

wanneer hy vennoot word van die prokureursfirma Krige en Markotter op Stellenbosch alwaar hy gewerk en gewoon het tot die dag van sy dood in April 1957.

Oor die „Oubaas” as Rugbyman net baie kortliks die volgende: As student op Stellenbosch het hy reeds twee jaar lank losskakel in die eerste-span gespeel, en ná sy bekwaming as prokureur, ’n seisoen lank vir Paarl, Villagers en Wellington elk. Terug op Stellenbosch (1903), word hy kaptein van die dorpspan, en is dit ook van die W.P. Plattelandse Span wat in 1903 met Mark Morrison se Britse Toerspan afgereken het.

In 1904 verdraai hy eendag sy knie sodanig in ’n krieketwedstryd dat hy aktiewe rugby finaal moes opgee. Maar nou het sy legendariese loopbaan as breier en later as keurder begin en was hy vir baie jare die „alfa en omega van Suid-Afrikaanse rugby” en het hy van 1903 tot feitlik sy sterfdag toe, „aan die spits van die spel gestaan” (as afrigter en keurder) en baie Springbokke „gemaak” — gedurende daardie tydperk het meer as 50 Maties die Springboktrui gedra en byna 150 vir W.P. gespeel.

As mens was hy eweneens voortreflik, en baie geheg aan sy huisgesin. Geen wonder dat hy, na sy eerste vrou se dood, byna van sy kop af geraak het nie. So skryf dr. Danie Craven in sy boek getiteld „Oubaas Mark” hieroor die volgende:

„Daar was tye dat baie van ons gemeen het dis klaar met hom. Toe hy weer eendag na die dr. gebring is, het hy die volgende voorskrif gekry:

Mr. A. F. Markotter,
One wife—blonde,
brunette or red-head
to choice,
Selection to be made
in consultation with
Mrs. Zondagh! (sy suster.)

Hierdie preskripsie het sy lewe gered. Die tweede mev. Mark het hom baie goed opgepas, getroetel en die Bismarck-houding in hom weer uitgebring.”

Onder die ander verhale oor hom wat sy sterk menslikheid openbaar, is dié van ’n Matie wat ná sy vader se dood nie sonder geldelike hulp verder kon studeer nie. Oubaas Mark het hom gevra hoeveel hy nodig had om sy studies te voltooi en gesê: „Kom na my toe en trek die geld soos jy dit nodig het.” Toe die Matie nog wou gesels oor borgstelling en rente, val die „Oubaas” hom skielik wrewelig in die rede: „Kyk, ons skiet net geld voor aan mans om mǎns te word.”

En wat het hierdie rugbyhelde op wie Oubaas Mark sy Springbok-stempel (met sy kiere of sy skoën) „afgedruk” het, nie van hom ná sy afsterwe geskryf nie!

„Selfs al stort die rotsblokke van Gibraltar neer op die sportvelde van Suid-Afrika en meer in besonder op Stellenbosch, sal dit die figuur van Oubaas Mark met sy kiere en sy verkyker nie kan vernietig nie. Oubaas Mark is dood, maar hy lewe in die rugby van ons land

Markotter se naam is gemaak en soos ’n kolos het hy onder sy tydgenote begin uitstyg. Die rugbywêreld sou voortaan weet wie August Markotter is en die wêreld hom ook net so respekteer as ons, want wat hy vir Stellenbosch gedoen het, het hy gedoen om Suid-Afrika te dien.”

(Bronne oor Markotter: (i) „Oubaas Mark”: dr. D. Craven, Julie 1959.

(ii) „Ons Grootste Rugbyfigure”: *Die Huisgenoot*, 26 Junie 1964.

(iii) „Markotter, A. F., As hy jou skop, was dit ’n eer.” D. H. Craven in *Die Brandwag*, Vrydag, 26 April 1957.

—G. J. VAN ECK.

Die Straatname van Danville se Uitbreiding No. 1

OP 30 April 1957 het die Stadsraad na aanleiding van die hierna aangehaalde Stadsklerkverslag, die nagenoemde besluit geneem:-

„In connection with the proposed new township of Danville Extension No. 1, it is necessary that the Council should now consider the question of street names, and appended hereunder is a list of names of Springbok Rugby players submitted by the City Engineer, of which 17 names are needed for street names for the Township.

It may be pointed out that the streets in the existing Danville Township have been named after Springbok Rugby players:-

M. C. van Buuren	1891	Lyster	1937
H. H. Castens	1891 (Capt)	Brand	1937
J. Little	1891	Strachan	1937
J. T. Vigne	1891	Waring	1937
Merry	1891	van der Westhuizen	1931-32
Hobson	1903	Lotz	1937
Burdett	1906	Kenyon	1949
W. C. Martheze	1906	Viviers	1951
Hirsh	1906	van Jaarsveld	1949
Allport	1910	Moss	1949
McCullough	1912	Lategan	1949
Le Grange	1921	Wahl	1949
J. Wepener	1921	Duvenhage	1949
H. M. Forrest	1931-32	Du Rand	1949
V. Geere	1931-32	Buchler	1951
J. B. Dold	1931-32	Ochse	1951
Sheriff	1937	van Schoor	1949
Lochner	1937	van den Bergh	1949."

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the following names of Springbok Rugby players be used as street names for Danville Extension No. 1 Township:-

van den Bergh	van Jaarsveld
van Schoor	Viviers
Ochse	Kenyon
Buchler	Geere
Du Rand	Sheriff
Duvenhage	Lochner
Wahl	Brand
Lategan	Strachan
Moss	

- (b) That in the event of one or more of the above names not being acceptable to the Postal Authorities, the names of van Druten, Waring and Lotz, be considered.

Van die name wat in (a) van voornoemde Raadsbesluit voorkom, is die van Moss en Sheriff uiteindelik weggelaat, terwyl Viviers- en Van Jaarsveld-straat deurloop uit Danville uit in Danville-uitbreiding no. 1 in Kenyonstraat vind ons volgens die kaart, net in Danville self. Omtrent die voorgestelde naam Van den Bergh, bestaan daar blykbaar ook misverstand, te meer omdat die kaart Van den Bergstraat aandui.

Oor die betrokke vernoemdes sal daar mettertyd die nodige biografiese besonderhede bekom en dan hierin verstrekk word.

—G. J. VAN ECK.

Vernoeming van Park in Villieria

Op die Raadsvergadering van Maandag, 31 Julie 1967, is daar onder andere besluit:-

Dat die park geleë tussen Meyer- en Louis Trichardt-straat en 32ste en 33ste Laan, Villieria, die „Pieter Human-park” genoem word.

Alhoewel die betrokke park as Republiekpark bekend geraak het omrede dit tot stand gebring is met fondse wat tydens die Republiekfees beskikbaar gestel is, is genoemde Stadsraadsbesluit geneem na aanleiding van 'n brief wat die Sekretaris van die betrokke Kieswyk se Belastingbetalersvereniging aan die Raad gerig het met die navolgende strekking:

„Op 'n behoorlik gekonstitueerde bestuursvergadering van die Belastingbetalersvereniging Innesdal Noord-oos, Kieswyk 22, onder voorsitterskap van mnr. J. J. F. Joubert is daar besluit om aan te beveel dat bogenoemde park na die huidige voorsitter van hierdie vereniging, mnr. Pieter Human, vernoem word.

Mnr. Human was vanaf 1961 tot en met 1964 Sekretaris en is sedertdien ononderbroke voorsitter van hierdie vereniging. Hy het sedertdien ook 'n belangrike rol in die Federasie van Belastingbetalersverenigings gespeel en is tans nog die hulpsekretaris van die Federale Raad. Soos dit blyk uit bogenoemde gegewens het mnr. Human hom werklik beywer, nie alleen vir die belastingbetalers van sy wyk nie, maar vir die belastingbetalers van die stad.”

Mnr. Pieter Human, tans woonagtig te Beyersstraat 825, Rietfontein, is sedert die begin van 1942 in Pretoria woonagtig en by Yskor werksaam.

Hy is op 5 Februarie 1923 gebore te Zastron, O.V.S., alwaar hy in 1940 aan die Hoërskool gematrikuleer het. Hy was die jongste (of, in sy eie woorde: „die laatlammetjie”) uit 'n gesin van sewe kinders, van wie die oudste, 'n dogter, in die konsentrasiekamp op Aliwal-Noord omgekam het.

Ná Matriek, het hy vir ongeveer 'n jaar lank in 'n myn op Randfontein gewerk, voordat hy na Pretoria gekom het.

Op 6 Mei 1944 het hy te Balfour in die huwelik getree met 'n nooie Van Niekerk wat in daardie jaar hom as haar vernaamste „verjaardag-present” gekry het.

Hulle oudste seun studeer tans aan die Militêre Akademie, Saldanha, die tweede kind, 'n dogter, is vanjaar in matriek aan die Hoërskool Oos-Moot, terwyl die derde kind in Rietfontein-Noord in St. I is — ook soos sy Pa 'n „laatlammetjie”.

—G. J. VAN ECK.

NOG 'N BRIEF UIT DIE BOERELAER TE LADYSMITH

MET verwysing na 'n brief van kommandant-generaal P. J. Joubert aan dr. E. J. P. Jorissen, soos gepubliseer in „Pretoriana” No. 56/57 (pp. 5-6), mag die volgende weergawe van 'n brief gedateer 20 Desember 1899, wat J. F. de Man in die Boerelaer voor Ladysmith aan sy vriend F. C. Kraamwinkel (Frits) geskryf het, moontlik ook interessant wees. J. F. de Man het kort nadat hy die brief geskryf het, gesneuwel.¹⁾

F. C. Kraamwinkel (1869-1941) was vanaf 1893 by die Nederlandsche Zuid-Afrikaansche Spoorwegmaatschappij in Pretoria werksaam, waar J. F. de Man ook gewerk het. In 1899 is F. C. Kraamwinkel met sy eggenote en kind met verlof na Holland. Terwyl hulle nog in Holland was, het die Anglo-Boere-Oorlog uitbreek. Slegs deur met 'n omweg en later elkeen op sy eie te reis, kon die ouerpaar weer daarin slaag om Pretoria teen die einde van 1899 te bereik.

Die oorspronklike brief van J. F. de Man, tesame met talle dokumente, foto's en ander materiaal uit die lewe en tyd van die egpaar F. C. Kraamwinkel, wat as immigrantepioniers in die dae van die Z.A. Republiek na Transvaal gekom het en hul in Pretoria gevestig het, sal binnekort by die Transvaalse Argiefbewaarplek berus.

—P. O. KRAAMWINKEL.

¹⁾ Skrywer meen dat J. F. de Man gesneuwel het slegs enkele dae nadat die brief geskryf is. J. F. de Man se naam verskyn op die gedenksteen in die voorgewel van die Ned. Herv. Kerk, du Toitstraat, Pretoria, waarop die name van 77 Nederlanders en Oud-Nederlanders, wat hul lewe vir die saak van die Boere-republieke gegee het, uitgebeitel is.

Voor Ladysmith 20 December '99.

Waarde vriend.

Door deze kan ik u melden dat ik nog uitstekend gezond ben en ik hoop dat je ook nog in dezelfde conditie verkeert. Je brief heb ik verleden week ontvangen het lijkt voor mij dat je geen erge plezierige terugreis hebt gehad. Als ik jou was ging ik zelf maar gauw naar Kaapstad om je vrouw te halen want die zal het daar ook niet plezierig hebben, en daarbij is het ook een dure liefhebberij.

Je schrijft mij dat je niet kunt begrijpen dat iemand met ideën zoals ik, te velde gegaan ben, tenzij ik door de stroom meegesleept ben. Maar dit is niet het geval. Het was een mooi gelegenheid om eens wat anders mee

te maken als dag aan dag achter een draaibank te staan. Nu zal ik niet ontkennen dat het min of meer een gevaarlijke aardigheid is, maar onkruid vergaat niet, en als ik er in blijf is het het zwaarste wat ik tot nog toe nog meegemaakt heb. Het is anders hier lang geen boterlikken. Wij zijn geweest dat we in geen week of drie een tent noch een stukje schoon goed zagen. En dan soms een dag of vier aan een stuk regenen. Toen hebben we nog al eens een kneippkuur meegemaakt. Dan de eene dag voor drie man eten en de volgende paar dagen nog voor geen kind en daarbij veel marscheren en wacht kloppen. Nu liggen we hier zoo 'n week of acht voor Ladysmith. Ik denk echter dat we daar wel gauw verandering in zullen krijgen, nadat de Boeren verleden week Vrijdag zulk een prachtige overwinning behaald hebben. Dat gevecht had zowat een uur loopen van ons lager plaats. Wij zijn met verscheidene luidjes op een hooge kop geweest en hebben van daar het gevecht mooi gezien. Zoals je zeker al weet hebben de boeren daar 10 kanonnen ook genomen. Nu zijn wij natuurlijk in de verwachting dat de Engelschen in Ladysmith de een of andere nacht ook eens buiten zullen komen kijken. Hedenmorgen begon om een uur of vier weer een geregeld kanonvuur in de buurt van Colenso. Het heeft echter maar een paar uur geduurt. L.1. maandag heeft onze maxim veel beesten van de Engelschen dood geschoten. Die dieren krijgen het ook zwaar. In geheel Ladysmith is geen gaven plekje meer te zien. Ik denk dat de Engelschen hier over het algemeen geen plezierige kerstmis zullen hebben. Wij hebben voor onze kompie een flinke kist met versnaperingen besteld, dan kunnen we ons tenminste nog eens te goed doen, als de Engelschen tenmiste geen verandering in het program brengen. Frits, als je die kijker van mij nog hebt zou je mij een plezier kunnen doen door hem op te sturen, liefst als post packet. Onze ooggen zijn dikwijls niet voldoende om alles te kunnen waarnemen zooals die boeren dat doen. Het is verwonderlijk welk een gezicht die kerels hebben. Als wij niets zien als een wolk stof kunnen zij ruiters van voetvolk onderscheiden. Nu zal ik maar stoppen met schrijven. Ik hoop nog eens in Pretoria terug te komen en dan zullen nog wel eens een bakje zetten.

Gegroet.

(get.) J. F. DE MAN.

THE OCCUPATION OF PRETORIA BY THE BRITISH FORCES II

TAKEN FROM WAR LETTERS FROM THE VELD A.D. 1900

By C. R. PRANCE

HEARSAY MEMORIES OF THE COLONIAL MUTINY

THE great mutiny of Colonial troops, which broke out soon after the occupation of Pretoria, was largely due to the limitations of "the military mind" which still looked on a British army in the light of Wellington's ideal, as a mob of "blackguards" officered by "gentlemen".

Had an Army Order been circulated to suggest that looting "is not done" by gentlemen, with the threat that any found guilty of it would be "severely dealt with", it might have been well enough. But blunt notice was given, that the penalty of looting would be — death.

A few hours later, an Australian trooper was caught in the act of looting a jeweller's shop; and the Court Martial, finding him guilty, had no option but to sentence him to death.

Colonial contingents being massed as a Division, mass-protest was quickly organized, and so grave was the outlook that the Court reconsidered, or the C-in-C interposed his authority, and the sentence was mitigated to a long term of I.H.L.

That did not satisfy men who considered that a fine would have met the case, and wholesale mutiny was only suppressed by training guns on the Colonial Division camp; after which the Division was broken up and the Colonial contingents scattered as auxiliaries to Imperial troops. But for a time the situation was very grave.

MISGUIDED "TEMPERANCE"

The limitations of the military mind were sehwon once again by an order issued by Roberts on arrival in Pretoria. In the interest of temperance, the retail sale of liquor to the troops was forbidden. Liquor could only be bought in wholesale quantities, on a written order signed by an officer.

The Regular regiments of course had their canteens in camp. The South African Irregulars and other Colonial contingents as a rule had no canteens.

Their pay was about £7.10 monthly for the lowest rank, and some contingents drew two or three months back-pay on arrival in Pretoria, so that large sums were available, easily able to cope with the difficulty of "wholesale quantity".

Colonial "other ranks" were mostly on easy terms with their officers, and E. Squadron, 2nd Brabants Horse, was no exception to the rule. So,

having drawn their pay, the N.C.O. deputed the Sergt. Major to approach the Captain, "Texas Jack" Ogilvy, for a liquor-chit.

"Make out your list and I'll sign it" was the answer. They made out a list of all they could afford to buy. He signed, and a deputation went down town and came back with a 4-wheel carriage loaded with assorted booze.

Being just in from a long march, no duty was to be expected for a day or two, and after arranging the routine of "guards" etc. the N.C.O. "got down to it" under the Quartermaster-Sergeant's wagon draped with a bucksail to make a marquee of a sort.

I was on guard that night on the horse-lines, and soon after 10 p.m. the Sergt. Major, old "Three-fingered Jack" a hard-case Scot who had lost two fingers in mine machinery, came rolling up to ask what the hell I was doing there.

"Hello, p-Pransh olboy, whatsh the game"?

"I'm on horse-guard, Sergeant-Major".

"Horsh-guard be damned. You're a damned good fellow. Hic-come along with me and have a drink."

"I can't leave my duty, Sergeant-Major. I'll be run in if an officer comes along and finds nobody here."

"Duty be d-damned. I hic-give you an order to Hic-come along with me and have a drink. I'll put you under arrest for disobedience if you refuse."

Well, it was useless to argue, so under orders I went for "a quick one" at the N.C.O. shebeen, crawling under the tarpaulin to find a motley crowd making good past privations in the veld. A quick one — another one for luck — and I was free to go back to duty on the horse-lines till relieved at 2 a.m.

Meantime there had been sensational happenings unknown to us. The Colonel and most of the other officers were caught fast in town by ignorance of the pass-word to get back to camp. And about midnight a special message had come to say that the Regular garrison at Commando Nek to the west had been overwhelmed by a sudden Boer attack and had lost some guns. An escort was required to take out new guns at daybreak, and the honour of providing the advance-guard had been awarded to 2nd Brabants Horse — whose officers were nearly all away and undiscoverable by urgent messengers.

The Colonel got back at last, to find this surprise-packet awaiting him — and at about 2 a.m. E. Squadron received orders to be on the move at dawn.

Our Captain, "Texas Jack," was compos mentis but, for the time,

unable to stand up. The Sergt. Major and most of the N.C.O. were frankly "blotto" and a majority of the troopers in the like predicament. Lieut. Ramberg, the Austrian, was the only officer in a condition to take command, and in the grey pre-dawn he paraded with a Corporal and perhaps two dozen troopers, some of whom fell off hopelessly and helplessly at the order "Mount!"

The rest of our handful cantered off to the appointed place and scattered as advance-guard across the long narrow valley leading to Commando Nek.

Meantime, in camp, chaos had reached the pitch of comedy as the drunkards sobered-up. "Three-finger Jack", staggering, wept openly at the realization that "my boys" had gone off to fight and left him in a drunken sleep. In the teeth of protest that he was not fit to ride, he ordered a man to saddle-up his mare.

She was a beautiful blood-mare, blue roan, of a nervous temperament, and by clumsy handling she had been so spoiled as to be quite unsafe for ordinary riding in time of peace. She would never abide the sight of a spur, and even "Three-fingered Jack" had always to have his rifle handed to him after he was up.

Today — to hell with all that. His mare was fetched, hobbled and held down while he clambered up, rifle and all, and wearing his biggest spurs. His helpers let go and ran for cover; he jammed in his spurs — and an equine earthquake threw him on a bell-tent which collapsed enfolding him. And as he bellowed, wrestling with the folds of canvas tangled in his spurs — behold, Texas Jack, awakened by the shindy, stood swaying unsteadily, hands on hips, regarding the pantomime with a sardonic grin.

A sudden brain-storm seized the Sergt. Major's fuzzy brain. Staggering to his feet, he clapped the Captain on the shoulder saying "Hic-Captn Ogilvy, sh-my unpleashant duty to make you a hic-prishner for being drunk and dishorderly in camp"

As for our handful, we had an uneventful ride, our number steadily growing as man after man sobered-up, got his horse, and rode out independently to catch us up. And one of the last recruits was Ogilvy himself, in a condition of black fierce rage which we only understood when we got back to camp.

"Three-fingered Jack" was a prisoner on our return, awaiting court-martial. But he managed to make it plain to Ogilvy that he had ample evidence to prove that Ogilvy himself had in fact been too drunk to ride at dawn, and if there was to be one Court-Martial, there would assuredly be two. So proceedings against "Three-fingered Jack" were summarily dropped — leaving the squadron however under the handicap of a Captain and a Sergeant-Major not on speaking terms.

And the whole disgraceful business arose directly from Roberts' well-meant but disastrous plan to prevent the British soldiers from getting drunk.

Submitted by N. A. Coetzee. Taken from the original manuscript.

THE PRETORIA CLUB

THE old club house of the Pretoria Club at the intersection of Paul Kruger Street and Vermeulen Street was for 77 years the rendezvous of members of the oldest surviving social and residential club in the Transvaal. It links modern Pretoria with the small but egregious capital of the Republic of President Kruger's day. It is rich in association with most of the men who built Pretoria as we know it and with many who played leading roles in the history of Southern Africa over the past 100 years.

For these reasons, if none other, the old place deserves more than passing attention by all who rightly interest themselves in the history of their city. There is also the consideration of sentiment and it can be stated with certainty that sadness over its apparently inevitable demolition will not be confined to the members who have moved with such patent reluctance to new premises on the other side of Paul Kruger Street.

The first portion of the old club house was built in 1891 following upon a rapid expansion of Pretoria in keeping with the even more spectacular growth of Johannesburg.

The club itself had come into being in 1885 at a time when Pretoria was a town of about 3,000 Europeans and not half as big as present-day Brits. One of the prime movers in its establishment had been Richard Kelsey Loveday, later a member of the Volksraad for Barberton and a supporter of Kruger in at least one matter, the proclamation of the Sabie Reserve, fore-runner of the Kruger National Park. Kruger had been from the beginning the club's sole honorary member resident in the Transvaal, a distinction specially written into its constitution.

The first club house had been a hired cottage on Church Square where the South African Reserve Bank now stands. But after the proclamation of the Witwatersrand Goldfields in 1886 there had been such an expansion of membership that the provision of larger premises became imperative.

Faced with this demand and with their eyes on the golden horizon south of the town, members committed themselves to what was then an enormous expenditure of £11,000 on a club house with a 40 foot dining



room, reading and billiards rooms, two card rooms, 25 bedrooms and stables for ten horses.

This portion, less than half the mansion now standing, was built by J. Munro to the design of R. M. Campbell and F. Emley. The distinguishing feature of the double-storeyed front elevation on Vermeulen Street was the centrally-placed entrance flanked by two stoeps. The familiar photograph by Joseph Barnett (or his younger brother, David) of the Reform triallists with their lawyers was taken on one of these stoeps. There is the interesting possibility that a foundation stone, if one exists, may have been bricked in when the stoeps were incorporated into the main fabric of the building in later years.

The original dining room was the scene of an address by Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain) to members of the club in 1896. The room was at the back of the house and unbearably hot in summer. As recently as 1903 there were complaints that the punkahs swaying over the heads of diners were inadequate aids to ventilation. The committee turned down a request for electric fans, pointing out that Pretoria then had electricity only at night.

A few years before the South African War a new billiards room was built at the back to form a north wing. The old billiards room was transformed into a bar lounge. In those days gentlemen preferred to take their drinks while seated. Later the bar itself, then in a small room which became a cloakroom, was moved to the bar lounge and men were able to lean on the counter with one foot on the rail, in the modern manner.

The club house was considerably enlarged in 1905 with the addition of an east wing which provided a large T-shaped dining hall at ground level and a spacious library on the first floor. At the same time the main



Typical of the spacious elegance of a departed period was the writing room of the old Pretoria Club. This was the dining room when the club house was built in 1891 and it was here that Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain) addressed members in 1897. It became the reading and writing room when the dining hall and library wing was added in 1905. The newspaper stand at the left was imported from London in the 1890's. (The Pretoria News.)

staircase was moved from off the front hall to a new stairwell at the east end of the original building.

The architects of the new wing were Frans Soff and W. J. de Zwaan and the builder was L. Dekker.

A charming feature was an arched gateway through which members gained access to the coachhouse and stables at the back.

The last major alterations were made in 1930 when rooms along the Vermeulen Street frontage were reconstructed to provide a private dining room, an entrance porch, a porters' lodge and bigger offices for the secretary and his staff. The work was put in hand with some trepidation for it was by then abundantly apparent that the older portion of the house was cracking badly and in some danger of falling down. T. C. Wolley Dod, Pretoria's first electrical engineer and a member of the club, advanced the theory that this was due to the drying out of the subsoil because the town's water furrows no longer had water coursing down them.

The solid furniture of the club house, much of it bought in 1905, has been renovated and taken to the new club building. But of even greater interest to the historian are the early records which have been placed in the club's "archives": perhaps the most complete set owned by any social club of comparable age in Southern Africa.

The records include an unbroken series of minutes of annual and special general meetings from inauguration in 1885. They include four books containing the names of all men ever nominated and elected to membership since the club's inception. In most cases the occupation of the candidate is stated, though many during the earlier years were written down as "gentlemen".

There are lamentable gaps in the minutes of meetings of the club's committee and sub-committees. There are a few books recording the names of early visitors from other clubs; one recording that J. X. Merriman (at that time Chairman of the Civil Service Club in Cape Town) arrived on January 20, 1887. A letter from Merriman to his wife, dated January 21, describes Pretoria as "a sort of tumble-down, untidy Dutch village . . . there is plenty of water but I do not believe there is a single house which does not want repair in some way or another . . . the amusing thing is that

it supports two clubs, a Dutch one and an English one. I am staying at the former . . .”

Of great interest are letter books containing copies of outward correspondence. There are also two “suggestions and complaints” books with entries that provide vivid glimpses of how the clubmen reacted to changes in the world around them.

These records have provided material for a brief outline of the club’s history, shortly to be published in book form for circulation to members.

—A. K. W. ATKINSON.

LAERSKOOLTUINKOMPETISIE — 1968

Die volgende skole het pryse verower met die skooltuinekompetisie vir laerskole in die skoolraadsdistrik Pretoria vir die jaar 1968. Mnr. H. Bruins-Lich van die parke-afdeling van die Pretoriase Stadsraad het die beoordeling gedoen vergesel van mnr. H. H. Minnaar, inspekteur van skole van die Transvaalse Onderwysdepartement.

Laerskool Rachel de Beer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1ste
Laerskool Die Poort	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2de
Laerskool Saamspan	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3de

Veels geluk aan die skole en dank aan mnre. Bruins-Lich en Minnaar.

Die beoordeling van die tuin van die Laerskool Rachel de Beer word hier afgedruk as ’n aanmoediging vir al die skole vir die toekoms.

PUNTETOEKENNING:

(Maks.)

I. BEPLANNING EN UITLEG:

1. Hoofingangsarea (Voortuin)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	10
2. Sportgronde	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	3
3. Speelgronde	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	5
4. Vergaderplek	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	3
5. Agterplaas en diensarea	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2
6. Paaie	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	4
										<u>30</u>	<u>28</u>

II. INAGNAME VAN FAKTORE WAT DIE UITLEG BEÏNVLOED:

1. Aangrensende geboue en strate	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1
2. Uitsig	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2
3. Bestaande plante	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2
4. Noordrigting	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2
5. Grondhelling	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	3
										<hr/>	<hr/>
										10	10
										<hr/>	<hr/>

IV. KONSTRUKSIES:

1. Bome	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16	16
2. Struike en rose	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	10
3. Grasperke	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17	15
4. Jaarplante en blomme	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	6
5. Algemene Voorkoms en Versorging	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	6
										<hr/>	<hr/>
										55	53
										<hr/>	<hr/>

III. PLANTEGEBRUIK:

1. Mure en skerms	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1
2. Plaveisel	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	3
3. Pergolas en prieële	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	—
										<hr/>	<hr/>
										5	4
										<hr/>	<hr/>
										100	95
										<hr/>	<hr/>
										<hr/>	<hr/>

TOTAAL

Pragtige bome en puik onderhoud.

Grasperke baie netjies. Dit is 'n baie mooi voorbeeld vir ander skole.

21-11-68.

—H. BRUINS-LICH.