

Minutes of a Special Governing Committee meeting held in the G. & P. Club on Thursday, 21st March 1946, at 8.15 p.m. to discuss the matter of a

BENEVOLENT FUND.

Present:- Mr. A.E.Davies (in the Chair), Mr.A.V.D.Elliott, Mr.J.R. Nesbitt, Mr.A.B.Green, Mr.W.P.Watt, Insp. G.L.Yeoman, Revd. W.W. Wratten, Mr.E.C.Moffitt and the Hon. Secretary.

The minutes of the special Governing Committee meeting held in this connection on 15/3/1945 were read as well as relevant sections from minutes of meetings held on 5/4/1945 and 7/3/1946.

Apologies were received from:- Mr. C.L. de Beer, Mr.J.E.Hawkey, Mr. W.G. Vowles and Mr.C.Montgomery.

Arising from the last minutes, Mr.Davies doubted that we had committed ourselves and asked if anything definite had been held out to the African members. Mr.Moffitt said that they had been informed that the matter was to come up for review with a view to an expansion of benefits if funds warranted it.

Revd. Wratten enquired as to where the funds were to come from and Mr.Davies replied by an increase of 6d. on subscriptions plus 6d. per capita from the previous sub. of 2/6d. The Secty. pointed out that the Native Executive themselves had suggested the increase of 6d. on subscriptions. He said further that he had made enquiries as to whether the Fund could be covered by insurance but that this would only be considered if nationalized.

Mr.Green enquired as to what the Natives had contributed in the last twelve months and was informed by the Secty. that on the aforementioned basis it amounted to £15.-

The Chairman said he was under the impression that a special Burial Fund was to have been opened but the Secty. said that it had been decided to pay burial grants from general funds. Mr.Moffitt agreed that something should be set aside and he was of the opinion that, if a definite figure be set, the Natives would raise further funds themselves, as they were harping on sick benefits. He pointed out that at present we were catering solely for sporting members and mentioned that there was no admission charge at the gate now.

The Secty. said we should guard against any scheme encouraging malingering and pointed out that mine members were cared for in so far as rations and free housing were concerned, whereas the vast majority of urban dwellers were not so fortunate. He then moved the following resolution:- "That, if cases of hardship to members are reported to the Secty., each case shall be judged according to its merits by a sub. Committee consisting of the Chairman of the Executive Committee, the Chairman and Secretary of the African Section and the Hon. Secty./Treas. of the Society, who shall afford what relief is deemed expedient to a maximum of 10/-d. in any one year, subject always to funds being available!"

Mr. Elliott advanced that a target figure should be set.

Mr.Moffitt said that we need not necessarily commit ourselves as to the benefits which would accrue.

Mr. Nesbitt moved that the Society should not establish a Benevolent Fund as he thought the working thereof would be impossible. He pointed out that Natives got free medical treatment. Mr.Green signified his willingness to second this and mentioned that responsible African members at the G. & P. were under a misapprehension as to the benefit accruing last year. Mr.Nesbitt said he admired the spirit behind it but thought the Society would bite off more than it could chew.

Mr. Elliott suggested that the Hospital Visitors might be empowered to give say cigarettes and oranges to the patients but the danger hereanent was pointed out. He stressed that the Africans themselves were prepared to pay for the scheme.

The Secty. spoke to his proposition again and said he thought it would be acceptable to the Africans.

Mr. Moffitt said that we could not go back to them and say that sick benefits had been definitely turned down.

Mr.Green advanced that the scheme should be dropped and that the State Lottery or Government should take it on. In reply, Mr.Moffitt pointed out that the Natives had been informed that future benefits might be looked for if the funds were available. Mr.Green said that, as only £15.- was available, it showed weakness on their part.

The Chairman proposed the opening of a separate Burial Fund and Mr. Moffitt mentioned that £50.- had been asked for from general funds.

Mr.Elliott advanced that 1/-d. a year per member would be far too small

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Minutes of a Governing Committee meeting held in the G. & P. Club on Thursday, 7th March 1946 at 8.15 p.m.

Present:- Mr. C. L. de Beer (in the Chair), Revd. P. Ibbotson, Mr. E.C. Moffitt, Mr. A.E. Davies, Mr. A.B. Green, Mr. W.P. Watt, Insp. G.L. Yeoman and Mr. R.L. Tollner, also Mr. A.V.D. Elliott.

Apologies: Mr. J.R. Nesbitt, Mr. J.E. Hawkey, Mr. W.G. Vowles, Mr. G.A. Davenport and Mr. C. Montgomery.

Before opening proceedings the Chairman expressed regret at the small attendance, which was due to political meetings being held that evening. A welcome was extended to the Organizing Secretary. He then said that, following on last meeting, he had discussed the matter of honorary secretaryship with Mr. Tollner and he had agreed to continue. He therefore moved that that part of the previous meet minutes, whereby the secretary had said he would give the matter consideration, be expunged. This was agreed to and the minutes, mutatis mutandis, having been circulated were taken as read and were confirmed.

Mr. Davies advanced that the Secretary should issue documents relative to Council meetings to delegates beforehand. The Secretary pointed out that any items coming forward were duly passed on and that instances had occurred where members had denied having received certain items when this could be proved to the contrary. It was decided to table the minutes of other societies in future.

Matters arising from minutes:-

(a). Bier - When this was ready for use the Secty. had approached the G.M.O. with a view to it being kept at the Government Native hospital. The latter had given some good reasons as to why it should not be kept there. The matter had been referred to Insp. Yeoman who reported that the bier had been handed over to the Gaoler. Mr. Green and Mr. Moffitt were thanked for their interest in securing this.

Mr. Davies appealed for a trolley for use at the Native hospital. He was requested to ask the Doctors to contact Mr. Green in this connection.

(b). Benevolent Fund - It was asked how the suggested grant of £50.- from general funds (previously £25.-) had been arrived at. The meeting was informed that this was because the previous suggestion that beer-halls be asked to contribute on a £ for £ basis had fallen through.

Mr. Moffitt explained how we had committed ourselves in this connection but that the fund would not be launched until the figure of £90.- (plus £10.- promised by the Bulawayo Society) had been reached. The Secty. said that a per capita grant of 1/-d. from subscriptions had been suggested.

Mr. Green mentioned that the G. & P. boys were not a bit keen on the scheme.

The Chairman suggested leaving the matter to a fuller meeting. Mr. Moffitt said that the Native Executive had given him the idea about the Fund and he did not favour postponement. The Secretary said we might consider the reduction of subs. to 2/6d. and allowing any section which wanted to start a Fund to do so. All were opposed to this suggestion.

Mr. Davies suggested that a special meeting be held before next Executive meeting. Mr. Moffitt proposed the appointment of a sub-committee. Mr. Elliott proposed the holding of a special meeting - seconded Insp. Yeoman - CARRIED.

(c). Log-book for local meetings, etc - The Secty. had approached the Town Clerk in this connection and he had kindly started a log-book which was available for inspection in the general Office at the Town House. The Secty. undertook to assist in spreading this information.

Correspondence - Federation re Financial Assistance to Federation : Mr. Ibbotson pointed out that there was no urgency about this as outside bodies had contributed handsomely. Mr. Elliott moved that a contribution be made and the Secty. suggested a donation of five guineas. Mr. Davies suggested that this be raised to ten guineas; seconded by Mr. Green. Mr. Watt seconded the Secty. and it was agreed to donate five guineas.

Finance - Accounts totalling £6 - 5 - 10d. were passed for payment. General - It was noted that W/O. McCall-Smith had kindly consented to act as Supervisor of Sport, vice Insp. Urwin, transferred.

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Received	9 APR 1946
For Attention
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MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL,
WELFARE HOUSE, FOX STREET, JOHANNESBURG, ON
WEDNESDAY, 24TH APRIL, 1946, AT 3 P.M.

PRESENT: Representatives from the following Organisations attended:

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| Catholic Women's League. | Tvl. Association of Boys' Clubs. |
| S.A. Red Cross Society. | Die Vaderlandse Voortrekker |
| The Boy Scouts Association. | Strandfonds. |
| St. Mary's Orphanage. | St. George's Home for Boys. |
| Johannesburg Children's Home. | Cripples Care Association of |
| Salvation Army. | the Tvl. |
| St. Joseph's Home for Coloured | Anglican Church Mission |
| Children. | Nursery Schools. |
| Girls Diocesan Hostel. | S.A.N.C.C.W. |
| Kinderhawe. | Child Welfare Society. |
| Youth Social Centre (M.S.W.D.) | St. John Ambulance Association. |
| Guild of Loyal Women. | Cotlands Babies' Sanctuary. |
| Municipal Social Welfare Dept. | Rand Youth Hostel. |
| Armesorgraad. | S.A. Noodhulpliga. |
| Y.M.C.A. | Safety Homes (C.W.S.) |
| The Boys' Brigade. | Hope Convalescent Home. |
| Tvl. Association of Nursery | Johannesburg & District Cape |
| Schools. | Coloured Welfare Society. |
| Johannesburg Child Guidance | Princess Alice Adoption Home. |
| Clinic. | Non-European Case Committee(C.W.S) |
| Abraham Kriel Kinderhuis. | St. Vincent's School for the |
| St. Joseph's Training School. | Deaf. |
| Nazareth House. | San Salvador. |

APOLOGIES WERE RECEIVED FROM:

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| Miss J. Pim | - Tvl. Association of European & Non-European Girls' Clubs. |
| Miss Elliott | - Mtutuzele. |
| Mrs. Bennett | - Case Committee (C.W.S.) |
| Mrs. Franks | - Creche Committee (C.W.S.) |
| Mrs. Braithwaite | - Non-European Creches (C.W.S.) |

Mr. C.G. Thompson presided and was elected to the Chair.

Mr. Thompson began by saying that, at the meeting held on the 8th April, 1946, various proposals were put forward as to how moneys raised should be spent. He suggested, however, that discussion be confined to ways and means of raising money before the question of spending such money be gone into.

Mr. Cohn moved that portion of the moneys raised be sent to children in Europe. This was seconded.

Miss MacKenzie moved that the meeting confine itself to raising money for the children of Johannesburg. This was also seconded.

These two proposals were put to the vote and the second motion was carried.

PROCEDURE TO BE ADOPTED TO RAISE MONEY:

A letter from Messrs. Lindsay Smithers (Pty.) Ltd., incorporating suggestions for procedure to be adopted was read to the Committee by Mr. Thompson and noted.

The Chairman then introduced Mr. Charles Playfair. The latter, who was actively connected with the G.G.N.W.F., outlined a scheme for raising funds which was originally known as the "Chain of Faith". Mr. Playfair stated that this scheme was capable of dramatic presentation and of creating its own momentum; it would offend no section of the community, was spectacular and would provide its own publicity, while it would entail the minimum amount of work on the part of the contributor. This scheme had been tested in a small way and the above facts had been substantiated.

It was unanimously agreed that the scheme for raising funds outlined by Mr. Playfair be adopted.

Members representing Afrikaans organisations spoke warmly in support of the scheme, stating that it was a brilliant plan of campaign and that it presented no features such as gambling, which could conflict with their principles.

The meeting agreed that although the campaign would not feature any gambling scheme, no such restriction could be placed on individual fund raising efforts.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

It was agreed to form a Committee numbering eight with power to co-opt. Mr. Playfair promised to give maximum assistance without actually joining the Committee. The following were proposed and unanimously elected:

Mrs. J. Terburgh.
Mrs. Ebdon Bell.
Miss J. Pim.

Mr. E. Cohn.
Rev. H.J. de Vos.
Mr. H.J. v.d. Hoven.

Rev. Michael Scott.

Mr. C.G. Thompson.

Armsorgraad.
Catholic Women's League.
Tvl. Association of European &
Non-European Girls' Clubs.
Tvl. Association of Boys' Clubs.
Abraham Kriel Kinderhuis.
Die Vaderlandse Voortrekker
Strandfonds.
St. Joseph's Home for
Coloured Children.
Child Welfare Society.

Miss MacKenzie proposed that, in view of the short time available, the Committee be empowered immediately to proceed with its plan of campaign without having to refer to the General Committee. This was agreed to.

The Meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Playfair for his interest and help.

CHAIRMAN.

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