THE NORTHERN ZOUTFLANSBERG PALEONDER RALLY.

A very successful annual Rally of all the Pathfinders of the Northern Transvaal was held at Shirley on the 19th October 1935. Some 290 Pathfinders including Trackers turned up. Mr Woodfield the D.F. inspected the troops including Trackers and was very pleased with the spirit and the appearance of the Troops.

The following is an extract from his letter to the P.P.O. after the Rally:

"I am very satisfied with the way the whole district has carried on during the past year and I enjoyed the obviously happy spirit of boys and Officers, and that is the sort of thing that makes the Movement worth while and it is only obtained by keen enthusiasm from the more senior Officers of the Movement passed on to the others..."

It was a very busy day for each troop worked hard in trying to get through the tests that were set for them. Meanwhile the Trophy, the J.E. Young Memorial, was floating at the parade ground awaiting its seizure by the winning Troop.

Singing, yelling, emcees displaying, signalling, weighing, judging, etc., were some of the things that were done that day. The evening was a Camp fire the wood of which was kindly provided for by the Pathfinders of Shirley and Rivolla. In the evening there were far too many people for one to be able to see what was going on as the boys narrated their folk stories etc., owing to pressing duties the D.F. could not stay for the Camp fire.

This rally was most successful owing to the generosity of Mr and Mrs Phillips who did all they could to make the boys and their Mothers feel as comfortable as possible. There was nothing lacking, on or off the bases killed for the boys. Potatoes and milk/mielies were provided, too. The tents served to the P/A and visitors many times during the day. Boys had free use of water in spite of the great demand in the tank and at the well. Sleeping accommodation both for good and bad weather was provided for.

And of course with all these arrangements everything went on smoothly and well.

Thanks are due to all who made this Rally a success. The winning troop was 1st Valdezia 17 points, 2nd Eliza came and with 16 pts, 1st Eliza had 12 pts.

Mombasa Large Shirley 6 pts, the other troops had few representatives.

All went home free from fresh and hungry.

Notice: A short training Course under D.P.O. Marivate will be held at Valdezia on Sunday November 5th commencing at 7.30 a.m. The training will give a start for the sort of thing that will be looked for at the next rally.

CONVERSATION BETWEEN A COUNTRY AND A TOWN BOYING MAN. (By Docanocc & Co Ltd.)

Subject: town versus country life.

Joa: "Hello Jim, how are you managing...?" Glia: "Look here don't call me Jim, my name is Glia!" Joa: "Ah! I wouldn't call myself by that name, it is a name given to the most illiterate, the most backward Shangrain living now!" Glia: "That's true, but I am a Miss Maria Game Reserve where lions feast on men daily, and..." Joa: "Stop, you are insulting me you spoiled child!" Glia: "And I was saying, and where there are no white men at all, no tea, no bread, no coffee, in short not anything except savages!" Joa: "Ha ha, you are right, it's no'thing of course you man, there is something. We are free and happy, but do not bother about money, about white loaves and about smokings, you dawdy, what do you imagine yourself to be?"

Joa: "I am a white man, shut up!" Glia: "You, of course internally you are a white man, but externally you are as black as jet poor fellow. I say internally because you have copied the wrong type of a white man, the type that lives at night and robs people for money. Today you and your fellow men make Johannesburg and Pretoria the finest places to live in, you live in fear for passes-by, you drink and fight that right, butcher one another for nothing. You take knives, bicycle chains, razors and what not.Why should you murder each other like that? Aren't you brothers? Where did you ever do this done in the land of my forefathers? A country is a safe place to live in, anybody may walk alone in the middle of the night without any harm at all. Wild animals are not so dangerous as you natives are your white men in your so called civilised areas. Town is not a safe place for one to walk alone in the dark, especially where there are no lights or where there are not many houses." Joa: "Look here I will fight you just now."

Glia: "Good life again reasserting itself, didn't I tell you just now that a man living in towns is very fond of fighting and killing and robbing etc.

Joa: "Yes."