

PATHFINDER BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

CAPÉ EASTERN DIVISION.

MINUTES of a Meeting of the DIVISIONAL COUNCIL held at the Lovedale Bible School, Saturday 18th November, 1939 at 2.30 p.m.

PRESENT : The Divisional Commissioner (Rev. E.W Grant) Chairman, Messrs. C.A.Filson, M.MacGregor, M.Giffen, I.Oldjohn, P.Ngwenya, G.Cook, and J.Noble (Secretary).

After PRAYERS.

1. MINUTES of the previous meeting, as circulated, were confirmed.

2. The SECRETARY presented:

(a) The Financial Statement showing a balance in hand of £10.11.6d and stock of the value of £10.17.6d. The statement was adopted.

(b) CENSUS RETURNS (excluding the Transkei) as follows:

Troops, 8. Scouts 120, Tenderfoot 98, Warrant Officers 8, Officers Acting 12.

Cubs 54, Tender Pack 67, Warrant Officers 2, Acting Officers 2.

New Troops at Cambridge, Peelton and Alexandria are not included in the above. Census Returns were not received from seven Districts. We would welcome Census from these districts.

3. REPORTS FROM DISTRICTS AND TROOPS.

Healdtown (Group S-M M.MacGregor) 56 Scouts; successful camps; 69 Proficiency Badges; 4 King's Scout and 4 All-round Cards. The Report was noted with gratification, and Healdtown was congratulated on a successful year's work.

Victoria East District and Lovedale Troop (District Commissioner I.Oldjohn). Efforts had been made to develop the District, but no definite results had been obtained. Lovedale Troop had not been very active during the year. It was decided to re-organise this District so as to set the Commissioner free for District work and to secure the help of several troop officers each to have charge of a small group of Scouts at Lovedale, and thus to build up an active and efficient troop.

Fort Hare (M.Giffen). Experiments had shown that the claims of College work did not permit of regular meetings of the large group of enrolled Scouts in the College. Suggestions to arrange next year a series of week-end camps with a small group of keen Scouts, were approved.

It was further reported:

Mount Coke had made a good beginning, but the parents of the boys were not at the moment in sympathy. Further efforts would be made at an opportune time.

East London. Several promising enquiries, and the Divisional Commissioner was in touch with two or three new helpers. It was hoped to secure a District Commissioner in place of Mr. M.Wilson whose removal from East London is a serious loss to the Movement.

4. WARRANTS.

The following Warrants issued since 1938 were reported and approved:

2 District Commissioners. 1 Group P/S/Master.  
8 P/S/Masters, 5 A/P/S. Masters.

Warrants Cancelled : 1 District Commissioner.

The Council recorded its sincere regret that Asst. Divisional Commissioner the Rev. W. Spenser Hall had found it necessary through press of duties, to resign. The Chairman spoke with sincere appreciation of Mr. Spencer Hall's work for the Movement.

#### 5. TRAINING CAMP.

It was reported that the Divisional Council had been granted the use of the most suitable camping ground by the Lovedale Institution. A hut had been erected, thanks largely to the personal work of Mr. Noble, who was warmly thanked. The Divisional Commissioner had conveyed to the Principal of Lovedale the Council's warm appreciation of the generous action of the Institution authorities. A successful weekend camp, attended by Scouts and Officers from Lovedale, Healdtown and Fort Hare had been held under the supervision of M. Giffen, ably assisted by M. MacGregor, J. Noble and others.

Training Camp Fund. The Report of the Treasurer, N. Brown, was received and adopted, as follows:

Balance, 1938: £23.0.0d.	Premier Timber Co.....	£14. 2. 0d
	Railage .....	1.11.11
	Sneezewood stumps .....	11. 6
	Balance, 16th Nov. 1939	<u>6.14. 7</u>
		<u>£23. 0. 0d</u>

#### Resolved:

1. That further funds be raised in 1940 for the provision of further equipment.
2. That the following be a Committee to administer the Training Camp Fund and arrange Camps: Messrs. Giffen, MacGregor, Oldjohn and Noble.
3. That an endeavour be made to arrange Courses of Training for young teachers from areas within reach, and so ensure that new troops can be started in the charge of officers who are at least partly trained.
4. That the following be appointed to carry out the duties of Divisional Training Officers:

M. Giffen.  
M. MacGregor.

#### 6. TRANSKEI SUB-DIVISION.

Constitution and Minutes of the Transkei Sub-division were received and adopted with warm approval.

#### It was resolved:

- (a) The Sub-division would have charge of its own funds.
- (b) The Divisional Council hadn over to the Transkei Sub-Divisional Council £5 worth of books for use in starting troops, in order to help the Sub-Divisional Council to build up its own funds.
- (c) To recommend to the Sub-Divisional Council, and to Headquarters Council, that the Transkei become a separate Division at such time as the Sub-Divisional Council feels it is ready to assume such a status.

#### 7. PRESENT STATE AND FUTURE POLICY OF THE MOVEMENT.

A memo from the O.F.S. Divisional Commissioner, with a covering letter from the Chief Schut's Pathfinder Commissioner,

were read and fully discussed, together with notes on the memo from District Commissioner J.H.Dugard.

It was strongly and unanimously considered, as the judgment of this Divisional Council:

- (a) That the spirit of the Scout Movement is greatly needed by African boys, and that it would be a great mistake to contemplate replacing the Movement by some other form of Boys' Work.
- (b) That the book, "Scouting for Boys" is too British in its setting, and needs to be re-written for African boys (and indeed for European Scouts in Africa). In this connection the Voortrekker Handbook was mentioned with appreciation.
- (c) That in many Schools and Institutions it needs to be remembered that Scouting is "an out-of-doors game."
- (d) That the great weakness of the Pathfinder Boy Scout Movement is still the untrained officer.
- (e) That conditions are changing for the African boy, and he needs to be kept in touch with the "primitive".
- (f) That it would be a mistaken policy to identify the Movement officially with the work of Schools, though it might be encouraged by the Education Department and their field officers.
- (g) That a cheap book of games suitable for country troops is badly needed.
- (h) That literature, badges, etc. are too expensive for many troops.
- (i) That the time has arrived when, if possible, at least one fully-trained and full time officer should be set apart for Training work throughout the country. This was held to be of the highest importance.

#### 8. HEADQUARTERS COUNCIL.

The following were appointed to represent the Division at the meeting of the Headquarters Council at Florida on 14th December - in addition to the Divisional Commissioner Who indicated that he would attend :

J. Noble,  
C.A.Pilson,

#### 9. AWARDS.

Letters were read from District Commissioner C. Devereux and P.S.M. Mr. P.J.Meyer, of Aliwal North, calling attention to outstanding services rendered to the Movement by Scout Eric Marshall and Scout Lionel Erskine. It was resolved with warm appreciation of those services, to recommend as follows:

Eric Marshall to receive the Medal of Merit.  
Lionel Erskine to receive the Certificate of Merit.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED.

PATHFINDER BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

CAPE EASTERN DIVISION.

MINUTES of a Meeting of the DIVISIONAL COUNCIL held at the Lovedale Bible School, SATURDAY 18th November, 1939, at 2.30 p.m.

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PRESENT: The Divisional Commissioner (Rev. E. W. Grant),  
Chairman: Messrs. C. A. Pilson, M. MacGregor, M. Giffen,  
I. Oldjohn, P. Ngwenya, G. Cook, and J. Noble (Secretary).

After PRAYERS:

1. MINUTES of the previous meeting, as circulated, were confirmed.

2. The SECRETARY presented:

(a) The Financial Statement, showing a balance in hand of £10.11.6, and stock to the value of £10,17. 6. The Statement was adopted.

(b) CENSUS RETURNS (excluding the Transkei) as follows:

3. REPORTS FROM DISTRICTS AND TROOPS.

Healdtown (Group S-M M. MacGregor): 56 Scouts; successful camps; 65 Proficiency Badged; 4 King's Scout and 4 All-round Cords. The report was noted with gratification, and Healdtown was congratulated on a successful year's work.

Victoria East District and Lovedale Troop (District Commissioner I. Oldjohn). Efforts had been made to develop the District, but no definite results had been obtained. Lovedale Troop had not been very active during the year. It was decided to re-organise this District so as to set the Commissioner free for District work; and to secure the help of several troop officers each to have charge of a small group of Scouts at Lovedale, and thus to build up an active and efficient troop.

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It was further reported:

Mount Coke had made a good beginning, but the parents of the boys were not at the moment in sympathy. Further efforts would be made at an opportune time.

East London: several promising enquiries, and the Divisional Commissioner was in touch with two or three new ~~members~~ helpers. It was hoped to secure a District Commissioner in place of Mr. M. Wilson, whose removal from East London is a serious loss to the Movement.

4. WARRANTS.

The following were ~~approved~~ reported and approved:

The Council recorded its sincere regret that Asst. Divisional Commissioner the Rev. W. Spencer Hall had found it necessary, through press of duties, to resign. The Chairman spoke with sincere appreciation of Mr. Spencer Hall's work for the Movement.

#### 5. TRAINING CAMP.

It was reported that the Divisional Council had been granted the use of a most suitable camping ground by the Lovedale Institution. A hut had been erected, thanks largely to the personal work of Mr. Noble, who was warmly thanked. The Divisional Commissioner had conveyed to the Principal of Lovedale the Council's warm appreciation of the generous action of the Institution authorities. A successful weekend camp, attended by Scouts and Officers from Lovedale, Healdtown and Fort Hare had been held under the supervision of M. Giffen, ably ~~assisted~~ assisted by M. MacGregor, ~~and~~ J. Noble and others.

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- (g) That a cheap book of games suitable for country troops is badly needed.
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The MEETING ADJOURNED.

Renalator

29 MAY 1940

PATHFINDER BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION OF THE  
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

CAPE EASTERN DIVISION :

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Divisional Council held at  
Lovedale Bible School : Saturday 27th April, 1940 at 3 p.m.

THOSE PRESENT :

Rev. A.W. Wilkie, D.D., The Divisional Commissioner  
Rev. E.W. Grant: Messrs C.A. Pilson, R. White, J. Oldjohn,  
P. Ngwenya, M. McGregor, L. Webster, T. Mokorosi,  
J. Noble (Secretary.)

THE MEETING opened with prayer.

1. The Meeting was constituted - Dr. Wilkie taking the Chair. Apologies for absence were read from Messrs D.A. Hunter, R. Moys and the Rev. A.J. Cook.
2. The Minutes of the previous meeting as circulated were read and confirmed.

3. RESIGNATIONS :

Mr. J.H. Dugard resigned as District Commissioner - Fort Beaufort District. Tribute was paid to Mr. Dugard for his long years of service dating back to the beginning of the Pathfinder Movement, and the hope was expressed that in his new sphere of work he would still encourage the formation and growth of troops. A letter of appreciation had been sent to Mr. Dugard from the Chief Scout's Pathfinder Commissioner, and one from the Divisional Commissioner.

Mr. Devereux of Aliwal North had had to relinquish his position of District Commissioner - having left the District. The Rev. E.W. Grant paid tribute to his work.

Mr. J.L. Omond, who takes up new duties at Healdtown in July, had resigned as Dist. Commissioner of the Herschel District. Mr. Omond was thanked for the active work he has carried on in that District.

Mr. Noble resigned the Divisional Secretaryship, and was thanked for his services.

4. APPOINTMENTS :

Father Meyer of the St. Francis Troop - Aliwal North - was recommended to succeed Mr. Devereux.

Mr. J. Noble was recommended as District Commissioner, Fort Beaufort District.

Mr. Moys was appointed Divisional Secretary.

5. DISTRICT REPORTS :

Dist. Commissioner J. Oldjohn reported progress in the Victoria East District.

Mr. Winter has taken charge of the Lovedale Troop. Visits had been paid to the Villages and Meetings held with parents and teachers, but the lack of trained P/S/Masters prevents the forming of New Troops.

Assistant Commissioner P. Ngwenya - Fort Beaufort - reports active work at Aapias Druai, and recommended that a campaign be carried on to interest teachers in surrounding schools.

G/P/S/Master M. McGregor reported three active troops and increased membership at Healdtown. He is assisted by P/S/M's R. Moys, T. Mokorosi and L.J. Webster in addition to six student A/P/S/M's.

Mr. Noble reported on the good work done at Wezo

hds

6. TREASURER'S REPORT:

In response to an appeal from Headquarters Council, £5 had been sent as a contribution for 1940 towards Headquarter expenses

FINANCIAL STATEMENT :

Stock on Hand	11. 5. 9
Cash on Hand	6. 15. 0.

The Treasurer was instructed to encourage the raising of funds for Divisional purposes.

7. NEW WORK :

An encouraging report was read from Mr.N.Fletcher - East London.

A New Troop has been established by the Rev.F.Blake at West Bank, and a good Hall is at the disposal of the Troop. Many of the lads are working to earn money for uniforms.

At East Bank Location the Rev.Mr.Popjoy has carried on active work with a Troop formed in 1939. Good progress is reported.

Mr.Fletcher has held meetings with local Principals and Teachers and a number are interested. There is every prospect of new Troops being formed.

A room in the Peacock Hall has been put at the disposal of Pathfinder Scouts. Mr.Cook - Location Superintendent - is keenly interested and helping in every way possible.

Dist.Commissioner Rawlings of Matatiele reports progress in that District.

Enquiries re starting of New Troops have been received from Kamastone, Whittlesea and the Transkei. The latter has been passed on to the Sub-divisional Headquarters - Umtata.

8. Mr.McGregor reported on a very successful week-end Leaders' Training Camp held at the Healdtown Camping Glade in March.

It was decided to hold a Week-end training Camp at the Divisional Training Ground - Lovedale - from 14th to 16th June. Mr.Grant suggested that arrangements be made to invite one of the recently appointed visiting Organisers from the Transvaal to visit Fort Beaufort : Victoria East and East London Districts this year.

9. CONSTITUTION OF THIS DIVISIONAL COUNCIL :

The following committee was appointed to recommend to the Council the names of interested leaders who might become Members of the Council, in accordance with regulations governing Divisional Councils.

Members of the Council are :-

Messrs J.Noble: J.Oldjohn: M.McGregor: L.J.Webster and the Rev.S.M.Mokitimi.

10. THE DIVISIONAL COMMISSIONERSHIP :

The Div.Commissioner - the Rev.E.W.Grant - tendered his resignation. This came as a blow to the Council, but after he had explained the growing work of the Lovedale Bible School, Dr.Wilkie as a member of the Bible School Council explained the demands made on Mr.Grant's time and energy in addition to Training, Organising and Literary work. He felt too much was being laid on Mr.Grant, and that he should limit his activities although he was sorry that the Pathfinder Scout Movement should be affected.

The Council accepted, with regret, Mr.Grant's resignation.

Mr.Pilson, on behalf of the Division, thanked Mr.Grant for all he had done for the Movement in this Division, and for the untiring zeal and interest with which he had helped the cause in the Transkei and the Ciskei.



The Council was glad to know that Mr. Grant will still do all he can to help the Movement and to assist at Training Camps held at our Training Centre.

Discussion took place regarding a successor to Mr. Grant, and all were agreed that the Division, including the Transkei, is too big for one man to visit effectively. No name was put forward. After further discussion it was decided to appoint a Committee to carry on until an appointment is made.

The following were appointed:-

Messrs Oldjohn, Pilson, McGregor, Webster, Moys (Secretary) Noble (Convenor.)

Address correspondence to Mr. J. Noble - P.O. HEALDTOWN

11.  
7

A letter was read from Mr. D. Hunter, F.R.S.G.S. of Lovedale resigning from the Divisional Council. This was accepted with regret. Mr. Hunter has been a Member of the Div. Council since its inception; Tribute was paid to Mr. Hunter as being the inspiration of the first Youth Movement for African Boys. Many years ago Mr. Hunter invited a Cape Town Scouter to give a Lantern Lecture on Scouting at Lovedale and from this the idea of Pathfinders developed. Mr. Hunter has given a lifetime of service to Youth Movements; first to the Boys' Brigades overseas, and to the Pathfinders and Pathfinder Scouts. A letter of appreciation is being sent to Mr. Hunter.

A letter of sympathy is to be sent to Mrs. Ball on the death of Mr. E. A. Ball - formerly Divisional Commissioner in the early days of this Division.

Dr. Wilkie generously offered to cover the expense of having the Pathfinder Scout Membership Cards printed in Xhosa.

Mr. Oldjohn was appointed to do the translating. This generous offer is to be conveyed to Headquarters.

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Will all officers interested in adapting Scouting for Boys, First Steps in Scouting, First ~~ix~~ Class Tests, to the needs of Pathfinder Scouts, please send suggestions to Mr. Noble, also if any have suggestions regarding Games, especially animal Games, suitable for Pathfinder Scouts.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

REPORT OF HEADQUARTERS COUNCIL MEETING : HELD DEC. 14th 1939.

That the Transkei Sub-Division become a separate Division at such time as it is able to assume such status.

CENSUS:

Census figures for 1939, including all Divisions except Griqualand West. There are:-

365 Troops, Crews & Packs in the Association.

490 Officers

215 Rovers

8,579 Pathfinder Scouts

2,781 Cubs

Total 12,065

RESOLUTION FROM CAPE WESTERN :

" The Cape Division Headquarters to consider whether the time is now ripe for the constitution of a Coloured Section in our own Association."

The Chairman read out an earlier decision of Council providing for closed troops where desired by Coloured Scouts.

NATAL reported proposing to establish a Coloured Section of the Scout Movement, as provided by the Union Scout Council in Natal in 1935.

THE ORANGE FREE STATE members said that the Coloured people in that Province will not accept the Pathfinder Section for themselves.

THE MEETING suggested that the Cape Western should discuss their position afresh, in view of the developments in Natal.

REVISION OF P.O. & R. :

The Chief Scout's Pathfinder Commissioner suggested that the Executive Committee of Headquarters Council should revise the P.O. & R. and take into consideration any suggestions sent to them.

Mr. Malcolm suggested that the whole of the enrolment ceremony be translated into all African Languages.

Mr. Malcolm suggested a Badge for Hut Building be put in the P.O. & R.

Mr. Noble suggested a cheap alternative to the Scout hat, as this is too expensive for the majority of boys.

TRAINING OF OFFICERS :

The Chief Scout's Pathfinder Commissioner stated that Divisions again consider the matter of putting into practise the Training of Officers Scheme, prepared for use at Educational Institutions.

FINANCE :

The Treasurer reported that he had received notice that no further grants will be made by the Council of Education, Witwatersrand. In view of the fact that the Headquarters Council has no other source of income, and has to pay annually £17 in Affiliation Fess to the Boy Scouts International Bureau and £25 annually as Secretarial Fee to the Institute of Race Relations. The Council agreed that this latter fees of £25 to the Institute of Race Relations should be discontinued.

The Chief Scout's Pathfinder Commissioner proposed that before September 30th each year each Division should pay a grant to Headquarters Funds - the amount to be left to the Division concerned.

SOUTH AFRICAN JAMBOREE :

Mr. Malcolm proposed and Cannon Woodfield seconded that this matter be deferred until next year : Agreed.

SPEECHES BY ORGANISERS :

On the request ~~of~~ of the Chief Scout's Pathfinder Commissioner, Messrs Mokgako and Marivate gave a brief resume of their work at Gilwell and a brief account of their impressions of Scouting in England.

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