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The Transvaal Land Owners' Association.

P.O. BOX 1281.

TELEPHONE No. 33-5320.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"ZEMINDAR."

All communications to be addressed to
THE SECRETARY.

JOHANNESBURG.

17th December, 1932.

Howard Pim, Esq.,
95 - 100, Exploration Buildings,
JOHANNESBURG.

Dear Sir,

re Native Service Contract Act.

The magistrates of Potgietersrust and Zoutpansberg have addressed circulars to public bodies, farmers' associations and landowners in their districts notifying the Government's intention to put the above Act into operation on July 1st, 1933, and the appointment of local committees to investigate and report to the Minister on the question of proclamation of areas under Section 9. In case you have not seen the circulars I beg to enclose copies herewith for your information.

Yours faithfully,



SECRETARY.

ODPY.

Office of the Magistrate,
Potgietersrust,
2nd December, 1932.

To Public Bodies, Farmers' Associations
and Landowners in the district of
POTGIETERSRUST.

NATIVE SERVICE CONTRACT ACT, 1932.

I beg to advise you that the probable date of the coming into force of the abovementioned Act is 1st July, 1933.

The publication of the proclamation bringing the Act into force will not, however, automatically put the provisions of Section 9 of the Act into force and before proclaiming this district or any portion thereof under Section 9 it is desired that public bodies, farmers' associations and landowners in the district be given opportunity of making representations in order that the position may be thoroughly investigated before arriving at any definite conclusion.

I shall accordingly be glad to have your views regarding the following points:-

1. What is the customary period of service rendered by squatters in this district.
2. Do you consider that this period should be varied.
3. Are you of opinion that the district or any portion thereof should be proclaimed under Section 9. If yes, please state what portion.
4. If the district or any portion thereof is proclaimed what effect would such proclamation have on the natives?
5. Do you consider that natives are likely to suffer any hardships in cases where landowners refuse to accept liability for the £5 tax.
6. It would be appreciated if you could give a rough estimate of the number of natives in the district that would be affected by the refusal of landowners to accept liability for the £5 tax in case the district is proclaimed under Section 9.

I shall be glad to have your views not later than the 15th instant.

A local committee has been appointed to make recommendations to the Minister and should you desire to give evidence under oath before the committee I shall be glad if you will advise me accordingly and you will then be advised of the date on which to appear before the committee.

The attached memo sets out briefly the main provisions of Section 9 of the Act.

D. C. U. SWART.

Acting Magistrate.

Main provisions of Section 9, Native Service Contract Act, 1933.

1. The Governor-General may from time to time proclaim any area, alter boundaries of any area, or withdraw any area from the provisions of Section 9.
2. The owner of land outside a Native Location and an Urban area is liable to a tax of £5 in respect of each native male over 18 and under 60 years of age who resides on his land and who is physically and mentally fit and who has not rendered service during the calendar year for the period fixed by proclamation in the proclaimed area (which shall be not less than three months and not more than six months).

If the services of the native were not available and the owner could not take or have taken reasonable steps to secure that the services would be available, the owner will not be liable.

No tax will be paid in respect of the guardian of three or more natives who have each under a contract of service served the owner of the land on which the guardian is domiciled, in the aggregate for a period not less than the prescribed period (not less than three months and not more than six months).

3. Tax payable in January in respect of the previous calendar year.
4. Unless the owner proves the contrary he shall be deemed to be liable for the tax in respect of each native male (over 18 years and under 60 years) proved to have resided on his property during the preceding calendar year.

COPY.

NATIVE SERVICE CONTRACT ACT No. 24 of 1932.

It is hereby notified that it is the intention of the Government to put the abovementioned Act into operation on the 1st July, 1933.

The publication of a proclamation bringing the Act into operation will not, however, automatically put the provisions of Section 9 into force and the Minister desires in each case to obtain a report from a local Committee of investigation before any area is proclaimed under this Section.

A Committee for the Zoutpansberg district has been appointed under the Chairmanship of the Magistrate and its functions will be to investigate and report to the Minister on the following lines:-

1. The customary period of service rendered annually by squatters in the district and to recommend the periods of service to be determined.
2. The effect the proclamation of any area in the district is likely to have upon the natives in that area and whether the natives are likely to suffer any undue hardships in cases where landowners refuse to pay the £5 tax, and how many natives are likely to be affected and what other land is available for them.
3. What areas, if any, should be defined by proclamation in terms of Section 9 (1).

Landowners, farmers' associations and public bodies generally are invited to make representations to the Committee so that the position may be thoroughly investigated before the Committee submits its report.

The times, places and dates when the Committee will sit to hear evidence will be notified later but the Committee will also be pleased to receive representations in writing.

C. N. BLAINE
MAGISTRATE
ZOUTPANSBERG.

Louis Trichardt,
18/11/32.

NATIVE SERVICE CONTRACT BILL.

Grave concern over the Native Service Contract Bill is expressed by a manifesto prepared within the last ten days by the Johannesburg Joint Council of Europeans and Natives as a last protest against the Bill. The document, which supports the recent protest made by Sir James Rose-Innes and other prominent persons in Capetown, has already been signed at very short notice as follows:-

BUTTERWORTH:

Rev. R. Godfrey and six others.

GRADOCK: :

Rev. J.W. Jordon & F.P. Evans, W.E. Cureon and thirty-five other Europeans and Natives.

DUNDEE:

Revs. A.R. Kempe (Chairman) and J.R.L. Kingon (Secretary) for Joint Council.

GRAHAMSTOWN:

Bishop of Grahamstown, Rev. W.S. Conradie, Major A.G. Mullins, A.O. Mathieson, Bishop Vyvian, Professor J. Ewing, Revs. C.H.P. Jacques, A.J. Lennard, A. Mc Robert, Canon C.J. Wyche and Father Vogt., S.J., Drs. E.A. Seale and E.R. Rankin, J.E.H. Mylne and several others.

HEILBRON:

A. Lomax, J. Pels, J.A. duP. Naude, Revs. W.H. Stanton, C.B. Lensley, H. Firkin and thirty-six other Europeans and Natives.

JOHANNESBURG:

Howard Pim (President, Joint Council) W.M. Macmillan (Chairman), Bishop of Johannesburg and Dr. A.D. Kuma (Vice Chairman), Walter Webber, R.V. Selope Thema, O.D. Schreiner, J.H. Ramsbottom, J.D. Rheinallt Jones, R.F. Alfred Hoernle, J. Dexter Taylor (Chairman Witwatersrand Church Council) Ray E. Phillips, M.L. Hodgson, S. Herbert Frankel, D.C. Greig, H.M. Taberer, H.L. Dhlomo, H. Belby Msimang and a hundred-and-thirty others.

KIMBERLEY:

Bishop of Kimberley, W.M. Pescod, L.M. Pooley, J. Pooley, E.W. Mowbray, John Orr, Z.R. Mashabane, W. Dyason, W.J. Humphries, J.M. Swan, R.C. Elliott, Archdeacon Mogg and seven hundred-and-sixty other Europeans and Natives,

KROONSTAD:

J.M. Auchterlone (Mayor), Revs. John Weir, R. Duncan, M. Knight, Father W. Schlings, H.J. Hills, and J.W. Bradford, J. Hill, T. Pierce, P.W. Nunn, C. Coetzer, D.H. Nel and a hundred other Europeans and Natives.

PIETERSBURG:

Revs. A. Edington and Evelyn D'lepu and fifty-nine other Europeans and Natives,

PRETORIA:

Bishop of Pretoria, Dr. A.W. Saunders, Archdeacon W. Parker, Revs. J.W. Allcock, J. Glyndwr Davies, C.W.L. de Souza, Professors J. Boxwell, E.H. Brookes, Leo Fouche and D.G. Malan, J.A.I. Agar-Hamilton, S.H. Barnes, C.O'C Magge, E. O'C. Magge, Sir T.G. Truter, Colonel J.C.B. Clayton, H.C. Leith, J. Bud 'Mbelle and ninety other

Europeans and Natives.

SPRINGS:

Rev. H.D. Hlabangane and four hundred-and-ninety-five other Natives.

TIGER KLOOF:

Rev. A.J. Haile and twenty-four other Europeans and Natives.

UMTATA:

Bishop of St. John's, Rev. Godfrey Callaway, Dr. R.H. Welsh, J.G. Tooke and fifty-one other Europeans and Natives.

ZOUTFANSBERG:

H.S. Phillips and thirty-four others of whom six sign as farmers.

Manifesto attached.

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