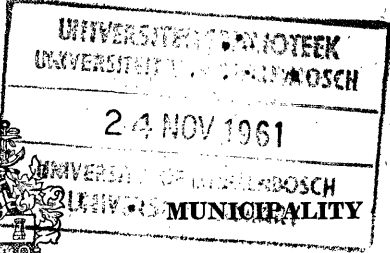


I.M.S.

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MUNISIPALITEIT



STELLENBOSCH

Mayor's Parlour,

25th August, 1961.

THE APPROACHING END OF THE MAYORAL YEAR

The past two years have flown and Tuesday, 22nd August, 1961, was the last meeting of my mayoral term of office at which I presided. An occasion like this cannot but make one look back on the many events of the two years and also ponder on what the future may have in store. The past years have been very busy ones indeed — a sign that Stellenbosch is maintaining its pace of growth — and I hope, in the next few issues, to mention matters of general interest and also to express my gratitude for so much loyalty and courtesy as I have been privileged to experience. The Council has resolved to elect a new mayor and other office-bearers at a special meeting which will take place at 2.15 p.m. on the 12th September.

FAREWELLS

At the meeting on the 22nd instant, Council took leave of Mr. E. H. Croghan who has been its consultant and adviser on the question of sewage disposal and other matters vitally affecting health for well over thirty years. Mr. Croghan has decided to resign because of Mrs. Croghan's health which has been failing for quite a time, and her keen desire to see her daughter and grandchildren overseas.

The Council invited Mr. Croghan to attend the meeting so as to be able to thank him personally for his great contribution to the success of the water-borne sewage scheme, the working of which he supervised and controlled practically since its completion. It is not generally known with what problems Stellenbosch was faced at times as a result of its being the first country town that undertook such a scheme. When the scheme was inaugurated in 1926, Stellenbosch had a population of approximately 8,000 and Mr. Croghan has

succeeded in keeping it functioning up to the present time when very considerable extensions and improvements are being carried out and when the population has practically trebled.

What ratepayers appreciate is guidance which obviates additional expenditure into which one can easily be rushed. Mr. Croghan's methods were to observe carefully and then only to come to a decision which was invariably the most logical and sensible solution. At a time when there was no legislation which protected the Municipality, it required infinite tact and diplomacy to steer a course which found favour with the higher authorities, particularly the Union Health Department. Mr. Croghan was also a keen scientist and many are his contributions to scientific journals. Any matters of interest to Stellenbosch and to the country generally and which required research and control found Mr. Croghan keenly interested and it was a joy to him to find Stellenbosch, with his help, taking the lead in so many cases. Some outstanding ones are the moves towards the prevention of the pollution of rivers, the conservation of water supplies and treatment of industrial effluents, particularly the disposal of winery effluents by a biological process. Many of these problems are nearing solution.

Moreover, Mr. Croghan was a man of great personal qualities, a loyal friend of Stellenbosch and a true watchdog in the best sense of the word. His association with the Council has been one of the most pleasant, and the fact that this association must come to an end was realised with nothing but regret.

* * *

The Council also took leave of Mrs. Van Graan, the most able and gifted editress of the Eikestadnuus. Mrs. Van Graan has succeeded in building up a newspaper which has gained acknowledgement in Stellenbosch and much further afield. When, some time ago the Eikestadnuus was awarded a prize for the best country newspaper, we all felt proud and pleased that this great compliment should be paid her.

The Council and the town as a whole owes Mrs. Van Graan a great debt of gratitude for displaying such an interest in all aspects of the life of our community. Her grasp of a situation and her appreciation of the facts and her talent of expressing herself without fear, favour or prejudice, I cannot imagine equalled, much less exceeded. What must be appreciated most these days is the meticulous truthfulness of her reporting.

Whilst expressing our regret at the imminence of her departure which came as a shock, I would like to congratulate Mrs. Van Graan and her husband on the wonderful opportunity that it must be for them to spend some time in London. I can only hope that when she comes back, she will come back to Stellenbosch and continue her good and successful work here once more.

WIDENING OF PLEIN STREET

People generally have commented very favourably on the effects that the widening of Plein Street has had on parking and the general flow of traffic through the very busy street. There obviously still remains a bottleneck at the entrance from the east, in front of the old Magistrate's Court and the Council has resolved to proceed with the widening of that portion too.

1 September 1961.

CALEDON SE 150-JARIGE HERDENKINGSFEES

Op Dinsdag, 5 September om 9 vm. word 'n fakkel voor die Stellenbosse Stadsaal aangesteek om vandaar deur studente gedra te word tot waar dit later in die dag deur Grabouw oorgeneem word. Die aankoms van die fakkel op Caledon op Woensdag, 6 September sal een van die hoogtepunte wees in hierdie dorp se program van feesviering om sy 150-jarige bestaan te herdenk. 'n Kort program word alhier by die vertrek van die fakkel voor die Stadsaal afgehandel en belangstellendes word vriendelik uitgenooi om dit by te woon. Onthou asseblief die tyd: Dinsdag, 5 September 1961 om 9 vm.

BEHUISINGSKAKE

Verlede Dinsdag, 29 Augustus, het die Raad die voorreg gehad om mnr. L. Bührmann, Voorsitter van die Nasionale Behuisingskommissie, vergesel van die Sekretaris, mnr. Malan, hier te ontvang. Behuisingsprobleme in die algemeen en van Stellenbosch in die besonder, is bespreek.

Mnr. Bührmann het aan die eenkant die geweldige behuisingsbehoefte van ons land geskets en daarteenoor die beperkte finansiële middele om hierin te voorsien, beklemtoon. Hierdie middele moet gebruik word op 'n wyse wat huise aan die grootsmoontlike getal mense sal verskaf. Dit bring o.a. mee dat plaaslike owerhede die minimum standarde wat hulle by nuwe behuisingskemas stel, in hersiening sal moet neem om

sodoende huise op 'n ekonomiese grondslag te kan bou wat deur die onderskeie bevolkings- en inkomstegroepe bekostig kan word. Sub-ekonomiese behuisingslenings werp 'n geweldige las op die staat wat hy eenvoudig nie kan dra nie en die Behuisingskommissie sal slegs in uitsonderlike gevalle sulke lenings nog toestaan. Die samesprekings met mnr. Bührmann was besonder vrugbaar en ons is dankbaar vir sy besoek. Intussen gaan ons beplanning van die nuwe behuisingskemas voort.

AANKOOP VAN GROND VAN BLOEMHOF TRUSTEES

'n Afvaardiging van die Stadsraad het 'n onderhoud met sy Edele die Administrateur en sy Uitvoerende Komitee gehad in verband met bogenoemde grondtransaksie. Dit is bekend dat die Raad begerig is om hierdie eiendom wat aan die Stadssaalgronde grens, te bekom maar terselfdertyd is hy nie gretig om dit deur middel van 'n lening aan te koop nie omdat so 'n skuld swaar sal wees op ons klein klompie belastingbetalers. Die Administrateur is gevolglik genader met die versoek om die Stadsraad toe te laat om die opbrengs van die Uniepark-erwe vir dié doel te gebruik. Die besluit van die Provinsiale Administrasie word nou deur die Raad met groot belangstelling afgewag.

STADSBEPLANNING

Belangrike ontwikkelings wat op die Libertas Parva landgoed aan die onderent van Dorpstraat, in die nabye toekoms gaan plaasvind, maak dit vir die Raad gebiedend om sy pad- en verkeerstelsel in daardie gebied nou te finaliseer.

Die publiek weet reeds dat Blerschstraat mettertyd verbreed sal word en ook verleng om oor die Eersterivier te steek en verderaan by die pad na die Strand aan te sluit. Verder moet Blerschstraat op 'n behoorlike wyse by Adam Tasstraat aansluit terwyl die verlenging van die huidige Noordwalpad weswaarts ook in die prentjie kom. Uiteindelik sal ook bepaal moet word waar en of Noordwal by Adam Tasstraat moet aansluit. Die hele padskema word nou deur die Raad se ingenieurs bestudeer. Dit beteken nie noodwendig dat al hierdie paaie in die nabye toekoms gebou sal word nie. Die nodige grond moet egter vir die doel gereserveer word.

8th September, 1961.

MR. LOUIS HOFMEYR

The news that Mr. Louis Hofmeyr died in a car accident last week has come as a shock to the people of Stellenbosch, to whom he has devoted so much of his time and thought and to

whom he was a symbol of life and energy. Many will remember his great personal qualities — his cheerfulness, his generosity and his willingness to help.

The Municipality will ever owe Mr. Hofmeyr a great debt of gratitude. He served as a Councillor for many years and soon became the Chairman of the Finance Committee. He also held office as Mayor for two periods of 2 years. His phenomenal memory was the envy of many and he always had at heart the welfare of Stellenbosch, the town he loved so well.

As a Mayor and Councillor he frequently represented Stellenbosch at congress and he was a member of the Executive Committee of the Cape Province Municipal Association and of the United Municipal Executive.

Although he did not take part in public life these last years, the end has come at a time when he was still well known and remembered and when it is hard to realise that he is no longer with us.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his widow and children, his brother, Mr. W. A. K. Hofmeyr, friends and other relations.

FAREWELL

Next Tuesday the Council will elect its Mayor for the following Mayoral term and I take this opportunity to briefly sum up the Council's activities, or rather to mention some which come to my mind, leaving them to be more fully dealt with in this year's Mayoral Minutes and above all to thank all those who have so loyally co-operated with me and supported me.

I am glad to be able to look back on two years of hard work and on a most pleasant association. In particular I am happy to know that throughout this time that dignity has been maintained, which has always been characteristic of the Municipal Council of Stellenbosch where differences of opinion that are bound to arise, can always be discussed without creating personal animosities.

I shall always be grateful to my fellow members of the Council for their unflinching courtesy towards the Chair and for their loyal support and co-operation. The Mayoress joins me in thanking the Councillors' wives most heartily for all the help they have given at all times, especially in connection with functions and receptions.

I also thank all sections of the public of Stellenbosch for many kindnesses and a spirit which made it such a pleasure to be entrusted with the care of their interests as citizens of the town.

I also think of the press and the attitude of its representatives where the interests of Stellenbosch were concerned.

Finally I wish to thank the Town Clerk and all the officials and workmen of the Municipality for their loyalty, which has been unfailingly extended to me.

To even try to give a brief summing up of the work of the past few years is a formidable task. There are the new developments and townships and their extensions; the town planning schemes with their provision for new main roads to carry ever increasing traffic; the extensions to the sewage disposal works and their modernisation; the new main sewers; the new pipe from Jonkershoek to fill the Idas Valley dam; new service reservoirs and extensions to the distribution system; the new streets and improvements to existing ones; foot and cycle bridges over the Eerste River; restrooms for the Coloured nurses and workmen at the Sanatorium; a recreation room for the patients (built from money collected by the Ladies' Committee); the great change-over in the electricity scheme to an 11 KVA supply; the parking area at the back of the Town Hall; closer contact with the University in planning matters; restoration of old buildings and the proclamation of the Burgerhuis as a historical monument; the archaeological reserve near Adam Tas Bridge; the planning of new abattoirs; the cemetery extensions; the anti-polio campaigns; preparations for housing schemes, particularly for the Coloured community; a new compost making scheme; sheds for vehicles for municipal departments; the future use and leasing of municipal land, and so many other matters of greater or lesser importance — some to serve present needs and some to meet the needs of the future. Parallel to all these activities, important functions have been arranged.

A growing source of worry is created by the ever increasing costs of construction. Since 1959 they have trebled.

As the town grows, new works or extensions to existing ones become necessary; often as for instance in the case of the sewage disposal works, the costs far exceed those of the original scheme. Were it not for the fact that much of the original schemes, built in relatively cheap times, can still be used, the service charges would have to be increased very sharply. Although in our case the low costs (according to present standards) of old schemes still in use, still have a cushioning effect, all municipalities and not only Stellenbosch, will have to face up to the fact that the annual running costs of municipal services will tend to increase still further, much to the regret of Councillors, who would so greatly prefer to be able to announce reductions of tariffs and other charges rather than to increase them from time to time.

I conclude by wishing Stellenbosch and its people a very happy and prosperous future.

HULDE AAN RAADSLID W. C. DEMPSEY

Op 12 September het die Raad my die groot eer bewys om my as Burgemeester te kies.

Die amp van Burgemeester van 'n dorp soos Stellenbosch, wat so 'n unieke rol in ons land gespeel het, en wat nog steeds geen tekens wys van 'n verlies aan krag en groeivermoë nie, bring groot verantwoordelikhede mee en eis baie werk. Die groot beloning bestaan uit die genot en tevredenheid wat ondervind word, as 'n vinnig groeiende samelewing se begeerte om aan sy eie strewende en ideale die gepaste vorm te gee, verwezenlik word. 'n Eie karakter moet steeds bewaar word.

Aan al die eise wat Stellenbosch stel, het mnr. Dempsey op onoortreflike wyse voldoen en hy is deur sy gade op voorbeeldige wyse onvermoeid bygestaan. Die Burgemeester se Jaarverslag sal alle besonderhede van die menigvuldige werksaamhede oor die afgelope jaar bevat. Ek hoop dat almal wat werklik in die sake van ons dorp belang stel, dit sal lees.

Die Raad het sy dank en waardering by geleentheid van sy jongste vergadering uitgespreek. Ek wil dit in hierdie Rubriek nogmaals stel, ook in die naam van die hele publiek van Stellenbosch. Ek is besonder bly dat mnr. Dempsey as Onder-Burgemeester gekies is, sodat sy ondervinding, veral met die groot skemas wat die laaste jare onderneem is en geleidelik voltooiing nader, beskikbaar sal bly.

Wat die gemeenskap van Stellenbosch betref, wil ek die versekering gee dat ek hulle belange ten alle tye na die beste van my vermoë sal behartig. Ek hoop dat niemand sal huiwer om sy probleme aan die Raad voor te lê nie. Afsprake vir persoonlike besprekings moet verkieslik tussen 10 en 12 voormiddag met die kantoor gereël word.

Die Raad het ook sy voorsitters van departemente en sy verteenwoordigers op ander liggamme gekies. Besonderhede hiervan sal ek aan die redaksie van **Die Eikestadnuus** besorg.

VRAAGSTUKKE WAT VOORLÊ

Daar is aanduidings dat daar lewe gekom het in die voorbereidings vir die afkondiging van groepsgebiede vir Stellenbosch. Verdere besprekings sal in die nabye toekoms plaasvind. Dit bring die Raad nader aan die moontlikheid om die behuisingvraagstuk, veral van die Kleurlinggemeenskap, te kan aanpak. Ons dorp sal sy grense weer eens moet uitbrei. Verdere veranderinge sal dus onderneem moet word. Van per-

sone wat slegs 'n paar jaar gelede nog op Stellenbosch was, hoor ons gedurig hoe baie die dorp verander het.

Die stelsel van hoofpaaie en hulle aansluiting by die strate van die dorp vorder stadig maar seker. Dit vereis besondere aandag. Geen tyd moet onnodig verkwis word nie, sodat dié wat belangstel, aangemoedig kan word om Stellenbosch as 'n geskikte plek vir beleggings en ontwikkeling te beskou.

Onsekerheid het 'n stremmende invloed op 'n dorp wat onder besondere omstandighede verkeer wat betref die persentasie eiendomme wat tans nog van eiendomsbelasting vrygestel is.

Werke wat nodig is vir die dienste wat 'n vinnig groeiende dorp t.w. riolering, water- en elektrisiteitsvoorsiening, is in aanbou.

Ons biblioteekstelsel is aan die verander. Waar die Kleurlinggemeenskap alreeds bedien word deur 'n biblioteek onder die provinsiale stelsel, word die moontlikheid om dieselfde geriewe ook vir die blanke samelewing te verskaf, grondig ondersoek.

Wat die kerkhowe betref, sal omtrent die moontlikheid van 'n oornamie deur die Munisipaliteit onderhandel word. Dit sal grotendeels 'n finansiële vraagstuk wees.

Verdere bou-erwe vir blankes sal hopelik binne afsienbare tyd beskikbaar word. Daar is verskeie onderverdelings, van wisselende omvang, in voorbereiding.

Die toekoms van die Phillimore Ives-gebou, nadat die versameling van skilderye ooreenkomstig die skenkingsakte teruggegee moes word, sal binnekort beslis moet word.

Al die dinge moet in verband gebring word met die finansiële drakrag van ons belastingbetalers, wat voor die feit staan dat die tyd waarin ons leef en die groeiende dorp steeds meer eise aan hulle stel. So baie wat ons as wenslik beskou, moet partykeer wag tot aan die eise van lewensnoodsaaklike dinge eers voldoen is.

BESIGTING VAN TENTOONSTELLINGS IN PHILLIMORE IVES-GEBOU

Op versoek het die Raad besluit om die Phillimore Ives-gebou en sy anneks vir besoek uitsluitlik deur lede van die Kleurlinggemeenskap oop te stel. Dit sal Maandag, 18 September 1961, in die namiddag geskied.

S. W. J. LIEBENBERG,

Burgemeester.