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DEFINITION OF POWERS OF CHIEFS AND JURISDICTION OF NATIVE COURTS.

Resident Commissioner: I should be glad now to listen to the views of the Chiefs on the suggested proclamation in regard to defining the powers of Chiefs and jurisdiction of native courts. As I have said before I cannot discuss the matter at the present moment but I will listen to your views.

Chief Tshekedi: With reference to this subject I am going to say what I think myself. I know that we Chiefs are of the same views - I might differ from them in details. I have a complaint. We have asked Your Honour to talk this matter with us. First of all it was a confidential matter. At that time there were only a few of us who wished to talk the matter over with Your Honour, and to-day there seem to be too many.

Resident Commissioner: I do not mind who you have here, you can have as many as you like. If there are too many you can send some of the people away, or get more, as you like.

Chief Tshekedi: For myself I have not many people here. Your Honour has led us to understand that this is not a question for us but for the Resident Commissioner and High Commissioner. In this matter I understand that the Government intends to define the powers of the Chiefs and jurisdiction of Chiefs in the kgotla and tribe. These two things trouble us. I do not think they can be taken together and settled. First of all I should like to say that the powers of the Chiefs should be gone into because the powers of the Chiefs means the power of the tribe. We want to know our powers under the Government also the power of the Government over us, just in the same way as the Secretary of State's powers are defined by law. At present we do not know the powers of our rulers, and we do not know our own

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