one of which is allowed to brew beer and the other not at all. Now, that half in which they are allowed to brew beer, is divided into three wards, each of which in turn is allowed to brew for six days. Then, for the next two weeks, that ward does not

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brew at all.

Why is it divided into two parts ?- Well, that was a condition which he came into practise during the Government control and my Municipality had great hesitation about interfering with this delicate problem.

Yes, but why is one half not allowed to brew at all ?- I understand that they do not want to. There are areas where the people living there, the inhabitants, did not want to have beer and that is how it came about and this practise was established many years ago.

Do you have more or less trouble in the area where there is no beer allowed, than in the area where they do have beer ?- There is more trouble in the area where the beer is.

CHAIRMAN: Is that trouble owing to the beer ?- Not only that, but the more advanced type of Native occupies the dwellings where there is no beer. All the rougher class and the floating population spend all their time in the other parts.

Take your beer area. Sergeant v.d. Walt told us yesterday that, although they are not supposed to sell any liquor, they frequently put the telescope to the blind eye ?- Yes, it is well known that they do so.

Now, do you not think it would be better simply to allow them to have beer than to place them under a sense, as you are doing now, of contravening the law - of allowing them to do so, because you do not want to apply the law ?- Personally, I think, if that could be done, it would be far better to acknowledge their right to sell beer, give them the right to do so, rather than to carry on as you are doing now. Many of them are under the impression that they are perfectly entitled to sell beer and when they have got to answer a charge of being found in possession of beer, we have had cases where they have actually told the Magistrate that they had the beer and

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that their object in having it was that they wanted to raise some money. They were quite open about it.

Do you find that, in the beer area, there is a tendency to brew noxious concoctions ?- Not on the whole. I think the beer is fairly good.

You would expect a certain amount of crime to take place in any case ---- ?- Well, things are fairly well looked after. The headman examines the beer blocks and everything is fairly carefully supervised.

Do you think the system is working satisfactorily ?- I do say that it has many drawbacks.

For example ?- You get some people who neglect their homes - people who go to the beer places because, at their homes, there is no brewing. I have one instance in mind. A Native man came to me one night; he was very much disturbed and he asked me, "Please stop this beer. I am a man who will not drink and I ~~xxxxxx~~ have had six children. Five of them are dead through the neglect and drunkenness of my wife. I have come home now and I find that my wife is at a beer place with the baby on her back and I am afraid that that child will die, too."

In order to cure that, you will have to have total prohibition ?- Yes.

Will it be possible ?- Well, I believe in total prohibition for Black and White. I say that it will be impossible to make total prohibition for one section and not the other and I do say that, if you allow one section to have liquor, it will sooner or later find its way to the other section as well and, for that reason, I say that you must have it for both sections.

You know that the chance of total prohibition for the

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Whites is a very small one indeed ?- Yes, I know that.

Well, in view of that, would you insist on total prohibition for the Natives ?- I do not think it is practicable to do it.

DR. ROBERTS: Would you insist on total prohibition for these women, because, as you know, in the past the Natives never allowed their women to drink? - I am afraid that it is impracticable in the town. You see, a Native woman of today is a totally different person from what she was ten years ago. She is not as docile and as obedient as she was ten years ago.

CHAIRMAN: You mentioned various difficulties which were raised by your having this system. Would you be a little more specific ?- Yes. For instance, here you are apt to get these blocks in the course of time occupied by widows and women whose husbands have gone away. They find that the beer making business is a profitable one and an enjoyable one. Then the husband wants to go back to the Territories but the wife remains and occupies their house in the town. She is the registered occupier and she remains here. Her husband may die, but she remains here and makes beer and the children are neglected. You have a floating population, the children leave the house, and then you have all kinds of other difficulties cropping up with these women.

But are these evils attached to the use of beer? Could not that sort of thing happen anywhere else, could it not happen in the country, for instance ?- Yes, but it is more likely to happen in the town location and it does happen.

Could it not happen in any town location? Is it a drawback to your particular system ?- No, I do not say that.

What I want to get at, is it a drawback of this particular system and not generally ?- If all dwellings there were

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allowed to brew four gallons or what is sufficient for a family, for one thing there would be no crowding from one dwelling to another. That is to say, if each family were to use their own limited quantity for their own consumption, I could see no harm in it, but the trouble today is this, that you have this big floating population crowding in.

How are you going to provide for beer for the floating population ?- To my mind, the most satisfactory way would be if those who wanted to make beer were allowed to do so for their own use and if you were to have some building set aside, under Municipal control, of course, to sell to these single people. You could charge them a certain amount, then, for what they got, but they should only be allowed to get a certain amount. Of course, then you would have the danger of illicit sellers springing up, selling beer with a kick in it, and I must say that that is a very difficult problem to cope with. Every system has its difficulties.

Quite so, you never get away from some evil where drink is concerned ?- That is so.

MR. LUCAS: Are there many of those cases of women remaining in the location and the husbands going home ?- There are quite a number of houses that are registered in the name of the women.

Do the husbands leave and come back later on ?- No. The husbands, perhaps, desert their wives entirely or they may die. They do not come back.

I understood that the husband went away but that the women preferred to remain because of the liquor selling ?- Yes, I suppose there are some such cases.

And I understood you also to say that women were much more independent now than what they were formerly ?- Yes, that is my experience.

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In what way, what makes you say that ?- At one time, the woman was a very docile person and what her husband said was law. She never raised her voice against that of her husband, but now the wife will fight back. She has some say in everything, she has a say in the way he spends his wages, in the conduct of things in general , she has a say about the children and so on.

You mean, the husband has to hand over his wages at the end of the week ?- Yes, and I have known of cases where the wife went out to the place where the husband worked, met him and demanded his wages from him. The Native women are getting the new spirit, too.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Are you not rather lax in not sending these people back ?- How can we do it, there is no law. We can refuse them admission in the first instance, but once they are here, what can we do?

If she has no occupation or no work, cannot you send her back ?- No, they are not vagrants and they can always shew some cause why they should be here.

MR. MOSTERT: Can you tell me what percentage of the population of the location, when percentage of the ablebodied men are teetotalers ?- One would have to make an estimate, but I should say from forty to fifty percent.

Now, the balance, the other is fifty or sixty percent, what do you estimate that they spend a week on beer or on ordinary liquor ?- It would be very hard for me to estimate that, but I should say that the average would not be a very high one. The very fact that we have so few convictions for drunkenness tends to shew that. We have very little police supervision and the fact that we have so very few convictions goes to shew that there is not a very great deal of money spent on liquor

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other than beer. We know that brandy does come in, but it is only a very limited quantity.

Speaking of liquor generally, that is hard drink as well as ordinary kaffer beer, there must be a large amount of money spent on that drink ?- Yes, I suppose there is.

Whereas, if there would be prohibition, that money would be saved ?- Yes, that is so.

Have you any idea how much is spent on drink ?- No, I am afraid I could not tell you. I would only be guessing if I gave you any answer.

But you agree that it is a large amount of money ?- I am not prepared to say anything on that.

CHAIRMAN: Now, with regard to the influence of the association of Natives and Coloured people, we are interested in the question, under our terms of reference, from the point of view of the Coloured person. What effect has the Native on the Coloured people ?- I have not studied the question from that point of view.

Can you tell us what is the influence on the Native of association with the Coloured persons ?- Yes. I do find when Natives of low standard become associated with Coloured people and when they pick up with Coloured women, they lose caste among their fellows and they do really get what you would call low down in their ways. But I have also found that where a more advanced Native and a Coloured women, both of them fairly well educated, take up with each other, they seem to get on very well and live happily. I suppose they would not go back to the Territories, whereas the uneducated Native who takes up with a Coloured woman, gets down to a lower standard.

DR. ROBERTS: And you do not think that the other man also goes lower ?- The more educated man, no.

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Have you any in your mind ?- Yes.

MR. MOSTERT: Do they marry ?- Yes, there are such cases where they got legally married.

And as far as co-habiting goes, do they co-habit, form an illegal marriage ?- Of course, you get the Coloured prostitute who will live with the Natives. There are such cases, too.

And vice versa ?- Yes, vice versa, too.

CHAIRMAN: Now, passing to the subject of Native wages, on which you wish to say something ?- I believe that I have dealt with that.

MR. LUCAS: Do you know how Coloured people's wages in the same occupations compare with Native wages ?- Do you mean, for unskilled work ?

Unskilled is one branch ?- I should imagine that they are on a par here in unskilled work.

Do you know whether, by any chance, the wages of the Coloured people here have been in any way reduced, as a result of Native competition ?- No, I do not know of any instances, none have been brought to my notice.

CHAIRMAN: You were in charge before of the Fingo and the Coloured location at Grahamstown ?- Yes, I was there for about ten years.

And there you had the Coloured people and the Fingoes living side by side ?- Yes.

Did that produce any difficulties ?- No, a certain number of Natives had got into the Coloured location and had acquired property there by purchase and quite a number of Coloured people had acquired property in the Fingo location in the course of years. They have title over that land, or they did have title originally.

MR. MOSTERT: Did they have freehold title ?- Yes.

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CHAIRMAN: There is the second case of a Native township next to a European area ?- Yes.

It is rather disconcerting to have two places like that location and Korsten as the first examples of the type which you recommend ?- That is a totally different matter. The Fingo location is part of the town, it is not set aside. Although the land was originally granted to Natives, there was no provision that the land was not to be sold to a Coloured person or a European. That is a point which one has to bear in mind.

Yes, that is not my point. In considering Native villages near European urban areas, you have a certain experience here at Korsten and you also have the experience at the Fingo location, and I do not think that anyone is proud of either of those two? No, I quite agree with you there, but there were no restrictions on those two, such as there should be in my mind. I do not know whether it would be possible to insert these restrictions in a title deed.

You mean, provision should be made that they should not be sold to Europeans. If a ^{fresh} better start were made, you think you could have better conditions ?- Yes.

MR. LUCAS: Have either of these two ever had assistance for the building of houses ?- No.

Have either had any control in which the knowledge of the Europeans in administration has been available for the Natives ?- No.

DR. ROBERTS: Have you any knowledge of the Prospect Township in Johannesburg ?- No.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: What hardship do you say that the Native labourer is suffering under now that he has no free title to the property in the location ?- Well, I should imagine

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that most of the European citizens of a town aim at having something, aim at possessing something in that town and I think the same applies to the Natives.

There are thousands of Europeans who do not possess anything ?- Yes, there are many who are not ambitious, that is so.

It is not a real hardship on a man - so long as your rent is reasonable ?- It would be a hardship if you were to say to a European here that no individual can possess his land or his house.

We are accustomed to it, but the Natives are different in the towns. If you are sure that your rents are moderate. The European usually builds ~~from~~ for himself in order to get away from rackrenting. He considers it is cheaper to have his own house than to have to pay an unduly high rent ?- Of course, that is looking at it in a different way. Personally, I have always felt that one can be more independent and look everyone in the face if one possesses something and I have always felt that one is a better citizen and that one can render greater service to the town if one has a real live interest in that town.

To me, it seems that it will not benefit the Native to any extent, unless it is sentiment, if he has the right to buy land ?- I must say that I think it will make it more difficult from the point of view of administration.

MR. MOSTERT: Would you have it in such a title that he could only sell to another Native and not to a European ?- Yes, and possibly I would say only to a Native approved of by the local authority. And the local authority, in case they should not approve of the buyer, should be obliged to buy in the property and re-sell to someone they like.

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You cannot have too many servitudes on it. That, in itself, would be sufficient? - That is the idea of the thing which I had in mind. For instance, I would like it not to be possible for a Native living in that township among the better class of Native, to sell to an illicit liquor seller or to a notorious criminal. I want that sort of thing to be impossible.

You want to guard against that sort of thing? - Yes, I do.

DR. ROBERTS: Yes, but a man might be a confirmed drunkard and his son might be a teetotaller? - Yes, that is so. I know that the whole proposition bristles with difficulties, I appreciate that.

And it would be wrong to punish the children for the faults of the father? - Yes.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: You must admit that you can administer the location under your byelaws? - Yes.

You could tell a man to clear out of a house so that you could fumigate it? - Yes, I admit that it will be much more difficult to administer it. That is so. I just want to say a few years in connection with the evidence given here by Dr. Ferguson. You may remember that I promised certain figures in regard to the number of births and deaths and in regard to the number of infants who died under the age of one year. I have these details here now. The number of births for the year ending June 1930, is 310. The number of deaths for the same period 279, and the number of children who died during that period under the age of a year was 103. You have the percentage per thousand - it works out at this:- Births, 310, or 42.30 per 1,000 of population, Deaths, 279, or 38.80 per 1,000 of population; Infantile mortality, total 103, or 332.26 per 1,000 of births.