

GIRL WAYFARERS' ASSOCIATION, TRANSVAALMINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WAYFARER COUNCIL HELD IN THE ROOMS OF THE METHODIST CHURCH, PRETORIA, ON MAY 26TH AT 10 A.M.PRESENT:

Mrs. C. Christie - President (in the Chair), Mrs. D. Phillips-Vice President, Miss F. Brown, Mrs. M. Demas, Miss B. Ernst, Mrs. G.H. Franz, Mrs. W. Grootboom, Miss A. Hurd (visitor) Mrs. H. Hartshorne, Mrs. E. Maaga, Mrs. E. Matyeka, Mrs. P. Masemola, Mrs. H.M. Rist, Miss M. Roxburgh, Sister Stephanie, Miss H. Serote, (visitor), Miss N. Wright, Mrs. Quintin Whyte.

APOLOGIES:

Mrs. R. Aitken, Mrs. N. Benjamin, Mrs. H. Bolani, Mrs. W. Cason, Mrs. A. Dehuke, Mrs. L. Giersekke, Mrs. E. McGregor, Mrs. R. Masioane, Mrs. C. Proctor, Mrs. T. Williams.

OPENING:

- a) Miss Brown opened the Meeting with the Prayer
- b) All said the Wayfarer Prayer

CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 3.6.44 were read. These were adopted and confirmed.

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME AND ADDRESS

Mrs. Christie in welcoming members of Council said she had looked forward eagerly to seeing them, and realised the sacrifice entailed in arranging to be absent from home, and the long cold journey it involved. Their presence was greatly appreciated.

Members of the Executive were there to meet them but we did miss Mrs. McGregor, Divisional Superintendent of the Rustenburg District, and Mrs. Benjamin Hon. Treasurer who were regretfully and unavoidably detained. Mrs. Whyte whose signature you know so well has been a tower of strength. We want each one to feel she was welcomed as an "individual" in whose work we were deeply interested. We are most anxious to help in difficulties - time would be set apart for the discussion of these.

It had been a sad year with many problems. We do not miss our Superintendent less - but more - she was in the front rank of the outstanding men and women of our time, and as time goes on - that will be more and more recognised. It has been said the word "Wayfarer" was engraved on her heart. She knew from experience the happiness this movement was bringing into the lives of thousands of Bantu children, and it is our duty to carry on as she would have wished us to do.

Though it has been such a sad and difficult year, there has been much encouragement and we want you to go away from this meeting feeling three things:-

First: The fellowship of this great movement with each one of you a part of it.

Secondly: The Christian Foundation of this movement which we must cling to and develop. Our Bantu soldiers have been fighting for the right against the wrong, and here in this movement we have the privilege of carrying on with the children the war of good against evil. It has been

touching.....

touching to hear that many heathen children have learnt their first prayer - the Wayfarer prayer - listening on the outskirts of Detachments - and that parents are beginning to link up Wayfaring with Church life.

Thirdly: There is the immense, the stupendous field of work still to be covered - hundreds of children waiting to be gathered in. We do appreciate the great part you are taking in this work.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT:

Mrs. Ray Phillips in her address laid special emphasis on these three points:-

1. Since April of last year the Executive Committee has tried to carry on the work at headquarters and it has thus been realised how tremendous was the burden carried by the late Mrs. Rheinallt Jones. Did we realise the amount of effort which she put so cheerfully and happily into her work?
2. When we plan we realise how large and scattered are the areas for which we have to plan.
3. There are very few to do the work and this should be a challenge to make us try to meet the need. In spite of the many problems which baffle us, we must be patient with one another, each must shoulder her share, we must not hurry matters. So we can make the movement go.

REPORTS:

Informal Reports on work done were submitted by the following:

Mrs. Ray Phillips	Reef Div. Supt.
Miss F. Brown	Reef Div. Supt.
Mrs. Q. Whyte	Hon. Secretary.
Mrs. W. Grootboom	Field Worker.
Mrs. Demas	Evaton -Meyerton Dist. Supt.
Mrs. H.M. Rist	Pretoria Div. Supt.
Mrs. V. Thomas	Spelonken Dist. Supt.
Mrs. E. Matyeka	Witbank Dist. Supt.
Miss M. Roxburgh	Lecturer in Red Cross Work.
Sister Stephanie	Little Flower Miss. Leader.
Mrs. P. Masemola	Warmbaths Dist. Supt.
Miss B. Ernst	Lady Selborne Dist. Supt.
Mrs. E. Maaga	Krugersdorp Dist. Supt.
Miss Serote	Wayfarer Officer in Kilnerton

Mrs. Bolani sent a written report.

APPOINTMENTS:

The President welcomed Mrs. Franz as the Divisional Superintendent of Pietersburg and thanked her for agreeing to undertake the work.

The President welcomed and thanked Miss N. Wright who had agreed to become District Superintendent in the Sabie Area.

DISCUSSION:

These points were discussed:

1. The danger of Wayfarers learning by rote. The President urged Superintendents to insist on the girls learning with understanding so that their Wayfaring have the fullest practical meaning. The President further emphasised the need for expert training of the girls in such activities as First Aid, Public Health, Cookery.

2. The Bulletin:

IT WAS AGREED that the Bulletin in its present form was most satisfactory.

IT WAS AGREED that News items be continued.

IT WAS FURTHER AGREED that the Recipes and Health Course used at the Rustenburg Camp last year be included in the next Bulletin.

3. RECORDS AND FILES:

Means of ensuring that detachment records were properly kept and filed were discussed.

IT WAS AGREED that no hard and fast rule could be laid down regarding methods for conditions differed so greatly but that Superintendents should insist upon records being regularly made up and filed with the detachment. Where possible these should be kept in some permanent place in charge of the School principle or some such person so that records do not disappear with the departure of leaders. The practise in some areas of giving marks for well kept records was commended.

4. FIXED WAYFARER DAYS:

After discussion on the possibility of fixing a day for all detachments to celebrate as Wayfarer Day it was found that conditions varied so that this was not possible.

IT WAS FINALLY AGREED that wherever possible Superintendents should try to get their detachments to celebrate in May or in September.

5. SUPERINTENDENTS' DETACHMENTS AND COMPETITIONS:

Mrs. Masemolo brought up the matter of apparent advantage of a Superintendent Detachment over others in her area in competitions.

IT WAS AGREED that for competition items her assistant or someone else should train her detachment.

6. The length of the time required by Mrs. Masemolo and Mrs. Grootboom to cover the Warmbaths area for enrolment and testing.

IT WAS AGREED that Mrs. Masemolo and Mrs. Grootboom discuss the matter and make arrangements with the Secretary.

7. The question of badges for Leaders was discussed. It was clear that though "Service badges" should be recommended it would be difficult to arrive at an equitable basis for awarding them.

IT WAS AGREED that the Executive Committee consider the matter.

TRUSTEESHIP OF LEAKE HALL:

Mrs. Phillips who represented our Association on the Board of Trustees reported that the Orlando Community Centre had asked for the consent of the Association for the hall to be used for the purpose of Youth Activities. It was pointed out that provision would be made for Pathfinders and Wayfarers to use the hall when they required it and that certain repairs and improvements which in no way involved this Association were being affected.

Mrs. Christie proposed with Mrs. Rist seconding that the request be acceded to. The motion was adopted.

3ND SESSION.

During the afternoon the Hostel Detachment of Wayfarers, gave under the direction of Miss Marda a demonstration of singing. ~~This was greatly appreciated by all present and African Members made special requests for certain items.~~

ENROLMENT:

Miss Nan Wright was formally enrolled and welcomed to the Movement by Mrs. Ray Phillips.

MRS. GROOTBOOM:

The President, in saying goodbye to Mrs. Grootboom expressed the gratitude and appreciation of the Movement for the splendid work she had done as a full time worker.

THANKS:

Special thanks were expressed

- (a) to the President for all she had done to make so successful a day,
- (b) to Mrs. Rist and those who had helped her to entertain the Council,
- (c) to Miss Marda for the entertaining and valuable demonstration.

CLOSING:

THE MEETING WAS CLOSED WITH 'NKOSI SIKELELA AFRIKA

CONFIRMED:

DATE:

WAYFARER COUNCIL MEETING, 26 TH MAY, 1945.

NOTES ON

REPORTS AND DISCUSSIONS.

Miss F. Brown, Div. Supt., Witwatersrand area.
Abridged Report 26.5.45:

The Wayfarer work in our own Methodist Mission under Miss Maaga and myself is proceeding quite happily, and over 270 meetings have been attended during the past year.

Conditions are never ideal, as our numbers are often too large for the space and teachers available.

Principals of most of our schools give us valuable co-operation. When possible Enrolments have taken place during a Church Service and thus parents and friends have gained a new interest in our work.

Seven contacts have been made with our European Churches and these visits have been helpful and happy.

A Camp was held early last October in our Spes Bona School and 44 Groupers and three Mistresses were present from four of our schools. We had a happy time, their behaviour was excellent and most of them passed their second step badge work.

An enjoyable Rally took place in Boksburg last November. Detachments came from Benoni and Germiston and 219 were present.

For the second year we had our Wayfarer and Pathfinder Officer's Fellowship Day. We invited the Principals of our schools also, and this brought our number to just over 100. Morning is spent in the learning of new choruses, talks and discussions, after lunch we have an Official welcome and then move into separate rooms for Wayfarer and Pathfinder Training. This has been given by Students from the Jan Hofmeyr School. These are days of great inspiration and fellowship.

This is the second year in Johannesburg that Sports held on Children's Day have included African Organisations. Our 200 Wayfarers and Sunbeams compare favourably with other African groups, and the children seem to get a great thrill out of this day.

February, March and April have had their Leader's Training Days planned for our own Mistresses, we have never-the-less been pleased to welcome Officers from Sub-Nigel, Nigel and Alexandra Township. Numbers have varied between 25 and 35. Lunch has been provided out of a gift from a Branch of our Women's Auxiliary ... a most welcome donation. Miss Scott of the Teachers Training College has been with us twice and given us great help in drills and games. Miss Maaga was in charge of the Papier Mache work and this was interesting to the Leaders.

A happy week-end was spent in the Delmas area, March 23rd to 25th. Saturday was spent in Second Step examination and 18 passed their tests; we found they had been well taught. A beginning was made with a small group of Torch-Bearers under Mrs. Makapan and Mrs. Molebatsi. We hope this work will increase greatly.

Sunday morning we journeyed another 15 miles to enrol a new Detachment. What a wonderful sight met our eyes as we neared the school, the veldt alive with colour! 36 Sunbeams and 33 Wayfarers were in uniform with Pathfinders in attendance. Parents and friends had gathered from farms around; it was indeed

a great day, and we had an enjoyable Service. I was most interested to find that when the local store had sold out of material, Mothers had walked 12 miles and 15 miles to other villages to find the material needed for the uniforms. Such eagerness deserves commendation.

Visits have been paid to Sub-Nigel, Nigel and Heidelberg. The visit to the N. Transvaal has been reported elsewhere, but it is one which is ever pleasant to the memory.

Honorary Secretary:

Mrs. Whyte thanked everybody for waiting for replies from the office. She felt that in some areas people were putting everything they could into the work and helping very much, but in some places she realized that some superintendents - district and divisional - were not really in touch with their detachments. There was need for help for the out-of-the-way detachments, not only for enrolling and testing badges, but for help to start. She said that there were no ready made uniforms at Headquarters. If any Superintendents wanted a photo of Mrs. Jones they should apply for it.

Mrs. Grootboom:

Mrs. Grootboom reported that she had visited 50 detachments since her appointment. She spent a week at Mafeking training leaders only, and one day school children along with the leaders. She had found some detachments small and some large, some dull and some bright, some begun and run by men. Some are weak and small and stand in need of great attention - such as at Groot Marico and Zwaartruggens. She had appreciated the co-operation between the Pathfinders and Wayfarers. Parents also were interested. She felt it a real pleasure to see parents taking interest in our movement. She noticed the deep impression made by Mrs. Jones in the hearts and minds of the African people - she is dead, but her work lives on. She enrolled over 1,000 Wayfarers and Sunbeams and tested for Second Step and Proficiency Badges. Some detachments had been dormant and the visit had revived them. Outside detachments need special attention. It would be very good if they could have visits more often than has been possible during the last few months.

Evaton and Meyerton:

Mrs. Demas reported that at Meyerton, which had always been a problem, there was no Wayfarer detachment at present. The Principal said that ever since Miss More left he had been getting new lady teachers nearly every quarter. The Guides are strong in this area. At Evaton there are three detachments of Wayfarers with high enrolments.

Warmbaths:

Mrs. Masemola said they were looking forward to a visit from Mrs. Whyte and Mrs. Grootboom in August.

Louis Trichardt:

Mrs. Thomas said she had not had much time to prepare a report as she had been on holiday. Her district was large and difficult to travel. She always had good receptions in the outside stations. Parents came to the meetings and camp fires and enjoyed it very much. In her district they were short of Leaders - teachers were changing constantly. At Lemana there was the problem between Wayfarers and Guides.

Witbank and Middelburg:

Mrs. Matyeka said she had only a little report to give. It was very hard for her to travel. Last year she enrolled 98, this year 132. Wayfarers were examined for Second Step Badge

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by Miss Grootboom during her visit. Weekly meetings were held and the girls were very interested. She asked Headquarters to send someone to help organise competitions for the two flags presented by Mrs. Jones to the District as they were interested in these competitions. At Middelburg the Leader has left and the work is dying down.

Krugersdorp:

Mrs. Maaga has four schools which are visited. There are difficulties owing to the moving of the Location. Wayfaring was weak, but since Miss Brown has become Divisional Superintendent the work has gone ahead.

Pietersburg:

Mrs. Bolani, of Pietersburg, sent a telegram apologising for her unavoidable absence.

Mrs. Franz has agreed to become Divisional Superintendent of the Pietersburg Division and Miss Nan Wright from Bushbuckridge is going to help in that area. (Bushbuckridge).

Learning by rote:

Mrs. Christie spoke of the danger, especially in First Aid, of learning by rote.

Service Stars.

Mrs. Whyte reported that we have no stars. 10,000 stars were stolen before Mrs. Jones left Florida and there are only 5 year badges left.

Badges:

Mrs. Whyte reported that she had ordered Wayfarer Badges.

Records:

Miss Roxburgh put forward a formal motion about records. That detachment records of work done shall be available for Superintendents and workers to examine.

Mrs. Grootboom suggested that when a Wayfarer Leader left the school all the Wayfarer books and records should be handed to the Principal for safe keeping and that he be asked to pass them on to the next Wayfarer Leader.

Bulletins:

It was agreed that the present form of Bulletin was satisfactory. Divisional and District Superintendents should collect items of news to be sent in.

Wayfarer Sunday: :

Wayfarer Sunday to be held in May or September.

Warmbaths:

Mrs. Masemola said that her leaders complain that she is Superintendent and takes a detachment as well, especially when entering for competitions. It was suggested that she keep her detachment and when competitions are at hand get someone else to train her Wayfarers.

Service Badge for Leaders:

Miss Brown brought up the question of some distinctive mark for Leaders. Mrs. Demas felt that there was no need for such...

such a distinctive mark. She suggested that a leader be awarded a badge of some sort for a certain percentage of Second Step Badges in her detachment. We all recognized that something should be done with regard to a Service Badge, but just how it is to be done should be well thought over.

Uniforms:

Mrs. Whyte suggested that where a Wayfarer had made her own uniform satisfactorily she be allowed to have the Sewing Badge. Mrs. Ray Phillips suggested that, if possible, patterns for the different sizes should be available from the office. Mrs. Demas suggested that, if possible, each detachment should have an official uniform cutter.

Travelling Difficulties:

Mrs. Masemola stressed the difficulty of visiting detachments that are off the train line. She was informed that if there was a special trip to be taken by car which could be done no other way, the matter must be brought before the Executive who would judge it on its own merits. Mrs. Masemola (Warmbaths) was asked to let the Executive know if she could arrange a tour to get in all the enrolments that were necessary in her district and the approximate cost. The Executive would then consider whether it should be done.

Nebo:

The difficulties of getting to Nebo were discussed.

Leake Hall:

Mrs. Ray Phillips brought forward the matter of the Leake Hall at Orlando and asked if the Wayfarers would give their consent to the use of the Leake Hall by the Donaldson Orlando Community Centre until their building was available. They will be erecting their own premises at a later date. Permission was granted.

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Duplicated by the:
South African . Institute of Race Relations,
P.O. Box 97, Johannesburg.

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GIRL WAYFARERS' ASSOCIATION.

Bulletin 1, 1947.

January, 1947.

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NEW YEAR MESSAGE.

"Setting Out"

When we go on a journey, we always make preparations of some sort. How we prepare depends of course on the importance of the journey.

Can you recapture the thrill of an early journey - a trip to the Zoo, or a school exhibition, or a rally? How important that little expedition was, and what preparations you made! How amazed you were at your teachers' and leaders' embarrassment at the sight of bundles of food, "minerals", sweets - and even ice-creams bought at the last minute.

If you were fortunate enough to go farther afield you remember what care was taken on your behalf for the journey, your railway ticket, food to eat on the way, a warm blanket if you travelled through the night, and then, if possible, some new clothes packed in the holiday case.

It is no new thing to say that at the New Year we are setting out on a journey, that the twelve months ahead are a part of the Road of Life. Are we prepared? Have we anything to sustain and comfort and cheer us, like the food, the blankets, the gay new dress on that important journey of our childhood? I will give you a poem to help you to answer that question.

There is no road which is easy all the way. The traveller finds dust, or rough patches, or nasty corners, or still slopes he must climb; but with strength and courage, he goes on. N.W.

I thank Thee, Lord, for life -
For Thou hast made and dowered me
With gifts of hearing, sight, and speech,
With mind alert and will that's free;
Guard all from harm, I do beseech.

I thank Thee, Lord, for health -
For day by day the joy of life
Runs through my veins with keen delight,
And I am glad amid its strife:
Keep my thoughts pure, guide me aright.

I thank Thee, Lord, for hope, -
What yet shall be I may not know;
The unseen days will changes bring;
But through them all hope's star shall glow,
And I shall have my song to sing.

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FROM THE EDITOR.

This bulletin will go to print on the first day of term, and I hope you will receive it in time for your first or second detachment meeting.

If the year is to be successful, there are one or two things of which you must make sure.

First of all, each leader should have a detachment record book ready - it is fatal to use scraps of paper, thinking you will copy out later. If you are afraid of spoiling your book because your first registers etc. may not be accurate, use an old book or a "general note book" for these, so that they are all together and there is no danger of losing them.

Secondly, after each meeting enter in your book a record of what was done; title of hymn or song you used or learned or began to practise; games you played; hand-word you planned or did; badge-work. This will help you to keep your meetings interesting, for you will avoid boring repetition. You will of course keep a record of attendance.

Thirdly, try to plan for some time ahead - say a term. If you do this, you will find it easier to collect materials and to make other preparations for some particular thing you wish to do. For instance, if you plan to make a scrap album when the days are colder, it would be wise to start now to collect pictures.

People have asked me about the thrift badge. When you get the new handbook, you will find how to earn this. Even if there were no thrift badge, every Wayfarer should learn not to waste anything. We should throw away nothing unless we are quite sure that it cannot be used in some way. I am giving you in this bulletin some hints published about ten years ago by Mrs. Jones. If you have any other good hints, please send them to me, so that they may be passed on to others.

N. Williams.
Johannesburg - January, 1947

LORD of the LOVING HEART.

Doh is C

d	m	s	l	-	t	s	-	-	d	r	m	s	-	r	m	-	-
Lord of the lov-ing heart May mine be lov-ing too																	
d	d	m	re	-	re	r	-	-	l,	t,	d	d	-	t,	d	-	-

s	fe	s	t	-	fe	s	-	-	s	l	t	r'	-	t	s	-	-
Lord of the gen-tle hands, may mine be gentle too																	
l,	se,	l,	t,		se,	l,			s,	t,	d	t,	-	t,	s,	-	-

s	fe	s	l	-	m	f	-	-	r	m	f	t	-	l	s	-	-
Lord of the will-ing feet, may mine be will-ing too;																	
l,	se,	l,	fe,	-	fe,	s,			t,	t,	t,	f	-	f	m	-	-

d'	l	d'	d'	t	d'	m'	-	d'	l	-	r	f	-	-	m	-	-
So may I grow more like Thee in all I say and																	
m	m	m	fe	fe	fe	s	-	s	r	-	l,	d	-	-	t,	-	-

d	-	-	-	-	-
do.....					
d,	-	-	-	-	-

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IMPORTANTROYAL VISIT. (Pretoria Area)

Mrs. Franz, Divisional Superintendent, draws attention to the following information:

On the 31st March the Royal Party will be present at a gathering of Non-European people at Iscor Sports Ground. They will arrive at 11.15 a.m. and stay for 17 minutes. Those who wish to be admitted must be there by 9.30 a.m. or earlier. Blocks of seats will be reserved for Wayfarers in uniform. Refreshments will be provided. Leaders intending to bring detachments should inform Mrs. Franz, 299 Anderson Street, Pretoria. Other Areas - No information is yet to hand.

A CALENDAR and A SCRAP BOOK

For these, you require pictures. This month is a good time for you to collect old Christmas cards. Keep them in a box or a large paper bag until you need them.

The Calendar.

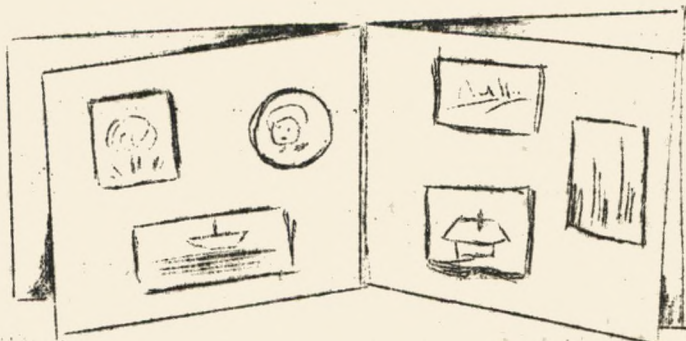
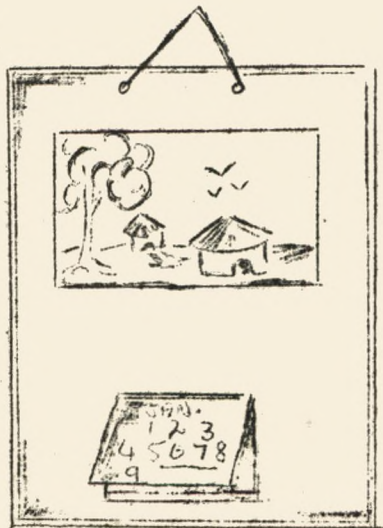
Take a piece of stiff brown paper, or coloured paper or cardboard (a box lid, for example). Choose a picture of the size you require, and place it on the cardboard without pasting it. Next take a small calendar (you will have to buy this or take it from a tradesman's calendar), and place this in position. Make two pencil dots where you wish to thread the string for hanging the calendar. When you are sure this is all well arranged, paste your picture and calendar onto the cardboard, and use a piece of coloured wool or thread to make the hanger.

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The Scrap book.

A Wayfarer Detachment could make one or more books to give pleasure to a Sunbeam detachment; or to send to patients in a hospital. Remember that a sick person cannot hold a heavy book. It would be better for a detachment to make several fairly small books rather than one large grand book.

Make the pages of strong brown paper. It is a good plan to iron the pieces of paper. If you cut all the pieces the same size, you can let several girls make a page each, sewing them together when all the pages are completed. Wool is more satisfactory for this than cotton thread, as it does not cut the paper so easily. Always let your girls plan a page, arranging it nicely for colour and variety, before they begin to paste in the pictures. Keep a specially pretty picture for the outside of the book. If you have a girl who prints or writes very well, let her put a message inside the cover, such as "Greetings from Wayfarer Detachment"



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Collection Number: AD1715

SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS (SAIRR), 1892-1974

PUBLISHER:

Collection Funder:- Atlantic Philanthropies Foundation

Publisher:- Historical Papers Research Archive

Location:- Johannesburg

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