

Pretoriana

MERENSKY-BIBLIOTEK

UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA

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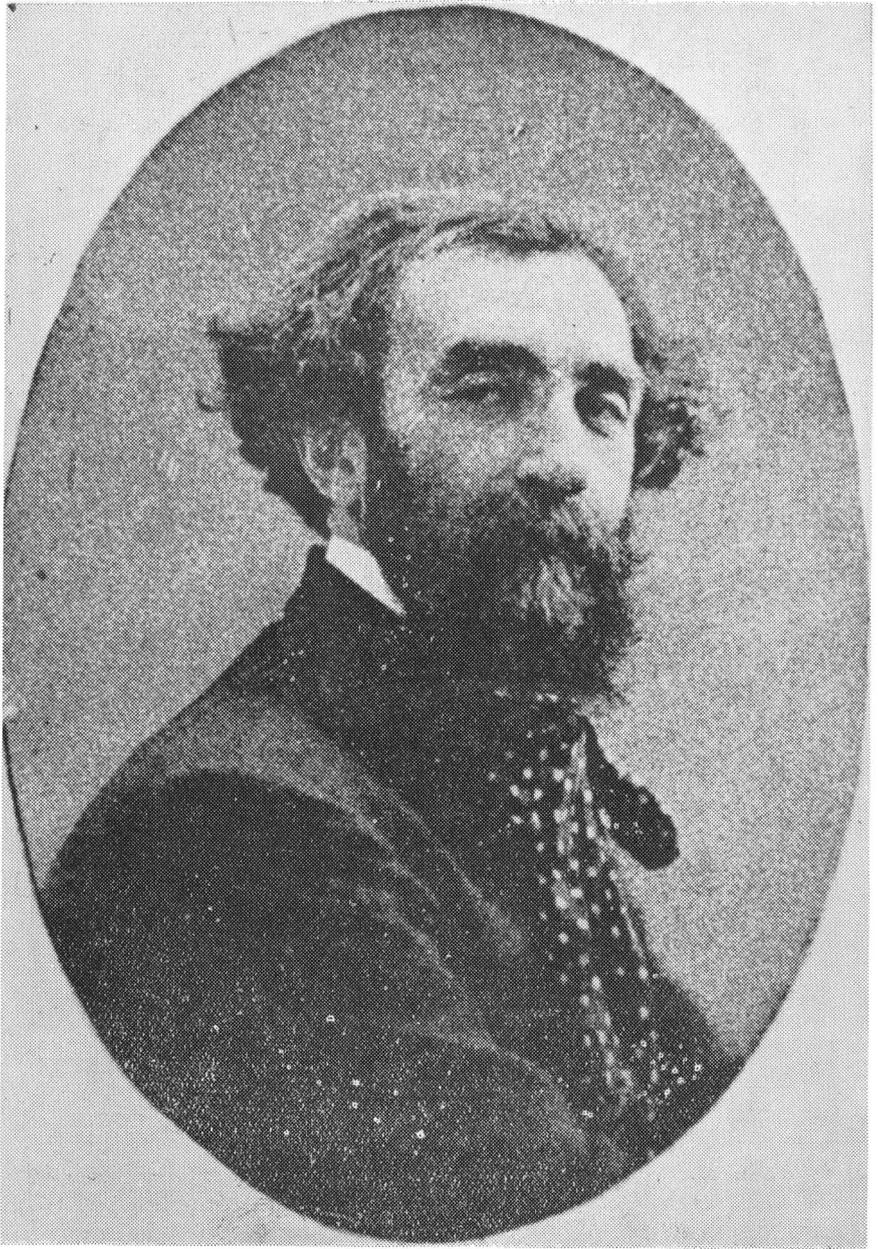


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JEAN ACHARD

SKEPPER VAN DIE RUSTENBURGSE KRUGERSTANDBEELD

HISTORY

THE Association Old Pretoria wants to take this opportunity of congratulating those who were responsible for convening a meeting of historians in the City Hall on the 11th of February. To say that such a congress was long overdue would be to stress the obvious. The underlying motive for this congress was to discuss the alarming tendency to underestimate the intrinsic value of the study of History and at the same time to combat this tendency as far as possible.

The answer to the problem is to make History a compulsory subject up to matric. Our Association naturally must welcome this suggestion and must therefore also give its wholehearted support for the idea of publishing a journal to further this aim.

From the discussions that took place at the meeting we were however on the other hand impressed by the to us erroneous tendency, **to over popularise the subject thereby losing sight of the intrinsic formative value of a study of History on the individual.** We are furthermore in agreement with the suggestion that the syllabus should be revised not because General History should be less stressed or even left out completely, **but because we are of the opinion that the existing syllabus does not aim at the preparation of the child to an awareness of the deep meaning of the march of man-kind through the ages. At the same time the child is unable to grasp the significance of his own country's place within the structure of nations and neither is he prepared to understand the past in relation to the present.**

Very few, if any, are able to evaluate complex relations between nations and peoples even though they had passed their examinations successfully. — Enough had already been said on the demerits of an examination system which has allowed "*spotting of questions*" to develop into such a fine art that the value of the subject has been lost to view. A remarkable example of this is the fact that a superficial knowledge of Tshaka, Dingaan, Moshesh and Mzilikatze is regarded as sufficient for the understanding of our so-called "Native Problem!"

The to be established Historical Society however promises to provide an excellent opportunity for the healthy exchange of ideas on the subject. We do sincerely hope that this society would revive our waning interest in History and that the public in general would eventually be prepared to appreciate more the necessity for the study of History and therefore to create a demand for the services of the Historian.

— Editor.

GENOOTSKAP OUD-PRETORIA

Jaarverslag 1955

MET genoeë bied ek u hiermee 'n verslag aan van die Genootskap Oud-Pretoria se bedrywighede oor die jaar 1955.

Die feit dat die ledetal gestadig styg, toon dat daar belangstelling is vir die werk en doeleindes van die Genootskap. Dit tel tans 140 lede.

Die volgende bestuurslede is op die vorige jaarvergadering gekies:

Voorsitter: Dr. W. Punt.

Ondervoorsitter: Mnr. H. A. de Loor.

Sekretaris: Dr. F. J. du T. Spies.

Penningmeester: Mnr. G. Rissik.

Argivaris: Mr. J. F. Preller.

Redakteur: Dr. T. S. van Rooyen.

Lede: Dr. G. W. Eybers, Mej J. H. Davies, Dr. R. Peacock,
Mnr. H. M. Rex.

Die verteenwoordiger van die stadsraad was mnr. W. J. Seymore wat onlangs tot burgemeester van Pretoria gekies is.

Aangesien die Genootskap ook sy deel bygedra het tot die eeufeesviering van die stad, was 1955 'n besige jaar. Voor ek u aandag hiervoor vra, wil ek my eers bepaal by wat die normale aktiwiteite van die Genootskap genoem kan word.

Op die vorige algemene vergadering is die planne van die voorgenome nuwe gebou van die Provinsiale Administrasie bespreek. **Soos u weet het die Genootskap herhaaldelik geprotesteer teen die voorkoms van hierdie gebou wat ons insiens inbreuk sal maak op die tradisie en argitektuur van Kerkplein. In die afgelope jaar het die Genootskap voortgegaan met sy pogings om al is dit dan net 'n verandering in die planne te verkry. Wat dit betref wil dit tog lyk asof die verhoë van die Genootskap, en van ander liggame, enigsins sukses behaal het; dit word namelik vertel dat die hoogste gedeelte van die gebou sowat sestig voet vanaf die Plein teruggeskuif sal word.** Die Proteste teen hierdie gebou het aan die lig gebring dat ten minste

'n gedeelte van die inwoners van Pretoria ernstig begaan is oor die behoud van die skoonheid van stad en plein.

Nog 'n saak wat die Genootskap vir 'n tyd lank al besig hou, is die stigting van 'n opelugmuseum. Gelukkig kan ek tans berig dat die Stadsraad 'n terrein vir opelugmuseum beskikbaar gestel het en gevra het dat voorstelle oor die samestelling van 'n beheerraad gedoen moet word. U bestuur het sekere voorstelle aan die Stadsraad gedoen en wag tans op 'n antwoord.

In ooreenstemming met die doel van die Genootskap om historiese ou geboue te bewaar, het u bestuur die Historiese Monumentekommissie versoek om die Staatsmodelskool en die Operahuis tot nasionale monumente te verklaar. Alhoewel nog niks finaal bereik is nie, bestaan daar alle hoop dat beide geboue vir die toekoms bewaar sal bly.

Op versoek van die Stadsraad het u bestuur verskillende name vir nuwe strate en stadswyke aan die hand gedoen.

'n Aanbod van Volkskas om 'n stalletjie op die Industriële Tentoonstelling te deel, is dankbaar aanvaar. Soos u waarskynlik weet is die kleurtekening wat Pretoria voorgestel het soos dit in die verlede was en tans is, die Genootskap se bydrae tot hierdie lokaal. *Africana* is daar ten behoeve van die Genootskap verkoop.

Aangesien ek in *Pretoriana* uitvoerig oor die wapen van die Genootskap geskrywe het, kan ek hier volstaan met die opmerking dat ons gelukkig voel dat die wapen vir die eerste keer op die eeufeesuitgawe van *Pretoriana* verskyn het. Dit was 'n passende ingebruikname.

Op 'n algemene vergadering van 14 Junie j.l. is die Genootskap se bydrae tot die eeufeesviering uiteengesit en bespreek. Dit mag dus as bekend veronderstel word. Die Genootskap was op verskillende terreine van diens: sommige lede het op die Sentrale Eeufeeskomitee gedien; 'n kaart wat die uitbreiding van Pretoria aandui is op die Historiese Uitstalling vertoon; die Genootskap het ook 'n roete vasgestel en toeligtters verskaf vir 'n toer deur Pretoria.

Hierdie bydraes is in samewerking met ander liggame gelewer. Darenbome het die Genootskap 'n eeufeesuitgawe van *Pretoriana* die lig laat sien wat ongetwyfeld die geleentheid eer aangedoen het.

Ten einde iets van meer blywende waarde te skep as die gewone eeufesverrigtinge, is besluit om aan alle laerskole van Pretoria 'n skild uit te loof vir die mooiste skooltuin. Dis 'n pragtige skild en die eerste kompetisie vind hierdie maand plaas. Op hierde wyse hoop ons om die belangstelling in die plantegroei aan te moedig sodat Pretoria in die toekoms ook nog bekend sal wees as die Blommestad.

'n Ander blywende monument waarvoor die Genootskap verantwoordelik is, is die omheining van die bouwal van Lucas Bronkhorst en die naamplaat wat daar aangebring is.

Die Genootskap het ook 'n stalletjie op die Plein gehad waar Africana te koop aangebied is.

Tenslotte is dit my aangename plig om die lede van die Bestuur te bedank vir hulle onbaatsugtige steun gedurende die verloop van die jaar. In besonder bedank ek die sekretaris, dr. Spies, die penningmeester, mnr. Rissik en dr. van Rooyen, die redakteur en die persone wat artikels vir die eeufoesuitgawe van *Pretoriana* gelewer het; ook die lede wat so veel gedoen het om 1,600 eksemplare daarvan te verkoop. Ons is ook dank verskuldig aan dr. FitzSimons vir die feit dat die bestuursvergaderings steeds in die Transvaalse Museum gehou kon word.

(Get.) W. PUNT, *Voorsitter*.

ASSOCIATION OLD PRETORIA

Annual Report for 1955

IT is with much pleasure that I present to you my annual report on the Association's activities during 1955 — Pretoria's Centenary Year.

Membership of the Association continues to increase steadily, showing that interest in the aims and the work of the Association is being maintained. The membership figure now stands at 140.

The following committee members were elected at last year's annual general meeting:—

Chairman: Dr. W. Punt.

Vice-Chairman: Mr. H. A. de Loor.

Secretary: Dr. F. J. du Toit Spies.

Treasurer: Mr. G. Rissik.

Archivist: Mr. J. F. Preller.

Editor: Dr. T. S. van Rooyen.

Members: Dr. V. FitzSimons, Dr. G. W. Eybers, Dr. R. Peacock, Mr. H. M. Rex, Miss J. H. Davies.

The City Council's representative on the committee was Councillor W. J. Seymore who has recently been elected mayor of Pretoria.

The year 1955 has been a busy one for the Association for, apart from its usual work, special efforts have been made in connection with the centenary of our city. Before, however, dealing with these special efforts, I shall outline briefly what may be termed the normal activities of the Association.

At last year's annual general meeting the plans of the new provincial building were discussed. **As you know, the Association has consistently opposed the erection of a building so out of keeping with the architecture and spirit of Church Square. During the year under review the Association continued its efforts to secure, if not the abandonment, then at least a modification of the plans; and in the latter aim the representations of the Association, and of other interested bodies, achieved some measure of success as it is rumoured that the highest portion of the building is to be moved back some sixty feet from the Square.** The protests against the new provincial building have also served to show that at least a certain proportion of the citizens of Pretoria are keenly alive to the beauty and the dignity of the Square and are anxious to preserve its character.

Another matter which has engrossed the attention of the Association for some time is the founding of an open-air museum. It is gratifying to be able to report that the City Council has granted a site for the open air museum and has called for suggestions for a board of control. Your committee has submitted its suggestions and now awaits the City Council's reply.

In accordance with its aim of preserving whenever possible the city's historic old buildings, the Association has requested the Historical Monuments Commission to declare the Staatsmodelskool and the Opera House National monuments. Although nothing definite has so far been heard, there is every hope that this appeal will succeed and that buildings characteristic of the city's past will be saved for future generations.

At the request of the City Council, your committee suggested street names bearing on Pretoria's history for certain of the suburbs.

An offer from Volkskas to share the bank's stall at the Industrial Exhibition was gladly accepted and, as you are doubtless aware, the coloured drawings showing Pretoria past and present were the Association's contribution to the stall. Africana was sold there too on behalf of the Association.

As I have written in *Pretoriana* regarding the Association's coat of

arms, it is needless to do more here than to express the pleasure which I am sure is shared by all the members, that the coat of arms was used for the first time on the cover of the Centenary Edition of the magazine. It could not have been more fittingly inaugurated.

At a general meeting held on the 14th June the Association's contributions to the Centenary Celebrations were outlined and discussed so they are probably known to many of the members. The Association assisted in a variety of ways: some of its members served on the Central Centenary Committee; a map showing the growth of Pretoria was prepared for the Historical Exhibition; and the Association mapped out and provided lecturers for a circular tour of Pretoria.

These contributions were in co-operation with other organisations. In addition the Association produced a Centenary Edition of *Pretoriana* which, as you have seen, was worthy of the occasion.

In order to provide a memorial which would continue long after the Centenary Celebrations were past, it was decided to present a shield for the best primary school garden, to be competed for annually by the primary schools of Pretoria. The shield is a beautiful one and the first competition will take place this month. It is hoped thus to encourage and foster an interest in plant life so that Pretoria may continue to be known as the City of Flowers.

Another lasting memorial for which the Association was responsible was the fencing in of the grounds surrounding the ruins of Lucas Bronkhorst's house at Fountains and the provision of a descriptive plaque.

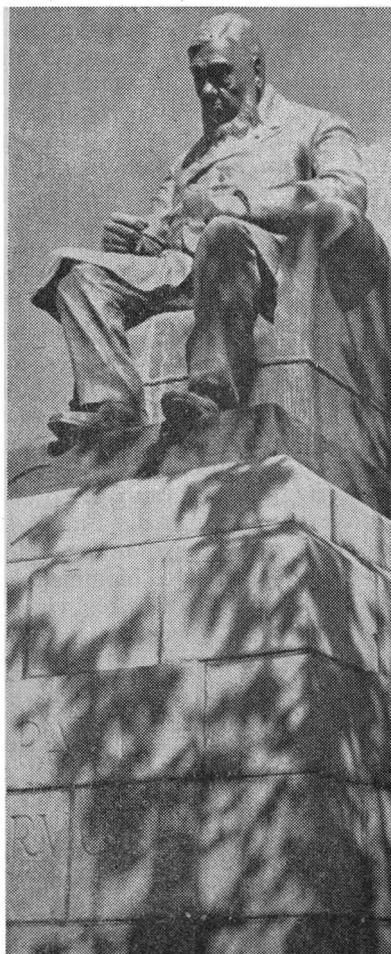
The Association also had a stall on Church Square at which Africana was sold.

This concludes the review of the year's work and it is now my pleasant duty to thank the members of the committee for their loyal support during the past year. In particular my thanks are due to the Secretary, Dr. Spies, to the Treasurer, Mr. G. Rissik, and to the Editor, Dr. van Rooyen and members who contributed articles to the Centenary Edition of *Pretoriana* and to those members who did so much to sell 1,600 copies of *Pretoriana*. I am also indebted to Dr. FitzSimons for allowing the committee meetings to be held in the Transvaal Museum.

(Sgd.) W. PUNT, *Chairman.*

Dit is 'n minder bekende feit dat die Krugerstandbeeld wat voor die Rustenburgse stadsaal staan, bestem was om op Kerkplein in Pretoria opgerig te word

DIE RUSTENBURGSE KRUGER-STANDBEELD



MET die onthulling van die Kruger-standbeeld in die middel van die Pretoriase Kerkplein verlede Oktober, het die gedagtes onwillekeurig teruggegaan na die 50-jarige stryd wat gevoer is om Anton van Wouw se Krugerbeeld op sy regmatige plek tot finale rus te laat kom.

Dit is egter 'n minder bekende feit dat die Kruger-standbeeld wat voor die Rustenburgse stadsaal staan, gedurende 1920 bestem was om op die Kerkplein in Pretoria opgerig te word. Verskillende faktore en omstandighede was destyds egter daarvoor verantwoordelik dat die standbeeld van President Kruger, wat alreeds in 1901 deur die Franse beeldhouer, Jean Achar, in Parys geboetseer is, nie op Pretoria nie, maar wel op Rustenburg, op 16 Desember 1921 deur Genl. Smuts onthul is.

Die standbeeld stel President Kruger voor waar hy in 'n ruim leuenstoel sit, met die swaar kop effens na vore gebuig, in 'n peinsende houding versonke. Die gesig

met die droewige oë en peinsende voorkoms is soos hy in die laaste dae van sy ballingskap daar uitgesien het. Die spore van groot sorg en bekommernis kan duidelik op die gesig gesien word. Hy sit met sy kop vooroor asof hy bedroef is, „maar”, soos die latere Minister Piet Grobler tydens die onthullingsplegtigheid gesê het, „hy het nie getreur soos iemand wat geen hoop meer het nie, want uit sy laaste boodskap aan sy volk blyk dit dat hy geglo het dat God sy volk weer sou oprig. Paul Kruger self was 'n kragtige monument van onfeilbare hoop.”

Die 7½-voet hoë beeld is gegiet in ligkleurige brons en is gemonteer op 'n graniet voetstuk wat ongeveer tien voet hoog is. Alleen die volgende opskrif staan in Romeinse letters op die graniet voetstuk uitgekop: PAUL KRUGER 1825-1904.

Waar die standbeeld op 'n prominente plek voor die Rustenburgse stadsaal met sy Kaapse gewels, staan, maak dit 'n besonder indrukwekkende vertoning en herinner die standbeeld verbygangers daagliks daaraan dat daár, in Rustenburg-distrik, die grootste seun van Suid-Afrika vir veertig jaar gelewe en gewerk het.

DIE VERGETE BEELD

JEAN GEORGES ACHARD, die Franse beeldhouer van die Rustenburgse Krugerstandbeeld, is op 13 Maart 1871 in Gironde, Elsas, gebore. Hy is op 24 September 1934 in Parys oorlede, nadat hy tydens sy lewe 'n hele reeks voortreflike beeldhouwerke gemaak het.

Onder die opskrif „Een Vergeten Krugermonument,” het daar in 1904

in „De Amsterdammer Weekblad voor Nederland” 'n artikel verskyn wat, na aanleiding van 'n tentoonstelling in Dordrecht wat die lewe en droewige dood van President Kruger herdenk het, geskrywe is deur die bekende Nederlandse skrywer M. Scharthen Antink. Ook in Parys, wat hom 'n paar jaar vantevore so-te-sê verafgod het, is sy lewe herdenk. Daar is selfs 'n standbeeld van hom gemaak, wat in 1904 egter in een van Parys se agterstrate, totaal vergete in die ateljee van die beeldhouer gestaan het.

Hierdie vergete Krugermonument het drie jaar lank sy kortstondige glorie in die Salon van die *Artiste Francais* geken. Die bestuur van die Salon was egter bevrees vir te ongewonde uitginge en demonstrasies van die destydse Transvaal-gesinde Parysenare en het daarom die beeld in 'n uithoek van die kolossale beeldhouhal in die *Grand Palais* laat plaas. Sodoende wou hulle probeer om die beeld aan die geesdriftige belangstelling van die groot menigtes te onttrek. Die opsigters het opdrag ontvang om gereeld elke uur die blomme wat die Franse by die beeld geplaas het, te verwyder, sodat die spontante blommehulde nie te kwetsend sou wees vir die Engelse toeriste nie.

In 'n onderhoud met Scharthen Antink het Achard vertel dat die President nie vir hom geposeer het nie. „Ek het hom egter dikwels gesien toe hy Parys besoek het en ook vir 'n lang tyd van naby in sy salon, en die tragiese grootheid van hierdie figuur het my so aangegryp dat dit vir altyd in my gees gebeiteld staan. Ek *moes* die beeld maak. Vir

ses maande het ek aan die ontwerp gewerk; ek het my omring met alle afbeeldings en portrette wat ek maar in die hande kon kry, om te verhoed dat my fantasie en my opgewondenheid my nie parte sou speel nie. Dit is die enigste van my werke waarmee ek wel tevrede is. Ek glo dat ek uitdrukking kon gee aan wat ek eenkeer gesien en gevoel het: die gewondene en gebrokene van die oerkrag van hierdie groot Transvaler."

Tweekeer mensehoogte het die swaar gipsblok tot byna aan die solder van die klein ateljee gereik, het dit amper 'n kwart van die ruimte van die vertrek gevul en die indruk geskep dat die beeld die middelpunt, die hart van die beknopte werkplaas en van die kunstenaarsbestaan was wat daar uitgeleef word. Sonder twyfel het Achard hierdie beeld van sy held liefgehad. Hy het seker nooit ver wag dat die beeld twintig jaar nadat hy dit gemaak het op Rustenburg, die jarelange woonplek van Paul Kruger, opgerig sou word nie, om ook dáár, vir baie geslagte wat nog sou kom, die herrinnering aan die „Leeu van Rustenburg" daagliks lewendig te hou.

Tydens die Paryse Vredesonderhandelinge in 1919 het Dr. Engelenburg, die destydse hoofredakteur van „Die Volkstem," vir Genl. Louis Botha en sy privaatsekretaris, Mnr. George Brebner, vergesel na die werkplaas van die beeldhouer Achard, waar die gipsbeeld van President Kruger nog al die jare gestaan het. Die Eerste Minister was só getref deur die beeldhouwerk van die kunstenaar, dat hy die morele

verpligting gevoel het om die gipsbeeld in brons te laat giet en dit vir die volk van Suid-Afrika aan te koop. Daarna het Genl. Smuts ook die beeld gaan besigtig en hy en Genl. Botha het besluit om die beeld aan te koop en dit op koste van die Unieregering in brons te laat giet.

TWEE BEELDE

SODRA die beeldhouer die formele opdrag van die Unieregering gekry het om die beeld in brons te laat giet, het hy onverwyld werk daarvan gemaak. Gedurende Oktobermaand 1920 was die voltooië bronsbeeld in Pretoria, waar dit voorlopig in die Uniegebou opgeborg was, totdat daar mettertyd oor die bestemming daarvan beslis sou word.

Toe dit gedurende Juliemaand 1920 bekend geword het dat die standbeeld binnekort op Pretoria sou aankom, is deur verskillende persone en organisasies gedagtes uitgespreek waar die beeld opgerig moes word. Die Krugerbeeld van Anton van Wouw — destyds egter nog sonder die hoekfigure — het toe alreeds vanaf 1913 in die Prinsessepark gestaan en daarom is in 1920 die gedagte uitgespreek dat die Krugerbeeld van Jean Achard, of soos dit ook meermale genoem is, die „*Franse Kruger*," op die Kerkplein in Pretoria opgerig moes word.

Dr. Engelenburg het egter daarop gewys dat dit onwenslik sou wees om die beeld op die Kerkplein te plaas aangesien die beeld te klein in omvang was om op die groot plein geplaas te word. Volgens sy mening sou dit egter wel effektief

wees as die beeld voor die Ou Goewermentsgebou, tussen die twee palmbome en reg onder die balkon, geplaas kon word. Ook is daaraan gedink om die beeld binne in die Ou Raadsaal te plaas, maar daar is gou ingesien dat die beeld daarvoor te groot sou wees.

Vanaf 1912 was die S.A. Vrouefederasie besig om fondse in te samel vir 'n nuwe, waardige Krugerstandbeeld op die Kerkplein van Pretoria, maar die Pretoriase Stadsraad was nie geneë om die Kerkplein vir daardie doel af te staan nie en die voorwendsel waaragter die Stadsraad geskuil het was dat „uit estetiese oogpunt beskou dit beter sou wees om genoemde sentrum oop en onbelemmer te laat bly.” In weerwil van hierdie besluit het die Stadsraad na die Eerste Wêreldoorlog besluit om toestemming te verleen vir die oprigting van 'n oorlogsgedenkteken op die Kerkplein.

'n Afvaardiging van die Vrouefederasie het daarop by die Stadsraad aangedring om by hulle vorige besluit te bly om die Kerkplein oop te laat bly of, so nie, af te staan vir die oprigting van 'n Krugerstandbeeld, vir welke doel hulle alreeds duisende ponde ingesamel gehad het. Die Stadsraad was egter nie te beweeg nie, waarop die Vrouefederasie toe besluit het om petisies deur die hele land te versprei en te laat onderteken om op die wyse druk uit te oefen op die Pretoriase Stadsraad.

Die Vrouefederasie was oortuig daarvan dat hulle daarin sou slaag om die Stadsraad te oorreed om af te sien van die besluit i.v.m. 'n oorlogsgedenkteken op Kerkplein en dit liever by die Uniegebou te laat

oprig, waar dit as 'n uiting van die gees van 'n latere geslag beslis beter sou pas.

Toe die voorneme van die oprigting van Achard se Krugerbeeld op Kerkplein, in die loop van Julie 1920 dus bekend geword het, het die Vrouefederasie by monde van die Pretoria-tak, teen die einde van Augustus, vertoë gerig tot Genl. Smuts, die destydse Eerste Minister, waarin hulle ernstig by hom aangedring het om nie sy toestemming te gee tot die oprigting van Achard se Krugerbeeld op Kerkplein nie, in elk geval nie alvorens hy die Vrouefederasie geraadpleeg het nie, aangesien hulle alreeds vir 'n geruime tyd besig was met die insameling van fondse vir 'n nuwe standbeeld vir President Kruger, „wat soos hulle hoop in die sentrum van genoemde plein sal geplaas word. Die idee is om daarvan 'n volksaak te maak en 'n ieder in die land 'n kans te gee om sy penningske by te dra, ten einde 'n waardige monument vir ons groot Volksheld op te rig.”

Intussen het Kommandant van Heerden, L.V. vir Ventersdorp, en die latere Senator Petrus van der Walt, skoonseun van President Kruger, dit onder die aandag van die Munisipaliteit van Rustenburg gebring dat die standbeeld, oor wie se bestemming daar toe groot onsekerheid geheers het, moontlik vir Rustenburg beskikbaar sou wees. In opvolging van dié wenk het Mnr. Frank Johnson, die Stadsklerk van Rustenburg, op 30 Oktober 1920 aan Dr. Engelenburg geskrywe dat „de stad Rustenburg zullen het als een grote eer beschouwen om 'n zoodanige Standbeeld alhier op te richten.”

Genl. Smuts se uitgesproke begererte was dat Achard se Krugerbeeld êrens in Pretoria opgerig moes word, maar oor die presiese plek waar die standbeeld opgerig moes word was daar nog geen finale beslissing toe die beeld gedurende Oktober 1920 in Pretoria aangekom het nie. Aan die begin van November het Genl. Smuts vervolgens 'n sg. „Klein Komitee” aangestel met dr. Engelenburg as sameroeper en waarvan Fanie Eloff, die bekende beeldhouer en 'n kleinseun van President Kruger, een van die lede was. Die opdrag aan die „Klein Komitee” was om ter plaatse ondersoek in te stel na die mees geskikte plek vir die oprigting van die beeld en om dan aan Genl. Smuts 'n aanbeveling te maak vir sy finale beslissing.

„TOT IN DIE LAASTE NAGESLAG”

DIE „Klein Komitee” het op 11 November 1920 in die Uniegebou vergader. Nadat hulle die beeld gaan besigtig het, is verskillende plekke in Pretoria bespreek wat aanbevelenswaardig was vir die oprigting van die Krugerbeeld. Nadat kennis geneem is van die bg. twee briewe van die Pretoriase Tak van die S.A. Vrouefederasie en van die Rustenburgse Stadsklerk, is op voorstel van dr. Engelenburg en gesekondcer deur Fanie Eloff, die volgende besluit eenparig geneem, nl. „dat Z.Ed. Gestr. de Eerste Minister, geadviseerd worde om 't Krugerstandbeeld van Achard aan die Municipaliteit van Rustenburg aan te bieden, op grond dat Pretoria alreeds 'n Krugerstandbeeld bezit (in 't Prinsesse Park) en eerlang 'n

tweede Kruger-monument op 't Kerkplein zal krygen.”

Op daardie tydstop was die twisvraag oor die plasing van die Oorlogsgedenkteken of die Krugerstandbeeld, waarvoor die Vrouefederasie haar beywer het, nog steeds in die middelpunt van die openbare belangstelling en daarom het dr. Engelenburg aan die einde van sy brief aan Genl. Smuts, waarin hy bg. besluit van die „Klein Komitee” aan hom meegedeel het, dit raadsaam geag om as sy persoonlike opinie te vermeld „dat eventuele plaatsing van 't Krugerbeeld te Rustenburg 'n waarborg zal word vir rust onder Pretoria's burgery. Hoe en waar ook te Pretoria geplaatst zal dit beeld onvermydelik aanleiding geven tot gegriefdheid tegen de hoge overheid, die de plaatsing gelastte!”

Twee dae nadat dr. Engelenburg hierdie advies aan Genl. Smuts gestuur het, het hy die Stadsklerk van Rustenburg aangeraai om sonder versuim aansoek te doen vir die verkryging van Achard se Krugerbeeld vir Rustenburg. Hy het ook 'n beskrywing van die standbeeld gegee en dit as sy opinie uitgespreek dat die standbeeld nie in die middel van 'n kaal plein opgerig moes word nie, maar verkieslik op 'n plek waar die beeld 'n gebou of bome as 'n agtergrond sou hê.

Die Stadsraad van Rustenburg het dadelik aan dr. Engelenburg laat skrywe „om zoodanige stappes te willen nemen als u nodig moege oordelen, zodat het beeld aan Rustenburg geschonken worden, daar de Raad zeer gaarne het Standbeeld te Rustenburg wil hebben.” Vervolgens het die Stadsklerk van Rusten-

burg op 6 Desember 1920 ook by die Eerste Minister formeel aansoek gedoen vir die verkryging van die standbeeld vir Rustenburg en ook terselfdertyd die versekering gegee dat die Stadsraad sal sorg vir die oprigting van 'n gepaste voetstuk vir die standbeeld en verder self verantwoordelik sal wees vir alle uitgawes verbonde aan die oprigting daarvan.

Nadat die Stadsraad gedurende Februarie 1921 weer verneem het of daar al intussen besluit is oor die bestemming van die Krugerbeeld, het dit eers gedurende September van daardie jaar bekend geword dat Genl. Smuts besluit het om die beeld aan Rustenburg te skenk op voorwaarde dat die Stadsraad, in oorleg met 'n deskundige amptenaar van die Departement van Publieke Werke, vir 'n gepaste voetstuk sal sorg, en verder verantwoordelik sou wees vir die oprigtingkoste van die

standbeeld op 'n geskikte standplaas.

Namens die Stadsraad van Rustenburg het 'n Kommissie bestaande uit wyle Mnr. Hendrik van der Merwe Snr. en Mnr. Amie J. Coetzee, die standbeeld onder dankbetuiging in ontvangs geneem en nadat alle verdere voorbereidende werksaamhede met bekwame spoed afgehandel is, is die standbeeld tydens 'n reuse Dingaansdag-feesviering op 16 Desember 1921 voor die Ou Stadsaal op Rustenburg deur Genl. Smuts onthul. Nadat Genl. Smuts op 'n besonder treffende wyse hulde gebring het aan die nagedagtenis van President Kruger, het hy die onthulde beeld vir 'n tyd lank sonder 'n woord betrag en toe gesê: „Ek hoop dat die lewe van hierdie man ons tot 'n voorbeeld sal strek tot in die laaste nageslag.”

H. M. Rex.

ALBERT BRODRICK NA EUROPA

IN verband met mnr. Rex se lesenswaardige bydrae oor die bekende winkelier-digter mnr. Albert Brodrick, soos verskyn in die jongste aflewering van *Pretoriana* en sy vermoedelike vertrek na Europa in die laat sewentiger jare, kan die skrywer opmerk dat hy gesteun het op die gegewens soos deur prof. S. P. Engelbrecht verstrek aangaande die tydstip van Brodrick se terugkeer na Europa.

Onlangs het hy in die besit gekom van 'n aantal uitreksels gebaseer op 'n tot nog toe ongepubliseerde briefwisseling tussen Hendrik Stiemens (Pretoria) en sy seun Hendrik Stiemens, van Aalten (Nederland).

Een van hierdie briewe is op 1 Junie 1879 deur Hendrik Stiemens op Pretoria geskryf en in die aanhef van hierdie brief skryf Stiemens aan sy seun: „Eenige kennissen vertrekken a.s. week na Europa, deze zijn de H.H. de Vries, Verdoorn en Brodrick, die dezen brief zullen medenemen.”

Ofskoon daar in dieselfde brief geen verdere besonderhede oor Brodrick voorkom nie, blyk wel daaruit dat Brodrick in 1879 na Europa gegaan het. Wie vir die aflewering van die bewuste brief in Aalten gesorg het, is onbekend.

— J. Ploeger.

MEMORIES

BY MRS. T. J. RODDA

III

In our previous issue Mrs. Rodda described her first impressions of Pretoria and the delightful little encounters she had during the first year of her stay in Old Pretoria. Her father made an indelible impression on her and his death at an early age could never be forgotten.

SIR THEOPHILUS SHEPSTONE

SIR T. SHEPSTONE was the one man in S.A. who held the respect and affection of the Boers and English, and when he was removed and Sir Owen Lanyon took his place things all seemed to go wrong. Mother and father were, as I have said, very friendly with Sir T. and Lady Shepstone and spent many hours together at their home and ours. Lady Shepstone made much of me, giving me toys such as I had never seen before, among these a beautiful doll's bed. The sheets, quilts and all made by herself. I fear this caused no small amount of envy in the hearts of many of the children of the town who came to see them. At my mother's death 12 years ago I found these little things folded up in the wardrobe, labelled "linen made for Hattie's dolls given her by Lady Shepstone." I have them now — they are a cream colour. On Christmas eve the Governor gave a dinner party — father and mother were there — and I was at home attending to my little sister when I heard a knock at the front door. Opening it I found the butler from Government House with a tiny plum pudding in a tiny basin, this had been made by the Governor's order for me. Needless to say I enjoyed it very much.

A FANCY DRESS DANCE

ON New Year's Eve a children's fancy dress dance was given by Lady Shepstone and as a very great favour I was allowed to go dressed as Undine. As I was always very tall for my age I was elected to lead the march round. Several young ladies and officers had been invited to help entertain the children, one of whom was a very pretty girl of 20 or 21. Bustles were worn at this time and this young lady had evidently not been able to buy one, but had determined to be in the fashion, so had folded some brown paper and tying a tape to it wore it under her dress feeling quite fashionable and miles above the so-called children. Alas! her pride soon had a fall, for while dancing the lancers in gay fashion the bustle

tape broke and down came the homemade article slipping along the highly polished floor much to the amusement of all of us, but to the consternation of this Miss, as you may imagine. To dance to the music of the military band was a delight, and the waltz of those days was so graceful that even to watch it was a joy, each couple looked so bright and happy, whereas now they all look so serious. All dances ended in a gallop and hot soup was served before the guests left to either walk home or be taken in their oxcarts — those were friendly days, and as I have said before, no service was bought, everyone gave of what they had, to be a friend meant to share with each other in joy and sorrow.

Sir Theo. Shepstone was a kindly man respected by all and his staff following in his footsteps were a great acquisition to Pretoria. Dances, picnics, riding parties were the order of the day. Of course I was much too young to join in those for then, unlike the present day, only after you were 17 or 18 were you thought old enough to join in any function where grown up people were

LONELY MOMENTS

AS a child I had practically no toys, a doll was my only possession; she was only four inches high but was made of china, and while I could not move her limbs I could at least put her in my bath and wash her before putting her to bed. I think my most cherished toy was a small tin washhand stand. It was small and dented, but very precious, and the envy of all my girl friends. I was a lonely child, my father and mother were all in all to each other and so I was left to myself. Many tears were wasted on the top bar of the little gate which opened onto the pavement at our home, where with longing heart I watched the boys and girls passing. I was never allowed to speak to them or play with them unless their parents were friends of mother's and even then only if their manners were good and they were obedient.

My greatest longing in my childhood days was to have a brother, and when my sister was born I much regretted the fact that she was a girl instead of the longed for boy. Children in those days rode a great deal, and my father bought a little basuto pony for me to use, and some of the happiest hours of my childhood were spent trotting about on this little creature, sometimes accompanied by Rider Haggard who was private secretary to Sir Theophilus Shepstone, and who was very fond of children.

THE DREAM

GRANDMA often used to tell us that she had had a strange dream, and just before the time Sir Theophilus Shepstone came to Pretoria, she told us at breakfast that she had had a vivid dream. She dreamt that she saw a soldier bring her a letter containing an invitation to drive out to the place where now the road diverges towards Roberts Heights, then called

“Reception Hill,” a carriage was to be sent for her and with a woman of title she would be taken to this place where several men of importance, with others all mounted, would be waiting for them. These men would meet them and point to the road where hundreds of soldiers with a band playing would be seen marching into Pretoria. After a few months her dream came true in every detail. Sir T. Shepstone sent her the invitation and his carriage and she with a German baroness, drove out to see the soldiers of the 13th march into Pretoria. On another occasion she dreamt that she saw hundreds of natives rushing over a hill with spears and shields and a man of royal blood was killed, she knew he was young. The red coated soldiers were following the natives who were crying out. Shortly after this the Zulu war was fought. The French Prince Imperial was killed.

FULFILLMENT

SHORTLY after this, as I have said, my father died and I met your father. Although neither of us actually belonged to the Wesleyan Church, we both sang in the choir of this church and attended it until the Presbyterian was opened by the Rev. Gray. A group of young Englishmen living there had become friendly, and all became very frequent visitors at our home. I was only a schoolgirl of 16 at the time but tall and I suppose old for my age, and was in a measure adopted by these young men as a sister, each doing little kind acts to help me to get over the grief caused by my father's death. After some few months I became engaged to your father. I think he was the eldest of the group, and had just been appointed manager of the newly erected business house of Henwood & Roseau. After a few weeks grandma decided to go to the Cape for a few months, and we set out by coach, grandma, Auntie Maggie (then 8 years) and I. The journey to Kimberley took us a few days, but was so much shorter and more comfortable than the one we had taken from Kimberley to Pretoria 8 or 9 years previous, that it seemed wonderful. We joined the train at Beaufort West and reached Cape Town on my 17th birthday.

After spending 6 weeks in Cape Town in the dear old home large enough to hold a regiment, with a few weeks at Sea Point with the Versfeldts, your father came down and we were married in the old church — St. Andrews . . .

THE THREATENING STORM

AFTER two weeks there at Clifton where the honeymoon was spent we— Grandmother, Auntie Maggie, Dad and I — left for Durban by boat on our way home. After spending a few days in Durban, we went to Pretoria, taking 9 days in all. I can assure you this journey was more than unpleasant, the wagonette was so small that when mother and Aunt Maggie, aged 9, were tucked away at the back, your father and I almost slept on the fore chest. However, we reached Johannesburg eventually to

find it a camp. Tents and tin buildings were scattered all over the place and everyone seemed to have one topic of conversation—war. English troops were said to be on the water and actually landed before we reached Pretoria and were waiting in Durban for further orders.

THE BUGLE CALL

WHILE away Grandmother had let both her houses and on our return we took the larger one as our house, but alas, we were only there a few weeks when we were warned by Sir Oliver Lanyon, the governor, that should war actually be declared we, women and children, would have to go to the soldiers' bungalows in the camp (where the barracks now are) to be protected from the guns of the attacking Boers, and a short time after this actually happened. We heard a bugle sound and we women and children had to take what few clothes and bedding we could carry and *walk* up to the now deserted camp. The whole place had been arranged in wards, with gentlemen of standing from town as ward masters appointed, and some 40 to 50 families were put into each bungalow, a 2 ft. passage was left free down the centre and 2 ft. 6 in. wide bedsteads were left standing with 6 inches between each two. A board was all we had to close the 4 holes that represented windows. There were no airholes, and as we were in these places during December, January and February when it rained for three weeks without a dry day in between, our plight was a sorry one — never shall I forget it. The bungalow we were in had no windows other than a board hinged into a hole in the wall, with a stick to keep it open. One of these air holes, for that was all you could call them, was just above Grandma's head and caused her to take a very serious cold which ended in an acute attack of double pneumonia which nearly caused her death. There were no partitions between the beds other than sheets we pinned up on the cross beams in the roof. Fortunately mother had managed to get into the same bungalow as Mrs. Meintjies, her great friend, who offered to do our cooking with hers as all was done under sheets of iron roughly erected outside. This was no easy task especially as it rained for days in succession during the 100 days we were there. There were births and deaths in the various bungalows and the discomfort was unspeakable. As I have said before, mother took a very bad cold which resulted in an acute attack of double pneumonia, and after battling with this for some days the Dr. ordered her to be removed to another bungalow which at least had glass windows. Dad and one or two friends managed to screen off a corner in this place into which they carried Grandma and which to me seemed a palace in comparison to where we had been before. It was a sad sight to see the little procession passing through the camp; Grandma on a stretcher covered with sheets being carried by four men friends with Auntie Maggie (then a little girl), Dad and I (each carrying some of our belongings) following. I was little more than a child, and had only been

married 3 months, feeling very ill and so distressed, all the responsibilities fell on me, in circumstances more than trying. I shudder even now when I think back as we slowly wended our way from one bungalow to the other, people staring at us and saying: "Oh, look there goes someone dead." I felt I would like to lie down myself and die.

Grandma was, as you will remember, a very beautiful woman with a quantity of light brown hair, and when early in the morning after we had settled in our new home I made fresh poultices on a small paraffin lamp kept in an upturned box to keep the light away from the windows so as to avoid attracting the attention of the Boers who were all round the town, I turned to put the poultices on, I was startled to find her quite unlike herself — indeed she was hardly recognisable — for her hair was snowy white; it had turned white during the night and remained so all the rest of her life. She recovered, but very slowly, and it was many weeks of nursing. After some time we were granted a permit to return to our home in town, and we revelled in the possession of a real house though very small, for it was the little thatched cottage that in after years Grandma lived in. We had to keep indoors and had to curtain the windows with blankets to save any light being seen — were not able to make a fire so as to leave smoke and so give the Boers a sign that one at least of the houses in town were occupied. This would have acted as a target and, if hit, being thatch, might have started a fire burning other houses, many of which were thatched as well as ours. We remained there for a few weeks when we were obliged to return to the camp until once again we had permission to go back when I had become very ill and the Dr. thought I should not recover unless I was taken right away where Grandma could attend to me more efficiently than in the bungalow; again we returned to camp and only left after peace was proclaimed. As I have said before, 3 months after we first left Town and went into purgatory, at least it was that to me, although some of the unmarried girls, many older than myself, seemed to enjoy themselves — the English officers tried to give them a good time

THE YOUNG MOTHER

BETWEEN the time of the war and the Jameson Raid there was comparative peace, family life went on, you were all born, and although a very young wife and mother I think I tried in every way to do my duty both to your father and to yourselves

THE RAID

THE next excitement in the political world was the rebellion or Jameson Raid. The rest of the world seemed to think that Johannesburg with its gold should be thrown open to each and all on equal lines, and when they — mostly Englishmen — found this was not going to be, they organised a raid led by Dr. Jameson. That this was disastrous was at once recognised by deep thinking people and if only Jameson had not been

as pigheaded a man as he was, no doubt things would have happened very differently. All preparations were made by the raiders to meet the Boers at a certain spot, not supposed to be known to them, but this must have been given away by some one for the raiders were hopelessly beaten, taken prisoners, and brought to Pretoria where they were imprisoned and eventually tried. Your father and I knew several of these men, (one of whom was Capt. Samson, one of the sons of old Dr. Samson I have mentioned in my memories as being in the coach which took Grandma and me to Kimberley and who proved such a good friend to us) and on several occasions he and I went up to the gaol to see them.

THE TRIAL

AFTER some time a Judge Gregorowski was brought up from the Free State to try the raiders; it was thought wiser to have a man from another province as he would not be likely to know any of the prisoners and so not so apt to show any favour. The market buildings as it stands today, was turned into a Court of Justice and was crowded to overflowing all three days that the case lasted. A bar was placed round a small space into which the council sat; those for the Government on one side of the space, and those against on the other while the centre was reserved for the press. A very few women were allowed at each side — 5 in all, I think, of which number I was one — it was a great privilege and the cause of no little jealousy; however, Mr. H. Scholtz one of the counsel for defence who took me, laughed heartily when I hesitated to accept his invitation and insisted on my going. Needless to say the excitement was tremendous, and after the third day, when during the afternoon the Judge and Counsel withdrew, feeling ran very high. When Mr. Scholtz returned and took his seat next to me he placed a bottle of eau-de-cologne on my lap saying “Don’t look up when the Judge comes in.” During the absence of the Judge a box on wheels with a door at one side had been wheeled into the hall and placed immediately behind the bar against which my chair rested — it was perhaps two feet higher than my head. As the Judge ascended the dais arranged for this use two policemen entered a side door escorting those of the leaders of the raiders, Lionel Phillips, Frank Rhodes and J. Hays Hammond, and they were told to stand in this box, the policemen closing the door and standing guard. The Judge then appeared to be looking for something under the desk in front of him, and it was then that Mr. Scholtz told me not to look, he thought Judge Gregorowski was about to put on his black cap which most Judges wear when condemning a person to death. However, this was not done, and after a few minutes he, the Judge, began to speak, saying in a very loud and serious voice: “John Hays Hammond, it has been decided by the High Court of this Country that you shall be removed from this place and shall be taken to some place arranged and shall be hanged by your neck till you are dead, dead, dead, and may God have pity on your immortal soul.” These words in

equal solemnity he repeated three times submitting the two other names. You cannot, no one who did not hear these sentences can possibly imagine the tenseness of those minutes, the absolute silence, the faces of the crowd and what the condemned men must have felt no one can imagine. Eventually these men were pardoned but had to pay an enormous indemnity.

THE LITTLE INCIDENT

ONE little incident which happened during the raid has remained in my mind ever since — I was sitting on our stoep at Home Lodge in town when a commando of young Boers rode past, they had come over from the fight near Johannesburg and were very full of themselves, and on passing the house looked round and seeing me one of them raised his fist and shouted at me saying in dutch “Yes! today this house is yours, but tomorrow it will be mine.” Feelings ran very high but many of us realised that the raid was a rebellious act and had it taken place in some other countries all those taking part in it would have been shot.

THE MAGNET

AFTER this things settled down a little. The rest of the world seemed to think Johannesburg was a place paved with gold and they rushed out from all parts of the world, and Johannesburg grew into a huge town with its mine magnates and others all out to make money. I do not need to tell you anything of Johannesburg except that when I was a child I often drove over the spot on our way to Heidelberg with my father who would be going over with money which was to be taken to Durban by rider or post-cart as there were no banks very safe here. There was not even a native hut on the exact spot then. The first time I actually saw Johannesburg was on our return from living in Durban for a year or two.

THE LINK IN THE CHAIN

GRANDMA developed very bad eye trouble. The only fairly good Dr. here at the time was a rough military one who very much wanted to remove one of her eyes, causing us all great anxiety, however, this was avoided and after some weeks she recovered. After a few months our house was ready and we moved in again, revelling in the freshness and space — shortly after this things , political once again, began to be troublesome, and some people began to speak of war. I have always felt that the Jameson Raid was actually the beginning of the Boer War. There were, of course, years between, but tracing all that happened one felt that there were links in a chain, some visible, some invisible, but there nevertheless, and after much thought and discussion between Grandma, Father and I, we came to the conclusion that should war once again break out we would be wise to have both Grandmother and Ivy (the delicate one of the family) away from Pretoria.

THE GRAPES OF WRATH

THAT we were right in this was soon proved for shortly after they left and were settled comfortably in lodgings in Durban, all trains were packed with English people who were being sent out of the country to the Cape and Natal by the Government, and the discomfort must have been dreadful, many being accommodated in cattle trucks and only standing room found for others. For 8 months war raged, the troops, landed in Cape Town and Durban, began fighting their way up. The South African men marched towards the coast and many and serious were the battles fought when they met — to us left in Pretoria news came frequently, always were the Boer troops victorious, always were the English soldiers cut to pieces. Slowly were English officers brought into Pretoria as prisoners and lodged in the model school. Well do I remember seeing one quite elderly man, a general I think, brought there and when helped out of the cart I found he had a piece of cardboard slung round his neck with these words written on it "I am the man who lost the guns at Colenso". Poor old man his reason had given way.

Your father had never been very interested in politics and was a man of very retiring ways and when other Englishmen were put out of the town he with Mr. Burke, Mr. Heys, Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Newham were left here. As you know your father was manager of Henwoods here, and in Johannesburg, and fortunately for them he was able to stay, as any business houses that were closed or left were looted by the Boers as they went through the town followed by the soldiers. As I have already said, this state of affairs continued for 8 months. Needless to say it was a time of dreadful strain. Your father and I were ordered to leave Pretoria four times but through friends at court and my claiming protection from the Boer government as being the daughter of a burger, we were allowed to stay on.

Before the trains stopped running, which they soon did, your father and I discussed the advisability of going to the coast, and I decided that he should not leave his trust — I put it to him in this way "When a ship goes down the last man to leave her is the captain — now I consider that you are in the position of that man as regards Henwoods, and so you should remain at your post until such time as you are absolutely forced out." Your father replied, "and what will you do?" I said, "stay with you of course, both I and the children," and so it was decided. Your father then asked his staff to tell him how many would stay on, and we got in all the food we could, mealie meal, potatoes, rice, flour, salt, sugar, tea, coffee, dripping and some tinned meats and fish. These we buried under the floor in the office putting a large desk over the trap door, and how lucky for us we did this, as all but one or two who were burgers were sent away during the next few weeks and those who remained, and we, lived on these eatables till the town was relieved. (To be continued.)

OP 29 Januarie is mnr. J. P. Jooste, algemeen bekend as oom Piet, oorlede. Hy was een van die staatmakers van ons Genootskap en het besonder veel belang in die geskiedenis van Pretoria gestel.

Oom Piet is op 23 Februarie 1877 te Colesberg gebore. In 1895 het hy na Pretoria gekom en het van toe af die Z.A. Republiek en daarna Transvaal getrou gedien. Hy was 'n oudstryder en bittereinder, wat met generaal Louis Botha tot die laaste dag toe in die veld gebly het.

Veel kon hy van die 3-jarige oorlog vertel asook van die voorgeskiedenis van die totstandkoming van die Unie van Suid-Afrika. Oom Jooste het sy land, volk en kerk in baie hoedanigheid gedien.

Mag hy in vrede rus en aan sy naasbestandes, ons innige deelname.

Genootskap Oud-Pretoria
(Gestig 22 Maart 1948)

Association Old Pretoria
(Founded 22 March, 1948)

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

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

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