

This *desideratum* will be more rapidly attained should the Chamber of Mines carry out their project of establishing a sort of sanatorium at Waterval Boven, where newly recruited natives will be lodged and fed for a certain time, doing some light work, until they are fit to do the heavier work of the mines and get acclimatised. The Chamber of Mines have spared no effort in attempting to reduce the rate of mortality amongst natives; recently they opened an international competition with the awards of £500, £250, and £100 for the three best practical suggestions and devices to obviate or minimise the occurrence of miners' phthisis, the awarded apparatus being already in use in some of the mines.

*Desertions.*—There are practically no desertions amongst the Portuguese natives working on the mines, which confirms my assertion that the natives, on a whole, are well treated. All the compound managers unanimously informed me that cases of desertion are very rare, and in some of the mines not one has been recorded for the past three or four months.

*Time of Work.*—There are two shifts on the mines: night and day shift. The day shift starts at 6.30 a.m. and leaves off at 5.30 p.m., when the night shift starts and works till 6 a.m. next morning. The natives take below what food they require, and are also supplied with hot coffee.

*Wages.*—A native seldom receives less than £2 5s. per month, and many earn more, as I came across boys who received more than £5. This high wage is earned by the boy going on piece-work, when he is paid so much per foot of bore-hole.

*Amusements.*—To keep their natives in good spirits, the compound managers organise, on Sundays as a rule, Kaffir dances, sometimes getting together the natives of several mines. Football, cricket, etc., are also indulged in, especially amongst the Zulus and Basutos; the Portuguese natives are not, as a rule, fond of these sports. I had the pleasure more than once of watching games of football and cricket between teams of the night shift boys, who stay in the compound during the day.

In the South Randfontein, where some 2,000 natives are working, there is a large hall, where magic lantern exhibitions take place twice a week.

Summarising, it is with pleasure that I have to inform Your Excellency that the natives on the mines are, as a rule, better treated now than they have ever been, enjoying every possible comfort, good food, and lodging which leaves nothing to be desired, either in respect of accommodation or hygiene.

This year, the two most destructive diseases, namely, pneumonia and diarrhoea, have decreased in an extraordinary manner, owing, no doubt, to the precautions that have been taken. The scurvy epidemic that was prevalent some eighteen months ago has disappeared, not a single case having come to my knowledge, which the medical authorities attribute to the large supply of vegetables and Kaffir beer given to the natives.

My desire being not to write a lengthy report, rather condensing the information, I beg Your Excellency's leave to close the present, being as ever at Your Excellency's disposal to supply any other information Your Excellency may require.

(Signed) J. NAVARRO DE ANDRADE.

Portuguese Curator's Office,  
Johannesburg, 5th June, 1904.

#### Annexure "D."

### NATIVE COMPENSATION CLAIMS FOR WAR LOSSES.

#### REPORT BY SECRETARY FOR NATIVE AFFAIRS.

1. Resolutions were passed in Executive Council on the 10th and 21st July, 1902, in the following terms:—

(a) "No. 262.

\* \* \* \* \*

"Resolved further, that a sum of £200,000 should be set aside for losses to natives.

"Resolved further, that as in the case of compensation for burgher losses, the cost of administration should not be deducted from the sums to be distributed, and that in both cases the distribution is to be *pro rata*."

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) "No. 350. The question of compensation to natives for war losses was considered, and it was decided to deal with it on the following lines:—

"1. That a lump sum, to be determined hereafter, should be set apart for such compensation.

"2. That, in order to arrive at a *pro rata* distribution of this sum among the various natives having suffered losses, the Native Commissioners in districts, where such Commissioners exist, and, where they do not exist, the Resident Magistrates, should receive native claims, and estimate to the best of their ability the losses of each individual.

"3.

\* \* \* \* \*

"4.

\* \* \* \* \*



"5. That no compensation should be given to natives except for direct losses falling under the following heads :—

Live stock,  
Grain,  
Seed,  
Agricultural Implements,

"but that it should be competent for the Commissioner for Native Affairs to admit claims for compensation for any other direct loss, if submitted as a special case by the Native Commissioner or Resident Magistrate."

2. To give effect to these resolutions a Circular was issued to the Native Commissioners of this Department on the 9th September as follows :—

"With reference to the subject of compensation to natives for war losses, I am directed to enclose you a copy of a Resolution of the Executive Council, No. 350, upon the subject.

"2. Any natives having claims should substantiate them in the form of affidavits, and produce such evidence in support thereof as you may require, if obtainable.

"3. No promise must be made of full compensation, because the amount available for the purpose will only admit of a *pro rata* distribution.

"4. The direct losses for which compensation may be awarded are given in Clause 5 of the Resolution.

"5. The claims must be assessed by you to the best of your ability, bearing in mind that natives are very clever at putting up claims, and may ask for a valuation based upon war losses values, whereas the values should be the normal values existing before the outbreak of war.

"6. You are aware that considerable numbers of natives were collected in refugee camps under the control of Major Lotbiniere, R.E. The claims of all natives for losses while in such camps are now under investigation, and to such persons who are entitled to any compensation will be issued a form duly certified by a responsible officer setting forth their losses. Should such certified forms be presented by you, they will be included in the return of claims arising in the district from which he was removed to the refugee camp, the two claims will be consolidated by you.

"7. Whatever sum may be definitely awarded will be paid through the Native Affairs Department.

"8. It is not necessary to send any claims to this Office. Attached to each claim should be a form of the description enclosed herein marked 'C,' on which should appear clearly the number of the claim and the full amount assessed. In due time it may be contemplated to call upon you to send in these forms 'C' or an abstract of them.

"9. For the purpose of reference, therefore, it will be necessary that a Book Register be kept by you setting forth the particulars of the claim form 'C.'

"10. For your guidance I append a list of what is deemed fair standard of value before this war :—

"Horses, according to age and general condition, not to exceed £10.

"Cattle, according to age and general condition, not to exceed £9.

"Sheep, according to age and general condition, not to exceed 15s.

"Goats, according to age and general condition, not to exceed 10s.

"Ploughs, according to age and general condition, not to exceed 30s.

"Wagons and other things must be estimated from description and according to period of use.

"11. Care should be taken to ascertain if claimants have already received any compensation or not from the Military Department, as it is understood that such Departments have already paid out a considerable amount to natives direct."

3. The Native Commissioners were informed that claims for compensation for stock taken by Boers from natives during the war might be received, but were to be recorded quite separately from the claims for losses due to the action and operations of the British troops.

4. It will thus be seen that the claims have been distinctly divided into two classes, and it remains to be determined whether the claims on account of losses sustained at the hands of the Boers are to be admitted for consideration, and, if so, whether they should be paid at the same rate or in some fixed proportion to the dividends on claims arising out of British operations.

5. On the 30th October a further Circular was issued to the following effect :—

"With reference to previous Circulars on the subject of compensation to natives for war losses it is hereby notified that claims in respect of Government notes received from the Boer Government for cattle, horses, or goods sold by claimant to the late Government, which said cattle, horses, or goods were captured from the British or looted during the war by the claimant, shall in no case be regarded as admissible.

"Claims for wages alleged to be due by the late Government for work done by claimants, both prior and subsequent to the date of annexation, must also be regarded as inadmissible."

6. The Native Commissioner lost no time in taking up the investigation of claims in pursuance of the above directions. The duty necessarily absorbed a great deal of their time, and has been attended with considerable difficulties. It was undertaken at a period when the natives were scattered all over the country as a result of the war, and during the actual process of their resettlement.



7. Six months after the work was commenced the following Circular, dated 11th March, 1903, was issued :—

“With a view to finality in dealing with native compensation claims, it is necessary to fix a date of prescription, and I have to notify that the 1st May has been decided upon as the date subsequent to which no such claims are to be accepted.

“The collection of the native tax will offer a favourable opportunity of making this fact widely known.”

8. On the 18th May a final Circular was sent in the following terms :—

“I have now to request that you will complete the assessment of all native compensation claims lodged with you and the Sub-Commissioners under you, and that you will forward to me with the least possible delay a schedule thereof in the accompanying form.

“All the documents and evidence in support of the claims should be retained by you for record in connection with the register referred to in paragraph 9 of the Circular No. 1,500 of the 29th September, 1902.”

9. As it was found that some of the Commissioners had not had time to complete their investigations by the 1st May, the date of prescription was extended to the 31st October.

10. In the meanwhile, several officials had disposed of all the claims in their districts and had rendered the final schedules to this Office, where a general register was opened, in which every claim has since been recorded with complete particulars for future reference and guidance.

11. Since the 31st October the whole of the outstanding schedules have been received and have now been written up.

12. When the *pro rata* distribution has been decided upon the following procedure is proposed :—

- (1) The dividend upon each claim will be inserted by this Office in the last column of the form of schedule.
- (2) The schedules will then be transmitted to the Native Commissioners concerned with a draft in part payment of the amount set apart for each district, accompanied by vouchers.
- (3) The Native Commissioners will cash such drafts, and fill up the vouchers as each claimant is paid.
- (4) Every payment will be duly discharged and the vouchers returned to this Office.
- (5) Requisitions will be made to this Office for funds required from time to time until the whole of the disbursements are completed.

13. While the dividends on the complete claims can be looked upon as final and can be paid out to the claimants without delay, the actual amounts to be paid out on incomplete claims will have to be left to the discretion of the Native Commissioners, after taking the necessary evidence, and the settlement of these claims will therefore occupy some considerable time.

14. The assessment of the incomplete claims may in many cases prove to be in excess of the amount allowed after the claims have been proved, and some of the assessments will no doubt be cancelled altogether. A surplus may thus be anticipated.

15. Authority should be given to the Commissioner for Native Affairs to appropriate any such surplus funds for payment of compensation in special cases which are certain to arise. In some districts military compensation board claims have been assessed with or without the appearance of the claimants. In others no claims have been assessed without such appearance, so that while some claims will have been assessed twice, others perhaps equally good may not have been assessed at all, and it would be well, therefore, to have some surplus in hand out of which compensation could be allowed in cases of this kind.

16. The Executive Council Resolution No. 262 of 1902 provides for a *pro rata* distribution of the fund. If £140,000 be reserved for the Transvaal, the dividend of the whole claims, both British and Boer, ordinary and special, would amount to about 4s. 3d. in the pound. This rate would leave a balance of £2,243, which could be utilised in the settlement of special claims. If the Boer claims are disallowed altogether, the dividend on the British claims, ordinary and special, would be increased to 5s. 6d.

17. I submit a separate report, specifically dealing with the claims as assessed in the various districts, and attach a statement giving a summary of the schedules.

18. It is now for the Council to decide how much of the £200,000 is to be set aside respectively for :—

- (a) The Transvaal.
- (b) The Orange River Colony.
- (c) The Territories ceded to Natal.

19. It is suggested that the fund might be apportioned as follows :—

Transvaal	..	..	..	..	£140,000
Orange River Colony	..	..	..	..	50,000
Territories Ceded to Natal	..	..	..	..	10,000
					<hr/>
					£200,000

20. The Commissioners and Magistrates entrusted with the laborious task, and Mr. Williamson, the accountant of this Department, deserve much credit for the manner in which they have carried out the investigation, compilation, and assessment of the claims.

Johannesburg,  
18th November. 1903.

W. WINDHAM,  
Secretary for Native Affairs.



## NATIVE COMPENSATION CLAIMS REPORT.

The summarised statement herewith will show the total number of claims to be 15,542, and the amount assessed £648,270 3s. 1d., consisting of:—

10,945 Claims against the British, assessed at	..	..	£502,560	16	4
4,597 Claims against the Boers, assessed at	..	..	145,709	6	9
15,542 Claims, assessed at	..	..	£648,270	3	1

The following observations are submitted thereon in divisional order:—

## I. Western Division.—5,258 claims have been assessed in this Division, viz.:—

3,342 British, at	..	..	..	..	..	£126,279	11	0
1,916 Boer, at	..	..	..	..	..	78,404	3	6
5,258 (Total)	..	..	..	..	..	£204,683	14	6

These are contained in eight schedules—two for each of the four districts of Rustenburg, Potchefstroom, Lichtenburg, and Pilansberg. The schedules for Pilansberg, however, include claims apparently from Rustenburg, Marico, and Lichtenburg. This may probably be explained by natives belonging to these districts having lodged their claims with the Sub-Native Commissioner at Pilansberg, instead of with the Sub-Native Commissioner of their own districts.

There is nothing in these schedules to indicate that the claims were assessed upon a personal appearance of the claimants and the hearing of evidence in support, but it is understood that comparatively few of the claimants appeared in person, and that the greater part of the claims were assessed on the information contained in the original claims, in most of which evidence had been taken either by the Military Compensation Board or the Resident Magistrate. Probably the information before the assessor was sufficient to enable him to assess the claim just as well as if the claimant had been present.

The schedules of this Division include a claim made on behalf of the late Chief Sehumi of Pella and some of his people, which is recommended for special consideration on the ground that the original claim was supported by Military receipts, which were handed in to the Commandant at Zeerust, but cannot now be found. The Staff Officer for Receipts has power to pass receipts which have been lost after having been handed in to a properly authorised official, but he did not consider the evidence in this case sufficient, and the natives' only recourse is, therefore, a compensation claim. The original claim amounted to £1,830 10s., which is alleged to have been the value of the stock, etc. Some of the receipts are stated to have been for horses at £60 each, and rifles at £5. These high values seem to cast a doubt upon the truth of the natives' statement, as no Military receipts would show such excessive valuations. It may be, however, that they had receipts for their stock, etc., in which no amount was stated, and that the values were inserted in their claim by the agent who made it up for them. The Native Commissioner appears to be satisfied that they had receipts, and after striking out the rifles and reducing the horses to £10 each he has assessed the claim at £539 12s., which is probably not very much in excess of the amount which would have been passed for payment on the receipts if they had been forthcoming. Cases of this nature do not appear to have been anticipated or provided for.

## II. North-Western Division.—The claims from this Division number 161, consisting of:—

48 British, assessed at	..	..	..	..	..	£3,169	5	0
113 Boer, assessed at	..	..	..	..	..	4,387	10	0
161 (Total), assessed at	..	..	..	..	..	£7,556	15	0

which call for no special remark.

## III. Northern Division.—137 claims have been assessed in this Division:—

44 British, at	..	..	..	..	..	£2,185	16	6
93 Boer, at	..	..	..	..	..	2,733	10	0
137 (Total), at	..	..	..	..	..	£4,919	6	6

In addition, the Native Commissioner forwards schedules of 54 claims, for which he asks special consideration on the ground that the Buys people, who make them, lived in a much more civilized way than natives, and had their houses and household effects destroyed. These claims consist of:—

41 British, assessed at	..	..	..	..	..	£669	14	9
13 Boer, assessed at	..	..	..	..	..	85	12	0
54 (Total), assessed at	..	..	..	..	..	£755	6	9

According to the Executive Council Resolution 350 of 1902, paragraph 5, which restricts natives' compensation claims to direct losses of live stock, grain, seed, and agricultural implements, it is nevertheless "competent for the Commissioner for Native Affairs to admit claims for compensation for any other direct loss if submitted as a special case by the Native Commissioner or Resident Magistrate." The admission of these claims is recommended accordingly.



## IV. Eastern Division.—730 claims have been assessed in this Division, viz.:—

501 British at	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£21,189	17	8
229 Boer, at	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,874	3	0
730 (Total)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£25,064	0	8

but these include a large number from Ermelo and Wakkerstroom, which were presumably dealt with before these Districts were placed under the Native Commissioner of the South-Eastern Division. These claims are as follows:—

265 British, assessed at	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£12,212	1	0
69 Boer, assessed at	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,195	10	0
334 (Total), assessed at	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£13,407	11	0

So that the nett claims of the Eastern Division are:—

236 British, assessed at	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£8,977	16	8
160 Boer, at	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,678	13	0
396 (Total)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£11,656	9	8

These include 63 claims against the Barberton Looting Corps, assessed at £2,858 15s., which have been brought up for special consideration.

## V. South-Eastern Division.—The claims assessed in this Division number 4,646, viz.:—

3,940 British, at	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£219,858	17	11
706 Boer, at	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17,932	6	0
4,646 (Total), at	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£237,791	3	11

To which should be added the claims from Ermelo and Wakkerstroom, the schedules for which were forwarded by the Native Commissioner, Eastern Division, viz.:—

265 British, at	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£12,212	1	0
69 Boer, at	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,195	10	0
334 (Total)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£13,407	11	0

making the total for the South-Eastern Division:—

4,205 British, at	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£232,070	18	11
775 Boer, at	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19,127	16	0
4,980 (Total), at	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£251,198	14	11

These figures include a large number of claims, which have not been supported by personal attendance of the claimants nor the appearance of witnesses on their behalf. The claims which are in this way incomplete are as follows:—

DISTRICT.	BRITISH.		BOER.	
	Claims.	Amount.	Claims.	Amount.
Standerton .. .. .	123	£5,121 3 6	1	£28 0 0
Bethal .. .. .	87	5 034 1 0	—	—
Wakkerstroom .. .. .	534	31,538 8 0	19	523 0 0
Ermelo .. .. .	211	14,249 7 6	45	1,311 13 0
Carolina .. .. .	235	9,632 11 2	25	348 8 0
	1,190	£65,575 11 2	90	£2,211 1 0

1,190 British claims, at	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£65,575	11	2
90 Boer claims, at	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,211	1	0
1,280								£67,786	12	2

These claims were for the most part made before the Military Compensation Board, and were distributed in the beginning of this year to the Native Commissioners in whose districts the claimants were supposed to live, but the claimants have never appeared before the Commissioners.



## VI. Central Division.—2,446 claims have been assessed in this Division, viz.:—

1,698 British, at .. .. .	£98,405 5 0
748 Boer, at .. .. .	26,372 4 3
2,446 (Total), at .. .. .	£124,777 9 3

but of these there are no less than—

607 British, at .. .. .	£38,489 17 6
and 271 Boer, at .. .. .	9,999 12 0
878 (Total), at .. .. .	£48,479 9 6

incomplete through the non-attendance of the claimants. All these claims belong to the Heidelberg District. The Sub-Native Commissioner states that he will not have any difficulty in finding the claimants.

VII. Witwatersrand.—The Magistrate of the Native Court, Johannesburg, and the Assistant Magistrates at Boksburg and Krugersdorp have sent in schedules of claims assessed by them as follows:—

	BRITISH.		BOER.	
	Claims.	Amount.	Claims.	Amount.
Johannesburg .. .. .	137	£3,881 13 0	96	£2,221 16 0
Boksburg .. .. .	495	1,014 15 6	383	2,694 9 0
Krugersdorp .. .. .	294	8,558 7 0	93	1,998 14 0
	926	£13,454 15 6	572	£6,914 19 0

VIII. Wolmaransstad.—The Resident Magistrate at Wolmaransstad has sent in the claims assessed by him, and the Assistant Resident Magistrate at Christiana, and these have been scheduled here as follows:—

	BRITISH.		BOER.	
	Claims.	Amount.	Claims.	Amount.
Wolmaransstad .. .. .	46	£1,390 2 6	54	£1,033 19 0
Christiana .. .. .	41	1,136 16 0	26	457 7 0
	87	£2,526 18 6	80	£1,491 6 0

These claims have all been supported by the personal appearance of the claimants and the hearing of evidence, and no claim which was not considered fully proved has been assessed. These, however, only represent a small proportion of the claims in these districts.

A large number of claims have been forwarded which have not been assessed by the Magistrates owing to the non-appearance of the claimants or to insufficient evidence. These have been provisionally assessed here as under:—

	BRITISH.		BOER.	
	Claims.	Amount.	Claims.	Amount.
Wolmaransstad .. .. .	303	£14,488 12 6	125	£3,407 13 0
Christiana .. .. .	14	306 18 0	2	106 0 0
	317	£14,795 10 6	127	£3,513 13 0

making the total claims from these districts:—

404 British, at .. .. .	£17,322 9 0
207 Boer, at .. .. .	5,004 19 0
611 (Total) .. .. .	£22,327 8 0



The assessment of the claims cannot be criticised on the information afforded by the schedules. It is not possible even to ascertain what proportion of the amounts claimed has been allowed, as in many cases no definite amount was claimed. In some districts all the claims dealt with have been scheduled; in others the claims which have been disallowed have been omitted, and in the case of Pretoria, at least, the column for amount claimed has not been filled up

The difficulties attending the assessment have been considerable, and were increased by the migratory habits of the natives, their total disregard of the value of time, and an apparent lack of comprehension that they had all to make their claims to the Native Commissioners whether they had already lodged them elsewhere or not. Very many natives after having once made their claims before the Military Compensation Board, or even through an agent, evidently thought that nothing further was required of them but to wait for their money, and they will probably appear before the Native Commissioners as soon as they hear that cash is being paid out. In such cases if their claims happen to have been assessed by the Native Commissioner to whom they apply they can be paid, but it will be necessary in many cases to take from them the evidence which they ought to have furnished long ago.

The claims may be classified as follows :—

DIVISION.	BRITISH.		BOER.	
	Claims.	Amount.	Claims.	Amount.
1. COMPLETE CLAIMS :				
(1) <i>Ordinary</i> —				
i. Western, say .. .. .	1,671	£62,869 19 6	958	£39,202 1 9
ii. North-Western .. .. .	48	3,169 5 0	113	4,387 10 0
iii. Northern .. .. .	44	2,185 16 6	93	2,733 10 0
iv. Eastern .. .. .	173	6,119 1 8	160	2,678 13 0
v. South-Eastern .. .. .	3,015	166,495 7 9	685	16,916 15 0
vi. Central .. .. .	1,092	59,940 11 6	477	16,372 12 3
vii. Witwatersrand .. .. .	926	13,454 15 6	572	6,914 19 0
viii. Wolmaransstad .. .. .	87	2,526 18 6	80	1,491 6 0
	7,056	£316,761 15 11	3,138	£90,697 7 0
(2) <i>Special</i> —				
Western .. .. .	1	£539 12 0	—	—
Northern .. .. .	41	669 14 9	13	£85 12 0
Eastern .. .. .	63	2,858 15 0	—	—
	105	£4,068 1 9	13	£85 12 0
2. INCOMPLETE CLAIMS :				
Western, say .. .. .	1,670	£62,869 19 6	958	£39,202 1 9
South-Eastern .. .. .	1,190	65,575 11 2	90	2,211 1 0
Central .. .. .	607	38,489 17 6	271	9,999 12 0
Wolmaransstad .. .. .	317	14,795 10 6	127	3,513 13 0
	3,784	£181,730 18 8	1,446	£54,926 7 9
Grand Total .. .. .	10,945	£502,560 16 4	4,597	£145,709 6 9

W. WINDHAM,  
Secretary for Native Affairs.

Johannesburg, 18th November. 1903.



## NATIVE COMPENSATION CLAIMS—SUMMARY OF SCHEDULES.

DIVISION AND DISTRICT.	BRITISH.			BOER.		
	Folio.	Claims.	Amount Assessed.	Folio.	Claims.	Amount Assessed.
WESTERN—						
Rustenburg .. ..	6	171	£5,502 12 0	15	204	£1,439 15 0
Do. .. ..	—	3	240 15 0	—	—	—
Potchefstroom .. ..	112	2,635	90,985 15 0	153	1,044	32,701 19 0
Lichtenburg .. ..	166	341	20,169 18 0	176	243	7,702 4 6
Pilansberg .. ..	181	71	3,029 17 0	195	214	23,127 15 0
Rustenburg .. ..	184	94	3,946 13 6	—	168	4,391 19 0
Marico .. ..	185	20	1,304 18 6	204	44	4,995 11 0
Do. Special .. ..	—	1	539 12 0	—	—	—
Lichtenburg .. ..	186	6	559 10 0	—	1	1,045 0 0
	—	3,342	£126,279 11 0		1,916	£78,404 3 6
NORTH-WESTERN—						
Nylstroom .. ..	218	32	£2,004 5 0	225	71	£3,433 8 0
Potgieter .. ..	219	1	13 0 0	226	5	136 0 0
Warmbaths .. ..	220	15	1,152 0 0	228	37	818 2 0
	—	48	£3,169 5 0	—	113	£4,387 10 0
NORTHERN—						
Zoutpansberg .. ..	232	44	£2,185 16 6	239	93	£2,733 10 0
Do. Special .. ..	234	41	669 14 9	240	13	85 12 0
	—	85	£2,855 11 3	—	106	£2,819 2 0
EASTERN—						
Lydenburg .. ..	—	38	£969 1 0	267	69	£1,074 10 0
Sabi .. ..	—	1	25 0 0	272	21	415 10 0
Do. .. ..	—	—	—	—	4	357 3 0
Pokwani .. ..	—	5	120 0 0	—	—	—
Middelburg .. ..	257	103	3,975 18 8	269	62	746 10 0
Barberton .. ..	—	26	1,029 2 0	271	4	85 0 0
Do. Looting Corps ..	262	63	2,858 15 0	—	—	—
	—	236	£3,977 16 8	—	160	£2,678 13 0
SOUTH-EASTERN—						
Wakkerstroom (*) ..	—	34	£673 14 0	270	20	£327 0 0
Do. .. ..	2-68	879	54,882 0 6	2-97	324	11,164 3 0
Do. (Incomplete) ..	2-86	534	31,538 8 0	2-99	19	523 0 0
Ermelo (*) .. ..	—	231	11,538 7 0	274	49	868 10 0
Do. .. ..	2-116	331	13,499 17 0	2-119	36	262 0 0
Do. (Incomplete) ..	—	54	3,633 18 6	—	13	126 10 0
Do. Do. .. ..	—	156	10,607 9 0	—	23	738 3 0
Do. Do. .. ..	—	1	8 0 0	—	9	447 0 0
Carolina .. ..	—	45	1,765 5 0	—	2	18 0 0
Do. (Incomplete) ..	—	132	5,820 16 10	—	25	348 8 0
Do. Do. .. ..	—	103	3,811 14 4	—	—	—
Standerton .. ..	297	687	50,979 13 0	300	41	1,920 6 0
Do. (Incomplete) ..	2-4	123	5,121 3 6	2-5	1	28 0 0
Bethal .. ..	2-9	126	6,449 19 6	2-14	1	16 8 0
Do. (Incomplete) ..	2-13	87	5,034 1 0	—	—	—
Piet Retief .. ..	2-33	582	23,481 11 0	2-40	186	1,962 0 0
Amsterdam .. ..	2-103	100	3,225 0 9	2-105	26	378 8 0
	—	4,205	£232,070 18 11		775	£19,127 16 0

These were forwarded by N.C., Eastern Transvaal.



## NATIVE COMPENSATION CLAIMS—(Continued).

CENTRAL—							
Pretoria .. ..	—	241	£7,373 7 0	—	223	£3,659 9 9	
Heidelberg .. ..	—	851	52,567 4 6	—	254	12,713 2 6	
Do. (Incomplete) ..	—	607	38,489 17 6	—	271	9,999 12 0	
	—	1,699	£98,430 9 0	—	748	£26,372 4 3	
WITWATERSRAND—							
Johannesburg .. ..	—	137	£3,881 13 0	—	96	£2,221 16 0	
Boksburg .. ..	—	495	14,488 15 6	—	383	2,694 9 0	
Krugersodrp .. ..	—	294	8,558 7 0	—	93	1,998 14 0	
	—	926	£13,454 15 6	—	572	£6,914 19 0	
WOLMARANSSTAD—							
Wolmaransstad .. ..	—	46	£1,390 2 6	—	54	£1,033 19 0	
Do. (Incomplete) ..	—	303	14,488 12 6	—	125	3,407 13 0	
Christiana .. ..	—	41	1,136 16 0	—	26	457 7 0	
Do. (Incomplete) ..	—	14	306 18 0	—	2	106 0 0	
	—	404	£17,322 9 0	—	207	£5,004 19 0	

## ABSTRACT.

DIVISION.	BRITISH.		BOER.		TOTAL.	
	Claims.	Amount Assessed.	Claims.	Amount Assessed.	Claims.	Amount Assessed.
Western .. ..	3,342	£126,279 11 0	1,916	£78,404 3 6	5,258	£204,683 14 6
North-Western ..	48	3,169 5 0	113	4,387 10 0	161	7,556 15 0
Northern .. ..	85	2,855 11 3	106	2,819 2 0	191	5,674 13 3
Eastern .. ..	236	8,977 16 8	160	2,678 13 0	396	11,656 9 8
South-Eastern ..	4,205	232,070 18 11	775	19,127 16 0	4,980	251,198 14 11
Central .. ..	1,699	98,430 9 0	748	26,372 4 3	2,447	124,802 13 3
Witwatersrand ..	926	13,454 15 6	572	6,914 19 0	1,498	20,369 14 6
Wolmaransstad ..	404	17,322 9 0	207	5,004 19 0	611	22,327 8 0
	10,945	£502,560 16 4	1,597	£145,709 6 9	15,542	£648,270 3 1
Claims against Natives :						
Western—						
Rustenburg, Bakatla	26	£2,323 5 0	—	—	—	—
Pilansberg, Bakatla	7	1,561 0 0	—	—	—	—
	33	£3,884 5 0	—	—	—	—

## Annexure "E."

## NATIVES' MILITARY RECEIPTS.

The Secretary to the Treasury, Pretoria.

I have now to report the completion of the arrangement come to at the meeting with you on 8th ultimo, regarding Natives' Military Receipts.

2. The attached statement shows the total number and value of receipts dealt with by this Department and the Native Refugee Department, to be as follows :—

	Receipts.	Amount.
From Army Paymaster .. ..	2,935	£156,513 8 3
From Repatriation Department .. ..	499	24,616 19 10
Total .. ..	3,434	£181,130 8 1
Of which there have been paid out to Natives ..	3,028	168,962 3 7
Leaving a balance unpaid of .. ..	406	£12,168 4 6



This balance consisted of monies received from the Army Paymaster for 203 receipts, value £6,132 8s., which amount was remitted to you on 12th instant, and monies received from Repatriation Department for 203 receipts, value £6,035 16s. 6d., which amount has been returned to that Department to-day.

In addition to the above unpaid balance there were a number of Army drafts in the hands of the Native Commissioner, Eastern Transvaal, which had long expired. These drafts—21 in number and amounting to £1,358 13s. 6d.—were returned to the Army Paymaster, who has paid the amount into the Treasury direct. This amount is not included in the attached statement, but the items of which it is composed have been added to List "A," after-mentioned.

3. Besides the money for receipts passed for payment, which remain unpaid as above, this Department had in its possession on 31st December last, 131 original receipts whose owners had not been found. Most of these receipts had been handed in by natives to various District Military Compensation Boards, sometimes attached to claims which they wholly or partially supported, and they were handed over to this Department by the Staff Officer, Receipts, Potchefstroom and the Staff Officer, Receipts, Standerton. These receipts have now been scheduled and forwarded to the Staff Officer, Receipts, Central Judicial Commission, to be assessed and passed for payment in the hopes that the owners may yet be found.

4. The reasons why so many receipts—both passed and not passed—remain unclaimed, may be summarised as follows:—

- (1) The incorrectness or insufficiency of the names and addresses given in the receipts.
- (2) The migratory habits of the natives.
- (3) The inability of many of the natives to comprehend the distinction between receipts and claims; many who handed in their receipts to the Military Compensation Board with their claims, are now awaiting their claims to be paid, instead of applying for the payment of their receipts.
- (4) Disinclination of some natives to claim receipts in their names, owing to fear of being charged with illegal possession of the stock for which the receipts were given.
- (5) It is believed that the stock in several of the unpaid receipts has already been paid for. Several receipts have apparently been passed for payment twice, and there is a suspicion that at Heidelberg, at all events, a lot of stock was paid for when taken and receipts afterwards made out for the same stock.

5. The work hitherto done in this office in connection with receipts has now been undertaken by the Repatriation Department. Detailed lists of the unpaid receipts have been prepared as follows:—

- List "A."—Receipts for which the money was received from the Army Paymaster.  
 List "B."—Receipts for which the money was received from the Repatriation Department.  
 List "C."—Receipts unclaimed as at 31st December, 1903, which have now been sent to the Staff Officer, Receipts, Central Judicial Commission.

The last mentioned list will be superseded by the Schedules which the Repatriation Department will issue of such of the receipts in that list as are passed for payment. Meantime, the three lists have been sent out to the Native Commissioners and Sub-Native Commissioners with a circular of instructions as to the procedure to be followed in order that a final effort may be made to trace the owners of the receipts before the 31st day of March, 1904, which has been fixed as the date up to which applications for payment of any of these receipts will be received.

6. Copies of the three lists and of the circular are sent herewith for your information and have also been sent to the Secretary for Repatriation, and to the Secretary of the Central Judicial Commission.

7. There still remains in my hands a balance of £36 2s. 4d., being the surplus which has accrued in making the payments to natives; £34 17s. 3d. of which accrued in the hands of the pay clerks of the Native Refugee Department previous to 31st December, 1903, and £1 5s. 1d., in the hands of the Native Commissioners since that date—all out of the monies received from the Army Paymaster. The existence of this surplus was brought to your notice in the correspondence which ensued on the proposal I made to the Army Paymaster, that Mr. Waldie, one of the pay clerks of the Native Refugee Department, should be refunded out of it, a loss of £30 which he had incurred in making payments to Natives on the Swazi Border. (See your Minutes No. F.1312 of 17-8-03 to the Central Judicial Commission, and of 15th and 24th September to me.) I now enclose cheque for the amount, £36 2s. 4d., which finally closes the account opened with the National Bank, Eloff Street, for Natives' Military Receipts. Please acknowledge receipt of the cheque.

8. The total expenses connected with the collection of receipts, tracing the owners of receipts, previously handed in to the Military Compensation Board, getting them passes, and paying the natives have been as follows:—

Native Refugee Department (Military) to 31-12-02	..	..	£1,598	15	9
Native Refugee Department (Civil) 1-1-03 to 31-12-03	..	..	1,218	19	5
Total	..	..	£2,817	15	2

which is a fraction over £1 13s. 4d., per cent. on the amount, £168,962 3s. 7d., paid out to natives. These expenses, as you are aware, have been defrayed out of the funds of the Native Refugee Department.

(Sgd.) W. WINDHAM,  
 Secretary for Native Affairs.

16th January, 1904.



*Annexure "F."*

Department of Native Affairs, Transvaal,  
6th November, 1903.

To all Native Commissioners and Sub-Commissioners.

## NATIVE CENSUS, 1904.

I forward for your information and guidance the enclosed instructions for carrying out the Native Census on the 17th April, next year.

I am to request that you will at once inform all the chiefs of your division that it is the wish of the King's Government to ascertain exactly how many people he has in his dominions, including all white, coloured and native men, women, and children, and that it is intended for this purpose to take the census of the whole of British South Africa on the 17th April next year.

You will explain to the chiefs the system laid down in the instructions, and inform them that the King's representative in this country looks to them to co-operate in this work as far as they possibly can, and that he will hold each of them personally responsible for the work, in so far as their people are concerned.

W. WINDHAM,  
*Secretary for Native Affairs.*

## INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING THE NATIVE CENSUS, 1904.

Dr. Turner, the Principal Medical Officer of Health, has been appointed by the Government to take the census of the whole population of the Transvaal on the 17th April, 1904, and all public officers concerned, have been instructed to assist him in carrying out this duty as far as possible.

The enumeration of the European population will be effected by the Magistrates in the districts, through the medium of the South African Constabulary.

All natives living on farms actually occupied by Europeans, whether as owners or tenants, will be included in the returns to be furnished by such Europeans, who will be made responsible to account for all residents on the farms, white and black.

As regards the rest of the native population, the enumeration will be carried out by the various Native Commissioners. Each Sub-Commissioner will be made immediately responsible for the work within his own district. Under him there will be appointed one or more European enumerators, who will be assisted by as many native police as may be required.

The Sub Native Commissioners will only be required to account for:—

- (a) Natives living on farms unoccupied by Europeans.
- (b) Natives upon lands owned privately by natives.
- (c) Natives upon established Government Locations, and
- (d) Natives upon open Crown Lands.

The following method will be adopted in the actual enumeration:—

A sufficient number of beads will be supplied to the Native Commissioners, according to the estimated native population of their divisions. These beads will be of two sizes and of two different colours, viz.:—

- 1. Large black to represent male adults.
- 2. Large yellow to represent female adults.
- 3. Small black to represent boys.
- 4. Small yellow to represent girls.

The age of puberty will be taken as the standard of distinction between adults and juveniles.

Knotted cords about a foot in length will also be supplied

A few weeks before the date fixed for the census, European enumerators with their police will be instructed to inspect the spheres of their respective operations and for the purpose of pointing out the actual areas within which each native enumerator shall carry out his work. The boundaries of these areas will be selected, as far as possible, according to the natural features of the country.

Some days before the 17th April, the native enumerators will visit each kraal and hand over to the head man the necessary quantity of cords and beads to account for the number of inmates of the kraal on the night of the 17th.

Each head man will be personally warned that he will be individually responsible to the Government to thread the cords early in the morning of the 18th, and having done so, to tie them up carefully, so that none of the beads can become detached. He will retain the threaded cords and hand them over to the native enumerator when he calls round for them a few days afterwards.

The native enumerator will collect all the threaded cords as soon after the 18th as possible and hand them over to the European enumerator, who will make up the necessary written schedules upon the forms to be supplied.

These forms will be forwarded by him to the Sub Native Commissioner, who will summarize and transmit them to the Native Commissioner.

The Native Commissioners, having collected all the forms within their divisions will transmit them in original, with a summary of their contents, to Dr. Turner at Pretoria.

(Sgd.) W. WINDHAM,  
*Secretary for Native Affairs.*

Department of Native Affairs, Transvaal,  
6th November, 1903.



## Annexure "G."

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NATIVE COMMISSIONER, NORTHERN DIVISION, ZOUTPANSBERG, FOR THE PERIOD 1ST JULY, 1903, TO 30TH JUNE, 1904.

THE SECRETARY, NATIVE AFFAIRS.

This report embraces the period 1st July, 1903, to 30th of June, 1904. As a description of the district and people has been given in previous reports, it seems unnecessary to reiterate it here.

*Political.*

Under this heading, mention has formerly been made of the restlessness and unnatural excitement that had unhinged the native mind as a result of the absence of a firm and direct control during the War. This attitude had, by the end of the period under previous report, almost, if not entirely, disappeared and at the present time the natives are quiet and law abiding. The numerous cases of insubordination on the part of servants towards their masters, and the general spirit of independence that then existed seems to have disappeared, and one finds only incidental and every-day offences in this respect. Amongst themselves they have been quite peaceful and friendly inclined. Only one faction fight occurred during the year, in the month of June, amongst the members of the Sibasa tribe. No great significance attached to the incident, and those who were concerned are being dealt with for riot.

During the year and previously natives have agitated for locations; in some cases for entirely new locations, whilst in others for additions to existing ones. Where their representations have not been frivolous they have been forwarded to Government for consideration. Others, feeling that it was an impossibility to obtain Government grants on account of the land upon which they are living being private property, have endeavoured to purchase farms for themselves on which to collect their tribes and people. Several applications of this kind have been forwarded by me, and in many cases recommended. The matter of permitting them to purchase, or otherwise, remains unsettled. In all cases the people making the applications were aware that the land would have to be held in trust for them.

The Indunas or headmen of the Magato tribe have kept up a constant agitation for the return of their Chief, Mpefu, who fled into Rhodesia at the time of the Mpefu War with the late Government, and who has not since been allowed to return to the Transvaal. These representations have been forwarded to the Government on all occasions, and the question is being dealt with in connection with a location at present under consideration for this tribe. As it is one of the later tribes to be brought under civilised rule, it still adheres much to tribal ways, and governing it without a Chief has proved a somewhat difficult matter.

An Association was formed last year in this district under the style and title of the Zoutpansberg Native Vigilance Association (now known as the Transvaal Native Vigilance Association), having its headquarters at Pietersburg. This body is well supported, and its membership runs into many hundreds. The chief supporters are the educated and more enlightened natives, who have also in their ranks members of the Ethiopian Church.

The ostensible objects of the Association are to watch native interests and to make representations of such and any grievances the people may have to the Government. That this is not their only object has been clearly manifested since the Association came into vogue. A newspaper, styled "Leihlo la Babatsho" (Native Eye), was started under its auspices, which revealed the tone of the Association at once. The true objects of the body would now appear to be a campaign, headed by the educated section of the people, to agitate and demand, *inter alia*, rights and privileges that are at present kept out of the reach of natives, for the reason that they are not capable of enjoying them. It must be granted that, as natives become more educated and enlightened, they very naturally feel somewhat encumbered by the very necessary restrictions placed upon the black population in certain respects, but, at the same time, provision has been made to relieve such people in certain instances. A general agitation, such as the Native Vigilance Association would care to make, could not possibly have a good effect upon the whole population, for at least 90 per cent. or more are totally uneducated, and are not fit or capable of enjoying the whole privileges of a citizen. The propaganda of the Association is disseminated by means of their paper, circulars, etc., largely amongst every section of the natives, all of which can only be read by a small proportion, who interpret the contents to others.

During the month of May and June a considerable amount of excitement was caused in the district by the spreading of rumours of native dissension. This started with a number of farmers coming into town with their families, and asking for arms and ammunition with which to defend their families and themselves against a native rising, which, they earnestly stated, they feared was about to occur. Every endeavour was made to re-assure these people, and careful steps were taken to watch the attitude of the native population; but we were unable to find the smallest cause for alarm or apprehension. Whilst the wildest rumours of the murder of whites and the arming of tribes, many of whom were too insignificant to be called tribes, were rife, the native population was proceeding with its usual every-day life in the quietest way, as if nothing unusual was occurring. In a great measure the rumours have subsided, and are practically forgotten once more. It would appear, however, that the affair was not singular to this district, for one read of similar rumours in many other parts of South Africa, where there seems to be a periodical crop of stories of native unrest.

Having mentioned one or two of the more prominent questions affecting the native political aspect, I may only add that the population is quiet and well behaved, and that other matters are of more local interest and have not been brought into this report.



*Population.*

An estimate of the native population was made last year by means of information obtained during the collection of tax and in other ways. It was known at the time that this could only be an approximate one, for no Census had previously been taken, and what estimates existed varied to an extent to make them quite useless as a guide. The estimated population amounted to 201,539 for the district, but, from the enumeration during the collection of the Census taken on the 17th of April last, it would seem that the population had been greatly underestimated. The figures, as given by the Census, are 309,615, but to this must be added at least 12,000 for those natives who were absent from the district at work and elsewhere. The only explanation to be offered to account for the discrepancy in the original estimate is that the natives were somewhat suspicious in giving up the number of their families, fearing that it meant additional taxation, and, furthermore, when we made the estimate the total amount of tax had not been collected.

As stated in previous reports, the population of the district is divided into three, or perhaps even four, distinct classes of people, viz., the Basuto (Bapedi), Bavenda, Tshangana (Magwamba or Bathonga), and the Mandibele, each speaking its own dialect. The Sesuto tongue is fairly generally understood throughout the district. The Sivenda is somewhat similar, but varies considerably, whilst that of the Tshanganas and Mandibele, which most resembles Zulu, is not understood or spoken by the two former. The foundation of all the dialects would appear to be the Bantu tongue, subject to local variations caused by contact with tribes of different speech. I have found that a knowledge of Zulu carries one through most parts of the district.

*Progress towards Civilisation.*

There is no noticeable progress in civilisation. Civilisation is a matter of gradual evolution which can only be observed after the lapse of years. The natives live much in the same way they did years ago and are very conservative and slow to change their ideas. Some have acquired ploughs, farm implements, wagons, etc. The cultivation of their fields continues the same year after year. They take all that is to be got out of the ground by surface scratching, and do nothing to restore fertility of the soil by rotation of crops or by manuring. They certainly have taken more to using the plough, and, in fact, where they possess oxen one invariably finds the plough and wagon in use. But little irrigation has been done by the natives. Most of the male natives now wear clothing of European description, and many of the Chiefs and people dress well.

[ ] A fair number in the district have adopted Christianity, and are being taught at the various missions, situated at the largest and most convenient native centres. The success of the missionary enterprise cannot be denied, for one sees at a glance the great difference in the superior buildings and general surroundings of mission natives when placed alongside their heathen brethren. The former build good substantial buildings in some sort of order in villages, and thus conserve their ground and utilise what remains in the cultivation of their crops and for grazing stock. From a literary point of view, great improvement is to be found in the number of children attending schools at the different missions and the number of natives capable of writing and reading in various degrees of efficiency. This at once leads to their requirements becoming greater than those of the raw natives. They take to European clothing and buy numerous other articles that their heathen brethren do without. The fairly universal opinion that the Christian native becomes a bad character, useless, and lazy is, I think, unreasonably expressed; he is at the present time undergoing a very great evolution, which necessarily must be gradual in its effects and can only be realised as years go on. A distinct change undoubtedly seems to be creeping over the natives in their attitude, and generally they appear to have grown more independent in many ways. A close observer cannot fail to see it, but I would not put it down to other causes than the change from the semi-savage state to that of civilisation.

It seems a firm conviction that the only way to solve the native problem will be mainly by education. However primitive the education is, it takes his mind away from his native ideas, which up to then are the only natural ones he could have; it leads him to throw over many of his own ways, he marries under Christian rites, and in that way alone renders a serious blow to polygamy, which is one of the main roots of the whole present native difficulty.

Having got them educated, they will more readily see the advantages of a different land tenure, the necessity for work, and other things which he at present turns his back upon. Up to quite recently the tuition of the native has been left entirely to the missionaries. It is only fair and just to them to affirm that they are earnest exponents of progressive ideas, but that they are seriously handicapped by lack of funds; the only local support is that obtainable in good seasons from the members of the native congregation. His superstitious nature is a great barrier to the conversion of the native, especially when added to the fact that he views all modern ideas as detrimental to his much cherished customs and traditions. His greatest progress towards civilisation is that he is perceptibly taking more to work, and it can be argued that what civilisation has come to him has come through working for the white man, and the best education he can have is working in large centres where he has the advantage of seeing the white man himself working. Two instances illustrating the result of mission enterprise may be seen at the Swiss Mission at Elim, in the Spelonken, and the Berlin Mission at Medingen, near Modjaji's, in the Haenertsburg District. At both these places the social condition of the native has been completely altered from that of the ordinary kraal native. At Medingen the native converts by their own exertions and funds, under the direction of the Rev. Reuter, have built the finest Native Church I have seen in South Africa. The building is capable of seating over 1,000 people.

Generally speaking, the natives, socially and morally, abide by their ancient customs; their moral condition, according to the native idea, is maintained fairly well. Unlike other native people I have come across, they inter-marry very closely, violating in some instances the laws of consanguinity. The greater proportion adhere to the native marriage customs, and lobolo is customary. These payments consist



of cattle, sheep, etc., and money, according to the means at the disposal of the bridegroom. This payment often extends over a number of years; in fact, the strict custom of lobolo, which was intended to serve as a bond for the good behaviour of the parties concerned, never contemplated immediate payment, which was usually done by instalments as the parents of the bride required means or funds, probably to meet a call of the same kind due by themselves.

Circumcision is practised fairly generally throughout the district. It would appear that the custom came from a tribe of people called Balemba, which migrated from the North. Their manners, and in some cases their features, would indicate that they had been under a Semitic influence at some time of their existence, as the following customs might suggest:—(1) The circumcision; (2) the eating only of such flesh as has been killed under their own rites; (3) the fact that they do not eat blood and pork; and (4) that they are said not to give their daughters in marriage to other tribes, and they may only marry women from other tribes after special rites have been undergone to purify them. At one time lodges, which were held at intervals of various years, were usually summoned by Chiefs of standing in the country, such as Magato or Modjaji, but now it has become the practice of most tribes to have their own lodges just when and how they please. During the existence of the lodges, extending from six weeks to three months, the people become so engrossed in them that most other matters are neglected; in fact, under their rules such must be the case. Much food is consumed during the time. The people dance, sing, and indulge in songs and speeches of a lewd and obscene nature, bearing on sexual matters. The lodges cause much annoyance both to the natives themselves and the whites in their neighbourhood; in the case of the former, parties of the lodge go about in gangs and by persuasion and coercion compel natives to enter the lodges, at times much against their wishes; and in the case of the whites, they detract the labour supply, often being the cause of desertions on the part of servants, and they practically put a stop to all trading during the continuance of the lodges. They are the cause of considerable complaints from the missionaries, and this year have been found to delay the payment of the native tax in such parts of the district as lodges were most prevalent.

It is customary amongst the Bavenda to hold a women's lodge the year following that of the men's. Many of the same antics go on as do at the men's lodges, and extreme licentiousness of many kinds prevails, but fortunately these lodges extend only over a period of a few days.

During the period under report 130 marriages were contracted under the Native Marriage Law No. 3 of 1897. The rest of the native marriages of the district must necessarily have been entered into under native rites, of which the law takes no cognizance. This becomes a somewhat serious question, as practically, excepting the small proportion of Christian marriages, no recognised state of marriage exists, and, in a matter affecting quite the largest section of the native population, redress in matters arising out of such marriages is shut off.

Witchcraft is carried on considerably amongst all sections of the people, perhaps more so amongst the Amagwamba or Amatshangana. In numerous cases coming before the Courts, elements of witchcraft are observable, which, in many cases, are accountable for the offence or occurrence in question. In cases of death, illness, or misfortune, the friends or relations of the people invariably consult some witch-doctor, man or woman, with a view to ascertaining the cause, which is frequently put down to the action or influence of some person or persons not infrequently a member of the family concerned. At times this leads to considerable misery, resulting often in the suspected person having to leave their kraals and often the district in which they live.

#### *General.*

During the period under report £103,121 revenue was collected by this Department. The native tax collection commences in April, and the bulk is usually got in by the end of July, but a considerable amount spreads itself over the course of the whole year. The cost of the Department has been materially lessened by abolishing transport and a reduction of the native police. I cannot say that the latter saving is in any way compensated for, because the men were of the very greatest assistance to the Sub-Commissioners in all their duties, but chiefly so in that of the native tax collection, and in the absence of sufficient police I can only suggest that more native police of some other force should be put at the disposal of the officials of the Department to assist in the carrying out of their duties.

Labour during the year turned out well, and approximately 25,711 natives left the district for work on the mines at Johannesburg and elsewhere beyond the district in this Colony. The people seem, year by year, to be settling down in a more regular way of going to work, and as their requirements become more, this spirit must increase.

During the year there were various changes in the establishment. Two clerks left the Service under the retrenchment scheme; two others were sent in their place; one clerk is on long leave. Mr. Murray, the Sub-Commissioner of Spelonken, was granted six months' leave. Transfer of the Sub-Commissioners of Sibasa and Blaauwberg were effected, and an Acting Sub-Commissioner is in charge of the Blaauwberg Office.

In conclusion, I would like to bring to notice the services of the Sub-Commissioners in charge of the sub-districts. Their work has been considerable, and at times they have worked at high pressure, and I can confidently state that they have a thorough grasp of their duties, extending over a very large area and a considerable body of people; and of the remainder of the staff I can only speak in the same terms as I have done of the Sub-Commissioners.

C. A. WHEELWRIGHT,

*Native Commissioner, Northern Division.*

Pietersburg,

21st July, 1904.



*Annexure "H."*

Office of the Resident Magistrate,  
Middelburg, 14th July, 1904.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE EASTERN DIVISION FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
30TH JUNE, 1904.

THE SECRETARY FOR NATIVE AFFAIRS, JOHANNESBURG.

SIR,—

I have the honour to forward my annual report for the year ending the 30th June, 1904.

1. *Political Aspect.*

The political aspect has been good throughout the year. During the months of August and September last the people of the Chief Kgolane, who had been driven out of Geluk's Location by Chief Sekukuni in 1900, previous to the British occupation of that part of the country, and had taken refuge with the Bapedi Chief Malakuti, returned to and again took up their abode in that portion of Geluk's Location allotted to Kgolane by the late Government.

Since Kgolane's return efforts have been made by Sekukuni to stir up dissension. The conduct of Tsuani, an adherent of Sekukuni settled in Kgolane's Location, called for severe measures to counteract the evil influences set up by Sekukuni, and upon my representation the removal of Tsuani from Kgolane's to Sekukuni's portion of Geluk's Location was sanctioned.

Tsuani's removal was carried out in a peaceful and orderly manner, and thus assured a more peaceful state of affairs.

Chief Kgolane died of consumption on the 13th April last, at the age of about 45 years. He was succeeded by his son William (about 12 years of age) by his chief wife Maroki, daughter of the late Bapedi Chief Ramarok.

The Census just completed has shown conclusively that natives in large numbers in the Eastern Transvaal are out at work, some on public works and railways, numbers in the employ of the Municipalities of Johannesburg and Pretoria, and at the Pretoria Diamond Mines, anywhere but where they are most urgently required—in the Witwatersrand mines. (As a whole they object strongly to working in deep underground works.)

The native tax is to the polygamist a great source of irritation, while the man with the one wife feels himself better off than when under the late Government. This is as it should be—polygamy must be discouraged in every possible way, and to make a man feel through his pocket is generally a sure way of bringing the matter home.

The chiefs are in the habit of visiting the various offices connected with this Department far more frequently than they did at first. They now seek advice, and are very ready to abide by it on all subjects connected with their tribe.

The visit of Sir Godfrey Lagden in August last had a very good effect on the natives, and they now ask when they may see "their White Father again."

2. *Progress in Civilisation.*

Progress in civilisation is always very slow, and any great and sudden improvement is not to be expected.

The majority of the male natives seek work away from their homes, and thus come in contact with Europeans, and from such contact derive improvements in their native habits. A marked desire is expressed by all classes for education, and the desire, I hope, will increase as European missionaries take up their residence among the people. Two clergymen have opened mission schools in the northern part of the Middelburg District, and the people of Chieftainess Nyandu, of the Barberton District, have approached the local church authorities and have now a native minister stationed among them. The Dutch Reformed Church and the Berlin Mission Society each have their representatives at work.

The native woman, with her stay-at-home idea, is very much more difficult to get than the man, as only a very few seek work and come in contact with Europeans. The native woman's life is passed in household duties and, during the spring, summer, and autumn, in the fields, so she has consequently very little time to devote to social and spiritual improvement. With more extended mission work, conducted by European missionaries, I look forward with great hope to a very marked improvement in the native social life.

The custom of wearing European clothes by members of both sexes is growing. In a recent tour I noticed a marked improvement in this respect.

3. *Social and Moral Conditions.*

As with progress in civilisation, so with social and moral conditions, no sudden marked improvement can be looked for. It is only by slow and laborious mission work that we can hope for better conditions.

The moral conditions of natives sexually in this part is deplorable, due, in my opinion entirely to the fact of the late Government refusing to recognise cattle marriages. When dowry is paid a husband has a great hold over his wife, as he can for infidelity always claim the return of the cattle from the father, and the mother again looked to for the chastity of her daughter.

Now the woman changes the husband at will, and there is no remedy in our Courts.



*4. Health.*

Fever has been very prevalent this summer, and the death rate in consequence high.

The old people and children have suffered greatly owing to the scarcity of food.

Blindness, both total and partial, is common. I have, in every case that has come under my notice, asked the cause without receiving a satisfactory answer.

Syphilis is prevalent, and it is getting worse every year. Several cases of leprosy exist in the different districts.

*5. Food Supply.*

The staple article of food is Kaffir corn. A peculiar form of disease has attacked this year's crop. The leaves of the diseased plant exude a shiny, sticky substance, and from many plants the quantity of such substance drips off the leaves and discolours the soil. This disease has killed off the greater part of plants in the northern parts of Middelburg and Lydenburg Districts.

From other parts reports are good, and there will be quite sufficient for the people. Mealies may be said to be good all through the districts.

*6. Trade.*

Trade has not been good owing to the failure of crops last year; brisk trade is coincident with good crops.

Traders report that there is little doing in consequence of last year's famine, which greatly impoverished the natives.

*7. Important Events.*

The only event of any importance during the past year has been the taking of the Census. It took some time to make the natives understand the objects of the work and to overcome their personal suspicious ideas of a census. They gave the enumerators every assistance, and willingly gave the necessary information.

*8. Taxation.*

The collection of taxes was commenced a month earlier than last year owing to the Census. The tax was paid in a loyal and ready manner last year.

There is a discrepancy between the amount of tax collected during the last three months of this and the last financial year. This discrepancy is probably due to the retrenchment of the native police on the establishments of the Sub-Commissioners, and the want of transport to enable tax collectors to tour their districts. Natives are easily able to earn sufficient money to pay the taxes. The collection of tax is still proceeding, and the natives are paying in a loyal and ready manner.

*9. General Labour.*

There can be no doubt that the scarcity of food has augmented the supply of native labour to an appreciable extent. At no time during the year was it possible to find any great number of natives fit to labour at their homes. Farmers still complain of the shortage of native labour.

Rhodesian redwater has in parts of this division caused great havoc among the native cattle; specially is this the case among the herds of the low country.

The natives have loyally and strictly adhered to the laws appertaining to stock diseases.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. HOGGE,  
*Resident Magistrate.*

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*Annexure "J."*

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE SOUTH-EASTERN DIVISION FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
30TH JUNE, 1904.

I have the honour to forward my annual report for the year ended 30th June, 1904.

*Political Aspect.*

In the Wakkerstroom District persistent rumours of unrest amongst natives were prevalent, but it was found impossible to obtain any information to authenticate them.

*Progress in Civilisation.*

The natives have advanced slowly within the last year. Their wants increase, and they become more and more consumers of European goods. Those who go into the towns to service partially acquire the habits of civilisation. They clothe themselves better and build better houses on their return. There is also a keen desire for education and a knowledge of the English language.



There has been little progress, however, in the Piet Retief District. In July, 1903, the Government prohibited the moving of cattle outside or within the district, owing to the breaking out of Rhodesian red-water. This practically isolated the district, and generally had a ruinous effect amongst the natives, because it increased the cost of living, and the cattle in certain parts completely died out. The famine which prevailed during the early part of the present year added to the native distress by raising the price of grain to exorbitant prices ranging from 50s. to 60s. per bag.

On representations being made the Government sanctioned the purchase of a quantity of mealies, and relief was given to the most needy until new crops came into use.

#### *Social and Moral Conditions.*

The social and moral conditions of natives is not improving. They are fast acquiring a taste for the pleasures of urban life; they spend their earnings more on themselves, and are less dutiful in sending money home to their people. Parents no longer exercise the control they once did, and this also applies as between chiefs and people.

Immorality is increasing. The few Christian marriages make little difference in their mode of life. A Christian wife is deserted and another taken with as little compunction as is shown in the supercession of the lobola wife.

#### *Health.*

The general health has been good. A few cases of small-pox were reported, but by speedy and drastic treatment the disease was kept well under control.

#### *Food Supply.*

Owing to the failure of the crops in 1903 food was very scarce during the first half of the year, but owing to the plentiful supply of crops reaped this year there is no dearth of grain.

#### *Trade.*

Most of the money earned during the war at high wages has been spent, and the buying power lessened in proportion. Traders do not turn over the same amount of capital as they did prior to the war. The natives have not now the live stock they then had, and this fact must have its influence in trade, both in grain, wool, hides, and live stock.

#### *Important Events.*

The most important event from the native point of view has been the copious rainfall and consequent good harvest.

On the occasion of the visit of His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor certain headmen complained of the delay in payment of their compensation claims and the handing over of different Native Affairs Offices to the Resident Magistrates.

#### *Taxation.*

The tax has been paid fairly well, though not with the promptitude that characterised the collection for 1903. Many natives on farms do not receive wages for labour rendered to their landlords, and, where they are few in number, find it difficult to get away to earn money in the labour markets. Many of the older men who have not wage-earning sons, or who have spendthrift sons, and are themselves of an age when work is considered *infra dig.*, find it very difficult to pay their tax. For these reasons much of the tax is not paid till long after the close of the financial year. Others do not pay their tax until they have gathered in their crops of mealies and Kaffir corn.

In the Piet Retief District, owing to the heavy debts incurred with the various traders in consequence of the famine and the heavy loss in cattle, the natives have found it most difficult to raise sufficient funds to pay their taxes, and very little money has up to the present been collected, although they seem willing enough to pay.

#### *General.*

The total prohibition of the manufacture and consumption of Kaffir beer in the District of Wakkerstroom is considered a great privation, as there are no native villages or native locations, most of the natives living either on private farms or town commonages.

The offices of the Sub-Commissioners—Standerton, Carolina, and Ermelo—were abolished in May last, and their duties handed over to the Resident Magistrate.

C. Y. BRABANT,

*Native Commissioner, South-Eastern Division.*

1st July, 1904.



*Annexure "K."*

Rustenburg, July 9th, 1904.

The Secretary for Native Affairs,  
Johannesburg.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE WESTERN DIVISION FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
30TH JUNE, 1904.

*Political Aspect.*

The condition of the Division is most satisfactory; the chiefs and people are loyal to the officers of the Department, and display, with few exceptions, a very marked desire to comply with all the laws and regulations which are from time to time promulgated and applied to them. The insolent and almost aggressive manner shown towards Europeans which existed during the war, has, I am pleased to report, been overcome, and the natives now recognise that due respect must be paid to both Boer and Briton alike. I regret to say, however, that anything but a cringing, subservient manner is looked upon by the old residents of this country as disrespectful.

There has been little or no beer drinking, and, as a consequence, the absence of brawling and breaches of the peace is conspicuous.

There has been no inter-tribal troubles and the chiefs are on the best of terms with one another. No fear need, however, be had that they would consolidate in any action against the Government, so long as they are controlled by officers acquainted with their habits and customs, and are not overburdened with intricate laws.

The recent reports of rumoured unrest amongst the natives of this division are quite unfounded, and could only have been engineered by persons who look forward to a native rising as a means of bettering their financial positions. Had the natives wished to rise, they would have taken action at the time they were ordered to surrender their arms.

*Progress in Civilization.*

Our endeavours to raise the moral standard of the people have, I regret to say, met with little success. Polygamy is gradually dying out, almost all marriages are now solemnised in church.

*Trade.*

Trade has been only fair; it has suffered through the general depression prevailing throughout the country.

*Health.*

There has been no serious epidemic amongst the natives. The out-break of plague at Johannesburg caused considerable anxiety, but I am pleased to be able to report that it has not spread to this division. The chiefs, acting upon the advice of their Sub-Native Commissioners, are prepared to take immediate action to isolate and to report any cases of illness of a suspicious nature.

*Food Supply.*

The supply, generally speaking, is good, but in parts of the Pelansberg Ward, considerable damage has been done during the past months to the crops by locusts and caterpillars.

*Native Population.*

The population is on the increase due to natural causes, returning to their homes of many families who were scattered about the country during the war, and the influx of alien natives from other Colonies.

*Important Events.*

The important events to be recorded are:—

The "pitso" held by the Commissioner for Native Affairs at Wolhutterskop on the 9th of September, 1903, the census, and the abolishing of my sub-offices at Lichtenburg and Potchefstroom.

The "pitso" was attended by all the important chiefs and headmen of the division; they were offered an opportunity of speaking to Sir Godfrey Lagden upon all matters respecting their condition and general welfare.

The desire for more land, which was at one time much in evidence, was particularly brought to the notice of His Honour the Commissioner, but he entirely expelled any hope they had had that Government would provide reserves upon which they could congregate and pass their time in idleness.

The census, which was viewed with some suspicion, was completed without any opposition; the chiefs afforded the enumerators every assistance and displayed a keen interest in the work, saying that it was only natural that His Majesty the King, their father, should know how many children he had.

The natives, being very conservative, view with some alarm, the abolishing of the Offices of the Sub-Native Commissioners at Lichtenburg and Potchefstroom.

*Taxation.*

The sum of £25,572, general native tax, was collected during the 12 month's under report. Upon last year's collection, a balance of £2,644 is still due; this I attribute to many of the tax payers being away at work, who will pay on their return, and owing to the enumeration of the natives having been delegated to the officers of this Department, the collection of tax was suspended during the month of April. I anticipate no difficulty in collecting the balance outstanding.



*Labour.*

The agricultural and industrial needs of the division are sufficient to absorb at least two-thirds of the local labour supply, but Johannesburg and other mining centres offering greater attractions, naturally drain the districts. The importation of Asiatic labour for the mines will, I hope, be the means of placing an adequate supply of local labour at the disposal of local enterprise. The importation of Chinamen for the mines has in no way agitated the mind of the local native.

*Stock.*

Stock is increasing rapidly and herds may be seen at the native kraals. The natives, being lovers of cattle, invest all their savings in stock. The chief, Lintsoe, has a great many of his cattle running on farms along the Marico and Crocodile Rivers, in charge of local Bakgatla, and in consequence of this the number shown on the return is unusually high, and we may be given credit for being richer in cattle than we really are.

Horse-sickness has been very severe and carried off many horses and mules. I regret to have to report that the Rhodesian Redwater, otherwise known as Tick Fever, is causing heavy mortality among the cattle of the followers of the chiefs August Mokhatle, Darius Mohale, and Daniel More. This is a most serious matter and is calculated to impoverish the natives residing in the infected areas; 560 deaths have occurred to date.

*Education.*

The teachers employed by the Missionary Societies are not sufficiently advanced or qualified to carry on the work entrusted to them, and the advancement of education is necessarily very slow. A short time ago, Mr. Jones, an Inspector of the Native Education Department, held a month's course of instruction for teachers; some 30 so-called teachers attended, they were, undoubtedly, very interested and keen to learn as much as possible in the short space of time available, but their ignorance of the mere rudimentary qualifications of teachers was deplorable. The course was, however, of great benefit and if repeated every six months, will be a means of advancing the natives in their education and social condition.

An Industrial Institution to teach the natives some useful trades could, with advantage, be established in this division.

*General.*

The chiefs and people are all happy and contented, except at the refusal of Government to allow them to purchase more land.

The relations of my Department with other Government Departments are most cordial and satisfactory.

The arms in the possession of chiefs and headmen have been used solely for the protection of their stock and cultivated lands, which are open to destruction by wild beasts and birds of a great variety. The holders have in no way abused the confidence placed in them by the Government.

In conclusion, I beg to place on record the satisfactory manner in which all the responsible officers under my control have carried out their various duties.

C. GRIFFITH,

*Native Commissioner, Western Division.*

*Annexure "L."*

Native Commissioner's Office,  
Pretoria, July 15th, 1904.

REPORT OF THE ACTING NATIVE COMMISSIONER, CENTRAL DIVISION, FOR  
THE PERIOD 1st JULY, 1903, TO 30th JUNE, 1904.

The sphere which has been known as the Central Division, included the following Magisterial Districts, viz., Pretoria, Heidelberg, Krugersdorp, and the Witwatersrand, the total area being estimated at 10,588 square miles. In consequence of a recent decision to abolish the office of Sub-Native Commissioner, Heidelberg, that portion of the division was on the 1st of April, 1904, handed over to the jurisdiction of the Resident Magistrate, Heidelberg. Though including the Krugersdorp District and the Witwatersrand Areas, the enormous amount of work which the control of such important centres would entail, has not been undertaken by the Native Commissioner, Central Division, it having been found absolutely necessary to create various large Departments, directly under the control of the Native Affairs Head Office in Johannesburg, to operate in these areas, which are proclaimed labour districts; the only work in connection with natives allotted to the Native Commissioner being the collection of taxes and a general control of natives living as squatters on private farms. To the Pretoria and Heidelberg Districts, therefore, the attention of officers labouring in the Central Division has been chiefly directed.

*Political Aspect.*

There is no reason to complain of the conduct of natives in the division from a political point of view. The various Ethiopian Societies, having gained a footing in the country, work very cautiously, and, though there is reason to believe that the principals of the various institutions are inclined to introduce irrelevant subjects touching upon politics into the general teaching which they propound, actual proof of seditious doctrine has not been produced.



Natives throughout the division show a readiness to obey the orders of the Government, and only in a few individual cases has any general order been disobeyed.

In the large locations most of the natives have been converted to Christianity, either by Ethiopian preachers or missionaries of European Societies and, in consequence, the greater number of natives in the division profess Christianity. The fact of a native becoming a Christian tends to elevate his status in his own imagination, and, in many cases, a meagre education is worse than none at all, for it is made use of to encourage contraventions of law and order.

#### *Civilization.*

In this Division the natives have, for very many years, come into constant contact with civilization, and, in consequence, the progress from year to year is not so noticeable as in the case of heathen tribes.

The use of modern agricultural implements is very common throughout.

Numbers of natives coming from the wilder regions of the Transvaal and South Africa to the large towns pick up habits, some beneficial and others injurious, which they introduce on their return to their homes to their less enlightened brethren.

Complaints from farmers against native squatters for refusing to work have always been satisfactorily settled, and no opportunity has been lost of impressing upon the natives that honest labour must be insisted upon in order to ensure benefit and good government to themselves.

Many of the civilised natives have acquired trades, and in the town locations it is not uncommon to find them earning their livelihood as saddlers, shoemakers, bricklayers, wheelwrights, etc. Those who have received good educations seek employment as clerks, interpreters, or schoolmasters.

#### *Moral Conditions.*

Contact with civilisation apparently does not tend to purify the minds of natives, for in town locations the immorality is deplorable. Total prohibition of the brewing of Kaffir beer within certain limits of towns and public diggings is regarded by natives as a great hardship, and there have been numerous prosecutions for contravention of the Liquor Law, chiefly for brewing and selling Kaffir beer.

Generally speaking, relations existing between the various tribes remain cordial. There has been one faction fight of a serious nature between two sections of the Mauban tribe, viz. :—the people under Skep Maluka and those under the Chieftainess Lehau, in which two men were killed and thirty seriously wounded. An enquiry was held by the Sub-Native Commissioner, Hamans Kraal, and the papers have all been forwarded to the Law Department for such action as may be considered necessary.

A dispute arose in June between two factions of the Mabena tribe; and the people recognising the Chief Nyumba Mabena and those who claim that the headman Makerran is their chief, armed themselves and rallied round their respective champions, ostensibly for the purpose of holding a faction fight, but Mr. Key, the Sub-Native Commissioner, Pretoria, who was in the neighbourhood collecting taxes, immediately dispersed the gathering, and the men, numbering in all about six hundred, disarmed and returned to their homes in response to his orders. A full enquiry is being held in connection with the matter.

#### *Health.*

Throughout the division the health of the people has been good. During the summer months cases of malarial fever were reported from the low veldt, but the season has not been regarded as particularly unhealthy.

Lepers exist in various parts of the district, but arrangements have been made to accommodate the most serious cases in the Leper Asylum at Pretoria, and several patients have already been moved. Natives fear this disease and, in consequence, the sufferers are isolated as soon as they show symptoms of leprosy.

An outbreak of bubonic plague occurred in the Coolie Location at Johannesburg, in March, 1904, and this was followed by the discovery of a case at the Repatriation Camp, Pretoria, and various cases on the Witwatersrand Area. No further cases have developed in Pretoria, and the disease seems to be well under control elsewhere.

#### *Food Supply.*

Owing to the utter failure of crops last year, natives throughout the division spared no effort to cultivate as much land as they possibly could during the present season, and, in consequence of copious rains, the result has been that the crops are abundant everywhere and this applies especially to mealies. Though good, the mabele or Kaffir corn was attacked by a blight, which caused considerable damage to the grain.

#### *Trade.*

Several applications were received during the period under report for store licenses in the native locations, and, to encourage legitimate competition, enough licenses to supply the needs of the people were recommended and granted.

Considerable quantities of grain were sold by storekeepers to natives.

The principal trade wares dealt in by natives are blankets, clothing, tea, coffee, sugar, salt, and agricultural implements. When failing to get these at what they consider reasonable prices from local storekeepers, the natives visit larger towns and make their purchases there.



*Important Events.*

Though the collection of tax was almost completed by the end of June, 1903, a considerable amount due for 1902-1903, was subsequently collected, amounting to £4,076. Of the present year's collections, only £27,424 has been received, and this is undoubtedly due to several reasons, the chief of these being :—

- a. In consequence of an order received to the effect that very limited expenditure was to be incurred in connection with transport, it has not been found possible to travel over the length and breadth of the district as was done in 1903, and natives have not responded to the call to travel long distances to pay their tax.
- b. The reduction of native constables attached to the Department has rendered it impossible to convey the notice to natives in every part of the district, so many being domiciled on farms and, therefore, being in scattered habitations.
- c. The employment of officers belonging to the Department during the month of April on census duty.
- d. The difficulty experienced in obtaining a conviction for evasion of tax before a Court of Law under the present Tax Ordinance has become known to the natives, and they are under the impression that the punishment for the contravention is not very severe. I intend adjudicating upon such cases in future. It has not been considered advisable hitherto to hold a Native Commissioner's Court in the town of Pretoria, but I beg to point out that our authority over the native population is gradually slipping away from us. The necessity of being compelled to bring natives before another Court for punishment has the effect of establishing a strong conviction in their minds that the Native Affairs Department has no authority over them.
- e. In many cases natives living on farms and elsewhere have relied upon their crops to furnish the wherewithal with which to pay their taxes, and where crops have failed they are being persuaded to turn out and work. There are instances, also, in which farmers cannot afford to pay wages to their servants, and often the farmer then claims that he is entitled to the perpetual services of his squatters in return for the privileges enjoyed by the latter in being permitted to squat on and use the land.

It having been decided to abolish the office of Sub-Native Commissioner, Heidelberg, that office was handed over to the Resident Magistrate, Heidelberg, on the 1st April, 1904. A considerable amount of work has been executed during the time the office has been established there, and it was with the greatest regret that the farmers and residents of the district learned that the office was to be removed.

On the 17th September, 1903, the Commissioner for Native Affairs visited Hamans Kraal and there held a large meeting of all chiefs and headmen belonging to the various tribes in the division. The gathering proved most successful and convinced the natives that District Officers were not acting without some authority, an idea which natives invariably take hold of when the orders they receive do not happen to coincide with their own views or wishes.

The officials of the Department were utilised during April, 1904, to assist in taking census, and this work was accomplished without the slightest difficulty from the natives.

*Remittance Agency.*

The sum of £2,176 13s. 3d., passed through the office at Pretoria for transmission to the various other Colonies, and a sum of £1,443 12s., was deposited by natives for safe keeping. The balance at present in the Native Safe Custody Account amounts to £348 14s. 9d.

*Passes.*

Information having been received that the provisions of the Pass Laws were not being strictly observed by employers of native labour in Pretoria District, it became necessary to take action, and, acting in conjunction with the South African Constabulary and the Military Authorities, under whom a very large number of natives were serving, officials of this Department mustered all natives working at the Military Cantonments near Pretoria, with the result that over 800 natives were discovered without passes; some of these were identified as deserters from the Mines and steps were taken to punish the offenders and return them to their legitimate employers. The effect of the prosecutions which resulted has been that native labourers, as well as European employers, appear to have awakened to the fact that there is a Pass Law in existence which must be observed, and by the strict observance of which, desertion will be checked.

*Stock.*

In spite of the outbreak of Rhodesian Redwater among cattle in the Pretoria District, stock belonging to natives continues to thrive and increase. Strict adhesion to the regulations proves that the people thoroughly realise the danger attached to the spreading of the epidemic.

*Departmental.*

As a result of general retrenchment, it has been found necessary to reduce the staff of officials. The establishment of the Sub-Native Commissioner, Heidelberg, has been abolished and one clerk has been removed from the staff of this office. Nine native police have been dismissed from the office of the Sub-Native Commissioner, Pretoria, seven from the office of the Sub-Native Commissioner, Hamans Kraal, and six from the office of the Native Commissioner.

The revenue collected during the period under report amounted to £31,991 0s. 6d., and the expenditure amounted to £8,234 18s. 11d.

W. E. PEACHEY,

*Acting Native Commissioner, Central Transvaal, Pretoria.*



*Annexure "M."*

Office of the Native Commissioner,  
North-Western Transvaal,  
Warmbaths, May 4th, 1904.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION FOR PERIOD JULY 1st TO  
APRIL 30th, 1904.

*Native Population.*

The native population annexed shows a considerable increase on my last estimate. This is mainly caused by the inclusion within the Census Area of my Division of a larger number of natives residing on the borders who paid taxes to the Native Commissioners of the Northern and Central Divisions, and also to the fact that the number of women was underestimated owing to the returns of headmen handed in not including wives and children of men at work on the mines.

*Ethnological.*

This district, as has been previously pointed out, is one of mixed races and languages, and the most universally spoken language is Se-Khatla, a dialect of Sesutu.

*Labour.*

I consider that the output of labour on the whole must be taken as highly satisfactory when it is remembered that there are but four locations in the district, and that the majority of the remainder of natives are residing on private farms, and that such natives pay their rental in labour.

*Vital Statistics.*

In the absence of any system for the registration of births and deaths, it has been impracticable so far to obtain any safe figures. The only figures which can be given as correct are the marriages under European custom.

*Lands Occupied by Natives.*

There is no practical alteration in these figures, but it is well to point out, in order to allay a popular fallacy, that on both private and Crown Land figures giving a certain number of natives to a certain superficial area are often illusive, *e.g.*, a statement that 25 natives occupy a Crown farm of 6,000 acres may be true, but it does not follow that the whole of that land is occupied by these natives, and that this land would not accommodate a much larger number. It is necessary to bear this in mind when the quantity of land occupied by these natives is under discussion.

*Mission Stations.*

The returns as forwarded in December may be taken as representing the position now.

*Agriculture.*

There will be an abnormal harvest of mealies, but the Kaffir corn has suffered from blight and will not reach previous estimates.

*Education.*

The question of education is of great importance at the present time. A large number of natives are desirous of education, and mean to have it. The question is whether this should be under State control or left to native teachers. The native teacher should, in my opinion, be under efficient European supervision. I have no use for the native teacher who has probably been ejected from several congregations, who dyes his coat to any colour, and who is moreover in many cases disaffected, and becomes merely the tool of a designing headman. It has been my experience that such teachers disturb the tranquility of established Missions and do tremendous harm.

*Revenue.*

I deeply regret that the revenue has not reached the figures of last year, but the reduction of the number of native constables employed accounts for most of the deficit, as I pointed out when the question of reducing their numbers was first mooted. It is all the more significant because a considerable portion of this year's revenue is made up of arrear tax from last year. The total revenue from native tax for the twelve months ending 30th June, 1904, is under £21,000, of which over one-third is arrear tax, while the collection for the three months closing the preceding financial year approximated £25,000. It will thus be seen that the loss of revenue entailed by the reduction of this useful body of men is a matter of grave consequence to a Government badly in need of ready money.

*Census.*

A census, the first attempted in the Transvaal, was taken during the month of April, which engaged the time of the Sub-Native Commissioners, their clerks, and staff of police, not only for the whole of April but for the preceding two weeks in March, when arrangements were being taken in hand. The natives responded very well indeed, and the census was, in my opinion, most satisfactory. The only fault to be found with the arrangements was that, different colours and sizes of beads being the distinguishing marks of age, sex, and condition, at the last moment a new arrangement was adopted, when any person with the least knowledge of natives would have known that a sudden change of plans is never understood by the native mind, and caused a considerable amount of confusion, which was happily soon remedied.



*African Methodist Episcopal Church.*

I have on other occasions drawn attention to the greatly increased activity of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, but this is not the only church purely ruled by natives and imported blacks which is proselytizing in this district. I am strongly of opinion that some steps should be taken to control the movements of all such churches. Their teachings are a travesty on Christianity, and tend to become nothing less than rabid political organisations.

*Political Aspect.*

There is no doubt that there is a certain amount of dissatisfaction among the natives, rising from the non-payment of Military compensation claims for cattle, etc., commandeered during the war.

It must be remembered that none of the ordinary compensation claims for war losses have yet been paid out, and that it is over two years since Peace was declared. The natives say that they are expected to pay their taxes, but that the Government does not think of paying them their dues. Of course, the removal of Native Commissioners and Sub-Commissioners in some places has accentuated this feeling, and the native now wonders whether he will ever get paid at all.

There is no doubt but that the natives are at present suffering, and will in future suffer, from the abolition of so many Native Commissionerships and Sub-Native Commissionerships, and that their wants will not receive the necessary attention, which will tend to promote unrest in the native mind.

The Government will now lose entire touch with the natives, and any sympathy there now is will disappear, which nobody will sooner recognise than the native himself.

As I am leaving the Department and shall have no further opportunity of expressing my opinions, I wish to record my conviction that not only will the natives suffer deeply from the administrative changes now being made in the districts, but that it is a grave error in high policy, the consequences of which will sooner or later manifest themselves.

S. W. J. SCHOLEFIELD,

*Native Commissioner, North-Western Transvaal.*

*Annexure "N."*

## REPORT BY PASS COMMISSIONER, JOHANNESBURG.

THE SECRETARY FOR NATIVE AFFAIRS,  
JOHANNESBURG.

On 1st July, 1903, the Departments of Chief Inspector and Controller of Passports were amalgamated and placed under my control as Pass Commissioner.

A new system of registration was introduced, while, as it was found undesirable and impracticable for passports to be held by natives, it was decided to revert to the same system of issuing monthly passes as had obtained under the late Government.

The passport is now held by the employer and the monthly pass by the native.

To give effect to the system of registration now in operation it was found necessary to adopt an improved form of register and to carry out a re-issue of passports to all natives employed in Labour Districts. As at the time upwards of 117,000 natives were in possession of passports much labour was entailed in the work of initial organisation, which was satisfactorily accomplished without undue inconvenience to the public.

The Labour District of Germiston, which had been recognised to be an important labour centre, but had not previously received adequate facilities in matters affecting native administration, was, for departmental purposes, made a separate Labour District.

For the convenience of the public in certain residential quarters of Johannesburg, who in the past had been compelled to attend at the Main Pass Office, three extra Branch Offices have been established, which have considerably benefited employers of domestic labour in those quarters, and have done much to reduce the congestion which had been felt in the past at the Main Office.

Further decentralisation has also been effected in the district formerly known as Boksburg, a District Pass Office having been established at Springs and a Branch Office at Benoni.

Natives employed on mines are now treated independently, both as regards registration and statistics, while the system of allotting to Inspectors the work affecting the Mining Industry formerly performed at Pass Offices has been justified, not only by the closer supervision it enables this Department to exercise on natives employed on mines, but also by its admitted convenience to the Industry, by whom this consideration has been met with cordial reciprocity.

In Johannesburg District where, in addition to natives employed on mines, a large number of natives are employed in domestic service, in stores, and by contractors, a new Department has been instituted to facilitate the hearing of native complaints, whether with regard to wages or treatment. Advice is given them by a qualified legal man, and action is taken, if necessary, in the interests of the natives, who have derived much benefit through our exertions in this connection. The establishment of this office has had the effect of saving many natives from seeking advice from unscrupulous and extortionate law agents, and thereby engaging often in useless and—to them—unprofitable litigation. The work of the Complaints' Department will be referred to again in the course of this report.



In July, 1903, petitions were addressed to the Commissioner for Native Affairs by the Directorates of the majority of the Diamond Mining Companies in Pretoria District, requesting that the area in which the diamond mines are situated should be proclaimed a Labour District, with a view to bringing the natives employed there under the control provided for in the special Labour Regulations.

Acting on your instructions I visited the Pretoria and Middelburg Districts, and recommended in a report, dated 25th August, 1903, that certain farms embracing the respective Labour Areas should be proclaimed.

This recommendation was given effect to by the Proclamation of His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor No. 55, Administration, 1903.

Both areas are now under the inspection and control of officers of this Department.

The statistical returns, which are now collected, have necessitated much detail work, but the system has been fully justified by the fact that this Department is now in a position to provide statistics of the health, mortality, and general movements of the native population in Labour Districts. The territorial returns are valuable in a political sense, as showing at a glance the movements, comparative mortality, and the proportion to the total labour supply of the various tribes which make up the native population in Labour Districts.

The statistical appendices to this report will unless it be stated otherwise, cover the whole period of review—1st July, 1903, to 30th June, 1904.

#### *Visit of Cape Delegates.*

At the instance of the Government of the Cape Colony, Mr. W. T. Brownlee, Resident Magistrate of the Butterworth District, accompanied by a deputation of native headmen from the various native Territories of the Cape Colony, visited the Witwatersrand in September last with the object of enquiring into the condition and treatment on the mines of native labourers from that Colony.

The deputation was accompanied during their inspections by officers of this Department, and visited twelve mines in Johannesburg District, four in Germiston District, and six in Krugersdorp District. Every opportunity was afforded them of prosecuting enquiry, and free access was given them to the compounds, hospitals, and kitchens, and to the native labourers.

Having regard to the innate tendency of the native to air a grievance if the possibility of one existing be suggested, the results of the enquiry must be considered as satisfactory.

Mr. Brownlee was favourably impressed with the compounds, hospitals, and kitchens, and with the liberal diet provided by the Mining Industry.

During the course of enquiry various complaints—chiefly as to the non-fulfilment of promises as regards wages made on recruitment—were heard. Each case was investigated, and when necessary action was taken to remove the cause of complaint. To a great extent they were cases arising from the misrepresentations of Labour Agents in the Cape Colony.

#### *Visit of Dr. Pinto Coelho.*

Dr. Pinto Coelho arrived from Lourenço Marques during last March to enquire, on behalf of the Portuguese Government, into the conditions obtaining on the mines especially with regard to natives from Portuguese Territory.

He visited several mines in Johannesburg, Germiston, and Boksburg Districts, accompanied in each instance by an Inspector of this Department, thoroughly inspected the compounds, hospitals, and kitchens, conferred with the doctors on the mines, and had conversations with Portuguese natives.

The chief object of his visit was to enquire into the high rate of mortality from pneumonia, but at the time of his visit there were comparatively few natives in the mine hospitals suffering from that disease, owing doubtless to the season of the year.

On the conclusion of his inspection he expressed himself as well satisfied with the general living conditions of natives on the mines, and the efforts made by this Department and the Mining Industry generally on their behalf.

#### *Bubonic Plague Outbreak.*

On the outbreak of bubonic plague in the Coolie Location, Johannesburg, on March 20th, stringent precautions to prevent the spread of the disease were immediately taken by the Plague Authorities, with whom this Department was instructed to co-operate.

An isolation camp was formed at Klipspruit, to which the inhabitants of the location—of whom upwards of 1,500 were natives—were removed. Prior to their removal the location was visited by officers of this Department, who, at the request of the Plague Committee, assessed the property of the natives, whose return to their employers was subsequently arranged conditionally upon satisfactory accommodation being provided them.

For this purpose a depot was formed at the Pass Office Compound, Johannesburg, at which natives from the isolation camp were received.

Seventeen natives at the camp, who were found to have been evading the Pass Regulations at the time of the outbreak, were arrested and convictions obtained against them.

As a preventive measure against the spread of the disease the Rand Plague Committee, in conjunction with this Department, arranged for the medical examination at all Pass Offices of all natives applying for travelling passes prior to their being permitted to travel.

A return is submitted, from which it will be seen that up to 30th June 47,129 natives were so examined, of whom 47,002 were passed as free from plague infection, 29 suspects being removed to the Lazaretto. (See Appendix No. 21.)