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COUNCIL CHAMBER:

Mr. Immediate Past Mayor and Madame Immediate Past Mayoress, Fellow Councillors, Former Mayors, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

1. First of all I want to thank my fellow Councillors for the honour they have done us in electing us Mayor and Mayoress of Johannesburg for the ensuing year. We find it hard to think of ourselves in this new and very important role. We are well aware of the responsibilities placed upon us, and undertake to do our utmost to discharge these to the best of our ability.

2. Johannesburg is no mean city: it is, in fact, one of the great cities of the modern world. On Saturday, at the opening of the De Villiers Graaff Highway, one obtained new glimpses of the city, and one could not but be impressed by this vital, throbbing metropolis.

3. Ek kan my eerste vergadering in die Raad goed onthou. Dit was die begrotingsdebat van negeteen sewe en vyftig. Destyds kon 'n Raadslid praat so lank as wat hy wou. Baie toesprake was kwaai aanvalle op die lede van die ander kant van die Kamer.
4. Kritiek was afbrekend eerder as opbouend. Destyds kon ek nie baie van die Afrikaanse toesprake verstaan nie. Gedurende daardie vergadering het ek my kop in my hande gesteek, en by my gese: "Pat, what have you done to get involved in such a place?".
5. Dit was amper twaalf jaar gelede.
6. Sedert daardie tyd was dit vir my baie gelukkig dat ek deur reise in die buiteland deur studie en praktiese ondervinding, 'n bree oorsig gekry het van plaaslike bestuur in baie dele in die wereld, asook hier.

7. Daar sal later geleentheid wees om meer oor hierdie saak te praat, maar terwyl daar frustrasies en vermoeiende ure van komiteevergaderings was en van agendaslees terwyl daar baie ander dinge was wat 'n mens graag wou doen, was daar ook kompensasies deurdat mens deelgeneem het aan die beplanning; daar was die skeppende werk en die vatbare getuienis van take goed gekwyt.

8. Dit is bereik nie deur enkele persone nie, maar deur mense wat as 'n span werk. Hier wil ek setse dat een van Johannesburgse sterktes die kwaliteit van sy beamptes was in hulle toegewydheid aan die diens aan die stad. This has enabled Councillors, in the light of official guidance, to take decisions to develop and improve the conditions of this vast city.

9. I would now like to pay tribute to the assistance I have received from my colleagues during the period of my Council service. Without their help very little could have been achieved, and I will expand on this later this afternoon.

10. Mr. Immediate Past Mayor, I want to say to you, and to the Immediate Past Mayoress, how much we are indebted to you for what you have done during the past year. Both you and I have been fortunate in the choice of a wife who has backed us through thick and thin in the tasks we have set out to do. Our poor wives had no idea, when they married us, what would be demanded of them, but they are women who have backed their "man", and made it possible for him to undertake tasks of great responsibility.

11. In the Council Chamber your colleagues, on both sides of the House, paid tribute to you at the last Council Meeting for the manner in which you had presided at the

Council Meetings. These you carried out with great dignity, as with all the other tasks you performed during the year. You were tireless in your efforts. At the commencement of the year you had made up your mind to enjoy your period of office. This was apparent to all who came in touch with you, and your enjoyment was infectious, so that all shared your enjoyment in their contact with you.

12. You were creative. Your theme "Know your City" and the bus tours you arranged, not only increased the knowledge of our citizens, but created friendships amongst those who regularly participated in these tours. This has helped many lonely people. Above all, your imagination in suggesting the Klip River Recreational Parkland will have lasting benefit, and generations to come will benefit greatly from your vision.

13. On Saturday you and I attended the memorial service for some of those who had lost their lives in the

Langlaagte train accident. It was readily apparent at that service what a special place you have in the affections of the leaders of the African community in Soweto. You have done all you could to make these citizens feel part of this great city of ours.

14. Councillor and Mrs. Schlapobersky, thank you for a job well done. You will long be remembered for your untiring efforts during your period of office.

15. I know of the great deference paid to the Office of Mayor, largely because of the traditions established by our predecessors, and I know that I can count on the citizens of Johannesburg, and you good folk gathered in this Chamber, to help us both in the arduous days that lie ahead. We, too, are determined to enjoy our period of office, and look forward to meeting you and many others during the coming year.

16. Mr. Immediate Past Mayor and Mayoress, once again, on behalf of my fellow Councillors and the citizens of Johannesburg, thank you for a job well done.

JOHANNESBURG:

March 4, 1969.

I am deeply grateful to my fellow Councillors
for honouring me by electing me Mayor of this great City.

Both my wife and I have lived all our lives
here, our parents having come to Johannesburg in the early
days. We have seen this City grow to become one of the
great metropolitan areas of the modern world, and are
proud indeed of its achievements.

During our year of Office we will do our best

to follow the great traditions established by the sixty-two Mayors who have preceded us, and we know we can count on the support of all sections of the community.

Ek is hartlik dankbaar aan my mede-raadslede dat hulle my vereer het deur my as Burgemeester van hierdie groot Stad te kies.

Beide my vrou en ek het ons hele lewens hier deurgebring want ons ouers het in die ou dae na Johannesburg gekom.

Ons het hierdie stad sien groei om een van die groot stede van die moderne wereld te word en ons is werklik trots op sy prestasies.

Gedurende ons ampstermyn sal ons ons bes doen om die groot tradisies te volg wat deur die twee-en-sestig Burgemeesters gestig is, wat ons voorgangers was - en ons weet ons kan op die steun van alle seksies van die gemeenskap reken.

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March 4, 1969.

RECEPTION

Mr. Immediate Past Mayor and Madame Immediate Past Mayoress, Past Mayors, Mr. Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress, Colleagues, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

1. First of all, Mr. Immediate Past Mayor, I thank you for your good wishes, and I thank you, the guests at this function, for drinking a toast to my wife and myself.

2. I find it hard to reply to the word picture you have painted of me, and of your assessment of my contribution to the work of this Council. If, with the help of my wife, I have made the lot of our fellowmen a better one that is reward indeed.

3. My dank ook aan my mede-Raadslede vir die eer wat hulle ons aangedoen het deur ons as Burgemeester

en Burgemeestersvrou te kies vir hierdie jaar. Ons vind dit moeilik om ons in hierdie nuwe en baie belangrike rol in te dink - maar ons is heeltemal bewus van die pligte op ons geplaas en ons sal ons uiterste bes doen om ons van hierdie take te kwyt.

4. Ek wil ook hulde bring aan die hulp wat ek van my kollegas ontvang het gedurende die tydperk van my Raadsdiens.

Sonder hulle hulp sou baie min bereik wees. Ek wil ook graag hulde bring aan my Nasionale kollegas wat met my saangewerk het op die Nie-Blanke Sakekomitee. Ons het verskille van deleid gehad, maar sover ek weet het hulle nooit die eftheid van my voorneme betwyfel nie.

5. My wife and I are very conscious of the great honour bestowed on us in being elected as your Mayor and Mayoress for the ensuing year. In some circles we are

referred to as the First Citizens of the City: we feel overawed at this description, and find it hard to think of ourselves in this new role.

6. On an occasion such as this, one naturally looks back and thinks of one's forebears. Could my Father have guessed when, as a rather raw country lad, he arrived in Johannesburg in 1890, that the inhospitable veld of the then Johannesburg would develop into the great metropolis it is today. Nor could he have visualised that within a few years he would marry a gracious Irish girl who had recently come to South Africa to set up home for a brother who was farming near Standerton. The Lewis family have had good times and bad. One grim time was when a farming venture near Machadodorp failed during World War I, and set the family finances back to base 1. Through hard work, and with great integrity, with his chin always

held high, my Father, ably assisted by my Mother, ensured that their five sons obtained a good education at the finest educational Institution in the land.

7. My wife's grandfather, Mr. George Allwright, arrived in Johannesburg in 1886. He was a printer, associated with the STANDARD NEWS, and later became the Works Manager of the Rand Daily Mail. My wife's Father, Mr. James Grant, left his beloved Glasgow in 1902 to represent his firm in Johannesburg, and he remained to become a true South Africa.

8. So you see, our roots are deep in this city, which has been so kind to us. I would therefore say that if we have made any contribution to the City, we, too, are indebted for what the City has done for us.

9. I am glad to say that this afternoon are present Mr. George Grant, brother of Mr. James Grant, who has come from Durban to be with us, and my Mother's youngest brother, Mr. Eric Gaynor. How glad we are that they were spared to share this afternoon with us.

10. I must just mention that in a recent cartoon I was depicted sitting at a desk in school, my brow furrowed, my face reflecting a scowl - fair enough for a cartoon - but one of my dear colleagues, I repeat dear, suggested it was a wonderful likeness. I thought of suing him, but reconsidered the matter for two seasons. Firstly, the Press might interpret any such action as that of a "verligte" against a "verkrampte": which would be which we would have to leave to the Press to decide. Secondly, there was a distinct possibility that evidence could be produced in Court to prove, in fact, that it was a good likeness.

My colleagues suggest that my countenance is not always angelic. They are, no doubt, relieved that permission is being sought for me not to preside at Council Meetings. They feel they will be able to express themselves better not having to look at me in the Chair. I have heard that one of my fellow Councillors, who also received his education at the same illustrious school of learning that I attended, informed my other colleagues that the reason he chose to sit next to me in Management was not because he liked me, but because in that position he had not to look at my scowling countenance across the table.

11. It may surprise many people at this gathering to learn that I, half Irish, have often been called upon to play the role of peacemaker, of co-ordinator and mediator. What a betrayal of the Irish!! And my wife, daughter of a Glaswegian, and therefore half a canny Scot, has betrayed her people by exhibiting, can I say, almost a sadistic glee,

over the showering of bawbees in all directions in the purchase of her wardrobe.

FIT IN THANKS HERE - PARKS DEPARTMENT - MAYOR'S OFFICE - OTHER DEPARTMENTS OF THE COUNCIL.

12. Councillor Schlapobersky, in the Council Chamber, your colleagues on both sides of the House paid tribute to you at the last Council Meeting, for the manner in which you had presided at the Council Meetings. These you carried out with great dignity, as with all the other tasks you performed during the year. You were tireless in your efforts. At the commencement of the year you had made up your mind to enjoy your period of office. This was apparent to all who came in touch with you, and your enjoyment was infectious, so that all shared your enjoyment in their contacts with you.

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15. Councillor and Mrs. Schlapobersky, our sincere thanks for a job well done. You will long be remembered for your untiring efforts during your period of office.

I would now ask you to rise and drink a toast
with me to the retiring Mayor and Mayoress, Councillor
and Mrs. Israel Schlapobersky.

JOHANNESBURG:

March 4, 1969.

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