

numerous plantations of trees have been established ; and a beginning has been made to market the crops. Much more development is necessary. It is only a small beginning which has been made.

But there are many complaints about the way the Government is dealing with Trust land. I know that the people are complaining that they have to pay rent, that the plots are too small, and the restriction of cattle too severe, that they are not allowed to cut trees, that the overseers do not treat the people with respect, that chiefs and headmen are ignored, and so on. I have carried the complaints to the Government, and to Parliament, I have written pamphlets about these difficulties. I have also asked the Minister of Native Affairs to visit the places where the chiefs and people complain so that he can hear their cries himself. I hope he will do so soon.

I must say, however, that many chiefs and people do not realise that the old days are passing and that the African people cannot go forward if they try to live in the same ways as in the past. I am quite sure that a large part of the African people cannot in future have places in the Native areas ; they will live in the towns. Those Africans who remain in Native areas should take up better ways of looking after the cattle and the land. If they do not there will before long be no cattle worth looking after and the soil will have run away to the sea. Already rivers which used to have clear water with fish in them are now red with the soil that is being carried to the sea. What the Government says about this matter is true and chiefs and people should not shut their eyes and their ears to the truth. It is a pity that the Government has not tried more to get the help of chiefs, headmen and others to work with the Government in this matter. Many grievances could have been put right in this way.

I will now tell you the improvements I have been trying to get for the Native areas and Trust farms :—

1. Chiefs and their councils, and also local councils where they exist, should be fully consulted before any land is bought. They should also be consulted about the dividing up of the new land and those persons who are to be settled on the land. The Trust officials should work with and through the tribal authorities, and the Trust farms should form part of the Reserves to which they really belong.
2. Some part, if not the whole, of the rents collected should be used in the area where the money is collected. Chiefs' councils or local councils should have a say in the spending of the money.
3. The allotments should be larger, so that a man can bring up his family without having to go away to the towns to earn the money. There should be allotments for widows and for those men who return late in life to live for the rest of their days in their tribal home.
4. There is a shortage of milk in South Africa, and there is no doubt that the Native areas could supply more milk. Under present conditions the cows are drying up, and the oxen are thinner and smaller. It is impossible to improve the cattle until the water supplies and grazing are sufficient. Much more money must therefore be spent on boreholes and dams ; also grazing areas must be increased and fenced so that portions can be rested from time to time. The Trust has already begun good work of this kind. Unfortunately, there is too little co-operation between the Trust and the tribal authorities.
5. I have opposed the charges on wood and these have been reduced as a result of my efforts. I hold, however, that there should be no charge at all. Some of the revenue from rent on the Trust lands should be used to plant trees for cutting purposes as well as to protect the water springs and the soil. Wood should, however, not be cut carelessly, and I agree that permits should be required. It is, however, unreasonable to expect the people to travel long distances for these permits. Stocks of wood for different purposes could be placed under the charge of an African headman or other responsible person at convenient distances. This would save the labour of the women and would ensure that the wood is cut in the proper way and that only the right kind of wood is cut, and would provide some employment for men in their own areas.
6. I hold strongly that no European should be employed by the Trust who cannot treat the people properly or who will not respect the chiefs and headmen. I also consider that more Africans should be trained and employed for these responsible positions under the Trust. I have spoken clearly on these matters, and I believe the Government is willing to do what we ask.

7. I am hopeful that before long we shall have several agricultural schools in the Transvaal and Orange Free State, so that young Africans can learn to be good farmers themselves or to hold good positions under the Trust. In a few cases, I have helped young men to obtain bursaries to go to the Fort Cox Agricultural School in the Cape, but we should have one or more such schools in the north also.

8. The South African Native Trust and Land Act of 1936 provides for freehold tenure of land by Africans, and Africans can today buy land in released areas. The Trust will give loans to help individual Africans to buy or develop their farms, provided that the loan is not more than 60% of the value of the land. I am, however, very anxious that the Government should assist Africans in the way it helps European settlers on the land. I hope that, when the Government helps European soldiers after the war to go back to the land, it will also help Africans.

9. The Trust should be helped by Parliament, not only to buy land but also to help individual Africans to become progressive farmers. When hundreds of thousands of people in South Africa do not have enough milk, meat, vegetables and other food, there is every reason why the Native areas should be helped to grow more food.

10. The marketing of the produce of Native areas must, however, be organised so that what is grown and not required to feed the grower's family can be sold where it is needed. I am quite sure that a new system must be introduced which will bring the grower into closer contact with the buyer. This problem also troubles the European farmer, but there may be big changes in a few years. I look forward to seeing trained Africans running farmers' co-operatives in the Native areas for the marketing of the products and the financing of improvements.

11. The Native areas, with the Trust land, must be helped out of their present dead condition. The Government must be prepared to spend much more money in improving them. In the twenty-six years between 1910 and 1936 the Union Government only spent £750,000 altogether in helping Native agriculture. Money has been spent since 1936 and this year alone it is (through the South African Native Trust) spending £375,000 on the development of the veld, agriculture, stock, irrigation water supplies, etc., in Native areas and on Trust land. But this is still far too little. There is not enough money in the Trust to pay for the development of the Native areas. I shall continue to press for far greater help being given by Parliament so that **more land is obtained and the Native areas are made to flourish.**

Many more things need to be done in the Native areas. Later in this Report I will deal with Education. Here I will just say that the Native areas can only be saved if their people are educated so that they can learn better ways of living and looking after the land and the cattle. Farming requires more brains than most other ways of living and the Europeans in South Africa must also learn that this is true if they want to keep their people on the land. Health services are also necessary, and I will deal with these later in this Report. It is also necessary to give the people more interesting things to do. The men cannot hunt or fight any more, so it is important that they should be helped to use their leisure time in sensible ways.

For those Africans who wish to learn more about this land question the following articles by my wife and myself can be obtained from the Institute of Race Relations, P.O. Box 97, Johannesburg:—**South African Native Land Policy** by Edith B. Jones; **Interpretation of Trusteeship** by J. D. Rheinallt Jones and Edith B. Jones; **Senator Jones on Native Policy**, being portions of a speech by me in the Senate, 1942.

I want to see the Native areas developed so that chiefs and people can live there as a **people**, respecting themselves and respected by the Government. I want to see the people educated, healthy and happy. Most of all I want to see chiefs and people filled with hope for the future and doing all they can to go forward in civilisation.

#### FARM WORKERS :

Before I was elected Senator there was no one who could listen to the grievances of the Africans who work on the farms, although I had done my

best to learn about their difficulties. Since my election in 1937 I have kept in touch with those men who were chosen to serve on Electoral Committees, and I have had a great many letters from them. I have visited those places which have called me. I have also taken every opportunity to meet farm labourers in different parts of the country.

When the Government appointed a Committee in 1937 to enquire into the complaints of farmers that they could not get Native labour and their request that the Government should bring Africans from other countries to work on the farms, I asked that the Government should tell the Committee to listen to the complaints of the African farm labourers also. The Government agreed. My wife and I visited most of the places to which the Committee went in the Transvaal and Orange Free State, and I did my best to help the workers to speak before the Committee. That was the first time that the grievances of the farm labourers had been heard.

The Committee reported to the Government. I did not agree with some of the things the Committee proposed, but I was glad to see that the Committee told the Government that : (1) no more laws against farm labourers are necessary ; (2) cash wages should be paid in all cases ; (3) farmers should improve the food and the housing of their workers : farmers who look after their workers are never short of workers ; (4) the Government should form Farm Labour Boards in every district to improve the conditions of the farm workers.

I also arranged for an investigation into farm labour conditions in the Orange Free State to be made under the auspices of the Institute of Race Relations, and the results have been printed in a pamphlet called **Native Farm Labour in the Orange Free State**. Copies of this Report can be obtained from the Institute of Race Relations.

I have been hammering on these matters in Parliament and outside. My wife and I have used every opportunity to bring forward the grievances of the farm labourers. We have succeeded in persuading some farmers to raise their wages, to improve the food and houses, to build schools and in other ways to help their workers. The Native Affairs Department has also been trying to persuade the Farmers' Associations to improve conditions and to help in forming the Boards. I want to see members of the Electoral Committees made members of these Boards.

I am glad to say that the Education Departments of the Transvaal and Orange Free State have been able to increase the number of schools on farms.

It is necessary to have night schools in connection with farm schools for those who cannot attend day school, and to have special schools to train young farm workers to use the land allowed them in the best possible way.

#### WAGES, HOURS OF WORK, ETC.

For many years I have worked to obtain higher wages for African workers. As far back as 1926, when I was honorary secretary of the Johannesburg Joint Council of Europeans and Africans, I tried to find out how much it cost African families to live in Johannesburg. I wrote a pamphlet called "**The Native in Industry**," in which I showed that not less than £6 10s. a month was necessary. This pamphlet was put before the Wage Board when it enquired into Native wages in Bloemfontein in 1927, and the Wage Board accepted my figures. The wages of labourers in Bloemfontein were then increased. Since then many others have studied the matter, but no one has said that my figures were too high. Your representatives have called the attention of Parliament and the Government and employers to the necessity for raising the wages of African workers, and it is now agreed that they must be raised. I have spoken for the workers before the Wage Board, at meetings of employers and at other places.

In the past five years, wages have been raised by the Wage Board and in other ways in the larger towns. In some cases the wages have been doubled. In many other cases they have been raised by more than one-half. Here are some facts.

Between 1937 and 1942, 75,000 African workers have had their wages increased by the Wage Board. In a few weeks' time the Wage Board will report on 55,000 more, and I expect that their wages will also be increased.

The average increase in wages in the five years is £1 9s. 3d. a month for those who were receiving less than the amounts laid down by the Wage Board. These increases mean that about £1,200,000 a year has been added to the income of the African workers as a whole.

In addition, other benefits have been given, e.g., two weeks' leave every year on full pay; two weeks' sick leave on full pay and payment for certain public holidays.

As a result of representations made by your representatives and others, the Wage Board has recently been enquiring into the wages of many more African workers. I hope that it will recommend increases.

There have been other important improvements. Last year a new Factories Act was passed by Parliament. It lays down that the ordinary working hours in factories shall not be more than 46 in a week, or 8 hours in a day, and every worker must have one hour's rest after every five hours' work. Over-time pay must be paid if a worker is made to work longer hours. The over-time pay must be one and one-third times ordinary pay. Sunday work is prohibited, except with the special permission of the Labour Inspector, and be paid for at twice the ordinary pay, or one and one-third the ordinary pay and a day's leave on full pay. Good Friday, Dingaan's Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day count as Sundays. Every worker must have two full weeks' leave on full pay in every year.

These conditions are being given in other occupations, and African workers are now having free evenings and week-ends as well as two weeks' leave on full pay once a year. These are important changes.

Unfortunately, they are not found in every occupation, and the workers in the smaller towns are still neglected. I have pleaded for them again and again in Parliament, on the Advisory Council of Labour and elsewhere.

Many improvements in the pay and working conditions of African workers on the Railways and Harbours have been secured: wages and over-time pay have been increased, rations greatly improved, railway travelling concessions increased, improved pension arrangements made and better housing. My colleagues and I have protested strongly against the low wages in Government service, and we interviewed the Prime Minister on this subject in April this year. We said that the Railways and other Government departments should be model employers, and the wages they pay should be at least as high as those laid down by the Wage Board in each area. We are still pressing this matter.

#### WAR COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCE :

Two years ago the Government recognised that the war has caused serious increases in the cost of living, and has paid a special cost of living allowance to its own employees and to African teachers. As a result of representations the Government compelled employers in certain towns to pay a similar allowance to their employees (except on the mines, on farms and in domestic service). This allowance increases as the prices of food and other goods increase. As a result of further representations, the Government on July 24th extended the order on employers to other towns (in the Transvaal: Potchefstroom, Pietersburg, Witbank, Volksrust; and in the Orange Free State: Kroonstad, Bethlehem, Harrismith). The workers in the small towns are still neglected, and I have again asked the Government to protect them in this matter.

#### MINERS' PHTHISIS COMPENSATION :

My colleagues and I have been active in trying to get improvements in the compensation paid to Africans who have worked on the mines and who suffer from miners' phthisis. As a result of our representations improvements were made in 1940 to allow of further compensation when sufferers are proved to have become worse in their condition. Again, in 1941, an improvement was made when the food and accommodation were included in the wages of the worker for estimating compensation.

I have spoken on this subject in the Senate several times, and last year the Minister of Mines promised me that he would have a full investigation made. He has since appointed a Commission which is going into the matter as regards all mine workers who suffer from miners' phthisis. I have spoken before this Commission on behalf of my colleagues and myself. We have asked for higher compensation, for pensions for those who cannot work any more, and also pensions for the widows and children, where the man has died. We have also asked for free medical treatment of sufferers. We hope the Commission will support us.

#### THE COLOUR BAR :

I have never stopped speaking and working against the Colour Bar. When the Mines and Works Bill (to prevent African workers doing skilled work where machinery is used) was before Parliament in 1926, I spent several weeks in Cape Town opposing the new law. I was not a member of the Parliament then, but I was able to arouse strong opposition in Parliament. Today, I am more than ever sure that the White people of South Africa are doing harm to themselves as well as to Non-Europeans by not allowing Non-Europeans to do skilled work. Recently a Commission (the Industrial and Agricultural Requirements Commission) has reported to the Government along the same lines. The Africans can never earn good wages unless they are allowed to use their brains. And South Africa cannot progress unless Africans can buy the food that is grown in the country and the things that are made in the country. I shall always work to get rid of the Colour Bar because I am sure that it is harming the best interests of the country. Fortunately there are signs that many more Europeans agree with this. Africans should read the Third Report of the Industrial and Agricultural Requirements Commission which I have just mentioned. As I write these words I see in the newspaper that the Labour Party has recommended that Non-Europeans be trained to do skilled work for the war.

#### INDUSTRIAL LAWS :

African workers have benefited from two important laws which were passed in 1941 — the Workmen's Compensation Act and the Factories Act. As a member of the Advisory Council of Labour I was able to press for improvements to be made in these laws before they were brought before Parliament. I have mentioned the Factories Act above. As regards Workmen's Compensation, workers who are injured while at work now receive much greater compensation, and if they are killed, their families also have more compensation. In some cases, the compensation will be double the amount it would have been under the previous law. There are other improvements. I have acted for the sufferers in several cases where they were not satisfied with the compensation awarded them.

#### TRADE UNIONS :

But in all these matters it is important that African workers should be able to speak for themselves and to act together. I am a strong believer in trade unions. In my pamphlet *The Native in Industry*, written in 1926, I appealed to the European workers to help the African workers by admitting them into their unions. They did not do so, and I have therefore supported the establishment of African trade unions. African workers should have their own unions and should help each other to get improvements in wages, working hours, etc. I hope that some day farm labourers will unite in this way, but it is not as easy for them as for those who work in the towns.

My colleagues and I have worked for some time to persuade the Government to alter the Industrial Conciliation Act so that unions of African workers may be recognised as unions of European, Coloured and Indian workers are. I am hopeful that this will be done soon.

#### PASS LAWS :

Your representatives in the Natives' Representative Council and in Parliament have cried a great deal against the Pass Laws, and it was a happy day for us when the Minister of Native Affairs (Colonel Deneys Reitz) condemned these laws in the Senate. The Government has taken the first step — it has told the

Police in several places that they must not ask for passes unless they see men doing something very wrong. If the police obey this order, a great deal of trouble will be saved.

The Government has also tried to get rid of "night passes", but the Municipalities do not agree with this.

The Government is also considering how it can get rid of the many passes that Africans have to carry, so that an African need only carry one Registration Certificate. In the meantime, I am doing all I can to help Africans to obtain Exemption Certificates.

**But I wish to see all pass laws abolished.** My colleagues in Parliament and I have asked the Prime Minister to do this. It will perhaps take several more steps to get rid of passes, but **I shall not rest until passes have been abolished altogether.**

## EDUCATION :

As I have said earlier in this Report (see Land) I am convinced that the only way to save the Native areas is to educate all the children so that they may learn quickly how to look after the land and the cattle. Today, the man who works on his own land must use his brains, and brains must be trained if a man wants to make the best use of them.

Education is necessary for every child, whether he is in a Reserve, on a farm or in a town. The man who cannot read or write is lost in the world today. He does not understand what is happening around him and he does not understand what is happening to himself.

I am glad to say that there are many more Europeans today who agree that Africans have a right to education for their children. The Government agrees with this, and is giving more money for education than ever before. In 1920, the total spent on Native Education was £340,000. In 1936 the amount was £684,232. In 1942-3 it will be £1,405,672. Today, therefore, the amount spent is more than twice the amount spent in 1936, and more than three times the amount spent in 1920.

The number of schools and the pupils in them in the Transvaal and Orange Free State have increased as follows :—

	<i>No. of Schools in 1936</i>	<i>No. of Pupils in 1936</i>	<i>No. of Schools in 1942</i>	<i>No. of Pupils in 1942</i>
Transvaal	696	87,417	875 (1941)	146,050 (1941)
Orange Free State	305	33,850	427	56,600

The number of African children in school in the Union altogether has also increased :—

1920 : 185,399 ; 1936 : 362,506 ; 1942 : about 500,000.

The number of secondary and high schools and the pupils in them has also increased in the Transvaal and Orange Free State :—

	<i>No. of Schools in 1936</i>	<i>No. of Pupils in 1936</i>	<i>No. of Schools in 1942</i>	<i>No. of Pupils in 1942</i>
Transvaal	4	536	17 (1941)	1,526 (1941)
Orange Free State	5	850	7	1,600

There are now, as a result, many more pupils who pass the Junior Certificate and the Matriculation Examinations.

As a result of representations, school fees were abolished in the primary schools last year.

I had hoped that by now teachers' salaries would have been put on a proper scale. As far back as 1923 I was active in this matter, and it has been a disappointment that every year the matter was put off. This year the Minister of Native Affairs supported our representations to the Minister of Finance for enough money to put teachers' salaries in order. We were not successful, but the following improvements have been made :—

- (a) Increase of 5s. a month in salary for every teacher with at least one year's service.
- (b) Cost of Living Allowance (not "war" cost of living allowance) of 30s. a month for married male teachers in the towns, and 15s. a month for unmarried teachers ; also £1 a month for married male teachers on farms and 10s. a month for unmarried teachers.
- (c) Good Service Allowance according to length of service after six years, rising to one-sixth of salary after 15 years.
- (d) War Cost of Living Allowance raised.

I very much hope that during the next year it will be possible to put the salaries on a proper footing with regular increases, so that teachers can know that, if they give good and continuous service, their salaries will rise and that they can bring up their families without anxiety. The figures I have given are encouraging, but they cannot satisfy anyone who cares for the welfare of the African people. We know that there are still about 1,000,000 children not in school. We know that more than half of those who go to school leave before Standard I. We know that many children have been turned away from school because there is no room for them. We know that there are many schools which receive no help from the Government. We know that buildings and equipment are often too poor for their purpose. We know that teachers are discontented because their pay is too low. What can be done about it ?

The first thing is to press for more money being given for Education.

Since 1925, Native education has been paid for by a grant of £340,000 from the general revenue of the country and by a portion of the £1 general tax, which every male African over 18 years of age must pay. At first, 4s. out of the £1 was given for education and other "development," such as the training of nurses. Every year since 1926 I have been concerned with appeals for more money for Native education. Although every year more money has been spent, it has never been enough. This year 16s. 8d. out of the £1 is handed over by the Government, but it is not enough, and the S.A. Native Trust has had to find £160,000 to meet urgent needs. Even if, next year, the Government hands over the whole of the £1, it will not be enough. This is because the only way to find enough money is for the Government to pay what it costs to educate each African child and to pay it from the same funds from which it pays for the education of European, Coloured and Indian children. Even if the Government gives this money, it will not be possible to have every child in school until there are enough schools, and enough trained teachers. Teachers cannot be trained under three years and school buildings even in peace time take time to build.

For these reasons I advocate a **Ten Years Plan**, to have enough money, enough schools and enough teachers, so that **every child is in school by the end of ten years**. It will be necessary to train more teachers for the new schools. **Free compulsory education can come when we have enough schools and enough teachers**. Therefore we must start at once to work on the **Ten Years Plan**. But we can begin with compulsory education in the towns and in those places where there are enough schools and teachers already.

The teachers' salaries must be put on a proper foundation without delay, as many men are going into other work, and young women can earn much more as nurses. Indeed women nurses earn more than most men teachers. The salaries of teachers should be good enough to get the best type of young men and women and to enable them to live in a way that will be an example to the community. Children in the country should be helped by means of bursaries to attend central primary and secondary schools. There should be loan bursaries to encourage young people to be trained as teachers. There should be greater advantages for those who obtain higher qualifications.

#### EMPLOYMENT FOR EDUCATED AFRICANS :

I am particularly anxious to see Africans who have passed the "J.C." being trained as agriculturists, health officers in rural and urban areas, and in any other occupations for which their education should qualify them. My wife and I have devoted a good deal of time to this matter in recent years, and we are gratified by the results of the efforts made. We were associated with the opening of the doors for medical and dental training at the University in Johannesburg, and with the Government's decision to provide five scholarships for Africans to

obtain this training. We have been trying hard to get established proper training for Health Officers for work in the urban Locations and in the Native areas. We are still hopeful of success. It is gratifying that there are now 1,000 young African women being trained as nurses, and over 400 are employed by municipalities. We have insisted on adequate salaries for them.

The Minister of Posts and Telegraphs has promised that Africans shall have charge of post offices in Native areas and in urban locations. A beginning has been made. But I shall not be satisfied until young men and women are trained for postal and telegraph work and **paid accordingly**.

I am glad, too, that the Minister of Native Affairs has opened 57 new posts in his Department to Africans. They are being filled as they fall vacant. There are many other posts which should be opened. Why should there not be before very long Africans as Native Commissioners? Similarly, in the Department of Justice there should be openings for educated Africans. Certainly, there must be a complete change in the standing and pay of Interpreters.

There should be many posts on the Railways which Africans could fill — stationmasters, foremen, etc. In the Congo last year I saw African engine drivers.

And so we must press for the abolition of the Colour Bar, until Africans are free in their own country to use their brains as well as their brawn.

### SOCIAL WELFARE :

(a) **Housing.** The wages which African workers have been earning have been too low to pay for decent houses, and, as a result, they have been living in houses that are unhealthy and too small for families. Fortunately, the Government and Municipalities have realised that if this were to continue, the people's health would be destroyed. During the past few years, Parliament has allowed the Government to lend money to Municipalities to build houses for those Europeans and Non-Europeans who cannot build their own homes or pay high rents. £17,000,000 has been put aside for loans to Municipalities under Sub-Economic housing schemes. The Government only charges 15s. interest per year on every £100 lent to Municipalities and, as the Government itself pays £3 5s. per year interest for the money it borrows, the Government therefore loses £2 10s. per year on the money lent under this scheme. The Government does this on condition that in fixing the rents for houses built with this money, the rents are so fixed that a loss is incurred of £1 5s. per year, for every £100 borrowed. In calculating the loss a number of expenses can be included which, however, are not always incurred — for example, an allowance is made for Bad Debts and Repairs which may in practice work out to less than the sum allowed. In some cases, therefore, the Municipalities as such have not incurred a loss at all.

Under the Urban Areas Act the Municipalities are obliged to keep a Native Revenue Account so as to separate the finances of locations and hostels from the ordinary finances of the Town. Many Municipalities have limited the development of the Locations to the funds of the Native Revenue Account and have not accepted the responsibility of the more well-to-do section of the Community towards the African people. I am glad to say that recently the Johannesburg Municipality agreed to make good from the Ratepayers' money the deficit in the Native Revenue Account and thus in that City the improvement of the Locations is being helped by the European community.

During this year there are loans promised to Municipalities in the Transvaal £2,145,574, and in the Orange Free State £53,000 for housing Africans.

Although the interest on these loans is so low, there are many Africans who find the rents too high. There are many who are so poor that even if they had to pay no rent they would still not have enough money to buy enough food and clothes for their families. The Government has recognised this and a new arrangement is now being made to help Municipalities to let the houses more cheaply to the very poor.

Many Africans prefer to be the owners of their own homes, and I have advocated Africans having loans to build their own homes.

The Government is lending the Pretoria Municipality £45,000 to build houses for sale to Africans. I hope this will be successful so that other Municipalities will do the same.



**Freehold.** When the Native (Urban Areas) Act was before Parliament in 1923, I advocated that Africans should be allowed to buy land in the towns, but Parliament would not agree. In 1937 (before my election as Senator) Parliament passed a law which made it more difficult for Africans to buy land in the towns. With others I have continued to ask for the right for Africans to buy land in the towns. I am glad to say that the Johannesburg and other municipalities on the Witwatersrand have agreed to this and Johannesburg Municipality has bought ground for this purpose. The next step is to find a way of helping Africans with loans to buy and build their own homes at a reasonable rate of interest, instead of their having to pay exorbitant interest and often losing all that they have paid.

I am also anxious to see municipalities building houses for the **Aged Poor**. The Government will lend municipalities money for this purpose and will only charge 1s. a year for every £100 borrowed. The Port Elizabeth Municipality has built very nice homes of this kind.

I have given a great deal of attention to the different kinds of houses, and I have been able to persuade some municipalities to consider better kinds, especially to recognise that every family should have at least three rooms and a kitchen. I believe, however, that it is better to let Africans build their own homes because they will improve them as time goes on. The most important thing is to see that the wages are enough to allow families to have houses large enough and good enough for family life and good health.

(b) **Health Services.** Your representatives have pressed hard for medical and nursing services in the towns and in the country. During the past five years new hospitals have been built, many more hospitals have been enlarged; many municipalities have introduced medical services and have employed African nurses. In rural areas there are now many more clinics. I have been able to help several hospitals to secure grants from various Government departments. The money spent on hospitals by the Provincial Administrations and by hospital boards is twice as much today as it was in 1936. Unfortunately, I cannot find the exact figures to show what has been spent in hospitals for Africans, but it is very much more than in 1936. The Union Government has also spent more money on health during the past five years than ever before. This year Parliament has voted over £1,000,000 to the Union Health Department. It is not possible to say how much of this is specially for Africans because I find that this Department does not discriminate much in such matters. It has been helping hospitals in Native areas and is starting its own "Health Units" to improve the health services in Native areas. The Department also pays one-third of the salaries of African nurses employed by local councils, child welfare societies, etc. This year the Department is spending £100,000 on a hospital for Africans suffering from tuberculosis.

The South African Native Trust is this year spending nearly £60,000 in helping hospitals for Africans, and in helping these hospitals to train African nurses.

A Government Committee has recently been investigating the training and employment of Africans in public health work. My wife and I have put forward proposals for properly organised medical and public health services in Native areas and in urban areas.

I also gave evidence with experienced doctors before the Transvaal Commission which has been considering how hospitals can be made free. I am hopeful that all hospitals will be free before very long, and that later there will be free medical services for everyone throughout the country. I cannot promise these things, but I shall continue to work for them, because the health of the African people is too important to the country to let it depend upon how much money a man has in his pocket.

(c) **Pensions.** I have devoted much time to the case of those Africans who are unable to care for themselves. I do not think it is right to expect the Poor to keep their blind, cripple, and otherwise unfit relations without help. I have therefore been anxious to relieve the Poor of this burden.

**Blind.** I began with the Blind. For many years a Society for the Care of the Blind in Cape Town has done excellent work, and it started the Athlone School for the Non-European Blind. A few African children from the Transvaal and the Orange Free State have been educated there and trained to work for

their living. There was no such place in the north and no society to help. After many difficulties I started the Transvaal Society for the Care of the Blind, and this Society has continued independently and has done good work. It was fortunate in persuading the Rev. and Mrs. A. W. Blaxall to come up north from the Athlone School and they have been able to develop the Ezenzelini Blind Institute at Roodepoort, Witwatersrand, where blind African men and women are being trained to earn their living. I hope that before long it will be possible to have a school to which the blind children of the Transvaal and Orange Free State can come for education and training.

Another important development has been that blind Africans receive a pension of 10s. a month. This year Parliament has given £144,000 for this. But I hope that the pension will be increased.

I have, however, felt all along that the most important thing is to prevent blindness, as in most cases, blindness comes on after birth. I have therefore advocated free treatment, and the Union Health Department is now giving a grant to a hospital in the Northern Transvaal where an eye specialist visits the Reserves and treats the people who have eye trouble. Unfortunately, the war has taken many doctors away, and it is difficult to find doctors to do this work.

**Cripples.** As a member of the Executive Committee of the National Council for the Care of Cripples, I have been active with schemes for the treatment and care of cripples, and I am at present a member of a special committee that is trying to get a hospital started in the Transvaal for the treatment of cripples. This is being made possible by a gift of £10,000 from the Lord Nuffield Trustees. I hope that later there will be a hospital of the same kind in the Orange Free State and in the Northern Transvaal, and that in a few years we can say that every cripple child is cared for, educated and trained to earn his own living.

(d) **Aged Poor.** There are now many more old African men and women who are destitute and have no one to care for them. I have pleaded that they should have old age pensions, and I am hopeful that we shall win pensions for them.

(e) **Child Welfare.** A Native's children are his treasure, but the terrible toll which Death takes of African children makes one fear for the future of the African nations. Of course, better wages, better housing, better food, better medical and nursing help are necessary to get rid of this death roll. But also the mothers need to be helped to bring up their children. Therefore, I have for many years done my best to encourage the establishment of child welfare societies. As a member of the Executive Committee of the National Council for Child Welfare and Chairman of its Committee for developing Child Welfare work amongst Africans and other Non-Europeans, I have done my best to improve the prospects of African children to grow up to manhood.

After strong representations in which I took an active part, African children in the towns who have no father to support them may be helped by maintenance grants under the Children's Act.

#### **AFRICANS IN THE ARMY :**

Ever since the Government began to recruit Africans for the war, my colleagues in Parliament and I have done our best to look after the welfare of the African soldiers and their families. At one stage we succeeded in preventing the soldiers' pay being reduced, and we were also able to have improvements made in the food and in other conditions. A considerable number of soldiers have come to me for help, and I have done my best to deal with their difficulties.

Your representatives worked hard to protect African soldiers in respect of war pensions for disabled soldiers. For the first time African soldiers have been included in the War Pensions Act like other soldiers. I am still busy, however, trying to get improvements made in the law when Parliament meets again.

One of my colleagues (Mrs. Ballinger) is serving on a special Committee of the Governor-General's Fund to look after the families of African soldiers.

I am also active as a member of the S.A. Gifts and Comforts Committee which sends gifts to African soldiers like other soldiers, and am Vice-Chairman of the Y.M.C.A. War Work Committee which looks after the soldiers in the camps.

In every way possible my colleagues and I are doing what we can for our African soldiers and their dependants. I am giving special attention at the present time to the employment of African soldiers on discharge from the Army, especially those who have received training in skilled work.

We have done our best to persuade the Government to let Africans defend their country as ordinary soldiers, and my speech on this subject in the Senate a few months ago started a big debate on the subject.

#### **TRADING :**

I have continued to work for Africans to be allowed to trade in the urban areas of the Orange Free State. My speech on the subject in the Senate was followed by a debate in which it was clear that the case for the Africans is a strong one. I have interviewed important bodies on the subject and have travelled to the Orange Free State two or three times for that purpose. Three Ministers of Native Affairs have tried in turn to persuade the municipalities to agree, but so far all efforts have failed. I shall continue my efforts.

The Native Affairs Department has given the assurances that Africans will in future be given preference for the hiring of trading sites in Reserves, and on Trust land, provided they can satisfy the Department as to the capital they have and the other requirements of the regulations. Africans who have experience of trading should increasingly be able to enter this field and make a good living. I have confidence that in a few years Africans will hold their own in trading.

#### **POLITICAL REPRESENTATION OF AFRICANS :**

Although I opposed the abolition of the " Cape Native Franchise " and took an active part in opposing the Representation of Natives Bill when it was before Parliament, I have done my best to make this new kind of political representation effective. Opinions may differ about the results, but I can say that never in the history of South Africa have the grievances, the needs and the aspirations of the Africans been kept before the attention of Parliament so regularly and so strongly. Parliament cannot now forget the African people even if it fails to do them justice. I have regarded myself as a Trustee to safeguard the future right of the African people to have a full share in the Government of the country, and to be represented without being restricted in their choice of representatives to Europeans.

Whilst serving you to the best of my abilities in Parliament, I have been eager to secure that you are properly represented in other directions.

#### **LOCATION ADVISORY BOARDS :**

In several places I have found no advisory boards in existence, but in most such cases, with the help of the Native Affairs Department, I have been able to secure the establishment of boards. A considerable number of letters I have received have been from Advisory Boards and I have dealt with their complaints, in many cases, visiting the towns to see the situation for myself. In a few instances I have arranged for a special inspection by an official of the Native Affairs Department and improvements have followed. I have also succeeded in several cases in securing that Advisory Boards shall have the Native Revenue Account and the Estimates placed before them.

I have always advocated that Advisory Boards should affiliate with the Congress of Advisory Boards, and in several cases, I have persuaded municipalities to agree. I have myself attended the meetings of the Congress whenever possible. I should like to see the Congress represented officially as the " Bhunga " of the urban areas, and its recommendations sent up to the Natives' Representative Council.

#### **REPRESENTATION ON MUNICIPAL COUNCILS :**

As Convenor of two Conferences of Joint Councils of Europeans and Africans held in Queenstown and Port Elizabeth in 1940, I proposed the following resolution which was adopted unanimously :—

“ That, having regard to the fact that the African people are now directly represented in Parliament and in the Cape Provincial Council by members elected by themselves, this Conference considers that the time has come for extending to the African population in locations, villages, and other areas recognized as areas where Africans reside in urban areas, direct representation on municipal councils, by one or more persons duly elected by them.”

This has been taken up by the Natives' Representative Council and the Department of Native Affairs has referred it to the Municipal Associations. Despite the unfavourable response of these Associations, I feel now that this form of representation will be introduced in a few years. I shall continue to work for it.

#### NATIVES' REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL :

In my efforts in Parliament and elsewhere, I have been concerned to have the resolutions of the Natives' Representative Council translated into action. The resolutions of the Council for the five years, 1937-1941 provide a policy and form a programme of action. I therefore regard the Council as performing a very important service for the African nation and its representatives in Parliament. There are, however, improvements which should be made in the status and functions of the Council. The membership of the Council should also be increased. I spoke of these matters in the Senate last year when I opened an important debate on the Council and its work. I then made several suggestions and some of these have been adopted by the Government. I shall continue to press for improvements and for the Council to have executive powers and to be more closely identified with the administration of Native Affairs.

#### POSITION OF CHIEFS :

The present position of chiefs is most unsatisfactory and it is not one that maintains the dignity of the African nation. Chiefs should be given more administrative work to do and should have a more assured income. Their present stipends are out-of-date. There should be a full enquiry, in which Africans should take part, to give the Chiefs and Leaders a more dignified and more useful position in the life of the nation.

#### THE AFRICANS AS PEOPLE :

A very important part of my work as Senator has been my efforts to make the European public, and also those in authority, realise that the African people expect to be treated with dignity and respect, that our African is a man who has his own self-respect to maintain and that the Africans are a “ People.” I have therefore protested against all forms of treatment that injure the African's self-respect, such as police raids, especially upon families already in bed ; neglect and ill-treatment in trains ; the absence of postal facilities and of proper arrangements for the delivery of letters ; I have never ceased to protest against all such forms of dis-respect. In so many cases, they occur because Europeans do not understand how they hurt the feelings. I hope and believe that my efforts to make them appreciate how Africans feel are having fruit. In the Railway Administration and in the Post Office many improvements have already taken place, and I shall continue to press these matters wherever I think it necessary.

. . . . .

There are many other things to report, but I have already written a long letter. I hope that what I have said has encouraged you to hope for the future and to work with me for the advancement of the African people.

I shall go on serving the African people as long as I am needed and have the health to do so ; because by doing so I am not only helping the African people to advance, but, I believe, I am also helping to make South Africa a happier and better place for all the race which live in it.

I am, therefore, at your service as Senator if you wish me to continue. I shall not become tired tomorrow !

Yours very truly,

J. D. RHEINALLT JONES.

P.O. Box 97,  
Johannesburg.  
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