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TER EEUWIGE NAGEDACHTENIS VAN DE ZEER DOOR-
LUCHTIGE EXCELLENTE MAN

ANDREAE AUGUSTO GRAAF PRETORIUS

RIDDER IN DE ORDE VAN DANEBROG. OPPERBEVELHEBBER
DER CAVALLERIE VAN DE YERENIGDE NEDERLANDEN.
KASTELIJN EN GOVERNEUR VAN SLUIS DAT IN VLAAN-
DEREN LIGT. HOOFDMAN VAN DE DAARBIJ BEHORENDE
STEDEN EN STERKTEN.

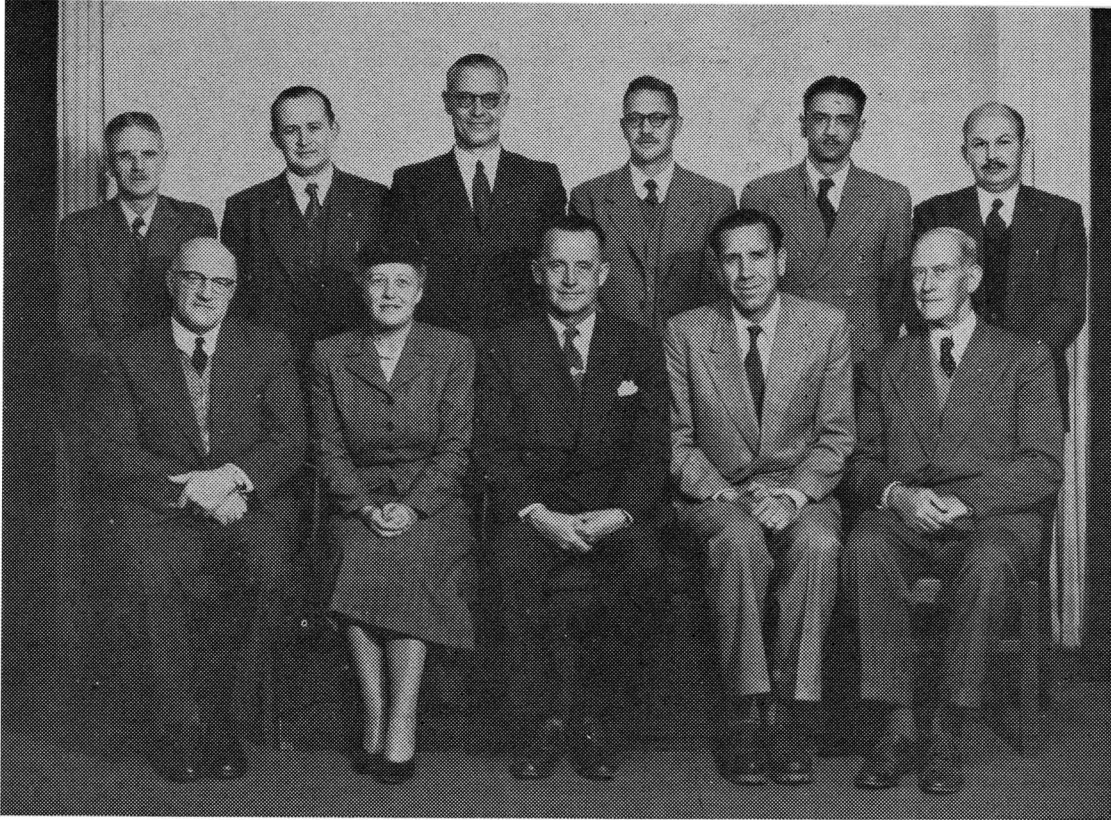
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Executive Committee of the Association Old Pretoria./Bestuur van die Genootskap Oud-Pretoria.

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ONS EEUFEESUITGAWE

BY geleentheid van die Eeufees-viering van ons stad Pretoria hierdie jaar, het die „*Genootskap Oud-Pretoria*” besluit om ’n spesiale feesnommer van hulle tydskrif „*PRETORIANA*,” uit te gee.

In hierdie uitgawe verskyn daar baie belangrike en interessante artikels i.v.m. die geskiedenis van Pretoria.

Dit het baie tyd en werk geneem om die feite te versamel en juis weer te gee en ons is die skrywers baie dank verskuldig vir die waardevolle bydraes wat hulle gelewer het.

Hierdie uitgawe is moontlik gemaak deur die finansiële steun wat ons Genootskap ontvang het van ons Stadsraad en van verskeie besighede in Pretoria. Aan hulle wil ek dan ook, namens ons Genootskap, ons opregte dank en waardering uitspreek.

Die Bestuur van die „*Genootskap Oud-Pretoria*” vertrou dat hierdie spesiale uitgawe die belangstelling in die geskiedenis van Pretoria sal laat toeneem en dat die publiek ons sal bystaan en help om dié dinge uit ons verlede wat van waarde is, te bewaar vir die nageslag.

— H. A. DE LOOR, Onder-Voorsitter.

GRAAG wil ek die Genootskap Oud-Pretoria gelukwens met hulle besluit om 'n spesiale uitgawe van die Genootskap se tydskrif, *PRETORIANA*, i.v.m. die stad se eeufeesviering uit te gee. Nadat die besonderhede van die Genootskap se plan aan die Stadsraad verstrekk is, het die Raad besluit om hierdie onderneming te steun, en ek is oortuig daarvan dat hierdie hulp die Genootskap in staat sal stel om 'n besonder treffende publikasie die lig te laat sien.

Een van die verblydende tekens van die eeufeesviering is die groot mate van daadwerklike hulp wat deur talle openbare liggeme aan die Stadsraad verleen is. Onder hulle is die Genootskap Oud-Pretoria wat hom veral op die geskiedkundige deel van die feestelike toesegging het.

Dit kon 'n mens dan ook verwag, want die Genootskap se belangrikste doelstelling is om die geskiedenis in ere te hou, en die groot daad van ons voorvaders pertinent onder die aandag van sy lede en ander Pretorianers te bring.

Die eeufees is by uitstek dié geleentheid waar dit met welslae gedoen kan word, omdat met so 'n geleentheid daar 'n algemene belangstelling in die verlede is. Die samestellers van hierdie uitgawe het my meegedeel dat hulle baie moeite gedoen het om die regte persone te kies om die artikels wat hierin verskyn, te skryf. Ek is oortuig daarvan dat die lesers die inhoud en die feite uit vergange se dae in die bydrae waarna in die artikels verwys word, baie interessant sal vind.

Graag wil ek ook die Genootskap gelukwens met hulle strewe. Dit is noodsaaklik dat ons die verlede moet ken om die hede te verstaan. Die Genootskap is die skakel tussen ons, die huidige geslag, en ons voorvaders, sonder wie se baanbrekerswerk en vérsiende blik, Pretoria nooit sou ontstaan het nie.

Dit is dus ons plig om tydens die eeufees die grootste mate van hulding aan hulle te bring, en in hierdie opsig laat die Genootskap Oud-Pretoria tereg klem val op hulle daad wat gelei het tot die totstandkoming en ontwikkeling van ons geliefde stad Pretoria.



DR. H. MULLER,

Burgemeester van Pretoria.

Pretoria's First Centenary

1855—1955

THE year 1955 is a momentous year for us in Pretoria. We are celebrating our city's centenary. In comparison with the cities of Europe, Pretoria could be said to be still in its infancy. Comparisons are however sometimes deceptive. We, the inhabitants of Pretoria think of the past hundred years with a certain sense of pride and all of us though we be English or Afrikaans-speaking, pay homage to the men who founded our city and made of it what it is.

It was under the leadership of Johannes van Rensburg and Louis Trichardt that the first organised European groups entered the Transvaal. Twenty years after the first Voortrekkers came, Pretoria had already the appearance of a small town. Fifty years later our city was to become the administrative capital of the Union of South Africa.

During the course of this year every South African will be given the opportunity to remember with gratitude and pride the intrepid founders of our city. These men played an important part in the moulding of a new nation. J. G. S. Bronkhorst, the first owner of the farm Elandsdoorn No. 193 on part of which Pretoria was subsequently founded on the 16th November, 1855, played a leading rôle in the First War of Independence. Gert Bronkhorst, a man with more than just an average education, was for some time the secretary of Genl. A. H. Potgieter. He was one of the men who in 1836 took part in the unprecedented exploratory expedition from the Vet River (O.F.S.) to a point near the Portuguese coastal town of Sofala—in all a distance of 1,200 miles through unknown and dangerous tsetse fly infested country. On their return journey the patrol passed over the terrain where in 1840 Bronkhorst was to build the first European home in the Valley of the Apies River.

South of Elandsdoorn his brother, Lucas Cornelius Bronkhorst, had in the meantime erected the beacons of the beautiful farm, Groenkloof. Lucas built his humble little frontier house at the source of the Apies River and for years afterwards Fountains was known as Bronkhorst Fountain.

The picturesque and fertile Apies River valley soon attracted great numbers of settlers with the result that Field Cornet Andreas van der Walt was continually burdened with the task of erecting beacons for the

farms of the newcomers. A church, school and Landdrost office was soon built to serve the community's interest.

A few years after the establishment of the church, Pretoria became the administrative centre of the Transvaal although it was as a result of diverse political reasons not recognised as the capital of the young nation. It was in 1910 that Pretoria became the recognised administrative capital of the Union of South Africa. With the exception of a few years therefore, Pretoria had always enjoyed the status of a capital. Few cities in the world can boast of the same record.

During the preceding century the growth of our country, its successes and travails were reflected in the growth of our city. During the centenary celebrations this growth will be dramatically portrayed in the form of tableaux on the Loftus Versfeld sports fields.

After a hundred years our city still gives the impression of a rural town. The reason for this is that industries play a minor rôle. Pretorians, old and young, hope that their city which was founded by M. W. Pretorius a hundred years ago, will never lose that atmosphere and may our City Fathers remember that this wish is a trust that we place with confidence in their hands.

We are proud to think of Pretoria as a city of culture where various organisations, associations and other bodies are actively fulfilling the requirements of our capital city in this respect. All these bodies are doing excellent work and enjoy the support of the authorities as well as artists in our midst.

Pretoria, with its beautiful natural background, healthy climate and proud tradition, face the future with confidence. We feel certain that by the time Pretorians celebrate their city's second centenary, our city would be the legislative as well as the administrative capital of South Africa.

In conclusion, the Association Old Pretoria wishes to congratulate Pretorians with their city's first centenary. May everyone enjoy every item on the programme and may Pretorians as well as the visitors to our fair city be imbued with a new hope for the future.

That we believe is also the message from the past to the generations to come.

W. PUNT,
Chairman,
Association Old Pretoria.