

Harder

REPORT OF NON-EUROPEAN CONSULTATIVE SUB-COMMITTEE.

The Sub-Committee appointed to consult with representative Africans on the Chamber of Commerce Housing Scheme held a meeting with 15 Africans at the Donaldson Orlando Community Centre on Saturday afternoon, May 13th, 1950. The following members of the Sub-Committee were present: Mr. J. D. Rheinallt Jones (in the Chair), Messrs. J. P. Cope, E. A. J. Cutten, and A. D. McPhail and Rev. Ray Phillips. Dr. F. H. Donnelly attended by invitation as a member of the Housing Committee of the S. A. Institute of Race Relations. Dr. Winifred Hoernle and the Rev. C. B. Brink sent apologies for absence.

The Institute of Race Relations, through their Field Officer, Mr. W. B. Ngnkane, had kindly contacted Africans of standing and had arranged for their attendance at the meeting. Their names are attached hereto; also other names, suggested by the Rev. C. B. Brink, Dr. Hoernle and the Institute of Race Relations, of persons who were not able to attend this meeting.

The Chairman briefly explained the purpose of the meeting and called on Mr. Cutten to explain the scheme, who did so with the aid of a map of the areas concerned. There followed many questions from the Africans and much discussion generally. The following are samples of the questions raised:-

- 1) What limitations will be imposed on the size of families?
- 2) What will be the sale price to succeeding purchasers of the houses?
- 3) What will be the rate of interest on the housing loan?
- 4) What does the £100, cost of house, cover?
- 5) Who will be eligible?
- 6) Will larger plots be allowed?
- 7) What security of tenure will be given?
- 8) Will ownership of a house save the owner from eviction because he is unemployed?
- 9) What services are included in the 10/- to be charged for the ground lease?
- 10) Why cannot freehold be given?
- 11) Will those who build the houses be subject to the irritating municipal regulations which are now so irksome to the people?
- 12) What will be the rights of succession?
- 13) Will a man be debarred from succeeding because of his views?
- 14) What will happen to owners when they are too old to work?
- 15) What share shall we have in the administration?
- 16) What assurance is there that the railway will be provided in the areas in a reasonable time?
- 17) Will the fares be on the same basis as the present?

Grievances over municipal administration matters tended to cloud the issues and to cause hesitation in welcoming the scheme. Mr. Maska, a member of the Natives' Representative Council, however, expressed strong support.

Maska

The Africans asked for a written statement setting out the principles and details of the scheme and the Chairman promised that this would be made available to them.

It was agreed to adjourn the meeting until 3 p.m. on Saturday May 27th. to enable those present to consider the scheme after having received the written statement.

The Chairman, in closing the meeting, emphasised that the scheme/.....



scheme must be considered apart from the administrative questions raised at the meeting, although he was sure that the members of the sub-Committee would convey to the main Committee points on administration which were related to the housing scheme. He pointed out that the main Committee wished to hear Africans' views on

- 1). The principles and details of the scheme.
  - 2). The siting of the scheme, including the proposal to use the Dube Township area already allocated for larger housing sites on 99 years' lease.
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Note by the Chairman.

I suggest that the sub-Committee be converted into a Joint Consultative Committee and that the Africans named on the list attached hereto, and any others co-opted, be appointed as members of the Committee, the Committee to have power to co-opt. Membership of the Joint Consultative Committee will not give membership of the main Committee.

J. D. RHEINALLT JONES.

15.5.1950.



AFRICANS PRESENT ON 13/5/50.

Mr. D. Jolobe, Presbyterian School, Orlando.  
" H. M. Butshingi, No. 1304, Orlando.  
" S. Ka Skenjana, No. 808, Orlando.  
" P. Q. Vundla, Western Native Township.  
" S. J. J. Lesoleng, No. 7322, Orlando West.  
" P. R. Mosaka, M.R.C., No. 830, Orlando.  
" R. V. Selope Thema, M.R.C., No. 7,005, Orlando West.  
" J. S. Mophiring, No. 1,228, Orlando.  
" F.J.M. Thabede, P. O. Box 8,505, City.  
" Howard Mehlomakulu, C/o Native Youth Board, 3, Polly Street, City.  
" S. M. Crutse, C/o Municipal Vocational Centre, P. O. Box 5382,  
City.  
" S. M. Gxashe, No. 1,0,224, Orlando.  
" W. B. Ngakane, P. O. Box 97, City.  
" S. S. Ntombele, C/o Donaldson Orlando Community Centre, Orlando.  
" J. R. Rathebe, P. O. Box 7716, City.

NOT PRESENT.

Mr. Nakene, Principal, Orlando High School, Orlando.  
" A. B. Makoa, 34, Myer Street, Sophiatown.  
" S. G. Nkoane, Box 13, Florida. (lives in Sophiatown.)  
" J. Nogema, 2,217, Ballenden Avenue, Western Native Township.  
" N. Moche, P. O. Box 97, Johannesburg.  
" Oliphant, P. O. Box 97, Johannesburg.

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