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THE

PATHFINDER SCOUT

GAZETTE.

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Asst. Dist. P/S Com. N.S. Mokgako.

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THE  
EDITOR'S CHAT

Dear Scouts and Scouters,

This is both a greeting and a message of farewell - greetings for Christmas, and best Scout wishes for a Happy New Year from Mr. Mokgako and myself. I think we can look forward now to the beginning of victory during the coming year - victory over the forces of evil, victory and peace for the peoples of the United Nations who are struggling to preserve the things that are best in our civilisation, who are struggling for the freedom that will enable you and me and the people we live with, to go on practising in our daily lives the activities which are scouty and good.

I am sure that during 1943 you boys and men will continue with your efforts, however small they may be, to assist our country in its great task of protecting Africa from the barbarians. Our own War Effort of raising £400 or so for an ambulance has not turned out too well, but the money collected will be put to good use. We wish to thank all those who have recently sent us welcome contributions towards the War Fund. Good Work! And as for the rest of you, keep your chins up, and continue with your work for Scouting and the New World which is coming. There is a glorious future in store for mankind, once this Terrible War is won.

And now for my message of farewell. I will be leaving the Pathfinder Scout Movement at the end of the month, and so I have now to say "Goodbye" to you. Although I will no longer be taking an active part in the Movement, my love for Pathfinder Scouting will remain, and I know that the Association will go from strength to strength. Commissioners will come and go, Groups will rise and fall again, Boy Scouts will grow up to be men, but the glorious game of Scouting will go on for ever. Scouting is bigger than you or me, it is greater even than countries and empires, for it is the universal spirit of boyhood crystallised and brought to life. It can never die.

And with this faith in my heart I leave you, wishing you everything of the best which a Scout may wish his brothers. God bless you, and may His love and mercy be with you always.

Goodbye, Yisoka!

K. Hopkin-Jenkins.  
EDITOR.

FROM THE DIVISIONAL TO THE DIVISION.

Mr. SHEARSMITH. In my last letter I told you of the serious injuries sustained by Mr. H.W. Shearsmith, our former Divisional Pathfinder Scout Secretary, while in North Africa. I am glad to say that I have recently received a letter from him. He says: "I have been lying on my back now for fourteen weeks, propped up with pillows during the day and lying on my back at night. After being burnt very badly on my thighs on August 10th. at Alamein. I was taken to a British Hospital in Alexandria for a week. Then I came here (5th. S.A. Hospital) and have stayed here all the time. The burn dressings on my legs were changed each week; the first four weeks it was in the theatre under anaesthetic..... A skin graft was tried later on but the legs were too septic and discharging too much so the new skin died. Now the dressings are done more frequently and are much more comfortable. Most of the flesh is healed now and I should soon be off my bed. The Doctor told me I would be coming down to the Union but I do not know when that will be..... I have been very comfortable here. The Sisters and walking patients have done everything to make life pleasant and nothing was too much trouble. I spend my days in reading or playing chess and the time flies very quickly. Fr. Runge very kindly came to see me and our Hospital Anglican padre comes every day for a chat and he brings me Sick Communion every Sunday..... Thanks for all the news of the Pathfinders..... My best wishes and kindest regards to you and all my friends." It is evident from that that the cheery Scout spirit is still alive with him and I know you would wish me to send him greetings from you all when I next write to him.

AND FR. MAUND The Revd. J.A.A. Maund C.F. was taken prisoner at the fall of Tobruk in June last and there then came a long silence with no news of him at all. On the very day ( I think) that Tobruk was re-captured by our forces I received a letter from him to the great relief and joy of all his friends. He is a Prisoner in Italy and had just transferred from an Officers' to a Men's camp in a new camp beautifully situated amongst the hills. He says that the rations are better than they were and that the Italian Officers in charge of the camp are "decent chaps." He is able to do his work as a padre in the camp but is without Vessels or Vestments for his services.

OUR ROLL OF HONOUR There must be very many of our Pathfinder Scouts and Scouters who are now in H.M. Forces, but in spite of repeated requests we do not seem to get many of their names and addresses sent to us at Divisional Headquarters. We are very anxious to have as complete a list as possible and I urge all Scouters to see that the names of all members or former members of their Troops are sent in without delay. A postcard will do so long as we get the particulars we need.

TROOPS ON PUBLIC PARADES In these days many Parades and Public Processions are being held and local Troops of Pathfinder Scouts are often invited to take part in these. Unless those in charge of the Troop are sure that the boys will be able to parade in correct uniform and put up a really smart show the invitation should not be accepted. I was recently shocked to hear of one such parade where the Pathfinder Scouts were quite the most untidy on parade and they were described to me as a "rabble" by someone who has always been actively interested in our work and who, on that occasion, was thankful he was not wearing Scout uniform himself. This sort of thing is, I know, exceptionable, but the harm that is done even when only one Troop has so paraded is greater than one can imagine. Not only the Troop is disgraced but the

whole Movement shares in that disgrace. I hope, therefore, that every Scouter will see to it that his boys are second to none and will refuse to allow any boy to parade who, in either uniform or manner, is not up to standard.

### CAMPS AND TRAINING COURSES

I think it is true to say that never before have so many of these been held in the Division in the course of one year. This means that the spirit of Scouting is gradually becoming understood. It should be the aim of every Scout and Scouter to attend at least one Camp each year, and no Scouter should consider himself so well qualified that he has nothing to learn by attending a Training Course whenever opportunity affords. With twenty-seven years' scouting experience behind me I have to admit that I am constantly finding new things - methods, gadgets, etc. when visiting Troops and Rallies. In addition to this the Scout spirit can only be kept alive if we meet with others who are also enthused with it. The fire of many sticks will burn brightly, but if one burning stick is removed and placed by itself it soon dies out. That is a picture of the Scouter who "keeps himself to himself" and tries to carry on year after year without any intercourse with other members of the Movement, and without trying to learn new things to pass on to his boys.

### ORGANISERS' VISITS

What happens when an Organiser has paid a visit to a Troop in any part of the Division? Does the whole memory of it just fade away into the past? Not a bit of it! When he gets back to Headquarters he sits down and makes out a full report of what he found, what he did, and his general impressions of both Officers and boys! A copy of this Report is sent direct to me while the Report itself is read out to the Divisional Council at its next meeting. By this means all those in authority know just what is going on in the Division and where the weak and strong Troops are to be found. Here are some extracts from recent Reports I have received; read them and see if you recognise yourself or your Troop in any of them:

"The first inspection was not encouraging; to look at the boys no-one could have guessed they were Scouts because none had any badges on and none had shoulder-knots. There were no Patrol names and no Patrol cries and none know anything about Patrol formations."

"I was rather struck by the ignorance that these people had on Scouting. ----- is a place where Scouting has been going on for a long time and yet the Troops had failed to make an impression upon the parents - Why?"

"The Head Teacher is a staunch supporter of Pathfinder Scouting. He does everything to try and encourage Scouting in his school."

"The spirit is good. The leaders enthusiastic. Character training not quite developed."

"I was glad to see that the boys were given the chance of learning to lead."

"Uniform of this troop is poor. Many boys had their shorts torn and unwashed. Very few had badges on."

"Everywhere the boys are keen, but there is a great lack of thoroughly trained leaders."

"Their uniform was neat and their Scouting spirit up to the mark..... the Assistant S.M. turned up in long trousers."

"The conditions under which this camp was held were very un-



GOD SAVE THE KING

God save our gracious King,  
 Long live our noble King,  
 God save the King !  
 Send him victorious,  
 Happy and glorious,  
 Long to reign over us;  
 God save the King !

DIE STEM VAN SUID AFRIKA

Uit die blou van onse hemel, uit die diepte van ons see,  
 Oor ons ewige gebergtes waar die kranse antwoord gee,  
 Deur ons ver verlate vlaktes met die kreun van ossewa --  
 Ruis die stem van ons geliefde, van ons land Suid-Afrika.

Ons sal antwoord op jou roepstem, ons sal offer wat jy vra:  
 On sal lewe, ons sal sterwe - ons vir jou, Suid-Afrika.

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 (Continued from page 6)

"Pathfinder Day" Reports:

We are very deeply indebted to the Mayor of Boksburg for a donation of one guinea which helped us very much in balancing the feeding account for our large parade. We very much regret the unforeseen circumstances which prompted his absence in our midst. We are also grateful to our Superintendent, Mr. J. Baker, who allowed us free use of the Location Hall for our meetings in connection with preparations for the "Pathfinder Day." We also appreciate the action of Revd. Sangela of the Wesleyan Methodist Church for kindly allowing us the use of their Church and sacrificing their own Service for ours.

The parade assembled at the old Sports Ground at 2.30 P.M. under the command of D/P/S/M J.W.P. Shai and comprised a strength of 102 Pathfinder Scouts and 106 Pathfinder Cubs in the district and 43 Wayfarers, 23 Wayfarer-Guides and 97 Sunbeams from the local detachments. Scouters representing the groups were Messrs. N. Pule, S. Thipe, S. Sopanya and Mabanga (all of Benoni), S.M. Mokgako, B.D. Mnyataza, S. Radiso, S. Tsoke, F. Time and L. Ngozi (all of Boksburg) and P. Legao of Alberton and leaders of the Wayfarer and Wayfarer-Guide Movements, Miss R. Zitha, Mrs. Sangela, Mrs. M. Ponoana, Mrs. B. Dlekiya, Mrs. K. Nape, Mrs. M. Hlongwane and Miss M. Libe.

The following guests lined up with Mr. Rawlings and Mr. D.E. Nduna - A/D/P/S/C Boksburg - Benoni, who took the Salute as the procession led into the Church at 3.00 P.M.:-- Guide Captains Misses M. Farghar and D. Law, D/S/M Mr. E. Lafrentz, P/S Hqrs. Organiser N.S. Mokgako, two R.A.F. members, six European Boy Scouts and J. Malaza Esq., of the Y.M.C.A.

Mr. Rawlings delivered a very impressive address that reached very far into the hearts of many that crowded the Church inside and outside. He spoke of a parable of boys and girls in "Building a good strong house" by using the Scout Promise as the foundation, and honesty, loyalty, usefulness, brotherliness, courtesy, kindness to God's dumb creatures, obedience, cheerfulness, thrift and purity as good bricks with which to complete the good house of God to dwell in. Messages of good wishes had been read from the Divisional P/S Commissioner and Capt. Barber who apologised for being unable to attend. A collection of £1. was taken on behalf of the Pathfinder Scout "AMBULANCE FUND."

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 (Continued on page 7)



(Continued from page 5)

"Pathfinder Day" Reports:

Rev. Gxoyiya said the Grace and the Service was over. Next followed a fine ceremony outside of presentation of warrants to Officers by Mr. Rawlings after which the parade dismissed, and refreshments served.

This day's activities recalled my days in Alexandra Township. There in our Annual Report were the following words:- "The sooner we get our boys away from the attitude of 'a penny I do and ending in UMUNTU I do', the better." This time I conclude by saying: Now that times and things do not suggest what they should, it is every boy's and man's part to try his best to test his foundations in his promise, spirit and cause of this Movement; to tackle his job and hit the track of Our Lord the Great Pathfinder Scout.

(Joshua W.P. Shai)

CENTRAL JOHANNESBURG DISTRICT.

To celebrate "Pathfinder Day" in the Central Johannesburg district, a Church Service was planned by D/P/S/C Rev. Fr. A. Winter, C.R., for 3.00 P.M. on Sunday, 27th. September, 1942 in the Communal Hall, Eastern Native Township, Johannesburg. Capt. Barber gave able assistance in arranging the day's programme and provided free of charge tea and buns for members of the Association who attended.

Present were the St. Peter's Secondary School Wayfarer-Guide Group and the 5th. Johannesburg Troop, the Albert Street School Wayfarer Group and the 2nd. Johannesburg Troop and Pack, the E.N.T. Amalgamated School Wayfarers and Sunbeams, the 1st. George Goch Troop and Pack and the visiting 1st. Boksburg Troop and Pack, to whom we are indebted for their Scout Band which led the procession. Div. P/S Hqrs. Com. Mr. K. Hopkin-Jenkins took the Salute and inspected the groups whose smart turnout he commended. There were about 250 odd on parade and there was a good attendance from the parents. The accomodation in the hall was all taken up.

Among the honoured guests were Mr. L.I. Venables - Asst. Manager Non-European and Native Affairs Department and Mrs. W.E. Barber. Other Scouters present were D/P/S/M J.W.P. Shai, D/C B.N. Rawlings, Messrs. S.M. Mokgako, B.D. Mnyataza and S. Radise of Boksburg, Marawu, M. Ntombella, N. Moché, J.M. Tele, J. Mtshali and N.S. Mokgako and the Assistant Divisional Secretary, Mr. J. G. Modiselle. There were also four African Wayfarer Leaders and Miss F. Brown, District Wayfarer Superintendent.

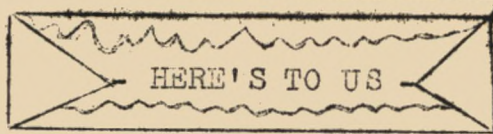
Mr. Venables gave an appreciation of the growth of the Pathfinder Scout Movement in the Reef and expanded on an extract from the Divisional's letter on the significance of "Pathfinder Day." Fr. Winter chose Ephesians vi. 10 for his address. The Service was over in an hour and ten minutes, but it is amazing how much propoganda work was done for Scouting in this simple form. The parents are against their children not joining such Youth Movements helpful to themselves and gradually our membership in troops is increasing.

By XYZ.

SUCH REPEATED REMINDERS ARE REALLY UNSCOUTY. WILL YOU NOW OBLIGE AND SEND IN THAT ~~scout~~ form STRAIGHT AWAY

(The Editors)





The horse and mule live thirty years  
And nothing know of wines and beers.

The goat and sheep at twenty die  
And never taste of Scotch and Rye.

The cow drinks water by the ton  
At eighteen she is mostly done.

The dog at fifteen cashes in  
Without the aid of rum and gin.

The cat in milk and water soaks  
And then in twelve short years it croaks.

The modest, sober, bone-dry hen  
Lays eggs for nix, then dies at ten.

All animals are strictly dry  
They sinless live then swiftly die.

But sinful, ginful, rum soaked Men  
Survive for three score years and ten.

(From the Spider's Notebook)

-x-x-x-

- WHY A CAMPER BADGE - to teach God reliance and self reliance.

In camp, a Scout learns something of the mysteries of Nature, the wonder and beauty of the world in which God has placed him; he begins to realise God in Nature. As he grows more proficient in the act, he acquires a certain independence born of the knowledge that he can fend for himself, rig his tent and keep it dry; use an axe and cook his food. One camp leads to another and they change their form as experience grows. The standing camp, lasting a few days under expert guidance and an ordered programme, leads on to the time when he can be trusted to go off on his own account, or with a patrol to break new ground. Before getting this coveted badge, he will have learnt how to swim, gained proficiency in Signalling and be able to deal with a variety of accidents, including rescuing from drowning. Also, he must be a good Camp Cook, axeman and Map-reader. He must be able to judge distances and heights - a person who can improvise, a judge of weather, of a campsite, an entertainer - in fact, he must apply his knowledge gained at camp for the instruction of others.

(By: SPIDER.)

-x-x-x-

**ANOTHER SCOUTER'S TRAINING COURSE AT POTCHEFSTROOM.**

It would be great folly to think of writing this article without first and foremost making mention of the name of Revd. D. Bailey, Priest-in-Charge, Cyrene Mission, Potchefstroom. In him the Movement has found another strong supporter of our work. By his liberal offer it has been possible for D/P/S/C Revd. D.F. Sibeko, to supervise the vast Western Transvaal Pathfinder Scout district efficiently. I say efficiently,

because by his extensive travels with Mr. Bailey who takes him in his car free of charge, he has been able to contact all the Scouters in his district and encourage them to attend a Training Course which would benefit both themselves and the Youth whom they are training to be useful citizens of tomorrow.

This Training Course was held in the grounds of the Potchefstroom Bantu High School from Monday 5th. to Thursday 8th. October, 1942. The men travelled many many miles to come to this Course, and the Transvaal Pathfinder Scout Council in appreciation of the financial difficulties entailed, decided to vote a subsidy of 5/- per trainee attending for the complete duration of the Course. There were twenty-five trainees comprising 2 Scouters from Delareyville, 2 from Wolmaranstad, 1 from Venterspost, 9 from three local troops and the following boys of eighteen years of age to be tried out as A/P/S/Ms:- 4 Delareyville, 4 Klerksdorp, 2 Wolmaranstad and 1 Venterspost. These were divided into three patrols and named Lions, Tigers and Wolves. On the Camp Staff were the O.C.C. Mr. N.S. Mokgako and Quartermaster and Lecturer, Revd. D.F. Sibeko. Apologies for absence were received from Scouters at Fochville and Bloemhof.

The Course was run on the Patrol System with the exception of the cooking which was done in patrol turns in the School's Domestic Science Classroom. A separate classroom was provided for sleeping purposes. There was an inspection of kit, site, kitchen and uniform at 9.30 A.M daily on an inter-patrol competitive basis. Marks were also given for general smartness throughout the day and patrol campfire items. The winning patrol was the Tigers. Flagbreak, prayers and announcements took place at 10.00 A.M. There were three periods of instruction each day and the afternoon programme was varied with games, discussions and singsong practices. The major part of instruction was based on Troop Organisation and Management and supplemented with hints to Scoutmasters on how to interest boys in Second Class Test work. Half hour discussions took place round the campfire on Cubbing and Rovering. Revd. Bailey addressed a large gathering of parents and boys and girls at our last campfire on Wednesday night which was arranged as a public entertainment and closed as late as 11.30 P.M.

A special feature of the Course was a Rally on the last day prior to the break-up of camp of about 200 boys in the three local troops who challenged the campers (these formed one troop) on an inter-troop competition on Scout displays, marching and singing. The boys were simply thrilled and besides the Camp Staff, even the onlookers highly appreciated the fine spirit of the men - how they set aside Teachers' status and became 'very, very young and very, very jolly and quite unashamed of the fact.' The Rally dismissed at 5 P.M. to the singing of Nkosi Sikelol, i Afrika and God Save The King and the lowering of the National Colours.

The four days of the Course were crowded, but the men enjoyed the time. A fine atmosphere of cheerfulness and laughter pervaded the camp. The Council is thanked for having made it possible to hold this Course as we are sure the attendants got an insight into the ways and means of Pathfinder Scouting. We now look forward to receiving good results in the near future of this training, but, as difficulties of either finding time for this work or other sorts will generally arise, let not one Scouter give in, bearing in mind what Baron H.M. Von Rapacki-Warnia, late Divisional P/F. Orange Free State, said:-

"Men, we all of us give our own time to do this work, we want to give the youngsters something that neither school nor parents' home can give them, so let us do this voluntary work, as it should be done, well and with a glad spirit. Ideal work is

"seldom paid for, often meets with adversities, but it gives that satisfying feeling - I am no drone, I work, I help."

(By:- Pop.)

C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S !!!

All members of the Pathfinder Boy Scouts Association have read in the papers the honour which has fallen to

SERGT. REUBEN MOLOI  
(late S/M of 1st. Western Native Township Troop, Johannesburg).

He is the first Pathfinder Scoutmaster to receive a medal for conspicuous bravery while on Active Service with the Eighth Army up North. We all congratulate him, and he has set a fine example to all the Non-European soldiers who have joined up.

The Transvaal Pathfinder Scout Council have written a letter of congratulation to him on behalf of the Movement. Sergt. Moloi has proved what Pathfinder Scouting stands for - that is, service to all irrespective of race or colour. Such an example of bravery will do much to help the Movement and bring about the recognition that all men are equal in relation to each other.

Bravo, bravo, bravissimo, Sergt. Moloi !

(The Editors)

THE  
EDITOR'S POSTBAG

The Editors have received the following greetings from a pioneer in the Middle East:-

"Dear Sir,

May I in your columns wish scoutingly, you all in the Movement the Happiest and Most Enjoyable Xmas and New Year on behalf of all the successors of the present victory in the Middle East.

Thanks. Yours scoutingly,  
Cpl. Johnson Sophazi. "

The Editors have also received this communication from Delmas:-

"Dear Editors,

This is to inform you of a sad incident but with a valuable teaching on our Scout law of Obedience, which the 1st. Delmas troop recently experienced. Two of our best boys, NOEL A. MSIPHA, aged 18, ex member of the 1st. Springs P/S Group, and MOSES M. MASOMBUKA, aged 14, ex member of the 1st. Benoni P/S Group, were fatally struck by lightning while walking to a relative's place in Delmas to deliver a message from parents. I believe, by their keen sense of obedience, they preferred to brave the severe lightning to disappointing their parents with an excuse for not having done what they were told. We are proud of their example and our sympathy goes to their parents in their sad bereavement.

It was thought wise to ask for the inclusion of this letter in your Gazette, which in copying George Goch, will be more convenient to keep as a lasting record.

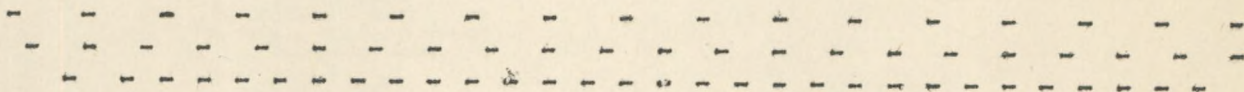
Yours scoutingly,  
Phillip Rapedile.



The flames that from the Campfire rise,  
With darkness spreading round,  
Have lit in you  
A spirit true  
Which will not fade with time.

Love, courage, honour, purity  
Are what this Spirit means.  
We try our best, and our ideals  
We ever strive to gain.  
The P.F. Scouts expect you, too,  
To seek the life divine.  
Let nothing halt you in your path  
Towards this goal sublime !

Seaweed.



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