

B O K S B U R G

HISTORICAL
ASSOCIATION

HISTORIESE
ASSOSIASIE

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Editor:
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NO. 7

CONFLICT IN BOKSBURG

RURAL AND URBAN DWELLERS CLASH OVER LAND AND WATER (1890).

ETHNIC RIOT AS CHINESE WORKERS ARRIVE (1904)

MANAGEMENT AND LABOUR DISPUTE (STRIKE 1913)

ENGLISH AND AFRIKAANS SPEAKERS WRANGLE OVER JOBS (1918)

ATTEMPTED CIVIL INSURRECTION AND OVERTHROW OF GOVERNMENT (1922)

UNEMPLOYMENT RIFE (1930)

BLOODY CLASHES BETWEEN BLACK AND WHITE (1950 - ON)

DO YOU REMEMBER THE "GOOD OLD DAYS" WHEN ALL WAS PEACEFUL AND QUIET IN BOKSBURG? IT TOOK A TALK BY DR. KARL HECTOR-SCHULTZ TO REMIND US THAT BOKSBURG HAS A CONTINUOUS HISTORY OF ARGUMENT AND VIOLENCE. THIS HAS NEVER BEEN A QUIET TOWN. WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN VIGOROUS PEOPLE, READY TO EXPRESS OUR OPINIONS, BY VIOLENCE, IF NECESSARY.

THE SUM OF DR. KARL'S TALK IS THAT AFTER EVERY NEW DISPUTE THERE IS A RE-ALIGNMENT OF OPPONENTS. YESTERDAY'S ENEMY IS TODAY'S ALLY IN A DIFFERENT DISPUTE.

OUR CURRENT ELECTION WILL PROVE NO DIFFERENT. WITHIN A SHORT PERIOD NEW ALLIANCES WILL EMERGE TO TAKE CONTROL OF OUR TOWN. STUDY OUR HISTORY AND TAKE COMFORT THAT WHILE FEW WELCOMED THE VIOLENT CHANGES OF OUR PAST, THEY SHAPED OUR DESTINY AND BROUGHT US WHERE WE ARE TODAY (AND RATHER PROUD WE ARE OF IT!)

WELCOME TO OUR FUTURE!!

SAD BUT TRUE

BHYATS STORE IN COMMISSIONER STREET WAS NOT ESTABLISHED BY VIRTUE OF A GRANT BY PRESIDENT KRUGER. HOWEVER ROMANTIC THE OLD LEGEND MAY SOUND, THE TRUTH IS MORE MUNDANE - IF NOT MORE STIRRING.

BHYAT WAS AN INDIAN TRADER FROM HEIDELBERG WHO OBTAINED PREMISES IN THE NAME OF A JOHANNESBURG SOLICITOR, MR. L. W. RITCH. WHEN THE WORTHY CITIZENS OF BOKSBURG REALISED THAT INDIANS WERE TRADING IN TOWN, A MASSIVE PUBLIC MEETING WAS HELD TO FORCE THE GOVERNMENT TO EVICT THE UNDESIRABLES.

IN JUNE 1912 THE SUPREME COURT IN PRETORIA CANCELLED THE DEED OF GRANT AND EJECTED BHYAT.

THE APPEAL COURT IN BLOEMFONTEIN SUBSEQUENTLY REVERSED THE DECISION IN SEPTEMBER 1912 AND EVEN A DEPUTATION OF THE BOKSBURG COUNCIL TO THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE WAS UNABLE TO EVICT BHYATS STORE, WHICH IS STILL THERE TODAY.

DR. KARL HECTOR-SCHULTZ

AN EMINENT SON OF BOKSBURG THIS. THE TALK HE GAVE ON 25TH APRIL 1994 WAS WELL RECEIVED BY AN ENTHUSIASTIC AUDIENCE.

DR. KARL HAS RECEIVED THE STATE PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE GOLD CLASS. THIS AWARD WAS FOR EXTENSIVE WORK IN THE CONTROL OF MALARIA IN AFRICA AND FOR TRAINING OF BLACK PROFESSIONALS IN HIS SPECIALIST FIELD.

CONGRATULATIONS TO A FINE CITIZEN!

VOORTREKKER HOËRSKOOLO

OOS-RANDSE HOLLANDS MEDIUM HOGERE SKOOL BEGAN IN NOBBY'S BAR WITH 72 PUPILS AND 5 TEACHERS. PRINCIPAL - S.P. VAN WYK CHANGED THE NAME TO VOORTREKKER. IN 1922 THE SCHOOL MOVED TO A SHOP IN THE MORRIS ARCADE. THE PRESENT BUILDING OPENED 30TH JULY, 1924.

PUPILS CAME FROM ALL OVER THE EAST RAND. THE SCHOOL BADGE WAS DESIGNED BY MR. SAVILLE DAVIES GENERAL MANAGER OF E.R.P.M.

PERSONALITIES WHO ONCE ATTENDED:-

MR. BAREND DU PLESSIS (MIN. OF FINANCE AT ONE TIME)

FILM MAKERS JAMIE UYS, JANS RAUTENBACH AND TOMMIE MEYER.

STEVE DE VILLIERS, ONE TIME DIRECTOR OF S.A.B.C.

ELECTIONS SOLVE CRISIS?

IN 1917 CITIZENS WERE SO ANNOYED WITH THE PERFORMANCE OF THE COUNCIL THAT IT PROVED DIFFICULT TO EVEN OBTAIN CANDIDATES PREPARED TO STAND FOR ELECTION. ANYONE EVEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE "BOKSBURG OPERA HOUSE AND THEATRE OF VARIETY (BOKSBURG COUNCIL) MUST BE A ROGUE OR A CLOWN.

26,4% OF THE CITIZENS TURNED OUT TO VOTE. THE BALANCE STAYED AWAY AND CONTINUED TO COMPLAIN ABOUT HOW BADLY BOKSBURG WAS ADMINISTERED!.

MAGIC LANTERN SHOW

MONDAY 30TH MAY 1994. A NIGHT TO REMEMBER. AS THE ENCLOSED PAMPHLET INDICATES, A LANTERN SHOW WILL BE THE HIGHLIGHT OF OUR MAY MEETING AT THE OLD POST OFFICE. MISS IT TO YOUR REGRET.

TEA WILL BE SERVED. A CHARGE TO R2-00 PER PERSON WILL BE LEVIED TO COVER THE COST OF TEA AND HIRE OF HALL.

ALL WELCOME.

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