

Pretoriana

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DE LOOR'S BPK.

Die oudste Bakkers van Pretoria

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FOON 23291 VIR DIE BESTE DIENS

THE

FOUNTAIN LODGE

In 1955 Pretoria will celebrate its centenary and our City Council is preparing plans to make the centenary an outstanding event in the Capital's history. We citizens will then look back to the time that our town was merely a farm, consisting of a number of hartebeeshuisies.

To-day very few examples of Pretoria's earliest architecture are still in existence. One of the oldest of the houses is, however, still to be seen on the corner of Skinner and Market Streets (Paul Kruger Street). This homestead dates from the years between 1865-70 and is known as Fountain Lodge because a small fountain exists in the grounds. At present this property is for sale and the last example of a house of a well-to-do citizen such as Bras Pidade Pereira of Old Pretoria will disappear. This must not be allowed to happen. In the cities of Europe examples of historic houses, with corresponding furniture, are bought for preservation by associations, private persons or city councils. By this means the rich historical heritage of such a city's past is saved for the citizens of the future. By the acquisition of such a building the cultural life of both country and city is enriched.⁽¹⁾

A few months ago we published a plea to save the lodge. This plea has had favourable response for well-known City Councillor Leo Besaans has taken practical steps in the City Council to save Fountain Lodge for posterity. The Association Old Pretoria gives him full support and we feel confident that with the co-operation of the owners of the lodge, the City Council and public, the old house will be re-erected elsewhere.

It is proposed that Fountain Lodge be demolished and rebuilt from the original materials on municipal ground. The Fountains Valley where

Lucas Cornelius Bronkhorst built the first hartebeeshuis in 1840 is a very suitable site. The foundations of his home, the water furrow and part of the original orchard of Bronkhorst's property are still to be seen near the Kiosk. By rebuilding the house at the Fountains it would become the property of the City Council of Pretoria.

Old Pretoria will undertake to collect and donate the period furniture for the homestead so that visitors may see in what surroundings old Pretorians lived. The Association also offers its assistance in technical, cultural and historical matters. Naturally there will be an admission charge to view the house as is done in Europe and the proceeds pay for the upkeep of the property.

We hope that Councillor L. Besaans and Old Pretoria will succeed in having Fountain Lodge rebuilt so that in 1955 Pretorians and visitors to our centenary can be shown a characteristic example of Pretoria's old dwellings of a century ago.

Dr. W. PUNT,

Chairman, Association Old Pretoria.

(1) See Pretoriana, Vol. 2, No. 1, September 1952.

Pretoria—voor die koms van die Blanke

Vanuit die kloktoring van die Uniegebou sien 'n mens vandag die woelige middestad van Pretoria. Na die ooste klim die voorstede teen die rante uit en na die Weste vervaag die uitgestrekte stad voor die oog. Maar agter die rante en teen die hange van die Magaliesberg lê nog groot dele van die gesig versteke, want, Pretoria is 'n groot plek! Uitgestrek lê die brommende stad vandag daar en dit is moeilik om daaraan te dink dat dit vroeër 'n wilde wêreld moes gewees het.

Vir baie jare al stoot die Fonteine 'n ontsaglike hoeveelheid standhoudende vars water uit die ingewande van die aarde na buite. Vandag nog word daagliks enorme hoeveelhede skoon water deur die Stadsvadere opgevang en na die verbruikers in die stad gelei. Hierdie omgewing het dus, sedert die ontstaan van die Fonteine, vir mens en dier die een groot

aantreklikheid aangebied, nl. **water**. Sonder historiese getuienis weet ons dan ook dat lankal gelede, hier in die hart van 'n Donker Suidelike Afrika, die primitiewe jagters vanaf die heuwels en rante die wildtroppe bespied en saam met die leeu die dubbele voordeel van die Fonteine getrek het, nl. vleis en water. En waar ons nou saans die see van stads-
ligte sien, het toe snags net die verlore vuurtjies van die voorjagters gebrand, om die wolf en die groot katte van Afrika van „huis en hard” weg te hou.

Die Boesmans moes hier gewees het. Hulle was die hele Suid-Afrika vol voordat die koms van sterker Europeane en Bantoe die bestaan vir hulle onmoontlik gemaak het. En toe het hulle uitgewyk, die randeiers van die menseras, wegskuivende voor die vloedgolf van negeragtige volke wat, op Hamitiese wyse, hulle bont beeste voor hulle uitgejaag het, of gejag, bier gedrink, of op 'n klein skaal oorlog gevoer het, terwyl die vroue in die grond swoeg. Wanneer en óf die Hottentotte hier verby is weet ons nie.

Watter Bantoestamme almal hier in en rondom die huidige stad gewoon het, om op hulle beurt weer verjaag te word, weet ons ook nie. Droogtes, oorloë en pestilensies het die bevolkingsdigtheid van Suidelike Afrika in die verlede dikwels drasties aangetas en die verspreiding van die mens destyds periodiek beïnvloed. Maar van twee volke weet ons vandag heelwat — mense wat hier in die omgewing vertoef en 'n stempel gelaat het.

Waarskynlik byna twee eeue gelede het 'n Bantoe-patriarg, volgens die oorlewering van die Mapokkers, met sy see en sy volgelinge die gebied Natal (?) verlaat en in 'n noord-westelike rigting getrek. Sy naam was Musi, of Msi, leier en vader van die amaNdebele van die Transvaal. Waarom hy die suidwaartse trekbeweging van die Bantoe weer in die tru-rad gestee het, sover dit hom en sy huis aanbetref, weet ons nie, want die oudstes van sy lewende kinders weet ook nie. Maar, so vertel die amaNdebele, hy het halt geroep toe sy stam ongeveer in die omgewing van die Wonderboom gekom het. Die mans het begin krale aanlê, en die vroue het dekgras ingesamel en landjies begin bewerk wat vir hulle deur die hoof aangewys is.

In hierdie omgewing het die nageslag van dié Zoeloe-sprekende intrekkers vinnig in getalle toegeneem. Maar die ou patriarg Musi het oud en blind geword en hy het geweet dat **umDimu wambiza**, die Skepper, hom geroep het. En dan volg 'n merkwaardige verhaal wat die amaNdebele vandag nog as volg vertel:

Musi het twee seuns gehad, nl. Manala en Ndzundza. Manala was 'n hartstogtelike jagter en volgens die wette en gebruike van die stam **was** hy die opvolger van sy vader. Ndzundza was die jongere en die gunsteling van sy moeder. Toe die ou koning nou die Groot Skemering voor sy blinde oë sien val het hy beveel dat Manala voor hom gebring word, sodat hy aan sy seun die koningskap (ubukhosi) kon oorhandig. Maar Manala was vêr op die Springbokvlakte, besig om die blouwildebees te jag. Hard-

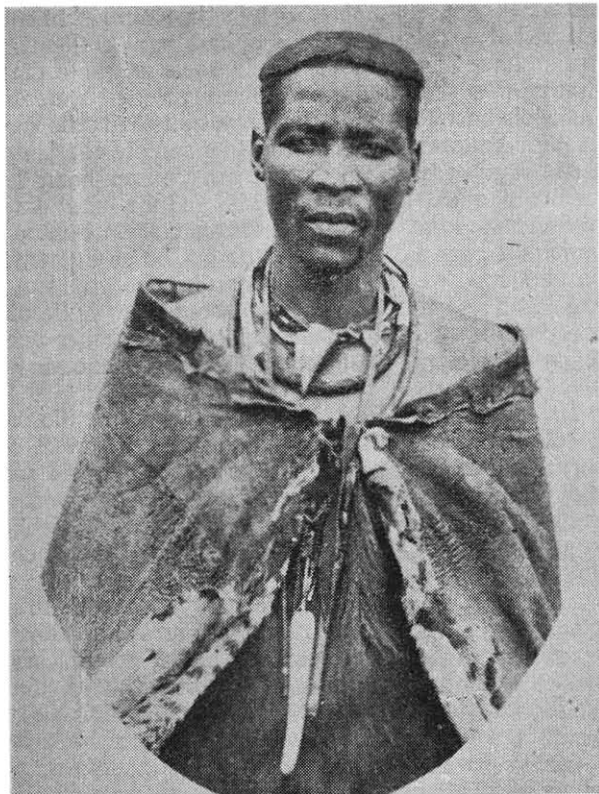


Foto: W. Punt

Njabela. 1883

lopers wat uitgestuur is om die seun te gaan roep kon die groep nie opspoor nie en het onverrigter sake na Pretoria teruggekeer.

In haar moederhart het die moeder van Ndzundza nou begin planne maak om haar liefling koning te laat word. Sy het die boodskappers by die sterwende koning weggehou en vir Ndzundza gestuur met die opdrag dat hy, met die „stem van Manala” na sy blinde vader moes gaan, om die **ubukhosi** te ontvang! Die ou man het egter die bedrog agtergekom en weer bodes weggestuur. Toe maak die moeder ’n ander plan. Manala was ’n man met ’n harige bo-lyf, iets wat ’n redelike hoë uitsondering onder die Bantoe is. Sy gee toe aan die hand dat Ndzundza ’n bokvel oor sy bors moet trek, sodat die ou koning dan kan voel dat hy „die

hand van Esau" het, niesteenstaande die stem wat hom hinder. En waarlik, Ndzundza ontvang die koningskap wat vir Manala bedoel was. Toe sterf die ou koning.

Toe Manala terugkeer was hy woedend. Met sy volgelinge het hy sy broer beleër, en Ndzundza het op die vlug geslaan in die rigting van die Olifantsrivier, oor Middelburg. Al-vegterende het die twee groepe nou in 'n Oostelike rigting begin beweeg en andermaal die omgewing van Pretoria aan die wild en die Boesmans agtergelaat. Die volgelinge van die vlugterende Ndzundza het die verste getrek en hulle uiteindelik gevestig by die latere Mapogstad. Dit is hulle wat later verantwoordelik was vir die Mapog-oorlog waarna ons weer verwys.

Gedurende die eerste kwart van die vorige eeu ontstaan daar weer moeilikheid in Natal wat 'n weerklank in die omgewing van Pretoria sou hê. Mzilikazi die Zoeloe-indoena, besluit dat hy genoeg vuil werk vir 'n ander man gedoen het. Sy pryslied (izibongo) begin dan ook met:

Mzilikazi kaMashobana!

Wen' owala ukudla umlenze kwaBulawayo!

Mzilikazi, seun van Mashobana!

Jy wat geweier het om 'n ondergeskikte rol te speel in die kraal van Shaka!

(Letterlik: Jy wat geweier het om beespote te eet in Bulawayo).

Hierdie man het, waar hy gegaan het, die wêreld met die skerpte van die spies kaal gestroop en daarna die vodde vir die vlamme gewerp. Daar moes niks agterbly vir die agtervolgende Zoeloe-impie nie. Teen die tyd wat hy hier in die omgewing van Pretoria aangekom het was sy vernielug al 'n bietjie afgekoel. Hier naby die huidige Hartebeespoortdam het hy selfs minderbelangrike groepies Sotho laat lewe! Hy kon dit egter nie na-laai om vir hom slag-osse vet te maak op hulle landjies voordat hulle dié ge-oes het nie!

Maar sy kwaad het hom agterhaal en die jagters van Mzilikazi het nie lank die skoon water van die Fonteine gedrink nie. Met die flagrante wandaad van vegkop in hulle geheue het die Trekkers hulle verskyning in die Transvaal gemaak en die spies moes wyk voor die vlam van die **umkhonto womlilo** (die geweer; lett. die vlamme spies). Al wat vandag vir ons hier aan die gepluimde impi van Mzilikazi, met hulle wuiwende sakakula-vere, herinner, is die name **Phel'indaba**, (die saak is afgehandel), en Silkaatsnek. Die koning het sy volgelinge laat oppak en deur die nek in die Magaliesberge koers gevat na die verre Noorde, na Bulawayo in Suid-Rhodesië. Hierdie mense staan vandag bekend as die amaNdebele van Rhodesië.

Intussen sit die amaNdebele van Transvaal in die Oos-Transvaal, waar die volgelinge van Ndzundza teen die einde van die vorige eeu in stryd gewikkel raak met die regering van die Z.A.R., omdat hulle aan

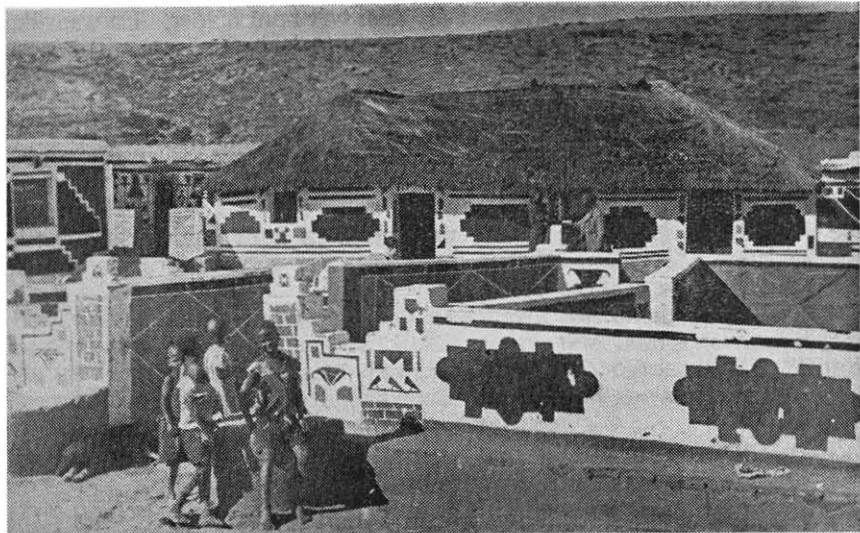


Foto: E. F. Potgieter

Mapokkerstat naby Pretoria

die Pedi moordenaar Mampuru skuiling bied en weier om hom uit te lewer. Nadat hulle verslaan is, is hulle nie weer toegelaat om as volk saam te woon nie. Hulle het werkvolk geword op plase en die kaptein, Nyabela, het gevangene geword in Pretoria. Voordat sy vonnis uitgedien is, het hy egter toestemming gekry om met 'n klompie volgelinge naby Derdepoort te gaan woon, op die plaas Hartebeestfontein. Op 'n plekkie wat ek met moeite opgespoor het lê hy begrawe in die vel van 'n swart bul tussen die ruïnes van sy laaste stadjie.

Vir die reisiger vorm die verre nageslag van Musi egter vandag nog 'n besienswaardigheid tussen Pretoria en Derdepoort. Die kinders van Nyabela (Mapog) woon vandag nog hier en hulle kinders, vrouens en huise pronk nog met die versierings van klei, krale en metaal van geslagte gelede, koppig besig om die eie te handhaaf binne-in die invloedseer van die administratiewe hoofstad van die Unie van Suid-Afrika. Langs die grootpaaië bied die vroue trots hulle kralewerk te koop aan en tuis kniel sy nog by die maalklip soos die vroue van Musi self gedoen het, en gaan sy eerbiedig opsy wanneer die mans op die vergaderplek begin saamsit. En anderkant die Magaliesberge waaragter hierdie mense nog trots is op 'n eie lewensvorm, al is dit maar 'n deel van wat hulle gehad het, slaan teen die aandhemel die rooigloed van Yskor teen die wolke uit—en word die water van die Fontein in 'n pyp na u kombuis gebring!

EVERT F. POTGIETER, M.A.

PRETORIA FIFTY YEARS AGO

II

In a previous article Mr. Beanes described Pretoria during the period just after the signing of the Peace Treaty of Vereeniging. The rapidly growing Johannesburg had become the industrial and economic centre of the Transvaal, with the result that the British authorities tentatively made the startling suggestion that Johannesburg should become the Administrative Capital. According to Mr. Beanes it was as a result of the Progressive Party's agitation that this suggestion was ultimately dropped. Pretoria was not yet a town to be proud of and especially the camp of white squatters beyond Hove's Drift was a blot on the town. Fortunately they were moved off by the Government at about the time of Union. Now read on:

Public transport was non-existent for a few years. Tram lines ran from the railway station along Market, Church, du Toit and Esselen Streets to the terminus at the east end of de Kock Street. The company ceased to function at the outbreak of war and it was not until about 1904 that the Municipality purchased the concession and restarted the service. The sheds and stables were at the corner of Spuy and Bourke Streets. The trams were roofed but were open at the sides and the passengers sat on planks stretching across the vehicle. Each plank seated five passengers who got on and off at the side of the tram. The seats had no backs, so they were not the most comfortable of trams! They were of three horse power—the animals being abreast of each other. Normally Natives were not carried, but on Sunday afternoons a brightly painted car was run specially for them and they appeared to enjoy the experience of a tram ride.

A private bus drawn by two horses and holding about 12 people ran from the corner of Hill and Pretorius Streets to town. There was no other public transport until November, 1910, when the electric trams were started. How did people get about? Well, many kept themselves in good health by walking, but the majority of men, women and children had bicycles. The more well-to-do citizens kept a light trap or Cape cart drawn by one or two horses while others maintained a carriage and pair. Hitching posts all over town and swarms of picannins on the look out to "hold a horse's head" testified to the many saddle horses in use. Traffic pulled up on either side of the street and those who used horse-drawn vehicles did not park or stable them in the street while they were at work, but had Native drivers to take the vehicle home and return with it at the appropriate time to take the master home. I never heard it suggested that the Municipality should provide parking or stable accommodation for them. Such a number of horses and carts called for farriers, wheelwrights, wagon-builders, saddle and harness makers. There were shops that dealt only with horse trappings but

most of the general stores stocked saddles and bridles. Needless to say horse shoes were to be found in plenty in the main streets (Some cyclists found them far too often), while in some gardens they formed the border to the flower bed.

Ox wagons were a common sight as it was the wagon and not the railway lorry that delivered produce to the market. The oxen were out-spanned on Market Square—which was not paved until about 1917—and the produce, if not sold direct from the wagon, would be placed on the ground amidst all the muck caused by the trek oxen and the cattle and horses for sale. The first shed was put up by the Municipality after Union and that led to a legal battle between the Pretoria Market and Estate Company and the Town Council which was finally decided by Lord de Villiers at Bloemfontein. That decision gave the Council control over three-quarters of the Market Square. The market and Estate Company retains control of the Market Hall and buildings on the North-West corner of the square for about another forty years.

The building of further sheds and the paving of the Market Square were the result of Lord de Villiers' decision.

In addition to the many horses in town a number of householders kept one or two cows to provide themselves and their neighbours with milk, generally delivered in whisky bottles. Cows and horses were usually stabled in wood and iron buildings that were not only rat infested but provided suitable breeding places for flies. The cows were no doubt stable fed but many were turned out to graze on the footpaths and I have seen cows grazing in Market Street near the Pretoria Club. The keeping of animals in backyards was certainly a problem for the M.O.H.

One of the most urgent problems tackled by the first elected Town Council which took office on the 1st January, 1904, was the sanitary system. A contractor arranged with each householder how often the sanitary bucket should be emptied. That arrangement was bad enough but the method of clearance was worse. A tank on a cart passed through the streets during the evenings and the "bucket" (which was usually a leaky four-gallon paraffin tin) was taken to the tank and the contents—or most of it—tipped out. The unsavoury and unwashed bucket was then returned to the latrine. Windows were shut when the "night carts" were due to arrive. Is it any wonder that during the summer months few houses escaped the scourge of enteric fever? The new Council cabled to Europe for suitable buckets, purchased the sanitary concession, and passed a by-law that every lavatory must have a stone or concrete floor. Earth floors were prohibited. The Council by its wise action saved the citizens much suffering and medical expenses, and it reduced the incidence of enteric fever so that Pretoria could compare favourably with the well conducted cities of Europe. Water borne sewerage came after Union.

When the Town Council took office in January 1904 there was no storm water drainage or kerbing and very little in the way of made roads. In 1903

in Church Street between the post office and Bosman Street, I saw a gang of convicts filling up holes in the roadway and removing grass. Further west a paved footpath crossed Church Street from Kruger's house to the Church opposite. Evidently the President objected to sinking up to his knees in mud or dust when going to church.

Outside most of the shops the footpaths were paved, but owing to the absence of kerbing the pavements were at different levels, so that going along Church Street one frequently encountered a ramp between adjoining shops.

Without stormwater drainage it was useless to make roads as the first thunderstorm would wash all the stones loose. As soon as the stormwater-drainage was completed in the centre of the town, kerbing and roads followed. It was some years, however, before the Council wisely decided that it was a waste of money to macadamise a road without tarring it. To-day it is difficult to imagine the amount of dust we had in the days of earth roads. Except immediately after rain, a walk of a block would be sufficient for one's boots and trousers to be covered with dust up to the knee. Hanging near the front door, many houses kept a feather duster to remove some of the dust before one entered the house.

Prior to 1909 there was no road for vehicular traffic along Schoeman-Park Streets between the bridge of the Aapies River near the Baths and Park Street at the Hamilton-Troye Streets intersection. Previously traffic for the eastern suburbs could travel only along Church and Beatrix Streets, then cross Meintjies Square by the Road that still exists between the tennis courts and the garden part of the Square. Incidentally, the houses in Park Street opposite Meintjies Square were usually unoccupied because there was no road in front of them. Consequently, furniture, coal and other goods had to be off-loaded on the roadside near the tennis courts and carried to the houses down the steep boulder-strewn veld.

Ox wagons going east of Pretoria used Church Street only as far as Beatrix Street and then crossed Meintjies Square into Park Street. As the Eastern Sports Grounds, Girls' High School and Pretoria University were not there to bar the way, the wagons kept straight on the Park Street southern line until they reached Albert Road, now Roper Street, at a point between Burnett and Prospect Streets where there is an angle, marked in those days by a substantial beacon because it was the meeting place of four farms: Sunnyside, Arcadia, Koedoespoort (Hatfield) and Uitval (now Hillcrest and Brooklyn). The town plan of Pretoria shows that a line drawn along the south side of Park Street to the beacon mentioned is the dividing line between Sunnyside and Arcadia, and it is as well to remember that the University, Boys' High School, Fuel Research Institute, and Meteorological Offices and the greater portion of the Eastern Sports Grounds are on the Sunnyside commonage and not in Brooklyn as so many people believe. Pretoria's first golf course was, I believe, on the ground now known as

Princess Park which came into existence as a park about 1904 when the Golf Club moved to the Sunnyside commonage. A few years later it again had to move. Without being certain of the matter I think that at that stage the Pretoria Golf Course was established for the west and the Country Club golf course for the east.

Dust, flies and enteric fever have been mentioned as trials of the early days, but there was yet another pest, and that was the mosquito. It was said at the time that Pretoria was free from mosquitoes until the railway was built from Lourenco Marques. Be that as it may, there were plenty of them at the beginning of the century and I imagine that very few people slept without a mosquito net. Are they still sold to Pretorians to-day?

There was great approbation when the roads were tarred to lessen the dust, the stables cleaned to reduce the flies, sanitary conditions improved with the result that there were fewer cases of enteric, but when the newly appointed M.O.H. tried to eliminate mosquitoes he met with great opposition. Leaflets and notices in the Press having no success, a few men were engaged as temporary sanitary officers. These inspectors went round inspecting back-yards and gardens, especially in wet weather. Old tins, boots, broken crockery and glasses found lying about and holding water meant a summons for the householder who, on appearing in the Magistrate's Court, had to pay a fine of 2s. 6d. The indignation that this action caused! Why should the Council interfere because a citizen threw a milk tin into the garden? No use telling him that he should place it in the rubbish bin because he would reply that he had no rubbish bin and was not going to pay to have his rubbish removed when he could dispose of it himself and the quicker the Town Council was abolished the better! One land owner refused to fill in a trench, was fined 2s. 6d. by the Magistrate and gave notice of appeal. He would show the Town Council that it could not do as it liked—it was up against the wrong man. However, when he got to the Palace of Justice he found that it was he was up against the wrong man, for the learned judge told him that he could not do as he liked to the detriment of the health of the town. It cost him much more than 2s. 6d. and he still had to fill in the trench.

The appointment of an M.O.H. was an unqualified success in spite of the opposition put up by Ansell Clark when the appointment was first suggested. "Why do we need an M.O.H." asked that kindly giant with the winking eye. "I do well enough." He did—and in the end Pretorians all needed his good offices, for he was the undertaker!

Notwithstanding dust, enteric fever, flies and mosquitoes, Pretoria was a happy place. There were neither political parties nor bioscopes. There were a few gramophones but no radio sets, and we were not bothered by ennui—not by any means. Visits from travelling theatre and opera companies were frequent and the shows were usually well patronised. Picnics to Hennops River, Fountains, Skinners Court, Silverton, Wonderboom and

the Thorns were very popular, while in the evenings there were always house parties. One could not walk along a street for many blocks without finding a house well lit up, doors and windows open and the inmates enjoying themselves with music and song and dance. Such conditions produced a lot of local talent in singing and playing various instruments, and social life of that kind enabled one to have a large circle of friends, and who will deny that self arranged entertainment is better and provides a happier life than that obtained with to-day's canned amusements? One effect of the social life obtaining then and the talent produced was to be seen in the music shops which were stocked with nothing but music and musical instruments. To-day the music shops are stocked with wireless sets, gramophones and refrigerators, toasters, washing machines, egg beaters and similar electrical goods. The musical requirements of the town would not pay the rental of a music shop to-day.

Another form of an evening's entertainment, still practised to-day in some of the smaller towns, was to go to the railway station to see the weekly mail train off. It was not necessary to know anybody going away because among the crowd you were sure to meet somebody you knew.

Diversion for one evening a week was provided by the post office. Prior to November 1902, there was no delivery by postmen in Pretoria, correspondence being delivered into P.O. Boxes or to callers at the Poste Restante. At the commencement and for a few years afterwards, eight postmen met the requirements of the town. To-day there are about 250. Fifty years ago newcomers from Europe were many and, like most newcomers, wrote and received a number of letters by the weekly mail. The arrival of the European mail was, therefore, important for the many people who wished to receive their letters as soon as the mail arrived. The mail reached Pretoria about 6.30 p.m., too late for delivery by postmen who were, however, on duty to get their deliveries in order. About 8 p.m. the postmen would go to the counter, sit in order, one to eight, with their particular number hanging on the public side of the grill, and then the public would be admitted. If anybody did not know his particular postman an official was there to help him. It was usually ten or later before the counter was cleared, but by that time as a rule more than half the mail had been disposed of.

(To be Continued)

C. J. BEANES.



Foto: E. F. Potgieter

Zoeloe-kryger

ORIGIN OF STREET NAMES

(Refer to Pretoriana, Dec. 1951 issue)

TOM BROWN: He was a builder and contractor in a small way. He lived at 139, Schoeman Street.

BURGERS PARK LANE: On early maps of Pretoria the site of Burgers Park is marked "Botanic Gardens."

I read many years ago that the site was not suitable for a botanic garden and in 1877 a new site of 176 acres was set aside on the Townlands where the Mental Hospital is now and the old gardens were renamed Burgers Park.

CHRISTINA STREET, KLEIN STREET, ELOFF COTTAGES: These names were variously applied to the two lines of undetached cottages that extended from Jacob Mare to Minnaar Street. Both lines faced east, but only the eastern line was a thoroughfare. The western line was cut in two by a fence half-way down, so that one half of the cottages had to be approached from Jacob Mare Street, and the other half from Minnaar Street. Generally, they were referred to as Eloff Cottages. They have now disappeared and the site is to be used for the proposed Ministry of Transport Building. I have no knowledge of how the names Christina and Klein originated.

CLARA STREET: Unable to give origin. The estate was sold, I believe, by Mr. Paul Mare. Mr. van Warmelo, formerly of "Harmony" may be able to assist, as he is, I think, a relative of Paul Mare.

FORD STREET: After George Ford, a wagon maker. His shop and foundry were finally at 75 van der Walt Street, the site now occupied by the Public Service Co-operative Stores.

He was elected to the first Town Council 1st January, 1904, and served for nearly two years.

He was one of the early inhabitants of Kimberley and died about 1938.

Is Ford Street a public street?

FOUNTAIN LANE: Formerly Matthyssen's Lane. So named because Matthyssen's Mineral Water Factory occupied the site now covered by the Police Headquarters Building.

During 1897/8 the mineral water factory moved to what is now 435 Hillmans Street. Shortly afterwards the police building was commenced and the lane then became known as Fountain Lane.

The premises now known as the Public Service Club (NOT Police Club) was formerly the Fountain Hotel. The present building was erected about 1904 on the site of an older Fountain Hotel. I have found no evidence of the hotel ever having been in the lane.

GRAND STREET was at one time known as Kort Street.

C. J. BEANES.

Die oorsprong van ons Straatname

v.

Elders in hierdie uitgawe lewer mnr. C. J. Beanes kommentaar oor enkele straatname wat in ons uitgawe van Desember 1951 bespreek is. Ons hoop dat hy hiermee sal voortgaan en dat sy voorbeeld navolging sal vind.

Hier volg nou 'n verdere bespreking van die straatname van Pretoria-Sentraal.

SPRUITSTRAAT is geleë in die nabyheid van die spruit wat deur Prinsepark loop. Een bron gee die naam van die spruit aan as Swartspruit. Is dit miskien 'n verwarring met die Swartspruit wat ongeveer halfpad na die Hartebeespoortdam gevind word?

STRUBENSTRAAT heet na kaptein Johan Marinus Struben, 'n Hollandse mariene-offisier wat in 1850 na Natal emigreer het en daar die pos van magistraat beklee het. Hy het in 1854 as kandidaat gestaan vir die eerste presidentsverkiesing van die Oranje-Vrystaat en teen J. P. Hoffman uitgeval. Na die dood van sy vrou in 1855 onderneem hy 'n reis met 'n kapkar na Pretoria waar hy hom ook metterwoon gevestig het. In die jare sestig word hy lid van die volksraad en later staatssekretaris van die Republiek. Hy sterf in Pretoria op 7 Julie 1869.

Kaptein Struben was die vader van Hendrik Wilhelm en Frederick Pine Theophilus Struben, die twee broers wat veral bekendheid verwerf in verband met die ontdekking van goud aan die Witwatersrand. Volgens sommige gegewens is Strubenstraat na die twee broers genoem, maar dit lyk my meer moontlik dat hulle vader in die naam herdenk is.

TULLEKENSTRAAT: In 1889 was 'n sekere Aling van Tulleken die eerste klerk of assistent van die posmeester-generaal Isaac van Alphen; later het hy posmeester van Johannesburg geword. Of die straat na hom genoem is, is my nie bekend nie. 'n Ander bron meld dat die familie van Tulleken in die omgewing van die straat gewoon het.

TURNERSTRAAT heet na E. Turner, 'n stadsraadslid. Verdere inligting oor die persoon sal verwelkom word.

VAN DER BIJLSTRAAT is genoem na Piet van der Bijl, 'n gesiene inwoner van Pretoria. Hy was die vader van die bekende dr. Hendrik van der Bijl.

VAN DER WALTSTRAAT: Andries van der Walt was die eenaar van die plaas Elandspoort, een van die plase waarop Pretoria aangelê is. In die Eeufees-Album van Pretoria, bls. 15, verskyn 'n tekening van sy huis, geteken deur dr. Leyds. Dit het in die nabyheid van die teenswoordige stasie gestaan.

Van der Walt was die eerste veldkornet van Pretoria, en totdat A. F. du Toit in 1857 as landdros aangestel is, het die hele bestuur van Pretoria feitlik op hom gerus.

VERMEULENSTRAAT: Kootjie Vermeulen was 'n bekende ingesetene en Heemraad van Pretoria gedurende die vroegste dae van sy bestaan. Op 27 Mei 1856 vind die eerste sitting van die volksraad in Pretoria in sy huis plaas, waarskynlik ook latere volksraadsittings tot tyd en wyl die eerste raadsaal in gebruik geneem is. Hierdie huis was in Pretoriusstraat geleë waar later die Volkstem-kantoor opgerig is, regoor die huidige magistratuurshof. Vermeulen was blykbaar goed bevriend met Andries Pretorius en het ook aan die slag van Boomplaats deelgeneem.

F. J. DU T. SPIES.

Die Geskiedenis van Hercules

III

In 'n vorige artikel het mnr. Peacock nagegaan hoedat die voorstede Hermanstad, „Pretoria Gardens,” Mountain View en Daspoort tot stand gekom het. Daspoort het nog 'n deel gevorm van Innesdal, maar omdat sekere moeilikhede opgeduik het, het persone in Daspoort begin agiteer vir afskeiding van Innesdal. Lees nou verder:

In Oktober 1925 vind afskeiding plaas en die eerste gesondheidskomitee vir Daspoort word gekies. A. H. W. Luderitz word die eerste voorsitter met P. A. Taljaard (tans raadslid van Pretoria-Stadsraad), J. J. Bouwer, S. F. Jacobs en Moulang as die ander lede.

'n Begin is gemaak met 'n oortrekking van £250 in die Nasionale Bank en die lede moes almal as borge teken. Verder het Innesdal darem 'n span muile en 'n nagwa aan die Daspoortgesondheidskomitee geskenk. Die kombuisie van die ou Uniesaal, tans Von Bioskoop, was die eerste kantoor met P. J. Steenkamp as deelydse sekretaris en Mej. Fourie

(nou Mev. Wolvaardt) as tikster. Die eerste voltydse sekretaris was C. D. Kleynhans en hy is opgevolg deur W. J. Behrens.

In 1928 het die Gesondheidskomitee verhoogde status gekry en word hy 'n Dorpsraad. In dieselfde jaar word die nuwe kantore geopen op die hoek van Frederick- en Edwardstrate en was Daspoort besig om dorp te word. Die eerste burgemeester was P. A. Taljaard met A. H. W. Luderitz, G. A. Sinovich, Chater, Cronje, en Jacobs as die dorpsraadslede.

Die naam Daspoort was eger misleidend en daarom moes 'n nuwe naam gevind word. Eers het 'n rondskrywe na die skole van Daspoort gegaan vir 'n naam maar uiteindelik is die naam van die spoorwegstasie vir die hele gebied wes van die Apiesrivier oorgeneem.

Die ou naam van die stasie was eers Gardens, maar omdat dit verwarrend was met die Gardens in Kaapstad, moes 'n ander naam gevind word en het dit Hercules geword. Nie Hercules na Hercules Malan of Hercules Bart Pretorius of Sir Hercules Robinson nie, maar na die legendariese figuur Hercules, want die sement van die sementfabriek by die Herculesstasie simboliseer ook sterkte. Die voorstadjies het nog hulle name bly behou maar sou na 1928 een gemeenskaplike naam hê. Hercules is dus geen plek in Daspoort nie, maar die naam van die gebied wes van die Apiesrivier. Pretoria Gardens, Mountain View, Booyens, Hermanstad, Daspoort Estate, Claremont en Daspoort is sewe susters met een van nl. Hercules.

(Net soos Brooklyn, Arcadia, Sunnyside, Pretoria-Wes, Capital Park, Hercules, ens. saam Pretoria uitmaak).

In 1928 het Hercules dorpsraad geword maar met die depressie van 1928 tot 1934 was die toename in bevolking so groot dat die dorpsraad in 1930 oorgegaan het tot stadsraad met P. A. Taljaard weer as burgemeester.

In 1930 is elektrisiteit van Pretoria aangesluit en van toe af het die stadsraad begin met straatbeligting en het heelwat besighede in Hercules ontstaan. In 1931 is die burgemeestersketting aan die stadsraad geskenk deur die sementfabriek en vanaf dieselfde jaar het mnr. Alberts, tans onderstadsklerk van Pretoria, stadsklerk geword.

Skole en kerke is gebou, besighede is opgerig, verenigings het ontstaan, die bevolking het gegroei, maar probleme het stadig ontstaan. Die vernaamstes was Lady Selborne, die natuurlike lokasie op die grense van Hercules en watervoorsiening vir die gebied. Daar Pretoria maar net 4 myl van Hercules geleë is en Pretoria vir Hercules water kon gee, is gevoel dat Pretoria ook by magte kan wees om iets met Lady Selborne te doen. Vanaf 1948 is samesprekings gehou tussen Pretoria en Hercules oor inlywing en in Mei 1948 het die Administrateur sy goedkeuring gegee tot so 'n stap sodat Hercules voorstad van Pretoria geword het en Pretoria al Hercules se bates oorgeneem het.

R. PEACOCK

Enige Mededelings

i. v. m. die Geskiedenis van twee Erwe en 'n Straat

deur H. M. REX

III.

In 'n vorige artikel het mnr. Rex Wierda se aandeel in die optrek van die planne vir die voorgestelde Goewermentsgebou kortliks bespreek. Wierda het gou genoeg besef dat die beskikbare ruimte té klein sou wees vir die voorgestelde gebou. Op sy aandrang, ondersteun deur van Rysse, het die Regering in 1888 die oostelike helfte van Erf No. 382 (411) van C. P. Pretorius aangekoop. Die westelike helfte van Erf No. 382 (411) het mettertyd die straat wat Pretoriusstraat en Kerkplein met mekaar verbind, geword. In die onderstaande artikel gaan mnr. Rex kortliks die geskiedenis van hierdie halwe erf na.

Op die 10de Junie 1873 word die westelike helfte van Erf No. 382 (411) deur H. S. Pretorius vir £35 verkoop aan William Leathern¹⁴), wat dit op dieselfde dag weer verkoop aan Jacobus Abraham de Villiers vir £160.¹⁵) Twee maande later, op die 7de Augustus 1873, verkoop J. A. de Villiers dit weer aan die bekende Bras Piedade Pereira vir £300¹⁶), wat dit vir dieselfde bedrag op die 17de April 1877 verkoop aan Woodbine Cloete¹⁷).

Op die 16de Maart 1878 word Robert Cottle Green die nuwe eienaar van die halwe erf vir die bedrag van £550¹⁸). Tesame met hierdie transport was daar 'n diagram wat die grootte daarvan aangee as 89 vk. roedes en 54 vk. voet, met die volgende byskrif in die Erwe Register: „On this portion is a perpetual Servitude to right of way. (See Deed No. 262).”

R. C. Green en Egbert Johannes Koch en Johan Pieter Koch — lg. twee vennote van die firma Koch & Kie. — het op die 1ste Oktober 1878 'n ooreenkoms gesluit t.o.v. hulle langsmekaar geleë eiendomme: „Desiring to create a **perpetual servitude** on our respective **erven No. 411**, the property of the **first** undersigned, situate in the Town of **Pretoria**, and bounded **north** by the **Church Square**, and **south** by the **Pretorius Street**, and portion of **No. 410**, the property of the **second** undersigned, lying immediately to the **west** of the said **Erf No. 411**, we have agreed, each with the other, as follows: That the **first** undersigned shall allow a **right of way (via) Twenty four feet wide** from **Pretorius Street** to the **Church Square**, over his said **Erf No. 411** to be common to himself and the **second** undersigned and their **transferees** and also to the **public** unless at any time hereafter it shall be mutually agreed between the **first** and **second** undersigned to restrict the

Public in the enjoyment of the said **right of way**. That for the purpose of this **way (via)**, there shall be left open by the **first** undersigned a piece or strip of land being part of the said **Erf No. 411, twenty four feet in breadth**, to be measured along the **Western** boundary of said Erf No. 411 for one hundred and forty feet from the frontage on **Pretorius Street**, and continued from there the same breadth of **twenty four feet** to the frontage of **Erf No. 411 on Church Square.**"

Die eienare van Erf No. 410 het vir die voordele op hierdie wyse verkry, nl. 'n ewigdurende deurweg na Kerkplein, ooreengekom om jaarliks aan die eienaar van Erf No. 411 £54 te betaal¹⁹⁾.

Die eerste onderverdeling van die westelike helfte van Erf No. 411 het op die 16de Januarie 1889 plaasgevind, toe R. C. Green aan die Kaap de Goede Hoop Bank (Beperk) 'n klein driehoekige stukkie grond, groot 6 vk. roedes en 50 vk. voet, met 'n front aan Kerkplein, verkoop het vir £3.000, met volle reg op die servituut wat daar op die erf gerus het vir 'n straat van 24 voet wyd, vanaf Pretoriusstraat tot by Kerkplein, al langs die oostelike grens van Erf No. 410²⁰⁾.

Op hierdie besondere stukkie grond is die befaamde of berugte „Dood-kis"-gebou opgerig deur die Kaap de Goede Hoop Bank. 'n Nou gang van drie voet het die gebou geskei van die Alhambra-saal en twee reuse-akkerbome, wat met die aanleg van Pretoria deur Kootjie Vermeulen daar voor sy huis aangeplant is, en wat vir baie jare 'n sieraad van daardie gedeelte van Kerkplein was, is uitgegrawe om plek te maak vir die bankgebou²¹⁾. In die hoek van die Kerkplein het egter een van die mooi ou akkerbome bly staan, en het eers na die Tweede Vryheidsoorlog van die toneel verdwyn. As Gustav Preller bekend was met die onderverdeling van die westelike helfte van Erf No. 411 in 1888/89, sou hy nie in alle erns die volgende foutiewe bewering gemaak het nie: „Die oprigting daarvan (d.i. van die bankgebou) was moontlik deur 'n oorsig van landmeter Du Toit, wat moeite gehad het om die plein hier behoorlik uit te sny sonder te veel oortreding in die groentetuin van Kootjie Vermeulen²²⁾."

Soos algemeen bekend, het die Kaap de Goede Hoop Bank nie lank hier in Pretoria voortbestaan nie. Op die 20ste September 1890 het hy sy bedrywighede in Pretoria gestaak²³⁾, en gedurende 1891 is oorgegaan tot likwidasië van die Maatskappy en het die Kaapse Hooggeregshof uitspraak gegee dat die verskillende eiendomme van die Bank verkoop kon word²⁴⁾. Op die 27ste September 1894 het die Likwidateur van die Bank, die bg. eiendom van die Bank verkoop aan Frank Watkins vir £650, en nog steeds onderhewig aan die servituut vir 'n deurweg vir die gebruik deur die eienaars van Erwe Nos. 411 en 410 en die algemene publiek²⁵⁾. Die ou driehoekige gebou reg voor die President Theater (voorheen die Alhambra-saal) was intussen alreeds in 'n bouvallige toestand, en vir 'n tydlang was die vervoer met rytuie oor die deurweg langs die gebou verby verbied²⁶⁾.

'n Jaar daarna, op die 24ste Augustus 1895, het Watkins weer verkoop

aan William Bowness as trustee van die minderjarige kinders van Walter Williams Webster, nl. Wolston Harold en Mary Pretoria Webster, vir die bedrag van £713/10/-²⁷). Op grond van 'n bevel van die Hooggeregshof is die stukkie grond op die 3de Junie 1903 deur „reversion” toegeken aan Walter Williams Webster²⁸).

Die volgende eienaars, in die lang reeks van verwisselings, was Ludwig Carl Reck, Gertrud Reck en Elizabeth Anne Reck, wat op die 12de Junie 1920 in besit van 6 vk. roedes en 50 vk. voet gekom het deur £2,500 aan W. W. Webster te betaal²⁹).

Hierdie noordwestelike gedeelte van gedeelte A van Erf No. 411 word ten slotte op die 4de Mei 1921 deur L. C. Reck e.a. verkoop aan die Stadsraad van Pretoria³⁰), waardeur die geleentheid ontstaan het om, tesame met die res van die westelike helfte van Erf No. 411, Parlementstraat in sy huidige wydte en toestand te bring.

(Word vervolg.)

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- (14) Tr. Akte No. 1873/811.
 - (15) Tr. Akte No. 1873/812.
 - (16) Tr. Akte No. 1873/1089.
 - (17) Tr. Akte No. 1877/323.
 - (18) Tr. Akte No. 1878/359.
 - (19) Tr. Akte No. 1878/262 by Tr. Akte No. 1878/359. Servituut geregistreer op 16/10/1878. Boek & Folio 65. Op die 21ste Oktober 1880 is die servituut m.b.t. Erf No. 420 R. C. Green gekanselleer, wat later 'n misverstand tussen Green en die Uitvoerende Raad tot gevolg gehad het.
 - (20) Tr. Akte No. 1889/147.
 - (21) „Transvaal Advertiser,” 7/4/1888 & 14/4/1888.
 - (22) Gustav S. Preller: „Ou-Pretoria,” Stadsraad & Afr. Kultuurraad van Pretoria 1938, bladsy 62.
 - (23) De Volksstem, 22/9/1890.
 - (24) De Volksstem, 16/4/1891.
 - (25) Tr. Akte No. 1894/2223.
 - (26) De Volksstem, 14/2/1893.
 - (27) Tr. Akte No. 2418/95.
 - (28) Tr. Akte No. 4419/1903.
 - (29) Te. Akte No. 9699/1920.
 - (30) Tr. Akte No. 4473/1921.

Bekende Inwoners van die Hoofstad.

Onderstaande gegewens aangaande besigheidsmense en winkels, is deur die skrywer van hierdie bydrae in die Kersfeesuitgawe van 1889 van die „Transvaal Observer” aangetref. Ou inwoners van die Hoofstad sal ongetwyfeld in staat wees om meer besonderhede te verstrek en tewens, aan die hand van die name, ou herinnerings op te haal.

As eerste advertensie in die blad, met betrekking tot Pretoria, tref ons die houthandelaar Paynton Broers aan wat in Kerkstraat (wes) gevestig was.

In Markstraat was die kruidenier E. Rasch gevestig wat in sy advertensie tee teen 2s. per pond aangebied het.

Naby die gebou van die „Natal Bank”, aan Kerkplein, het o.m. argitek J. W. Leslie Simmonds gewoon, terwyl dr. Nessel se kantore in Bankstraat 1—3 gevestig was. Dr. Nessels het die skeikundige ontleding van delfstowwe uitgeoefen.

Van George Patterson, skrynwerker en boukontraakteur, is daar ’n advertensie waaruit blyk dat hy in Bureaustraat gevestig was.

Die firma Schultis Schwar was in Kerkstraat gevestig. H. Dunn en Kie., produktehandelaars, gee as hul adres „Bishop’s Corner”. Waar was dit? Waar die bakkerij van J. L. de Lange en Kie. was, is ons ook onbekend. R. J. Holloway was ’n saalmaker, van wie die adres nie aangegee is nie.

Die eienaar van „The Fountain Mineral & Soda Water & Steam Syrup Works”, ’n fabriek wat in 1883 opgerig is, was J. T. Muir.

Van Meintjes, die eienaar van die „Arcadia Mills”, kom die vermelding dat die meule vir die publiek oopgestel is en dat ’n brons-medalje op die Paryse tentoonstelling van 1889 verower is.

Die firma Phillips en Kie., die aptekers, het reeds bestaan, terwyl Cairncross & Zillen, van Kerkstraat, o.m. adverteer met „gekorven Transvaal tabak, beste kwaliteit die kan verkregen worden, opgemaakt in Pakjes, Zakken, Balen of Kisten („Cut Transvaal Tobacco, best procurable quality, done up in Packets, Bags, Bales or Cases.”)

In Kerkstraat was ook die firma Hobbs, Millar en Kie., terwyl op die hoek van Prinsloo- en Pretoriusstraat die „Pretoria Steam Mineral Water Works and Ice Manufactory” van G. W. Shilling was.

Onder die ander adverteerders kom voor: E. J. Loterijman en Kie., D. R. Crow en Kie., J. H. E. Bal, A. W. Baker, Kuranda en Marais, Rooth en Wessels, E. Fuchs, J. H. Dawe en Kie., C. Reck en Coleman & Rosenstein.

Die eienaar van „The Palmerston Bar”, F. V. Hall, was waarskynlik digterlik van aard, want sy advertensie begin met die volgende reëls:

„There’s a little Bar not far away,
Has the name of being quite O.K.
Excuse me, but I’m forced to say—
The Palmerston.”

J. P.

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(Gestig 22 Maart 1948)

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(Founded 22 March, 1948)

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