

SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS. (INC.)
SUID-AFRIKAANSE INSTITUUT VIR RASSEVERHOUDINGS (INGELYF)

FOOD SUB-COMMITTEE.

Minutes of a meeting of the Food Sub-Committee (S.A.I.R.R.) held in the University of the Witwatersrand on August 16th, 1946, at 12.15 p.m.

PRESENT: Dr. J.N. Reedman, Mrs. M. Whyte, Mrs. A.B. Xuma, Miss E. Serebro (in attendance).

APOLOGIES: Councillor Paul Mosaka.

1. BLACK MARKET:

On the suggestion of Dr. J.N. Reedman,

IT WAS AGREED that the only way in which the Institute might help would be that it should conduct an ad hoc investigation along the lines of that done for the Non-European Bus-Services Commission.

IT WAS SUGGESTED that purchases by five well selected consumers at each of about half of the retailers in as many locations as possible, should be detailed and scrutinised in relation to the availability of the various commodities, prices; conditions of-selling.....

Purchases should be made to cover sugar, bread, mealie-meal and soap.

IT WAS AGREED to recommend that the Institute should consider carrying out such an investigation.

2. AFRICAN RETAILERS AND THEIR ABILITY TO COPE WITH ADMINISTRATIVE WORK INVOLVED IN THE CARRYING OUT OF THE RATIONING SCHEME.

The committee felt incompetent to deal with the matter in the absence of Mr. Paul Mosaka.

IT WAS THEREFORE AGREED to ask Mr. Mosaka and some other retailers to express an opinion.

3. PROPOGANDA ABOUT RATIONING.

Suggestions put forward by the Director of the Institute and by Dr. Ellen Heilman were considered.

IT WAS AGREED a) that a letter be sent to the Bantu Press urging the necessity for using the Press as a means of publicising the rationing scheme;

- b) that a letter be written to the Education Departments suggesting that either the Education Departments themselves circularise the Native schools and teachers or that permission be granted for the Institute to do this;
- c) that preparation of special literature for distribution to the location offices, pass offices, Women's and Church organisations, be suggested to the Red Cross.

4. MEANS TO ENSURE A FAIR SHARE IN THE STORES IN RESERVES.

The committee felt that it was not competent to deal with this matter until Dr. Van Eck had indicated his plans.

5. MEANS TO PROVIDE FOR WORKERS IN RESERVES ADJACENT TO URBAN AREAS.

IT WAS AGREED that Mr. M'Timkulu's letter which related particularly to Natal be sent to Dr. Van Eck for his consideration.

6. VISITORS AND THE INFLUX TO THE TOWNS.

IT WAS AGREED that the Institute should ascertain from Mr. Holland whether or no there was to be any connection between the pass system and the rationing scheme.

7. EXTRA RATIONS FOR MANUAL WORKERS AND OTHER MATTERS.

These were left over until Dr. Van Eck had disclosed his plans.

8. NON-EUROPEAN REPRESENTATION.

IT WAS AGREED a) that as there was to be no direct representation of Africans on the Regional Food Committee, Mrs. Xuma should form a special committee of Non-European women who would express their views to her. Mrs. Xuma would then convey to the Institute representative on the food committee these views which would be put forward along with the recommendations of this committee;

b) that a representative from each African Advisory Board in the Reef area should be co-opted to this committee;

c) that another retailer should be asked to serve with Mr. Mosaka on this committee.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting ended at 12.45 p.m.

Approximate Chemical Composition and Vitamin Content of
Common South African Foodstuffs.

by

F. W. Fox and L. Golberg.

(Biochemical Department, South African Institute for Medical Research)

Revised March, 1942.

Please make the following alterations to the tables.

Table A.

Oat and Oatmeal. Fibre in 1.38 & 0.9	Milk, Whole 298 calories per lb.
Banana, Calcium in 8 mg.	- - dried 25.8% protein
Egg. Delete "per egg"	- Separated dried 35.6% protein.

Table B.

Wheat, whole grain	120 I.U. B ₁ per 100 gm.
- Flour, stone ground	110
- - 94% extraction	100
- - 85% ..	60
Bread, whole-meal	70
Ham and bacon	200

Attention is drawn to the following additional sources of valuable information

- Food and Beverage Analyses. Bridges, M.A. 1935. London (Kimpton.)
- Food Tables. Mottram, V.H. & Radloff, E.M. 1937. London. (Arnold.)
- Food and Nutrition of African Natives. Memo.XIII. Int.Inst.Afr. Lang.& Cult. 1937. (Oxf.Univ.Press.)
- Tables of Composition of Foods. Technical Communication No.10. Imp.Bur. Anim.Nutr. 1938. Aberdeen (Rowett Institute.)
- Nutritional Value of Indian Foods. Health Bull.No.23. 3rd.Edit. 1941. Delhi. (Govt. India Press.)

NATIVE RESERVES: LAND TENURE.

(Cr. Z.K. Matthews and Mr. G.A. Mbeki)

This memorandum is a summary of papers submitted by Cr. Matthews and Mr. Mbeki. Mr. Mbeki will unfortunately be unable to attend Conference, but his analysis of the causes of the present condition of the Reserves shows such close correlation to that of Cr. Matthews that a single memorandum has been compiled.

As recently explained by the Minister of Native Affairs, and by Major Roberts to the Executive of the Institute, the Government is embarking on a major campaign for the rehabilitation of exhausted land in the reserves. The Department of Native Affairs also points to a possible change in the "existing Native Land Settlement Policy". The Department points out that there are 62,000 families of five in the existing Border locations on 983,616 morgen of land, that there are 205,691 superfluous cattle units and a milk shortage of almost 4 million gallons yearly. It is the opinion of the Department that "the settlement of every Native as a peasant-farmer ... would be impossible to fulfil", and it "accepts the principle of preserving the land first and foremost" and planning from that principle. The Department is also inquiring into the position of the "large number of Natives on European-owned farms" (squatters).

PRESENT LAND TENURE:

- a. Communal tenure in unsurveyed areas: Land is distributed by Headmen or Chiefs under supervision, registers being kept.
- b. Perpetual quitrent in surveyed areas: Land is owned by the Governor-General but a Title-Deed is given to the holder conditional upon regular payments of rent, good behaviour, beneficial occupation, reservation of mineral rights, etc.
- c. Lease rent on the released farms: A lease is granted which is renewable annually at the discretion of the Native Commissioner.

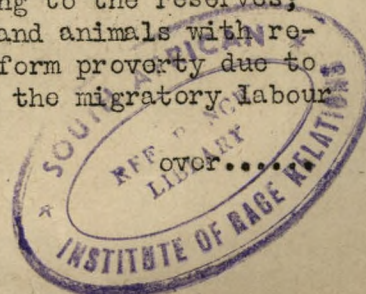
In the case of a, there is a local tax of 10/- p.a., in b, a quitrent of 12/6 p.a. and in c, a lease rent of £1.10.0d. p.a. In effect the Native areas amount to a vast farm owned by the Government with the Africans as its tenants.

Succession to land and moveable property is based on the law of primogeniture with the result that in surveyed areas especially there are often thousands of families without arable lands.

NATIVE POLICY AND THE RESERVES:

- a. As a result of the denial of land rights in urban areas, Africans have been compelled to look to the Reserves as their permanent homes, no matter how long they may have lived elsewhere.
- b. The wage policy in industry is based on the assumption that Africans have land from which his wage can be supplemented. In other words every African is supposed to be an agriculturist.
- c. Industrial policy further through the "civilised labour policy" has prevented Africans from entering careers other than small-scale farming.
- d. The unequal distribution of land between 8 million black and 2 million whites has made it impossible, even with improved farming methods, for Africans to farm economically.

The cumulative effects of the above policy has been the creation of large numbers of landless and homeless Africans all looking to the reserves; ever-increasing pressure on the reserves of people and animals with resultant squatting on commonage; widespread and uniform poverty due to bad farming and to part time farming as a result of the migratory labour policy.



Exec Comm. 1/2/44

no radical changes being

more wage com.

meaning?

+ other factors.

GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS TO DEAL WITH THE POSITION.

- a. The setting up of Committees to deal with soil reclamation by means of fencing, provision and preservation of water supplies, limitation of stock, education of farmers in better methods, etc.
- b. The creation of village settlements for landless Africans where families would have small allotments and from where members can go to industrial centres for cash wages.
- c. Limitation of the number of Africans allowed to farm either on full or part time basis.

CR. MATTHEWS SUGGESTS FURTHER:

- a. An increase in the extent of land available for African occupation.
- b. The advisability of possible increases in the size of allotments held by enterprising African farmers within limits if necessary.
- c. The necessity for the granting of land rights in non-Native areas, e.g. in Urban areas and on European farms to give reasonable security of tenure and prevent the African from looking to the Reserves.
- d. The revision of the National Wage and industrial policy so that Africans could look elsewhere than to the Reserves for their permanent homes and means of earning decent livings.
- e. The necessity for industry and farming to realise its obligations to its labourers and their families.

MR. MBEKI SUGGESTS THAT:

- a. A scheme of reorganisation and rehabilitation should not stop short at land policy and better farming methods. *E.g.?*
- b. The Reserves should not be regarded as a place set aside for Natives, but rather as a place that must provide subsistence for a certain section and class of the population. *of mod.*
- c. A scientific survey of the potential agricultural productivity of the Reserves is a prerequisite to reorganisation.
- d. After the survey the population-load of the Reserves can be computed according to an economic datum line.
- e. An exodus of landless and/or excess population would then be encouraged to the urban areas where they could become permanently integrated into industry.
- f. The present 1 to 5 morgen holdings are wasteful of the soil and the holder's energy and good farmers should be allowed to increase the size of their holdings by purchase from bad farmers to the extent of 30 to 50 morgen.
- g. In the surveyed areas there should be an immediate redistribution of land with a view to putting a larger acreage under cultivation; this should be accompanied by a planned concentration of people in residential areas not suitable for cultivation or grazing instead of the present wasteful and haphazard dwelling areas.
- h. This would facilitate the common ownership of certain implements and a certain amount of collective farming. *co-operative*
- i. Along with these immediate measures should go the encouragement of all the forms of co-operative movements connected with agriculture.
- j. There should be provision for extensive development of all social services - health, educational, recreation, etc. - facilitated by the gradual development of villages as envisaged in g.

Doc. I.R.P. labour regulation of labour

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