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about insufficient land in the Transvaal, there again it would depend on your areas. Take the Bavenda area, you would not regard that as inadequate, and the Sibasa area, you would not regard that as inadequate?-- No. The areas in the Transvaal as they stand today, with the exception of one portion of Sibasa and Zeerust, are all inadequate, actually on acreage per family unit. Because, if you go to Sibasa, half the area which you look at is Crown land, it is not Native location at all.

But actually the Natives are living on it and very much in the same way as they live on Crown land in the Transkei?-- If they are going to be allowed there permanently, then it is allright. If you give them a lot of these locations and make use of the water supply, you will have ample land. I can give you an instance. Take Mpefu's Location. It is 15,500 morgen in extent. The population is 8,940; the cattle number 4,400, and there are 6,300 sheep and goats. That location will not have more than 10 to 15 inches of rain per year, in most years they only have ten inches and, roughly, they will get a crop about once in every five years. Now, if you take out the Ngeleli River, that will bring 5,000 acres under irrigation. That is a very considerable amount and that is one of our best permanent streams. Now, if you do that, if you take that river out, then it means that really that district is under-populated and not over-populated, as it would appear to be at present, and all over the Transvaal probably you will find that that is the position. If you use the water supply, you can do a great deal more than you can do at present.

MR: LUCAS: Could you economically take out that

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water?-- That water will cost, on a rough estimate, £1 per acre to put over the land. There is no such scheme in any European area, no scheme as low as that.

Is that at the capital cost of £1 per acre?-- Yes.

We do not want to face a position like the European irrigation scheme has to face today?-- The condition I would lay down is this, that no scheme in the Native area where the land costs nothing, must cost more than £8 per acre capital cost, so that where the European land is valued at £25 or £50 per acre, no Native land, as far as irrigation is concerned, would cost more than £10. Otherwise, I will not look at the scheme.

CHAIRMAN: Take the Senthulume and Kutana area?-- They are both dry.

Are they overcrowded?-- Yes, they are on account of the extreme dryness.

Take the Sekukune area. If the full scheme which you have put forward for getting ~~surplus~~^{face} water for stock is carried out, how would that be now in regard to congestion?-- It is one of the best in the Transvaal, because it will have irrigation sufficient for stock purposes and with the irrigation supplementing your food supplies, they will be allright. That is, for the Natives who are in a location. But if you take the Natives outside the location, that is to say, the Natives who are in the Lydenburg district, then you have more Natives than you have in the district, if I remember rightly. The Steelpoort River lies some distance away, but there is some land on the Steelpoort which I would like them to acquire. Pashlele's Location have bought a great many farms. Mafela's Location is 13,000 morgen in extent,

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the population is 9,000, cattle 6,000, sheep 2,000 and goats 13,000.

DR. ROBERTS: What sort of special work do they go in for there ---?-- We are providing water there now, but there again, if you take the Natives from the outside areas, they cannot accommodate them.

CHAIRMAN: Are you thinking of European farms when you speak of Natives from outside areas?-- Yes.

The Natives on European farms are hardly likely to be squeezed back?-- I am thinking of the European-owned land which is not farmed by the European landlord.

Absentee farmers?-- Yes. If you go to one part in the Transvaal, you will find that it is nearly all company-owned land there, and if they have to shift off that section of land, then they will be in a very bad way indeed. The location in Sekukuniland is 127,000 morgen in extent. It is dry land. They have 28,000 head of cattle on that land, but the area which is known as Sekukuniland, although it has nothing to do with the location, carries 50,000 acres, 50,000 head of cattle and 80,000 head of small stock. If you have to shift that population into Sekukuniland proper, into Geluk's Location, then, of course, it has no hope of carrying it, because I cannot carry out any extensive irrigation works there.

CHAIRMAN: Why do you talk of Geluk's Location?-- There is a Sekukuniland which is Native location proper. The old Sekukuniland embraces all the land between that location and the Drakensberg on the other side.

You mentioned Geluk's Location?-- We are speaking of

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it as the actual area of Crown area. We speak of Geluk's Location to separate it from what we used to know as Sekukuni-land. We just differentiate/between/ from what we used to know as Sekukuniland. The trouble there is that the Natives developed on farms. They are keen on irrigation and they took out small waters and immediately, if it is a Crown farm, the Europeans applied for it. I have given you the instance of Steelpoort and there has been great trouble there in that respect.

MR. LUCAS: I was told the other day that, for all practical purposes, one farm width on both sides of the Steelpoort is held by Europeans?-- Yes.

The Natives cannot get there, get near; is that so?-- They worked the farms on the South Bank. That is the land which has come into dispute. They have been definitely told by one of the ministers to get off the land. On the North Bank are European farms, but they are all worked by Natives, except two which are not worked by anyone. If any development takes place on these farms, they will naturally be applied for. I think it is a great pity that the river could not be made the boundary.

It means that the Europeans are having the river frontage all the way along?-- Yes, that is the position.

CHAIRMAN: Before coming to the next point in your statement, which is education, I want to deal with the statistics which you have been good enough to prepare about the education of Natives. I take it that the figures which are given on pages 23 to 26, have been extracted from the annual reports of the Department of Education?-- No; these figures are extracted from the figures which were supplied

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By the Department of Education for the report which I prepared for Major Herbst for the Geneva Conference, as most accurate and up-to-date. These are all figures supplied by the various Departments of Education. In each case they are their own figures. I said I would not risk any figures for Geneva, unless they supplied them themselves.

Then take your figures on page 22. You say there, "N.B. The abovementioned figures are arrived at in the following way. The percentage increase on the 1921 figure was taken. This was added to the 1921 figures, giving the number of children between the ages of 1 and 14. This number was halved to arrived at the number of school children of school-going age." The percentage increase on the 1921 figures was taken. What percentage did you take for the seven years?-- I took the percentage which is used by your Department.

I now want to go back to page 9. At the end of that paragraph 1, you suggest that a certain very drastic change is required in the nature of education if it is to be of economic value to the Native. Will you specify please in what way the change should be made?-- I have set it out in full in this memorandum, which was submitted to the Natal Department of education, shewing the type of syllabus and the reason for suggesting the syllabus and so on. I have started too by again taking their own figures. I think ---- it is under discussion now, but we have not arrived at the final conclusion.

Very well, we shall leave the general education question alone until later. I now come to page 10 of your statement. You refer there to the training in agriculture on

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along the Kenya scheme. You say there "If a big proportion of the Natives received some degree of training in agriculture along the lines of the Kenya scheme, the result would surely be increased production in Native and European areas, decreased cost of production, and a lesser number of units employed by farmers, leaving more labour available for the mines?-- Yes. That scheme is the one from which I have taken a great deal to embody for the scheme in Natal. The idea is that from the time the child enters school, agricultural teaching will form a great part of the teaching. They carry them from the sub-standards and when they get into the standards, they increase the percentage of agricultural teaching. And then they go on further. When the youngster gets to 14 or 17 years, provided he has got to the higher standard ---- because there are a great number of them who, even at that age, have not got to the higher standards --- then they give them a greater percentage of agricultural teaching. It works out on this basis that, out of every four years of education, one year of scholastic teaching is devoted to agricultural training.

DR. ROBERTS: Not devoted daily or yearly, but according to the circumstances of the pupil?-- That is so. I have taken that system and I have used such information from the system of the United States to extend that scheme.

CHAIRMAN: Then on page 11, you mentioned, about the middle of the page, that there are many other points which can be explained verbally. Now, about this question of development of Native agriculture. That, naturally, is one of great importance to this Commission and I shall be pleased if you will go rather fully into this matter?-- We have come

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back to our communal farming. The cultivated land is communal grazing land. On the word of the chief in the one instance that is very widely adhered to, the date is set when stock have to go into the mealie stalks to graze. The man who wants to go in for a system of farming and rotation crops is prevented from doing so. It is a man made obstacle in that the chief in power says, "on such and such a date the stock will go into the mealie stalks". Well, if that Native farmer wants to grow wheat or some other rotation crops, he is prevented from doing so because the cattle have to go into that land where he wants to grow his crops -- his lands then become a grazing area.

If he cannot grow a rotation of crops, he cannot bring in the maximum which the land would bring up, neither can he maintain the fertility of the land. Another obstacle is that the cultivated lands are not grouped. If those lands were grouped, you might fence them and you might still grow your crops and you might say, such and such a portion of this area will be planted with crops, you will have Summer crops here or Winter crops there, and we will still allow that corner, but in preference, we will remove the grazing outside-----

The scattered nature of the lands, in other words, makes it impossible to fence them. The cost becomes prohibitive, unless I can find some hedge plant which will stand up to the stock. I am experimenting on that at present. That, of course, may remove one of the difficulties there. Whether it will pan out or not I do not know.

Now, I think that steadily, during these next few years, we shall be decreasing our production per acre, instead of increasing it, through inferior and shallow ploughing. The

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man has increased the number of his stock that have to be grazed on the land to such an extent that the animals are not able to draw a decent plough. In the Ciskei, I have had to cut out my heavier ten inch plough and to introduce an eight inch cut which will do inferior work. The stock cannot draw the plough at at the depth which should be done.

And there again, the human being has been responsible for this position by overstocking the area and not giving us stock of the strength to work. I would rather have two good animals in the plough than six of the kind which they usually put in. If we could do away with the communal system which is the principal man-made obstacle and get down to individual tenure with permanency of tenure, then we would be able to bring about the most rapid improvement of all.

But there is a colossal difficulty, so far as those who are responsible for the administration of affairs are concerned. They say that such a thing is an impossible one. That is my principal obstacle, which the human being puts in my way of agricultural progress. I cannot get that man to take any pride in that land, and, as a matter of fact, that is no reason why he should take any pride; in fact, it is an impossibility for him to do so under existing conditions.

CHAIRMAN: You speak of 8 inch ploughing. You visualise a very considerable increase of depth over the ordinary Native ploughing?-- Yes; the ordinary Native ploughing is a scratch of 4 inches deep.

That, of course, is very bad from the point of view of getting a crop and from the point of view of erosion it is

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very bad too ?-- Yes, it is.

And from the point of view of robbing the soil of its plant food?-It is worst of all.

But does it not leave you a reserve which you can ultimately get at ?-- You get a pan underneath; you do not get your water or air to penetrate to render the plant food soluble and you are working out just that little surface and, instead of getting to a greater depth to render the plant food soluble, you stay on top.

But you have that area below which has not been touched. Have you not got a reserve there which will be useful for the time when you get them to plough deep ?-- No; because we are not getting that plant food soluble.

So even when they get down to 8 or 10 inches, some-time will have to elapse before it gets soluble ?-- Yes.

And when that time has elapsed, you have practically virgin soil ?-- That is so.

So it is leaving another six inches which ultimately may be used ?-- Yes, but in the ^{mean} time you are robbing your crops to an awful extent. Your good wheat, for instance, will go down to 10 inches. If you get a good depth at the top, you will get your crop going. Today you are not doing that.

When you say on page 13 of your statement that Zululand is under-populated, you make that statement in regard to existing methods on Native farming ?-- Yes, it is the one big area which is under-populated and which would carry a far larger population than it does, even with existing methods of farming.

On page 13, you have a sentence which gives 11 or 17 million morgen. This is what you have there: "The trouble is that the conditions mentioned, which will make the available

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land sufficient, will not be carried into effect. This means that we can double the 11 or 17 million morgen, whichever is taken, and we will be as badly off in 25 years' time as we are today." I do not quite follow that. Do you mean that, if more land is made available without any question as to how that land is used, it is just putting off the evil day?-- Yes.

Has the Kenya Agricultural Commission not stated that, according to their findings, there will never be enough land?-- You must take it this way. The 11 million morgen is four times as heavily stocked as the European areas are. Even if you were to make that 11 millions into 22 millions, that land is still twice as heavily stocked as the European land is. Now, if you were to spend £100,000 a year on giving them more land, then by the time you are at the 10th year, that first land which you have bought will be worn out. Unless you buy land and impose the necessary regulations, you will simply be causing the whole country to be denuded.

The simple provision of more land is no cure at all?-- No, it is no cure at all.

MR. LUCAS: Assuming that you start with real goodwill to educate the Natives to use what land they have efficiently, would the land which they have now be sufficient in such circumstances?-- Excluding the Transvaal, for this generation, yes.

Even the Transkei?-- Yes.

Assuming you are not encouraging so many men to go out to work?-- I think that even more will go out to work.

CHAIRMAN: Owing to your rising standard of living? Yes.

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?-- Yes. If you take a district like Nkutu, where we have a section of the Basuto population, they have made enormous progress. They have made greater progress in two years in the purchase of fertilizers than in 18 years in the Transkei, that is, per capita. You get more people there from that section going out to work than from any other section, even though they are producing more.

That is from the Basuto section ?-- Yes.

DR. FOURIE: More than from all the reserves ?- Yes

All the reserves in the Transvaal ?-- Yes. Yet, if I look at other parts, --- those other parts are heavily over-populated.

MR. LUCAS: Mr. Butler put in a well-reasoned paper to us and the impression which that left with me was that, unless we trained the Natives much more efficiently_x than we have done in the past, without a very large number going out to work to bring in money, the Transkei Natives would never live on their land?-- Quite so.

So when you say that there would be enough land under the conditions which I postulated, it is only on the assumption that the income is largely augmented from abroad?--

No; if we could immediately say that we were going to farm that land along proper lines, ----

You have to take practical probabilities into account

?-- It would be done.

So we have to face the fact that the Native has to go out to work ?-- Yes.

He has to face that economic pressure for a long time

?-- Yes. There is one point which I wish to mention. The Secretary has now agreed that where the Government buys land, the conditions of occupation of that land shall be laid down

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by me. I assess in the first place the value of that land and I say, "We can pay so much for it and no more. If we pay that it will carry so many people and so many stock and these people will be able to earn so much on these lands!" That has been agreed to for areas outside the Transkei, but it does not extend to the area where the Native himself purchases, and that is where we get a severe break down.

DR. ROBERTS: Would you expect that it would? At first blush it appeals to me that you have no right to limit him ?-----

MR. LUCAS: You said that you are laying down conditions for land which they get from the Government ?-- Yes; excluding the Transkei.

When you calculate what that land can carry, do you calculate at the same time that they can only make part of their living and that some of them must go outside to earn money so that the family shall have something to live on ?-- What the present generation can live on. That is the point which one has to take into consideration. You have these families living on that land. There are certain conditions in regard to stock which have to be laid down.

Do you lay down conditions as to fencing, etc.?-- Yes, just as we have done for Middelton.

Surely you are able to control it ?-- Yes; it has this great advantage, that I fix the rent value. It is no use the Government saying, "This is a particular friend of ours who wants to buy that land and we want him to have it". I must say that, up to the present, the present Minister has turned down any unlikely propositions that I have reported on as such.

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CHAIRMAN: Coming back to our old friend, overstocking. In order to save some of these over-stocked areas, it will be necessary to close them for a time?-- Yes.

And to take away the stock?-- Yes.

And the population as well?-- Yes.

So that, for some areas, it will be necessary to have what, in Europe, they refer to as internal colonisation?-- Yes.

In a case like that, have you considered the question of tribes splitting away and going to live away from other members of their tribe?-- They will not do that.

That is a big practical difficulty?-- Yes, it is a very big practical difficulty.

What is the solution?-- I say, fence the area. They are getting nothing more from it. In most of these areas we can fence, leaving the homestead out. I say, fence definitely. Today, you are making your stock poorer and poorer and your stock is getting nothing. It is getting nothing from that land in that already congested area. To go on like that will increase the rapidity with which they will starve.

They will have the alternative of breaking away or staying in the remaining area and losing their cattle?-- Yes. Look at the Ciskei and the way they lost their cattle in the 1919 drought. They lost half of it and more. Had we taken the matter in hand then, we could have done a lot, but now they are breeding up rapidly again.

You might pray for another drought?-- Yes, although it would seem an inhuman thing to say.

DR. ROBERTS: If someone went to reason with them, with these men, do you not think that some of them might

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accept it ?-- I have this from two councillors in the Middeldrift area. I discussed that with the conference at King William's Town and they came to me afterwards and said, "If you will impose compulsory fencing, our people will be against it, but we will support it outside. We cannot say "you must do it", but we will support it outside." If I could fence those cattle off at no cost to these men and demonstrate to them and say, "Allright, now you can put up your limited number of stock---" these councillors would be willing to consider the limitation. If that could be done, then I am perfectly certain that it would succeed. I wanted to impose my wool levy, but they would not let me.

MR. LUCAS: Who would not let you ?-- The Agricultural Department would not.

Which council was this to which you referred just now ?-- The Council for the Middeldrift area.

MAJOR ANDERSON: On page 13, you say "Zululand is under-populated and can, with the cane areas of Natal and Zululand, if developed, absorb (if desired or required) all Natives now resident on Crown and private lands in Natal and Zululand". Are you there contemplating the taking over of the existing cane areas under your system of share-farming ?-- Yes. There are 20,000 acres of cane. It is Crown lands. 10 acres of cane would give a man a good living. It is equivalent to 400 acres of European cane land.

MR. LUCAS: Taking his standard of living ?-- A better living than he is making now. I can only take the 30 that we have as examples, where we have much better conditions on ten-acre allotments.

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Will you tell us about that please ?-- That was the first section which was cut up. We took 300 acres and cut that up into 10-acre allotments, each family working one allotment. Last year, they made an income off that land, clear, after deducting certain costs, of over £40. Over two years, they had an income altogether of £80.

MAJOR ANDERSON: What tonnage did they get ?-- I think it averaged out at 27 tons.

Some 10 acres would be more than others ?-- No, they were all round about the same.

Of course, that would be one of the first conditions of the success of the scheme, that it must be even land and that the one 10-acre lot is as good as the next ?-- No. As far as our big scheme is concerned, we reduce the amount which the man has to pay. Here we say a man is only going to pay 10/- an acre because he is only going to have half a crop. I leave a big margin. I left it open for us to assess the value. I did not want to have the same thing as they have on European settlements, where every man pays the same, irrespective of whether the land is good or bad.

MAJOR ANDERSON: Did you have 20 tons an acre; at how much?-- 14/- a ton.

They will not necessarily get that ?-- That is what they got last year. As I say, they got round about 27 tons. I hoped that we would get 30 tons. Of course, we have approximately 100,000 acres of suitable land in Zululand.

You have to allow for occasional bad seasons ?-- Yes. But we have not got to allow as much as we have to do

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for our ordinary crops. You get one bad year, perhaps, out of ten and with our ordinary crops you get perhaps one good year in five.

I am afraid the average is more than one in ten. It is more like one in five?-- Not an absolute failure.

If you average 20 tons an acre over 10 years, you do well, and I doubt very much whether, with Native cultivation, you will do that, unless you have very close supervision?-- Yes, close supervision is contemplated, that is laid down.

You insist on a man keeping his cane clean?-- Yes, absolutely. We can send a man away if he does not do the work properly. If you look at the proclamation, you will see that that is done - it is also laid down in the lease. I actually wanted to specify the number of supervisors for each number of Natives, but the Secretary said, "Why put that in; you may even want to increase the number; that is left to you to decide as the work progresses." I said, "Allright, so long as I can deal with the matter as the work progresses". There will be very strict supervision.

MR. LUCAS: You have to see to it that, if you should be transferred to some other work and you cannot attend to this yourself, that a proper scheme is laid down for your successor?-- Yes, that is so.

Now, you referred to Nkutu district where the Basutos are. Did you work out any details to support your statement that, with the improvement in their economic conditions, they went out more freely to work elsewhere?-- I have the figures from the district and I shall get them for you. I have the details for both Nkutu and Glen Grey,

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