Native Economic Commission.

Questionnaire for Magistrates.

1. Reply by the Magistrate of Steynsburg for the District of Steynsburg, C.P.
   Period of duty at Steynsburg: 1 year and 5 months.

Land Transactions affecting Natives.

2. No. Purchase by natives of land in this district has not been proposed or suggested.

3. Land in this district has not been purchased by natives.

4. See reply to No. 3.

Use of land held by natives.

5. No land in this district held by natives.

Recruited Native Labourers.

6 and 7. Recruiting is not done in this district nor is recruited labour used here.

Masters and Servants Act.

8. (a) Nil
    (b) 21

9. (a) The working of the Act has been satisfactory and no cases have come to my notice where the Act has been abused. The natives in this district on the whole are law-abiding and have every opportunity of increasing their possessions. More often than not, however, these opportunities are prejudiced by them on account of their frequent movements from one master to another. No complaints have been received by me of underfeeding by farmers, and farm natives on the whole appear to be contented here.
    (b) Nil.

Crime committed by natives.

10. (a) There is hardly any serious crime in this district and even minor offences appear to be on the decrease.
    (b) The crime committed here cannot be attributed to any particular social or economic factors.

Poor Relief for natives.

11. (a) The only poor relief available in this district for Europeans coloureds and Natives is an amount of £5 paid out by me monthly for rations. 8 Europeans, 1 coloured and 1 native receive rations.
11 continued.

(c) and (d) The whole of this amount is needed and used.

Sanitation.

12. (a) No sanitary accommodation exists for natives attending
my Court and offices, nor is any such accommodation
provided for Europeans for that matter.

(b) See reply to 12 (a).

Shelter for Natives at Courts.

13. Waiting shelters are not provided for Natives nor Europeans.
The Court room is used by both.

General.


W. J. Brümmer.

#JW/JJC.

MAGISTRATE.
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIVE ECONOMIC COMMISSION

COPY.

EVIDENCE BY DOYLE MODIAKOTLA
No 2 Location KIMBERLEY

URBAN AREAS

7. (1) **ADMINISTRATION** in urban areas is most unsatisfactory, and often due to the ambiguous wording of the Urban Areas Act of 1923 under which Municipal Regulations are framed, e.g. section 10.

(2) Lifetime rentals under Municipal housing scheme not in the best interest of the Native community, inadequate water supply for private owned houses, heavy taxation on those who have their own sanitary arrangements.

(5) **LIQUOR** increase of illicit traffic and drunkenness since the promulgation of the Liquor Act of 1928, and the advisability of substituting home brewing of kafir beer for domestic consumption in limited quantities.

NATIVE LABOUR.

8. (1) Labour conditions are most unsatisfactory due to:-

(a) Civilised labour policy,
(b) Convict labour competition,
(c) Influx of labour from Reserves and Territories.

(2) Wages are utterly inadequate.

Mr Doyle Madiakgotla and Mr H. Masiza have been appointed to give evidence on behalf of No 2 Location before the Native Economic Commission.

(Unsigned)

Secretary of Stand Holders.

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Dr. A. W. Roberts,

MEMBER, NATIVE ECONOMIC COMMISSION.
Native Taxation may be classified into two or three categories, Direct, Indirect, Incidental. The former took the form of what was known as Hut Tax prior to the promulgation of the Native Taxation and Development Act No. 41 of 1925. Its incidence in the Cape Province was a sum of 10/- (ten shillings) payable annually for every Hut owned by a Native plus a Road Tax of about 2/- paid by those who lived in Native Reserves.

Under the Act of 1925 this Tax has been converted into an Annual General Tax of one pound sterling payable by every adult Male Native of the age of 18 and upwards domiciled in the Union, and an Additional Tax called the local Tax of the sum of ten shillings per annum levied in respect of every hut or dwelling occupied by a Native in a Native Location or Reserve - the localities affected by the latter in these parts of the country are the District of Taungs in British Bechuanaland, the Native Locations of Mayekgoro, Scoding, Shaleng, Driefontein, 'Mamutle, Mayeng and Smidts-drift in the District of Barkly West.

In the Urban Area of the City of Kimberley, besides the General Tax described above the Taxation of Natives take the form of Stand Rates of £3:2:0 paid for every residential site in No.2 Location per annum; £3:12:0 in the Greenpoint Location and of £4:4:0 in the No.3 Location; then there is the rentals paid for the occupation of Municipal-owned Houses, which range from a sum of £7:4:0 to £1:2 per annum. These rates and rentals have been imposed to cover sanitation, water, cleaning and the Location Services.

In addition the residential rate of £3:2:0, £3:12:0 and four guineas for the three Locations respectively, those residents who have private closets attached to their Houses pay an additional Sanitary Fee of £1:10:0 per annum for Sanitation Services.

- This -
This brings his liabilities to an annual sum of upwards of £4:12:0 and £5:2:0 for the two principal Locations.

There is also charged a Lodger's Permit of 12/- per annum payable by Adult Male residents who are come under the abovementioned classes.

In the consideration of the subject of Native Taxation the Indirect Form of Taxation must also be taken into account. This takes the form of Customs Duties imposed on articles of clothing and other necessities of life which are now essentials consequent upon the adoption by the African peoples of habits of civilized peoples.

Dr. A. W. Roberts of the Native Affairs Commission has estimated that each Native Family pay an average of 20/- (twenty shillings stg.) per annum in Indirect Taxation. If this estimation is approximately accurate then the Native Population of the Diamond Fields apart from those who reside outside the Locations pay an annual sum of approximately £2350 in Indirect Taxation.

Therefore every Native Householder in the City of Kimberley is liable to an annual payment in Direct, Indirect and Incidental Taxation of a total sum of £4: 2: 0, £5:12:0, £4:12:0 and £5:4:0 in the respective Locations; while Rent-payers who occupy Municipal-owned Houses pay a total sum of £3: 4: 0 and £13: 0: 0 respectively.

These forms of taxation enhance the Cost and Mode of living to an alarming extent when consideration is taken into of the earning capacity of the average Native and when one thinks of the fact that the semi-civilized, Christianized or detribalised to Native has other dues to pay in addition to the abovementioned.

The Joint Council about two years ago, prepared, after careful investigation, well-considered Family Budgets of Native People, which showed that the average Cost of Living of an average Native Family worked out at about £6 per mensem, or £72 per annum. Well, the average rate of pay of the average unskilled Native Labourer is about £2:10:0 per mensem, or £42 per annum. If these figures are fairly correct, it will be patent to all that the rate of wages paid to Native peoples is altogether incommensurate with the Cost of maintaining a Family. It comes far short of the Living.
Living Wage.

These various modes of Taxation then have an adverse effect on labour supply. More people offer themselves for employment than can be absorbed in the various kinds of Employment. Hence employment is given to the lowest or any bidder, and the rate of pay is consequently kept at the lowest level. There is therefore a clear call to the Government to consider the advisability, expediency and urgency of an immediate introduction of legislation in the direction of fixing a minimum wage which shall take into consideration the Cost of Living of the Native people in the light of the great advance they have made in Civilisation and cultural progress.
SECONDARY EDUCATION.

There exists in the District of Kimberley and adjacent districts a crying need for the provision of a Secondary Education. For a considerable number of years the people of Kimberley have been clamouring for this course of Education; the Lyndhurst Road P.School owing to its interdenominational character is favoured by the people for the introduction of this class of instruction. To be concise, let me say that for several years, representations have been made to the local School Board, to the Department of Public Education, to the Cape Provincial Administration, as well as the Union Department of Native Affairs. The request has been from time to time turned on the plea "that no funds are available for this purpose."

In the meantime, a large number of children of from 14 to 17 years of age, after passing the sixth standard of educational attainment at the Lyndhurst Road Public School, having failed to gain admission into the Perseverance Training School, or being unable, for financial reasons, to proceed to the Tigerkloof Training Institution or other Training Institutions in other parts of the Province are turned out into the streets.

They fail to obtain employment and so they betake themselves to undesirable forms of occupation whereby they must naturally develop habits of beggars. They loiter about the entrances to the Market Buildings to offer themselves for carrying parcels of groceries purchased at the Market for remuneration ranging from 3d. to 6d. per parcel.

There were at the Lyndhurst Road Public School at the end of the year 1930, 57 pupils in the sixth standard. There are at present 74. Only a small percentage, say 40% of these proceed to the Training Institutions for further education.

BUILDINGS.

Another crying need in the matter of Native Education in the District is for suitable buildings for school purposes. Accommodation in many of the existing schools is not only inadequate and - unsatisfactory -
unsatisfactory, but it is also lacking.

As proof of the fact that partly because of inadequacy of accommodation in the existing schools, a large percentage of Native children of school-going age are growing up with no education and in 1926 the Roman Catholic Church opened up a new school in No. 2 Location with an enrolment of three hundred pupils, without in any way affecting the attendance at the two primary schools which were then in existence at that centre.

Those who are responsible for the management and maintenance of Native Schools have come to the conclusion that the Missionary Churches have reached the limits in bearing the burden of providing and maintaining buildings for school purposes. The system of Native Education should be so altered as to make the Government to shoulder this burden or in Urban areas the Municipalities should bear a portion of the burden.

**TEACHER'S SALARIES.**

The question of Teacher's salaries has also engaged the attention of those concerned for many years, i.e. the Education Department as well as the Managers of Mission Schools and the teachers themselves.

Rat

In 1928, as a result of complication among the Education Departments of the four Provinces of the Union, a scale of Teacher's Salaries was published in the Cape Educational Gazette of Dec. 6th, 1928. This provides for a minimum salary at the rate of £66 per annum for a qualified Male Teacher with an annual increment of £3, the maximum being £108 per annum, £54 per annum for a qualified Female Teacher with an annual increment of £3 to a maximum of £90, £78 per annum for a Male Teacher holding a Primary Higher Certificate rising up to a maximum of £120, £66 per annum for Female Teachers of similar qualifications reaching up to a maximum of £102.

It is noteworthy that this Scale is on a lower level than that which was in operation prior to the publication of this Scale.

Teachers who received appointments prior to the publication of this Scale drew salaries at the rate of £34 per annum inclusive of the Cost of Living Allowance.
Hence the Native Teaching Profession regards this as a retrograde step.

RESULTS AND VALUE.

Education has undoubtedly produced an intelligent and more useful citizenship; the educated man or woman exercises an up-lifting influence over his countrymen.

Education increases his material wants and thus he becomes useful in making a substantial contribution to the material advancement of the country. His purchasing power increases many times over than that of his brother in the primitive state. As a labourer he becomes a fair competitor with the European unskilled labourer because he will not sell his labour at a very much cheaper rate than the European unskilled labourer.
The Hon. A. W. Roberts,  
Native Economic Commission,  
PRETORIA.

3.7.1930,

Dear Sir,

With reference to your favour of the 25 June,
I have to thank you for your interest and give you herewith a few details of the carpet scheme as a National industry.

In my article in the Farmers' Weekly, I have advocated the farmers' point of view. The farmer naturally wants to sell his wool and I have shown him a way, which, if he adopts, he will fare well. But since this is a National scheme, of course there are other great interests included.

From a National economical point of view, it is a great difference, whether we export say 10 million lbs. of wool merely in grease, for 6d. - 14d. per lb., or the same amount of wool, as ready-made persian carpets, in a highly finished state for 10/- - 15/- per lb. The Union can easily reach this by cheap labour, and this is the second importance, in the scheme, that we can give a good earning possibility to an unlimited number of workers - poor whites, coloureds and Natives.

From the worker's point of view:

1. Carpet making is not a hard work. It is easily carried out, not only by the healthy, but by children, old people, maimed and convalescents.

2. Quick to acquire (one year for Natives).

3. A small outlay only necessary, £5. 8s. If well organised and centralised, even less.

4. This craft does not require much mom. The poorest people/...
people can carry it out in their homes, and it also can be
done out of doors.

5. The work itself is interesting and recreative.

6. Everyone can earn from the beginning — and offers a
permanent occupation.

7. This is the most lucrative home-industry. A worker is
able to earn daily (as a piece-worker) from 2/- to 4/-, if he is
working for a shop, and more if he sells individually.

But all these advantages can only be assured if
we give to every worker a thorough training. The teaching
should be passed on in a way, that it should bring forth
perfect results. The earlier the children start the better.
Therefore, I advise to introduce carpet making already into
the elementary schools. Even if not everybody will turn to
carpet making, everybody should understand and be fond of it.
This is necessary for the upbuilding of this National industry.

To illustrate this point, I mention that the
cricket did not become a National game, because everybody is
playing it, but because everybody understands and appreciates
it. The general cricket spirit calls forth fine players.

To come to the Natives, they take readily to the
work. The colours, the designs, have such an effect on them
that they become automatically interested. And if they are
adequately trained, and over the first difficulties, they will
take it up as a home-industry, just as they took up knitting
of its certain branches.

The Natives of the urban areas, living close
together will be urged to make carpets by competition. If one,
or two shall have made rugs, carpets, etc., all will want to
have them.

I may/...
I may say that my investigations and experience made me absolutely hopeful for this my scheme and with a special view for the Natives. However a good organisation is essential, every step, especially with the Natives, should be well considered before applied.

I am glad to point out, that the scheme is advantageous also for those who will undertake the introduction and the teaching of the craft: Missions, clubs, women’s associations, etc.

1. No special buildings are wanted.
2. The implements are few, cheap and lasting.
3. The teachers acquire the craft quickly and can pass it on easily.
4. They get a fair return from the articles sold.
5. The religious bodies have the advantages, that they can give a permanent occupation to their poorer church members.

I must write a few words about the market. My aim is to supply satisfactorily first the home public; yet not to neglect the export part and to supply the world market with competitive finely finished goods. All oriental carpet designs might be copied, but I put an importance on specialising in South African floral designs.

I advise an elastic method, to start not on a too large scale, but to grow with the scheme.

We have very adequate time to begin this work. The depression in the economical field is bad and people look out for new chances. The artistic side, the earning possibility will draw people to this craft.

However, it is important, that the first trial should not fail. I impress this strongly. People lose faith for a second trial, however good the fundamentals are.

In case/...
In case the Government decides to carry out the carpet industry for a National scheme, I shall be glad to offer my services for the organisation of the entire scheme. For I might say, without conceit, that I know myself fully competent for the carrying to a success this plan.

In about a week's time, I shall forward tiny minature carpets, made on the very useful pocket loom, which illustrates how even a child can make in a short time a perfect carpet and how at the same time he acquires the entire principle of the large carpet making.

I hope that this letter sheds some light on the value of the scheme and I apologised for its length.

In closing, I must tell you that I wrote in the same sense a letter to Mr. A.P. van der Post, Chief: Division of Agricultural Economics and Markets, Union Buildings, Pretoria, in answer to his inquiries on the carpet scheme.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours truly,

(Sgd) G. PAPP.
STATEMENT ON EDUCATION OF NATIVES (KIMBERLEY AND DISTRICT).

By


As far as the City of Kimberley itself is concerned it may be said that it is fairly well provided with facilities for primary education. Of a native population of approximately 16,000 there were 1666 pupils attending Government aided schools during the IV quarter of 1929, besides these there are a number of pupils receiving their education in private unaided schools. Although the school buildings are in some cases overcrowded, accommodation and equipment are on the whole satisfactory. There are certainly considerable numbers of children of school-going age who do not attend any school, but compared with some other places the percentage of children enrolled is quite good.

What Kimberley however lacks is a teacher training centre and a secondary school. The Perseverance School, which is Coloured, has till now, kindly consented to take in a very limited number of native pupils; as this school is meant for coloured children the increasing demand for educational facilities by the coloured section of the Kimberley community diminishes rapidly available accommodation for native children. The great majority of native parents have to send their children elsewhere if they want them to receive an education above Standard 6, as very many cannot afford to do so, any education above primary education becomes prohibitive. As Kimberley is a large and important native centre this condition is felt as a bitter hardship especially as natives generally regard education as the anchor of hope for the future of their children and their race.

The condition of education in the country district is however far from satisfactory. The Schools are in quite a number of cases understaffed, a school with an enrolment of over 100 pupils in six classes and only two teachers is not seldom, while there are also cases of schools of 70 pupils in six classes with only one teacher in charge. In many other localities there is not sufficient accommodation and children cannot all be taken in and have to be turned away. There is at present no hope of getting the appointment of additional teachers sanctioned by the Education Department still less the registration of new schools. To the same extent the limitation holds good with respect to the granting of school requisites. The cause of all this trouble is that the amount granted for native education
by the Union Government is limited. A healthy growth and development of existing schools and expansion of the school system to new areas is by this policy securely smothered. What is wanted is a fixed grant per child in school, no other basis can prove satisfactory.

The parts of the country in which natives are worst off as far as the education of their children is concerned are the farms. The majority of the native children on the farms grow up without any schooling whatever. We can sum up by saying that the extent of Primary Education in the urban areas is quite fair, in the reserves it is not satisfactory and on the farms it is very bad indeed.

II.

As far as the results of the education are concerned it may be said that if they are measured by the standard set up by the education curriculum they can be termed quite fair on the whole. But it is a different thing when the value of the money, time and labour expended on the education is judged from the economic viewpoint; appraised from this angle we are forced to the conclusion that the majority of the native children profit economically very little in their later life from the schooling they receive. With the exception of those who become teachers or church workers and a few who get a position as interpreters or Junior Clerks, it makes no difference in the earning capacity of a native whether he has passed Standard 1 or VI. If he can read and write and become a delivery boy he has reached about the highest ladder of employment open to the majority. Practically all Government and Municipal offices, including Railway and Post, are closed to him. The policy of substituting poor whites for natives has further curtailed to a large extent whatever other humble occupations had been open to the natives. The majority of the natives, in spite of all the educational facilities, unskilled labourers. In fact of the 108,500 children in school at the end of last year in the Cape Province 57% were in the sub-standard (European Schools 20%). These pupils, if they are not active church members using their religious books, forget in time the smattering they learned and even the art of reading and writing in many cases.

III.

There are no organised facilities to obtain occupational training in Kimberley; whatever skill in any trade is picked up is acquired casually as handyman in the various trades. The only centre for occupational
training in our area is the Tigerkloof Institution. Here boys are trained to become efficient in woodwork, masonry (especially stone-masonry) Tailoring and Tanning and Leatherwork, girls are trained in Weaving and Household duties. The sound idea followed by this Institution is to train natives to utilise their own pastoral and agricultural products and by using as little machinery as possible turn them into commodities in demand by the native community. This policy has met with a certain amount of success, but the great handicap is that so few natives are able to pay even the moderate charges asked for the work done. The financial weakness of the great bulk of natives hampers the sound principle that native tradesmen should establish themselves amongst their own people and avoid competing with white tradesmen.

The fundamental fault of our present/system seems to be that it is built upon the foundation of very cheap unskilled native labour; and it is supposed that this cheapness will enable South Africa to compete on the world market. If we look deeper into the matter we find that the unskilled labour is in most cases so inefficient that it must be termed expensive and unremunerative. It is only the first class article that has any chance of success on the world market, and first class products can only be produced by efficient labour. As long as almost ¾ of the population of South Africa remains unskilled, the country will not be able to attain the economic position due to the riches of its natural resources. Skilled and semi-skilled native labour will open up many more opportunities for highly skilled European employment. Higher wages paid to skilled natives should not be looked upon as doles meted out but as a fair price paid for value received; the greater earning capacity of natives would increase their purchasing capacity and the Europeans commercial and Industrial community would benefit very materially.

IV and V.

The total native population falls into three great economic groups:

A. Natives in the Reserves.
B. Natives in the Urban Locations.
C. Natives living as labourers on farms.

In order to provide an education that will be economically sound, 3 distinct curriculums should be set up, one to meet the requirements of each of the above sections. Though ordinary primary school training cannot be identified.
Identified with a vocational course of training, yet the curriculum applicable in each area should be so drawn up as to be of real use in the child's adult life. The topic of the reading and arithmetic books should be so arranged as to be not only entertaining and mind training but at the same time profitable in the child's future career. Subjects of elementary science should also be selected from the same point of view. The kind of manual work adopted should be chosen in the same spirit. Though such education will still train and develop the mind it will impart such knowledge as really matters in afterlife and will be intensely practical.

The curriculum for schools in reserves would have to bear in mind whether the locality is agricultural or pastoral; that for natives in urban areas would have to keep the most important local industries in mind. A schooling which gives knowledge that cannot be made use of in late life is a breeding place of discontent and will produce irresponsible agitators. The present native education does this.

Beaconsfield 22nd November, 1930.

G. Kuhn.
SOME REASONS WHY THE NATIVE POPULATION GRAVITATES TOWARDS URBAN AREAS

by

REV. G. KUHN OF BERLIN MISSION SOCIETY.

Natives coming to live in urban areas come either from the Native Reserves to from farms.

1. Natives from Reserves: On the whole natives, unless they were born and reared in urban areas, prefer living in rural areas, yet we find large numbers of natives migrating towards the urban locations. This is due to economic forces which drive them from their old homes. The chief causes are:

1). Owing to overstocking they suffer serious losses in times of drought. It is numbers not quality of stock which counts with most natives; they cannot afford good stock, communal grazing makes it well nigh impossible for the individual to improve his breed, scrub animals are on the whole tougher and can stand drought better than quality stock and they require less care and attention than good stock.

2) If rains fail in time and natives can grow their crops they are satisfied but during the majority of recent years the rain, when it did come, came so late that the natives were unable to grow their own cereals, at least in the Griqualand West regions. Lack of rain has indirectly driven natives to the urban areas.

3) Lack of cash. Even when natives have saleable stock, they seldom get cash for them at the native trading station. Although there are a few such traders who pay cash to natives for their stock, the majority only pay a very small amount in cash and insist that the natives take commodities out of the store for the stock taken in. But it is often imperative for the native to get cash; he has in the first place to pay Government tax, also he has to pay for schoolbooks of his children, he has to meet his church obligations, occasionally he requires cash for travelling on the railway or for some other purpose.

Summing up: OVERSTOCKING - DROUGHT - LACK OF CASH.

Means to counteract suggested:

(a) Limitation of Stock to be owned.

(b) Provision of dams and boreholes with windmills and sub-division of grazing veld into camps (Sparveld). (Scarcity and distance of water supply in time of drought worse than lack of food.)

(c) Government organisation - by native Commissioners and Superintendents of Native Locations - For selling of native pastoral and agricultural products - for cash.

Make the life in the Reserves attractive and the Reserves will hold their population.

11. Natives from farms: 1) In former times farms were very much larger than the average farm is today, and the farmers could allow the natives to keep a fair quantity of stock. This was their chief source of livelihood. Nowadays what were formerly big estates have been cut up into rather small farms and the whole farm is in most cases badly needed by the farmer to make a living and he cannot afford to allow his native labourers to run stock as well.

2) Limited grazing has compelled the farmer to improve his stock to obtain the necessary income. As natives mostly keep scrub animals these threatened to deteriorate his stock. Hence, in most cases, natives are not allowed nowadays to keep any stock of their own on the farms. While this privilege has either been reduced or withdrawn altogether there has not been a compensation in some other direction to the same extent e.g. increased monetary pay. Natives on farms get very little cash from 5/- to 15/- per month. The rations they receive consist mostly only of mealies or - meal -
meal, tobacco and sometimes a little coffee, tea and sugar; meat is not always given. These rations are not always sufficient for the whole family. The cash allowance is insufficient to provide for the needs of cash enumer in 1(3).

3) One result of such insufficient remuneration is dishonesty on the part of a number of farm labourers; some will say "As we are not paid by our boss, we pay ourselves".

4) The remedy cannot be expected from repressive legislation but only from economic readjustment, so that farm labourers will find farm work attractive where a farmer finds it impossible to allow his natives to keep stock, he should pay them higher wages. The De Beers Co. for instance does not allow any of its natives to keep stock on their farms but they pay them 23. per month instead.

5) On the whole the majority of natives do not like to be rationed as rationing will always tend to monotonous diet, they like to have a certain latitude to suit their individual taste.

6) Farm labourers seldom get an opportunity for sending their children to school. The farming community must meet this need; otherwise the best elements among the native farm labourers will continue to migrate to urban areas in order to obtain educational facilities for their children.

III.

Why natives are attracted to Urban Areas.

1) Young men and women go to town to work and become accustomed to town life - when two such young people settle down and marry they will often remain in town and not return to the country.

2) Detribalised natives who have become out of touch with life in native Reserves and who would not submit to life on farms, where they feel treated like serfs will congregate in urban locations.

3) Educational facilities in town attract many natives parents of children.

4) The ability to earn and handle cash money has a very great power of attraction.

5) Whereas natives grown up in rural areas will accustom themselves to urban conditions those grown up in urban areas seldom get accustomed to rural conditions. There is a flow from country to town without an equalising return current.

G. Kuhn.
GENERAL ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

By REV. W. S. MALTON of St. Matthew's Mission, Barkly Road, Kimberley.

Arising out of the nine sub-headings of the above mentioned subject, suggested for consideration, we beg to submit the following:

(2) INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: That Native employees are not treated in the same way as other sections of the community, as witness -

(a) WAGES: they receive less pay for the same work - e.g. - Drivers (Scottish Cart). Some coloured drivers received 50/- per week; as a rule Native Drivers get only up to 21/-.

(b) SICK PAY: The majority of Native Employees (who are doing regular work and whose attendance at their work is normally reliable, not of a casual nature) do not receive sick pay; it is, in fact, usual for only those Natives in a higher grade of employment, such as office work to get it.

(c) INCREMENTS: It appears to be rare for increments of Native wages to be provided for. (In the case of the local Municipal Council and of De Beers no provision for such is made in the estimates).

(d) COMPENSATION: for mine accidents is small compared with the nature of the accident. An instance, which can be vouched for, is that of a woman whose husband was killed by a truck at Beaconsfield, and who is stated to have received only £30.

(4) COST AND STANDARD OF LIVING OF NATIVES ETC. We can only say it is a mystery how the Native exists, especially in view of the facts mentioned above, and of the fact that in many walks of life (notably town life) he is obliged to keep up nearly the same standard of living as an European in the same employment and pay rates, bring up a family, and clothe himself, though he has only half or less than half the income with which to do it.

It is hardly necessary to refer to the terrible burden of the poll tax.

(5) CREDIT SYSTEM: This is absolutely necessary, in view of the above facts; if it were not for this system, employed so extensively by the Indian Traders, in particular Natives would often be unable to make their purchases at all. As it is, they manage it, by being able to pay little by little according to the fluctuations of their domestic circumstances and weekly finances. Instances of proceedings having to be taken for recovery of debts are so rare as to be negligible in any consideration of this subject.

(7) DEVELOPMENT Improvement of Native Handicrafts to be encouraged in every way. The Annual Show at Barkly West for example does, in our opinion, a great deal to foster them and to encourage the learning of them in the schools. It should be provided for as intensively as possible in all Schools.

(8) NATIVE PRODUCTS: markets and facilities for sale of.
A question rather for Natives in the country districts. We know
that the price fetched for wool is extremely low at the present
time.

Personally I have felt for long past that a great deal more
market is available for Native handicraft (mats, basket work, skin
karosses, articles of Native domestic use, and the many articles
comprised under the term "curios"), if these things could be ob-
tained more readily, that is, if they were made on a larger scale
in the country whence they come and the supply or them to say Town
agencies were organised on a definite system. I do not know how
far this is already done; possibly it is done more than I know of.
Not only people in South Africa but (probably far more) people in
England are anxious to get these things and appreciate them greatly.
I have myself sent or taken to England considerable quantities of
them, and am often wanting to get them but cannot easily do so.
The few places where such things are sold in a town put a prohibitive
price on them usually. What is probably needed is some kind of
central Agency, run in the interests of both Native and Europeans
with the profit making middleman eliminated. I am only one indi-
dvidual, but I think there must be many who share this point of
view.

(9) COMPETITION OF NATIVES WITH EUROPEAN AND CAPE COLOURED:

(a) It is well known that in many cases Natives are re-
placed by Coloureds and poor whites which gives the former no
chance to compete in skilled work. Machines take the place of
many Natives; only one supervisor is required for a large number
of natives, who are employed only to do the unskilled work. It
is an indisputable fact that Natives are often found to do the
work (in connection e.g. with machinery) much more reliably than
"poor whites" and business methods and economical considerations
do, in fact, result in some cases in the Native being employed
where not legally impossible.

In mines Natives were formerly allowed to handle
machines, but owing to the "colour Bar" they are not allowed to
do any work in connection therewith, nor to use any tool at all.

The discrepancy between the wages paid to the Native
manual workers and the white overseers is out of proportion to the
work done, and infinitely greater than in any other country in the
world. (b) Natives cannot under this legislation be employed in
Bars, and

(c) now frequently are debarred from the position of
Court Interpreter and have to take the lower position of assistant
to the C.I. who is a European, knowing probably only one Native
language and requiring the assistance of the Native, who knows as
many as are necessary but is thus relegated to a lower position
than his qualifications deserve.

W.S. MALTON.

21. 11. 30.
ADMINISTRATION: The laws that are more definitely applied to the Bantu communities resident in and about the Kimberley Urban Area are


(a) By the first of these acts the people are requested to be domiciled in a locality from two to three miles out of the town proper and thereof under the act, the local Government is authorised to frame and pass Regulations, after consultation with the Advisory Board, and sanction of the Minister of Native Affairs, to order and constitute the social and moral life of the inhabitants. The Native advisory Board is a very unsatisfactory body to the Bantu, because

1. The City Council does not obtain the advice of the Board on many matters of utmost importance to the Natives and further does not pay sufficient attention to the recommendations of the Board on matters that are referred to it.

2. Complaints by residents in locations are made direct to the City Council, and officials who deal with them without consulting the Board and thereby render it insignificant and of no importance in the eyes of the Natives.

(b) Under the Act the Regulations impose the onus on every site holder to complete the erection of their houses in course of erection within the short period of six months. No provision is made for any assistance by the Council either by a loan or by building material allowed to be paid off by the holder. After the expiration of the six months the Council holds the right to cancel the grant of sites and demolish the half built walls without any compensation to the owner.

With a strict body of Councillors this regulation
is pernicious because of the very low wages earned by every site holder or for that matter, any Native in these locations.

It is urgent that Natives in Urban Areas should be allowed to become owners of land in these locations, since as detribalised people through no fault of their own, the locations have become their permanent homes.

**IN HOUSING OF NATIVES**

the Council allots plots, the area of which is regulated, not to exceed 1800 sq. feet, max on which houses are built. In every case almost, when the house is built, the space for a yard is very inadequate for the work done in a back yard. The result is that these back yards are most unhealthy spots. Often a small fowl run is in it, a pile of second hand wood, pieces of corrugated iron and multifarious bits of dirt in different parts of the yard. Dirty water is always thrown out in this yard, there being nothing to convey this dangerous filth away from the homes of the people. Open receptacles hold the dirt swept out of the houses and these are the breeding places of flies and other vermin, because they stand uncovered in the yard or by the sides of the houses sometimes for a week before the refuse cart (which is one for each location) can take it away. There is much congestion of houses; no lanes being allowed for between any two plots. This state of affairs is one of the main reasons of the unhealthy condition of the locations, and the chief cause of infantile mortality.

To better housing conditions for Natives, the Council has built Municipal houses for hire. This affected the economical position of the Natives adversely i.e.

The rentals are not only very high compared with the earning power but will make occupants who hold long leases bear heavy loss as they cannot become owners. There are three roomed, two roomed and one room rentals, varying from 20/- , 17/- to 12/6 respectively. These rentals are payable as long as the houses are being occupied and the property ever remains that of the Council. The people should be encouraged to build their own houses. A separate township for the better class of native is which they can acquire their own property would encourage them to aim...
3.

SANITATION: For health reasons again, there is much inadequacy in the provision made for sanitary facilities. The people of the Green Point Location have the use of about a dozen public closets in a communal way, there being no private ones on the plots. This provision is supplied for a population of about 1000 people. It has happened that the pails being full on a Sunday, the stench has been blown into the location.

There is no sort of conveyance for the carrying away of dirty water and refuse is removed only once a week. The road often after rains, stands covered with pools of storm water, and the vapour casts a smell most undesirable. The Council has laid out two roads in each location, but there are many other roads that badly need attention.

The death rate in these locations is owing to two reasons. The first is congestion, while the second and more dangerous one is the lack of sufficient medical facilities, and the insanitary condition of the locations. Doctors are very busy in the town during the beginning of winter and sometimes in the summer with the result that they cannot respond in time to the calls made on them from the locations. There is only one European nurse for the locations, and she cannot attend to all the babies. There is also a notable increase in venereal disease amongst the people and it is due to ignorance in some cases and to a fear of the people for hospital treatment. The supervision of a Doctor for the locations would relieve this treatment.

RECREATION: In this direction play grounds are provided by the Council for cricket, football and tennis; but there is a dearth of halls which are adequate for entertainment. The Council is about to have a hall erected for one of the locations, but something could be done to encourage Native Societies that have small halls to improve their places.

LIQUOR: The use of liquor by the people has greatly increased after the application of law which prohibits Natives from getting European liquor from the bars. Illicit liquor traffic -
traffic has been augmented and the people have come in contact with an undesirable section of the coloured races through this traffic very much more than before its promulgation. This has resulted in the decay of the morals and has affected even the churches. More boys become victims to drink and more shebeens have been created. The Native beverage is indulged in excessively and many homes risk destruction by the illicit sale of Kafir Beer. The previous state is preferable to this, and the permission to grant licences to Natives for bars to sell Kafir Beer is comparatively less injurious than the present procedure. Many natives prefer, however, that domestic brewing should be allowed.
NATIVE LABOUR CONDITIONS.

By J. SWAN recently of General Manager's Dept., De Beers Cons.
Mines Limited.

LABOUR SUPPLY: There is a very considerable surplus of labour in Kimberley at present owing to the depressed conditions of the Diamond Market. For the same reason there is no demand for labour on the River Diggings. There is, however, a certain demand for labour in the Transvaal and Natal.

Notwithstanding the dearth of employment in Kimberley the drift from the Country continues and large numbers of natives have great difficulty in obtaining the bare necessities of life and many cases of real hardship are in our midst.

It is suggested that a Hostel in Kimberley would be a great boon.

Attached here-to are:

Annexure "A" - Wages paid and conditions accorded to tribalised native employees of a large wholesale firm in Kimberley.

Annexure "B" - Information regarding De Beers Company's native employees.

Recruiting: There are at present three agents in Kimberley recruiting native labour for the gold mines, the coal mines and for farming industries. The average number recruited is about fifty per month.

Housing: There is much room for improvement. The City Council have erected a number of houses which help to meet the demand, but although these houses are very suitable, the rents are too high, when compared with the earning power of the natives.

Wages: The Urban natives consider that they are better off than the Rural natives. Natives prefer the system of higher wages and of feeding themselves rather than the system in vogue on farms of the payment of small wages plus food.
Urban natives are paid from 2/6 to 5/- per diem.
Rural " " " 5/- to 10/- per month.

**Advances to Natives:** This is a pernicious system as practically all are compelled to live above their earnings and they are always drawing on their wages.

**Feeding:** The staple diet amongst the majority of families is mealie meal supplemented by offal from the slaughter poles and scraps from European tables. A certain quantity of meat is bought on pay days. Much good could be done by the inculcation of suitable diets. Please refer to Annexure "C".

**Sanitation:** Public closets are erected at convenient sites within the Locations and private closets at a cost of 2/6 per month are installed.

Owing to the proximity of the Council's Sewage farm the installation of an up-to-date water borne Sewerage System in No. 2 Location should not be very difficult or costly. Sewerage in the Locations would prove a great blessing to the natives and would probably prevent many cases of illness amongst the European families - as at present a large number of Domestic servants proceed to and from the Locations daily owing to the lack of sleeping accommodation in the Town.

**Domestic Service:** This work is practically all performed by females. Many of these females reside in the Locations and are married. Their earnings supplement their husbands' wages. The earnings of female servants range from £1 to £3 per month. A few males are also employed in this work at a monthly wage of about £3. The majority of these male servants come from Rhodesia or further North.

The following annexures are attached hereto in the hope that some of the data given may be of use:-
"D" - Territorial Analysis and Distribution of Native Labour in De Beers Mine Compounds in October, 1930. Very valuable data and reliable.

"E" - Mortality tables for the year ending 30th June, 1930. The Infantile death rate, i.e., 314.5 per 1000 is very low when compared with other centres in South Africa, but it is strikingly high when compared with 45 per 1000 in England and Wales for the quarter ending 30th September, 1930.

"F" - Native Populations. The figures given under "Urban Natives" give striking evidence of the lack of proper statistics.

"G" - Native Pauper Relief.

"H" - Passes.

"I" - Board of Health.

JAS. A. SWAN.

KIMBERLEY.
1st January, 1931.
The following is a list of wages and privileges granted to native employees in one of the large wholesale firms in Kimberley.

Boys Wages - £1. weekly. Hours - 8.30 a.m. to 5. p.m.
Free Compound Accommodation.
Free Firewood for cooking food.
Each boy give a piece of soap weekly to wash his clothes etc.
One ounce packet of Epsom Salts give weekly to each boy who wishes same.
Mealie Meal at wholesale prices.
Night Watchman "Zulu" Wages - £1.5.0 weekly, with same privileges as above.
B. Practically, the Company does no recruiting at all and therefore are put to very little expense in that direction.

The great proportion of natives required by the Company present themselves voluntarily at the Compounds, but occasionally if a larger number is required at short notice an intimation is sent to Basutoland, through the boys in the Compounds, that there are required say three or four hundred natives within a month, and an agent there attends to their entraining and rationing and there has never been any difficulty in obtaining all the boys wanted.

Before a Native is admitted to the Compound he is medically examined, and unfit ones are rejected, those passed are inoculated against pneumonia and small pox, and all their clothing is sterilized before they are allowed to wear it in the Compound.

The country is free from small pox, but in years gone by, the mine natives were subject to serious outbreaks of pneumonia, but the serums, based on the discoveries of Sir. Spencer Lister of the South African Institute for Medical Research, Johannesburg, with which the boys were inoculated, have altered all this, and since their introduction the cases of pneumonia have been few.

A well appointed hospital fitted with dispensary, operating theatre and every convenience, and staffed with a medical officer and trained Europeans, is provided by the Company for the care of the natives, who receive all treatment free.

The Compounds were established for the purpose of protecting the natives and preventing the theft of diamonds. Before their establishment the wages of the natives were squandered in drink and their health undermined and their fitness for work impaired; but now the natives in the compounds are sober and contented and save considerable sums of money which they remit through the Post Office to their homes and they are always fit for work.

The Managers of the Compounds are all chosen men who can be depended on to see that fair treatment is meted out to their charges, and consequently no trouble arises excepting a tribal fight at rare intervals.

Separate portions of the Compounds are allotted to the