

E. L. McGillivray (verlof), mej. E. B. Oakes (verlof), mnre. M. H. Blem (verlof), J. H. Gouws en A. M. de Ras. Tydelik werksaam was: Mev. M. C. Wiid, mev. M. van Bergen, mnr. A. E. Noble, mej. B. E. du Preez, mej. H. A. Gröbler, mev. S. Strydom, mnr. R. Ogden, mej. V. Hatton, mej. E. Ostrominski, mev. E. Fröhlich, mev. M. Maugham en mev. H. F. Chandler.

'n Interessante aspek ten opsigte van die terrein en geboue wat deur die C.H.S. ontruim is, is dat erwe 617 en 618 vir onderwys-doeleindes voorbehou was. Hierdie voorbehoud is kragtens Uitvoerende Komitee-besluit nr. 1625 van 22.6.1951 teruggetrek en daarna vir doeleindes van die Transvaalse Provinsiale Administrasie voorbehou.

Reeds voordat hierdie reëlings getref is het, op aanbeveling van die Transvaalse Onderwysdepartement, die Uitvoerende Komitee op 9.5.1951 (nr. 2655) besluit dat formele goedkeuring verleen word vir die oorpasing van die departementele biblioteek- en skoolbiblioteekdienste, asook die eksamenafdeling van die T.O.D. na die leegstaande skoolgebou. Tewens is 'n bedrag bewillig vir die omskepping van die gebou vir kantoordoel-eindes.

Nadat hierdie werksaamhede op of omstreeks 14.6.1951 voltooi was, is die gebou vermoedelik op 1.7.1951 deur die T.O.D. se biblioteekdiens in gebruik geneem.

Op 28.5.1955 het 'n nuwe fase in die geskiedenis van die historiese Staatsmodelskool-gebou aangebreek toe mnr. C. A. Cilliers, van die H.M.K., en dr. W. H. J. Punt die gebou en die terrein besoek het met die oog op moontlike proklamering daarvan tot historiese gedenkwaardig-heid, nadat laasgenoemde in sy hoedanigheid as voorsitter van die *Genootskap Oud-Pretoria* 'n memorandum, soos opgestel deur die skrywer van hierdie bydrae, aan die H.M.K. voorgelê het.

In die loop van 1957 het die Transvaalse Uitvoerende Komitee aan die H.M.K. meegedeel dat die Transvaalse Provinsiale Administrasie geen beswaar teen die verklaring van die gebou tot 'n historiese gedenkwaardig-heid het nie, maar dat formeel goedkeuring ook van die Departement van Lande verkry moes word.

Kragtens proklamasie nr. 474, van 8.4.1960, is die Staatsmodelskool-gebou, geleë op erf 617, Pretoria, tot 'n historiese gedenkwaardigheid verklaar wat o.m. insluit dat die gebou in 'n waardige toestand gehou word en dat geen veranderinge sonder die goedkeuring van die H.M.K., tans bekend as die R.N.G., aan die gebou aangebring mag word nie.

Daar is, in die loop van hierdie artikel, dikwels verwys na die strewe om huisvesting vir die C.H.S. in 'n nuwe gebou te verkry.

Op 2.4.1951 het die sekretaris van die skoolraad by die T.O.D. aanbe-veel dat 'n terrein van ongeveer 20 morg op die plaas Koedoespoort, noord van die rant agter Colbyn en suid van die Oosmoot-Silverton-spoorlyn en behorende aan die Metodistekerk van Suid-Afrika ten behoeve van die

volgende Engelsmedium-hoërskool aangeskaf word<sup>6</sup>.

Die Direkteur van Onderwys het op 1.5.1952 goedgekeur dat die toekomstige skool op Queenswood as die *Clapham High School* bekend sal staan en die huidige gebou is aan die begin van die eerste kwartaal 1955 betrek, nadat dit op 22.12.1954 voltooi was.

Op dieselfde dag waarop die nuwe C.H.S. in Queenswood se geskiedenis begin het, op 16 Januarie 1955, het sy ou tuiste, aan die onderent van Du Toitstraat, sy geskiedenis as die *Hillview High School* begin.

— JAN PLOEGER.

**Aantekeninge:**

- <sup>1</sup> Skoolraad-lêer 2/265, waarin Skoolraadsekr.-Kontroleur van provinsiale voorrade, 4.8.1948.
- <sup>2</sup> Skoolraad-notule, band 16.3.1950 - 16.11.1950. Hierdie gegewens is op grond van die inskrywings van Januarie 1950 opgestel en deur die skoolraad se sekretaris aan die voorsitter voorgelê. Die totale aantal skole het, tydens die onderhawige periode, van 50 - 62 en die totale aantal inskrywings van 21 439 tot 28 248 gestyg.
- <sup>3</sup> Skoolraad-notule, 16.3.1950.
- <sup>4</sup> Skoolraad-lêer 1/265, deel 2.
- <sup>5</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>6</sup> Ibid, lêer E.S. 3/1116/2, deel 1.

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## EXCERPTS FROM A TAPE-RECORDED TALK ON OLD PRETORIA

*By Mr. Charles J. Beanes, age 93 years*

Charles John Beanes, one of the Old Pretoria Society's first members, was born in the Parish of Paddington, in the County of Middlesex. He landed in Cape Town as a member of the British Military Post Office Corps on the 24th February, 1900 and found himself in Pretoria in March, 1901.

**MILITARY CAMPS:** A large military camp was sited east of Hill Street where Hatfield is today, it was to this camp that the columns came to refit once a fortnight or monthly. The cavalry regiments seemed to have been in camps in the area which we today know as Proclamation Hill; I did not see much of the camps around Pretoria, because I was in the Post Office Corps and travelled between Pietersburg and Waterval-Onder.

The name of the Pietersburg railway was not known by the name of Z.A.S.M. It ran from Pretoria West Station which was the name given after the British arrived here about 1903-04. Before that it was called "Pietersburg Road Station". The whole area of Pretoria West at that time became known by this name, whereas, it was previously called

Burger Right Erven. There is an English Primary School still recalling this name.

I did duty in Potchefstroom and whilst in Klerksdorp General De la Rey was active there and I saw General Methuen coming in on an ox wagon after being wounded and allowed by the General to be cared for in a British military hospital.

Kirkness Street was the boundary of the Sunnyside commonage and, Clydesdale with the ground to the east was vacant right over to where Hatfield, Hillcrest and Brooklyn is today. The military took possession and established Nos. 2 and 7 hospitals there. On the hill where Boys' High School is, they had a rest camp. Military buttons and oddments were dug up last year by Mr. Digby, a history teacher. The Imperial Yeomanry hospital was in Church Street on the corner of Beckett Street stretching up to where East Avenue is today. The hospital consisted of four marquees and I had the luck to be in one of the front ones; there was no smog in those good old days and it was clear enough to see Cape Town, if I had a telescope. I should add that there were only about twenty houses east of Hamilton Street.

The Welsh National hospital was at the Palace of Justice. I cannot remember any hospital being situated near the Old Volks Hospital in Potgieter Street near the Prisons Department.

The British built a station called "Sunnyside", the first halt on the Silverton branch. This station was for the ambulance trains that travelled from all fronts with the sick and wounded and served the hospitals and the recuperation centre at Boys' High, it was so called because the halt was situated on the Sunnyside Commonage — another railway name no longer found.

Rissik Station today is in Hatfield, on the piece of "Uitval" ground which is today called Hillcrest.

Mr. James Brooks, who sold Brooklyn, was a land surveyor. Rissik, too, was a land surveyor, he sold Hillcrest established on the part known as "Uitval". Someone else laid out Hatfield. At that time there were no registered streets; you could not go from Hatfield to Hillcrest or Brooklyn without going right back to Roper Street. Things changed when the municipality bought out properties in Hillcrest and made a road which is today known as Duncan Street which incorporated the old James Street which was named after the owner, James Brooks.

Herold Street was formerly "Blockhouse" Street, because of a British blockhouse built there. It is a small street and the blockhouse was so sited that it protected the lower lying areas. Its present name honours a Supreme Court Judge, who later took over the reigns of the Land Bank and, who very lately was presented with a gold watch by a local bank for being one of its oldest supporters.

Tindall Street was named after a lawyer, as was Lunnon Street. The old company used to be called Lunnon and Nixon; a road there was



*MR. C. J. BEANS BEING INTERVIEWED BY MR. T. E. ANDREWS*

*Photo: The Pretoria News*

also named Nixon. The firm later became Tindall and Mortimer and, when the latter died in the flu epidemic, Lunnon and Tindall joined forces and that firm still exists, under the son of Tindall.

Duxbury Road was named after an advocate. Brooklyn, Brook House and Brook Street recalls its founder James Brooks, the surveyor who helped survey the railway line to Lourenco Marques in the early days. He first lived near Berea Park in a home he called Brooklyn, in a street which was also named after him. This Brook's Street later became Rhodes Avenue.

Marais Street could be named after Rupert (or Charlie) Marais; Rupert Street is definitely named after him. Roper Street, or a portion of it was first called Albert Street, which was changed to avoid confusion with the same name in Waterkloof.

Meintjeskop Concentration Camp is a misnomer; this name was never thought of and it was also not called the National Scouts Camp; these names came into being after the war had ended. It was not sited on the Church Street side of the kop but on the Mootside at Rietondale. I travelled up Church Street many times and can definitely say that there was no camp on the Arcadia side of the hill.

A barrier was thrown across the road at Hill Street where the army camps were. The farmers could not go into Pretoria. Their produce was handed over to agents who later returned with the money of the sold goods.

The north side of Meinjeskop housed the veterinary hospital; this was a large camp and extended to where Villieria today stands.

An amusing incident of the war period that I can recall is that the British made a lot of use of "Dummy" soldiers in guarding blockhouses and bridges. There was one of these on "duty" on the Hartbees spruit before going through the poort to Silverton. A year or two after the war, there was a great outcry that someone had found a corpse of a Highlander in that area . . . the authorities naturally investigated and found . . . the remains of a British dummy.

The 50th anniversary brochure of the Union Buildings has a photograph of a "dam" or a pond or a stretch of water just below the kop. Of this Mr. Beanes says, "before the Union Buildings was erected, practically every house in Pretoria had a foundation of dressed stone which was quarried from this site below the southern summit of the hill, this is a sure way of dating many houses of our good city. The stone was conveyed down Vermeulen Street across Hamilton Street.

The Union Buildings, so to speak lies in this hollow of the quarry and today, most probably holds the archives of the Union and forms part of the amphitheatre.

The fenced in offices and ground of the Botany Department below the kop was the house of Eddie (E.P.A.) Meintjes, son of the man

who left his name to the hill, a fine man and one of our early town councillors who lived there for many years.

He sold the area including the hill for about £10,000 and then later bought back the small homestead portion from the Ziervogel Estate for the same amount. The Ziervogel Estate sold divisions to Johnston, Beckett and Crawford. Eddie Meintjes' house after Union, became the home of General Hertzog.

As regards the Botanical Gardens there, it must be stated that it owes its foundation to three men. The foresight of General Smuts and two others, one of whom was called Frith who, had a nursery in Proes Street and a shop on Market Square; I think some of his family is still in Pretoria. Frith's business went bankrupt. The General knew what a good man he was at his trade, he gave him a railway truck and authorized him and his partner to travel throughout the country and bring back any flora pertaining to the Union for replanting on this estate.

Frith was not a university man but he was a jolly good seedsman, and these qualities were recognised by General Smuts. The South African exhibition at Wembley, England, around 1923, was laid out by Frith and was proclaimed as the finest ever by world authorities. One wonders why a street in the area around Meintjeskop was not named after him.

Referring to street names in Colbyn, Mr. Beanes continues: The township was named after Colby in the Isle of Man where Mr. Kneen, the promotor was born. Douglas Street (which is named after the capital of the Isle) was also the name of one of his sons. Mr. Kneen did not name a street after himself because he thought it would cause a lot of trouble with the Post Office people who wouldn't know how to spell it properly, which shows he was a very sensible man. A small portion of the property was sold to Mr. Harris, a lawyer, whose name is recalled in one of the street names of that portion.

Hatfield, like Colbyn, was laid out by the Wesleyan (Methodist) Society. Lawley Street recalls Sir Arthur Lawley, Lieut.-Governor of the Transvaal. Burnett Street is named after Amos Burnet, principal of the native missions in the Transvaal, but they put two "t's" in his name, whereas he spelt it with one, but it was so registered and the mistake lives with us today still. When Colbyn was established, the promotors gave a street the name of Amos recalling his Christian name.

Richard Street is thought to recall Sir Richard Solomon, Attorney-General under Lawley, and one-time Acting-Governor General and former High Commissioner in London after Union. I am not sure why Prospect Street was so called, but it may have associations with "Prospect House" that once occupied the site of the present Population Register Buildings on the corner of Van der Walt and Schoeman Streets, used during the

Boer War as a sickbay for British officers housed in the Staatsmodel School. Whether these two names had any connection with the Methodist organisation I do not know.

It is of interest to note that the sale of liquor is prohibited and so inscribed in all deeds relating to Hatfield, Colbyn, Queenswood and Kilner Park townships laid out on old Methodist (Wesleyan) property.

Farenden Street in Arcadia is not spelt the same as the name in London, and its origin is not known.

Bourke Street, Sunnyside, was originally called Buiten Street, which caused confusion with another of this name in the town, so it assumed the name of Bourke which was its continuation in Muckelneuk, further south. A peculiar thing about Trevenna is that all the streets in this Welsh named suburb are Afrikaans. Kotzé Street was first called Klein Scheiding. Meintjes Street I would say was named after Eddie (E.P.A.) Meintjes. There were two streets of this name at one time, the other was the continuation of Arcadia's Wessels Street across Park Street. I caused it to be changed. Hill Street, Muckleneuk, became Hugh Street thus named by the Municipality in 1905. Who Hugh was, I do not know.

Trevenna is a Celtic name; the prefix "tre" means "a village" and the suffix a name or part of a personal name, thus we get "the village of Venna".

Jeppie and Mears Streets today join each other, but, in earlier times a house bearing a Welsh name stood on the Sunnyside part of the property and came right across Jeppie Street. Part of the ground was purchased to allow a throughway as it is known today.

Padnoller Avenue recalls an estate of the same name in that area, the owner and the origin of the name is unknown to me.

I lived in Van der Byl Avenue for some years and at that time the property was owned by Mr. van der Bijl, who lived at Constantia Villa in Esselen Street, his estate recalled his birthplace in the Cape, I think. It later received the name of a London Square when purchased by a man in the plumbing business, but it has since been pulled down. Van der Bijl's son, as we all know, joined Escom at General Smuts' request and was later concerned with Iscor. Vanderbijlpark is named after him.

The building adjoining the C.N.A. in Church Street, bearing the date of 1877 on the gable, was originally owned by Henwood, Son and Souter, who owned the site where the present Central Street is sited; they erected this building just before Union; the date on the gable records the fact that the company was founded in Lydenburg at that date, and in reality, should not have been placed on this building. It is very misleading and should be erased. Central Street was only laid

out about thirty years ago. The Pretorius Street end was an open garage, a small place for petrol.

In the same street where the old City Hall stands was originally the office of the Pretoria Waterworks, situated well back from the street. It was bought by the Municipality when the City Hall came into existence in 1904.

The water company had an unusual method of metering; you paid for the number of taps on the property; of course, as one got most of their water from the furrows for gardens, many people only had one tap.

The building on the south east corner of Pretorius and Van der Walt Streets is the oldest building in that street. It was erected before the Boer War and its outside appearance has never been changed. It was a produce dealer, one of the many required to supply graze for the cattle and horses in Pretoria at that time.

A lot has been written and said about the Gundelfinger building and, also for some time being referred to as Metro Cycle House or Buildings. I want to record that this building was never owned or known by the name Gundelfinger. Mr. Sammy Marks erected this building and it was owned by his estate until last year when the Municipality bought it to form part of the intended new square.

Gundelfinger and Metro do not deserve the honour of having this building named after them. It was always called Sammy Marks' Building. Marks let one of the seven shops to Gundelfinger, a wholesaler, who changed his name to Gundel in 1914-18 because of the anti-German feeling at the time when many of our German citizens had their business premises damaged. After his change of name and the end of the war I lost trace of the family and do not know if they are still in Pretoria.

This building was erected in 1903 and up to thirty years ago only three shops were let. The upper section could not be used until Marks had the building redesigned; when the first floor of the building was erected it could only be reached through the individual shops as the walls separating each establishment was too thick, and went right up to roof level. It was this firewall that saved the building from complete destruction when a fire broke out in one of the shops a few months ago.

The oldest building in central Pretoria today is the small shop adjoining the eastern side of Sammy Marks' building which housed the famous ammunitions firm of Kynochs.

Another old one-storey building in Church Street is today used by Buirsky's, between Hamilton's old "Durban House" and the Square, which used to be the Metropole Hotel kept by a German, who lies buried in the old cemetery. It is said that when the Boer War broke out he was commandeered to serve, but he went to President Kruger, whom he knew well, and explained that he could not go and fight because his two



sons had joined the British forces; he was given permission to stay and carry on his business. The Metropole was a public house as well, and was the finest food establishment in Pretoria.

Where Barclays Bank building stands on the Square today, there was a building called Alexandria, which was first known as Mortgage Building, owned by Cape financiers headed by the Charlie Marais group. Alexandria Building came down in the late '30's or early '40's.

Somerset House in Vermeulen Street was owned by Charles Maggs, who also owned the Somerset Estate near Potgietersrust. He had vast interests in the tin mines of the north-western Transvaal and in Portland Cement.

T. W. Beckett had other businesses in Pretoria besides the well-known shop on the corner of Van der Walt and Church Streets. One was the Ready Money Outfitting Company on the south-east corner of Church and Andries Streets where Cuthberts now stands, and another was the Continental Bottle Store. His store selling furniture was in Market (Paul Kruger) Street between Pretorius and Schoeman Streets.

Izak Haarhoff, dealing in agricultural implements, had his shop opposite Beckett's where the present C.N.A. is sited today.

The power station, a small one, was in Schoeman Street and occupied the ground later used as tram sheds. It closed down in 1923 when the new station was occupied in Pretoria West.

General Smuts lived on the north-east corner of Bourke and Walker Streets, occupying the whole small block until 1908 when he moved to Doornkloof. His house was demolished to make way for a garage.

Lisdogan Estate (being demolished) to the east of Pretoria had its entrance in Church Street. This property was owned by Andrew Johnston who came from Lisdogan in Northern Ireland. The Homestead stood on the northern section towards the hill which was cut off from the lower garden section when the Government built the road from the Union Buildings to Brynterion. The lower cutoff portion was sold to the Munro's and Joe Giovanetti, who laid it out under Johnston's name of Lisdogan.

Craiglea, "the farm" in Church Street East, was owned by Hugh Crawford, a Scotsman, manager of the Standard Bank in Kimberley, who became financial adviser to Mr. Sammy Marks.

Hill Street, Arcadia, was originally called Hillbrow Street.

Transcribed by T. E. ANDREWS.

*Postscript:* Since the above article was written, information has come to hand that the Gundelfinger who changed his name, was not the family associated with Marks' Building. Mr. Gundelfinger's family is resident in Johannesburg.

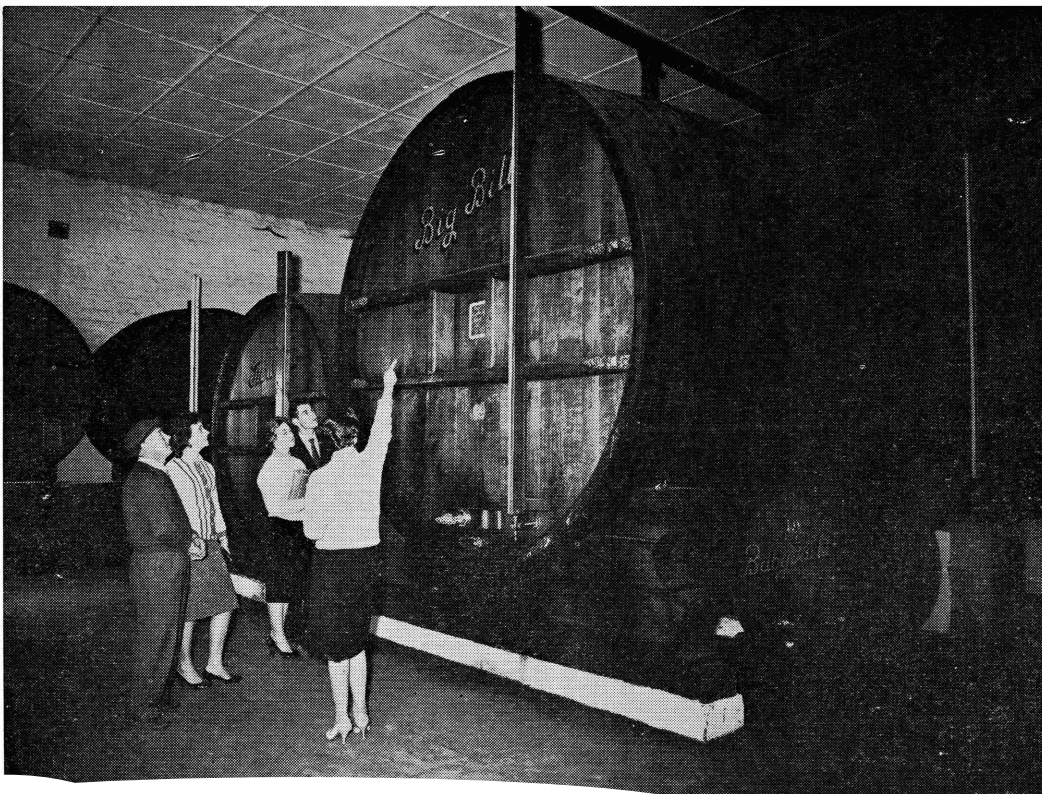


Foto: Terence McNally. Met komplimente van die K.W.V. verskaf.  
 How Bachelors - When - get together - present - of - people - and - together -  
 how - well - together - in - the - cellar - of - people - and - together -

(„Billy”) Mill

... wyneuiers van die K.W.V., Suider-Paarl, is  
 'n vat van 2,000 gelling „Mrs. Bill” na sy eggenote heet.

Die Redakteur,  
**Pretoriana.**

Na aanleiding van my artikel **Rugbyspringbokke na wie Straatname in Danville vernoem is**, in Pretoriana No. 62, April 1970, net die volgende:

- (1) By die foto op bladsy 12 moes die volgende onderskrif ingevoeg gewees het: „Springbokkaptein Billy Millar met die Springbokkop, by V. Coates, kaptein van Somerset wat die Springbokke se eerste teenstanders was op hul Britse toer in 1913-14.”

Verder dien dit vermelding dat Millar se span die eerste Springbokspan was wat die springbokkop op 'n Britse toer saam-geneem het vir oorhandiging aan die eerste span wat die Suid-Afrikaners verslaan. Op dié toer na Brittanje moes die Springbokke die kop die eerste afstaan aan Newport wat hulle op Donderdag, 24 Oktober 1913 op Newport hul eerste neerlaag van die toer met 9—3 besorg het.

- (2) Op bladsy 13 van bogenoemde artikel word melding gemaak van die vat “Big Bill” wat na Billy Millar vernoem is en die vat wat “Mrs. Bill” heet. Tydens my onlangse besoek aan die wynkelders van die K.W.V. te Suider-Paarl, het ek vir “Big Bill” en “Mrs. Bill” gaan „kuier” en van die Reklame-afdeling van die K.W.V. later die foto gekry waarop die genoemde vate (asook “Baby Bill”) verskyn. Die foto stuur ek hiermee aan u vir publikasie in **Pretoriana**. Terloops kan ek meld dat ek tydens my besoek aan die geselskap wat die gids deur die wynkelders geneem het, vertel het dat Pretoria ook Billy Millar vereer het deur 'n straatnaam na hom te vernoem as synde van die rugbyspringbokke uit die ou garde wat deur Pretoria vereer is. Lesers van **Pretoriana** kan gerus wanneer hulle in die Kaap kom 'n besoek bring aan die K.W.V. wat besoekers baie goed ontvang en ook sommer vir “Big Bill”, “Mrs. Bill” en “Baby Bill” in die kelder gaan dagsê!

- (3) Oor Bennie Osler (bl. 17 en 18) verskyn daar in A. C. Parker se jongste boek getiteld **The Springboks 1891-1970**, 'n hele hoofstuk: “The Bennie Osler Era”, waarvan die laaste paragraaf soos volg lui:

“Bennie Osler’s funeral in Cape Town in April, 1962 — he died at the age of 60 — was attended by many leading rugby officials and players. A number of Malay supporters of Villagers and Hamiltons, who used to cheer him at Newlands, came to pay their last respects to one of the greatest of all of South African rugby footballers.”

G. J. VAN ECK.

The Editor,  
**Pretoriana.**

Dear Sir,

I was interested in the enquiry about Salvokop. This name was given to the railway township situated below its summit. From all appearances I think that the name was given this century when the military took over that ground for manoeuvres.

It is from this hill that the 25 pounder salutes welcomes the heads of state.

This hill in Republican days was the one I think called "Timeball Hill," so called because of the "ball" system used to inform the inhabitants of what mail had arrived.

In Jas. Grey's book "Payable Gold" we read:

"In 1880 J. A. de Vogel, the Postmaster General at Pretoria, announced that, in order to show the arrival and delivery of the different mails, signals would be hoisted from the peak on the telegraph signal staff. Some were:

Ball — Kimberley mail has arrived.

Ball, with drum underneath — Kimberley mail is in and has brought an English mail.

Cone — Natal mail is in.

Cone, with drum underneath — Natal mail is in and has brought English newspapers.

When any of these mails were ready for delivery, a flag was to be hoisted underneath the signals."

Hoping this may be of interest to your readers.

Yours sincerely,

T. E. ANDREWS.