

THE REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE
OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

DATED MAY 5TH 1944.

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1. The Select Committee were "generally in agreement with the approach of the Social Security Committee and with the general trend of the recommendations made by it". The Scheme recommended by the Social Security Committee would cost £35,000,000.
2. The Select Committee was chiefly concerned with working out a scheme within the limits of our present national income. The Social and Economic Planning Council had suggested that out of a total of £52,000,000 at 1938/9 prices for Social Security, education, health, nutrition and certain other services for 1947/8, £16,000,000 should be allocated to Social Security. The Select Committee accepted this figure plus 15% rise in prices, i.e. £18,500,000 for a scheme in 1946/7.
3. The Committee had therefore to consider reducing the Social Security Committee's total of £35,000,000 to £18,500,000.
4. The Committee suggested that the necessary economies could be achieved in the following ways :-
1. deferring
 - a) Sickness benefits.
 - b) Funeral Grants.
 - c) Maternity Grants.
 - d) Family cash allowances for 3rd, 4th & 5th children.
 2. reducing the proposed rates of benefits to existing scales wherever the latter were lower than the former.
 - (a) Old Age, invalidity and blind pension rates should remain at present levels, but could be extended to cover unemployment, training and recovery benefits under the A scheme.
 - (b) In the absence of a cash family allowance, dependant's allowances could be made subject to a ceiling, in order to prevent benefits plus allowances exceeding wages.
 - (c) In the case of unemployment benefit, the ceiling would be $\frac{3}{4}$ of normal wages, in the case of widows etc., £12 a month £9 and £6, for Europeans, Coloureds and Natives respectively, with lower rates for town and country.
 - (d) The benefits paid in the Supplementary Unemployment Insurance Scheme could be reduced from 1/3rd of normal earnings to 1/4th.
 3. Saving on costs of Administration.
5. If the above economies were introduced the cost of the Social Security Scheme would be reduced to £19,500,000. The extra £1,000,000 which this represented over the "target figure" of £18,500,000 could be left to look after itself".

3rd July, 1944.

(sgd) H.P. Burrows.

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COMPARISON OF BENEFITS.

1. Select Committee.
2. Social Security Committee.

PARTICIPANTS.

Rates (£'s per annum.)

SCHEME A.	European.			Coloured & Asiatics.			Natives.		
	City	Town	Coun-try.	City	Town	Coun-try.	City	Town	Country.

1. Old-age and invalidity pensions, unemployment, training and recovery benefits...	60	54	48	30	15	15	12	9	6
2. S.S.C.	60	54	48	36	27	18	24	18	18
1. Attendance Allowances	18	12	12	12	6	6	12	6	6
2. S.S.C.	18	12	12	12	6	6	12	6	6
1. Needy Mothers, widows, wives (not working) of unemployed workers with young children.....	30	27	24	12	9	9	12	9	-
2. S.S.C.	60	54	48	36	27	18	24	18	18
1. Child dependants - Each.....	30	27	24	12	9	9	9	9	6
2. S.S.C. (First.....)	36	30	24	21	12	6	15	9	6
(Second....)	27	21	15	15	9	6	9	6	6
1. Family allowances per 3rd, 4th & 5th child (payable <u>only</u> where dependants allowance is payable.	18	12	9	12	6	6	6	6	-
2. S.S.C. payable to all families.....	18	12	9	12	6	6	9	6	-
1. Children in Foster-care (each).....	39	36	30	21	18	15	15	12	6
2. S.S.C. ..	39	33	27	21	12	6	15	9	6

GRANTS.

1. Maternity.....	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
2. S.S.C. ..	5	5	5	3	3	2	2	2	2
1. Funeral.....	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
2. S.S.C. ..	15	12	9	9	6	3	5	3	3
1. Removal.....	nil			nil			nil		
2. S.S.C. ..	Variable			Variable			Variable		

Supplementary Unemployment Insurance..... $\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{3}$
 Maximum % of Earnings.. $\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{3}$

SCHEME B.

1. Old-age and invalidity pensions and leper grants.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6-
2. S.S.C. ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
1. Child dependants.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
2. S.S.C. ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6

The Social Security Committee emphasised that their figures represented the barest minimum on which subsistence is possible. However, financial situation precludes their immediate introduction, just as it precludes the introduction of the very necessary supplementary grants and allowances. The proposals of the Select Committee are a definite improvement on the situation at the moment, in that there will be some provision against illness and unemployment. If this modified scheme is accepted, however, its limitations will have to be borne in mind, and the target for the future should be the full and comprehensive scheme envisaged by the Social Security Committee and the Social and Economic Planning Council.

CONTRIBUTIONS :

SELECT COMMITTEE.

<u>S.S.C.</u>	<u>A. SCHEME.</u>	European.	Coloured & Asiatic.	Native.
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(a) Employees.
(other than domestic servants and farm workers) with wages of :-

	(1) Less than £96 per annum.....	9d p.w.	6d p.w.	4d p.w.
2½%	(2) £96-£179	2½%	2%	2%
3%	(3) £180-£239	2½%	2½%	2½%
4%	(4) £240 or above	3%	3%	3%
4%	(b) Income tax payers	3%	3%	3%
	(c) Others			

£ 2½	Europeans	£2 p.a.
£ 1½	Coloureds & Asiatics..	15/- p.a.
£ 1	Native	10/- p.a.

Members aged 18 - 20 at half rates.

B. SCHEME. African males over 18... 5/- p.a.

Employment Insurance.

Select Committee from Employer, employee and the State an amount representing 1% of the employee's wages.

S.S.C. - 1% of earnings each on incomes £160 to £550.

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