

B12

BANTU MEN'S SOCIAL CENTRE.

P.O.Box 4767,
JOHANNESBURG.
Phone 33-8110.

223, Eloff St.,
JOHANNESBURG.

PATRON-IN-CHIEF.

His Excellency, The Governor-General of the Union of South Africa;
The Right Honourable Sir Patrick Duncan, G.C.M.G., K.C.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

PRESIDENT.

Rev. Dr Ray. E. Phillips, Ph.D.

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

Mr H. Britten.....Mr S.P. Mqubuli

HONORARY TREASURER:

Mr James Montague Pim.

SECRETARY:

Mr J.R. Rathebe (on active service)

ASSISTANT SECRETARY:

Mr Julius G. Malie.

PHYSICAL DIRECTOR:

Mr A.P. Khutlang.

MEMBERS.

Mr W.G. Ballinger, Mr P.J. Bennett, Mr A. Bovet, Mr P.S.M. Dabula,
Councillor A. Immink, Senator the Hon. J.D. Rheinallt Jones, Mr L.C.
Koza, Mr E.W. Lowe, Mr B.W. Martin, Mr T.B. Mdaniso, Mr G. Motsieloa,
Mr A.K. Nobanda, Mr L.M. Povall, Mr S.G. Senoane, Mr C.N. Setlogelo,
Rev. Dr James Dexter Taylor, Mr G. Xorile.

TRUSTEES:

- (1) Mr Walter Webber, (2) Rev. Dr J. Dexter Taylor, D.D.
(3) Professor R.F.A. Hoernle, M.A., B.Sc. (Oxon).

FORMER TRUSTEES:

- (1) Rev. Dr F.B. Bridgman, D.D. (Deceased), (2) Mr H.M. Taberer (Deceased),
(3) Mr Howard Pim, M.A., C.B.E. (Deceased).

ANNUAL REPORT. 1940

It is gratifying to observe that the Bantu Men's Social Centre has kept up its usefulness as an Institution of Cultural, Social and Recreational activities for African men in the City, inspite of/..

of the intervention of the war. It is well, however, to observe that the Centre, like all other bodies depending on the public for their existence, has suffered certain reverses owing to there being a drop in contributions. We owe those members of the public who, notwithstanding the sacrifices they have made, and are still making towards the Allied cause in the present war, a debt of gratitude for continuing their gifts to the Institution.

In other matters, Social, Educational, and Sporting at the Centre, the year under review has been a full one. It is here that men working in the city, in their various capacities; as miners, teachers, Ministers of Religion, ordinary workers and students come to enjoy themselves in a spirit of good fellowship.

All indications in the field of social work point to the necessity for establishing more such places. We sincerely hope that it will be possible, in the future, to make bigger efforts for the provision of clubs wherever these do not exist, not only for men and women; but for boys and girls alike.

GAMES.

The Bantu Men's Social Centre is probably the only place open to Africans, where the membership has a large range of indoor activities from which to choose. Of the many indoor games, Billiards has proved to be the most popular. For hours on end, members play this game with real interest, and even with something approaching mastery. "Chinker Chech", a new arrival in the large collection of games at the Centre, has a fair share of enthusiastic players, whilst Chess, Draughts and Table Tennis are games still confined to a small group of what members call the "Aces". During the year we have played matches in Draughts against other teams, in Johannesburg and outside. At all times our players have not failed to show their understanding of the game.

MEETINGS AND SOCIAL FUNCTIONS.

Because of its size and situation, the Bantu Men's Social Centre has always been the venue for meetings, social gatherings and conferences by various organisations. It is here that Welcome Receptions are held in honour of Africans who have distinguished themselves in the field of education, of social work and in other spheres of learning. It is here also, where members hold their wedding receptions.

Among the African organisations that have used the Centre, throughout the year, for meetings and social functions are the African Iron and Steel Workers Union, the African Metal Workers Union, the African Domestic Workers League, the African People's Theatre, the African Furniture Workers Union, the African tin Workers Union, the African Laundry Workers Union the African Trade Union Co-Ordinating Committee, the Coloured Rugby Union, the Dubula Dancing Association, the Interdenominational African Ministers Association, the Joint Council of Africans and Europeans, the Jazz Maniacs Band, the Jane Furse Memorial Hospital Fund Committee, the Lemana Training College, the Motor Drivers Union, the Merry Black Birds Band, the Orlando Mothers Union, the Paladins, the Pitch Black Follies, the Rand Leases Sports Club, the Rand African Students Association, the Sons of Basutoland Association, the Self Help Club, the Synco Fans, the Transvaal African Rugby Union, and a number of other organisations which found their beginning under the
Roof/..

roof of the Institution.

Whilst the Centre has played host to the many bodies that have come here for their social, recreational and educational business, it has also had the needs of its members to attend to. There has been a regular programme of activities for members throughout the year.

VOLLEY BALL.

Between the hours of 12 noon and 1 p.m. members have gathered in the Gymnasium to play at Volley Ball. This is a game that has never lost its interest for members. It is a game in which old and young find equal enjoyment and exercise. Matches, between members and invited guests have been played and great fun was derived at all times by the players.

MUSICAL INSTRUCTION.

Whilst games have been played in the Gymnasium and in the Billiards Room, in another part of the building, budding pianists have had their first lessons out of Smallwoods Book for Beginners. In steady but persistent monotony they thumped at the key boards, with uncertain fingers and yearning hearts. Yes! They are determined to learn.

GUEST NIGHTS.

The last Friday evening of each month is a night of special attraction for members of the Centre and their friends. On these occasions, members gather at the Centre to enjoy a programme of games, singing; sometimes a bioscope film is shown and there is always a short dance. For the bioscope films that it has been our good fortune to see, we have to thank Dr Ray Phillips who made it possible to secure them.

GAMMA SIGMA CLUBS.

It is perhaps not an exaggeration to say that a very few African organisations last for a long time. The reason for this is because of the apathy that sets in among the membership when the novelty of the thing has worn off. Whilst this is true of the generality of African organisations, the Gamma Sigma Clubs have been an exception in their regularity and their educational value.

There are twenty-two of these clubs, spread all over the Reef, membership of which consists of men and women. The various clubs arrange debates between themselves and sometimes there are lectures on different subjects of interest, by prominent people.

The biggest feature of the club year was the inter-club debating competition for the "Umtoteli" Debating Trophy. The subject for debate was the vexed question of the incorporation of the Protectorates into the Union of South Africa. The debaters were good, and showed remarkable understanding of the subject on which they spoke. Finalists were the Orlando Gamma Sigma Club, represented by Messrs I.H. Rathebe, S. Mota and G.R. Kuzwayo, and the Roodepoort Gamma Sigma Club represented by Messrs M' Cwabeni, E.B.S. Msimang and A.L. Molefe. The debate took place at the Bantu Men's Social Centre in the presence of a fairly large gathering. The decision fell to the Orlando club whose debaters were outstanding.

BOXING/...

BOXING.

As in previous years, boxing at the Centre has been a regular feature whose interest does not seem to diminish.

During the year, the Transvaal Non-European Amateur Boxing Association staged several tournaments one of which was inter-provincial. At all times the boxing skill of the boys was heartily applauded by the spectators who have never failed to come in large numbers to these tournaments. In November, last, the association staged two tournaments in aid of the Navy League

The preparation of the boys for the "glove game" is a full time occupation. Every night, in the Gymnasium, the boys go through their paces, under the supervision of their capable instructors. They do physical jerks, sparr with each other hit the punch bag and do a lot of road work. Their muscular development is so rapid that they are themselves surprised. After intensive exercise they go under showers which are provided for their use.

TENNIS.

Matters concerning tennis are dealt with by a tennis committee, elected from amongst members of the Centre, annually. Members of the committee for the year 1940 were Messrs S.Msweli (Chairman); G.Xorile (Vice-Chairman); A.Khutlang (Captain); A.J.Mokhothu (Vice-Captain); D.Makoe, H.Jajbhay and C.N.Setlogelo.

The Centre played a number of competitions with other teams during the year. There were matches against the Pimville Lawn Tennis Club, Kilnerton Institution, the Bloemfontein Bantu Social Institute and others. Some matches for the Transvaal Open Tennis Championships have been played on the Centre's tennis courts and these moments were of real joy to players and spectators alike; for the best non-European players were in action.

Another interesting event was the B.M.S.C. Men's Doubles and Singles Championships which attracted a lot of attention. This is an annual event and players have to compete for the Chamber of Mines Trophy and the Jajbhay Brothers Trophy. The winners in the Doubles event were Messrs Julius Mathibe and Matthew Kambule, and in the Singles, Mr Hoosen Jajbhay.

AN ORCHESTRAL CONCERT.

Members were entertained to an Orchestral Concert on the 20th June, 1940, by kind consent of Mr John Connell (City Organist) who conducted the Orchestra of some thirty players. The concert which was held under the joint auspices of the Johannesburg Non-European and Native Affairs Department, the Bantu Men's Social Centre and the Gamma Sigma Clubs, was attended by two hundred Africans who do not, up to this day, forget the beauty of it. In addition to a fine instrumental programme, solos were sung by Miss Margaret Roux and Mr Ezekiel Mogale.

VISIT OF BANTU SOCIAL INSTITUTE.

The Centre was visited during the year by Mr A.N.Sefothlelo, Secretary of the Bloemfontein Bantu Social Institute who had come to study our methods of organisation. Mr Sefothlelo, when he got home to Bloemfontein, wrote to the Centre expressing his gratitude for all that was done for him. In his letter he also requested the Centre to send a team to Bloemfontein to play his Institution in tennis, table tennis, chess and draughts.

This/..

This was agreed to and a team left the Centre for Bloemfontein. Those who went spoke highly of the hospitality of the people of Bloemfontein and of the Bantu Social Institute in particular.

Not long after the return of our players, a challenge was sent by the Bloemfontein Bantu Social Institute to the Centre, for a return visit. As the result, the biggest sports festival was held at the Centre, beginning on the 5th till the 7th October. There were matches in Billiards, Chess, Draughts, Tennis and Table Tennis. The games were most interesting and the knowledge displayed was a revelation. At the end of the third day, when the scores were counted, it was found that the Centre was leading by a big margin. A debate was also arranged between the Orlando Gamma Sigma Club and the B.S.I; the subject being: "Have the Africans benefited by accepting Christianity" The Orlando Gamma Sigma Club won the debate; taking the affirmation of the question.

During their stay in the city, the visitors were shown round many places of interest. They were taken to Thalitha Home, the Lungalegwaba Lads Hostel, the Beer Halls and the Hostels. In the evening they were taken on sightseeing tours to such places as the Zoo Lake, Munro Drive and other interesting places.

For the touring arrangements in connection with the visit of the B.S.I. we wish to thank Messrs G.Xorile, A.K.Nobanda, T.B.Mdaniso, C.N.Setlogelo, P.Dabula, L.C.Koza, A.J.Mokhothu, and H.Jajbhay. The latter was kind enough to place at the disposal of the Entertainment Committee his car to convey the visitors.

THE MUNICIPAL NON-EUROPEAN LIBRARY.

The Non-European Library at the Bantu Men's Social Centre is rendering a real service to an increasing number of readers. At present the membership is well over a thousand, the majority of whom are Africans. About 40 per cent of the membership of the Centre use the Library for reading purposes. The stock totals over 3, 000 books, and there are a number of wellknown periodicals from the Union and Overseas. All Bantu Newspapers are on file. There is reserve shelf of reference books for special use by the students of the Jan H.Hofmeyr School of Social Work. Books, not on the shelves are obtained from the City Librarian. There is now a Children's section which shows signs of rapid growth. External students, working for their university degrees find the Library of great use to them.

We wish to thank the City Council for the Library Service at the Centre and hope that it will be possible to establish more Libraries where there are none at present.

THE JAN H. HOFMEYR SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK.

For many years, people concerned with the management of African affairs, have talked about the training of Africans to do social work among their own people. To-day, there is such a school.

The Jan H.Hofmeyr School of Social Work opened here on the 15th January, 1941 with a class of twenty-seven students, men and women, from different parts of the country.

Classes begin with Devotions at 8.30 a.m. and continue until 1 p.m., when the students are served with lunch along with members/...

members of the Centre. The students receive lectures on Sociology, Christian Social Teachings, Dramatics, Careers and Social Agencies, South African Economics, Social Legislation, Physical Education, Arts and Crafts. The course will be of two years duration. Already students are showing understanding and interest in their work. The Director of the school is Dr Ray Phillips who also lectures on Sociology.

We have every hope and confidence that the school will fulfill a long felt desire and will be of considerable assistance in training Africans so as to help solve many of the social problems of to-day.

MR J.R.RATHEBE.

When the Union Government decided to train Africans for war services, many responded to the call. The Y.M.C.A. requested the Executive Committee of the Bantu Men's Social Centre to release one of the secretaries of the Centre to assist with the work undertaken by the Y.M.C.A. in the various camps. Consequently Mr J.R.Rathebe, Secretary of the Centre was released for this valuable service. Mr Rathebe has been away from his duties at the Centre since September, 1940. In order to keep the work at the Centre going on, an additional person, Mr T.B.Mdaniso, has been employed in a temporary capacity.

The willingness of the Executive Committee to second Mr Rathebe for Y.M.C.A. work is part of the general response that Africans, throughout the Union, have given to the call of duty. It is just another demonstration of the desire of the African people to co-operate in the defence of Democracy. Mr Rathebe is doing yeoman service, and, on behalf of members of the Centre and the Executive Committee, we wish him "God-Speed". We are looking forward to the end of hostilities when he will again join us.

Doing Y.M.C.A. work also, in the various camps are many of our members. They are Messrs Herbert Makhothe, Elias Moletsane, Arthur Zibi, John Kutumela, Phillip Radithlalo, S.Kaba, Stephen Mhile, Alexander and Johannes Mathobela, Edward Setoaba. We need hardly say how proud we are of these members. May they fare well and come to us again at the end of the war.

THEY'RE IN THE ARMY NOW.

Among the many African regiments, are some of our members who, in the short time that they have been in the Army, are doing well. They are Messrs Benjamin Magagane (Corporal), J.Dhlamini (Sergeant), Joseph Zuma, David Mashupye (Sergeant), Simon Sekgapane (Corporal), Moses Ramailane, Mark Radebe, Knox Gaika (Lance/Corporal), S.Poonyane (Sergeant), Tommy Xaba (Corporal) and others. To all these men we say: "Godspeed, Good Luck and Safe Return!

MRS BRIDGMAN.

The departure of Mrs C.D.Bridgman for overseas has been a much regretted loss to many African people with whom she was associated, in the course of her social work in Johannesburg. It was with mixed feelings that we bade her Bon Voyage, at a farewell given in her honour at the Bantu Men's Social Centre, on Wednesday 8th May, 1940. Memories of her and the good work she did will ever linger in our minds.

OBITUARY.

Death removed from our midst, on April, 18th, 1940 Mr Earle Taylor/...

Taylor, son of the Rev. Dr Dexter Taylor. Mr Earle Taylor was for many years associated with the Centre; first as film operator in the days when the Censoring and Dispatch Depot was situated here, and later, as instructor in the St. John's Ambulance Brigade. On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Centre and the members, we extend our heart-felt sympathies to his young widow and to Dr and Mrs Taylor.

Mr James Albert Mosala passed quietly at the home of his brother, Mr Marks Mosala on the 21st March, 1940. "Jimmy", as he was popularly known among the members of the Centre was associated with the Institution almost from its inception. He was one of the "star" tennis players and highly respected for his goodnaturedness. Our sympathies go to his family.

Another of our members, Mr James Dean died as the result of a motor accident. We extend our sincere sympathies with those he leaves behind.

THANKS.

It behoves use at this stage, to say a word of thanks to the firm of Messrs Howard Pim and Hardy, particularly our Hon. Treasurer, Mr James Montague Pim who inspite of additional work imposed upon him due to some members of the staff going on active service, has spared some of his time to attend to the books of the Centre.

MEMBERSHIP.

This year, the membership of the Centre has decreased considerably. There are about two hundred members who have not, for some reason or other, renewed their membership. The figures given below reflect the position:-

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>ON ROLL</u>	<u>ACTIVE</u>	<u>JUNIORS</u>	<u>LIFE</u>
1939	530	435	14	3
1940	543	321	35	3

The figures, in regard to the adult membership indicate a decrease of 114 over last year's active membership. Whilst we do not regard this position as satisfactory, we may state here that the advent of the war has, perhaps, contributed, to some extent, to the failure of members to renew.

For those who may desire to become members of the Centre we publish hereunder the classes of membership that are available:

- (a) Life Membership--Fee £5 (b) Ordinary Membership--Fee 10/- per annum; (c) Country Membership--Fee 5/- per annum (this refers to persons living outside the Magisterial District of Johannesburg.); Junion Membership (bona fide scholars attending an approved school or college)--Fee 2s 6d per annum.

African men and youths visiting Johannesburg for short periods may become Visiting Members on payment of 1s. which entitles them to a month's membership.

GENERAL.

Whilst the year under review has not been particularly full/...

full of events, the Centre has been keeping up its normal flow of visitors from many parts of the country. Members continue to make use of the facilities provided, and the lunch hour meal service continues to provide for many.

In our last report we mentioned a bequest to the Institution of a large sum of money by the late Mrs Lighthome. Many discussions have taken place as to how the money should be spent. It has now been decided that a portion of it should be used for improvements and extensions to the present building. Plans are proceeding in this direction, and, it is hoped, that by the end of 1941 the work will have been completed.

RAY.E.PHILLIPS (CHAIRMAN)
JULIUS G.MALIE (ACT. SECRETARY.)

BANTU MEN'S SOCIAL CENTRE

DR.	EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER. 1940.						CR.
To Salaries and Wages	750	9	9	By Membership Fees	147	3	6
" Water, Light and Sanitary Fees	177	9	8	" Subscriptions and Donations	416	6	5
" Games	101	11	10	" Native Recruiting Corporation Limited	300	0	0
" Insurance	34	17	6	" Board of Control - Deferred Pay Interest Fund - Grant	50	0	0
" Clerical Assistance	43	2	6	" Sundry Revenue:			
" Postage, Stationery, Telephones, Bank Charges and Sundry Expenses	331	19	5	Hire of Hall	159	5	6
" Secretary's Car Allowance (January - August)	42	10	0	Locker Rents	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>
" Loss on Kitchen and Catering:				" Interest Received	32	4	0
Expenditure	842	2	6	" Balance - Excess of Expenditure over Revenue, transferred to Accumulated Funds	506	6	0
Less Revenue	<u>820</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>				
" Depreciation of Furniture and Equipment	108	6	9				
	<u>£1612</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11</u>				
					<u>£1612</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11</u>

BANTU MEN'S SOCIAL CENTRE

1940.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS.

African Consolidated Films, Ltd.	£25	5	0			
<u>Less</u> Handed over to Bantu Sports Club and Pathfinders	<u>17</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>	8	15	0
African Explosives and Industries, Ltd.				25	0	0
African Guarantee and Indemnity Co. Ltd.				1	1	0
African Metal Trade Union				1	1	0
Aiken and Carter, Alex.				10	0	0
Anglo-American Corporation of South Africa, Ltd.				10	10	0
Anglo-Transvaal Consolidated Investment Co. Ltd.				3	3	0
Anstey, Ltd., Norman				2	2	0
Barrow (Pty) Ltd., John				1	1	0
Brick and Potteries Co., Ltd.				2	2	0
Castle Wine and Brandy Co. Ltd.				1	1	0
Central Mining - Rand Mines Group				50	0	0
Central News Agency, Ltd.				5	0	0
Christian Brothers College O.B.U.				2	2	0
Cleghorn's				1	1	0
Connolly Ltd., T. & F.				1	1	0
Denver Machinery Co., Ltd.				1	1	0
Dunlop South Africa, Ltd.				1	1	0
Efans & Co., Herbert				2	2	0
Fraser & Chalmers (S.A.) Ltd.				2	2	0
Gemmill, W.				2	2	0
General Mining and Finance Corporation, Ltd.				15	0	0
Green and Morison, Ltd., E.K.				1	1	0
Griffin, T.F.				1	1	0
Hayman, Godfrey and Sanderson				1	1	0
Henwood, Son, Soutter and Co., P.				2	2	0
Hillman Bros., Ltd.				1	1	0
Hunt, Leuchars and Hepburn, Ltd.				5	5	0

Johannesburg, City Council of	50	0	0
Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Co. Ltd. (Barnato) Group of Mines	50	0	0
Jooste and Bryant, Ltd.	2	2	0
Machine Tools (Pty) Ltd.	1	1	0
Mackenzie, Geo.	1	1	0
McGregor and Co., Helen	1	1	0
New Consolidated Goldfields, Ltd.	20	0	0
Phoenix Assurance Co. Ltd.	4	12	11
Prices (S.A.) Ltd.	1	1	0
Pim & Hardy, Howard, Clerical Assistance	43	2	6
Ramsbottom, Mr. Justice W.H.	1	1	0
Rand Daily Mails, Ltd.	5	0	0
Rand Provident Building Society	2	2	0
Randles, Br. and Hudson, Ltd.	1	1	0
Shell Company of South Africa, Ltd.	1	1	0
Sive Bros. and Karnovsky, Ltd.	1	1	0
Smith, James	5	0	0
Solomon, Mr. Justice Saul	3	3	0
South British Insurance Co. Ltd.	2	2	0
Star, The	5	5	0
Stewarts and Lloyds of South Africa, Ltd.	2	2	0
Stevenson, J.H.	2	2	0
Stuttaford and Co. Ltd.	2	2	0
Sunday Times Syndicate, Ltd.	5	0	0
Thompson (Pty) Ltd., James	1	1	0
Thrupp and Co.	1	1	0
Troughton, J.J.	1	1	0
Union Corporation, Ltd.	25	0	0
Union Flour Mills, Ltd.	1	1	0
Victoria Falls and Transvaal Power Co. Ltd.	15	0	0
	<u>£416</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I do hereby bequeath by way of legacy to the BANTU MEN'S SOCIAL CENTRE, Johannesburg, the sum of £....., which amount I direct shall be paid to such Institution

or

"for such purpose or purposes as the Executive Committee thereof may in its discretion decide."

Signature.....

Date.....

As Witnesses:-

1.....

2.....

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or

"for such purpose or purposes as the Executive Committee thereof may in its discretion decide."

Signature.....

Date.....

As Witnesses:-

1.....

2.....

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