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But in addition to that link, which is you, Mr. Harwin, does the Board at any time meet the Council as such? - They have not done so so far.

Have there been any questions which would have made it advisable to have had a procedure such as that? - I cannot remember any particular question. The majority of the requests from the village have been met sympathetically by the Council.

Now, you speak of the effect of the Urban Areas Act being to raise the position of the Natives. You say that one portion of the city, which consisted of brothels and shabeens run by Native women has been completely cleared out. Does that mean that these people have left the town, or does it mean that they have just moved to another area? - Some of them, I think, have left the town, and others may have gone to other areas.

So you still have the cleaning up to do, only it is in a different part? - It may not be in our town. They may have gone to other parts, or they may have returned to their own homes. At anyrate, they are not there any longer.

Now you mention the Industrial Conciliation Act, the Wages Act and the Apprenticeship Act, and you say that the general effect of these laws is that they have operated to the financial disadvantage of the Natives. Could you give us some detailed information about that? - (Mr. Harwin): Do you mean that you want specific cases?

We should like to know why you have given that as your opinion? - Specific cases have come to our knowledge, where, owing to the operation of these Acts, Natives have lost the employment they have had and have not been able to secure other employment. There have been specific cases of that,

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and, as the Natives become educated, they will be more Natives who, because of their qualifications, will not be able to get employment.

Which cases are you referring to specifically? Have you got specific instances under the Industrial Conciliation Act? - I am not prepared to give you the specific instances at the moment, but they have been brought to our attention. (Mr. Stevenson): I know of one case where a Native was employed by certain cabinet works in town, and I understand from him, -- he is here -- that he was discharged as a result of the introduction of the Conciliation Act; the wages determination, ---, that is what he gave me to understand.

It was originally an industrial council, but it is now a wage determination. But have you no other instances? - Well, there is the general case of artisans, Native builders and carpenters.

That is the Industrial Conciliation Act? - Yes.

I should be very glad to get instances? - I have had numbers of these men coming to me and saying that they could not work because the Europeans would not pay them the standard wages.

Yes, I can understand that. The building trade has been particularly hard on anyone excepting the skilled European. Have you any other trades? - I cannot say, I do not know of any other instances which I can give specifically now, but there are Native witnesses who will give you that evidence.

It is a pity to have that down as a statement unless you have something definite to go on, because the statement speaks of three different classifications and all the statements mentioned are under the Industrial Conciliation Act? - (Mr. Harwin): May we mention the case of men like painters?

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That is under the building trade? - You may have had this brought to your notice before, but there are numerous painting jobs in town. You see, numbers of roofs which would be painted if the work could be carried out by being done at less than the standard rate. There are many Natives who could do it, but because of the standard rate of wages, they cannot be employed.

I do not think that many people are aware of the fact that the Act does not interfere with the owner who requires the work to be done for himself at his own premises. The Act only applies to people who undertake the work on behalf of others? - No, quite so; I do not think many people know that.

Well, there is perhaps a hardship there. Do you think it has had the effect of preventing necessary work from being done in addition to keeping people out of employment? - Undoubtedly. Fear of being prosecuted for employing men and not paying the standard wage.

Are there any other sections which you would like to refer to, any other occupations with similar difficulties? - No, it is a general complaint and I cannot go into detail.

Now you give as an explanation for what you say the somewhat illmannered and rather uncouth attitude of some Natives, which may be due to the somewhat overbearing attitude of some minor officials. Has that been common in Maritzburg or any other part of the Natal? - I do not want the Commission to think that there are a great many things which have accumulative effect to bring about this feeling of hostility between the Europeans and the Natives. With regard to this one particular point, I do think it is responsible in a great measure for the reaction on the part of the Natives

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and their behaviour towards Europeans. One does not want to criticise the police, but I think more tact should be used by the police and by court officials and by less responsible officials generally in their behaviour towards Natives. These people cause a lot of trouble. Even Europeans, and particularly elderly Europeans, feel this and it is particularly so with regard to the Natives in the town and country and cases have been brought to my notice where Natives have come long distances to a Magistrate's Court to obtain some document or some license, they have probably travelled many miles. Three o'clock come, they are at the office but the shutter comes down. The clerk goes to play tennis and the Native has to wait, or he has to come again. The fact of the matter is that these Natives are treated somewhat roughly and that is responsible, to some extent, for this attitude of the Natives.

The younger Natives do not realise that there is a responsible body of Europeans who do their best for them, but there are many causes which operated. Then I consider that the influence of bioscope posters lessens the respect of the Natives for the Europeans. Addresses given on Sunday afternoons on the Market Square also tend in this direction. Then there is another thing, -- the fines, the heavy fines which are inflicted for comparatively trivial offences. It all helps. Perhaps it is unfortunate that this should be put down in this manner, but to some extent that is one of the causes.

Have you any opinion to offer on this, Mr. Stevenson?

(Mr. Stevenson): I am in agreement with what Mr. Harwin said. I think a lot more sympathy and more kindly treatment towards

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the Natives in official offices would be beneficial.

Would you say that in the last five years there has been no improvement in that direction?-- I would not like to say that there has.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Do you agree that the present rents charged for Native houses in the village, although they are sub-economic, are still rather beyond the resources of the Native?-- (Mr. Harwin): I believe they are. I do not think that the resources of the Native are equal to the burden of paying those rents.

How do you think that position has to be met -- it is an unsatisfactory position?-- Yes. I take it that you are asking me that personally, really. I really consider that there should be an increase in the rates of pay of Natives generally.

And do you think that that should be done by a wage determination for unskilled labour?-- No.

Then how can it be done?-- One realises that it is difficult to bring about these things without Government action, but the difficulties which have resulted from the wage determinations for Europeans would be accentuated very much for Natives. It would be a system, after all, which a Native does not understand. I think it can be brought about when one considers that the wage which is paid for togt labourers would, in all probability, influence the wages all round. With the present wage fixed by the Council for togt labourers, at 2/6d per day, one finds certain conditions arising. As a matter of fact, in practise these men are paid 3/- per day, - that is so, almost universally, in practise. But if a boy proves unsatisfactory, the employer will be quite within his rights to pay 2/6d, although, actually, in practise, the

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wage is 3/-; -- I think that the general increase in the wages of Natives could be brought about if the wage for togt labourers were to be increased. That increase would then gradually spread over the Natives in other employ.

Can that be enforced - what happens if the employer pays less than that ?- Yes, it can be enforced.

Are there any cases of under-payment ?- I do not know of any. (Mr. Stevenson): That is the togt rate which is fixed and the togt Native can demand that before giving his service.

CHAIRMAN: By whom is it fixed ?- It is fixed by the regulations under the Native (Urban Areas) Act. (Mr. Harwin): I think the Native in domestic employ is not so badly off.

MR. ANDERSON: I just want to clear up what the machinery laid down is ?- We have the regulations under the Native (Urban Areas) Act.

And is there provision for fining an employer for underpayment ?- No. Before a European can demand the services of a togt Native, he must pay the standard rate, but if a Native agrees --- he may be an old man, for instance, or a youth --- to work for less, then he can do so. But the regulations provide for the recovery by criminal process of the back pay at togt rates, when the agreement entered into was that togt rates should be paid. When a Native carries a togt pass, or a togt badge, he must give his services to any employer who demands them. The idea of that is to prevent vagrants coming into town, but when a man's services are demanded, then the fixed rate must be paid, and, if that rate is not paid, then the Native can complain.

But if there were a big surplus of togt labourers

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and the employers only took them on at reduced wages, then it would not be effective ?- No.

It would not be so effective as the wage determination ?- (Mr. Harwin): No, that is so. Personally, I think that the wage determination would act adversely on the Natives.

Do you think it has done so in Bloemfontein ?- I do not know.

There is a great deal of difference between the wage determination for unskilled and for skilled labourers ?- Yes, that is so.

CHAIRMAN: The one is a pure minimum wage for an unskilled labourer without anything else, whereas the other involves all the questions of grades ?- Yes. May I just correct a statement which was made before the Commission yesterday, to the effect that a togt boy had to pay 2/6d.

That was corrected ?- I am glad to hear it.

MR. LUCAS: I want to put a few questions on this point. What objection can there be to fixing a minimum wage for unskilled work, either in one industry or in all classes of industries in town where there are none of the difficulties of grazing and where it is admitted that the class of employees today are getting a wage which is too low ?- Just a minimum wage for Native workers in employment?

Yes ?- I cannot see any objection, if it were simplified to that extent. One could not raise any objection, seeing that the principle is adopted here, of fixing a minimum rate for togt labourers. ---- Does that include domestics?

No, they are kept out of the Wage Act at present ?- I do not think that the Natives in domestic service are badly off, but the pressure is on Natives who are living apart from

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employers, but the ordinary Native in domestic employ is not badly off.

CHAIRMAN: Do you think that the other class living apart from their employment, - do you think that for them their wages are inadequate? - Yes, I certainly do.

Dr. Wood, could you give the Commission an indication of the general health condition of the Natives in this Borough? - (Dr. Wood): I suppose that if I gave you the statistics of the deathrate and so on, that that might answer your question?

In regard to mortality for particular diseases, --- all we are interested in are the predominant causes of death? - The best way, I suppose, to indicate the position as to whether the Native is more unhealthy than he should be, is to compare his deathrate from certain diseases with that of the European and the Asiatic. As regards tuberculosis, the number of deaths occurring here in the year ending 1929, --- I have taken that year, not for any particular reason, but I simply took that in a hurry when coming along, ---- the number of Europeans who died from tuberculosis were three in that year. The number of Natives was 24. Now, the Native population is rather more than half of the European population. There is a Native population of 12,000 and an European population of 20,000; so that is a relation of 3 to 45. With regard to Asiatics, who have a similar population, the number of deaths was 11, as compared with 24 for the Natives. I just want to say in regard to these statistics, that they are in no sense reliable. The registration is so defective that you really cannot form any definite conclusion from them as to what is happening with regard to

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the health of the Natives.

Are you referring to registration of deaths ?- Yes, to start with. This is the point. The Natives are not seen by doctors before they die, unless they go into hospital, or if they are seen, they are only seen at long intervals and noone knows anything about them, and their death is registered, provided it is due to ordinary causes, it is registered as lung complaint or something of the kind, or as regards tuberculosis, it is very difficult to give any precise statement, and you have to take these figures just for what they are worth.

Do you mean, the causation of death cannot be relied upon ?- In the register of deaths ----

Because you are aware that, even with the Europeans, there is a considerable margin of error ?- There is some. Every European death must be attested to by a doctor.

Not must be, but 90% are ?- In the Municipality they must be.

All your deaths will be registered ?- Yes.

But it is the statistics as to the cause of death which are not reliable ?- All the deaths which occur are supposed to be registered. I suppose that, to all intents and purposes they are registered, but even that is not certain. But there is another source of error and that is that a large number of Natives come into the town for treatment and they come to stay often with friends or in the neighbourhood of friends and, if they die, they are registered as having died in the town and they are registered as citizens. So you cannot look upon a figure of this kind as anything like a correct representation of tuberculosis.

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Is it possible for a person to be buried here without a burial order? - No, a person cannot be buried in the cemeteries without a burial order.

Well, where are they buried then? - We have 40 square miles here, a lot of which is very sparsely occupied.

Do you think that they take the bodies out of the rural areas? - The Natives may be living in the rural area, or they may be living in the country just outside.

The town lands are included in your urban area? - Yes.

Do you know of specific cases where bodies have been buried in that way? - I do.

So your registration is not complete? - Yes. We do not do the registration, it is the Magistrate who does that.

There is the problem of the disposal of the body? - Yes, and then, of course, there is the question of the diagnosis, which, in tuberculosis, is very difficult; and then there is also the question of domicile. It may be quite a temporary domicile, but the Registrar has to take what is given to him.

There is no facility for transferring out? - We have not sufficient information to go on. Even though you may have the Native in hospital, it is sometimes very difficult indeed to find out what his address is. Therefore, I just put it to the Commission that although the relation of the number of tubercular cases between the Europeans and the Natives seems tremendous, it is not probably anything as great as it seems and when you come to the question of the Asiatics, the population of Asiatics is about 7,000, and they have a deathrate of 11, and if you double that to make a proper comparison, then it is 22 to 24. So the Native does not apparently suffer from tuberculosis more than the Asiatic does, who is living on the hill under better conditions than

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the Natives. Most of them are at any rate.

Do you think the Asiatics are living under better conditions? They earn more money than the Natives and they live better on that account and, in addition to their wages, a number of them go in for market gardening. Now, that is in regard to tuberculosis, and then there is the question in regard to ordinary fevers. It is pretty difficult to make a comparison, because the only other disease would be enteric fever and there the number of deaths among the Natives is not larger than among the Europeans here as far as we can ascertain from the cases that are notified.

We have been told by a medical man that you can have enteric in a Native who will run about with it --- that the enteric will run its course in a few days and the Native will be about again in the course of a week without it even having been detected? It would be a very mild form of enteric. The severity of enteric with the Native is just about the same as it is with the European and the death incidence is about the same. And the incidence of the disease generally is not high, not noticeably so more than among the Europeans. But, in regard to other infectious diseases, the Native is immune from things like diphtheria and scarlet fever. We get very few such cases among the Natives. Take the general death rate among the Native population, it is 16.9, compared with the European population death rate of about 8.5, which means that the Native death rate is about double that of the Europeans. But it is not any higher than the Asiatic death rate and it is lower than the death rate among the South African Coloured race. There is one point in the

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vital statistics which I should just like to refer to, and that is this vexed question of infantile mortality. It shows in the register as a very large figure indeed, but when one comes to look into it, one finds that it is not so large, it is probably not much higher than, say, the Asiatic mortality. The number of Asiatic births was 83, and the number of deaths in the year was 72. It would look as if 72 children out of 83 born had died, but when I went through these figures, when I took all these 72 children I went through the births' registers and I found that only ten of them were registered as having been born here in the past year.

Of the 72, you could only trace ten in the births' register ?- Yes.

MR. LUCAS: And were those ten among the 83 born ?- Yes. There were only ten who had died of the 83.

It might happen that they would still fall in the 83 who were locally born children, but born in the preceding year ?- No, I took it for the 12 months, a 12 months' baby. I took it from the date of birth of the children born.

Did you look back at the births within 12 months of the date of death ?- Yes. We went right back to the last child.

CHAIRMAN: Say a child is registered as having died on the 23rd February ?- Yes, and I started back to the 20th February of the year before.

That is much more accurate than the way which is applied even in European birth statistics ?- Yes. The figure of 72 is out of all proportion. The point is that a great many young children are brought in from surrounding areas for treatment and their death is registered here, but they

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are not born here. And, further, a great many of the births occurring in Maritzburg, are not registered at all. There is no medical man attending and no nurse, and the Native does not know that registration is necessary.

CHAIRMAN: That is exceedingly interesting information because we have been on the track of this all along and I have not been able to get any figures that I am satisfied with. But now, could you take it the other way round, and perhaps, with the help of the Native Welfare Society, take these 83 children, or any number of children who have been born more than a year ago, and trace them and find out how many survived the whole year? - I shall go into it again and take this result first and then I shall take the year following this and go through it and then I shall try and find what data we can get to arrive at some figure as to the mortality here. We have a Native nurse moving about among the people, and one hopes to be kept in closer touch than has been the case in the past. In that way we shall be able to judge much more definitely. The death rate for infantile mortality is reckoned on a different basis than the other rates are reckoned on. The main difficulty comes in because we do not get all the births registered.

(DR. WOOD GAVE THE NUMBER OF 72 CHILDREN DYING OUT OF 83 BORN AS APPLYING TO ASIATICS. THE CONTEXT DOES NOT SHEW WHETHER HE MEANT THIS TO BE FOR NATIVES - POSSIBLY THE WORD "ASIATIC" SHOULD READ "NATIVE".)

There is one other point which I should like your opinion on, namely, the incidence of venereal disease among Natives. I know a good deal about that, because I ran a venereal diseases clinic here for nine years, but it is

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difficult to say just what the position is. I only know the incidence in this town and I do not know think that that incidence is heavy. The number of attendances at our clinic average about 60 to 70 a month; it was about 900 in a year, 900 to 1,000 attendances.

How many individuals? - I have not got the figures for this year, but I can give them for other years. There is only one point about that which I should like to mention and that is, during the last nine years that we have had a venereal disease clinic, the number of cases attending and the number of attendances have not decreased. It was hoped when we started treating venereal disease in this way that the arsenical treatment which seemed to cure the disease would have the effect of our not getting such large numbers in future and it was hoped that we would get a substantial decrease in the incidence of venereal disease within a comparatively short period. But one's experience has shown that that is not so. There is always the question whether we are getting more Natives who have the disease, whether we are getting a larger proportion coming in for treatment. Well, I do not think that that is so. I think the disease is still not controlled.

Is there not another factor? In every town, you have a shifting population of Natives and whenever you get new Natives who have not been in a place before, where there have been these facilities, they may get confidence in this clinic and come in for treatment? - Do you think the confidence of being able to get rid of the disease more easily would increase the incidence of it?

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No, I do not mean that. I mean cases which would never have come for treatment, would come in for treatment if they had confidence in that treatment? - Yes; although we are getting as large a number as before, it is possible that a larger proportion of those who are infected are coming in for treatment.

The fact is that you are always getting new people coming in from outside? - Yes, that is so; but it is still very disappointing to find that there is still no substantial reduction in the number of attendances, in fact there is an increasing number this year.

MR. LUCAS: Do you come across any cases of miners phthisis? - Very seldom.

Or do you have cases of silicosis? - Very rarely, but occasionally we do get such cases. I think the Superintendent of Hospitals would be able to give you more information about that than I would.

CHAIRMAN: I do not know whether you can differentiate in the clinic between Zulus and Basutos and others? - No, we do not. I used to do the treatment myself, but things are very different now. You have these cases coming in and they are treated free and receive free drugs from the Municipality. At one time, I did all that, but now the Hospital does it. They treat the cases which come from outside the Borough and inside the Borough as well. It is very difficult to differentiate. (Mr. Hawwin): On this question of the treatment of venereal disease. That does not come from the Native Revenue Account. It has to be paid for, but it does not come out of the Native Revenue Account. May I just call attention to a statement which was

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made a couple of days ago to the effect that Natives are inclined to spend from 25 to 50% of their earnings on beer, and also a statement that the revenue from beer is not always used for the benefit of the Natives. I think the statement that the revenue derived from the beer halls is not used for the benefit of the Natives, should be contradicted. I want to make it clear that no expenditure from the Native Revenue Account can be used without the approval of the Minister, and the Minister would see to it that the money was used solely for the benefit of Natives. On the other statement, I want to put in some particulars in regard to the Native population and the returns from the beer halls. I have had this statement drawn up and I should like to put it in just as it stands.

With reference to the statement made by a witness before this Commission, that Natives were encouraged to spend 25 to 50% of their salary on beer, I wish to point out that the census taken within the urban area of the City of Maritzburg on the 16th March 1930, shews 8,027 male adults over the age of 20 residing in the City. The cash takings for beer sales during March was £701.15.3. This I would point out works out at 1/9d approximately per head.

In addition to the resident Natives of the town, a large number of visiting Natives make use of the facilities at the Native beer and eating houses, with the result that quite a considerable proportion of the £701.15.3 represents money spent by Natives not residing in Maritzburg.

Of course, the number of Natives visiting Maritzburg and coming to the Native beer houses, cannot be estimated.

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There are a large number of Natives always coming here for one occasion or another and so it may be safely said, I think, that the consumption per head would really be less than 1/9d, although it must borne in mind that in every Native case, ----- The fact of every Native not going to the Native beer house would be quite balanced by the number of Natives visiting the town and we maintain that 1/9d per head would just about represent the figure. And, of course, 1/9d per head per month is less than 1d per day. That puts an altogether different complexion on the matter.

MR. LUCAS: I take it that there are a considerable number of Natives who do not drink beer at all ?- Yes.

It may be that in individual instances, the same as in other countries, the drunkards have been spending 25% to 50% ?- Yes, there may be individual cases.

That is how I took that statement, that certain Natives did spend as much as that.?- It may not have been reported correctly, but a statement like that going out creates a wrong impression among the public. May I just emphasize that we do not encourage the sale of beer or liquor. We do not ask the Natives to come and take it. It is there if they require it, but there is no encouragement and it is the policy of the Council not to push the sale.

In Durban, we were told by one body that the respectable Native, the educated Native, would not go near a beer house ?- (Mr. Stevenson): Not many of the educated Native frequent the beer house, but then again quite a large number of the educated Natives do not drink beer at all. I think there is more drinking of Native beer among the raw type of Natives.

Have you any idea of the percentage of Natives in Maritzburg that can be called educated ?- No. I could not say

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