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PALADINS.

The Paladin Organisation was formed in 1921 by the late Rev. Ridout (Anglican) and Mr. G.W. Dickenson.

It started off with a club, to cater for the boys of St. Albans' Church Choir, whose activities were limited to games, camps and eventually gymnastics.

Year after year, repeated requests were made by other boys to join this movement, which eventually heeded to their requests, for, the organisers saw that the need was great for a Coloured Boys Organisation which would cater for boys of all denominations, and from all walks of life.

As the organisation grew, so did its activities. They had to hold meetings at the Bantu Mens' Social Centre and the Ritz Hall. The organisation in accordance with the War Measures Act, was declared an approved organisation by the Department of Defence, in 1940.

In 1949, the movement had no meeting place, and they eventually decided to affiliate to the Transvaal Association of Non-European Boys' Club, for the purpose of accommodation.

In spite of these set backs, the movement has been victors of several sport meetings organised by the "Our Childrens' Day" Committee. It has, with no doubt been, and still is, one of the finest bugle-bands in the Transvaal amongst Non-Europeans. They have led several histroical parades, as representatives of Coloured Organisations, namely:- The Late King's Visit, and also several welcomes to the late Prime Minister the Right Ho^l Field Marshal J.C. Smuts.

At present the Committee of the Paladins have decided to rout out illiteracy by trying to educate our youth physically, morally and socially. Activities are carried on daily at the Polly Street Centre, which consists of the following:-

- (a) Boxing
- (b) Gymnastics
- (c) Soccer
- (d) Basket ball
- (e) Table tennis and other indoor games
- (f) Ballroom Dancing
- (g) Music Lessons
- (h) Bugle-bands
- (i) Concert groups
- (j) Religious Talks
- (k) Debates & Lectures.

The present membership of this movement is about (200) two hundred. This number is varying, due to the fact that so many Coloureds are now moving to other suburbs away from the city. However, branches have been formed in several of the Coloured Suburbs or Townships such as:- Noordgesig, Kliptown, and also in Pretoria. Leaders in these areas are fighting a very hard battle owing to lack of proper meeting places, finances, and equipment. This movement does not receive any grants to aid the financial burden.

Monies are raised by Bazaars, Film Shows, Concerts, etc. and through gifts by sponsors to our appeal. A special branch to cater for the girls has been opened, the girls have a particular interest in serving. It is hoped that within the next few weeks special instructions will be given in First Aid, and Home Nursing, by the Red Cross Society.

On the retirement of Mr. G.W. Dickenson in 1946, Mr. W. Smith (Coloured) just from the Army then, succeeded Mr. Dickenson as Commanding Officer.

The Committee at present is as follows:-

GIRLS SECTION.

Miss Rose MITCHELL: Leader, also Secretary of Social Section.

Miss R. HOLLAND. Leader of Girls.

BOYS SECTION.

Mr. W. Smith Commanding Officer

Messrs. D. MITCHELL	Secretary
J. CAMPBELL	Treasurer
V. STANGER	Asst. Commanding Officer & Boxing Instructor
C. HARTON	Buble Band Master and Dancing (Ball-Room) Instructor
K. JOSEPH	Secretary of Soccer Section, Dancing (Ball-Room) Instructor
R. CARSTENS	Vice Chairman of Soccer Section.
S. COBERS	Coach of Soccer Section
H. PEFFER	Chairman of Social Section
V. PARKER	Editor of Monthoy Bulletin
J. SMITH	Organiser of Religious Talks & Film Shows.

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