

I.M.S.

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20th December, 1963.

THE FESTIVE SEASON

When this issue of the Eikestadnuus appears, Christmas will only be a few days off and the old year will be drawing to its close very fast. The editorial staff of Eikestadnuus will enjoy a well deserved and brief holiday. I understand that the first issue of the paper for the new year will appear again on the 10th January, 1964.

During the past year we have seen important developments and preparations are well in hand for even greater ones. I have in mind in the first instance the new main road system with a further overhead bridge at Du Toitsville and the entirely new development schemes at Cloetesdal and Union Park.

It remains for me to wish the people of Stellenbosch a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. May the year 1964 be a happy and prosperous one for them and may the schemes contemplated, be they municipally or privately sponsored, develop to the good of our town.

I have had the opportunity of taking leave of my fellow Councillors until next year and of thanking them and the officials for their kind and wholehearted co-operation and courtesy. I am confident that I shall be able to rely on them to the same extent in the year 1964 which will require great efforts on the part of all concerned.

Finally I wish to thank the press for their co-operation and for the fair manner in which they have discussed municipal affairs, a matter on which opinions will always be divided.

It is most important that, no matter how much and how widely we differ from one another, ultimate unity and goodwill should prevail.

SISTER GROSSKOPF

Probably one of the best known personalities in the municipal service of Stellenbosch, Sister Grosskopf, usually referred to as Sister Clärchen, has decided to resign from the municipal service which she joined on the 1st February, 1949, when even at that stage she was able to look back on years of experience gained in the nursing world. She had been Matron of the renowned Lady Buxton Home and Stellenbosch was fortunate indeed in obtaining her services as a lady health visitor whose interest was mainly centered on the mother and the child and the important task of keeping them healthy.

Sister Grosskopf's clinic for the babies was most popular, but the work was not confined to the little building at the back of the Town Hall. Normally mothers with newborn babies were visited at their homes. Whilst her work mostly concerned pre-school children, she made preparations for and attended the immunisation sessions at all schools, both European and Coloured, where injections were administered against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus. Because of her particular knowledge and experience Sister Grosskopf was associated with Child Welfare, the Santa Committee, and also the Adoption Committee of the Child Welfare Society.

It is with great regret that the municipal staff will take leave of Sister Grosskopf. Her application and devotion to duty might well serve as an example for the younger generation.

On behalf of my Council I thank her and wish her a pleasant period of retirement, but not without the hope that her knowledge will remain available to the benefit of Stellenbosch for a very long time.

UNIVERSITY SWIMMING BATH

The University swimming bath will be open for the public for a period of two months as from the 16th December, 1963. The bath will be open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. on all weekdays,

but it will be closed on Sundays and on Christmas Day. No entrance fee will be charged before 5 p.m., after which adults must pay 5 cents per person and children of schoolgoing age 2½ cents.

THE SUMMER SEASON AND FIRES

At the time of writing this review, rain is falling and everything seems to be safe. Yet a few days of heat may change all this and it may not be unnecessary to issue a further warning and to appeal to everybody to see to it that no dry growth of a combustible nature is allowed on vacant plots or in gardens. The municipal organisation will attempt to keep its own properties under strict control and private owners are expected to do the same. It is, however, important to remember that the Fire Station must be notified before burning takes place on private plots. If any one should need advice or assistance, the Forestry Officer should be consulted as soon as possible.

10 Januarie 1964.

DIE TYD STAAN NIE STIL NIE

Die Kersgety is verby. Baie het reeds na hul werkkringe teruggekeer; vir ander is die vakansie en die tye van verlof en ontspanning besig om vinnig verby te gaan. Die bouers maak hulle klaar om weer te begin werk. Besigheid sal weer sy normale gang gaan, die skole en later ook die Universiteit sal weer open en die rustigheid sal moet wyk vir die gewoel waarin die jeug van die land toonaangewend sal wees.

Mag die jaar wat voorlê gelukkig wees, nie slegs vir die bewoners van die dorp nie, maar ook vir dié wat as vreemdelinge hulle verskyning sal maak. Ek hoop van harte hulle gou hier tuis sal voel — ek dink veral aan die jongmense — en dat hulle slegs aangename herinneringe sal saamneem as hulle Stellenbosch moet verlaat om hul plek in diens van die land vol te staan.

Die eerste Stadsraadsvergadering van hierdie jaar sal op Dinsdag, dié 28ste van hierdie maand plaasvind. Reeds is etlike belangrike sake op die agenda. Verder word daar ten opsigte van verskeie groot projekte nog net op die nodige goed-

keurings van Provinsiale en Regeringsowerhede gewag voordat die uitvoering aangepak kan word.

Ek dink in die eerste instansie aan behuising. Niemand kan verdragings dieper betreur as die Raad nie, die Raad wat so maklik aan kritiek blootgestel word maar wat met sulke skemas steeds onverwagte hindernisse uit die weg moet ruim en gedurig aan addisionele vereistes moet voldoen.

'n Ander belangrike projek waarvoor daar op goedkeuring van die senior owerhede gewag word, is die nuwe hoofpad- en brugskema by Du Toitville.

Daar is nog nie 'n finale besluit deur die Stadsraad en Vleisraad geneem oor die vraag of daar met die voorgestelde nuwe slagplaasonderneming voortgegaan moet word nie. Die verslag van die Slagplaaskommissie wat deur die Regering aangestel is, word in die loop van Februarie verwag, en dit sou onverstandig wees om intussen verdere stappe te doen.

Dit is ook geen geheim nie dat daar binnekort voorbereidings getref moet word vir 'n verdere aanvulling van die Raad se watervoorsieningskema. Die Departement Waterwese is egter nog besig om alternatiewe moontlikhede te ondersoek.

Daar wag harde werk vir die Raad en sy amptenare gedurende hierdie jaar. Na al die voorbereidings waaraan daar soveel tyd en energie gewy is, sien ons uit daarna om van ons groot skemas vanjaar te implementeer.

17th January, 1964.

THE 1963 INTERIM VALUATION

In terms of the relative Provincial Ordinance, a so-called Interim Valuation of new buildings and additions to existing buildings is made annually in the years between the General Valuations. This assessment is made by the Valuation Court and the Director of Valuations.

The 1963 Interim Valuation realised a total valuation of R837,000, which is a good reflection of the town's prosperity. The law being what it is, more than half of this amount is non-ratable, the figures being R313,950 ratable and R523,130 non-ratable.

In the meantime the preparations for the next General Valuation are proceeding steadily.

TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY PROBLEMS

During the course of the year 1963 the Mayoral Review has, on several occasions, endeavoured to give some idea of our traffic problems and the bearing they may have on accidents.

This was done with the object of keeping the public alive to the need to exercise the greatest care and to avoid loss of life, injury and damage.

The statistics for 1963 have now become available and compared with the previous year, are as follows:

| | 1962 | 1963 | |
|-----------------------|------|------|----|
| Accidents | 254 | 260 | +6 |
| Fatal Injuries | 7 | 5 | -2 |
| Injuries | 90 | 95 | +5 |
| | 97 | 100 | +3 |

It will be noted that there is a slight increase in the number of accidents and injuries, but it must be remembered that there is a continual increase in the volume of traffic.

It is gratifying to note that the number of fatal injuries has gone down; also the fact that so very few injuries were suffered during the holiday season — 8 during the whole of December, as compared with 12 in August for instance.

So far only one slight accident has occurred since the 1st of January.

The age group 21—25, is still the one involved in most accidents, as was the case in 1962.

Although the final result of the Intertown Road Safety Competition, of which I have written earlier, has not yet been made known, there is reason to expect that Stellenbosch will have fared well and that with the co-operation of the public the campaign has borne fruit.

It will be continued with the greatest energy during the year that lies ahead.

An analysis of the statistics reveals much interesting detail, to which I intend to refer during the year.

VISIT OF THE MAYOR OF PORT ELIZABTH

In the course of last week we had the pleasure of receiving the Mayor of Port Elizabeth, Clr. Graham Young. It was his first visit to Stellenbosch and the opportunity was taken to show him around the University, a winery and various other attractions of our town.

It is interesting to mention that Mr. Young's father, also a past Mayor of the "Friendly City", was a Town Councillor for more than 50 years. It was only at the recent elections in September, 1963 that he had to decline further nomination for health reasons.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO

The following are extracts from the meeting of the Council held on 12th January, 1864:

"Item 5: The overseer of public works reported that Mr. Henry Murray has obstructed a waterleading running to the erven below Mr. Stephanus Malan's property, whereupon Mr. Murray stated by letter that the waterleading was unlawfully constructed and water taken to it through a private waterleading belonging to himself and his neighbour."

Resolved to inform Mr. Murray that he may close his private water gutter over the street during such time as he is not entitled to it so as to prevent other persons making use of it, but that he has no right to block up waterleadings beyond his private gutter.

"Item 7: It having been reported that Messrs. H. O. Louw and R. I. de Vos are in the habit of kindling fire along the Avenue above the Seminary for the purpose of drawing up iron bands."

Resolved to inform them, that by the Municipal Regulations it is not allowed to kindle any fire in the open air adjacent to public buildings, and should they make themselves liable to a similar violation of the said Regulations, legal proceedings will be instituted against them.

"Item 8: Resolved to request the Directors of the Stellenbosch Bank to favour the Municipal Commissioners with

a reply on their letter directed to them on the 26th October, 1963 on the subject of the item of £108.17.10 with which the Municipal account has been, and still is, erroneously debited on the 18 July last, and to return to them the opinion of Mr. Advocate Watermeyer which accompanied their letter on the occasion."

Items 1—4 and 6 deal with accounts; the highest single entry is the item for the Market and Pound Master's salary of £5.16.8d for December, 1863.

There are 8 items on the three handwritten pages of the minutes.

W. C. DEMPSEY.

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