

ISER Publications

Occasional Papers

1. Report on the relation of economic rent and household income in municipal housing schemes for the Coloured people of Grahamstown

By James Irving

1958

The City Council's Non-European Affairs Committee honoured me in August, 1957, by permitting me to appear before it to present a research report on the transference of Coloured people to its new housing estates. The report was offered verbally, but I was asked to prepare and submit a report confined to 34 households then under eviction orders: this report on "Non-payment of rent by Coloured householders in the new housing schemes of Grahamstown Municipality" was considered at a later date by Council and various recommendations were adopted. Representatives of the City Council discussed the possible methods of meeting the situation which had arisen with Central Government officers. It was agreed later that I be asked to develop a systematic study of the problems on a wider scale and that this report be submitted to the Central Government on its completion. In conformity with this request I submit the present report., Digitised by Rhodes University Library on behalf of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER)

<http://hdl.handle.net/10962/2552>

2. Economic Rent and Household Income Among the African Population of Grahamstown

By James Irving

1958

3. Report on slum clearance and the ability of Europeans to pay an economic rent in a small South African city

By James Irving

1959

In this paper an analysis is developed of the characteristics of a group of Europeans who have been declared to be living in houses unfit for habitation in terms of the criteria laid down in the Slums Act No. 53 of 1934. It is assumed, for purposes of analysis, that the group will be transferred to municipal housing and that, like the Coloured and Africans in the City of Grahamstown, economic rent scales will be applied. This paper is, therefore, concerned with the present condition of the tenants in the slum but is predictive in terms of what will most probably happen if they are transferred to better municipally owned housing under economic rentals. The specific reasons why economic rent, without subsidisation, is likely to be applied to this group need not concern us in this paper. Even if an economic rent is not applied the discussion is held

to be of value so far as sets up standards and techniques by which levels of subsidisation, if applied, might be measured. Further, the data is held to be factually interesting so far as it relates to the poverty of Europeans on which, little has been written for some years., Digitised by Rhodes University Library on behalf of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER)

<http://hdl.handle.net/10962/2565>

4. Macleantown: a study of a small South African community

By James Irving

1959

For some years the Institute of Social and Economic Research at Rhodes University has been engaged in an intensive study of the area of the Eastern Province of the Union of South Africa known to South Africans as the Border Region. By a singular chance an invitation from the East London Divisional Council to investigate the condition of a Border village arose when, in the course of a visit from its Secretary, sufficient data was shown concerning the conditions of village life in the region, to suggest that a special study should be made of rural problems on an intensive basis. In the first instance the enquiry directed to the Institute was administrative in the sense that difficulties were arising in the villages to warrant the establishment of sufficient authentic facts to point the way to methods of solving the immediate difficulties of the Council. While this object has not been overlooked, and it would have been less than courteous to have overlooked the demand that brought-the research into being, it has been thought necessary to widen the scope of the investigation to include materials that go beyond the administrative needs of the Council. The scope of the investigation has been widened to include an analysis of the village community as well as a co-ordinated body of brute fact. While "irreducible fact" is the basis on which the investigation rests, the attempt has been made to isolate meaning and significance of the data; it is in the latter field that deeper aspects of administrative decisions lie more often than in mountains of fact no matter how reliable. A community is an organised unit; there is no simple explanation of the way in which human social institutions work except by analysing the behaviour of people in their everyday activity. The manner in which the organisation works and be more or less efficient and there was prima facie evidence that the community of Macleantown was not organised to yield maximal efficiency. The causative factors involved in this drop in efficiency thus becomes one of the basic tasks, Digitised by Rhodes University Library on behalf of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER)

<http://hdl.handle.net/10962/2590>

5. Pineapples in the Eastern Cape: a study of the farm economy and marketing patterns

By Conrad Barend Strauss

1960

The major objective of this study was to seek a better knowledge and greater understanding of the factors associated with successful pineapple farming in the Eastern Cape Region of the Union of South Africa. As no previous investigation equally

representative of commercial pineapple farming patterns in the Eastern Cape has been made, this study can be regarded as a pilot survey of the labour structures, rates of production, combination of enterprises, marketing channels and the suitability of various districts in the region of study for the production of pineapples. In addition, the history of the pineapple in South Africa will be traced briefly, and the position the Union holds as a supplier of pineapples on the world market, will be investigated. The importance of the Eastern Cape as a producer of pineapples in South Africa is well known, but is also unequivocally illustrated by the information in Table 1. According to estimates made by the Division of Economics and Markets for 1955/56 season, no less than 86.5 per cent of the total acreage planted to pineapples in South Africa, was located in this area. Bathurst, East London and Albany, three of the six districts included in the estimate, were particularly prominent. Taken together, they cultivated more than three-quarters of the total area planted to pineapples in the Eastern Cape, and nearly 70 per cent of the total for South Africa. The remaining quarter of the area cultivated in the Eastern Cape was located in the districts of Peddie, Komgha and Alexandria., Digitised by Rhodes University Library on behalf of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER)

<http://hdl.handle.net/10962/2442>

6. Elderly whites in Grahamstown: a survey of their socio-economic characteristics, housing needs and preferences

By H.L. Watts

1962

During 1960 a survey was made of the elderly White population of Grahamstown, and its characteristics. In particular, housing needs and preferences were investigated with a view to uncovering problems. Housing meets the basic need of man for shelter. Satisfactory housing provides not merely shelter alone, but meets important social, psychological and physical needs of the inhabitants. The situation in regard to the housing of the elderly must not be ignored, for as Tunbridge has pointed out, 'the need for adequate housing of the elderly is vital, because the added strain of living in unsuitable accommodation may precipitate disability and dependency'. The survey was undertaken by the Department of Sociology of Rhodes University. Structured interviews were conducted with a probability cluster sample of elderly Whites. The fieldwork was carried out on a part-time basis by twenty-five second-year Sociology students after an initial period of training. Generally people were most co-operative, and the elderly appreciated an interest being taken in their needs and preferences. Response was obtained from a total of 102, or 86.5 per cent of the persons aged 60+ years in the sample. Fuller details of the sampling design are given for the technical reader in Appendix B. The sample is considered to be free from major biases, and provides an estimate of the position prevailing in the total population of elderly Whites in Grahamstown., Digitised by Rhodes University Library on behalf of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER)

<http://hdl.handle.net/10962/2518>

7. Industrial development in a border area: facts and figures from East London

By John Percy Barker

1966

In the early 1950's the area of the eastern Cape Province adjoining the Transkei was the object of an intensive study known as the Border Regional Survey and five volumes have already been published. This work is a more detailed investigation of one aspect of the economy, namely the growth of manufacturing industry. Its importance lies in the fact that not only is the African population increasing rapidly, but that effective rehabilitation of peasant farming in the Transkei and Ciskei must necessarily displace large numbers from the land. Expansion of manufacturing industry would appear to be the most effective means of providing remunerative employment for these people. Moreover, the government has embarked upon a policy of encouraging the establishment of factories on the periphery of the Bantu areas, and the eastern Cape is an important area in this general scheme. It may well be the most crucial testing point of the whole policy of border industries', because with its large Transkeian hinterland it is the area most in need of expanding employment opportunities; but, at the same time, by reason of locational and other disabilities, it is the area in which industrial expansion may be most difficult to achieve., Digitised by Rhodes University Library on behalf of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER)

<http://hdl.handle.net/10962/2634>

8. South African town: some community patterns and processes in the white population of King William's Town

By H.L. Watts

1966

The town chosen for examination was King William's Town, in the Border region of the Cape Province. Dating back over a century and more to the days of the old British Kaffraria, the town has existed long enough to build up an apparently stable population with its own way of life. Today about fourteen-and-a-half thousand souls live in the borough, of whom under seven thousand are Whites. The community lies in a region of small towns, dominated by the nearby city of East London, which is about 40 miles away on the coast, and provides one of the smaller of the harbours on the eastern coastline of the Republic. King William's Town is a compact, apparently static community, and seems to be typical of many small inland towns in South Africa. Its ways of life and problems probably match those of not a few other towns in the Republic. What types of people live in a small town such as King William's Town, and what do they think about their community? Where have the people in the town come from, and are they likely to stay on in the community, or leave it? How do they earn their living, and does the town provide a living for the younger generation, or must they leave to seek work elsewhere? These are key questions, involving important aspects of town life, which the search project attempts to answer. The study concentrates on the Whites living in the community, and analyses them in some detail. It describes the different types of people to be found in the town, and shows how they earn their living. Attitudes towards life in the town are investigated., Digitised by Rhodes University Library on behalf of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER)

<http://hdl.handle.net/10962/2531>

9. A study of Bantu retail traders in certain areas of the Eastern Cape

By Richard Brougham Savage

1966

In this study, consideration has been given only to the Bantu in retail trade in the Bantu areas (which are predominantly rural) and in the smaller urban complexes outside these areas. Retail trade in the rural Bantu areas of the Eastern Cape has until recent years been the near-monopoly of the Whites, who still retain the bulk of this business. White traders provide the channel through which most goods are imported into these areas and it is through them that a large part of all local produce is exported. They act as 'middlemen', buying local produce for resale on the local domestic market. They are an important source of credit and their trading stations are important social centres in the normal run of events of the local communities. White traders have always offered other services apart from merely supplying material needs. They act as postmasters and there are frequent calls for their advice, and in cases of illness and birth, for their motor cars., Digitised by Rhodes University Library on behalf of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER)

<http://hdl.handle.net/10962/2758>

10. Scientific Research Innovation and Economic Growth: A Possible Relationship

By Bruce D. Phillips

1968

11. The life and work of Benjamin Tyamzashe: a contemporary Xhosa composer

By Deirdre Doris Hansen

1968

The present paper is a digest of the thesis submitted under the same title, by Miss Deirdre Hansen for the Degree of Master of Music of Rhodes University in 1968. This work includes a large number of musical illustrations, which illuminate in detail many aspects of the works of Benjamin Tyamzashe. The section containing these has been reduced to its essentials, but what is here given should enable the reader to understand the manner in which Tyamzashe's ability as a composer has developed, and to give him his rightful place among his contemporaries., Digitised by Rhodes University Library on behalf of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER)

<http://hdl.handle.net/10962/d1020214>

12. Man, machines, and society: lectures in industrial sociology

By James Irving

1968

The machine had been slowly developing for centuries before it became incorporated as the leading element in a new type of civilisation significantly different from any previous society or culture the world had seen. It required a particular set of circumstances to integrate it and these circumstances determine its emergence and the specific form the emergence took. We are looking at a new and complete society

in which previously existing elements are rearranged into a new pattern. Throughout this discussion the relativity of the industrial order to other aspects of the modern society must be seen; it cannot be isolated from its complex backgrounds else the effects it has upon simpler societies will not be grasped. It is a complete way of life competing with other complete ways of life and, its power being greater, it substitutes where the competition takes place. It will be observed that it is not identical with a specific kind of economic order so far as it appears to be able to operate in the great capitalist states like America and Britain and yet to function as well in a socialist order. No greater mistake could be made than to confuse industrialisation with a specific economic system although, historically, its association is greater in time than with the newer forms of society of a socialist type., Digitised by Rhodes University Library on behalf of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER)

<http://hdl.handle.net/10962/2576>

13. Border port: a study of East London, South Africa, with special reference to the white population

By H.L. Watts and J.A.I. Agar-Hamilton

1970

While there are studies of the Border region, which give a picture of the economic, industrial, and physical features of the dominant centre of East London and of its Bantu population, no detailed study of the White population of the city had, prior to 1954, been published. So it was that in 1964 the present study was commenced as primarily a sociological analysis of the White population of East London. It was designed to deal with this gap in our knowledge of the region. The study includes a description of the historical development of the city, and some reference to its regional setting. The White population of the city is analysed in some detail., Digitised by Rhodes University Library on behalf of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER)

<http://hdl.handle.net/10962/2824>

14. The Cape Midlands: Its Demography (1911-1960) and Regional Income (1954/55-1959/60)

By John A. Banach

1969

15. The beginnings of urban segregation in South Africa : the Natives (Urban Areas) Act of 1923 and its background

By T.R.H. Davenport

1971

A bad influenza epidemic hit South Africa in 1918, and in the words of the Department of Native Affairs it afforded to the general public a startling revelation of the distressing conditions under which the Natives live in our urban centres and to what a great extent these conditions were a standing menace to the health of the whole population,

European and native alike. It was an incentive to press ahead with the urban areas legislation, and in this task the Department now had the assistance of two new bodies, the statutory Native Affairs Commission set up under the Native Affairs Act of 1920, and the Transvaal Local Government Commission under Colonel C. F. Stallard. The Department announced a revised Bill in its Report for 1922. It contained most of the clauses of the 1918 Bill had a pronounced welfare focus, and aimed to give local authorities necessary powers to provide adequate housing and services, if necessary by borrowing money and recouping themselves through trading ventures in the locations., Digitised by Rhodes University Library on behalf of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER)

<http://hdl.handle.net/10962/2802>

16. Some socio-economic aspects of African entrepreneurship: with particular reference to the Transkei and Ciskei, African entrepreneurship

By Gillian Patricia Hart

1972

This work encompasses an inquiry into the role of the entrepreneur in economic development, and a report of interviews with eighty African businessmen in the Transkei, Ciskei and some urban locations. South Africa provides a particularly interesting field for the study of African enterprise insofar as it is possible to examine the evolution of entrepreneurship in two fundamentally different environments - namely rural reserves and large urban areas. Furthermore, there has been a substantial increase in the number of African entrepreneurs during this century. The study achieves added significance in view of the wide racial income differentials which are an endemic feature of South African socio-economic existence; moreover, there is a great deal of evidence to suggest that, despite the high real growth rates during recent years, the racial income gap is widening.' A corollary to this is the worsening of the relative - though not necessarily the absolute - economic position of the Black population. Hence: "the fundamental question for South Africa's economic future revolves around the income relationship between the Whites and the African segment of the non-White group.", Digitised by Rhodes University Library on behalf of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER)

<http://hdl.handle.net/10962/2487>

17. Predikant and priest: some Calvinist and Catholic role profiles of the religious functionary in South Africa: a comment and review of two empirical studies

By Edward Higgins

1972

A revised English version of "Les roles religieux dans le contexte multi-racial sud-africain : le profil du ministere dans le calvinisme et le catholicisme"

<http://hdl.handle.net/10962/d1020578>

18. Coko: Reminiscences of Joseph Scotch Coko,: A Grahamstown resident

By Richard A. Moyer (ed)

1973

19. Who goes to parliament?

By Newell Maynard Stultz

1975

The focus here is upon the 1 169 white men and the twelve white women who were elected or nominated to the South African Parliament in Cape Town between 1910 and the conclusion of the 1970 general and Senate elections.¹ Because of the integrated nature of government at the national level in South Africa, an examination of all parliamentarians concurrently produces information on all cabinet ministers during the same period, and for most if not all of the top leaders of the major political parties as well. Hence, recognizing the unitary structure of the South African regime - sometimes expressed in the principle of the 'sovereignty of Parliament' - it seems possible to designate these 1 181 persons as the formally ascendant South African political elite during the country's first six decades. Moreover, there is no reason to doubt that this number includes nearly all of the persons who exercised disproportionately great real power during these years, excepting, of course, those few non-whites who may be thought to have been politically influential at the national level. Every indication is that political life in South Africa centred on these individuals, or at least on some of them, for clearly not all were of equal political importance. Yet even the leaders within this select group, whom we shall also consider separately in detail, frequently (although not in every case) rose to prominence within the institution of Parliament, in part on the basis of their ability to influence and control its deliberations. An understanding of the backgrounds of all parliamentarians thus not only helps to describe the body itself, but may also contribute a new appreciation of the political power of the country's top leadership., Digitised by Rhodes University Library on behalf of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER)

<http://hdl.handle.net/10962/2747>

20. From frontier to midlands: a history of the Graaff-Reinet district, 1786-1910

By Kenneth Wyndham Smith

1976

The study of local history in South Africa is still in its infancy and has not been accorded the same recognition as elsewhere. There is no convenient manual to guide the would-be local historian of the Cape. There are few models that provide an insight into the main problems encountered by the local historian of a Cape community. In such local histories as exist, attention has been focussed predominantly on the foundation and physical growth of towns, the naming of streets, the establishment of schools and hospitals. Many of these accounts were written for publicity purposes or to commemorate the founding of towns. Although there is no history of the Dutch Reformed Church in Graaff-Reinet, the history of local congregations of the Dutch Reformed Church has generally been well covered in the form of Gedenkboeke and other studies. These frequently have a particular relevance as many towns such as

Burgersdorp and Colesberg were founded as a result of the initiative of the church. Preface., Digitised by Rhodes University Library on behalf of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER)

<http://hdl.handle.net/10962/2656>

21. Jewish South Africans: a sociological view of the Johannesburg community

By Allie A. Dubb

1977

The South African Jewish community is embedded in the wider one of white, mainly English-speaking South Africa in a way in which Eastern European Jews were not, and the individual may decide for himself the nature and extent of his Jewish involvement. In South Africa, then, 'being Jewish' varies within wide limits: it may be little more than an accident of birth minimally affecting a person's behaviour; it may -be expressed primarily in support of Jewish institutions and philanthropies; or it may have much the same connotations as it had in Eastern Europe. What being Jewish means in the South African context and, more specifically, in Johannesburg, is the problem to which the present study is addressed. Its aim is to distinguish the various elements of Jewishness, and to discover the manner in which they find expression among those who regard themselves as Jews. It is a study of identification: that is, of the behaviour, sentiments, beliefs, values and attitudes which derive from, and express identity with, the Jewish group, its culture, religion and peoplehood., Digitised by Rhodes University Library on behalf of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER)

<http://hdl.handle.net/10962/1697>

22. Some Xhosa Idioms and Expressions

By B.E.N. Mahlasela

1977

23. Politics and communication in the Ciskei, an African Homeland in South Africa

By Les Switzer

1979

The Ciskei was gradually 'consolidated' by a process of geo-political gerrymandering that included the incorporation of black dormitory townships dependent on 'white' cities outside the homeland for survival. By 1973, the Ciskei homeland's de facto population was estimated at 602 000.4 Since then, the overcrowded rural population has been forced to absorb thousands of refugees removed from South Africa's 'white' areas — including several 'black spots' now outside the boundaries of the homeland — and migrants from two districts (Herschel and Glen Grey) formerly in the Ciskei which were ceded by the South African government to Transkei. Any attempt at measuring the extent to which communication affects the political credibility of the present Ciskei homeland in the eyes of its inhabitants must be weighed against these historical realities. This monograph is divided into three parts: 1. An outline of the political system

in the Ciskei. 2. The role of the mass media in determining attitudes towards homeland news. 3. Some observations on the status accorded oral channels of communication in the transmission and validation of political news in selected rural and urban areas of the Ciskei. In obtaining data for this study, five surveys were conducted in two rural villages, the biggest urban area in the Ciskei and the Ciskei Legislative Assembly. The villages of Gobošana (or Xengxe) and Nyaniso formed the basis of the rural surveys conducted in April — June 1976. Fifty heads of homesteads in each village, in a universe of about 500 homesteads, were selected at random., Digitised by Rhodes University Library on behalf of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER)

<http://hdl.handle.net/10962/2724>

24. Strategies for Survival: Transcending the Culture of Poverty in a Black South African Township

By Mercia J. Wilsworth

1980

25. Mdantsane: Transitional City

By Gillian Cook and Jeff Opland

1980

26. Umsindleko: A Gcaleka Ritual of Incorporation

By P.A. McAllister

1981

27. Oesophageal Cancer: Smoking and Drinking in Transkei

By Evelyn Bradshaw, N.D.
McGlashan and J.S. Harington

1982

28. African Middle-Class Elite

By Thomas E. Nyquist

1983

In this time of crucial change for all of Southern Africa - as the former colonies of Portugal struggle to become viable states, as Rhodesia totters on the brink of political change, and as South Africa girds itself for an uncertain future - the question is: "What of the potential African leaders in South Africa?" We hear of the Bantustans and their thrust forward, but what of those Africans of ability living in the urban areas whose counterparts have provided much of the leadership in other African countries? Who

are they? What are their circumstances? What are they thinking? And what are they doing? The goal of this study is to suggest tentative answers through the careful and detailed study of a specific community and its potential leaders, the upper stratum. Such answers can only be approximate, of course. Community circumstances differ. Moreover, the explosive events in Soweto and elsewhere in South Africa during 1976 have altered reality, and our study was carried out during 1966-7 and 1975. The locus of research has been Grahamstown and, most particularly, the African community attached to it (see Maps 1 and 2). Situated in the eastern region of the Cape Province, Grahamstown is a city of regional importance, best known as the centre of the first large English settlement¹. Arguments about its suitability for research of this nature are detailed in Appendix A, but from the researcher's perspective its African population of 35 000+ gives it more than local significance while still being small enough to allow a thorough study. In addition, the community's depth of contact with Europeans going back to the 1830's, and the general importance of Grahamstown as an educational centre, imply a more sophisticated population than its size might otherwise indicate. Further, the community's nearness to the African Bantustan of the Ciskei, one of nine such "homelands" for Africans, and to the African university at Fort Hare, add to its significance. The primary group under study has been the upper stratum of the African community, as defined by the Africans themselves. From the research has evolved a series of propositions. They relate, first, to the composition of the African upper stratum and the role of its members in their own community, and, second, to the way in which their marginal position within South Africa contributes to particular attitudes and social behaviour often detrimental to the achievement of a better community. (For a discussion of the research techniques used, see Appendix B.), Digitised by Rhodes University Library on behalf of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER)

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