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he so desired ?- Well, Mr. Lucas, I do not think it is a question of taking advantage. I have no doubt that in this town and in others, too, there are a number of industrial houses which are losing money. Naturally, the object of all of us is to earn a profit at the end of the year. But particularly, under present conditions, in order to earn that profit, you must reduce your expenses and the chief way is to cut down salaries. At the end of the year you may still be faced with a loss, but in the meantime you have paid a reasonable wage. If we adopt that system of insisting upon paying a wage which we willingly do today -- you will cause a collapse. To follow that argument to its logical conclusion, you will have to cut your wages until you get to a profitable and economic level.

DR. ROBERTS: It is unfair to apply rigid economic laws always, is it not ?- It is undesirable and it is unfortunate.

It is more than that. Now, to come back to another thing, to come to the question of Native wages. I do not think that Native wages have ~~gone up~~^{doubled} in the last half century? I am afraid I cannot go back half a century, but I should be very much surprised to hear that they had doubled. They cannot have done so.

Do you not think there is something wrong with a country where that is so - a country where most of the European wages are trebled but where the Native wages have not even been doubled ?- Are you right in the statement that European wages have been trebled?

Yes, I think I am right. European receipts --- ?- I cannot conceive that that can be correct. I remember the

Mr. McNamee

MR. MOSTERT: Do you say that the type of houses are all to be the same ?- No, you can have two or three different types at different cost. A man in a better position will be able to afford a better house. But I want to say that it is not the intention of my Council to lay that scheme open to all, but it will be confined to Natives who have resided here for a long period and who can be regarded as permanent residents here.

MR. LUCAS: Is it intended that all the houses shall be of a uniform character according to these types to be laid down, or will it be possible to vary the buildings ?- We have not arrived at that point, but I personally would like to see some variation allowed.

CHAIRMAN: So that your statement here would probably have to be modified in this sense, that it is not an economic proposition if the Council builds itself with European labour ?- That is so.

Because then the Native cannot pay the cost ?- That is so. In the case of the Bloemfontein scheme, where the Council does not build but allows the Native to build, that does not seem to be at all uneconomic ?- No, I agree, but that is not a municipal scheme. They are not municipally housed.

There is no particular reason why they should belong to the Municipality ?- No, but when I refer to Municipal houses not being possible, I refer to houses built by the Municipality and let to Natives.

MAJOR ANDERSON: If it were done by Natives ---- ?- Bloemfontein is an example. You have houses there built by Natives. They are better housed and the rents are cheap.

MR. MOSTERT: Would you say that you could do it for about half the price ?- No, but I should say it is something

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circumstances under which I laboured when I first entered this country and I am sure that a young fellow entering this country would not be paid today three times as much as he was when I came in.

MR. LUCAS: We are frequently told of twenty times as much or of the substitution of a wage for a premium, even ?- I am afraid I do not follow you.

It is frequently said that a young fellow in the past, instead of being paid a wage, had to pay a premium ?- Yes, that is so in certain cases, but Dr. Roberts was referring to wages.

You were also paid a wage when you started ?- I came out from the City and I was paid a certain wage, but what I wanted to say was that a young fellow coming out today would not be paid three times as much now as he was then.

DR. ROBERTS: Well, sir, I accept your statement, but I still claim three times. I still claim that European wages and incomes have gone up three times, whereas Native wages have not increased three times and Native conditions have not gone up ?- (No answer);

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Unless we exert some pressure to have Native wages raised, do you think that the European community will raise them by themselves? Let us take the position previous to the depression. We had ten years of prosperity in the country and everyone was saying, "We are making money". The Government had a surplus and yet the wages of the Natives were not raised ?- I must again tell you that we are not averse to paying the wages which we do now. We are gratuitously paying these wages today.

That is rather kind of you, not to pay a low wage, but in the days of prosperity, the commercial community did

not say "we are making good money and we shall raise our wages"?--I have not seen any evidence that the commercial community was particularly prosperous in the last ten years. May I make a personal suggestion? It rather occurs to me that we are viewing this whole question somewhat from a wrong angle altogether. We always seem to be regarding the native as a hewer of wood and a drawer of water, and we never seem to make an attempt to make anything else of him; is it not possible to educate him somewhat differently, to turn him into a producer and make him a more useful person; make him go in for a better class of cattle, for instance. Instead of his having this poor scrub cattle, let him try and go in for something better so that he can have greater benefits from his labours and from his cattle.

Yes, we are trying to do that; you have six million natives in this country and they are the natural workers?--On the West Coast of Africa they have millions of natives too and the authorities there have trained them and have made producers of them who do better for themselves and the whole community; that is what we should set ourselves out to do.

They are nothing but producers there?--Because they have been taught to produce, but 25 years ago they were not; the French taught them. Perhaps their soil is more favourable than it is here, but the great thing is that they have been taught.

I do not disagree with you there, but you said just now that a large proportion of our natives are employed in the towns?--Yes, that is the position to-day.

Then the rest must make a living on the land, but the small proportion who are to-day working in the towns, so far as they are concerned we must try and improve their conditions?--Well, if you put this small proportion on the land too, they would be happier. You have thousands on the land, and how are they living?

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But if we were to make the Natives on the land more prosperous, where would we get our service from ?- Well, now having raised their wage, the result is that we are bringing them in from the country. In a produce business like ours, where we have Native wool and vohair which is inferior to everything, my point is whether it is not possible to improve that.

Yes, the Native on the land is on the same plight as the Native in the towns and we are now tackling the position, - it is a great problem - of how to improve the situation ?- Yes. That is what we should try and do - we should try and teach them how to produce better ---

There are thousands of Natives, though, who prefer town life ?- Yes, and it seems to me that 99 percent of the problem hinges round the question of the Native as a labourer.

DR. ROBERTS You spoke of the French Dominions just now, on the West Coast. I understand that there they make these Natives engine drivers, station masters, postmasters and even heads of very important commercial undertakings. Would you go that length here ?- No, I would certainly not.

Why not ?- Well, I have a good deal of experience in the Congo where they have their Native engine drivers and their Native stokers, but I have never seen these Natives in responsible positions. There is always a White man in charge.

But this is the point - in the French Dominions they have taught them to produce and the Natives are prosperous. And then, there is a determination there to make them more than labourers which has established the position of the Natives and of the prosperity of the Natives. That is what I think we should try and do here.

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Yes, but we will not accept that here. We will not even make them shopkeepers in New Brighton ?- Well, why should it all centre around shopkeepers; why not go in the other direction and teach them to produce more and better?

MR. HERBERT RELTON, Chairman, Village Management Board of Korsten,

called and examined:

CHAIRMAN: You are the Chairman of the Village Management Board of Korsten and I understand there are certain points which you wish to bring before the Commission ?- Yes. I just want to say that I am not volunteering to give evidence here. I have been notified by the Magistrate to assist you, if possible, but I am not going to pose as an authority on Native affairs or on Native administration. All I can give you is my experience, based on 25 years in Korsten among the Natives. I am a house and estate agent and perhaps you would like to know how Korsten is made up, how it is constituted. I will just tell you.

We have a population of approximately 20,000 people, composed of about 8,000 Natives, 4,000 Europeans, 400 Asiatics - that is Chinese, Indians and others - and the balance is Coloured. That would be about 7,600 Coloured. Of course, it is the Native population, I take it, which you want me to speak about.

MR. LUCAS: When were these figures ascertained ?- These figures are only approximate. They did not take a census of the Natives this year and this is only an approximate number ascertained by our officials. It is according to the number of dwellings and making allowance for so many in each dwelling.

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Your area is coming within the Municipality shortly ?- Yes, the question is before the Council now. I would just like to explain that the cause of these Natives settling there was owing to the closing of the locations in Port Elizabeth in 1902. They closed down the locations then and no provisions were made for the Natives who were driven out. New Brighton was built about 12 months after. These people flocked to Korsten and the property holders there sold them property on easy terms of payment. At that time, I may say, there was no Village Management Board and the place was under the Divisional Council. These people were allowed to settle there and build their little homes according to their needs and as they wanted to.

Then, after about 12 months, this New Brighton location was built, and then they applied the Location Act and drove the Natives out of Korsten. That is to say, all those who were not registered voters and all those who did not own property worth £75 had to go. That is how New Brighton came into existence. It was built specially for these people.

DR. ROBERTS: New Brighton, in those days, was under the Native Affairs Department ?- Yes, that is so, and the Divisional Council supervised that area. The Village Management Board was established to control Korsten and automatically the Natives settled in one area there, the Europeans in another, and the Coloured people in yet another. No one segregated them. They simply went and lived in different areas themselves.

When did this general mix-up take place which you have got there now ?- Since the other locations were closed down in Port Elizabeth.

When ?- They were closed down owing to the Public

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Health Act. I may just explain that plague broke out in town and the authorities destroyed these Native places, these huts and houses, and these people flocked down to Korsten.

The bulk of these people who are out there have rights to the land on which they are now ?- Yes, it is all freehold property. Some of these people have title and some have not. Some have paid portion of the purchase price and others actually have the title deeds.

And do they sell to Europeans ?- Yes, it is all freehold and anyone can buy ground there, Asiatics, Coloured, Natives and Europeans. But so far as the Europeans are concerned, most of them live in a part called Sidwell, which is really portion of Korsten.

Now what is the position, are these Natives holding their own, those who have title ?- Yes, they are.

I mean, are they retaining their properties ?- Yes, certainly.

CHAIRMAN: Are the properties more or less of the same size, I mean, those which the Natives hold ?- They are just ordinary pieces of ground - the measurements vary from 100 x 50 feet to 40 x 50 feet. They are all sizes. Some of them own several lots and some own only one lot.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Were they subdivided ?- Yes, there were no restrictions on subdivision until some years ago, when the Township Board came into existence. Now they are no longer allowed to subdivide small lots in the same way as they did in the olden days. At one time, the subdivisions were so small that they had to have two or three plots to build one house on.

CHAIRMAN: What is the size now ?- Today it is

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100 x 50 and we have decided that no lot shall be subdivided to less than 100 x 50.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Do they have to pay rates ?- Yes, they have to pay Divisional Council Rates and Village Board rates

DR. ROBERTS: Would you give us an idea in regard to the ~~fiscal~~ relations of the population of Korsten. First of all, what have they to pay and to whom have they to pay and what is the position in regard to the village management board ?- They pay the village management board a rate of 3d in the £. Then there is a divisional council rate, I cannot remember offhand how much it is, but it is about a farthing or a halfpenn; and then there is the police supervision. There is a police station there, just the same as in any other place, to look after the welfare of the village.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: How much are these plots valued at ?- It all depends as to what is on it. They are valued at from £50 upwards. If it is a piece of vacant land, forty feet by fifty, then they value it at £5. If there is a little shanty on it, it is valued accordingly, but it all depen on the house or the class of house that is on it.

Do they pay up well ?- Yes, there are very few bad debts there.

DR. ROBERTS: In regard to the houses which are on these plots, will you tell the Commission how they are built and by whom ?- They are mostly built of wood and iron. Of course, the Europeans in that area build a very good class of house, mostly of brick and iron.

And the others ?- The Coloured man builds a fairly good house, but the Native is rather ⁱⁿ a different position. He does not get high pay and you have to keep him under strict supervision because, otherwise, you will see a house springin up of paraffin cases and corrugated iron sheets.

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SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Can you tell us how Korsten compared with New Brighton? - Of course, New Brighton is simply rows of barracks. That was so originally, but they have built married quarters since - two rooms and a kitchen. These places were built, in the first place, by the Government. The poor class of people in Korsten, of course, build according to their means. You must remember that a large number of these places there were built before a local authority had been established and they built them anyhow, but at present the local authority makes them submit plans and passes them and makes them build accordingly.

Have you any control as regards overcrowding? - No, we have no more control than we had in Port Elizabeth. There are very few prosecutions in regard to overcrowding, simply because you cannot prevent it.

Why not? - Because there is no place for the people to go to.

So you are not controlling overcrowding. Can they do it in New Brighton? - I can only say this, that if cases of overcrowding are brought to our notice, we serve a notice on these people and we try to put it down.

So you have the power to deal with it? - Yes, we have regulations and we have a Public Health Act to go by.

And as regards trading? - Yes, I see a reference to that on your agenda. When I went to Korsten in 1903, there were 3 Native shops there and about 11 Chinese traders and several European traders, about 4 or 5. That is 27 years ago. Today there are no Native traders whatever - yes, there is one Native shop there, - but today there are about 200 Asiatics and Europeans doing all the trading there.

DR. ROBERTS: Now, what is the cause of that? - Well,

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sir, these Native shops cannot compete with the Asiatic traders. They cannot compete with them at all, in fact, they had to close down very soon when the Asiatics came in. You must remember that the Asiatic traders have a way of their own in getting customers. They will always give a little inducement to a child if it comes to purchase anything from them. A child will come in and the Asiatic will give it some sweets or things like that and you will find then that, as a rule, a Native child will rather go to an Asiatic shop than to their own people, simply on account of that inducement. And then, further, these Asiatic shops can always give credit. It is remarkable the amount of credit that is given, in fact, I should say that one third of the population in my area live on credit.

CHAIRMAN: What do you mean by living on credit ?- Supposing there are 200 shopkeepers. They will go to one shopkeeper and pay cash for one or two weeks, and then they will get credit and then, after a while, when they have had plenty of credit, they will leave that shopkeeper and go to another place. And so they go on, they serve them all alike.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: These shopkeepers in the end will have to go bankrupt ?- A large number of them do, but you know how they live.

Has a Native the right to open a shop in Korsten if he wants to ?- Yes, he has a perfect right to do so, just the same as anyone else. There are no restrictions whatever.

He must first of all apply for a license to the Village Management Board ?- Yes.

And is that granted to him ?- Yes.

CHAIRMAN: The police, recently, made a rough survey of Korsten and they came to the conclusion that the Native

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population is twice as big as you have indicated. They put it down as 16,000 ?- I am afraid I must differ from them.

They also consider that the Coloured population, as you give it, is overstated. They say that there are only 6,000 Coloured ?- I should like to know how they arrive at that figure. I shall give you the births and deaths rates and then you will be able to judge for yourselves. I shall give you 12 months' deaths for Korsten. The deaths were 910 of all races. Then the number of births was 1,191, and stillbirths 157.

The 157 is in addition ?- Yes, born dead.

DR. ROBERTS: Could you not give us a ratio in regard to the population; how many Asiatics, how many Whites and how many Natives ?- I shall first of all give you the infantile mortality figure. Infantile mortality in Korsten, according to these figures in my summary, were 428.56 per 1,000.

CHAIRMAN: Is that for all races ?- That is for Natives alone, I was told, and they gave me the figure for New Brighton as 319.08. I got these figures from the Secretary of the Village Management Board.

You do not happen to have separate figures in respect of the number of Native deaths ?- No. I may say that I do all the registration of births and deaths at Korsten myself.

So, by your figures, you would have a deathrate of 45 per 1,000 inhabitants ?- Yes.

You were going from the figure of population which you gave to the births and deaths statistics, I thought, with the intention of trying to shew that your figure is more accurate ?- Yes.

Well, how does that prove that your figure is more accurate ?- I do not know how it is going to prove it.

Mr. Relton

I thought you set out to do that ?- Yes, I say that.

I see you say there are 4,000 Europeans? - Yes.

The police only recognise 2,000 Europeans? - I do not know when the police took that census. And the police admit themselves that it is only guesswork, whereas our figures were obtained by the Secretary and others. They made a tour of the houses and counted the number of sanitary pails supplied to each house. They counted the number of sanitary pails and made allowance for so many in each house and I am sure that the police did not do that.

DR. ROBERTS: Do you find a good deal of drinking in Korsten? - Yes. Since this new Liquor Law came into force, I have found it to be about fifty percent than before. That is my experience.

There is a good deal of rough life there? - Yes, there is now, more so than before.

It is said that it is not safe for Natives going through there, or travelling through Korsten? - Well, it is safe enough, but sometimes you have a rough crowd. Europeans are also assaulted sometimes.

MR. LUCAS: What means of transport are there to Korsten? - Native buses run to Korsten all day long.

And what does it cost, what is the fare? - I think they charge about 2d or 3d, and there are 1d stages as well.

Do these buses run regularly? - Yes.

CHAIRMAN: What is the position with regard to the supply of liquor in the location? Is it simply the general law that liquor is prohibited? - Well, they are not allowed to make kaffer beer. The village management board made a regulation to that effect and they gave the police the power to destroy the utensils used to make the stuff in. They

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found that these people turned the stuff out in barrels and when the police came and destroyed the beer, it did not matter to them, they simply mademore. So we brought in this regulation ~~and~~ empowering the police to destroy the barrels as well, but, in spite of that, there is still a lot of illicit selling going on at present.

As far as your law and your regulations are concerned, all the Natives are supposed to be good teetotallers now ?- Yes, they are supposed to be.

But, in actual practice, you mean, it does not work out ?- No, that is so. If it were under proper supervision we should have no complaint to make, but the trouble is there is no supervision, and today they make a vile concoction that simply makes them mad. If they only made wholesome kaffer beer under some supervision, I do not think there would be any trouble at all.

MR. MOSTERTH: Are you in favour of municipal brewing ?- I certainly think that they should be allowed to have beer, because these men are of the labouring classes, they work hard and a little drink, a little stimulant would do them good.

DR. ROBERTS: How many are there on your council ?- We have three members.

Are they elected ?- Yes, elected by the people, all of them.

Are you also elected ?- Yes, I am.

MR. LUCAS: Are they all Europeans ?- Yes, there is one Coloured man who was elected by the Coloured people.

CHAIRMAN: Have the Natives in the municipal locations a vote ?- All who own property worth £75 have a vote.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Can they become members of your council ?- Yes, the Native vote will put any man in.

CHAIRMAN: But there are no Natives at present on your Council ?- No.

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Have you ever had any Natives on it ?- In 1902 there was a board which was composed of a Native, an European and a Coloured man, but it only lasted six months. That was in the time of Sir Gordon Sprigg, but they abolished this and, since then, they did not try to put a Native on it.

DR. ROBERTS: Was that the board formed by Colonel Stamford ?- Yes.

HEAD CONSTABLE LOUIS STEPHANUS VAN DER WAIT, South African Police,

called and examined:

CHAIRMAN: I understand that you are Head Constable of Port Elizabeth ?- I am stationed at New Brighton, where I am temporarily. The scope of my statement will apply, in particular, to the New Brighton Native Reserve location. I have been stationed in areas occupied by Natives since 1916. Since 1927, I have been in charge of the police at New Brighton Native Reserve Location.

I should like to say a few words on the tribal system. In my opinion, the advantages of the tribal system are that there is a head in each family who is responsible for the wellbeing of the whole family and who directs the economic wellbeing of the family. This prevents vagrancy and loafing and it also preserves the moral character of each family and thus of the whole Native race.

I am of opinion that the tribal system is breaking down. One of the factors causing the breaking down of this system is the coming into closer contact of the Native with the European and Coloured population and also the wrong system of education and missionary work. That system is harmful instead of improving and endeavouring to lead the Native to

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amend that which is wrong in the system. In the system of education and missionary work, which is being employed, the Native is being taught to adopt European customs. I regard this as being absolutely against the interests and advancement of the Natives as a distinct race.

On the subject of Native customs, I want to say this. In urban areas, the Native marriage customs are almost totally superseded by (a) Christian rites and (b) co-habitation without marriage. Co-habitation without marriage is the form mostly adopted in these areas. A very bad factor in assisting this form of living is the misuse which is made of the provisions of the Children's Protection Act. During my stay at New Brighton, I have observed that unmarried females do their utmost to entice men to cohabit with them with the object of becoming in a position to demand support for the maintenance of a child. As soon as the child is born, the woman comes to the Courts and complains that the father of the child is failing to give proper support to his child; the man is ordered to pay 5/- per week towards the support of his illegitimate child. This enables the mother to give up her employment and she then leads an immoral life and goes in for a little brewing of kaffer beer and illicit liquor traffic. She is now free to do as she pleases, there is no husband or employer to control her.

There are numbers of this class of woman at New Brighton.

Now, with regard to the social and economic conditions of Natives. All Natives in this area adopt European dress and housing and mostly go in for European furniture. The educated Natives are adopting European recreation, such as tennis, golf, football and cricket. The latter two games seem to be the best favoured. This class of Native goes in for

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amusements, such as dances and concerts. They go in for very little reading, although most parents are keen on having their children educated. There are two tennis clubs and several football and cricket clubs at New Brighton. Almost every Friday and Saturday night dances or concerts are being held there.

On the question of Native migration, I may say that, during the past four years, I have noticed an increased tendency on the part of Natives residing on European farms to migrate to the towns.

I am of opinion that the causes for this tendency are, (1) That the farmer is no longer in a position to allow the Natives on his farm unbounded grazing rights for their stock, as he requires same for his own purposes on account of the smaller farms which are now possessed. (2) The apparent higher wages paid in towns - as the Native thinks. But he forgets to take into account that his living expenses are much higher in towns than on farms. In real effect, the wages are not higher in towns, as is imagined by the Natives.

The social and economic effect of such migration upon ~~the~~ Natives is that they are worse off socially; they come into contact with the lowest classes of Coloured persons and Hottentots, who exploit and degrade them. Economically, they are worse off, too, as their expenses and cost of living are considerably increased. Furthermore, the Native is driven into a position where facilities are at hand for his obtaining liquor illicitly and the high percentage of his earnings is wasted on liquor.

The Europeans on both the farms and in the towns suffer in consequence. The farmer is unable to get sufficient

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labour to work his farm and the poorer class and the working class of European in the towns, suffer because cheaper Native labour is so abundant that he (the European) is driven out of employment and all the unskilled labour is taken up by the Natives.

A system of registration of all Natives residing in and migrating to urban areas should be adopted in all urban areas and power should be given to urban authorities to restrict migration.

On the subject of Natives on farms, my opinion is that the systems of share-farming, labour tenancy and cash rent tenancy of Natives in European farming districts should not be tolerated and should be totally prohibited. These systems are bad, both for the European farmers and the Natives. The farmer is in a position that he has not proper control over these persons. They work when they like to and when the farmer urgently requires their services, they are not available for his use. Furthermore, these persons become a source of danger and loss to the neighbours and to the farmer himself, as they have a splendid opportunity of going in for stock thievery.

The system is also bad for the Natives themselves, as unscrupulous farmers have an opportunity of defrauding them. If their crops fail through drought or other causes, they get no remuneration for their services and they are driven to the position that they have to work for their food only, which is sometimes not sufficient to keep the family and they are thus driven to steal in order to keep themselves alive.

On the question of the effects of the absence of Natives from their homes, I say this. In the towns, the male Native comes into contact with a low class of Coloured person

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and with detribalised Natives and he finds himself in a position of obtaining liquor illicitly, on which he spends a great deal of his earnings. Home brewing of kaffer beer is allowed in the locations and the beer is made mostly by deserted wives, by women living apart from their husbands and by widows and unmarried women. The men buy kaffer beer from them and another portion of their earnings is gone. These women are mostly loose characters and of immoral habits and they cohabit with any man. Another portion of the earnings of the males goes to these women and when the time arrives for the men to go home to their kraals, they find that they have no funds to take home. Their families thus suffer economically.

When some of these men find themselves in this position, they stay on and adopt one of these women as a wife and thus they start to raise a second family. The man now becomes unable to support both families, so he deserts his kraal and becomes a detribalised Native.

I am of opinion that the system of deferred pay should be brought into force in connection with all Natives leaving their homes to go and work on the mines and in towns, and I consider that this system of deferred pay should be made compulsory.

On the subject of trade with Natives, there are three Native general dealers trading on their own account and two butchers in the New Brighton location, namely, M. Mgqo since 1926; W. Basi since 1926; S. D. Bqqonga since 1928; W. Magwaxaza, butcher, since 1929, and W. Kuhlani, butcher.

On the subject of good feeling between Europeans and Natives, during my fourteen years experience and connection with

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Natives, I have noticed that there has been a great change in the attitude of Natives towards Europeans. There is no longer the same respect for Europeans, and the Natives are always looking with a certain amount of suspicion on the working of all governing bodies. My opinion is that this is being caused by agitators, both European and Native, who go about the country criticising unfairly and speaking disrespectfully to and about the highest placed officials of the State. Under the Native custom, no Native is allowed to criticise or to speak disrespectfully of any of his own chiefs. If he does do so, he may be sure that he is going to be called to book for doing so and he is a lucky man if he gets off without losing his life.

He now hears these agitators speaking disrespectfully of the highly placed officials of the State and nothing happens to them and he thus loses all respect for the Europeans who allow free ~~pink~~ speech.

Natives do not read much and most of them are still uneducated and they are thus not conversant with the true state of affairs in the country. Agitators take advantage of this fact and misrepresent things to them, and the Native, who knows no better, believes them.

CHAIRMAN: These Natives who are trading in New Brighton, do they seem to be making a success of their trading? - Yes, I think they are --- I doubt it. At one time there was one who seemed to be making a success of it, but since then he has placed his business into the hands of irresponsible youngsters and things went down. Now he has taken control again himself and the business seems to be going better.

DR. ROBERTS: Is that the butcher? - No, sir, that

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is a general dealer. He is running a general dealer's shop and kaffer eating house. Two of these general dealers run kaffer eating houses as well.

CHAIRMAN: Do you know the conditions prevailing at Korsten ?- I would not call myself an authority on them, but I have visited the place although it is outside my area.

Could you give us a comparison between the conditions in New Brighton, of which you have painted a very dark picture, and Korsten ?- There is no comparison at all.

Why not ?- In Korsten there are Coloured people, too, and there are Europeans as well and the Coloured persons have an effect on the Natives.

What affect do the Coloured people have on the Natives? - They degrade the Natives still worse.

MR. LUCAS: Do you mean that the conditions are worse in Korsten ?- Yes.

CHAIRMAN: Why should a Coloured man degrade a Native ? Well, on the one hand, the Coloured man has a chance of obtaining liquor and he takes advantage of that privilege. He does not work at all, he just loaf and sells liquor to the Native and exploits him and then, further, the moral character of the Coloured men is below that of the Natives. You have the Natives from the Transkei, whose moral character is high, but these Coloured people are of low character.

DR. ROBERTS: Does it not go deeper than that - that you cannot have two races living side by side on equality without both degenerating ?- Yes, sir, I think that is so.

MR. MOSTERT: You have had a long experience in the Police ?- Yes, sir, I have been there 17 years.

Now, could you give me the percentage, more or less, of Natives in your location who go in for drinking. Are there many teetotallers ?- Yes, there are a good many.

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What is about the percentage ?- It would be very difficult to give you a percentage.

Well, would there be ten percent who are teetotallers ?- No, I should say more than that, I should say about 40%.

That would mean that the other 60% drink ?- Yes, sir.

Now, can you tell me this, how much would they drink per head - what does it cost the Native per week for his drink ?- It all depends on what he can get hold of.

Yes, of course, provided he can get hold of it ?- I reckon he uses about one bottle per week. He drinks about one bottle of brandy which costs him about 10/- to obtain.

So far as that is concerned, then, so far as his budget is concerned, his liquor will cost him about 10/- per week ?- Yes, sir.

Now, those other 40%, do they not drink kaffer beer either ?- No, sir, most of them do not.

MR. LUCAS: Would you say that the percentage of teetotallers is increasing or decreasing ?- Among the educated Natives, the number of teetotallers is increasing.

DR. ROBERTS: Would you say that most of the educated Natives are teetotallers, men who do not drink at all ?- No, I would not say that. It is difficult to say.

MR. MOSTERT: Would you say it is fifty-fifty ?- Yes, about that.

CHAIRMAN: Do you think it is a reasonable thing to lay it down that the Native shall be a teetotaller - as the law practically does ?- No, I do not agree with that.

If the Native were to be allowed to have kaffer beer, do you think that he would be satisfied with it? Some individuals might not be satisfied, but do you think that the bulk would be satisfied ?- No, I do not think so, because the

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drinking of kaffer beer introduces alcohol into the system and the craving goes on and he always wants something stronger. If he takes exercise to sweat out the alcohol, as he used to do, then, of course, it is better. ~~They~~ They have these kaffer dences in their own country and then it does not do any harm, but here it is different. Here he gets into a job where he just sits down, he gets the alcohol into his system and it is bound to increase his craving for something stronger.

MR. MOSTERT: The three percent of alcohol would not do him much harm ?- No, provided he takes sufficient exercise to get it out of his system.

But even if he does not ---- ?- Then it will increase the craving.

What percentage of kaffer beer is sold that has a kick in it ?- There is none sold under seven percent.

Well, now, with kari or other things, what percentage of alcohol does that own up to ?- I have not had it tested and it is a bit difficult for us to say.

You have never had it tested ?- No, they are all prohibited concoctions and you do not have to prove the alcoholic contents. All these things are made prohibited concoctions. It has certain alcoholic contents and it is prohibited.

Speaking of prohibited liquor apart from kaffer beer, is there much of that sold ?- Yes, but not so much at New Brighton.

Do they sell much whisky ?- Well, we have control there and they have not got much opportunity of bringing liquor in. Not even a White man is allowed to bring in liquor without a permit.

They are not going to ask you for a permit if they want to introduce illicit liquor ?- They have tried all sorts of schemes in order to introduce it into the location.

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They do it at night ?- Yes, and they hire motorcars and try and bring it in anyway. They go right round the place and come in from the other side. It is very difficult to stop them.

Is the location open ?- No, there is fence round it, but they can get through it anywhere.

Is it fenced all round ?- Yes, it is fenced all round and the fence has gates in it.

It is a bad fence ?- It was repaired lately, but they break it down and get in with the liquor.

What are the charges for this liquor, for instance, what do they charge for a bottle of brandy ?- It is sold by the tot, sometimes 1/-, 2/- and even 3/- a tot. One man will take 1/- and another man 3/- for a tot.

Do you find that it is mostly the Coloured people, who are allowed to get drink in town, who do the supplying ?- Yes, the Coloured people are the suppliers.

CHAIRMAN: Supposing the Natives could get kaffer beer without any risk of being caught and supposing they could get that kaffer beer free, do you think they would still go in for these strong concoctions ?- There is a risk of a certain proportion of the people being inclined to go for kaffer beer rather than for other things. At New Brighton, we allow home consumption. This is the system which we follow. One part of the location - that is where they have drink - was originally divided into three parts and each of these three parts is given permission in turn to make kaffer beer. That is to say that the one portion is divided into three wards and each week one ward is allowed to make kaffer beer. Each head of a family is allowed to make 8 gallons of kaffer beer and the amount which we allow them is sufficient to provide

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for the whole population reasonably, but I still find there is a certain class which goes in for liquor outside. If a man is a liquor drinker, he does not care for the kaffer beer, he goes in for other and stronger drink outside.

MR. MOSTERT: Now, home brewing means that every family can brew kaffer beer ?- Yes, sir.

How much is the least that one could economically brew ?- Four gallons, a paraffin tin full.

Is that the least ?- Yes, that is economically the least. That is how they reckon out what they are brewing. All their measurements are according to a paraffin tin.

Four gallons of beer, will that satisfy a man and his wife. Do you think that is too much or too little ?- No, I think it is enough for the family and a couple of friends. I reckon it is enough for a family of five.

Is it enough for five grownups ?- Yes, sir.

When you go in for home brewing, so far as the Native is concerned it is not economical to brew a small quantity. If you brew eight gallons, that is quite allright, but more is still better ?- Yes, All that is worked out on a paraffin tin basis.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: He could just as well make half a paraffin tin full, there is no difference in that, is there ?- No, sir, it would not work so well. He would not get the same good quality of kaffer beer. You see, they have to add some of these things which give a kick to it. They put all sorts of things into it. They cannot put in too small an amount because that would not pay them. It would not do for fermentation. The bigger the lot, the bigger the fermentation and if they could only make very small quantities, they reckon that they cannot turn out good stuff. They reckon everything by the paraffin tin full and I do not think that it would answer

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to make them go in for smaller quantities than a paraffin tin full.

MR. MOSTERT: Now, from a practical point of view, do you think that home brewing would suit the Native ?- No, sir.

Are you in favour of municipal brewing ?- No, I am for control by the municipality of home brewing. I think that control would be the best thing and that these families should have the right to brew.

DR. ROBERTS: I thought you said you were against home brewing ?- I am in favour of home brewing under proper control. If every family had the right --- say you have a number of families, one with six members, one with eight and one with two. Now, if every family were to brew, you would have a surplus of beer.

MR. MOSTERT: You want to give them the opportunity of brewing in squads ?- Yes, sir. The Europeans are restricted in using their liquor.

In what way ?- Well, the hotels can only open at certain times. We cannot always get drink. If all the hotels were open at all times, there would be a great deal more drunkenness.

If an hotel man finds a drunken man on his premises, he has to put him out ?- Yes, sir.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Well, how would you control this ?- The system which we have at New Brighton works very well. In a certain portion, the majority said, "We do not want kaffer beer here". Now, in another portion the people said, "We do want kaffer beer", so we have divided that portion where they do want beer into three wards, and these three wards each in turn get permission to brew.

CHAIRMAN: Is there free drinking in the ward which has its turn at the expense of that ward ?- No. They are not

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allowed to sell it, but they do sell it.

And you put the blind eye to the telescope ?- To a certain extent you have to.

That actually means that you are allowing home brewing with the right to sell, although really they are not allowed to do so ?- They have not got the right to sell, but you cannot expect these people to supply all the single men who want a drink for nothing.

Would it not be more rational to give them the right to sell? If you have your system and, instead of turning the blind eye to the telescope, you were to put aside the telescope and give them the right to sell in that particular area for that week, would not that be better ?- I have no objection to that.

Do you not think it would be much more logical than to pretend they are not selling when actually they are selling ?- Yes, it certainly would be more logical.

Do you find that the system under which you are working now is giving satisfactory results ?- Yes, it is.

Have you any trouble with drunkenness under that system? Very little.

Do you think there is still a tendency to introduce European liquor ?- Since I have been there, it has decreased considerably.

Has that decrease taken place since this system was introduced ?- I do not think that it was properly supervised before.

And, with satisfactory supervision, do you think that the Natives would be inclined to drink kaffer beer and to leave out these other things ?- Of course, there are people who will always go in for it - those who have alcohol in their systems.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: Is there any way of punishing the man who contravenes your regulations ?- Yes, we have a

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regulation under which, if a man has more than 8 gallons in his possession, we can run him in for it.

Have you got to watch that very closely ?- Yes, a headman is in charge of each ward and the police and the headmen work together.

Is the headman a paid man ?- Yes, he is a full time official of the municipality, - there are seven headmen.

DR. FOURIE: Do you have to have a larger police force to do that ?- Yes. At present we have seven headmen appointed by the municipality, we have three European policemen, and six Natives, and that number should really be increased. We are under-staffed.

SENATOR VAN NIEKERK: How are these Natives in New Brighton off economically ?- Well, sir, at present they are suffering from the depression.

Let us leave the depression out of it for the time being. How did they get on before the depression ?- They got on fairly well, then.

Do you think that they get enough food ?- That, I think, is a question for the medical officer. There are a lot of domestic servants who are living with their own people and bringing food home to their people and those people are very well nourished.

Those are household boys ?- They are mostly girls. We have very few men employed as domestic servants, it is all girls.

They carry a large quantity of food home with them ?- Yes.

DR. ROBERTS: You consider that there is a growing feeling on the part of the Natives against the Europeans ?- Yes.

And do you think that there is a similar feeling on the part of the Europeans against the Natives ?- No; I have not noticed an increased tendency in that direction.

THE COMMISSION ADJOURNED AT 4.55 P.M., UNTIL 9.30 A.M.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25th.