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BANTU WELFARE TRUST

REPORT ON TWO RELATED ITEMS ON AGENDA:

- 2 (1) W. Bookholane. Application for loan to enable him to take course at Jan H. Hofmeyr School of Social Work.
2 (a) Jan H. Hofmeyr School of Social Work. Annual grant.

These items raise the question as to type of assistance to be afforded students attending this School. These students are:

- (1) Holders of Junior Certificate or equivalent academic qualification.
- (2) Of good character, as revealed by extensive inquiry.
- (3) Those who have demonstrated a definite interest in the welfare of their people.

The School Committee always has before it Applications for Admission from candidates who are highly recommended and who would undoubtedly benefit by training but who are heavily handicapped by family ties. (Bookholane has a crippled mother who is entirely dependent upon him for support). Everything is done by the Director to raise up support from social agencies, municipal councils, etc., for such candidates. The School also provides limited aid to a few students in the form of Bursary Loans (10/- to 22 per month).

But there are students in every class who require more help than can be provided from such sources. The answer to the need of these young people is not provided by granting larger loans. This simply places them in positions from which it is impossible for them to extricate themselves. Salaries of social workers are not large enough to enable them to re-pay large loans.

The only solution to the need presented by candidates for admission such as Bookholane is the creation of a fund from which various amounts, depending on the case, can be made available as out-and-out grants.

It is suggested that an annual donation from the Bantu Welfare Trust to the Jan H. Hofmeyr School of Social Work be made with the understanding that it be used by the Director to assist students to complete their course at the institution without having a crushing burden of debt to re-pay. The Director would, of course, report any such grants to the School Committee which is representative of the Native Affairs Department, the Municipal Departments of Social Welfare and Non-European Affairs, the South African Institute of Race Relations, the African people, and the Staff of the School.

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