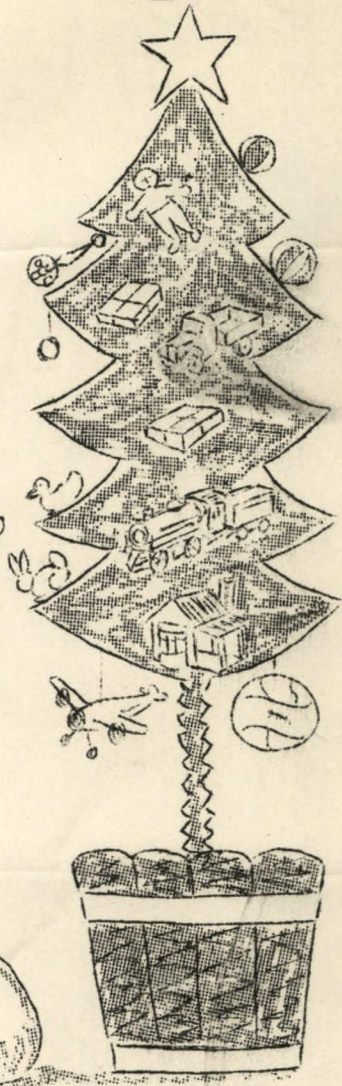
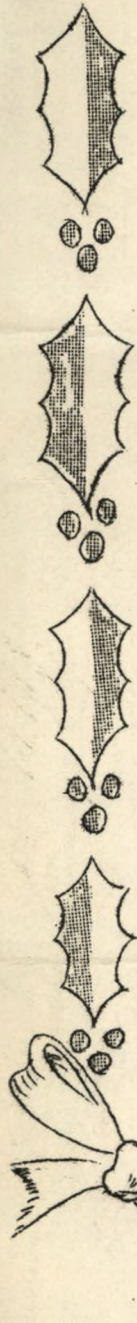


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THE TRANSVAAL NEWS



SHEET.



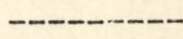
A MERRY XMAS TO ALL IN THE BROTHERHOOD.

No. 9

December, 1953

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A CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MESSAGE
FROM THE DIVISIONAL

REMEMBER

In wishing you all a very happy Christmas, good luck and good Scouting with the New Year, I would like you to remember that, above all else, this is a time of love and understanding.

Therefore, as you enter into the spirit of the season, with all its celebrations and festivities, remember those less fortunate than yourselves.

Remember your Promise and determine to act upon it more fully in the coming year.

Remember that through Scouting the youth of today guarantees a better way of living for the men and women of tomorrow.

Remember that you are privileged to belong to a World Brotherhood of Scouts which is founded upon the Christian way of life, irrespective of colour, race or creed.

Remember that an honest endeavour to live up to the Scout Law brings its own reward and a rich contentment.

Have faith in the future and your fellow men; and prove by example that the solution to most of the problems of this world lies in the observance of the Scout Law.

C.N. WALLACE

DIVISIONAL COMMISSIONER

REPORT ON THE FOURTH WOOD BADGE COURSE (PART II)
FOR SCOUTERS - 1953

By D.C. Marivate D/C/C

At first it was difficult to know whether the course was going to be held or not because some schools were not going to close during the October holidays and, secondly, many other activities such as musical competitions, preparation for exams, and the Scout pilot camp, to mention only a few, were all going to take place at the same time as the course.

Gradually applications came in until, on the closing date, we had over a dozen, just sufficient to warrant the course.

Centre

By kindness of the Swedish Mission, under the Rev. Fosseus, the course was held at Roodepoort West, at the grounds of the Swedish Mission.

This centre is ideal in nearly all respects - there is plenty of firewood, there is plenty of water (hot and cold). The black wattle and fir trees that cover the grounds make it look like a jungle. It is a favourite haunt of birds of all kinds, especially doves, the cooing of which may sometimes be heard during the bright moonlight night.

A shop is close to the Mission, and all groceries may be obtained from this shop. The school buildings are electrically lit, and it is easy to carry on with the programme even after sunset. Adjoining the Mission is an open tract of veld, quite suitable for scout games and other out-door activities.

Date

The course started in the evening on Sunday 27th September and ended on Sunday, 4th October, after lunch.

Fees

The fees were £1.10.0. per head for the duration.

Trainers

The course was under the leadership of D/C/C/Senior D.C. Marivate, who was assisted by Mr. G.A. Mphenyeke, A/D/C for West Rand. Mr. Mphenyeke acted as the Q.M. of the Camp.

Mr. N.S. Mokgako and the Rev. Max Buchler, both members of the training team, were not able to stay at camp but they were of great assistance on the days when they were able to come. Their work was highly appreciated.

European Team

Two members of the European team, namely Mr. W.V. Robson and Mr. Briggs, were kind enough to come and give a lesson each on the 1st of October. Their work was also very highly appreciated.

The Chiefs

On the 29th September, the course was highly honoured by the visit of the Chief Scouts Commissioner, the Venerable Archdeacon S.P. Woodfield, M.A., who was accompanied by the Revs. I.A. Semanya and Campbell. The Chief's account of how Scouting started amongst the Africans in the Union was not only interesting but very educative, because some of the Scouters at the course did not know that the gap between the European and African Scout was at first very wide. It was an encouraging sign to learn that at present both movements are one. African Scouts were now entitled to wear the same badges as all other Scouts of the world.

The Divisional Commissioner, Mr. C.N. Wallace, M.B.E., visited the course on the 2nd October. He brought with him some very interesting books on Scouting for distribution. His fatherly talk on what the Divisional H.Q. is doing for the Division encouraged all the trainees.

The Honorary Secretary, Mr. J.P. Rees, M.Sc., visited the course three times. He came on the 29th and then on the 1st October, first during the day and then for camp fire in the evening. During the day he gave a lesson on mapping and in the evening on the stars. A great deal of valuable information was gained from his lectures.

Trainees

Of the twenty Scouters that had applied only fourteen came. Of course those that failed to come forfeited their 10/- application fee. Those who came were divided into two patrols, namely the Wolves and the Woodpigeons.

Members of the Wolves Patrol

- (1) Lot A.H. Sikwane, 673B White City, Jabavu, P.O. Moroko
- (2) George Pattison, Eastwood Public School, P/Bag 48, Pretoria.
- (3) Paul E. Maringa, B.A., Education Department, Box 91, Lydenburg.
- (4) Alfred B. Malinga, P.O. Box 33, Crown Mines, Johannesburg.
- (5) Nicodimus Mokobane, 2292B, Moroka, Johannesburg.
- (6) Arthur M. Sepanya, P.O. Box 182, Randfontein.
- (7) Gardener N. Majova, 287, Lokasie, Roodepoort.

Members of the Woodpigeon Patrol

- (1) Jacob R. Namo, Assistant Secretary, African Boy Scouts Transvaal Division.
- (2) Richard R. Motaung, 8336, Orlando West.
- (3) Albert P.S. Zulu, P.O. Box 210, Klerksdorp.
- (4) E. Montwedi, P.O. Box 13, Bergvlei, Alexandra, Johannesburg.
- (5) Dan O. Baloi, Swiss Mission School, P.O. Orlando.
- (6) David S. Mekgoe, No. 811, Old Location, Klerksdorp.
- (7) Marks Motloun, P.O. Box 12, Delmas.

Accommodation

By kindness of Mr. J.R. Rathebe, the Deputy Divisional Commissioner, who brought the gear from Johannesburg in his van, all the trainees were accommodated in tents.

Gear

Among other things, we had three tents, 6 dixies, 6 buckets, a long 1" manila rope, another long $\frac{1}{2}$ " manila rope, $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen billycans, a felling axe, two hand-axes, 16 Gilwell woggles, 22 scarves, some shoulder-knots, two dish cloths and other smaller articles. We did not have plates and we did not have mugs. Scouters used their own.

Of the gear mentioned above, I have the pleasure to mention that it was the first time that we used our own rope for pioneering. During all previous courses we relied on the gear used by the European team.

Billycans, also, were used for the first time in our Section, and also the Gilwell woggles. I have a hope that as time goes on we shall continue to build up our own gear until we can rely upon ourselves entirely.

I am very much tempted to praise our Divisional Commissioner, Mr. Wallace, who, ever since he was appointed Chief of the Division, has managed to find ways and means of raising funds for the Association and thus enabling the Division to procure the gear needed for training.

The Course

Owing to dislocation of the railway system between Park Station and Germiston, the course started later than the time stated in the time table because Scouters were delayed along the way. At Park Station there was such a jam of passengers that many people lost their belongings. Two of our trainees, namely Mr. P.E. Maringa of Lydenburg, and Mr. N. Motloug of Delmas, lost some of their goods. Mr. Maringa arrived at camp minus uniform. He had to use a string for a belt and he had to borrow in order to buy a uniform. It was a sad state of affairs. I really admired the cheerfulness of these two officers. What struck me most was their spirit because, although their loss was comparatively great, they did not think of returning home but stuck to the course right up to the end.

On the evening of the first day, the Rev. Max Buchler of the Swiss Mission conducted the "Scouts Own". This was the opening of the big offensive because early on Monday the chaps were on the run. Days passed on as quickly as if they were hours. Time was too short and the job was too much, so much so that when the chaps were called on for a hike on Friday afternoon they were not ready. Instead of leaving at 3 p.m. they left at 5 p.m. This caused them to sleep half-way before reaching where they were supposed to sleep. Their journey on the next day was, as a result, so long and the sun so hot that we felt pity for them and curtailed the distance.

The Spirit

I must say that all our trainees were excellent. They had a good spirit and were prepared to work hard and also to play hard. I remember Mr. Mokgako's game (wide game) made them play so hard that most of them hurt themselves and were limping for the rest of the time. One of the trainees, Mekgoe by name, enjoyed the wide game so well that he forgot that stumps and stones were lurking about and he nearly tore off one of his limbs

in playing. Fortunately he did not tear it off but only succeeded in causing a swell which gave him a lot of trouble on the hike.

I admired Lot Sikwane for his courage and cheerfulness. He had a sort of expression which he used when things were bad with him. He used to say "Qamakwe", and when he says "Qamakwe" you must know that he is going to tackle the difficulty that is confronting him, and all others will follow him. Lot Sikwane had recently undergone a big operation. I was fearing that perhaps he was straining himself too much but he went through it all successfully. I could go on mentioning the qualities of each one of our trainees, such as Richard Motaung's steady leadership and cool-mindedness which soon affected others, but space and time do not allow for remarks on individual Scouters. As mentioned above, they were all very good and teachable.

To prove that they enjoyed the course very much, these trainees, at our final camp fire, suggested that another wood badge course should be organized next year, and that, whether they had failed or not, if time permitted, they would come to repeat it. I liked this remark. I am glad the Division has such people who understand things. And this remark was not a mere passing one because in our course we had E. Montwedi who was re-training after he had gone through the same course in 1951. So we believe that what they say is true. They want to come again (some of them at least).

Results

They all passed.

End of the Course

After packing, checking and cleaning up, the course came to an end on Sunday afternoon, 4th October, 1953.

Thanks

I wish to thank all the people who helped to make this course a success, especially those who came to give lessons and speeches.

On behalf of the Division, I wish to thank also the Rev. Fosseus of the Swedish Mission who allowed us the use of the Mission grounds.

Before ending this report I must inform my readers that had it not been for Mr. Gabriel Mphenyeke of Roodepoort this course would have been a complete failure. Mr. Mphenyeke deprived himself of the school holidays. He was building a new house for himself but he put aside all his personal engagements and came and stayed with me the whole time at the camp. People like him are very rare. I cannot thank him well enough. Thank you Mr. Mphenyeke!

And once more, many thanks to all who came to help.

REPORT ON THE FOURTH WOOD BADGE COURSE (PART II)
FOR SCOUTERS - 1953

By "One of the Fellows"

D/C/C - Mr. D.C. Marivate

Q.M. - Mr. G.A. Mphenyeke

Lecturers - Mr. W.V. Robson and Mr. L.M. Briggs (both from the local European section);
The Ven. Archdeacon S.P. Woodfield;
Mr. Neb. S. Mokgako, the Rev. M. Buchler,
Mr. Mphenyeke, Mr. Rees and Mr. Marivate.

Visited by - Mr. C.N. Wallace (Divisional);
Rev. H. Fosseus (Superintendent of S. Ansgar's Institution);
Revs. I. Semenya and A.V. Campbell (Pretoria).

A training in the above course for 13 Scouters was held at the Church of Sweden Mission, P.O. Box 59, Roodepoort, from Sunday, 27th September, to Sunday, 4th October, 1953 (inclusive).

The site is ideal for camping, with various kinds of trees and water in abundance; also it is far from the smoky and noisy locations. After being formally admitted into "Gilwell" we got down to business. As though some magic power had been performed, we found both the D/C/C and Q.M. "changed". Fellows (as we trainees were addressed throughout the course) could be seen making gadgets and wooden handwork articles, cooking patrol food and attending lectures, for which notes had to be taken. Note books were collected every evening to ensure that trainees were doing their work individually. For the first two or three days the Wolves outpointed the Woodpigeons in discs, but towards the end of the course the reverse was the order.

Lecturer after lecturer emphasized the importance of "Be Prepared", of planning of work beforehand and of the S.M. leading the troop. It would be unfair to the troop if the S.M. attended parades clad in his summer suit. The Scout Promise and Law should always be taught the boys by the S.M.

Most of us know that boys like "doing", so the S.M. should equip himself with the necessary materials. If the S.M. is in any doubt, the Wood Badge Course will meet his requirements. Believe it or not, by the end of the course we all expressed our "ignorance" prior to the training, and the knowledge we have now acquired will enable us to learn more and more about scouting as indeed a wood badge course is only a gateway to real scouting.

GREAT AMERICAN JAMBOREE

or

HOW THEY DO IT IN THE U.S.A.

From "The Scout", August 27th, 1953

About 40,000 Scouts from 55 countries had the time of their lives at the American Jamboree at Orange County, California. An Opening Show, "The Building of a Nation" was preceded by a recorded message of welcome by President Eisenhower.

A full length motion picture has been made of the camp which included such events as mammoth concerts and sing-songs on the 300 ft. stage. Scouts from Texas erected mock oil derricks on their site, Scouts of Arizona built corrals, Los Angeles Scouts planted geraniums, Kansas showed their State's flower, the Sunflower, while Indian Totem Poles were everywhere.

Most of the Troops brought their own doctors, although I am happy to say that the most common complaint was that mentioned in the Jamboree Newspaper, "ice-creamitis".

Of course swapping was at its height almost before the tents were erected. The Angelenos, first contingent to arrive at the camp, quickly established a monopoly of the orange toads which could be seen jumping about in the grass, and used them for swapping purposes. A Los Angeles City Limit sign was traded for a Japanese Festival Doll, and two Scouts from Illinois even went so far as to set up a complete laundry, and charged at the rate of five cents per article. (They washed for their own Patrol free of charge on the condition that soap was supplied.)

A new Troop was formed at the camp, the Mumps Troop No. 1, and the Headquarters was Orange County Hospital. It doesn't require much thought to figure out which Scouts represented this Troop. Just prior to the Jamboree one Maine Scout fell victim to Scarlet Fever, and did not recover till after the special train had left. Help arrived in the form of an unknown benefactor who supplied the boy with an aeroplane ticket, and he arrived at the camp before the rest of his Troop got there.

JEEP

N.B. There are over 3 million in the Scout Movement in the U.S.A.

THE FIRST CROWN REEF TROOP VISITS THE BARAGWANATH
AERODROME

Our Divisional, Mr. C.N. Wallace, arranged with the Johannesburg Light Plane Club for a Scout Troop to see the Club. My Troop was lucky to be asked first. The boys were very excited when they heard of this visit and looked forward anxiously to the day. On the 6th November, at 8.30 a.m., we set out for the aerodrome by bus and on foot. On arriving there at 9.15 a.m. to our pleasure we were met by our Assistant Divisional Secretary, Mr. J.R. Namo. He stood amongst the trees near the gate. However, we noticed him when we were still quite a distance away.

At the Club we were met by Mr. Haarhoff who is an Instructor and Lecturer to the trainees. At 9.30 a.m. he started taking us round this very interesting place. You can imagine how we felt. We were taken first to the training planes which are used by those training for the Air Force. These planes were marked with letters on their bodies. He told us that Z.S. or S.A. stood for South Africa and letters like B.P.W. stand for registration. He showed us how the machine flies and the working of the engine. One plane is pulled forward by the propeller and the air comes over the wings and then it flies. The back ladder is worked by the paddle. In the engine there are several instruments recording height, speed and compass bearing. The petrol tank is between the two wings. There is also a cabin for baggage. These planes carry 40 lbs baggage.

We were told that when training for the Air Force, parachutes are used. The wings are made of fabric and metal and the wheels fold up into the body when the plane gets into the air. The body is made of aluminium. The radio wire is on the tail. There are only two seats. The student sits in the back. In this type the petrol tank is on the wings.

At this stage we were taken to the workshop where all the repairs are done. The mechanics are specially trained and are able to overhaul the engines completely.

Then we were led into the lecture room and we were shown a parachute. One can sit in it whilst in the machine, and we were shown how it works. Then on a long pole we saw a wind sock which indicates the direction the wind is blowing. The aeroplane always takes off into the wind and lands into the wind. At the bottom of it there is painted in white a signal T which is changed according to the direction of the wind and guides them in landing. There is a wireless house on top of the lecture room. It is of interest to have the wireless because planes coming would like to know about the weather, etc.

At the aerodrome there is a beautiful club house where some of the students and staff are housed.

We were told that in the air there are special routes for big air liners from overseas.

Then we were taken to see the gliders. They fly without an engine. They are first towed into the air by another machine by a rope. When high enough they are released. The glider is kept flying by rising currents of air.

We next saw a plane in which eight people can be seated. In this type the pilot sits right in front. We were shown the fighting planes which have a Springbok crest. This type has numbers only and no letters like the others. Guns are put on the body of the wings. Worked by pressing a button inside the plane, the wheels fold up when flying. There is also a camera fixed to the wings which takes a photograph when the guns shoot. There are lights, red and green, used when landing at night. With the fighting planes, the bombs are fixed under the wings and worked also by pressing a button. This type flies at 20,000 feet and its speed is 250 n.p.h. There were no jet aircraft.

This concluded our visit. The Troop was served with cold drinks and in thanks the Troop gave a sing-song and yell. Mr. Namo thanked Mr. Haarhoff for his kindness and Mr. Haarhoff said he hoped that such visits would be made by different troops from time to time.

This was a wonderful experience for all of us. The boys loved it.

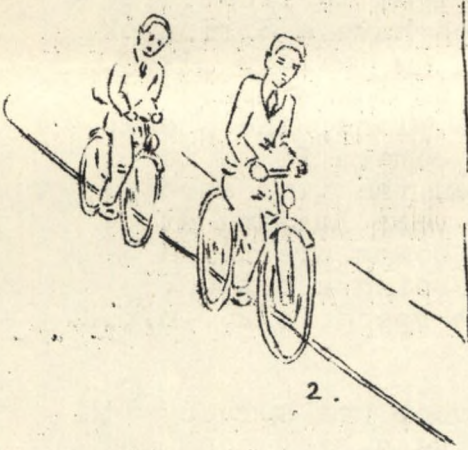
A THOUGHT FOR THIS MONTH

If you stop what you are doing just because someone criticizes, you will never accomplish anything

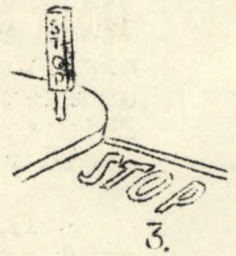
SAFETY HINTS FOR PEDAL CYCLISTS



Your bicycle



Keep to the left



At stop streets - halt

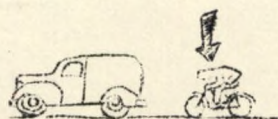


Give hand signal before turning to the right

Give a signal before stopping



Keep a safe distance behind fast moving vehicles



6.

HEADQUARTERS NOTICES

1. POSTPONEMENT OF 4TH PILOT CAMP

It is with much regret that Headquarters has had to decide on the postponement of this Camp to a date to be advised in 1954. It is hoped the Centre will still be Middelburg.

Yours in Scouting,

J. Richard Rathebe
Deputy Divisional A.S. Commissioner

2. GROUP ACCOUNTS

A balance sheet of the 3rd Johannesburg Group is given below:

3rd JOHANNESBURG (GEORGE GOCH) SCOUT GROUP

BALANCE SHEET - 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1953

General Account

Income	£14	8	6
Expenditure	<u>8</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>
Balance in hand:	<u>£6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>

Details of Income

General Group Funds:

Donations	£1	3	6
Concert (May)	2	10	0
Jumble sale (August)	<u>10</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>0</u>
Total:	<u>£14</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>

Details of Expenditure

June: Rugby ball	£1	3	6
August: Patrol tent	5	0	0
August: Cricket ball	<u>1</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>6</u>
Total:	<u>£8</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>

All groups should keep an account of money received and of how it is spent.

3. REMINDER

Scouts are reminded that they must not take part in any street collection for Charity (such as the Red Cross) whilst they are in uniform. They may, however, help as messengers or in other ways.

4. PERSONALIA

(a) The Divisional

Our Divisional is leaving Pretoria for a time and will be at Grace Dieu in the Northern Transvaal. Pretoria will be sorry to lose him, but the Northern Transvaal will welcome back their old friend. His new address is:

Diocesan Training College,
Grace Dieu,
Private Bag 809,
Pietersburg,
N. Transvaal.

(b) The death of D/C D.J. Matsete is recorded with regret. He will be greatly missed on the West Rand. May the good work he did be not forgotten.

(c) The marriage of Mr. J.N.R. Tsomele, G.S.M., 1st Makau, took place at De Wildt, Pretoria District, on Saturday, 12th December. All Scouters congratulate him and wish him happiness.

(d) Thanks

The Editors wish to thank all those who have contributed to the magazine during the past year.

They particularly wish to thank Miss G. Murphy of the Transvaal Chamber of Mines and the Headquarters of the Transvaal Boy Scouts Association, European Division, for their help in producing the News Sheet.

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

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