I.M.S.

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MUNISIPALITEIT **MUNICIPALITY**

STELLENBOSCH

24 Januarie 1964.

DIE SKOLE HEROPEN

Met die begin van 'n nuwe skooljaar wil ons graag die leerkragte van die verskillende skole tesame met die honderde seuns en dogters in die Eikestad verwelkom. Ons is bly om hulle almal weer onder ons te hê en wil vertrou dat die jaar 1964 'n geseënde een vir ons skole sal wees.

'n Besondere woord van welkom aan mej. C. E. S. Coetzee, die nuwe hoof van Bloemhof Hoër Meisieskool. Ons wens haar 'n aangename verblyf hier toe.

Hoewel ons nie oor die presiese besonderhede beskik nie, weet ons dat die leerlinge van die hoërskole goed presteer het in die openbare eksamens wat aan die einde van verlede jaar afgelê is. Ons gelukwensing hiermee aan sowel die dosente en die suksesvolle leerlinge.

PADVERKEERSTEKENS EN SPOORWEGOORGANGE

Die Provinsiale Padingenieur het in 'n onlangse brief alle plaaslike owerhede daarop gewys dat die Spoorwegadministrasie, kragtens die Padverkeersordonnansie van 1955, as 'n Paaie-owerheid beskou word.

Van die Munisipaliteit, soos tewens van alle ander plaaslike owerhede, word daar verwag om toe te sien dat alle tekens wat by spoorwegoorgange opgerig is, nl. stoptekens en flikkerligte, stiptelik gehoorsaam word. Ek noem dit hier om sodoende die publiek te waarsku om hulle nie aan oortredings en moontlike dagvaardings bloot te stel nie.

DIE KWESSIE VAN AFDELINGSRAADBELASTING IN STEDELIKE GEBIEDE

Van die kant van die dorpenaar en stedeling word daar reeds vir meer as 60 jaar klagtes gehoor oor die feit dat hy

belasting moet betaal aan die Afdelingsraad van wie, so word gesê, hy geen of min dienste ontvang.

Oor al die jare het die aangeleentheid gereeld op die agenda van die Kaaplandse Munisipale Vereniging verskyn en is talle besluite geneem sonder dat daar gevorder is in die rigting van 'n oplossing wat vir sowel die Afdelingsrade as die Munisipaliteite aanneemlik was.

Die afgelope paar jaar het die twee groepe liggame opnuut ernstige pogings aangewend om tot 'n vergelyk te kom. Omdat die Administrateur te kenne gegee het dat hy nie te vinde was vir afskaffing van die belasting nie, moes daar 'n formule uitgewerk word waarvolgens die stedeling sou betaal en wat vir hom terselfdertyd verligting sou inhou. Hieroor is daar eenstemmigheid bereik en is die saak tans in die hande van die Provinsiale Administrasie.

So pas is die hele probleem van uit 'n ander oord te berde gebring. 'n Regeringskommissie, onder voorsitterskap van mnr. Borckenhagen, is reeds vir baie jare besig met 'n ondersoek na die finansiële verhoudinge tussen Staat, Provinsies en Plaaslike Owerhede, en aangesien die stelsel van Afdelingsrade net in die Kaapprovinsie voorkom, is die Kommissie versoek om die finansiering van hierdie diens spesiaal te ondersoek as 'n besondere aspek van sy breëre opdrag. Die Kaaplandse Munisipale Vereniging het ook, deur middel van 'n afvaardiging wat uit Raadslid Levy van Uitenhage, Raadslid Keen van Kaapstad en myself bestaan het, die geleentheid gehad om getuienis voor die Kommissie af te lê, en sy bevindings word met belangstelling afgewag.

31st January, 1964.

VACANCY ON THE COUNCIL

As a result of the departure and subsequent resignation of Mr. L. J. Myburgh, a vacancy has occurred on the Stellenbosch Municipal Council. Nomination Day will be the 18th of February and if more than one nomination is received an election will be held on Wednesday, 4th March, 1964.

PUBLIC MEETING RE SWIMMING BATH

Readers of Eikestadnuus will recall that owing to lack of time the question of a public swimming bath for Stellenbosch could not be dealt with at the ratepayers' meeting which was held during November of last year. Council has felt that an opportunity should be provided for the public to express an opinion on this matter which has been raised from various

quarters. The desirability of such an amenity is of course beyond dispute, but there remains the question of finance, which will have to be gone into very carefully.

Council has accordingly decided to call a meeting of voters, which will be held in the Banqueting Hall on Wednesday, 11th March, 1964 at 8 p.m. I hope that the public of Stellenbosch will attend in large numbers.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR IDAS VALLEY

The Provincial Administration is urging local authorities in the Cape to implement the government policy of giving Coloured communities a certain measure of control over their affairs. It is envisaged that the policy will be applied in stages, the first stage being the introduction of a Management Committee which will act in an advisory capacity to the local Town Council.

The Council has decided to assist in the establishment of such a Management Committee and is desirous of discussing matters with the community concerned. A public meeting of the ratepayers of Idas Valley will, with this object in mind, be held on Monday, 24th of February, 1964. Details of the place and time of the meeting will be made known in due course.

BUILDING ACTIVITIES DURING 1963

The statistics regarding building activities for the year 1963 have been submitted to the Council in detail. They are regularly supplied to the Bureau of Census and Statistics.

The figures reveal that building plans of a total value of R2,394,380 were passed during 1963. This was considerably more than the total for 1962.

The most pleasing fact which emerges is that the greater part of these new buildings was rateable, the exact figures being R1,450,130 rateable and only R944,250 non-rateable. We hope that this trend will continue during the present year.

THE MILL WHEEL

Last year saw the demolition of the buildings on the Mill site on the western side of Mill Square leaving the Rhenish Church, since then proclaimed a national monument, standing alone and isolated in all its attractiveness.

Up to last Saturday morning the lonely mill wheel was still standing on the Mill site, appealing greatly to the sentiment of the people of Stellenbosch. It was found impossible, in spite of genuine interest on all sides, to accommodate the wheel as part of the new building which will replace the mill or even, because of its size to find a place for it on the Braak in such a manner that the water of the Millstream could turn it.

As has become known Dr. Danie Craven came forward with the offer to give the wheel a new home at Wilgenhof and to re-erect it on the stream which crosses the site. Council having had to refuse the gift of the wheel, Mr. Harry Gelb agreed to Dr. Danie Craven's proposal which the latter set out to implement with the determination that is characteristic of him. The wheel, with the aid of powerful tackle was lifted bodily from its bearings in the Millstream and safely placed on a lorry, showing in the process that there was plenty of strength left in the metal of which the old wheel was made.

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7 Februarie 1964.

HONDEBELASTING

Die Raad ontvang van tyd tot tyd briewe wat beswaar daarteen maak dat vir gesteriliseerde tewe 'n hoër belasting as vir reunhonde betaal moet word. Ook op munisipale kongresse is die saak breedvoerig bespreek. Dit is bekend dat die belasting vir tewe hoër is as dié vir reunhonde. Ons Stadsraad was die gedagte van 'n vermindering nie onsimpatiek gesind nie en het al in 1962 ondersoek laat instel. Dit is egter vasgestel dat tot dusver en ook in die toekoms tot tyd en wyl die wet verander word, die Raad nie by magte is om die gewenste tegemoetkoming te toon nie. Die Ordonnansie erken net tewe en reunhonde.

Terloops wil ek nog meld dat Artikel 3 van die Ordonnansie op Hondebelasting (Nr. 22 van 1946) bepaal dat die belasting wat deur 'n munisipaliteit opgelê word, nie laer mag wees nie as dié van die afdelingsraad in wie se gebied dit geleë is.

DIE DISTRIKSKOMMANDANT

Maj. J. M. Potgieter, tot 31 Januarie 1964 ons Distrikskommandant, is vanaf 1 Februarie verplaas na Kaapstad. Graag wil ek hom ook uit naam van die publiek baie hartlik bedank vir sy dienste en veral ook my waardering uitspreek vir die samewerking wat altyd tussen die munisipaliteit en

die S.A. Polisie op Stellenbosch bestaan het. Ek wens hom die allerbeste toe en alle sukses in sy nuwe werkkring. By die geleentheid wil ek ook graag kapt. C. L. H. Mouton gelukwens met sy bevordering tot Distrikskommandant vanaf 1 Februarie 1964. Hy is reeds welbekend op Stellenbosch en ek verwelkom hom in sy nuwe amp en wens ook hom alle sukses toe in die oortuiging dat die goeie verhouding en samewerking sal bly voortbestaan.

EIENDOMSBELASTING EN DIENSGELDE

Om te voorkom dat verwarring ontstaan, herhaal ek vir die gerief van die belastingbetalers dat die diensgelde voor of op 1 Maart 1964 betaalbaar is. As betaling later geskied moet rente teen 1% per maand of gedeelte van 'n maand betaal word.

Die eiendomsbelasting is betaalbaar op 15 Maart. Uitstel sonder betaling van rente word gegee tot en insluitende 14 Junie. Almal wat op 15 Junie of later betaal moet rente betaal teen 7% per jaar.

HOOFVERKEERSWEË

Voordat die Raad die eerste gedeelte van die voorgestelde Cloetesdal-aanleg met sy sowat 600 erwe weer bespreek, word die hele stelsel van hoofpaaie wat Stellenbosch sal dien, deeglik ondersoek.

DIE VERENIGDE MUNISIPALE BESTUUR

Hierdie liggaam hou hierdie week sy jaarvergadering in Kaapstad. Daar word belangrike aangeleenthede bespreek en ek hoop om by 'n latere geleentheid een en ander daaroor te kan meld.

DISTRIKSVERPLEEGSTER VIR STELLENBOSCH

Die Raad moes tot sy innige spyt verneem dat die Departement Gesondheid die aanstelling van 'n distriksverpleegster vir die dorp nie goedgekeur het nie. Die Raad is oortuig dat so 'n diens uiters noodsaaklik is en daar word verdere vertoë tot die Departement gerig.

14th February, 1964.

CELEBRATION OF SIMON VAN DER STEL'S BIRTHDAY

Some time ago I was approached by Mrs. Miems van Huyssteen to enlist the support of the Council for a festive

celebration of the birthday of Simon van der Stel, the founder of Stellenbosch, on the 14th of October. A tentative programme was at the same time put forward, indicating that it will be a typically Stellenbosch festival, the idea generally being to re-enact some of the events which usually took place when Van der Stel, on his birthday, visited the town which he had founded.

At its last meeting, the Council decided to lend its support to the idea of such a festival, provided the public were prepared to co-operate wholeheartedly to ensure the success of such an undertaking.

A meeting of interested bodies will soon be called in order to test public opinion.

I have to point out that the local "Skakelkomitee" intends arranging large scale celebrations of Kruger Day on the 10th of October.

DAHLIA SHOW AT IDA'S VALLEY

On Saturday, 22nd of February, the Stellenbosch Horticultural Society will hold its annual Dahlia Show in the "Hervormers" Church Hall from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. Council members have been invited to visit the show and I am sure that members of the public will be most welcome to see the exhibits in the course of the afternoon.

VISIT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY CRICKET TEAM

This match between a team of parliamentarians and a local team, captained by Capt. Jack Duminy, is an annual event and has become something of an institution since the two teams, captained by Minister J. H. Hofmeyer and Prof. Ernest Neethling, both of whom have passed on, first met many years ago. This year Stellenbosch will act as hosts and the Council will entertain the two teams to tea before they get down to the more serious business. Play goes on until 6 p.m. and is only interrupted by a rather prolonged break for lunch which will be taken at one of the Hostels at the invitation of the Rector of the University. Minister Frank Waring and Sir de Villiers Graaff will, amongst others, be members of the parliamentary team which will visit Stellenbosch on Saturday, the 15th of February.

MEETING OF THE UNITED MUNICIPAL EXECUTIVE

As is known, each of the four provinces of the Republic and S.W.A. has its own Municipal Association, the members of which are the municipalities in that province. Matters of a

provincial nature are dealt with by each of these associations on behalf of its constituent members, while problems of a national character such as housing, public health and Bantu affairs are referred to the United Municipal Executive (U.M.E.) for its consideration and with the purpose of making the necessary representations to the government departments concerned.

At its recent meeting in Cape Town the U.M.E., amongst other things, gave serious attention to the question of new sources of income in order to meet the growing demands which are made on the funds of local authorities. In each of the provinces certain limitations are imposed on the taxing capacity of local authorities, as far as fixed property is concerned. Some of the larger cities have actually reached the limit of their rating powers and have accordingly to look elsewhere for additional sources of revenue. It may be of interest to know that in the case of our own town the present rate is still less than half the maximum allowed by the provincial ordinance.

W. C. DEMPSEY.

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