

native custom that both parties to an action have call on the services of a guardian or speaker who assumes responsibility for the conduct of negotiations. This principle could be retained without resort to the presence of professional legal practitioners in the court itself. See Section 11(12).

It is with regret, too, that I note that it is apparently not the intention to allow the Bantu Court to impose unorthodox punishment, such as a beast or a goat, or in the case of criminal jurisdiction, the imposition instead of a fine of strokes with a light cane, particularly in so far as juvenile offenders are concerned. Such an alternative would, in my opinion, do more than anything else to bring the unruly elements (tsotsis) in our urban Native townships, to heel.

Regulations.

- 13(1) The Minister may make regulations as to -
- (a) the election of members of a ward committee, including the proportional representation of any ethnic or tribal groups in any ward;
 - (b) the nomination and appointment of members of an urban Bantu authority;
 - (c) the period for which members of a ward committee or an urban Bantu authority shall hold office, and the circumstances under which they shall vacate their office;
 - (d) the filling of any vacancy on a ward committee or urban Bantu authority;
 - (e) the procedure to be followed at meetings of a ward committee or an urban Bantu authority, including the quorum of such meetings;
 - (f) the administration, supervision and control of the treasuries of urban Bantu authorities, and the keeping and auditing of the accounts of such treasuries;
 - (g) the appointment, and duties of the employees of urban Bantu authorities;
 - (h) the appointment, powers and duties of messengers and other officers of an urban Bantu court;
 - (i) the registers to be kept by urban Bantu courts;
 - (j) the procedure to be followed in connection with the hearing of any civil matter by an urban Bantu court or any action taken under section eleven, including the fees payable by any party to a suit pending in an urban Bantu court;
 - (k) /

- (k) the execution of any civil judgment given by an urban Bantu court, the manner in which and the period within which an appeal against such a judgment shall be noted and prescribed and the procedure to be followed at the hearing of such an appeal;
- (l) the recovery of any fine and the manner of execution of any penalty imposed under section twelve, the manner in which and the period within which an appeal against a conviction or sentence of an urban Bantu court shall be noted and prosecuted and the procedure to be followed at the hearing of such an appeal;
- (n) generally as to all matters which by this Act are required or permitted to be prescribed or which he considers it necessary or expedient to prescribe in order that the purposes of this Act may be achieved.

The matters referred to in sub-clauses (a) to (g) are matters concerning the administration of the local authority and regulations in connection with these matters should be made by the local authority with the approval of the Minister.

The matters referred to from (h) to (l) are matters which concern the administration of justice and should be left to the Minister.

Sub-clause (n) should be redrafted so as to empower local authorities to make regulations for any other matters falling within the purview of the urban Bantu authority.

- 13(2) Any regulations made under sub-section (1) may prescribe penalties for any contravention thereof or failure to comply therewith not exceeding a fine of twenty-five pounds or imprisonment for a period of three months.

No comment.

- 14. This Act shall be called the Urban Bantu Authorities Act, 1952.

No comment.

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