

that 8824 applications were made by British subjects to be allowed to remain in Johannesburg and neighbourhood during the continuance of the war.

[Now there must have been at least as many more sent in from the rest of the country, considering the large numbers of Britishers residing at Pretoria, Barberton, Klerkroon, Potchefstroom and other towns, considerable size, besides the large aggregate number scattered through-out the country districts. But let us assume that 15,000 applications were received by the Government officials. It must then be remembered that in the cases of married men, permits granted to them would include their wives and families and thus a single permit might cover six or seven or even more persons. One included a family of nine to my knowledge. Upon this basis of calculation then it is a moderate estimate that permits were applied for to allow at least 45,000 British subjects to remain in the State during the war.

[This is a very significant fact and gives rise to some curious reflections. One cannot help wondering, for instance



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BARRICADED STORES.

how it is to be reconciled with the statements made antecedent to the war - or even during the war - as to insecurity of life and property of British subjects, and the tyranny and oppression suffered by them at the hands of the Boer Government. On the facts as recorded we are asked to believe that for years hitlaunters in general and British hitlaunters in particular had been subjected to great oppression by the Boers; that their lives and property were in constant danger from burglars and Boer officials and they prayed for intervention by Great Britain in order to be released from this intolerable condition of affairs. - vide the great petition to the Queen.

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[But when at length their prayer is answered and they are offered the chance of escaping from this oppression and tyranny we find that, so far from welcoming such relief and gladly availing themselves of it, <sup>at least</sup> some 40,000 of them are not only content to remain under the intolerable conditions previously existing, but are even willing to take the further risks which might reasonably be assumed to arise through remaining in the country during a war of aggression - as it certainly was considered by the Boers - by their

own nation and the concomitant passions thereby engendered. Here are the facts, <sup>and the statements bearing upon them</sup>; the reader can draw his own conclusions.

[Of the nearly 9000 applications to remain in Johannesburg less than 2000 were granted, ~~but~~ <sup>and</sup> a number of those only provisionally and many were subsequently cancelled so that the number of permits in force at the end of Oct. was between 1200 and 1300 a <sup>granting permission to remain to</sup> ~~number~~ <sup>British subjects</sup> something like 5000 men, women and children; - including widows and single women earning their own living - out of perhaps 2000 less than six months previously!

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Notwithstanding Government notices and warnings many ignored the order of expulsion and remained without the necessary permit. But the house-to-house visitation instituted by the local authorities and the issuing of residential certificates - of which every person, without exception, had to be possessed of one - resulted in the gradual discovery of <sup>all</sup> such persons, who were haled before the courts and in the majority of cases simply deported out of the country. In a few instances only were penalties imposed, whilst in several cases, where

Z. A. R.

No. 1708



PERMIT.

Overeenkomstig Besluit der Regeerings Commissie, dd. . . . .  
October 1899, wordt hiermede voorloopig verlof gegeven aan  
den persoon van *E. B. Rose*  
adres *24 Oudeste Straat Johannesburg*  
een Britsche onderdaan, welke, die den gevorderden eed heeft  
afgelegd, om zijne werkzaamheden als *premier*  
voort te zetten onder nadere bekrachtiging der  
Regering.

*Joan du Toit*  
Doorzitter  
*E. B. Rose*

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Z. A. R.

No 1708.

Permit

In accordance with the resolution of the Government  
Commission dated . . . . Oct 1899, permission is hereby  
given for the time being to . . . . . address . . . . . a  
British subject who has sworn the necessary oath of  
neutrality to pursue his ~~subject~~ occupation of . . . .  
subject to subsequent ratification of the Govern-  
ment

Johannesburg, 19 Oct. 1899. *Chairman*  
*Signature of Holder*

VERBLIJF-  CERTIFICAAT.

No. 497

Naam:

Nationaliteit:

Indien Britsche onderdaan, No. van permit: N. 1708.

Beroep:

Adres:

Hoelang in wijk woonachtig:

Handteekening van houder:

Handteekening van den Aanstenaar:

Residence Certificate

No 4197.

Name

Nationality

If a British subject, No. of Permit

Occupation.

Address.

How long residing here.

Signature of Holder: . . . . .

Signature of Official . . . . .

social hardship would have resulted from the deportation  
the offenders, permits were issued to them in court  
if they were, instead of being punished, allowed to  
remain in the ~~country~~ state.

As the permits granted to British subjects have now  
become documents of considerable historical interest  
I reproduced a fac-simile of ~~one~~ <sup>my own</sup>; as well as a  
~~copy~~ the residential certificate which  
was also necessary to obtain. (Take in p. 16 a.)

Take in "Permit" and "Certificate" each full page  
with translations, that is, one document & translation of each page

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That the permits were eagerly sought for and highly  
valued was proved by the large number of Britishers who  
as already mentioned - risked almost certain detection and  
possible imprisonment by remaining permitless in  
Hannoverburg long after the time of grace had expired.  
So extremely loth were many to leave the country  
their oppression that they became burghers and took their  
oaths at the front rather than accept a free ticket for  
Lagoa Bay. This is proved by the fact that between  
1700 and 1700 British subjects - including Cape Colonists -  
were sworn in as burghers by Capt. von Brandis,

[The endorsement across the permit was written in April, when, as will be related later on, all the permits to British subjects were cancelled and had to be returned to the Government officials, with an application for a renewal. All whose permits were not renewed, that is, who did not receive them back endorsed as above, had to leave the State, although on this occasion very few were thus withheld. The document is signed by Mr J. L. van der Merwe, Mining Commissioner of Johannesburg and chairman of the "Government Commission of Peace and Order," and the signature to the endorsement is that of Mr R. G. Beckerse, Mr V. J. Cherrwe's successor in these offices.

[The counterfoils of the Residential Certificates afforded an easy method of taking a reliable census of the town. This was done by counting <sup>the counterfoils</sup> and tabulating the information contained thereon. By these means it was ascertained that the inhabitants of Johannesburg and District at the middle of November numbered some twenty-seven thousand persons, of whom between five and six thousand were British subjects, whilst next to burghers, Germans furnished by far the largest quota of the whole.



Special Landdrost of Johannesburg, up to the 27<sup>th</sup> of Oct.  
 [It is a curious commentary, by the way, on the charge  
 of compulsory commandeering of British subjects by the Boers  
 that recruiting from amongst their ranks was very  
 strongly opposed by the responsible Boer officials. The follow-  
 ing is an extract from the report of an important  
 meeting of the Fieldcornets and members of the town  
 and district sub-commission, convened by the "Chief  
 Commission of Rust en Orde" (Peace & Order) and  
 held at Johannesburg on Oct. 26 under the presidency of  
 Mr D.E. Schutte, District Commandant  
 of Johannesburg and district: -

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"The question of swearing in of British subjects, who  
 to evade the regulations regarding permits, - had  
 expressed their desire to become burghers, was next discussed.  
 The Chairman said that he viewed all such appli-  
 cations with a certain amount of suspicion (here he said)  
 there were, he believed, many Britishers who were pre-  
 pared to swear an oath against their opinions and in  
 conflict with their national convictions and sentiments.  
 A stop must be put to this sort of thing, and he was

of opinion that no such "burgher" of this nature should be enrolled. If a Britisher were really honest and serious in his pretensions (? professions) - well, then, he could become a burgher and go to the front with the commanders."

[Here we find, - and this incident is very <sup>typical</sup> ~~characteristic~~

of the whole Boer attitude on this point; - that so far from wishing to compel reluctant or hostile Britishers to serve in their ranks, they were not ~~even willing to~~ <sup>willing to</sup> accept the help of such persons, even when voluntarily offered.

The fact is, the Boers are <sup>intense</sup> in their own love of nationality to regard other than at least with suspicion any man who is <sup>willing</sup> ~~ever~~ to discard his own nationality, even to adopt their own. And this explains to a great extent the inveterate hostility they exhibited towards my scheme of enfranchisement of aliens; apart from the fear they undoubtedly entertained, of their own independence being thereby endangered. It was simply repugnant to their principal national characteristic that men should wish to discard their own nationality, and hence the incredulity which they displayed as regards the bona fides

of the demand made by the Uitlanders for wholesale enfranchisement.

[ All those to whom permits were granted were required to take and subscribe to the following oath of neutrality, and were then given the certified document and were as free to follow their ordinary avocations as before the war.

[ The Oath.

{ I, the undersigned . . . . .  
living at . . . . . a British  
subject, declare hereby, under oath, that I, during  
my stay in the South African Republic, will behave  
myself in a quiet, calm, and submissive manner,  
and that I will remain obedient to the laws and the  
authorities of the country, and that neither directly  
nor indirectly will I do ought, or cause anything  
to be done, against the independence of the country and  
people of this Republic. So truly help me, God.

{ Sworn before me, . . . . . justice of the  
Peace, at Johannesburg, on the . . . . . day  
of . . . . . 1899.

. . . . ., J. P.

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