

Historical Background.

The founder of this Zenzele Club is Mrs. F. Ndimande. From a small nucleus of eight women, who were anxious to achieve the goal of self-help, she developed the movement to its present size. She, together with this small band of interested women of the African race, carried the torch of light so high up that other women saw in the Zenzele the way to ultimate independence.

Rallying around her, the Witbank Zenzele Club, was formed by this gallant daughter of Africa on 3rd. July, 1948.

MEMBERSHIP.

The membership of the Zenzele Club in Witbank has grown from eight, as has already been mentioned, to a total of twenty-four (24). Of this number eighteen are active memberships. Membership fees are sixpence (6d) per month.

MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE.

On a whole the attendance of members at meetings, which are held in the homes of members every alternate Saturday, has been most encouraging. At Minnaar, where we have a branch of this Club, meetings are held in the same way, every alternate Wednesday. The attendance there too is good.

ACTIVITIES.

The activities of the Zenzele Club for the past year have been very numerous as well as varied. Among these the following of the activities of this Club can be mentioned:-

On one occasion, a "Cake Bazaar" was organised by the members of the club. The support of the public on this occasion was such that members of the public suggested that this be made a monthly affair. This was rejected, however, on the grounds that the Club was not a money making society.

On other occasions, members of both the Witbank and Minnaar clubs have demonstrated the making of scones with sour milk, biscuits and even home-made condensed milk; and in an Arts & Crafts Demonstration members learnt to make brooches and ear-rings from otherwise useless things.

A practice which has been adopted here and one which has popularised the Zenzele movement, is the practice of every member bringing with her to club some ingredient to be used in the cookery demonstrations. Sight must not be lost also of the fact that at meetings, hostesses have been most willing to serve their fellow-members with refreshments, and often at very great inconvenience to themselves.

At this exhibition, are shown some of the very numerous things that have become about as a result of the enthusiasm of our members.

THANKS.

The Witbank Zenzele Club together with its Minnaar branch is greatly indebted to our President for her part in the formation of and the building up of this movement which is proving so useful in making our lives so full and so worth while.

We are grateful also to Mrs. Xuma for her inspiration and very wise guidance. We are grateful to her for her untinted faith in the ultimate independence of Africans and particularly the faith she has displayed in the total independence of the Womanhood of this continent.

We are indebted also to our membership for their unflinching support. In thanking them, we are to plead with them to remain as united, as sympathetic, as diligent, as sacrificing as they have always been. We urge them to lift yet higher the torch of light, and to sing wherever they go to sing the praises of ZENZELE.

ZENZELE CLUB.

undated.

Lady - chair, guests and friends I have the honour to present the report of the Johannesburg Zenzele Club.

The general meetings of the Zenzele Club are held fortnightly at the various homes of the members in circulation.

The main advantage of this is that members gain fresh ideas about catering, interior decoration and arrangement in the limited accommodation provided in urban homes, and the average attendance this year is 75%.

We are happy to report a decided improvement on the practical side of our club work.

We have had sixteen meetings comprising mostly of demonstrations. On embroidery work, baking, a loaf nut bread, light rolls, Icing a wedding cake, pickles, making of ear rings and broaches, flower arrangement, patched work, children's toys and unfermented juices.

At the first Executive meeting this year, it was decided after the articles agreed on as exhibits that Refresher courses be held where demonstrations and explicit knowledge should be made available.

The first Refresher Course was in Germiston in January and the following were demonstrated: 1. Dried Peaches, 2. Canning of Tomatoes, 3. Unfermented juices, 4. Kraut.

The second Refresher Course was in July again at Germiston and the following were demonstrated: 1. Wedding Cake, 2. Apple Tart 3. Grape Jelly 4. Nut Loaf Bread 5. Fruit Salads.

The third Refresher Course held at Orlando in September, the following demonstrations were made: 1. Plain Cake and Swiss Roll, 2. Pickled Onions, 3. Orange Juice and Canning of peas, 4. Arrangement of flowers for a wedding table and a dining-room table.

In July a Grand Variety Concert was staged at the B.M.S.C.. Its main purpose was to raise funds for the Christmas Dinner Party, that we usually hold to wind up our yearly programme. One of the most enjoyable items on Christmas party function is the mutual exchange of presents between the members of Zenzele family.

We feel obliged to make special mention of Mrs. Pama of Alexander Township one of the members who made a Silver Tea at her home to swell the funds earmarked for the Christmas Dinner. *we realized £2.10.3.*

In August a local show was held at Crown Mines at which all the finished articles were assembled, checked in order to obtain a fair estimate of the volume and quality of the work for the general show.

The last Executive Meeting on the 7th September was to make general agreements for the annual show; and to select adjudicators to decide on the date appointed.

used. Last, but not least we are much indebted to our organiser Mrs. Xuma who her holiday overseas, not just for personal recreations, but for the benefit of the club in contacting various organisations in America to collect the very latest ideas on the artistic side of House-Craft etc., etc..

Undated

Our zenzele programme, provides for a mothers Day, that is planned for the 2nd Sunday in May every year. The main objective for the observance of this particular day, is to draw the attention of african women to the dignity and importance of a mother in the social circle.

Owing to the tragic train smash that occurred in April the mothers day service, had to be shelved. as it was already planned to be at Evator.

Earlier in my report I mentioned a decided improvement in the club work. Two new branches Witbank and Germiston affiliated to the mother Body last year. You will note from their reports that they have been active. We may safely prophesy more branches coming in the very near future.

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