

No person may erect or cause alteration to any building without this prior sanction. We give examples below of two residents who have recently followed this procedure, viz:

- (a) A. Ngxizele, 60 Wood Street, Fingo Village.
- (b) John Masoma, 52 "G" Street, " " "

Under these circumstances it will be obvious, therefore, that if we have erected "shanties" in our yards it can only mean one or both of two things:

- (1) That such shanties have been put up with the knowledge and sanction of the Municipal authorities.
- (2) That the Municipal authorities have been extremely slack in enforcing their own regulations in this respect.

This, surely, cannot with justice be levelled as an argument against our ownership of property in the Fingo Village.

Powers of M.O.H. and Operation of the Slums Act in Fingo Village.

The Medical Officer of Health of Grahamstown has the power under this act to condemn any dwelling in the Fingo Village. This power he has, in fact, exercised on several occasions. We give two examples of buildings recently so condemned:

- (1) Certain premises at 46 "G" Street, Fingo Location.
- (2) Certain premises at 66 "G" Street, " "

If, therefore, for some reason or another these powers are not fully exercised and undesirable premises are not removed from our midst the fault, in our opinion, is most certainly not in the fact of our ownership of property but on those who allow such conditions to exist when they have the necessary powers to act.

We understand that one of the reasons for this apparent reluctance to use these powers more effectively is the fact that provision must be made for people ejected from condemned premises. This is as it should be, and we believe this to be one of the aims of the Government in making such generous offers to provide money to municipalities for sub-economic housing schemes.

Some municipalities (e.g. Port Elizabeth) have taken full advantage of this to the benefit of all concerned. The Grahamstown City Council has apparently not done so for the Town Clerk in the Appendix to his Memorandum (para 14) states: "You may wonder why my Council has not made better progress with its housing schemes" and goes on to state that the reason is to be found in the very limited income of his Council and that it has had to embark on several large schemes for the benefit of the schools and colleges upon whose welfare the city greatly depends.

In spite of the rates we pay directly and other moneys paid indirectly we Natives of Grahamstown have, as always, to suffer neglect.

We wish to state emphatically that we owe to this callous neglect the conditions now complained of by this Council, as is shewn by the following facts:

Rates and Municipal Services.

The rates we pay in the Fingo Village are at the same rate as those paid in Town properties. These amount annually to £632. 3s. (para II, Town Clerk's Appendix to Memorandum).

In return for these we receive the following services:

(1) Water.

"An unlimited supply of filtered water" (Town Clerk's Memo. para 26). There are only 12 (twelve) taps in the whole Fingo Village with its population of 3,652 souls from which to draw this "unlimited supply."

(2) Lights.

Street lamps number 18 (eighteen) in all for the entire Village. 10 of these are in two streets only ("F" and "G") and the balance of 8 distributed over the whole wide area of the Village.

(3) Refuse Removals.

Large petrol drums (approx. 1 to every 2 or 3 erven) are placed at intervals in the streets "conveniently" opposite our front doors for the deposit of all refuse. Each street has a collection "regularly" ONCE a week.

(4) Roads.

Only 3 roads can with some justification be so called in this Village, viz: (i) Wood Street, (ii) Durban Road, (iii) Raglan Road, and possibly Victoria Road. The rest are not roads in any sense of the term.

These then constitute all the services that we can think of and that the Town Clerk mentions in his Memorandum. Is it to be wondered at that so-called "agitators" and in fact all of us ask what we are paying rates for?

Causes of Overcrowding, Unemployment, etc.Overcrowding.

Assuming that overcrowding does exist at the Fingo Village even though the "density" figure given does not convey the correct extent of it, we give the following causes for it.

1). The lack of suitable and adequate accommodation available under the Municipal Location Schemes.

These schemes are three in number and all three almost equally unpopular.

Scheme 1. Here ervs, owned by the Municipality, are leased at a rental of 36s. per annum. The lessee puts up his own house. There is here the constant factor of insecurity of tenure with the results already mentioned (para. 3) as existing at "Tantyi" where lessees quite naturally put up the cheapest type of structure possible.

Scheme 2. in which the Municipality has built two-roomed houses to lease out at a rental of 4s. per week. These houses are extremely small, badly ventilated and do not in any way conform to any decent standard. There is only one door leading to the outside, one window to each room, all on the same side of the building. We understand these were so built for the convenience of Police raids when it would be impossible to dispose of any illicit liquor except by the one front door. However, the inconvenience suffered by those who have to live in them can be imagined.

Scheme 3. This consists of 50 new houses built within the last year or two. They have three rooms, with, here again, one door leading to the outside. There are no doors to all the inside rooms. Two adjacent rooms (presumably bedrooms) have a partial partition. There is thus no privacy possible in any one room. All the floors are of cement. The rental here is 17/4 per month. Many find this quite beyond their means as the average scale of wages paid in Grahamstown is low.

Added to all these inconveniences there is always the natural feeling of insecurity. Any occupant of these may be raided or ejected at any time. The natural tendency is for people to seek for more suitable accommodation thus creating the demand for lodgings elsewhere.

We suggest that if the Municipality managed its own locations with more consideration for the welfare and comforts of its Native wards we should not have owners of erven in the Fingo Village making a living by hiring out shanties erected in their yards.

Unemployment.

This is a national problem. But we feel that there are conditions peculiar to Grahamstown which merit mention here. Grahamstown is a comparatively small city with no industries and surrounded by farms and Native Reserves.

On the Farms.

It is now a recognised fact that farm labour is unpopular because (1) of the low scale of wages paid, (b) of the lack of suitable home conditions, (c) of the lack of educational facilities for the children of employees, (d) of the varied seasonal requirements of labour, i.e. more labour required at one season than at another and vice versa. All these tend to cause the "drift to town" in search of more suitable employment.

In the Reserves.

More poverty exists in these than is usually realised. As a rule the more virile young man is sent off to the Mines there to earn £2 to £3 per month to maintain the whole family. This soon proves to be inadequate to meet even the barest necessities of life. One or two other members of the family then begin to drift to the nearest town to try and make up for the deficiency and so the vicious cycle continues.

Until these matters can be talked nationally and boldly we fear we shall always have with us the difficulty of this influx into the towns. Measures taken to stop this influx at the towns rather than at the source can only be palliatives and unsatisfactory ones at that, as endeavours will be made to break through any artificial fence of regulations or laws.

The improving of conditions on farms, the creation of local industries in the reserves, and an intensification of the Government's most commendable schemes for the improvement of Native agriculture in reserves would appear to us to be steps in the right direction for solving this problem, not only for Grahamstown but for the country as a whole.

Proposals for Solution of Fingo Village Question.

We wish here to reaffirm our assertion to the Commission that we are as desirous as any one else to remove all conditions which are not conducive to our welfare or to that of the community as a whole and would offer our fullest cooperation on the understanding that our pledged rights of ownership shall always be fully respected.

We fully believe that many of the difficulties complained of can be satisfactorily remedied with the mutual cooperation between ourselves, the Municipality and the Native Affairs Department, and beg to offer the following suggestions towards that end:

- (1) That the right of ownership given to us in perpetuity for some services rendered to the Crown in its time of need be not disturbed.
- (2) That the Native Affairs Department appoint an "Advisor" who shall exercise official control over the Fingo Village and that he shall in this be assisted by a Village Board elected by the residents of the Village.
- (3) That this Board cooperate to the fullest extent with the Municipality of Grahamstown and act in an advisory capacity in all matters appertaining to the welfare of its wards.
- (4) That the Government of the South African Native Trust assist this Village by some grant on lines similar to the Sub-economic Housing Scheme, and in this way eliminate all slum conditions.

It may here be mentioned that several owners of erven in the Village have even now built substantial dwellings with the meagre means at their disposal. This in most cases has been effected through Building Societies. A wider application of this should not be impossible especially if the rates of interest were in any way similar to those generously offered by the Government to Local Authorities eager to blot out slum conditions.

We feel that such a scheme as this would form the basis of an experiment well worth trying and would most certainly remove the difficulties complained of. The Native Affairs Commission, no doubt, is aware of the constant agitation amongst the Native population as a whole (both urban and rural) for this right of ownership which we all most concernedly feel is being gradually denied us from many quarters. Still further to take away what little we now own would always remain a potent cause for constant dissatisfaction both now and for future generations.

FROM

SENATOR EDGAR H. BROOKES.

ABX. 411018a

RAILWAY STATION.
AMANZIMTOTI (8 MILES)

"EMSEBENI."

P.O. ADAMS MISSION STATION,
NATAL.

TELEPHONE:

ADAMS MISSION STATION, No 1.

18th October 1941.

EHB/GR.

Dr. A. B. Xuma,
104 End Street,
JOHANNESBURG.
Transvaal.

Social Welfare - General

Dear Dr. Xuma,

I am sorry to find that I have never answered your letter of 18th September, enclosing your evidence laid before the Native Affairs Commissioner in connection with the Beer enquiry.

I am grateful to have had this evidence before me. I think that the Native Affairs Commission will produce a very useful report.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

Edgar Brookes

MADE IN GREAT BRITAIN

ABX. 4110186
18/10/41

New Compliments from F. E. T. Krause

MEMORANDUM SUBMITTED TO THE INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE OF
ENQUIRY CONCERNING THE ECONOMIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS
OF AFRICANS IN URBAN AREAS

by
THE HON. F. E. T. KRAUSE.

In this memorandum I desire to make some personal observations which may be of assistance to the Committee. As a member of the Native Welfare Committee of the Rotary Club, Pretoria, I wish to associate myself with its suggestions, as also with the memorandum prepared by Mrs. E.M. Binyon, Secretary of the Pretoria District Non-European Health Service Association, of which I have the honour to be the President.

ECONOMIC: It is to be regretted, that the Committee is precluded from enquiring into the question of wages, because it goes without saying, that low wages are at the root of the disastrous social conditions of the Native. The reasons why the Native, as compared with the European, is compelled to accept and is paid a lower remuneration for equal services are self-evident, and one can only hope, that a Government, not dependent on the manipulated votes of sectional interests, will be found, which will have the courage, for the benefit of the community as a whole, to face the situation and do justice to the Native. Glancing at the questionnaire prepared by the Committee, one is, unfortunately, driven to the conclusion, that the native problem is being approached from an angle, which, although the recommendations, if and when carried out, may be of some benefit to the Native, can only result in a series of palliative measures - the festering sore will be treated and temporarily covered up, but the cause of the mischief will remain.

Europeans in South Africa must realise, that, without the labour of the Native, our whole economic system would collapse - and that, in these circumstances, it is a suicidal policy not to allow the Native to develop economically and educationally to the fullest extent on his own lines. No one in his sane senses desires, in present conditions, social equality of Europeans and Natives in South Africa - but, what should be conceded is an equal opportunity to our Native population to take its just place in the economic structure of the community. The old republican law of 1885, I have always considered to be the Magna Charta of the Natives. The principles therein laid down are sound and just. The only restriction therein placed on the development and advancement of the Native was, that he should progress in his own way along the lines of civilized standards.

Race prejudice, colour-bar restrictions and other selfish measures were unknown in those days. One feels, that the Native Affairs Department, now that segregation is the declared policy of the Union, will have ample opportunity of applying those principles in the rural and reserved areas of the country. And let me say this, that I am satisfied, from personal experience, that our present Secretary for Native Affairs and his trained staff, afford every guarantee, that the rural native will have and is having fair and sympathetic treatment.

HEALTH IN NATIVE TOWNSHIPS AND LOCATIONS: Dr. Allen, in a recent address, stressed the fact that preventive measures in Health Administration are far more important than actual remedial measures. I think, that concerning the health conditions in rural as well as urban areas (excluding municipal control) the greatest co-operation should exist between the Public Health and Native Affairs Departments,- in other words there should be no watertight compartments created, or tolerated. The health of the native is so intimately bound up with the health of the European, that a single and comprehensive policy and line of attack should be evolved. There should be no parsimonious stinting of expenditure to make this service a success. The continued existence of our greatest economic asset would be jeopardised if we should resort to the customary subterfuges of Government Departments by trotting out the excuse (not justification) that there is no money available. Nowadays, with war expenditure soaring on the plea that the existence of the country is at stake, these excuses must be regarded as dishonest subterfuges. The detailed measures to ensure the health of the natives can be safely left to those who are trained to deal with the matter. One can only suggest that free hospitals, including maternity wards, are urgently needed; that full-time medical officers and district and other nurses should be appointed; that free medicines should be provided; that medical inspection of school children should be insisted upon; that dental clinics should be established; that malnutrition, especially of young children should be coped with; and generally that wholesome water supplies and sanitation should be undertaken in all Native Townships. These are a few suggestions. In areas controlled by municipalities much is being done and in the larger cities there is an encouraging awakening of the necessity of these services, whereby the European population is both directly and indirectly benefitted.

In my view, all native "locations" should be termed native "townships" or "villages". The problem of ADMINISTRATION OF URBAN TOWNSHIPS outside municipal boundaries is a difficult one. Personally I favour control by the Native Affairs Department of all such townships as are too far removed from municipalities and if the facilities and staff are at present not available, then there should be no difficulty, with a little effort and goodwill, to provide these. Where the townships or villages are within a reasonable radius of a well-established municipality, the control could be placed in the hands of such municipalities, for the simple reason that the natives therein resident would usually be the employees of the European population. Natives should, however, be allowed to obtain freehold title of their holdings even in municipal locations - in the title, such conditions could be inserted as would safeguard the interests of the Council. SUB-ECONOMIC HOUSING SCHEMES for natives should be started and the present rents should be considerably reduced in all municipally controlled townships. If this were done, there would, in effect, be no financial loss, because the enormous gains in other respects to the European population would materially outweigh the apparent money loss. It must be remembered, that the natives contribute indirectly, through their cheap labour, huge sums towards the expenses of the Government of the cities and that the savings effected by the European population in this respect are enormous.

The questions of NATIVE BEER HALLS and generally of domestic brewing of kaffir beer have been fully dealt with by others, and I am only concerned with the scandalous manner in which the profits have been utilised by Municipalities. The statement handed in to the Committee by Dr. Xuma will furnish chapter and verse in this respect. I am satisfied that to leave the allocation of these profits to the uncontrolled discretion of municipalities would be disastrous. They cannot be trusted - a euphemistic account called the Native Revenue account, has been created and, under the cloak of this account, the profits have been diverted to the relief of rates. I would suggest, that these profits be handed over to a Board consisting of a municipal nominee and a nominee each of the Native Affairs and Public Health Departments. The administration accounts should be carefully scrutinised, all capital expenditure should be eliminated (interest and redemption charges could /

could be charged) and the excessive salaries now paid to European employees checked.

When the monopoly was granted to the municipalities, it was definitely undertaken, that all profits would be used solely for the benefit of the natives in respect of those services and amenities which were not a legitimate charge on the rates. The municipalities have violated their trust and used the money for their own purposes for relief of rates. This should be stopped.

The price at which beer is sold, now showing a profit of 100% and more, should be reduced by at least 50%.

A matter seriously affecting the economic welfare of the native is the perpetuation of the iniquitous pass-law system, resulting in thousands of natives being sent to prison every year for contravention of some technical regulation. I would invite the members of the Committee to pay a visit to the pass offices in Pretoria or Johannesburg and attempt to calculate the number of working hours per month which are economically lost to the community by the hundreds of natives, standing in queues and waiting to obtain their passes. Europeans suffer in a similar way, and I have had, personally, to wait an hour or more to be attended to.

One knows that financial considerations are given as the only reasons why this system is not abolished. However, compared with our present war expenditure, the amount is a mere bagatelle, and, what is more, no government has the right to perpetuate a system which is an iniquity and a scandal to European civilization. One wonders whether at last Justice to the native in this respect will be done. Let us hope so!

There is one other matter which affects the native economically very seriously and that is, the system of fines imposed by magistrates for the contravention of any one of the numerous regulations and bye-laws which are specially applicable to natives. Could representations not be made to the Department of Justice whereby standing instructions could be given to public prosecutors (especially the police) not to press for or suggest excessive fines and to urge that time be given to the native to find the money-fine, instead of being sent to prison? A fine of even 10/- is preposterous when one considers the low-earning capacity of the native!

The /

The question of HOUSING OF NATIVES IN URBAN AREAS has been sadly neglected. In the early days, the houses which Europeans built (just go and look at Doornfontein, Johannesburg) neglected to make any provision at all for their native domestics - and as there were no locations in existence at that time - the domestic native slept in the coal shed, stable or kitchen. This state of affairs has unfortunately continued. I would strongly urge firstly, that no person be allowed to keep a native domestic at night on his premises unless he has provided proper accommodation for him to the satisfaction of the Health Inspector; secondly, that the Municipality pass a building by-law whereby no building plan will be passed unless such accommodation is provided, where there is an intention to keep domestics on the premises, and, if there is no such present intention, then it should be made an offence for the owner or occupier of such house to allow a domestic to sleep on the premises where no accommodation was originally provided for.

The question of TRANSPORT TO AND FROM NATIVE TOWNSHIPS has become a serious economic problem, especially for the native. The municipalities compel the natives, by law, to live in their locations - and there can be no doubt, that many advantages have accrued to the natives in this respect. There has, however, been no material increase in native wages to enable the native to finance his already sub-economic standard of living and he is consequently obliged to pay out of his meagre earnings his own expenses of transport. It is a sad commentary on our European conception of what is right and what is wrong, that thousands of pounds are yearly paid out of the rates by municipalities to finance the losses incurred in connection with the transport of Europeans, and that, when it comes to assisting the native to reach the home which he is compelled to reside in, either no financial assistance is accorded, or, grudgingly, a mere trifle is voted as a subsidy. In my opinion, it is the duty of the municipality, where it compels natives to reside in locations, to provide free transport to all such natives as are employed within the municipal area, whether on monthly, weekly or daily contracts. It should not be a question of subsidy - the duty should be the natural result of the power of legal compulsion exercised. The European should not be allowed to have it both ways. The native is compelled to live outside the European area /

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area, principally for the benefit of the European, and, consequently, it is only fair and just, that the European should pay for the benefits he thereby reaps.

F.E.T. KRAUSE.

PRETORIA, 14th October, 1941.

P. O. Box 1363.

ABX. 411022a

A.N.C.
(Cape Western)

22nd October, 1941.

Mr. Stephen Oliphant,
168, Loop Street,
Cape Town.

Dear Mr. Oliphant,

I asked Mr. Baloyi about the tickets you mentioned in your letters to me. He informs me that he has never received any application for tickets from the Western Province.

I would suggest that an application be made by the Western Province under usual conditions.

I am sending Mr. Baloyi a copy of this letter.

Yours sincerely,

PRESIDENT-GENERAL
AFRICAN NATIONAL
CONGRESS.

ABX/pd.

intended to have these bound
in one - hence the covers have been
removed. They have now become dirty

I am sending
you these ³ volumes & the
Joint sitting &
the Select Com-
mittee on the
Native Bills
on loan.

You have perhaps
read them.

I specially want you
to read Heaton Nicholls;
Col. Stallard's views
for the Bills

- and
- ① Senator F. S. Mahan.
 - ② Mr Stullayor (Minister
without Portfolio)
 - ③ Coulter and ④

Alexander
against the Bills
i.e. they stood for us p. 1.0

The rest of the
books I am giving
giving them to you.
Official statements
in the verbatim reports
of the N. R. Council
contain valuable
information.

R. S. M.
22/1/41

Part I
Pages 1 - 18

Preface.

I have always regarded what is commonly known as the Native Problem or Native Question, as the Race Problem of South Africa. Its scope being to adjust race relations as between the Africans on the one hand, and the Europeans and non-European section, such as the Asiatics and Coloureds, on the other.

From the outset it should be stated that it is significant that those who have at all times endeavoured to "solve" this "problem" have always been Europeans and not "Natives", and that they have done so from their own point of view only. Our own contribution to the solution of this Race Problem has invariably been done jointly with Europeans, through European spectacles, from within the atmosphere of European environments and under the direct influence of European guidance and supervision.

The race leadership of all non-Bantu sections of the

the population in the Union or in South Africa is exercised independently of and free from all fetters of external agencies. Our own race leadership, i.e. the African race leadership, functions and operates strictly from within a joint central, management and direction of Europeans and Africans, and, at times, of Africans and other non-Europeans. The authorities of the S. A. Institute of Race Relations and of the Joint Council movement — movements which have absorbed the African race leadership and our national organisations — insist that our race leadership should or must necessarily be exercised from within their movements. Our own leaders and intelligentsia also insist that our race leadership should strictly operate and function from within those movements.

I have many concrete instances I can advance in support of this contention. But as the subject matter of this memorandum is not

not "Race Leadership" I shall give only one instance. In *Uuteteli* of the 23rd August, 1941, is an article by Professor R. Z. Hoernle, President of the S. A. Institute of Race Relations, which is a reply to Dr Xuma's speech at East London, which appeared in *Uuteteli* of the 2nd August. That report of Dr Xuma's speech attributes, Professor Hoernle says, "to Dr Xuma the THREAT that the African National Congress 'would part company with the Institute' unless the Institute withdrew the statement."

Obviously, Professor Hoernle as the President of the S. A. Institute of Race Relations could not complain of or take exception to that part of your East London speech if there does not exist some workable connection or understanding ~~between the two~~ — express or implied — between the Institute of Race Relations and the African National Congress. He could, ^{not} even have characterised your speech as a "threat" if, honestly, he had no right or authority to interest himself in

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