

30,000 bulletins are issued annually, both to European and native employees. The posters for natives are generally in three native languages understood by the majority. Sometimes a graphic picture needs no wording. On many mines the boards are illuminated at night to attract special attention. Thousands of copies of extracts from mining regulations in English and African have been distributed to underground employees; numerous leaflets drawing attention to dangers, such as those due to falls of rock, mis-fires, truck accidents, septic injuries, etc., are issued periodically to both Europeans and natives. The safety movement beats the drum of warning all the time.

To encourage interest among workmen, a prize team sub-committee supervises inter-mine safety competitions. All producing gold mines on the Witwatersrand are divided into six classes. Certificates are presented to the winning mine in each class, prizes to the officials concerned, and a silver floating shield goes to the mine earning the largest number of marks of all the competitors. These competitions, which were inaugurated in 1915, have aroused great enthusiasm in the maintenance of low records. Since 1932 the basis of the competitions was changed, the accident casualty rate instead of the accident death rate being the guiding factor. Interesting experiments have recently been conducted at the instance of the committee with broadcasting safety messages to natives and with musical programs. The installation of microphones for addressing natives on safety and other topics is being found most useful.

The committee fully recognizes that a first aid man is almost invariably a careful man, since he realizes the consequences of accidents. Bearing this in mind, the committee encourages proficiency in first aid and ambulance work, and co-operates with the South African Red Cross Society. The phenomenal growth of the first aid movement on the Reef is largely due to this co-operation. In 1932 some 1,800 European mine employees made themselves proficient in first aid; over 7,650 certificates were issued to mine employees by the South African Red Cross Society during the last five years.

Great interest is always aroused by the ambulance competition. Elimination contests for surface and underground teams are held on the individual mines, and the winning teams go forward to the district competitions. For the purposes of these competitions, the Witwatersrand gold mines are divided into seven districts and the winners of the respective districts compete in the finals for the championships of the Witwatersrand. There is, in addition, a district competition held for the coal mines in the Transvaal. Cash prizes for the district competitions are provided by the prevention of accidents committee. First aid classes are conducted regularly on the individual mines, and although every official is by regulation compelled to possess a first aid certificate, a large number of other employees are taking up first aid.

The eagerness of natives to acquire a knowledge of first aid is truly remarkable. The native movement was inaugurated in 1920. Ten years ago, the number of natives who qualified yearly was under 2,000. Last year over 7,300 mine natives have made themselves proficient to render first aid. The total number of natives instructed in first aid since the inception of the movement, in 1920, is now well over 42,000. The extreme value of a knowledge of first aid acquired on these fields is recorded in frequent reports of excellent first aid work performed in the native kraals where their homes are located. Many of the natives who proceed home impart their first aid knowledge to folks in the kraal, and the work therefore becomes of a national character, the value of which is incalculable.

ADJOURNMENT

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL SAFETY CONGRESS NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL



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MONDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

October 2, 1933

The Paper and Pulp Section convened with G. E. Sanford, General Electric Company, Schenectady, N. Y., in the chair. Mr. Sanford, as a representative of the