

N A T I V E Y O U T H B O A R D

Johannesburg.

PROPOSAL FOR VACATION FARM CAMPS FOR NATIVE HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOLARS IN THE JOHANNESBURG
AREA.

The suggestion has been made that the Native Youth Board or some other organisation set up Work Camps during School Vacations for older male pupils from the local Secondary and High Schools over the age of, say, 16 years. The following details have been formulated:

GENERAL OBJECTIVES. These are three-fold:

- (1) To provide urban youths with training and discipline during periods when they otherwise loaf about in the Townships. Few find remunerative employment for vacation periods.
- (2) To provide farmers within reach of Johannesburg with squads of labourers to undertake seasonal tasks planned with reference to the inexperience and strength of the workers. These tasks might include:
 - (a) In Summer Vacations: Cultivating, Weeding, Planting, Spraying, Care & Feeding of Animals, Use of Machinery, under supervision, etc.
 - (b) In Winter Vacations: Mealie harvesting and stripping, Manuring, Ploughing, Fencing, Repairing of Dams, Digging of Furrows, Odd Painting and Repairing of Huts, Fruit Picking and Packing, etc.
- (3) To introduce urban lads to country life and work under conditions that would induce many of them to volunteer for work on farms on leaving school.

PROGRAMME:

This would be planned with a view to making the scheme **attractive** to urban youths. Tents would be provided for sleeping quarters; food would be well prepared and of good quality; and a leisure-time programme of evening games, camp-fire stories, and sing-songs, which would provide a long-remembered experience. Provision would be made for instruction in the work of the farm; the significance of farming in the economy of the country, and opportunities for intelligent Africans on the land.

The Daily Programme, with variations for the week-end, might be arranged about as follows:

5:00 Reveille.
6:00 - 8:30 Work Period.
8:30 - 9:15 Breakfast.
9:15 - 10:00 Instruction.
10:00 - 1:00 Work period, with short break at 11:00.
1:00 Luncheon.
2:00 - 5:00 Work Period, with short break at 3:30.
5:00 Clean-up.
6:00 Dinner.
7:00 - 8:30 Recreation.
8:45 Lights Out.

On this basis the lads would put in eight hours per day or 45 hours per week, with Saturday afternoons and Sundays off.

STAFF:

- (1) Organisers. Members of the staff of the Native Youth Board or ad hoc Committee who would:
 - (a) Make all preliminary arrangements with farmer as to

- working conditions, camp site, etc.
- (b) Recruit workers and give preliminary instructions.
- (2) Camp Staff.
- (a) Member of staff of Native Youth Board to be Camp Head, to plan all details in consultation with farmer and technical advisor from the Native Affairs Department.
- (b) Assistant Camp Head. A student from the Jan H. Hofmeyr School of Social Work to assist with the general welfare of the lads, the preparation of food, and with recreation.
- (c) Technical Advisor(s) from the Agricultural Division of the Union Department of Native Affairs who would be in general charge of the project and plan instruction.

THE GENERAL PLAN.

- (1) Setting up the project. To be undertaken only after consultation with and favourable responses from the Native Affairs Department and Local Farmers' Associations.
- (2) Size of Work Squads. To depend upon requirements of farmers.
- (3) Transport. To be provided from city to farm.
- (4) Payment. Workers should have some money to bring back home to assist with expenses in connection with their school work. It is suggested, for discussion, that £1 per week would be about right.

It is hardly probable that now workers would warrant this financial outlay by farmers, so the scheme will have to be subsidised by the appropriate Government Department.

- (5) Camp Equipment. Tents, Cooking Utensils, Work Overalls, Boots, Tools, and some Recreational Equipment will be required. The camp organisers would be responsible for the care of this equipment which would be used repeatedly.
- (6) Food. Food which could not be supplied on the farm would have to be planned for before the camp was held.

TIME AND PLACE.

It is urged that discussions take place between representatives of the Native Youth Board, the Municipal Non-European Affairs Department of Johannesburg, the Government Native Affairs Department, and the Farmers' Associations with jurisdiction within, say 250 miles of Johannesburg.

This scheme should not be regarded as alternative to the various constructive suggestions put forward by the Native Youth Board for dealing with the large mass of Unemployed Youths from the Townships, but as a supplementary scheme for that considerable number of older juveniles who are still in school and who are apt to drift into the class of Unemployed unless work is provided them during their vacation periods.

It is possible, of course, that this project would prove sufficiently attractive to numbers of unemployed lads that they would join the Farm Work Camps as outlined above. In this case, instead of this scheme being for vacation periods only, it might develop into the larger and more comprehensive plan for Youth Training Camps discussed elsewhere.

SUMMER WORK WORK CAMPS FOR NATIVE YOUTH by P. Bormann.

It is proposed that the Native Youth Board consider running Summer Work Camps for youths, during the coming summer School vacations, and that the camps be first run with a controlled group, preferably male students from the local High Schools, between the ages of 18 and 24 years.

The following outline is submitted for consideration and discussion:

1. PERIOD OF FIRST CAMP: It is suggested that the first camp be run during the coming Summer Vacations, which start about the middle of December and end during the first week of February.
2. AUTHORITIES TO BE CONSULTED: The following Government Departments will by virtue of their particular functions be interested; the Departments of Agriculture, Labour and Native Affairs. The Farmers Associations because of the assistance to their members will be primarily concerned and so will the Native Education Department.
3. WORK CAMPS AND THEIR LOCALITIES: After consulting interested persons, it will appear convenient to ask the following persons to explore available sources for prospective employers: (i) Mr. M. A. Hough of the Jan H. Hofmeyr School to contact Dr. Meredith. (ii) Dr. Ray E. Phillips to consult with Dr. T. B. Hall of Modderfontein. (iii) Mr. K. D. Morgan to contact Mr. Poellen and the Transvaal Farmers Association.
4. STAFF FOR A CAMP: The following Staff will be necessary for the effective and efficient running of the project:
 - (i) Project Organiser, a member of the Staff of the Native Youth Board. His duties will consist of making all preliminary consultations and arrangements with prospective employers with regards working conditions; recruiting campers and generally supervising the camps.
 - (ii) Welfare Officer, a student of the Jan H. Hofmeyr School of Social Work, who will assist the Project Organiser with the supervision of the camp and general welfare of campers as far as food, recreation and prevention of stalemate is concerned.
 - (iii) Technical Advisor from the Department of Native Affairs. The Under-Secretary (Development) of this Department has experts who could mainly be responsible for the actual supervision of the work on the farm and can give lectures and talks, as necessity arises.
5. REQUISITES FOR ANY CAMP: It is suggested that for efficient and satisfactory service, each camp should be self-contained, having its own quarters, kitchen and other camping necessities. The Department of Native Affairs could be approached in connection with supplying the Camp as part of its equipment with protective clothing which will remain the property of the Native Youth Board for future use.
6. SUGGESTED DAILY ROOSTER FOR A CAMP:

This rooster gives the following analysis for a week which allows for half-Saturdays, Breakfast Hours: 3 per week. Lunch Hours: 5 per week. Tea Hours 2.45 per week. Working Hours: 53 per week.

5.00 a.m.	Reveille.
6.00 a.m.	Morning work, 1st session.
8.30 a.m.	Breakfast.
9.00 a.m.	Morning work. 2nd session.
11.00 a.m.	Tea Break on Work.
11.15 a.m.	Morning Work. 3rd session.
1.00 p.m.	Lunch Break.
2.00 p.m.	After Lunch Work. 1st session.
3.30 p.m.	Coffee Break. on work.
3.45 p.m.	After Lunch work. 2nd session.
5.30 p.m.	Dinner.
7.00 p.m.	Recreation session.
8.30 p.m.	Retreat.

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