The Native Registration Depot for males was inaugurated on 1st July 1953 on which date the Council took over the Registration of Native Service Contracts and the operation of the Native Labour Employment Bureau for males.

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In terms of Regulation 18 made under Section 38 of Act 25 of 1945, any male Native entering or employed or residing in a proclaimed area may be ordered by the Registering Officer to present himself for medical examination and vaccination at a time and place to be specified by such officer. If a Medical Officer who has performed such medical examination is satisfied that any Native examined is healthy and vaccinated, he must endorse on an appropriate document the words "Passed healthy and vaccinated".

This medical examination and certification is therefore a statutory obligation on the Natives and the Medical Officers concerned (if so ordered by the Registering Officer).

While at present there is no similar compulsion for the medical examination of Native females, it has been considered most desirable in the understand of public health to institute a similar service for females, as now exists for males.

Primarily the depots serve to detect any infectious disease and to ensure that such are adequately treated before the work-seeker is placed in employment.

They also assess for certain types of restricted employment, cases with physical disabilities, such as cripples, epileptics, etc., etc.

As no work-seeking Bantu male from the age of 15 years onwards will be registered for employment unless he has been declared medically fit, the male depot also assesses exemptions for employment on medical grounds, such exemption being either of a temporary or a permanent nature.

When medical conditions of a non-infectious nature are found, the person affected is referred to a general hospital for either outpatient or inpatient treatment.

The medical examination consists of a physical examination and a miniature X-ray of the chest. Each person is also vaccinated against smallpox and blood examinations are carried out for venereal disease and for typhoid

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fever. All persons who have positive findings on miniature X-ray examination also have a large X-ray plate taken and the assistance of a consulting radiologist is utilised to assess the X-ray findings.

A tuberculosis clinic is conducted daily at each Examination Centre by the Medical Officer in charge in conjunction with a Health Visitor and a Staff Nurse and a Social Worker. Treatment for venereal disease is also given on the spot.

During 1960, 99,827 Bentu were examined at the male medical centre, an average of nearly 2,000 each week. 91,507 miniature and 2,084 large X-ray plates were taken. 240 cases of active tuberculosis were detected in the course of these procedures.

The amount voted for converting and equipping this female medical examination centre was R21,016 and the annual recurrent expenditure based on the existing staff is R4,440.

During the financial year ending 30th June 1960, the cost of running the Male Medical Examination Centre was R24,042.

The staff is entirely Non-European and all are females, consisting of a Medical Officer, a radiographer, a staff nurse, one clinical assistant and one clerk. In the first 6 days, despite the inclement weather and the voluntary nature of the detailed medical examination, 324 medical examinations and X-rays were conducted.

Dr. Rosina Shuping, the Medical Officer in charge on the spot is an -City Council bursar.

Provision has been made for an increase in the staff should the work justify this.

- 2 -

Collection Number: A1132 Collection Name: Patrick LEWIS Papers, 1949-1987

PUBLISHER:

Publisher: Historical Papers Research Archive, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa Location: Johannesburg ©2016

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