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STELLENBOSCH

Burgemeesterskantoor,
23 September 1960.

Foto's van ou Stellenbosch

Die Raad is gretig om foto's te versamel wat strate en geboue in ons dorp toon soos hulle vroeër daar uitgesien het. Strate word van tyd tot tyd verander en ou geboue maak plek vir nuwes en in die loop daarvan gaan 'n stukkie van ons dorp soos ons en vorige geslagte dit geken het, verlore. Selfs gedurende die afgelope tien tot vyf-en-twintig jaar het sekere dele van Stellenbosch onherkenbaar verander, en hierdie proses gaan steeds voort. Vandaar hierdie beroep op die publiek om foto's van ons dorp soos hulle of hul voorouers dit nog geken het.

Ons skryf hieroor veral na aanleiding van 'n aantal films wat mev. Friedlaender so pas aan die Raad geskenk het. Dit is deur haar eggenoot, wyle prof. Ernst Friedlaender, geneem en gee ons 'n aanduiding van wat mense wat van elders kom, hier interessant en aantreklik vind. As 'n voorbeeld word 'n foto van Dorpstraat in die volgende uitgawe van die Eikestadnuus gepubliseer.

Ons hartlike dank gaan aan mev. Friedlaender vir die geskenk, asook aan mnr. Konrad Friedlaender wat 'n foto aangebied het waarop die ou kloktorinkie en die ou Wesleyaanse skool op die teenswoordige stadhuisterrein, verskyn.

Publisiteitskongres

Raadslid J. H. de Wet sal die kongres wat van 27 tot 29 September in Johannesburg plaasvind, bywoon.

Die Raad ondervind dat daar 'n steeds toenemende belangstelling is sy eie publisiteitsburo is.

Oudhede: Geboue en Meubels

Die finale behandeling van die uiterlike van die Burgerhuis geniet nog steeds aandag — veral die kwessie of die houtwerk ge-olie of geskilder moet word.

Die gebou in Alexanderstraat, wat ons die rietdakhuisie noem, sal binnekort in die besit van die munisipaliteit oorgaan.

Die vraagstuk van die behoorlike huisvesting van oudhede geniet ook nog steeds die aandag van die Raad.

Stadsbeplanning

As gevolg van die snelle uitbreiding van die dorp, is dit van tyd tot tyd nodig om nuwe onderverdelings van grond te maak om sodoende in die vraag na boupersele te voorsien. Etlike private onderverdelings het die afgelope jare plaasgevind en die Raad is self tans ook met 'n groot en 'n kleiner onderverdeling besig. Hieroor sal eersdaags meer inligting beskikbaar gestel word.

Die voorbereidingswerk in verband met so 'n onderneming is nogal meer as wat dikwels besef word. Onder andere, moet daar voorsiening vir alle behoeftes in so 'n dorpsgebied gemaak word — skool- en kerkterreine, elektriese substasies, oop terreine en terreine vir spesiale doeleindes. Die ou gewoonte om maar bou-erwe te voorsien en dan later sekere daarvan vir bepaalde doeleindes af te sonder, het nie gewerk nie. Die beplanning moet van die begin af so volledig moontlik wees.

W. C. DEMPSEY, Burgemeester.

30th September, 1960.

Loading Zones

Loading zones are established for the purpose of providing space for the loading and offloading of vehicles with the least possible delay. Obviously unless actually used, they should remain open and able to receive light and heavy vehicles which would otherwise obstruct traffic. From this it follows that any member of the public may use loading zones for loading and offloading. The reservation for this specific purpose is only of force and effect during business hours. For the remaining part of the day and on Sundays they serve as ordinary parking areas.

Substations

The erection of a number of small buildings of similar designs which is proceeding all over the town appears to have puzzled some of the residents. The buildings are substations where transformers and switchgear will be housed. The change-over from a 3,000 volt to an 11,000 volt electricity supply to cope with the ever-growing demand has necessitated the building of these new substations and in some cases the extension of existing ones. A main substation is being built at the old power station site.

Site for Accommodation of Mentally Retarded

A proposal to make available approximately 20 morgen of municipal land to the north of Onder-Papegaaisberg and abutting on Middelvlei has been advertised and a number of objections have been received. There is also a proposal that the Council call a public meeting in order to provide an opportunity of full discussion. The Council has resolved to agree to this request and to arrange for a public meeting at 8 p.m. on the 12th October, 1960. I shall be glad if the meeting, which will be advertised in the usual manner, is well attended.

Sidewalks

The problem of sidewalks which are grassed has largely been solved by the use of mowers. But there are so many gravel sidewalks which need continual care that the Council is at present investigating the possibilities of providing them with a permanent surface. But this is a very costly business and the extent of improvements is governed by what can be placed on the current estimates or can be made available by loans.

Stellenbosch Sanatorium

Important discussions are taking place with a view to making provision for the accommodation of cases of infectious diseases. The development has been in the direction of making the Sanatorium to a very great extent an institution for the treatment of tuberculosis but the feeling is now that to a certain degree this hospital should revert to its original conception of an infectious diseases hospital.

Museums and Antiques

Considerable attention is being devoted to the possibility of a re-organisation of the Phillimore Ives Museum. The Burgerhuis, presented to the Council, was restored at an approximate cost of £10,000 and the building has been leased to the Rembrandt group at a rental of approximately £900 a year.

It is expected that the old thatched cottage in Alexander Street will soon be transferred to the Council.

The Preservation of old Stellenbosch

Special regulations applying to building construction in Dorp Street, which is no longer a proclaimed road, were issued.

Native Affairs

We look back with regret on the disturbances during March, 1960, which have led to a review of the policy regarding Bantu labour. Negotiations for a central location near Eerste River are being conducted with the Divisional Council, transport being the greatest stumbling block at this stage.

99 not out!

Mrs. Margarita Henrietta Roux of the farm Bordeaux, Vlottenberg, became ninety-nine years old on the 29th of this month. On behalf of our community I wish to extend to her and the members of her family my heartiest congratulations on this great occasion.

Mrs. Roux is in the best of health and interested in all that occurs round about her. She personally attended the flag-hoisting ceremony on the Braak where she took her seat and followed the proceedings with keen interest and enjoyment.

Mrs. Roux was born at Wellington, her maiden name being Cruywagen and her grandparents lived at Newlands House. She lost her parents at an early age and this brought her to Stellenbosch where she has spent her life with the exception of about eight years while she resided at Tulbagh.

It is interesting to note that Mrs. Roux has a cousin, a former sea captain Zeder, also about 96 years old, who is living at Monte Carlo.

W. C. DEMPSEY.

7 Oktober 1960.

Oudhede, Boeke, Skilderye en Dokumente

DAAR is verblydende tekens van die toenemende belangstelling aan die kant van die inwoners en vriende van Stellenbosch in die opbou van 'n versameling — noem dit maar africana — vir ons dorp. Elke kleinigheid vul aan en dra by tot volledigheid.

Waar ons ook in die geval van ons kunsgalery, 'n gebrek aan fondse ondervind, sal ons nie die weg van groot museums kan volg wat met behulp van groot skenkings in staat is om feitlik enigiets wat die hart begeer en wat op die mark kom, te koop nie. Ons beskik oor die Phillimore Ives-gedenkversameling van skilderye maar sedertdien het ons nog nie verder groot skenkings van kunswerke ontvang nie; ons het wel allerlei oudhede ontvang waarvoor ons besonder dankbaar is en wat op behoorlike huisvesting wag.

Die Direkteur van die kunsgalery, mnr. Henniker-Heaton, het lankal die gedagte geopper dat dit vir ons baie kan beteken as ons daarin kon slaag om 'n versameling van ou Kaapse portretskilderye bymekaar te maak, en hy het al baie reklame hiervoor gemaak. Die eerste reaksie het gekom van mnr. J. A. Louw wat tans aan die Universiteit van Pretoria verbonde is. As gevolg van samewerking tussen hom en die direkteur het die Raad in besit gekom van 'n mooi portretskildery van Henricus Jacobus Storm, 'n offisier van die destydse Kaapse garnisoen. Die skildery is ongelukkig in die loop van die jare beskadig maar kan herstel word. Mnr. Louw, mnr. J. van der Byl en dr. Mary Cook wat navorsingswerk in hierdie verband gedoen het, het hulle bevindings en interessante aantekeninge op skrif gestel.

Die tweede is 'n familieportret, ook baie interessant en aantreklik. In hierdie geval was mnr. H. J. Roux die vriendelike donateur, en ek vermoed dat mnr. Manie Roux van die Strand ook 'n hand in die transaksie gehad het.

Ons is opreg dankbaar vir hierdie begin van wat nog 'n unieke versameling kan word. Die skilderye kan in hul huidige toestand alreeds in die kunsgalery gesien word, en nadat hulle finaal herstel is, sal hulle behoorlik vir vertoning opgehang word.

Graag doen ek 'n beroep op die mense van ons dorp wat sulke familieportrette besit, om hulle nie te laat verwaarloos nie maar eerder aan ons Gedenkmuseum te skenk. Daar word in elke afsonderlike geval gepoog om volledige informasie in te win omtrent die persoon of persone wat op die skilderye voorkom en om vas te stel wie hulle afstammelinge is, sodat hulle ook kans kan kry om te kom kyk hoe hulle voorouers daar uitgesien het en hoe hulle geleef het.

Verdere Geskenke

Deur mnr. William Autef is 'n pragtige geïllustreerde familiebybel geskenk. Dit kom uit die Van Helsdingen-familie. Die familieregister begin met die naam van Johannes Gillaume van Helsdingen wat op 16 Februarie 1808 gebore is en op 23 Januarie 1867 in die huwelik getree het met Hester Anna Neethling, gebore 8 Februarie 1832. In die bybel is 'n boekmerk en twee stukkies pragtige borduurwerk op papier. My opregte dank gaan aan mnr. Autef.

Mev. F. C. Pienaar was so vriendelik om 'n aantal briefposkaarte met besonder interessante prentjies van Stellenbosch daarop, na ons kantoor te bring. Die bekende skoolkoshuis vir seuns bekend as „The Home" met die pragtige eikebome voor, en die ou „Home-brug" in sy oorspronklike houtkonstruksie word daarop aangedui; ook is daar foto's van die koshuis „Eikenhof" soos dit destyds in Pleinstraat gestaan het voordat dit afgebreek is om plek te maak vir die Stadhuis, en van Maraisstraat nog lank voor ons paaie geteer is. Prentjies van die Victoria Kollege en van Harmonie wys die geboue soos hulle nog onveranderd staan, maar die verandering in die omgewing is opvallend.

Waar die geboue eens op 'n tyd kaal en eensaam gestaan het, het die bome intussen gegroei, daar is tuin gemaak, en die indruk ontstaan tog dat Stellenbosch hoe langer hoe beter vertoon.

Dit is 'n belangrike les en ek kan nie sterk genoeg aanraai om orals waar geboue opgerig word, veral groot geboue, ook aan die uitleg van die terreine te dink, nie. Selfs 'n pronkstuk soos die ou Burgerhuis op die Braak, sal nog fraaier vertoon wanneer geskikte bome en struike daar groei.

Openbare Vergadering: Verstandelik Vertraagdes

Graag herinner ek nogmaals die publiek aan die openbare vergadering wat om 8.00 nm. op Woensdag, 12 Oktober 1960, in die stadsaal, Stellenbosch, gehou sal word vir 'n openbare bespreking van die voorstel om munisipale grond af te staan vir die daarstelling van 'n inrigting vir verstandelik vertraagdes.

W. C. DEMPSEY,
Burgemeester.

14th October, 1960.

Swimming-bath at Stellenbosch

It has not escaped my notice that, during the time of the referendum, enthusiasts, presumably the young ones, have made a determined attempt to focus attention, quite good-naturedly I

think, on the desire to see a swimming-bath built at Stellenbosch.

To push a cause is always permissible and desirable provided it is a good one, but it is an understanding, which should be strictly observed, that the oak trees may not be used to display advertisements or posters by anybody.

Some of the posters used, use the number of high schools as an argument in favour of the building of a swimming-bath, but here we immediately touch on the always vexed question of finance.

Stellenbosch not only has many schools, of all of which we are proud, but also a university, with the result that, with the exception of Grahamstown, it is worse off than any other town in the Union as far as income from rates is concerned. About a third of our properties pay no owner's rates. Nevertheless, the advantages of a swimming-bath where young people can learn to swim, are obvious and are not lost sight of.

One poster suggested that it would be more important to have a swimming-bath than a considerable number of traffic officials. This again, is a matter which depends largely on the conduct of everybody using the roads and sidewalks of the town. With the observance of traffic regulations which are all made in the interests of the safety of life and limb and ordinary courtesy all round, the Traffic Department and the body of traffic officials that are necessary, would dwindle automatically.

I conclude by assuring the young people of our town that not lack of sympathy, but very realistic considerations as a result of the growing demand of the resources of the town, are putting a brake on the building of this much desired amenity. Would they not consider the possibility of a mutual swimming-bath for the schools — also the question of the size and the situation of a swimming-bath suitable for Stellenbosch — all questions which have frequently been raised.

Onder-Papegaaiberg

This township has been extended by the addition of a number of plots on its northern side which are offered for sale. This extension will enable the completion of what may be termed a circular road which will realize the original idea of excluding all through traffic from the township itself, which is designed with a central park area. At this area the individual streets serving the residential plots stop, so that they carry only the traffic created by the properties abutting each such street. This makes for great safety for children and a quiet atmosphere.

Jonkershoek Picnic Spot

The picnic spot will be open to the public during the summer season and permits for access to the site will be issued at the Town Treasurer's office, where full information can be obtained.

Picnic Sites for Coloured People

The Council is occupied with the choice of a suitable and attractive site. It is necessary that essential services can be supplied and it would also be considered an attraction if such a site could be designed together with future sports fields.

Municipal Leaseholds

Considerable thought has been given to the most desirable use of these lands as they are the one great asset of the ratepayers for which they have always been envied. They must be used to the advantage of the ratepayers, particularly in a town where there is such a high percentage of non-rateable property. Council has come to the conclusion, after consultation with authorities on the matter and as a result of its own experience, that afforestation of municipal lands can do much to alleviate the financial position. There have been objections to the Council's programme of afforestation from members of the farming community which have been carefully weighed and considered. As a result of latest discussions in council, it has been resolved to proceed with the afforestation scheme over a period of years as from the year 1962, without, however, excluding the possibility of considering individual cases where the use of land for ordinary agricultural purposes may be found to be preferable and in the common interest.

Decimalisation

The full extent of the implications of the change-over are very considerable and they will place a great strain on the Chairman of the Finance Committee and the Treasurer's Department. Not only will machines have to be rebuilt but practically all the municipal tariffs and forms wil have to be adapted. It is my intention, however, to refer to these matters again at some future date as the occasion arises.

W. C. DEMPSEY

PRO EC.