

Findings and Recommendations arising out of two Lectures given by Miss M. Janisch, M.A., and Dr. A. B. Xuma.

Miss M. Janisch speaking on the position of the urban native families in the four municipal townships instanced, with special reference to Orlando, the adverse economic status whose main effects were :-

1. Perpetual debt often incurred by hire purchase agreements (only method of buying.)
2. Women folk obliged to work with consequent neglect of children both from disciplinary and nutritional points of view.
3. Boarders or relatives in homes, - often unregistered, - which led to overcrowding and less food per head.
4. Skokiaan brewing to provide easy money.
5. Lack of sufficient and nourishing food, resulting in general bad health and high infantile mortality.

Statistics revealed the following appalling fact :-

Average amount spent per month on food in a family of five is £2 14s. -. YET the estimated cost of minimum diet to maintain health is £4 8s. -.

The speaker suggested the following courses of action that are open to an awakened conscience which realises the responsibilities of trusteeship:-

1. Backing by word and deed the recommendations for an increased wage. Evidence showed that a family of five in town needed a minimum income of £6 10s. per month to maintain health, if the mother was to live at home.
2. Recognition and acceptance of inevitable increase in rates and taxes.
3. Further extension of health clinics and hospitalisation.
4. General improvement in housing must continue.
5. Attention to housing and economic status of domestic servants.
6. Compulsory free education with provision for a vocational bias in urban areas, to replace the lost discipline of the tribe.
7. Field of employment to be found for trained youths.
8. Adequate provision to be made for the leisure time of natives.
9. Further establishment of Native Maternity Hospitals.
10. Market centres to be established to co-operate with producing areas to eliminate destruction of foodstuffs and to provide contact between native producers and native consumers.

X-X

Dr. A. B. Xuma in his discussion on 'Factors in Native Crime' criticised the following popular fallacies :-

- (a) Vagrant Natives should be evacuated from urban areas !  
To where shall the vagrant natives be evacuated ?  
What are the factors contributing to vagrancy ?
- (b) That the existence of crime was due to the Native !  
Even were the Native removed, crime would still persist, since Police reports prove many criminal gangs to be inter - racial.  
No saboteurs were to be found amongst the Natives.  
Statistics showed the Native to be more an apparent than a real criminal in that a large percentage of native arrests and convictions is for statutory offences such as Pass Laws, Native Taxation, Masters and Servants Act, and not for crimes.

The speaker enumerated the following factors in Native Crime :-

- (1) Hunger for land in rural and urban areas, - land not even available for new families in the Native territories, hence townward march.
- (2) Inability to pay their way and consequent questionable supplementing of income. (3) Restrictions in the field of employment.
- (4) Lack of compulsory education and school accommodation.
- (5) Monopoly of Native Liquor Trade by Municipalities to the exclusion of homebrew and licensed canteens by Africans. Drunkenness and manufacture of concoctions increase because of artificial restrictions.
- (6) Lack of Communal Centres for leisure time. (7) Absence of Parental Control due to parents having to seek employment to supplement husband's low wage.

- The following recommendations were made :-
- (1) Adequate provision of land for Native settlement through purchase, lease or rent. (2) Increase of wages to permit of living above the bread line.
  - (3) Open more avenues to absorb native labour. (4) Confine labour reserves to Natives within the Union. (5) Recognition and registration of African Trade Union and Industrial Act. (6) Abolition of Pass Laws

(The above statements and recommendations are for your information and sympathetic consideration with a view to further discussion and action.)

We believe that the  
function of commissions  
is or should be the  
collection <sup>of all available</sup> evidence  
in every way possible  
and <sup>an</sup> objective study  
of the facts from  
which reasonable,  
practical and  
unbiased recommenda-  
tions are to be made  
in a report for the  
guidance ~~of the authority~~  
stimulation to proper  
action of the authority  
which appointed the  
members of the  
Commission.

We venture boldly  
to make recommenda-  
tions which we know would

tend to upset tradition  
in certain directions  
in the hope that they  
will stimulate thinking  
discussion and planning  
and call for adjustments  
of thought and outlook.

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## Anti Liquor Law

It is important to  
note that most murders,  
and other acts of  
violence among the  
Africans are commit-  
ted by <sup>ignorant</sup> ~~illiterate~~  
illiterate Africans  
who are breaking up  
Robberies and thefts  
are criminal acts.

**Collection Number: AD843**

**XUMA, A.B., Papers**

***PUBLISHER:***

*Publisher:-* **Historical Papers Research Archive**

*Location:-* **Johannesburg**

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