

Pretoriana

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Time Marches On

THE PROBLEM OF THE PAST

EVERY town or city in South Africa has its historical associations which at the same time can be regarded as the reflection of our country's history as a whole. Towns and cities grow not as isolated phenomena on the veld, but as an integral part of the political, economic and social development of the country. To know the history of the founding of even a small little dorp, is to know and understand the growth and background of the district, which is again part of the structure of the whole country. The past is therefore closely interwoven with the present; it is part of the present and the people who live in these towns are undeniably part of the pattern of the sometimes unperceivable growth of things. The deliberate reconstruction of this past by a trained historian is an unenviable but necessary task. The individual's very thoughts, his outlook on life, his everyday activities which are uncontroversially to a great extent governed by these historically conditioned fundamental precepts are the very result of this unseen but deeply felt permeation of the past into the present and which again are the foundationstones of the future.

The preservation of those objects, buildings and documents which form the residue of the unseen past and which are again concrete reflections of a way of life that has become an irrevocable part of ourselves, is the task of every rightminded citizen of our country. But at present the to some extent remarkable history of some of our towns are being lost in the fight against economic necessity. The economic advancement of any town, which again may be regarded as a reflection of the economic development of the country, and as such thus forms part of what is known as present-day history, is unavoidable and inescapable. Old buildings must be torn down to make way for new ones, old files, documents and photos are destroyed so as to make room for new ones. The tendency of modern materialism is to look towards the future, not towards the past. The impression is gained that Man is doing his utmost to break the so-called "schackles of the past," but in trying to do so he is faced with the inevitable problem of finding some satisfactory basis on which to build towards the future.

This understandable tendency is a form of adolescent escapism which manifests itself in one or other of the many "-isms" of our problem-ridden world and which is not only destructive as far as historical material is concerned, but is also a reflection of the pseudo materialistic age we are passing through and which came as a result of the breakdown of the

idealistic intellectualism of the previous century with its unfortunate stress on the emotions and fed by a biased interpretation of the significance of the past. No wonder the late Henry Ford declaimed history as a lot of bunk!



*Time has wrought its changes but yet the past is ever present.
THE CAPE TOWN DOCKS FIFTY YEARS AGO.*

FALSE EMOTIONALISM

THE most probable reason why the late Henry Ford denounced the study of history in these no uncertain terms, is that the emotional content of the past is sometimes transposed into the present whereby history becomes a dangerous instrument in the hands of "popular" leaders of the day. "Doctored" history can become a vicious tool in the hands of unscrupulous "leaders" who ride the wave of popular sentiment. This tendency in Russia is only too well known to merit any further comment. **The resent outburst of teachers nearer home at a teachers congress must also be decried, while we must at the same time sound a warning note against the noticeable tendency of the newly established Historical Association, the establishment of which we in all sincerity welcomed, to over emotionalise its founding with the principal aim of winning popular public support.**

PRESERVE THE PAST

THE Association Old Pretoria was founded on the 22nd of March, 1948, with as principle aim the preservation of the past for the future of our city and district. This was as far as we know the only association of its kind at that time. A few years later a similar association was founded

in Bloemfontein while in the bigger and even older cities like Cape Town, Durban and others the policy followed was to forget the past as soon as possible. This at least is the impression gained as a result of the complacency with existing conditions experienced in these dormant centres.

The Association Old Pretoria felt that despite this complacency exhibited by these centres or perhaps because of this the necessity for the establishment of similar associations had become obvious and had therefore in the firm belief that its aims and ideals could be successfully echoed in other centres, sent out memoranda in which the establishment of such associations were urged. The reaction thusfar has been poor. Rustenburg however, set the example by establishing its own association while Mr. R. F. G. Bompas, Germiston's librarian, has taken the initiative in the formation of a Germiston Association. **In a circular sent out by Mr. Bompas, he maintains that through neglect, much of the city's historical material is being lost every day because there is no organisation in existence to preserve it. In connection with printed material, little has been published about Germiston. There is the very real danger that the origins and early history of the city will be forgotten unless steps are taken to preserve the records and documents of the older citizens.**

The Association Old Pretoria is anxious to get in touch with any local authority interested in the background of its or their town or city. The Association would be only too glad to supply them with the necessary information. It must however, be understood that though the Association Old Pretoria would welcome the establishment of similar associations in other centres, the Association Old Pretoria cannot at this stage undertake the organisation of such associations on a Union-wide scale. If the need is felt by the already established associations or by any to be established associations to be linked with a wider organisation, we would suggest that they contact the already mentioned Historical Association which has as one of its aims, the establishment of local study groups with a view to fostering the study and interest in local history.

EDITOR.

Van Glandslaagte na St. Helena.

DIE DAGBOEK

'n **P**AAR jaar gelede het die skrywer 'n aantal besonderhede oorgeneem uit 'n oorlogsdagboek wat opgestel was deur tans wyle dr. J. A. Valks, 'n bekende inwoner van die Hoofstad, wat op 17 Desember 1953 op Pretoria oorlede is.

Dr. Valks het die onderwys in die Hoofstad jare lank gedien en was o.m. hoof van die voormalige *Hogere Oost Eind School*. In sy besit was 'n oorlogsdagboek waarin kortliks besonderhede aangaande die jare 1899 tot en met 1901 vermeld is.

In 1899 het Valks as een van die lede van die Hollanderkorps na die oosgreens van die Republiek vertrek en aan die slag van Elandslaagte deelgeneem. In die dagboek is niks in verband met die slag vermeld nie, behalwe die feit dat die skrywer van die dagboek op 21 Oktober 1899 gevange geneem is. (1)

AAN BOORD

DIE volgende besonderhede, soos ontleen aan die dagboek, volg in beknopte vorm.

22 Oktober 1899: Na Ladysmith. Opgesluit in die burgerlike tronk.

23 Oktober 1899: Na Pietermaritzburg. Weer opgesluit in die burgerlike tronk.

Op 25 Oktober 1899 na Durban en aan boord van die *Putiala*, op 4 November aan boord van die *Penelope*. Vir die eerste keer is aan boord 'n godsdiensoefening gelei deur ds. Van der Lingen. Nadat op 8 November die hawelose toestand van die krygsgevangenes die aandag getrek het is op 13 November klerasie deur burgerlike persone gestuur en onder die krygsgevangenes verdeel. Op 19 November is verbied dat eetware die skip van die vaste wal bereik. Omstreeks daardie datum het Britse troepe, aan boord van die *Roslyn Castle*, aan wal gegaan.

19 Desember: Die krygsgevangene De Meillon het ontvlug. (2)

30 Desember: Die krygsgevangenes is van die *Penelope* aan boord van die transportskip *Masullia* oorgeplaas.

Op 5 Januarie het die krygsgevangenes petisies opgestel en vergaderinge gehou. Vyf dae later het oorplasing aan boord van die Britse skip *Catalonia* gevolg.

Op 3 Februarie 1900 het die krygsgevangenes aan die Kaap aan land gegaan en is hulle na *Proctor's Camp* oorgebring.

Op 25 April 1900 het inskeping aan boord van die *Bavaria* gevolg en op die aand van die volgende dag het hierdie skip na Sint-Helena vertrek.

DEADWOODKAMP

OP 1 Mei 1900 het die krygsgevangenes by die eiland aangekom en voorlopig aan boord gebly. Op 10 Mei 1900 is die „onrustige Uitlanders" onder die krygsgevangenes van boord gehaal. 'n Vermoeiende mars na die Deadwoodkamp het gevolg. Vervolgens is weekliks 200 krygsgevangenes, wat nog steeds aan boord van die transportskip was, na die kamp gestuur. Eindelik was ongeveer 2,000 krygsgevangenes in Deadwoodkamp aanwesig.

Op 13 Junie 1900 het Valks, in geselskap van kaptein De Wit Hamer⁽³⁾ 'n besoek aan Longwood en die graf van Napoleon gebring.

Op 4 Februarie 1901 het hy op parool uit die kamp gegaan om as oppasser en kok van kaptein De Witt Hamer te dien.

Ses dae later is die seun van ds. Goddefroy⁽⁴⁾, leraar van die Ned. Hervormde gemeente Pretoria, by sy tent deur 'n Britse skildwag doodgeskiet.

„OVERLOOPERS”

OP 20 Junie 1901 het oproerighede in die kamp ontstaan nadat 'n lys ontdek is van krygsgevangenes wat gewillig was om Britse onderdane te word. Die gevolg was dat 'n klein kamp vir „overloopers” ingerig is. Vyf dae later het die aantal „overloopers” 130 bedra. Onder hulle was geen Uitlanders nie.

Op 1 Julie 1901 is luitenant Beunk⁽⁵⁾, kommandant S. Eloff en adjudant J. Smidt en nog 18 ander gevangenes onder geleide na die fort bo Jamestown oorgebring.

7 Julie: 'n Deel van die Gloucestershire-regiment vertrek en is deur lede van die Wiltshire-regiment vervang. Hulle was jong soldaatjies van 16 tot 17 jaar oud. Nog tydens dieselfde maand is ontdek dat die sensors briewe vir krygsgevangenes in die poskantoor laat lê het.

Op 12 Augustus 1901 maak Valks melding van 'n drietal konserte wat op 8, 9 en 10 Augustus deur krygsgevangenes in die dorp aangebied is. 'n Ontvlugtingspoging, waarby 'n motorboot gebruik is, het aan die lig gekom en misluk.

Op 13 Augustus het die twee vlugtelingte voor die „Police Court” verskyn. Hulle is elkeen tot ses maande dwangarbeid of £11 boete veroordeel. Hierdie bedrag is onmiddellik in die kamp ingesamel. Volgens Valks het die persone geen straf vir hul ontvlugtingspoging gekry nie, maar wel vir die poging om die motorboot te steel en vir skadevergoeding in verband met die anker van die boot wat hulle gekap het. Die eiser was die konsul vir die Nederlande op die eiland, mnr. Williams.

Op 25 Augustus 1901 het Valks aangeteken dat op die vorige dag wapens e.d.m. in verband met skermoefeninge in gebruik geneem is. Die uitrusting was van Nederland afkomstig. 'n Skermvereniging is opgerig en binne 'n paar dae sou met oefen begin word.⁽⁶⁾

'N KONINGIN VERJAAR

OP die verjaarsdag van Koningin Wilhelmina van die Nederlande (31 Augustus 1901) was die klubgebou in die kamp versier. 'n Konsert het uitstekend geslaag. Krygsgevangenes van die mees uiteenlopende nasionaliteite het meegewerk sodat alles 'n sukses kon word. Een van die krygsgevangenes, mnr. Teengs, het die gelukwense namens die Afrikaners in die kamp aan die Koningin oorgebring. Die toespraak was besonder

hartlik en het, aldus die skrywer van die dagboek, heeltemal by die stemming van die feesaand gepas.

Op 15 September 1901 het Valks, as gevolg van 'n huiduitslag, vrywillig na die kamp teruggekeer. Op 1 November het hy sy hut in gebruik geneem waaraan hy twee maande gewerk het. Die verblyfplek was rondom met meelsakke beklee. Op die dak en aan die reënkant van die hut was blik en binne was die hut met militêre komberse beklee.

KAMPLEWE

OP dieselfde datum maak Valks weer melding van die moeilikhede in die kantoor van die sensor. In die loop van die tyd het daar, volgens hom, ongeveer 2,500 briewe verdwyn. Die saak sou voor die krygsraad kom en volgens Valks kon die beskuldigings nie weerlê word nie. Die beskuldigings is teen die sensors (drie) ingedien en 'n helper van die sensors het weer in die kamp teruggekeer. Hy sou silwergeld gesteel het.

Op 23 November 1901 is 'n skerm- en liggaamsoefeningvertoning vir die krygsgevangenes in die klubgebou gereël. Die organiseerders en deelnemers het baie sukses geoes.

Sewe dae later het dié persone wat vroeër na die fort bokant Jamestown gestuur is, in die kamp teruggekeer. Hulle is feestelik ontvang. In Oktober 1901 is 'n sportdag en konserte gereël ter ere van die twee Presidente van die Republieke. Die skermvereniging het ook meegewerk. Op 12 Oktober, dit was op 'n Saterdag, was daar 'n konsert. Die toneelstuk „Het Schaakprobleem,” geskryf deur 'n sekere Houtzagers, is opgevoer. Valks het in verband met die aankleding van die spelers gehelp. Op die laaste dag van Oktober 1901 het bekend geword dat die vonnis in sake die sensors uit Kaapstad aangekom het. Die outoriteite het beloof dat hulle daarop sou toesien dat iets dergeliks nie weer sou gebeur nie.

Die dagboek eindig met die mededeling dat op of omstreeks 3 Desember 1901 'n vyftigtal van die *overloopers* hulself bereidwillig verklaar het om teen die Republieke te gaan veg terwyl 125 hul dienste aangebied het om vrouekampe te gaan bewaak.

--- J. PLOEGER.

- (1) In die Buitengewone Staatskoerant (S.A. Republiek) van 18 November 1899 is 'n lys gepubliseer waarop die naam J. Valks verskyn. Dit moet wees J. A. Valks. In sy dagboek het dr. Valks op 3 Maart 1900 die naam van sy medegevangene Lindhout vermeld. Op die lys staan verkeerdelik S. P. Lindhorst, S. P. Lindhout was werksaam op die Departement van Openbare Werke.
- (2) Sy naam kom nie nie op die lys (kyk voetnoot 1) voor nie.
- (3) B. G. V. de Witt Hamer was voor die uitbreek van die oorlog o.m. Lid van die Tweede Volksraad. Hy was een van die organiseerders van die Hollanderkorps. Boudewijn Gerrit V. de Witt Hamer is op 12:2:1855 te Doesburg (Nederland) gebore en was later o.m. 'n offisier in die Nederlandse leër.
- (4) Dit was Marius J. Goddefroy. In die almanak van die Ned. Hervormde Kerk (jaargang 1946, bls. 41 e.v.) het dr. Valks oor hierdie voorval geskryf. Volgens daardie bydrae het die voorval op 9 Febr. 1901 plaasgevind. Goddefroy is op 12 Febr. 1901 begrawe. By die artikel is 'n foto van die begrafnis teenoor bls. 51.
- (5) J. Beunk; verkeerdelik beskryf as D. Beunk (kyk voetnoot 1).
- (6) Dr. Valks het 'n vooraanstaande rol in die skermvereniging „De Vrije Wapenbroeders” gespeel. Voor die uitbreek van die oorlog was hy 'n besondere aktiewe lid. Na sy terugkeer in Pretoria het hy 'n tydlang as instrukteur opgetree. Kyk o.m. „Pretoriana,” deel 1, nrs. 3 en 4, blss. 20 en 21. Meer besonderhede in die maandblad „Kommando” (Pretoria, deel IV, nr. 35, April 1953) n.l. „Die skermkuns in Transvaal” deur J. Ploeger.

PRETORIANERS

VAN WELEER

Tydens sy verblyf as Tydelike Argivaris in Europa vanaf September 1951 tot Junie 1954, het die skrywer etlike persone ontmoet wat op die een of ander wyse in vroeër dae met Pretoria verbonde was.

„VANNACHT droomde ik, dat ik weer op bezoek in Pretoria was, waar ik iemand ontmoette, die ik herkende van 1877, toen ek voor het eerst in Zuid-Afrika kwam” Die woorde is van Otto P. Koch, die oudste Pretorianer wat ek in Europa ontmoet het.

Hy sit by sy lessenaar in sy woning aan die Frederik Hendrik-plein in Den Haag en hy blaai deur de gedenkskrif oor sy lewe in Suid-Afrika wat hy pas ’n jaar tevore gedikteer het. Dit is September 1951. Met bewende hand onderteken hy die eksemplaar wat hy aan ons Argief skenk. Hy is reeds 92 jaar oud en op 23 Desember 1951 sou die aardse pad vir hom doodloop.

Op dié herfsmôre was hy nog in staat om my in die gees mee te voer na die Pretoria wat hy as jong man geken het toe Shepstone pas die Engelse vlag gehys het, die dorp van „rozenhagen en watervoren” waar by Otto Koch se aankoms juis ’n Engelse „band” op die Kerkplein musiek gemaak het en sy broer Johan Koch pas ’n winkel begin het. Dit was dié dae toe ’n vaatjie sement £6 gekos het en ’n luukse was wat weinige kon bekostig. Hy vertel hoe hy geelhoutvloere getimmer en sinkdakke help opslaan het vir Marthinus Franken, die boukontrakteur, en daarvan gedroom het om eendag self sulke huise te bou.

Maar sy weg het elders heen gelei: na Knoppieslaagte, die plaas van Gieljam Pretorius aan die Krugersdorp-Pretoriapad waar hy ’n winkeltjie begin het terwyl sy broers Egbert en Johan direkteure van die Zuid-Afrikaansche Handelsmaatschappij in Pretoria was (’n onderneming wat netsoos Otto s’n na 1881 doodgeloop het).

Sy *Wanderlust* het hom tweemaal na Europa gevoer, tot in Moskou en die Oeralgebergtes voordat hy een van die pioniers op die Witwatersrand geword het

Voor my sien ek sy waardige gestalte, wakker oë, puntbaardjie. Hy haal sy foto-albums uit; sewe stuks met netjies-gemonteerde foto’s van Pretoria, Johannesburg, die hawens van geheel Afrika, die mooiste tonele

van die Europa voor 1914. Ons was nie alleen nie. Die man wat my die môre na Otto Koch geneem het, was jonkheer dr. C. G. S. Sandberg, wie se loopbaan in Transvaal so ryk aan gebeure was dat hy daar 'n boek oor geskrywe het. Met belangstelling volg ek die gesprek tussen twee heel ou mense.

Sandberg was 85 jaar toe ek met hom in Den Haag kennisgemaak het. Van 1889 het hy Pretoria geken en met dr. Leyds intiem tot 1897 saamgetrek. Trouens, hulle is albei in Magelang, Java, gebore. Leyds in 1859, Sandberg in 1866. Hy was in Pretoria as adjudant van genl. Botha toe die Engelse magte in 1900 die stad genader het en is as een van drie persone deur genl. Botha op 2 Junie 1900 benoem om die stadsbestuur waar te neem. Sandberg het in die nag van 4 Junie 1900 as afgesant van genl. Botha lord Roberts persoonlik onder Engelse geleide gaan opsoek by Sesmyspruit en toe in die Pretoria-klub oornag. Hy was getuie van die intog op die volgende dag en is daarna van Sunnyside te perd ooswaarts.

Sy loopbaan het hy in 1943 in sy werk „Twintig Jaren onder Kruger's Boeren in Voor en Tegenspoed” beskrywe. Dit was my voorreg om dikwels met hom oor mense en dinge uit die ou dae te praat. Soos baie Hollanders wat vir die Boeresak veel feil gehad het, het hy in die Tweede Wêreldoorlog in Nederland op politieke gebied aan die „verkeerde” kant geraak en hy was nog op 81-jarige leeftyd 'n politieke gevangene.

Steeds was dit sy droom om Suid-Afrika weer te sien. Hy was nog Suid-Afrikaanse burger en het van die Unie-regering as oud-amptenaar van die S.A. Republiek 'n pensioen ontvang. Met die hulp van sy vriende die jong Afrikaners van ons Ambassade in Den Haag, is sy papiere in orde gebring en kon hy in Desember 1952 na Suid-Afrika reis. Dit was die grootste vreugde van sy oudag. Hy het Pretoria weer gesien; hy is hier nog weer getroud in 1953 en is in 1954 in Esselenstraat, Pretoria, oorlede.

Selfs vir die ou garde onder die onderwysmanne van vandag is J.K.M. te Boekhorst slegs 'n naam uit ons onderwysgeskiedenis. Toe ek hom op 'n koue wintersmiddag in sy losieshuis „Huis en Haard” in die Hondecoeterstraat in Amsterdam in Februarie 1953 opgesoek het, was hy reeds 87 jaar oud maar ten spyte van swak gesondheid, nog lenig en rats in sy bewegings en helder van gees. En tog was hierdie man reeds in 1886 een van Meester Louis se onderwysers in Pretoria. Later was hy hoof van die Voorbereidingskool en inspekteur van skole. Sy trou aan die Republiek het hy in die oorlog bewys en as krygsgevangene op Longwood, Sint-Helena, het hy nog skoolgehou. Ek hoor hom nog vertel van die bittere jare na 1902 toe hy weereens sy kragte aan die heropbou van onderwys gewy het, hierdie keer as inspekteur van die C.N.O.-skole tot 1907. Met 'n vrolike laggie vertel hy hoe hy met 'n donkiekar skole moes besoek en onder die donkiekar was twee ploegwiele, 'n grote en 'n kleintjie sodat hy altyd met een wiel op die middelman die wal moes hou. Ons Argief het van hom as skenking al sy dokumente en foto's uit sy Transvaalse tyd ontvang, ook

sy dagboek uit die C.N.O.-tyd.

Almal wat ek sover genoem het, is persone wat voor 1867 gebore is. By hulle voeg ek die naam van mev. Johanna Coster, eggenote van die onvergeetlike dr. Herman Coster. Sy is op 6 Junie 1868 gebore en met die briljante jong Leidse regsgeleerde getroud in 1891, net voor hy na Pretoria sou kom. In 1951 het ek haar op haar kamer in Den Haag opgesoek en in Augustus 1953 vir die laaste keer in geselskap van dr. W. Punt, voorsitter van die Genootskap Oud-Pretoria, wat juis toe op besoek in Nederland was. Vir wie bekend was met die groot tragedie in die lewe van hierdie vrou was dit steeds 'n inspirasie om haar oor die verlede te hoor praat. Sy het aangename dae in Pretoria geken en haar kinders is hier gebore. Toe Herman Coster in Oktober 1899 op Elandslaagte gesneeu het, het sy met 3 seuns en 'n dogtertjie onbemiddeld agtergebly. Sy is na Nederland terug en het haar kinders met groot opoffering grootgemaak. Die dogter en 'n seun is oorlede; in 1942 is een van die oorblywende seuns in 'n Japanse krygsgevangenekamp om die lewe gebring. Op 8 Maatr 1945 is Herman Coster (Jnr.) die oudste seun, deur die Duitsers in Den Haag gefusilleer as een van die leiers van die ondergrondse beweging. Toe was Johanna Coster heeltemal alleen.

By my eerste besoek was sy die vriendelikheid self en het my baie van haar foto's as skenking aan die Argief gegee. Die dokumente van Herman Coster berus in die argief van die studentekorps in Leiden; dit is intussen ook vir ons Argief gefotografeer.

By die tweede besoek in 1953 was dit duidelik dat die spore van ouderdom en siekte dieper geword het. Mevrouw Coster is enkele maande daarna oorlede.

Nog net een naam wil ek noem: dié van Maarten Spies van Den Haag, 'n jonge onder die oues; hy was 79 jaar toe ek hom in 1953 laas gesien het. Hy is gebore Hollander en het in 1890 al as amptenaar in Pretoria begin werk. Hy het teenoor my daarop aanspraak gemaak dat hy die oudste lewende argiefamptenaar van Transvaal is, want hy het al in die jaar 1891 Voortrekkerargiefstukke reggepak in 'n gebou op die terrein van die huidige Paleis van Justisie! Spies was musikus van naam op sy dae. Hy was lid van dr. Leyds se kwartet in Pretoria en het in al die vernaamste musiekkonserte in Pretoria tot 1899 opgetree. Nadat hy kraygsgevangene was in Ceylon, het hy tot 1907 weer aan die musieklewe hier en in Johannesburg deelgeneem. Getuienis daarvan is die groot aantal programma's uit dié dae wat hy my toegelaat het om te verfilm vir ons Argief. Maarten Spies se loopbaan na 1907 toe hy Pretoria verlaat het, lees soos 'n awontuur-verhaal. Maar dis hier nie ter sake nie. Hy is een van die weinige Boere wat sy krygsgevangenekamp in Ceylon weer opgesoek het; dit was in 1951 toe hy op reis was na sy dogter in Australië. En toe ek hom laas gesien het was hy juis besig om in te pak — op reis na Skotland!

— W. J. de Kock.

MEMORIES

BY MRS. T. J. RODDA

V.

(In our previous issue Mrs. Rodda described her personal impressions of the progress of the Anglo-Boer war and the ultimate occupation of Pretoria by the British forces. She and her husband became close friends with many of the officers and war correspondents.)

HOME LODGE

THE next item of interest to me was the naming of our home. In pre-war days Pretoria houses were not numbered, and very few were named, among these was our home. I had lived in it as a child and had gone on living in it after my marriage where Grandma had first lived with us and later when she had gone into her own home next door where she and Aunt Maggie lived and where she died, and we had hired the big house — so called — and you may guess how precious was this house to us, after being told to leave it no less than four times, and fighting to hold it. I was sitting sewing on the verandah a few days after my tea party waiting for your father to come in, when an English officer (Lord Scott) came in at the gate saluting me said, “Madam, may I ask if you are the owner of this house or only the tenant”?

I began to wonder what was meant, and of course thought that we were once again to be turned out of our home. I had not expected anything of the kind and my knees began to shake, my heart to beat, and I am sure Lord Scott must have realised that I was somewhat disturbed for in quiet tones he said, “If this is your own house will you tell me if it has a name, I see it has no number.” I, pulling myself together said, “No, it has no name.” “Well,” he said, “Perhaps you will give it a name.” I know I stared at him saying, “Oh! I can’t think of a name on the spur of the moment its always been just home to me. I’ve lived in it since I was a tiny child.” He said in a kindly manner, “Well, what about calling it Home say Home House or Home Lodge” and so it got its name.

The reason he afterwards gave was this: Lord Roberts was anxious to place his senior officers in houses and so as to facilitate matters wanted to have either names or numbers of the nicer houses available which he intended giving these older men, thereby giving their friends direct address to send their letters to. The dear old man had in the goodness of his heart indirectly given me an anxious half hour, but also a name to our home we have kept although long since we have moved into another, and yet another house. The brass plate with its name *Home Lodge* has gone with us and it still hangs on the gate of 220 Farenden Street, Arcadia, as also on the gate of my second son in Pinetown and where there is a Rodda I think there will be a *Home Lodge* in name and nature.

THE LIGHT THAT FAILED

THINGS at this period became more natural, we as a family met some of the English officers, some became great friends and constantly called, and on Sunday afternoons from 5.30 to 7 o'clock it was quite a common sight to see many in the King's uniform gathering round the piano with us singing hymns and I fancy it gave them a feeling of homeliness. Some were fathers who made much of you children. As you may remember I often sang at concerts for the soldiers. Miss J. Brookhunt came out from England to open institutes for soldiers here and two Doctors, Hilda Adams (afterwards Mrs. McRoberts), Cilene Loveday (afterwards Mrs. Buchanan) and I formed ourselves into a little concert party and as often as four times a week sang at hospitals and at the President Theatre on the site of the Capital Cinema now the finest in Africa.

I well remember the first one of these concerts. We had arranged it for a certain night, notices had been sent out and by 8 o'clock the place was absolutely crowded with khaki clad men and officers, the only bit of colour being the red cape of one nurse who had brought a convalescent officer. We opened with a piano solo played by Miss Adams (now dead) after which I sang the song I had chosen which was called "Oh winds that blow from the South", a pretty ballad with a swing. Just as I began we were conscious of a little movement at the door and in a moment a small party consisting of Lord Roberts and staff walked into the aisle; like lightning every man rose while I of course, stopped and waited for them to take their places in the boxes, which we then noticed were empty. After a few minutes I once again began my song but alas it was doomed for in a few minutes after singing the first line "Oh winds that blow from the South" with no warning the whole place was plunged into darkness — the electric light had failed and here we were in utter darkness — there was no fuss, the men just sang the refrain and in a short time empty bottles were brought and candles were obtained from somewhere and were stuck into the bottles, lit and placed on the piano on one or two boxes and I



GROUP OF MILITARY PRISON WARDERS, PRETORIA.

went on with my song, singing to a mass of unseen men, an audience whom I knew were there but whom I could not see.

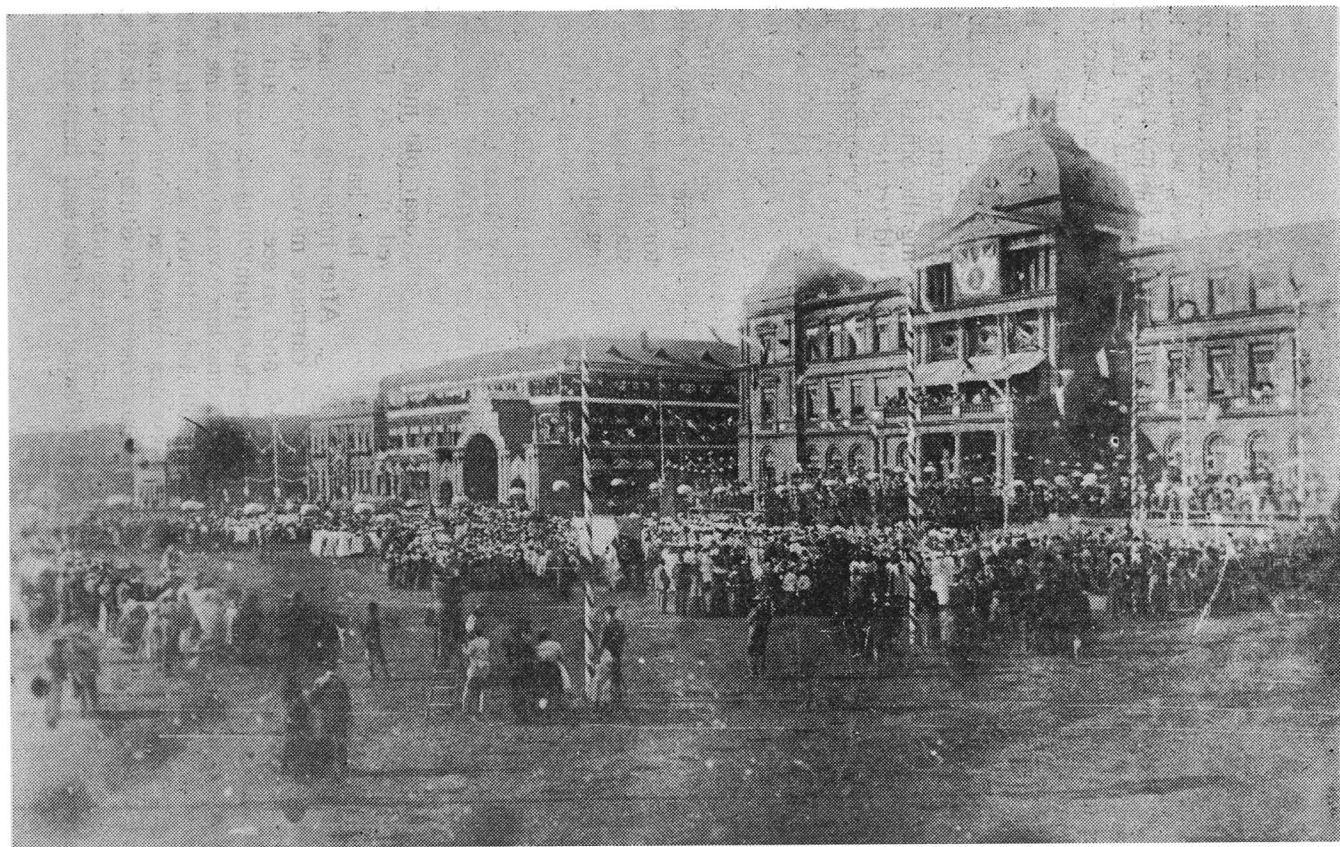
After my song the light came on and things were normal. The little man thanked us and only left at the end of the evening — a gracious act — one only he would perform. These entertainments seemed always to be appreciated and I think we enjoyed giving them as well, we were at least doing our bit. The last we gave was in the Palace of Justice then used as the Irish Hospital — Lord Roberts had decided to send all the men remaining down to the base and had commanded a farewell concert on Sunday afternoon at which once again he and his staff were present, and had tea with the Matron Miss McDonald from one of the large Irish Hospitals in Ireland knowing that this was our farewell as well as theirs. We had decided to sing really good songs and Miss Loveday chose Liddle's "Abide with me" while I sang "Oh Trust in the Lord." The two Doctors also sang similar songs, but while we had all joined in closing our little entertainment with "The King" and were drinking our refreshing cup of tea one of the sergeants in blue (one of the invalids) came up, saluted Lord Roberts and said, "If you please Sir, the boys want to know if the lady won't sing one other song," having indicated me as the lady. Lord Roberts turned and asked me as a favour to sing once again: I went back into the hall and was greeted with a welcome shout and *Kilarney* was called for from every corner. Poor fellows, the high class music we had sung was not as near their hearts as *Kilarney*. I had sung it ever so many times before but was glad to do so again.

LORD KITCHENER

THE men all left the following day and once again the Palace of Justice was empty. Lord Roberts left Pretoria shortly after this and Lord Kitchener took over. He was a man who never entertained and seemed very unsociable, and only was seen when taking his morning ride. He used to speak to children whom he met in the street sometimes doing so to Louise and Gordon.

THE ARMoured TRAIN

LORD KITCHENER'S A.D.C. was a very happy young lieutenant called Maxwell, and on the morning of the day peace was signed, as the clock struck two he came galloping down to our house and called, "Mrs. Rodda, peace perfect peace!" He rattled his cane at our bedroom window and rushed off again. The relief was tremendous and during the next day smiles were seen on many faces where deep lines of worry only had been seen for many months. Of course, although peace had been declared



The British occupation of Pretoria. Thanksgiving service, Church Square South. The photo was taken immediately after the ceremony.

fighting actually went on in the country districts for months after. A form of guerilla warfare continued and many a man was killed.

A few weeks after peace was proclaimed we were wakened during the night by a knock at our front door and on opening it Dad found an orderly with a note from General Maxwell (the Military Governor) telling me that he had had a wire from the commandant of Queenstown to say Grandma (then with Aunt Maggie) was very *seriously* ill and kept asking for me and the commandant suggested that I should be allowed to go down to Queenstown. My health had by that time become very bad and the long strain had affected my nerves badly and on consulting Dr. Ha!! he said I was in no fit state to travel alone — this raised the question — what next? General Maxwell had said in his note that he was going away at 6 o'clock in the morning but anything that could be done would be and he had given instructions to his clerks at headquarters to make all arrangements for me to leave that evening. On seeing the officer in charge at the General's office he suggested that Dad should try to get a permit from Lord Kitchener for him to accompany me — this was done through young Maxwell and Lord Kitchener graciously wrote a permit saying: "I deem it necessary that Mr. Rodda should accompany his wife." Taking Gladys, Louise and Gordon with us, after making arrangements to have Mr. Burnham to sleep in the house while we were away, and getting food packed and water put into bottles to supply our needs on our journey we went up to the station to find an armoured train of one carriage, several trucks filled with soldiers and three Canadian Doctors just about to start. It was a Monday morning and we drew out of the station about 6 o'clock, we, of course, did not travel at all at night drawing up as near a camp as possible sometimes at 4 o'clock so as to have protection should we be attacked during the night.

On our arrival at Bloemfontein we found our dear old friend General Tucker and his staff on the platform awaiting our arrival. Lord Kitchener had wired to him to say we were coming and the dear old man had a splendid dinner ready for us — how we enjoyed it — as this was Wednesday 3 days after leaving Pretoria, and we had had cold food all the time, not being able to do any cooking. After finishing our meal we all walked onto the platform to find our carriage moved across the line and attached to another armoured train, and on seeing this I said, "But General, are we to go over *there* into that train?" He answered as a soldier, "Yes, those are my orders." Hearing him say this the engine driver standing on the platform came up and said, "If you please, Sir, is this lady not going on with me?" The General answered, "No my man she and her party are leaving at once in that train to cross the Bethulie bridge now almost completed and you are to go on the other way now." The engine driver, a middle-aged man, looked at the General and said, "No

Sir, I am not going, it is quite evident that you are afraid of letting this lady start now, she is no doubt dear to you — well I too am dear to my wife and children and the engine driver is always the first man the enemy aim at, so shoot me if you like but I'll only remove out of here when this lady does." It was a direct act of insubordination and I feared for the consequences, for General Tucker was a man of very bad temper and used dreadful swear words, but his heart was touched evidently for as we drew out at one side of the station the other train drew out at the same time going another way.

We crossed the Bethulie bridge at a crawl, the bridge shaking under the train. As we reached Maraisburg the enemy were riding out, we saw their dust and as we were going out of another small town the commando were riding in and so we reached Queenstown safely. On Saturday evening, just a week after we left — now the journey is done in 27 hours — we found Grandma in a very bad state, she had double pneumonia and was only semi-conscious. She knew Dad but kept asking for me saying "I want Hattie, where is Hattie." I must have changed very much during the time since she had left Pretoria.

JOURNEY'S END

I CERTAINLY had gone through enough to change anyone. After being in Queenstown a week or two I went down with flu, and being very run down I was very bad, and the doctor ordered me to go down to the sea. By this time Grandma was better (she seemed to rally after seeing us), and we went down to East London and from there on to Durban. Dad got a permit to return to Pretoria, but this was thought to be an unwise thing for me to do, so I, with Gladys, Louise and Gordon after spending a few months in Durban, went up to Howick where we stayed for three weeks, then returned to our home in Pretoria. It was long after this that Grandma and Ivy returned.

Many unpleasant things had happened during the war, and had to be lived down — Friends of my youth took quite a long while to be on the old friendly footing After 1902 things calmed down a little and we found our house rather cramped so bought a piece of ground at Arcadia and built our lovely home there.

I revelled in this having drawn the plans myself and enjoyed laying out the garden, planting and watering it. I attended to the flower garden while Dad attended to the fruit and roses, pruning them year after year

'n Geskiedkundige Skets

van die

„Mount Holyoke Seminary”

SUSAN MILLER CLARY (1841–1878), 'n Amerikaanse onderwyseres wat in 1877 en 1878 aan die Pretoriase *Prospect Seminary* verbind was, het haar opleiding aan die *Mount Holyoke Seminary*, van South Hadley (Mass.) ontvang.

In deel 3 nr. 2 van *Pretoriana* het die skrywer die reisbeskrywing, soos opgestel deur mej. Clary en handelend oor die landreis van Durban na Pretoria, weergegee. Nou volg 'n paar besonderhede oor haar lewe en die skool waar sy haar opleiding as onderwyseres ontvang het.

Susan Miller Clary is op 5 Maart 1841 te Conway (Mass.) gebore en het altesame veertien jaar aan die *Mount Holyoke Seminary* studeer en onderrig gegee. Sy was een van die tien dames wat gehoor gegee het aan 'n versoek van ds. Andrew Murray om leerkragte in Suid-Afrika te verkry. Mej. Clary het mej. Ruggles, 'n oudleerling van die *Mount Holyoke Seminary* in 1873, as haar assistente gekies voordat sy na Transvaal gegaan het om die *Prospect Seminary* in Pretoria te begin opbou.

In teenstelling met ander leerkragte en oud-leerlinge van die skool het mej. Clary met die gedagte weggegaan om nie weer na haar geboorteland terug te keer nie. Aan boord van die skip waarop sy gereis het het sy by geleentheid van die kruising van die noordelike na die suidelike halfrond geskryf: „I bade goodbye to the North Star, the Southern Cross is in sight.”

Na haar aankoms in Durban, nadat die leerkragte eers 'n kort rukkie aan die Kaap vertoef het, het sy geskryf: „Leaving the ocean is like parting with a friend. For fifty-four days it has borne me on its surging tide; days of weariness, many of them, yet of peace and quietness; preparation days, I trust, for the work before me.”⁽¹⁾

Kort na haar aankoms op Pretoria het sy in verband met die skool aan haar suster meegedeel dat die skool op die eerste Maandag na haar aankoms in die Transvaalse hoofstad in 'n kerkgebou begin het. ⁽²⁾ Na twee weke was daar 85 leerlinge. „Though called a girls' school, it includes, for the present, thirty boys. A primary department is taught in the vestry and I have a private class of ten young ladies thrice a week.”

Alles het voorspoedig gegaan, maar ongelukkig het mej. Clary longontsteking opgedoen, na 'n maand haar werksaamhede hervat, maar na een dag weer na haar siekbed teruggekeer. Die een bloeding na die ander het gevolg, haar stemgeluid het verswak en geneeshere het haar geen hoop op herstel kon gee nie. Na aanhoudende, maandelange verswakking het

die dood ingetree. In haar afskeidsbrief aan haar suster het mej. Clary geskryf: „The future is glorious, because of rest from sin.”

Voor haar heengaan het sy haar horlosie aan mej. Ruggles gegee met die versoek om die woorde „Thank you” daarin te laat graveer.

Voor haar vertrek na Transvaal het mej. Clary 'n eilandgroep aan die kus van Suid-Carolina gaan besoek en daar onder die indruk begin kom van haar maklike werk aan die seminarie. Sy het begin soek na 'n moeiliker werkkring. 'n Jaar voor haar vertrek na Transvaal het sy na Kalifornië gegaan, daar 'n aangrypende preek gehoor, dit as 'n persoonlike weskroep beskou en na Suid-Afrika gegaan.

Bostaande herinneringe is ontleen aan 'n bydrae wat haar suster, mej. Martha H. Clary, na die heengaan van Susan Miller Clary geskryf het.⁽³⁾

Ook Martha H. Clary het baanbrekerswerk in diens van die opvoeding onderneem. Haar stoflike oorskot rus op *Ladies' Island*, Suid-Carolina, waar sy nie-blankes onderrig het.

Die stukrag agter die ontstaan van die *Mount Holyoke Seminary* was mej. Mary Lyon (1797–1849), 'n vooraanstaande figuur in die geskiedenis van onderwys en opvoeding in Amerika waar dit die opvoeding van meisies en ontwikkeling op Christelike grondslag betref.

In die publikasie „The Inception of Mount Holyoke College. Described by its Founder” (s.j.), 'n versameling van uittreksels van briewe van Mary Lyon, blyk dat hierdie vooruitstrewende dame reeds in 1831 die volgende gedagtes begin ontwikkel en ontvou het, gedagtes wat in 1832 soos volg geformuleer is:

1. Om die aantal goed gekwalifiseerde onderwyseresse te vergroot.
2. Om baie wat reeds onderwys begin gee het aan te spoor om hul opvoeding verder te verbeter.
3. Om selfwerksaamheid onder die onderwyseresse te bevorder.
4. Om die weg te baan in die rigting van die oprigting van blywende opleidingsinrigtings vir dames in Amerika.

In 1835 het Mary Lyon verder verklaar:

5. Die toekomstige seminarie is bedoel om blywend te wees en om beheer te word deur hulle wat kerklike belange op die hart dra.
6. Dit sal heeltemal op Christelike grondslae gebaseer wees.
7. Dit is bedoel om 'n gees van sending en Missiewerk onder die leerlinge aan te kweek, die gevoel dat hulle behoort te leef vir God en as onderwyseresse of andersins iets doen wat die Voorsienigheid bepaal.
8. Die rykes kan vir hul eie opvoeding en onderwys voorsiening maak, ons doel is om verdere ontwikkeling vir die middelklas aan te bied teen 'n sodanige vergoeding dat daardie groep dit kan bekostig.

In 1836 kon die hoeksteen van die seminarie gelê word. Langsaam het die hoofgebou, 'n gebou van vier verdiepinge, begin verrys. In die hoofgebou was klaskamers, kamers vir die leerkragte en kamers vir tagtig inwonende leerlinge. Op 8 November 1837 is die seminarie geopen.

Onder die besielende leiding van Mary Lyon het die nuwe skool spoedig tot bloei gekom. Twaalf jaar het sy as prinsipale gearbei en die genot gesmaak om meer as 3,000 leerlinge vir hul lewenstake voor te berei en op te lei.

In 1876 het die publikasie „Historical Sketch of Mount Holyoke Seminary” (Springfield, verskyn waarin o.m. vermeld staan dat sedert 1862 die opleidingskursus vier jaar duur. Na ’n toelatingseksamen kon die studente aan hul eintlike studie begin. Onder die verpligte studievakke kom die volgende voor: Latyn, algebra, klassieke geskiedenis, Bybelstudie, plantkunde, meetkunde, moderne geskiedenis, dierkunde, konstitusionele geskiedenis van die Verenigde State, trigometrie, skeikunde, sterrekunde, geskiedenis van die Engelse letterkunde, geologie, sielkunde, wetenskap en retorika. Fakultatiewe vakke was Grieks, Frans en Duits.

Die gemiddelde leeftyd van ’n junior studente was ruim 18 jaar.

Belangrik is die volgende opmerking: „Much besides mere intellectual furnishing and drill has always been aimed at at this institution.”

Om die opvoedingsproses te balanseer is tyd aan liggaamsoefening bestee, tyd beskikbaar gestel om werksaamhede van huishoudelike aard deur die studente te laat verrig en bepaalde ure aan spraakontwikkeling, musiek, sang, teken- en skilderwerk gewy.

In verband met die godsdiensige inslag van die seminarie is verklaar: „A regular and comprehensive course of Bible study is pursued during the four years; and attendance at church is required at least once upon the Sabbath. Pupils observe that, while they are not asked what denomination they or their friends prefer, it is regarded as a question of the utmost consequence whether their lives shall be devoted to self, or consecrated to Christ.”

Tot en met 1876 het hierdie skool 1,567 gegraduateerdes afgelewer en reeds ’n uitstekende naam in die wêreld geniet. Dit bewys die aantal studente, afkomstig van alle dele van die wêreld, wat na South Hadley oorgekom het. Behalwe uit alle dele van die Verenigde State was daar van tyd tot tyd studente uit Kanada, Nieu-Brunswick, Borneo, Sjina, Nederland, Indië, Italië, Persië, Sirië, die Sandwicheilande, Turkye en Wes-Indië, om hul vorming binne die mure van die *Mount Holyoke Seminary* te ontvang.

In 1937 het die voormalige seminarie sy eerste eeufees gevier en by die geleentheid het die gedenkboek „The Centenary of Mount Holyoke College” (4) verskyn, ’n werk wat opgedra is aan „die 17,472 dogters van die eerste eeu.”

Een van hulle was mej. Susan Miller Clary.

— J. PLOEGER.

- (1) Die skip het van New York vertrek en nadat Londen aangedoen is, is die reis na Kaapstad voortgesit.
- (2) Die skoolgebou was nog nie gereed nie.
- (3) Die skrywer is slegs in besit van ’n paar los bladsye. Vermoedelik is die bladsye ’n deel van ’n jaarboek wat deur die „Mount Holyoke Seminary” uitgegee is.
- (4) In 1888 is die naam verander in „Mount Holyoke College.”

Nog 'n keer die

Spotprente in die Staatsmodelskool

NA aanleiding van 'n mededeling van mej. S. J. Mansvelt, van Kampsbaai, in "Pretoriana" nr. 18 (bls. 18) en die artikel: Tekeninge wat verdwyn het, in ons vorige uitgawe, skryf mnr. Frederik Oudschans Dentz, van Claremont, Kaapstad, hierdie kenner van ons geskiedenis o.m.:

„Inzake de spotprenten in de Staatsmodelschool kan ik u het volgende mededeelen: Zie 'Hollandsch Zuid-Afrika' van 10 December 1910, blz. 2—3, waarin staan twee afbeeldingen: 1. President Kruger goes to the front to strengthen his Burgers met het volgende onderschrift: Terwijl de Afrikaners, gevangenen in Indië en op St. Helena, zich de tijd weninge te verdrijven door gemoedelijke scherts, trachtten hun Engelsche lotgenooten te Pretoria hun toegemeten tijd te verkorten door jokkerij en spel. Een der gevangen officieren vond in de nadering van Roberts leger de inspiratie voor de twee hier afgebeelde teekeningen, eigenlijk muurschilderingen. Zij werden aangebracht in de Staatsmodelschool te Pretoria.

„President Kruger gaat naar de grenzen, om zijn burgers te bemoedigen,” heet het op de eerste spotprent, betrekking hebbend op de reis van den Straatspresident naar de Vrijstaatsche grenzen, welke door het opdringen van lord Roberts leger, slechts van korten duur was; zooals het opschrift op de tweede prent luidt: „Hij keert wegens dringende zaken terug.”

Mnr. Oudschans Dentz deel dan verder mee dat dr. Mansvelt, voordat hy „de bewijzen van Engelsche spotzucht en teekenkunst” laat vernietig het, 'n paar kiekies daarvan laat maak het.

Die skrywer vervolg: „Toen ik in 1930 de Commissie in Nederland voor het Oorlogsmuseum had gesticht en daarvoor alles inzamelde wat op de Tweede Vrijheidsoorlog betrekking had, ontving ik van mevr. C. M. Vyg-Losecaat van Neuhuys, voorheen mevr. Rooseboom, oud-verpleegster in Zuid-Afrika, Daguerrestraat 110, Den Haag, twee kiekjes van deze spotprenten. Zie mijn inventaris no. I, CXLII, blz. 44 en van C. van Son, Aardappelmarkt 19, Dordrecht de twee clichés van de foto's plus de afdrukken van beide. Zie mijn inventaris no. 2 (eerste aanvulling) CLII, blz. 1.

Beide inzendingen heb ik met de vele honderden artikelen van mijn inzameling geschonken aan het Oorlogsmuseum, die ze NOG bezit met de inventarissen.”

Genootskap Oud-Pretoria

(Gestig 22 Maart 1948)

Association Old Pretoria

(Founded 22 March, 1948)

Ons doel: Om te waak oor die geskiedenis van ons stad en distrik.

Our aim: To preserve the past for the future of our city and district.

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