

RESEARCH COMMITTEE ON MINIMUM STANDARDS OF ACCOMMODATION.

Sub-Committee I. (Social Trends, Population Needs,  
Family Structure and Family Economics).

Minutes of the second meeting of Sub-Committee I, held in the Board Room of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research on Monday 24th November at 9.30 a.m.

---

Present:

Dr. P.J. Olckers (Chairman) National Council for Social Research.  
Mr. J.E. Jennings (Director) National Building Research Institute.  
Mr. G.I. Nel - Department of Native Affairs.  
Mr. G.C. Bain, Department of Social Welfare.  
Mrs. E.C. van der Lingen - Federale Vroueraad.  
Miss J. Hanekom - National Building Research Institute.  
Mr. P.H. Connell (Organising Secretary) National Building Research Institute.

In Attendance:

Miss S. de Beer.

An apology was recorded from Dr. Sonnabend.

1. Confirmation of Minutes.

The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed and signed.

2. Matters arising out of Minutes.

Mr. Bain, who was unable to be present at the previous meeting, asked whether the Chairman would explain the scheme of work to him, particularly as regards the section on Family Economics, of which study group he was down as convenor. The Chairman complied.

3. Progress Report.Work Programme.(a) Family Economics.

It was agreed that Mr. Bain should convene a meeting of the members of this study group to decide as to which bodies and individuals they would like to contact with regard to the information required. A list of these people should be made and sent to the Organising Secretary, who would then conduct the necessary correspondence.

Agreed that the above procedure be adopted by all three study groups.

With regard to the decision to ask the Trades and Labour Council Statistician to assist with the work of this study group, the Organising Secretary told the meeting that a letter had been written, but that the reply had not yet been received. The matter was being followed up.

(b) Structure of Families.

The Organising Secretary told the meeting that letters had been written to Dr. de Vos, Prof. Wagner, Prof. Cronje and Prof. Irving, asking them to serve as corresponding members. A reply had so far been received from Prof. Irving who indicated his willingness to assist the sub-committee in any way possible.

When replies had also been received from the other professors, it was proposed to contact them all again with particular reference to the work of this study group.

Prof. Batson of Cape Town University, who was already a corresponding member of the Sub-Committee had also written, noting that he was among the members of the study group on the Structure of Families, and saying that he was ready to help when required.

A letter had also been written to the Director of Census and Statistics asking for their assistance.

Mr. Bain mentioned several other bodies and individuals who should be contacted in respect of study group (2) - Dr. Ray Phillips of the Jan Hofmeyer School, Mr. Quintin-Whyte of the Institute of Race Relations, The Coloured Advisory Council in Cape Town, and the Health Training Centre at Springfield, Durban.

Regarding the Polela Health Training Centre, Mr. Connell told the meeting that Dr. Sonnabend was visiting it at present and would enlist their help.

Dr. Olckers undertook to convene this Study Group.

(c) Social Trends.

Mr. Bain remarked that this group was a very wide one and suggested that it might be prudent to curtail its functions.

The Organising Secretary reminded members that they must always bear in mind that information was required only regarding minimum standards of accommodation for housing, which automatically limited the study to some extent.

Mrs. van der Lingen suggested that it might be a good scheme to divide the work of the study group into two sections, one to study the European aspects and one the native aspects. Mr. Nel felt that there should be three divisions, since requirements for Europeans, Coloureds and Natives were quite different.

After further discussion it was agreed to keep the study groups as set out in the minutes of the previous meeting to answer the specified questions. Within each study group, however, members could split up the work as it suited them according to racial and/or other categories.

Various individuals and bodies were suggested to assist

with/.....

with Study Group 3. It was agreed that a circular letter be sent to all the Universities, asking them for any information which their Social Studies Department might possess as a result of work carried out on Social Trends.

Dr. Erica Theron, Dr. S. Pauw, Mr. Rheinallt Jones, Dr. Xuma of the Race Relations Institute and Miss T. Hall of Colonisation Chambers, Durban, were mentioned as useful contacts. Mrs. van der Lingen suggested that the findings of the Fagan Commission would provide valuable information. Regarding the publication, "Kerk en Stad", referred to in the Minutes of the first meeting, Mrs. van der Lingen pointed out that Ds. Albertyn was the right person to contact. Mr. Connell informed members that the book had been ordered and that he would arrange for an interview with Ds. Albertyn.

The Chairman then summed up the discussion on the various study groups as follows.

Mrs. van der Lingen or another nominee would represent the Federale Vroueraad on the sub-committee.

The convenor of each study group would call the members of his group together for a first meeting, in December if possible, and at these meetings, members of each study group would suggest individuals and bodies who might be asked to help with the work. Names and addresses of these people would be sent to the Organising Secretary, who would conduct all the necessary correspondence. When each group had some definite information to impart to the sub-committee, the next meeting would be called.

The scheme of work was agreed upon and the Organising Secretary suggested that he attend the first meetings of each study group. The Chairman agreed to this proposal.

The meeting closed at 11 a.m.

Confirmed,

C H A I R M A N.

**Collection Number: AD1715**

**SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS (SAIRR), 1892-1974**

**PUBLISHER:**

*Collection Funder:- Atlantic Philanthropies Foundation*

*Publisher:- Historical Papers Research Archive*

*Location:- Johannesburg*

©2013

**LEGAL NOTICES:**

**Copyright Notice:** All materials on the Historical Papers website are protected by South African copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

**Disclaimer and Terms of Use:** Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of paper documents and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

This document forms part of the archive of the South African Institute of Race Relations (SAIRR), held at the Historical Papers Research Archive at The University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.