

Hammanskraal IV

MODEL RURAL TENANSHIP NEARS COMPLETION IN  
TRANSVAAL

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Most heads of families work in Johannesburg or Pretoria, returning home occasionally at week-ends or for longer holidays. A few are elderly men on pension.

One middle-aged Native was working in the back garden of his house when we arrived. He told us he had been sick, but was hoping to return very soon to his normal work in Johannesburg. He warmly praised the accommodation provided at his present home as a great improvement on the conditions under which he and his family had lived outside Johannesburg.

Another who appreciated his Temba home was old Josiah, a blind Basuto. He had worked for most of his life on farms in the Orange Free State, but had been drawn to Johannesburg by the lure of the gold mines. As a blind man he now draws a Government pension.

Trading facilities, including a butcher's shop and a dairy, will eventually be available at Temba, while a health clinic has also been planned, as the nearest clinic to the village is at the Native Commissioner's office some two miles from the village.

Besides the little gardens around their homes, each householder is allowed to rent a one-tenth acre plot of irrigated land for growing vegetables. The rental is only 5s. a month, while practical advice is obtainable from a trained Native agricultural demonstrator, who cultivates a demonstration plot which also supplies seed to the plotheholders. There is a big demand for these plots, which enable residents not only to vary their families' diet with plenty of vegetables but also to add to their incomes by marketing the surplus.

Once building is complete and a suitable train service with Pretoria has been arranged from the nearby station of Hammanskraal, Temba will indeed be a model Native township.

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## MODEL RURAL NATIVE TOWNSHIP NEARS COMPLETION

### IN TRANSVAAL

By K.G. Coleman.

The first housing scheme for Natives to be launched by the South African Native Affairs Department is now nearing completion at Temba, near Hammanskraal, about 25 miles north of Pretoria.

Restricted for the present to 164 houses, through difficulty in securing a reliable water supply, the erection of this rural Native township is none the less affording valuable experience, which will be put to good use in the building of the big Native township at Zwelitsha, near Kingwilliamstown, in the eastern Cape Province, and in subsequent Native Affairs Department projects.

Native housing schemes in South Africa are normally the responsibility of the municipalities, as they are mostly built on the outskirts of towns to supply homes for labour required in industry. The war accelerated the movement of Natives to the towns and in Johannesburg Native families started "squatting" on private land just outside the city's boundary.

In 1944, in an attempt to tackle this problem, certain "squatters" at Alberton, one of Johannesburg's suburbs, were moved to Hammanskraal and accommodated there under canvas. The Temba scheme was later begun to house the inhabitants of this camp.

When I visited Temba, about two-thirds of the houses had been completed and good progress was being made with a big secondary school, which eventually will supply the needs not only of Temba's children but those from neighbouring districts. The headmaster's house was practically completed, while classes were already going on in the nearby public hall.

Building is being carried out by Native artisans under European supervision. The monthly rentals charged are 7s.6d. for a two-roomed cottage and 10s.6d for one with three rooms.



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