

MONTHLY MEETING OF THE JOINT NATIVE
ADVISORY BOARD (COMPRISING BOARD
MEMBERS OF ORLANDO, JABAVU, PIMVILLE,
MOROKA, EASTERN AND WESTERN NATIVE
TOWNSHIPS), WITH THE MANAGER, TO BE
HELD IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL, JUBILEE
SOCIAL CENTRE, WEMMER, ON WEDNESDAY
THE 28TH FEBRUARY, 1951, AT 2.15 P.M.

(7)

A G E N D A.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THE
24TH JANUARY, 1951. (Copy attached).
2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES -
 - (a) Tenancy of Houses in Municipal
Native Townships.
3. HOME BREWING vs. LICENSED HOUSES IN LOCATIONS
(Boards to report present position).
4. POLICE RAIDS - MOROKA.
5. FRUIT AND VEGETABLE HAWKERS - MOROKA.
6. DUBE REGULATIONS.
(Submitted by Western Native Township
Advisory Board).

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MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF THE JOINT
ADVISORY BOARD (COMPRISING BOARD MEMBERS
OF ORLANDO, MOROKA, PIMVILLE, JABAVU,
EASTERN AND WESTERN NATIVE TOWNSHIPS),
WITH THE MANAGER, HELD IN THE ASSEMBLY
HALL, JUBILEE SOCIAL CENTRE, WEMMER, ON
WEDNESDAY, 24TH JANUARY, 1951, AT 2.15
P.M.

PRESENT: Mr. L.I. Venables, (Chairman).
Mr. K.D. Morgan, Native Commissioner, Johannesburg.
Mr. E.S. Gargett, Head Office.
Mr. A.G. Burmeister, Superintendent, Eastern
Native Township.
Mr. J.G. Swan, Superintendent, Pimville.
Mr. A.R. Cleverly, Superintendent, Western
Native Township.
Mr. D.T. Nicholas, Senior Superintendent,
Orlando.
Mr. D.M. Cadle, Senior Superintendent, Moroka.
Messrs:
G. Mabuza, Eastern Native Township Advisory
Board.
C.L.L. Matloporo, - do -
D.M. Thabete, - do -
J.R. Morekaleme, - do -
D.J. Koma, Pimville Advisory Board.
L.D. Ncombo, - do -
P.S. Merafe - do -
J.J. Musi, - do -
E.P. Motholo, Moroka Advisory Board.
E. Mthethwa, - do -
B.M. Marshall, - do -
D. Nbele, - do -
J. Tsatinyane, - do -
P. Mathole, - do -
J.J. Masopha, Orlando Native Advisory Board.
L.P. Kumalo, - do -
W.S. Pela, - do -
H.B. Martin Mdingi, - do -
P.M. Lengene, Jabavu Advisory Board.
M.K. Tako, - do -
P.J. Moguerane, Western Native Township Advisory
Board.
L.T. Mfeka, - do -
P.Q. Vundla, - do -
H.N. Nkadimeng, - do -

APOLOGY: Mr. J.M. Mlangeni, Jabavu Advisory Board.

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1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON
22nd NOVEMBER, 1950.

The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed
subject to the following correction: Paragraph 1 on Page
11 of the minutes should read "In pursuance of Sections 21 and
38....." and not Sections 21 and 28.

2. ARISING/.....

2. ARISING FROM MINUTES:

(a) Influx Control.

In the minutes of the previous meeting it was stated; "In reply to a query by Mr. Newana, Mr. Carr confirmed that it was necessary for visitors from the rural areas to obtain permission from the Influx Control Officer prior to entering the Johannesburg area." Mr. Nkadimeng enquired whether this included visitors on emergency visits in the case of death, accidents, medical purposes, etc.

The Native Commissioner, Mr. Morgan, replied that in such a case, the person concerned could approach the Registering Officer on arrival in the area. If the Registering Officer was satisfied that the visit was, in fact, a case of emergency, a permit would be issued for the applicant to be in the area.

Mr. Nkadimeng enquired what machinery would be employed to inform intending visitors about this restrictive measure on their "freedom of movement" before they started on their intended visits.

Mr. Morgan replied that the only restrictive measure imposed was that the applicant must approach the local authority before entering the area. The Magistrates and Native Commissioners of rural areas informed the Chiefs and Headmen of the various tribes, who were then requested to advise the people.

At the previous meeting the Director of Native Labour, Mr. Caudwell, stated: "The farms and the mines are in need of labour". At the same meeting the Chairman, Mr. Carr, said: "It is not the Council's intention to divert labour to the mines and farms". Mr. Nkadimeng expressed the opinion that these two statements were inconsistent.

The Chairman explained that Natives were "endorsed out of the area" by the Government and not by the Influx Control Section of the City Council. Permits to enter the urban area of Johannesburg were only refused by the Influx Control Officer if there was a surplus of labour in the particular categories for which applicants were eligible. The Council was not concerned with the recruitment of labour for the mines or farms.

At the previous meeting the Chairman said: "This could not be done if Natives were permitted to continue flocking to Johannesburg from other centres", and went on to say: "In the circumstances it was difficult for the Department to say that the first opportunities in the labour market should be reserved for the urban people." Mr. Nkadimeng requested the Chairman to explain these two statements.

The Chairman said that as far as the local authority was concerned, other things being equal, priority in employment was always given to the urban people; One of the purposes of influx control was to protect the

interests/.....

interests of urban residents.

Mr. Mathole complained that the Native people found the duality of function between the Council and the Government very confusing. The Chairman agreed that this was so and undertook to draw up a memorandum on the duties of the two authorities for the guidance of the Boards.

Mr. Tsatsinyane enquired whether the provisions of the Influx Control Regulations applied to ministers of religion who were frequently transferred from one area to another. The Chairman replied in the affirmative.

The Native Commissioner, Mr. Morgan, left the meeting at this stage on urgent business.

(b) Conference on Crimes of Violence.

Mr. Nkadimeng enquired whether the General Purposes Committee of the City Council had yet considered the question of Native representation at the Conference on Crimes of Violence with the Minister of Justice.

The Chairman intimated that the City Council had referred this matter to the Minister for decision. He understood that the Minister was of opinion that no good purpose would be served by the Boards being represented at the Conference, but he was prepared to consider any written representations made by the Boards.

(c) Tea and Coffee Vendors.

Mr. Nkadimeng enquired the present position in regard to tea and coffee vendors.

The Chairman stated that about five years ago tea and coffee vendors in the Johannesburg Municipal area had received notice from the Council that their trade would eventually be abolished. After certain representations had been received by the Council, the matter was reviewed and the vendors were temporarily allowed to continue their trade. Early in December last, however, the vendors were notified that they were required to discontinue their business and when the period of notice expired in January, the Police were informed that the vendors were open to prosecution, but were requested to confine their activities to those areas where the Council's survey had revealed that adequate restaurant and eating house facilities were available, e.g. the Jeppe/Wolhuter area.

(d) Establishment of Advisory Boards in Hostels.

At the previous meeting the Chairman stated that the establishment of Advisory Boards in hostels necessitated amendment of the Act. In Mr. Nkadimeng's opinion this was not necessary as Sections 21(1) and 38(3)(b) and (d) covered this point.

The Chairman/.....

The Chairman stated that this was a matter of interpretation and opinion.

(e) Inconsistency of Advisory Boards.

At the previous meeting Mr. Vundla complained that the Boards were not consistent in their views; Although their aim was direct representation they were pressing for the establishment of advisory boards in the hostels.

Mr. Nkadimeng pointed out that until direct representation was achieved the Boards felt that full use should be made of the provisions of the Act.

(f) Advertising Hoardings in Native Townships.

Mr. Nkadimeng dissociated himself with the view of the Orlando Advisory Board expressed in the penultimate paragraph on Page 11 of the minutes of the previous meeting, which read:-

" The Orlando Board favour the suggestion with
" the proviso that the revenue accruing there-
" from be used in the township concerned. "

3. TENANCY OF HOUSES IN MUNICIPAL NATIVE TOWNSHIPS.

The Chairman read, for the information of the meeting, the following record of the discussion on this question at the meeting of the Joint Advisory Board held on the 26th July, 1950:-

" The Chairman explained that this question was
" originally raised by himself. The Boards had been
" informed that both the Government and the Council
" were of opinion that control should be exercised
" over the inmates of houses in the Municipal Native
" townships. It was known that registered tenants,
" on leaving the townships 'sell' or give their
" houses to other persons without the knowledge or
" permission of the Superintendent. The person
" taking over the house continued to pay the rent
" in the name of the registered tenant and the
" change in tenancy was therefore not disclosed. It
" was also a common practice for registered tenants
" to sub-let portions of their houses and the
" Council, which was the owner of the property and
" which was charged in law with the strict super-
" vision of the people who occupy the houses, was
" not aware of the position.
"

" Several months ago the matter was referred to
" the Boards for discussion. They were asked to
" suggest a means of check which would be likely
" to meet with the least opposition from the people.
" The Chairman now requested Board members to
" express their opinions on the matter.
"

Mr. Mahlangu/.....

" Mr. Mahlangu pointed out that since this matter
" had been referred to the Joint Board, no meeting had
" been held and the matter had, therefore, not been discussed.
" He was of opinion that some means of check of the occupants
" of Municipal houses was necessary.
"

" Mr. Venables recalled that prior to the war it was the
" practice to carry out periodic raids at night from 9 p.m.
" onwards, in all the Native townships, in order to check
" the occupants of the houses. This practice gave rise to
" many complaints from the people which resulted in the
" Council discontinuing this method of check.
"

" The Council had recently been criticised by the Govern-
" ment on the grounds that its administration was too
" lenient and that insufficient supervision of the inhabitants
" of Council houses was being maintained. Mr. Venables
" explained that he was reluctant to introduce measures of
" control before consultation with the people and he therefore
" invited the Advisory Boards to make suggestions in this
" regard.
"

" Advocate Vieyra suggested, as a basis for discussion,
" that to require registered tenants to produce a pass or
" similar document of identity on payment of the monthly
" rental, instead of the present practice of producing the
" previous month's rent receipt, might solve the problem.
"

" Board members pointed out that the necessity for the
" production of passes was causing unrest amongst the Native
" people and they considered that it would be impolitic to
" introduce such a system of checking.
"

" Mr. Mathole felt that in view of the present acute
" housing shortage it was inopportune to introduce a method of
" checking the sub-tenants in the townships. No alternative
" accommodation was available for sub-tenants if they were
" ejected. He considered, however, that if sub-tenants were
" given the assurance that they would not be victimised, they
" would volunteer the information sought by the Council.
"

" Mr. Kumalo pointed out that many registered tenants in
" the Native townships expended considerable sums of money
" in the improvement of their houses and on leaving the
" townships no compensation in respect of the improvements
" was payable to them by the Council. This fact tempted
" the people to 'sell' their houses to others to reimburse
" themselves. Mr. Kumalo doubted whether the problem of sub-
" tenants would ever be solved until such time as the
" Council set aside land on which the people could build their
" own houses.
"

" The meeting was in agreement that the checking of sub-
" tenants was necessary, but that steps should be taken to
" safeguard the position of sub-tenants.
"

" Mr. Venables stated that it might be wise, in view of
" the acute shortage of accommodation, to legalise the
" position of sub-tenants, i.e. to issue them with
" a document authorising their residence in the township.
" He intimated that the Council was being pressed to increase
" the rentals of the houses in Native townships and that he
"

" was opposed to this proposal. Requiring sub-tenants
" to pay a fee would contribute towards the loss incurred
" on Native housing and might even obviate increasing rents.
"

" Mr. Nkadimeng suggested that the duties of the
" Advisory Boards be increased and that, in townships where
" the ward system was in operation, the Advisory Board
" member for each ward be held responsible for reporting
" new arrivals in his section to the Superintendent.
"

" Mr. Pela said that if sub-tenancy were not tolerated,
" the Council would be placed in an embarrassing position
" in so far as housing was concerned. He considered that
" the position of sub-tenants should be legalised. He
" suggested, however, that the number of sub-tenants per-
" mitted per house be limited according to the size of the
" house.
"

" In order to check the occupants of Municipal houses
" Mr. Pela suggested that forms be sent out monthly by
" the Superintendent to all registered tenants in the
" townships, requiring certain information, e.g. name,
" identity number, name of employer etc. or that it be
" made compulsory for the registered tenants to pay the
" rent personally each month.
"

" As no concrete suggestions were forthcoming in regard
" to the checking of occupants of Municipal houses, the
" Chairman suggested that Mr. Jones, Chairman of the
" Association of Superintendents, be requested to discuss
" the question at the Superintendents' Association meeting
" with a view to evolving a practical solution to the
" problem. The suggestions of the Superintendents could
" then be circularised amongst the Board members for
" consideration. This suggestion was accepted by the
" meeting. "

Subsequently the following report by the Association
of Superintendents was circularised to all Advisory Boards:-

" The important subject of 'Sub-Tenancy' and 'Tenancy
" of Houses in the Townships' has been submitted to the
" Association of Superintendents, and the following report
" is the result of much consideration and lengthy
" discussion.
"

" It is considered that the problem can only be solved
" satisfactorily by joint and co-operative action between
" Superintendents, Advisory Board members and the tenants
" themselves.
"

" That an accurate record of the tenancy of every
" house should be kept is not only required by law but
" is in the personal interest of every tenant of the
" townships.
"

" Sub-Tenancy:
"

" Like the Manager and the Advisory Boards, the
" Superintendents are concerned about the possibility
"

of being/.....

" of being forced to increase rentals generally in
" order to meet the alarming annual loss on housing:
" An indication of this tendency can be gathered from
" the recent letter regarding the increase in hostel
" rentals. Superintendents feel that the huge costs
" involved for the services provided are being con-
" tributed to largely by many thousands of sub-tenants who
" subscribe nothing towards the costs, e.g. such services
" as water supply, refuse removal, night soil clearance,
" medical services, dentistry and midwifery, are being
" enjoyed by everybody in the townships but it is only
" registered tenants who subscribe to the cost through
" the medium of rentals; and many thousands of sub-
" tenants are living 'parasitically' on those who are
" paying. This is an unsatisfactory state of affairs
" and the Superintendents suggest the following methods
" of rectifying the position -
"

" (i) **The** Superintendent shall keep a register
" of all sub-tenants who are authorised
" to reside in the township. The register
" of authorised sub-tenants shall be prima
" facie proof of a sub-tenant's right to
" reside in the township.
"

" (ii) All existing sub-tenants who desire to be
" registered must apply personally to the
" Superintendent, together with the
" registered tenant, within an initial
" reasonable period of, say, four months.
" Sub-tenants who do not so apply will
" become illegal occupants and liable to
" prosecution.
"

" (iii) That after the expiry of the initial
" period referred to in paragraph (ii), it
" be made obligatory on registered
" tenants to bring intended sub-tenants to
" the Superintendent's office for registra-
" tion prior to accommodating them.
"

" (iv) Only persons who are employed within the
" area under the Council's jurisdiction
" or are carrying on some lawful occupation
" and are lawfully permitted to enter, be
" and remain in the area, shall be entitled
" to be registered, provided that approved
" accommodation is available.
"

" (v) Every application for registration shall be
" dealt with on its merits.
"

" (vi) Each adult sub-tenant so registered shall
" pay the sum of 2/- per month or part
" thereof and in the case of a sub-tenant
" family, a composite fee of 5/- per month
" or part thereof, shall be payable as a
" contribution towards the costs of
" services made available and to ease the
" financial burden that may have to be
" imposed on registered tenants.
"

The registered/.....

The registered tenant shall be responsible to pay the above fees monthly, in advance, to the Council.

(vii) That sub-tenants be permitted to remain as such only as long as the registered tenant wishes, provided a reasonable period of notice is given.

(viii) That misbehaviour of any nature by a sub-tenant be grounds for the immediate cancellation of his/her registration - and in the event of registration being cancelled, the sub-tenant be not allowed to remain in the Township.

(ix) That the registered tenant shall forthwith report to the Superintendent any change in the sub-tenancy of his house.

(x) That all sub-tenants' right to occupation will cease when the registered tenant relinquishes his tenancy of the house.

Change of Tenancy:

One of the major problems is that of registered tenants leaving their houses and placing other tenants therein without notification to the office, resulting in records reflecting incorrect information. The probable main cause is the fact that a registered tenant effects improvements at considerable cost to himself and is unable to recover such costs should he simply notify his termination of his tenancy to the office.

It is suggested that it be made known throughout the townships that where a tenant has effected improvements, he should bring this fact to the notice of the Superintendent prior to relinquishing the tenancy. The Superintendent will sympathetically endeavour to arrange amicably for him to receive some compensation from his successor.

If such arrangements cannot be made, then it is suggested that every opportunity be given to the retiring tenant to dismantle and reclaim the improvements he has made, provided that no material damage is caused to the building.

With regard to those occupying houses in the name of some other person at the present time, it is suggested that every case be investigated individually and a decision taken based on the merits of the case as to whether or not the occupying tenant should be registered. Here again, an initial period of four months should be allowed for occupants of houses to bring their cases to the notice of the authorities, and thereafter families found in illegal occupation should be summarily ejected.

To implement this suggestion, the following considerations should be taken into account:-

(i) Length of period of residence in the house concerned;

(ii) Right/.....

- " (ii) Right to family accommodation
" in Johannesburg;
" (iii) Reasonable proof that the original
" registered tenant has in fact no
" intention of returning and has
" surrendered claim to the house.
"

" In order to successfully launch the scheme,
" illegal occupants should be given the assurance
" that if they are entitled to family accommodation
" in Johannesburg, in accordance with the qualifi-
" cations laid down by the Council, their appli-
" cations for change of tenancy will be sympatheti-
" cally considered.
"

" The Superintendents are particularly keen
" that all these matters should be cleared up
" without the necessity of resorting to legal and
" unpleasant methods. They confirm their desire
" to work in the closest co-operation with the
" Advisory Boards and, through them, to obtain the
" co-operation of the tenants in these procedures,
" which in the result can only be of beneficial
" outcome to the people. "

Mr. Masupha complained that sub-tenants living in the Municipal locations of Johannesburg were being endorsed out of the area by the Pass Office officials. When a sub-tenant applied to be registered in new employment he was given a letter to the Superintendent enquiring whether he was a resident of the Township. Mr. Masupha stated that the Superintendent verified this by checking the card relating to the occupants of the house address quoted by the applicant. He alleged that when the Superintendent had ascertained that the applicant's name did not appear on the card he reported that the man was unknown in the township, in spite of the fact that the names of the majority of these people appeared on the official waiting list for accommodation, proving that they had been in the area for a considerable time.

Mr. Masupha favoured the suggestion of a thorough check being made of sub-tenants in the townships, with a view to legalising their position.

Mr. Mfeka proposed that this matter be referred to the Joint Boards for discussion. He felt that Board members had not been afforded sufficient time to study the report of the Superintendents' Association.

Mr. Pela pointed out that the unofficial Joint Board had not met for some considerable time and he proposed that the meeting proceed to discuss the matter.

Mr. Mathole considered that if the Authorities could give the assurance that registration of sub-tenants would provide protection against endorsement out of the area, it should be agreed to.

The Chairman/.....

The Chairman stated that if a man was registered as a sub-tenant, in accordance with the proposals of the Superintendents' Association, he would acquire a legal right to be in the area. The local authority would then treat him virtually on the same basis as a registered tenant. This arrangement would be mutually beneficial to the registered tenant and the sub-tenant.

As there was a division of opinion as to whether this question should be referred to the unofficial Joint Board or discussed at this meeting, the Chairman put Mr. Mfeka's proposal and the amendment by Mr. Pela to the meeting. It was decided by vote that the matter be referred to the unofficial Joint Board for consideration.

At the request of the Boards the Chairman agreed to convene a meeting of the Joint Board to discuss this question at 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 14th February, 1951, on the understanding that, at the request of members, he would not be present.

4. LAWLESSNESS.

Mr. Mathole requested permission, as a matter of urgency, to discuss the question of lawlessness in the townships. On this being granted he stated that on three occasions he had been the victim of a lawless gang known as "Russians", who were armed with assegais, swords, choppers, etc. Although the members of this gang clad themselves in blankets in the Basuto fashion, this was no indication of their race. It was known that many were not Basutos. The majority of them were unemployed and lived in the houses of registered tenants.

The gangs went from house to house at night waking the people and demanding money. The head of the family was required to pay an amount of 2/6d. and accompany the "Russians" on their rounds. Over fifty houses in Moroka had been demolished by the gang and the residents of Moroka had therefore taken it upon themselves to endeavour to eliminate the gangs. The residents had reported all known members of the gang to the Police, only to find that after being fined a small amount for being passless or for being in the Camp without a permit, they were released and returned to terrorise the people who had reported them. The people therefore felt that the Police were not concerned about the situation. Some residents had left the Camp because of their fear of the "Russians".

On Thursday night, the 18th January, the residents were determined to drive the gangs out of the township. The District Commandant of Police, however, persuaded the people to remain in their shacks and promised that the township would be patrolled by the Police. After about fifteen minutes the Police returned to their posts and the "Russians" again attacked the residents.

The Advisory Board members of Moroka had been requested to call a general meeting of residents to discuss this question, when it was discovered that certain

Board members were connected with the "Russian" gang. A resolution passed at that meeting advocating the deportation of those Board members connected with the gang had been conveyed to the Superintendent of Moroka.

Mr. Mathole appealed to the Authorities to do everything possible to eliminate the gangs which were a menace to the residents of the Johannesburg townships.

The Chairman enquired whether Mr. Mathole could reveal the names of the leaders of the gangs and he replied that their names had been reported to the Senior Superintendent of Moroka who had done all in his power to have these people arrested by the South African Police. The Senior Superintendent had approached the Police personally and the leader of the gang had been arrested. Mr. Mathole stated that trouble was expected in Moroka over the coming weekend. On being arrested certain persons associated with the "Russians" made the excuse that they were forced to join the gang.

Mr. Tsatsinyane stated that the residents of Moroka had lost confidence in the Board members, the Superintendents and the Authorities. Their grievance was that Board members and the Superintendents collaborated to have them charged under Section 10 of the Regulations for being unemployed, and also for prohibiting public meetings. Certain members of the "Russian" gang living in Moroka were unemployed, but no proceedings were instituted to secure their ejection from the Camp. Meetings called by the "Russian" gang in the township were not interfered with, but public meetings convened by the residents were prohibited. He alleged that the Municipal Police were afraid to interfere when meetings of the "Russians" were held. Mr. Tsatsinyane called upon the Board members and the Authorities to find a solution to this problem.

The Chairman enquired why the gang called themselves "Russians" and Mr. Mathole said it was merely to identify themselves; the opposing side called themselves the "Japanese".

The Chairman requested Mr. Cadle, Senior Superintendent of Moroka, to reply to the allegation that the "Russians" were being protected.

Mr. Cadle stated that as the Board members were aware, the Superintendents had reported all suspected associates of the "Russian" gang to the Police. The Superintendents had appealed to Board members for information regarding the gang but in many cases residents were afraid to reveal information for fear of reprisals. Mr. Cadle stated that certain members of the Advisory Board were suspected of being implicated.

In regard to the holding of meetings, Mr. Cadle said that on one occasion a meeting of the "Russian" gang, organised by a member of the Advisory Board, had been held in conjunction with an authorised meeting of Board members

and/.....

and residents. The Superintendents were not aware that a meeting of the group was to take place.

Mr. Cadle stated that the position was actually dangerous and the "Russians" were merely awaiting an opportunity to restart their activities of violence. The Police had been given all available information.

Mr. Mathole alleged that the "Russians" chose their victims. He was of opinion that it was a "war" between members of the Advisory Board, based on the forthcoming election. He went on to say: "The people feel that the Police station is not there for their good. One man who manufactures implements was arrested by the Administration Police. He had assegais, irons and various other dangerous weapons. The Superintendent went with the man to the Police Station and in the afternoon the man returned with his weapons. It won't be our fault if the people attack the Police Station."

Mr. Mtetwa urged that representations be made to the Government requesting that steps be taken to eliminate the "Russian" gangs.

Mr. Motholo suggested that the Chiefs and Headmen of the people connected with the "Russian" gangs be advised of their activities. He stated that he could give the Chairman a list of the people involved and the names of their Chiefs.

Mr. Koma considered that the only way to solve the problem would be to introduce a system of controlling the entry of Natives into the townships. He suggested that only persons in possession of permits to enter the townships be admitted.

Mr. Morafe stated that numerous requests for the establishment of village guards in the townships had been rejected by the Police Department. Voluntary guards had nevertheless been organised in Pimville and it was due to their presence that an attack on Pimville at Christmas time was prevented. He intimated that the Pimville Advisory Board had agreed that the Minister of Native Affairs should be approached immediately with a request for protection. He suggested that a deputation be appointed to interview the Secretary for Native Affairs in this connection.

Mr. Moguerane supported this suggestion.

Mr. Vundla stated that a meeting of Advisory Board members and leading residents of Western Native Township had been held on the 23rd January to discuss this question, when it was decided that all residents willing to serve as voluntary guards should be asked to report for duty during the coming weekend because of the potential danger of attack by the "Russians". A further suggestion was made that a meeting of all leading Native residents of Johannesburg be called to discuss the matter.

Mr. Vundla intimated that the intention of the

"Russians"/.....

"Russians" in attacking and assaulting people was to rob their victims. He was of opinion that certain Board members might encourage the "Russians" in their hooliganism for their own political gain. He appealed for the recognition of the guards in the townships for the protection of the people.

Mr. Lengene suggested that the City Council organise a group of voluntary guardsmen in each township to deal with any emergencies which may arise.

Mr. Nkadimeng pointed out that there were only six Municipal policemen on duty in Western Native Township at night; one in the Administration Office, one to escort nurses and four to patrol the township. He pointed out that this force was entirely inadequate.

Mr. Mfeka proposed that the Council make the necessary arrangements for a deputation from the Joint Board to meet the Ministers of Native Affairs and Justice as early as possible to discuss the question of lawlessness in the Native townships. Mr. Merafe seconded this proposal.

The Chairman acknowledged that the officials of his Department were disturbed about the situation. "I believe that unless adequate and firm measures are taken immediately, the situation is liable to get out of hand in the future."

In reply to a question the Chairman agreed that if the cost of sending a deputation to Cape Town to interview the Ministers concerned could be financed, it might serve a good purpose, but he expressed doubt as to whether the Finance Committee of the City Council would agree to pay the cost. He agreed, however, to submit a request for a deputation from the Boards to meet the Chairmen of the Finance and Non-European Affairs Committees in this regard. After further discussion the meeting agreed that telegraphic representations should be made to the Secretaries for Native Affairs and Justice and to the Commissioner of Police, in the following terms:-

" The Joint Advisory Board of Johannesburg
" represents that Native townships are being
" terrorised by lawless gangs. Residents go
" in fear of injury to life and property and
" are becoming increasingly incensed at
" failure of constituted authority to provide
" protection. Gangsters are not confined to
" any one tribal group and are indiscriminately
" extorting money and exploiting their compatriots.
" The Joint Advisory Board respectfully urges
" immediate and adequate police protection. The
" residents suggest Government recognition of
" force of voluntary guards under South African
" Police control. "

The meeting agreed that a deputation, consisting of one representative of each Advisory Board, should meet the Chairmen of the Finance and Non-European Affairs

Committees to ascertain whether the Council would finance the cost of sending a deputation from the Joint Board to Cape Town to interview the appropriate Ministers. The Joint Board appointed the following representatives to meet the Council:-

Eastern Native Township	: Mr. M. Plata.
Western Native Township	: Mr. H.N. Nkadimeng.
Orlando	: Mr. J.S. Mpanza.
Pimville	: Mr. P.S. Merafe.
Moroka	: Mr. P. Mathole.
Jabavu	: Mr. P.M. Lengene.

The meeting agreed that these six representatives should appoint three of their number to meet the Ministers in Cape Town, provided the cost of this was agreed to by the Council.

The Chairman explained that if the guards were recognised and organised under the South African Police, finger prints of volunteers would have to be taken to ensure that they had no criminal record. If the volunteers were accepted they should undergo instruction in the duties to be performed, etc. He stated that he understood from conversations he had recently had with Police officials, that the Police Department might only be expected to recognise voluntary bodies under certain conditions, one being that the Police Department had control. He pointed out that one of the questions to be taken into account was that if guardsmen were injured in the course of their duties, who would pay for medical attention, free hospitalisation and compensation for absence from work and for injury.

The Chairman undertook to advise the deputation after consulting the Chairman of the Non-European Affairs Committee in regard to the arranging of a meeting between the Chairman of the Finance Committee, the Chairman of the Non-European Affairs Committee and the deputation from the Joint Advisory Board.

The Chairman apologised for omitting to welcome new Board members when he opened the meeting. He extended a welcome to all new members and to those who had previously served on the Boards and stated that he was sure the relations between the Boards and the Department during this year would continue on the same amicable and co-operative basis as in the past.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed
at 6 p.m.

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