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THE CAPE STANDARD, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1938.

Cape Divisional Council Drops Housing Schemes

ONLY 60 HOUSES AT ELSIE'S RIVER

Tiervlei Request Refused

THE Cape Divisional Council revoked its decision taken in August last to embark upon two sub-economic housing schemes at Windermere and Matroosfontein, each comprising 200 houses for Coloured persons, at Tuesday's meeting. An amendment by Mr. D. J. Cloete (Deputy-Chairman) to limit, at this stage, the provision of sub-economic housing for Coloured persons to the erection of 60 houses on the site acquired for a housing scheme, was adopted by 7 votes to 4. This scheme will be an experiment, which if successful and the financial position allows, more houses will be erected. Mr. J. R. Proctor, who unsuccessfully moved that the Council proceed immediately with the erection of the 200 houses at Matroosfontein, Elsie's River, gave notice to review and rescind.

MR. CLOETE'S original motion was to revoke Council's resolution taken on August 12, 1938, and that Council rescinded.

(a) To agree to the granting of economic housing loans to individuals within its area on the lines recommended by the executive officers in a report dated 19th November, 1938.

(b) To limit, at this stage, the provision of sub-economic housing for Coloured persons to the erection of 60 houses on the site acquired for a housing scheme at Matroosfontein.

Excellent Possibilities

Speaking on his motion, Mr. Cloete said that following upon a deputation of Grassy Park residents asking for economic housing loans, a joint report by the executive officers stated that there were excellent possibilities at Grassy Park for such loan schemes, and they should be encouraged as far as possible and should be made known to the public at Goodwood Acres, Windermere, and other places. He declared that these economic housing loans helped the man who was at the bottom rung of the ladder—that is, the person who owned a piece of land and wanted to improve his position. "Fifty per cent. of the people in the Divisional area would fall outside the sub-economic housing schemes, which are only for the very poor, and it is unfair not to consider them."

Mr. W. H. Latagan seconded the motion.

Mr. J. R. Proctor, who opposed the motion, said that it was only possible to start with one section—the most deserving people. He added that Mr. Cloete divided 200 houses by four, but he would not be able to reduce the standing cost, and then it will no longer be a sub-economic scheme.

Distressing Conditions

Referring to a letter received from the Union Department of Health, Mr. Proctor said that Council's attention had been drawn to the provision in the Shums Act (Section 4) that it was the duty of the local authority to take the necessary steps ensuring suitable housing fit for its people. He felt sure that fifty houses would not meet the distressing conditions of the rural people.

Mr. C. Steyn said that after two years' deliberation Council had indicated to the Government that they were doing something in improving the housing conditions, yet up till now nothing had been done. After a great deal of discussion on the form of Mr. Cloete's motion, it was decided to proceed to the next motion standing in Mr. Proctor's name asking Council to proceed with the erection of 200 houses at Matroosfontein, leaving the question of calling for tenders for the 200 dwellings at Windermere until such time as the difficulties connected with the acquisition of the Windermere site had been settled.

Mr. Cloete then moved an amendment that the housing scheme be limited to the erection of sixty houses at Matroosfontein.

The Deputy-Chairman explained that, should this experiment prove successful and the financial position of the Council allows, more houses would be erected.

The amendment was adopted by 7 votes to 4.

Mr. Proctor gave notice to review and rescind the decision.

Tiervlei Segregationists

A petition containing 477 names of residents and property owners of Tiervlei, requesting that the Cape Divisional Council refuse trading licences to non-Europeans in Tiervlei, was received by the Cape Divisional Council. A communication, also received from the Tiervlei Ratepayers' Association that the Council notify the Association of all applications for trade licences at Tiervlei.

The Association also drew the Council's attention to the fact that the firm of Messrs. Joyce and McEvoy Ltd. stipulate for buyers of land that they are not allowed to sell to be ground to non-Europeans.

The Health Committee responsible for the issue of trade licences reported to the Council that on previous occasions they:

(a) advised the Tiervlei Ratepayers' Association that it has in its consideration applications for certificates for licences no power to discriminate between applicants of different races;

(b) refuse to accede to the Association's request that they be advised by the Council immediately upon receipt of applications for certificates for licences to trade in Tiervlei made by non-Europeans.

After a discussion, the Council turned down the request made by the petitioners and the Association.

A motion by Mr. S. M. Louber that a committee be appointed to interview the Administrator and the Provincial Council Executive with regard to the granting of trade licences, was carried by ten votes to two.

Pondokkies Doomed

A pondokkie "village" at Midsbosch Strand, consisting of eight pondokkies and occupied by 13 adults and 31 children has been condemned by the Cape Divisional Council as insanitary and will be demolished.

Councillor E. R. Ford, who inspected the pondokkies, accompanied by the Medical Officer of Health, stated in his report:


"In my opinion, the conditions at the existing eight dilapidated pondokkies constructed of scrap-iron, wood, and reeds, which are situated approximately within 300 yards of the nearest dwellings in Midsbosch Strand, are primitive and totally insanitary and such as should not be tolerated by any local authority."

"I am of the further opinion that this Council would be failing in its public health responsibilities if it does not take immediate steps to have these structures vacated and demolished."

The recommendation was opposed by Mr. S. M. Louber, M.P., and Mr. W. H. Latagan.

Mr. Louber contended that the pondokkies were out of sight of the village. They were in the fresh air and not a case of sickness had been reported. Demolition of these dwellings, he felt, would deprive the village people of their labour and would drive the inhabitants into places inaccessible to the health officer.

Mr. D. J. Cloete, speaking in support of the recommendation,



said that if the owners were keen to keep their labourers, they should provide decent housing accommodation for them.

The recommendation, when put to the vote, was carried by ten votes to two.

Coloured Messengers Appointed

Following upon the decision of the Council to appoint Coloured messengers, the Finance Committee reported that 48 applicants had applied for the four vacancies. The ages of the applicants varied considerably, but it was found desirable to limit the choice of suitable points to those under 38 years of age. Out of the 24 applicants interviewed, the Committee submitted seven names to the Council, who chose the following by ballot:—L. Cletty, Wynberg; E. Mannon, Cape Town; L. Alexander, Cape Town; and W. Smith, Cape Town.

Mr. Oxenham Resigns

Mr. A. H. Oxenham, for sixteen years a member of the Cape Divisional Council, tendered his resignation, owing to ill-health, as the representative on the Council of the Divisional Council for District 2.

Mr. C. W. T. Damsley moved that a letter be sent to Mr. Oxenham, thanking him for his valuable services during his sixteen years as a councillor.

It is understood that Mr. A. A. Gericke has consented to contest the vacancy on the Council caused by Mr. Oxenham's resignation.

Removal of Sand at Windermere

Mr. C. H. Erasmus has been appointed to act in a supervisory capacity in stopping unauthorised removals of sand at Windermere. For these services he will be paid 25s. a week. Mr. Erasmus is a local resident who for some years past has done a considerable amount of work in improving estate streets in the Windermere area, and his appointment will materially assist the Council in checking the removals of sand which are taking place without authority.

The existing policy of the Council not permitting sand to be taken from the estate streets at Windermere will be continued.

SLEEPINESS

Sleepiness frequently arises from the fact that the liver is out of order. It affects the system and if your nerves are in any way affected you cannot sleep. Do not attempt to remedy a matter of Chamberlain's Tablets will set your liver right. If it is out of order and you will soon enjoy refreshing sleep, held by all chemists and general dealers.

IN HOSPITAL

Mrs. W. D. Hendricks, wife of Mr. W. D. Hendricks, chairman of the Kensington Central School Welfare Committee, was admitted to the Woodstock Hospital on Monday, where she is lying seriously ill.

Free Gardeners Attend Divine Service

(From Our Correspondent)

SOMERSET WEST

All Saints' Church was crowded especially on Sunday evening, as the Rev. W. Martin, M.A., vicar of the parish, delivered the sermon. The members of the Hants and Holland Lodge A.O.F.F. attended in full force to give thanks to Almighty God for mercies past and present. "What mean ye by this title?" (Hudson said, "I've seen the words taken for his text by the Rev. W. Martin.

"Is the service for paganism? Is our fellowship? Is it for worship? Is something we offer to God and which God will accept?"

"In this Society (Free Gardeners) each member is a friend, but this would not exclude to all neighbors. It is good for them to come and ask God to bless their Society. Their ideal is a good one," said the vicar. Mr. Martin in his opening remarks.

"Free Gardeners is one of the best crafts. There are two lessons which you to learn about gardens."

(a) The garden of Eden.

(b) The garden of Gethsemane.

"The one can be called the 'Garden of failure and the other 'Garden of triumph."

"The garden of Eden was made for man's enjoyment and it was a true picture of man's relationship with God. As in the case of Adam and Eve, sin rises up and he is from God. Sin drives us away from the presence of God. Sin was man from the garden of Eden. But One has come who has made good that breach between us and God. Jesus by sacrifice made an at-one with God. He made atonement for our sins. He died so we might live and it is only through His sacrifice that we might and unaided at the judgment day."

"As the garden of Gethsemane's aspiration like drops of blood oozed from our Lord and He shed that precious blood for us. He faced His agony of calmness and courage. Although we are agonized, be sure of will assist you, if you pray for strength to overcome your difficulties. Be sure God will give it. Indeed, because know the Garden of Gethsemane and that Jesus often shed His blood. This is the man who saves Jesus and whom he is to be and that does most harm. If we pray Jesus, we give the part of a sinner."

"In the Garden of Eden (the garden of Failure), Adam and Eve were up and then away God's blessing."

"In the Garden of Gethsemane (the Garden of Triumph), the breath of man and God was healed."

Approximately sixty ladies marched the strains of brass bands and sang and solo music to the Somerset West Football Ground, where inspection was held by Major D. Brown, D.C.M., the O.C. of the company.

Competition Squad Drill displays are given by both the Training Corps and the Cadets. Sergeant-Majors are in charge of both sides. The result of the competition was Cadets 471 points, Training Corps 371 points of a possible 500.