

conscious areas of the Southern States the White people have not only co-operated in this work, but also Scouting among White Boys has increased one district alone showing a forty per cent increase in two years.

In Kenya there are African Scouts organised separately from the European Scouts.

The letter of the Divisional Scout Commissioner, already mentioned, shows that there would be very considerable and perhaps bitter opposition to the inclusion of Non-Europeans in the Scout organisation in the Union. I believe this would also be true in Southern and Northern Rhodesia. If a separate Non-European Scout organisation were developed it could be run separately from the European organisation and perhaps be directly affiliated to International Headquarters. The use of the Scout hat, emblem and badges might however cause difficulties.

## 2. Recognition of Pathfinders as the Non-European section of the Scout Movement in Southern Africa

This could be done in the following ways:-

- (a) The Pathfinder organisation to remain a separate entity but given 50% or some such representation on the Scout Councils of the Union, Southern Rhodesia and Northern Rhodesia.
- (b) The Pathfinder and Scout organisations to be controlled by their own Councils, subject to a Federal Council of both bodies.
- (c) The Pathfinder organisation to be recognised as a separate, autonomous body affiliated directly with the International Scout Headquarters, but inter-relations of Pathfinders and Scouts to be discussed from time to time by Joint Advisory Committees in each of the areas - the Union, Southern Rhodesia and Northern Rhodesia.

It is not likely that (a) would be given any consideration by the Scout Councils for it would eventually result in the European section becoming subservient to the numerically greater Non-European section.

Either (b) or (c) probably would be preferable to the European section but would mean that the Pathfinder Movement would pass out of the control of the Scout Councils. It seems to me that the only way in which the Scout Councils can retain control of the Non-European work is by the admission of Non-Europeans as full Scouts or by (b) above, i.e. through a Federal Council. As the Pathfinder movement grows and as Non-Europeans become more self-conscious they will become more and more restive under the control of a body that neither knows them nor is directly concerned with them. I honestly think that the Scout Movement would be well advised to recognise the inevitable now and to seek the ways and means of securing the confidence and goodwill of Non-Europeans either by their admission as Scouts under the first alternative or (b) in the second.

The Pathfinders are a source of embarrassment to the Union Scouts especially in their discussions with the Afrikaner national movement - the Voortrekkers. From this angle (c) appears to be the alternative which will give the Scouts greatest freedom in their "pour-parlers" with the Voortrekkers and it would give the Pathfinders the greatest freedom for adaptation along lines most suitable to African conditions.

In these three alternatives under 2. it is assumed not only that the Pathfinder organisation would be retained but also that the Pathfinder emblems and badges would be retained as well.

3. Complete separation from the Scout Movement both at home and abroad and development of the Pathfinder Movement as a purely African Movement

It is not likely that this would meet with much support from the Non-European people who are becoming more and more into contact with world movements. They will not be satisfied with a purely African movement unless and until ardent nationalism is developed amongst them. Even then their nationalism would be manifested in demands for inclusion in movements and privileges at present denied them.

4. The Pathfinder Movement to continue as at present

Many of us who are most intimately connected with the organisation feel that it would have been so much better for the progress of the Movement had it been possible to avoid these discussions for some time longer. There is still such a great deal to be done to make the Movement an effective instrument for the welfare of the Non-European boy and these constitutional discussions are most distracting. Nevertheless, we dare not ignore these symptoms of uneasiness and dissatisfaction. It is our duty to understand the causes of unrest in the Pathfinder Movement and to do our best as leaders to rid it of disturbing influences. It would be a great mistake to gloss over the trouble merely because we do not wish to be troubled or to cause discomfort to the Scout Council.

Ever since the Pathfinder Movement was started in 1922 its leaders have kept in mind the vital importance of goodwill and co-operation between Black and White, and, while holding on to the principle of equality of opportunity in the Scout Movement for all races, they have been content to secure the advancement of the Pathfinder Movement step by step and to hope for the eventual inclusion of the Non-European boy in the Scout Movement on terms that will satisfy his self-respect and ensure fair treatment.

It is however impossible to ignore the fact that growing racial consciousness is making the position of Pathfinder leaders - both European and Non-European - increasingly difficult, and it is most necessary that this factor in the situation should not be ignored. However conscientiously we may try to inculcate the spirit of brotherliness in Pathfinders our efforts may be vitiated if the boys are being subjected from without to the pressure of hostile Native or Coloured or Indian opinion. And if our own organisation lends itself to taunts against the self respect of Pathfinders it may prove contributory to racial friction and ill will. European leaders must keep their ears to the ground in this matter lest they should find themselves cut off from the main body of Non-European opinion on the one side or from the main body of European opinion on the other. Principles must always be related to situations. The Pathfinder Constitution of 1932 however well designed it is, may well prove unacceptable and out-of-date in 1935. Race relations are dynamic not static.

It would be a catastrophe if while building up an extensive Pathfinder Movement we, at the same time made it the cause of increased racial bitterness. It is therefore our duty to consider and re-consider and consider again as often as may be required by changing situations, the relation of the Pathfinder Movement to other Movements.

Divisions should examine the whole position with care and discretion and advise the Headquarters Council both on the state of the Movement in their areas and upon the measures that should be taken to ensure peaceful racial relations and the welfare of the Movement. Can they give information as to the extent of the unrest as reflected in the resolutions from the Transvaal and Griqualand West?

I have considered it my duty as Chief Pathfinder to analyse in this statement the present and possible future relations between the Scout and Pathfinder Movements and I hope that I have done so adequately and without undue bias. I wish however to urge two considerations upon those who will have this memorandum before them.

1. Our first duty is to seek the ultimate welfare of the Non-European boy - Bantu, Coloured or Indian.
2. His welfare depends upon the maintenance and development of racial goodwill between all sections of the population. To what extent, then, can the Pathfinder Movement press for the admission of the boy into the Scout Movement without injuring racial relations between White and Black in Southern Africa? Our answer to this question must influence our judgment in choosing from the alternatives set out earlier in this memorandum.

J.D. Rheinallt Jones

CHIEF PATHFINDER

Glandwr,  
Florida, Transvaal,  
22.10.33.

THE BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION. - DIE VERKERNERSEUNGSVERENIGING

Goldfields Building,  
C/r Eloff and Fox Streets,  
JOHANNESBURG.

26 September, 1933.

Dear Mr. Divisional Commissioner,

With reference to the request made by the Pathfinder Movement representatives at the recent Union Scout Council that their boys should be allowed to wear the Scout hat with a distinctive band and badge, which request you will remember was referred to Divisional Councils for an expression of opinion, I would like to set out for your consideration certain aspects of the matter which appeal to us up here.

In the first place I want to stress the point that the Pathfinder Movement was first initiated and brought under the control of the Boy Scouts Association at the request of leaders of the Transvaal coloured community. The Transvaal Boy Scouts Association was approached repeatedly from 1915 to 1916 by that coloured community for permission to form coloured Scout Troops and in April 1919, at the instance of the Transvaal Association, the Union Chief Scout, after having consulted with the Prime Minister, General Botha, agreed to the coloured movement in the Transvaal being controlled by the Scout Movement, subject to the name and uniform of the Scout Movement being guarded against infringement. The original coloured Movement was accordingly established in the Transvaal in July 1919, under the name of "The Trackers" being governed by the Transvaal Scout Council under Rules laid down by it which provided for, inter alia, a name and uniform different from those of the Boy Scouts. The designation of this coloured Movement was changed to "The Transvaal Pathfinders" in 1922, and it was not until 1928 on the formation of the Union Scout Council that a South African Constitution was given to the "Pathfinder Movement" under which a Union Pathfinder Council was created. This constitution was altered at the request of the Union Pathfinder Council to its present form in 1932.

You are aware that the Boy Scouts Association has stipulated that the movement amongst the coloured community should remain under a separate Constitution, designation and uniform because of the special circumstances of the relations between the white and coloured communities within the Union, it being felt that if non-European boys were admitted to full membership of our Association it would have a serious effect on our European membership. Further, since the Voortrekker Movement has come into being there is another very good reason why we should continue the policy of separate name and uniform as any departure therefrom might seriously prejudice the fusion of the two white races in one Scout Movement which we all so earnestly hope for.

Under the present Pathfinder Constitution its Officers have the right to wear the Scout hat - with a puggaree it is true - their boys have the right to wear scarves, their Proficiency Badges are indistinguishable from ours at a distance, and I do feel that if the right were now given their boys to wear the Scout hat, no distinctive band and badge would prevent the impression getting abroad that we made no distinction between the European and Coloured sections of our Movement. My colleagues and I are entirely unimpressed by the argument that anybody can buy and wear a Scout hat, that Indian boys do so constantly in Natal and in the Transvaal, and that Pathfinders do so in the Transvaal. The fact that we cannot prevent anybody wearing any hat he likes does not appear to us to be any reason why

we should definitely authorize the wearing of the distinctive Scout hat by coloured boys in this country and thereby give official approval to the practice, which approval would almost certainly be interpreted in some quarters as an indication that there is now no difference between the two sections of the Movement.

I would also remind you that the Transvaal leaders of the Pathfinder Movement have, since it first received its own Constitution, consistently endeavoured to get rid of differences in uniforms and in other ways to promote similarity in the two Movements. I instance their effort to call their senior branch " Rover Pathfinders " and their recent proposal (not pressed) to incorporate the word " Scout " in their title. I do not blame them for this, I am sure they are honestly of opinion that the more their Movement can resemble ours, outwardly as well as inwardly, the better it will be for it, and that any fears we may have of such similarities being harmful to our Movement are unfounded. It is however an opinion we do not share.

You will also remember that the Pathfinder representatives wished to discuss yet another change in their Constitution, a change which would place their Movement on an absolute equality with ours as part of the World Organisation, both Movements being governed by a Joint Federal Council.

We all hoped that with the granting of the present Constitution in 1932 this " nibbling " process, which has continued ever since the first Constitution was granted in 1928, would be put to an end, and seeing that such is not the case I suggest it is time that the Union Scout Council should make it plain that no alteration in the main principles underlying the Pathfinders' past Rules and Regulations and present Constitution, viz: separate designation and uniform, can be considered.

As you know the Transvaal Division has been the pioneer of the Pathfinder Movement in the Union. We have done and are most anxious to continue to do all we possibly can to foster and help the Movement in the various districts of our Division within the four corners of its Constitution.

I do not apologise for worrying you at such length with my views and those of my colleagues on this question. The colour sense is I think more acute in the Transvaal than in any other Province, even the Free State, and we do definitely feel that to accede to this latest request of the Pathfinders would be very dangerous indeed to our Movement, not only here but all over the country and it is for that reason that I have set out our views somewhat fully, and I am sure that you will give them your earnest consideration before deciding how you will advise your Council when they are called together to consider this question.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the Union Chief Pathfinder.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

F.A. Blankenberg (Signed)

DIVISIONAL COMMISSIONER

1176, Johannesburg.

R.R. 37.

October 6th, 3.

Sir Reginald Blankenberg, K.B.E.,  
P.O. Box 631,  
JOHANNESBURG.

Dear Sir Reginald Blankenberg,

I thank you for your letter of the 27th ultimo and enclosure which I received on my return from Cape Town this week. I much appreciate your kindness in sending to me a copy of your circular to your fellow Divisional Commissioners.

It seems to me to be a very great pity that on such matters it seems impossible for me as Chief Pathfinder to have the advantage of friendly, informal discussions with any representative of the Scout Movement in such a way as to assist in avoiding unhappy situations developing. I do not think that it would help matters if I commented upon your circular or upon the refusal of the Scout Council to give the Pathfinder representatives the advantage of an informal discussion on the situation as a whole. As things are I can only assure you that, in my capacity as Chief Pathfinder, I do all I can to cultivate good relationships between the two branches of the Scout Movement and I am greatly disturbed by the elements of hostility which are now appearing.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

CHIEF PATHFINDER

J.D.R.J./L.R.

# The Pathfinder Movement

of the  
SOUTH AFRICAN BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION



# Die Padvindersbeweging

van die  
SUID-AFRIKAANSE-VERKENNERSEUNSVREINIGING

## PATHFINDER HEADQUARTERS COUNCIL. PADVINDER-HOOFKWARTIER-RAAD.

PATRON—UNION OF S.A. :  
BESKERMHEER—UNIE VAN S.A. :  
HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.  
SY EXSELLENSIE DIE GOEWERNEUR-GENERAAL.

PATRON—HIGH COMMISSION TERRITORIES :  
BESKERMHEER—PROTEKTORATE :  
HIS EXCELLENCY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR SOUTH AFRICA.  
SY EXSELLENSIE DIE HOE KOMMISSARIS VIR SUID-AFRIKA.

CHIEF PATHFINDER AND CHAIRMAN, H. Q. COUNCIL :  
HOOF-PADVINDER EN VOORSITTER, H.K.-RAAD :

J. D. RHEINALLT JONES, M.A.

1176,  
P.O. Box } JOHANNESBURG.  
Posbus }

29th December, 1933

REFERENCE }  
VERWYSING }

TO ALL DIVISIONAL PATHFINDERS:

CONFIDENTIAL.

Dear Divisional Pathfinder,

By this post the Minutes of the last meeting of the Pathfinder Headquarters Council are being sent to you. As you will see they are rather full, but it was felt that in view of the importance of the matters discussed, the Divisions should appreciate the points of view that were expressed, more particularly on the question of Scout-Pathfinder relations.

As you will see the Council was divided in its views as to what action should be taken, and of course the telegram from the Chief Secretary of the Government of Northern Rhodesia made a very deep impression on the Council. The question of the Scout-Pathfinder relations is now of course, in the hands of the Joint Advisory Committee.

For your private information I may say I have had a long talk with His Excellency, the Governor General of the Union, and also a letter in regard to the decisions of the Council. His Excellency is greatly concerned lest the Pathfinder Movement should, at this stage, cause embarrassment to the Scout Movement and to its own friends, and he is deeply concerned about the whole matter, fearing the effects of precipitate action upon the racial situation in the Union.

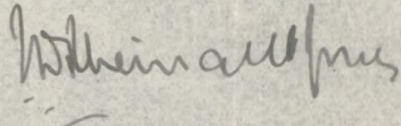
The Pathfinder Council Meeting was a particularly happy one, and there was throughout a splendid spirit of co-operation and brotherhood. The Scout-Pathfinder discussion was, of course, of a very delicate nature, but nothing was

said/

said during the whole of the discussion that did not indicate loyalty to the ideals of brotherhood and goodwill. I was particularly impressed by the keenness and kindly spirit shown throughout, and I feel that the Pathfinder Movement is very fortunate in having men of knowledge, experience and judgment as leaders in the various Divisions.

May I convey to you and your Division sincerest good wishes for the coming year, and deep appreciation for the services that you are rendering to the Movement.

Yours sincerely,



CHIEF PATHFINDER.

Rev. Canon S.P. Woodfield.,  
Grace Dieu Training College,  
PIETERSBURG.

JDRJ/EAC.



# The Pathfinder Movement



# Die Padvindersbeweging

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CHIEF PATHFINDER AND CHAIRMAN, H. Q. COUNCIL :  
HOOF-PADVINDER EN VOORSITTER, H.-K.-RAAD :  
J. D. RHEINALLT JONES, M.A.

P.O. Box } 1176, Johannesburg.  
Posbus }

REFERENCE }  
VERWYSING } R.R. 37.

October 6th, 1933.

Rev. Canon S.P. Woodfield,  
Diocesan Training College,  
Grace Dieu,  
PIETERSBURG,  
Northern Transvaal.

*Dear Sir -*

I enclose herewith copy of a letter which Sir Reginald Blankenberg has caused to be distributed to the various Divisional Scout Commissioners in the Union and I should very much like to have an opportunity of discussing this letter with you when you come up on the 20th. I will keep the afternoon of the 20th free for such a discussion. I enclose a copy of my letter to Sir Reginald Blankenberg.

*M. A. J. Jones*  
*M.A.*

*if I understand we are to have the joy of your company from 19<sup>th</sup> to 21.*

Enclosures.

RJ/LR.

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