

NOTES FOR SPEECH TO BRAMLEY ROTARY - 5.12.1973.

1. Johannesburg proclaimed 1886 on Farm Randjeslaagte.
2. Uitval grond 5 sq. miles - 3 corner pegs.
3. Local government carried out by Mining Commissioner.
4. Sanitary Board first meeting 29.12.1887.
5. Mining Commission Chairman until 1890. Members were no minated.
6. Government Commission had control over all expenditure.
7. 1897 - first Stadsraad - twelve elected members, later increased to 24.
8. After outbreak of war administration conducted by a body of members too small to be a quorum, with help of the remaining officials.
9. 31.5.1900 - Lord Roberts entered Johannesburg. Administration of affairs both military and civil under Colonel Colin Mackenzie in capacity as Military Governor, assisted by Major W.A.J.O'Meara, Royal Engineers, as acting Burgomaster.
10. Large portion of the town boarded up. Mines had closed down. Had not been possible to collect rates or sanitary charges. Inadequate funds for administration.
11. The Balance Sheet in 1903 showed the town to be insolvent, liabilities exceeding assets by £171 125:
12. First nominated Council 8. 5. 1901.

13. Proclamation 16 of 1901 increased Municipal area to include -

Fordsburg
 Mayfair
 Vrededorp
 Burghersdorp
 Parktown
 Hillbrow
 Berea
 Yeoville
 Bellevue
 Bellevue East
 Judiths Paarl
 Lorentzville
 Bertrams
 Doornfontein
 New Doornfontein
 Troyeville
 Belgravia
 Jeppes Extension
 City & Suburban
 Marshalltown
 Ferreirastown

14. Commission appointed under chairmanship of Patrick Duncan, the Treasurer of the Transvaal, to consider extension of boundaries. November 1902 extended to 75½ sq. miles, and in 1903 extended to 81½ sq. miles.

15. Some members of nominated Council -

W. St. John Carr
 A. Epler
 W. Hosken
 W. W. Hoy
 H. Lindsay
 W. H. Martin
 W. McCallum
 H. F. E. Pistorius
 J. W. Quinn
 W. H. Rogers
 R. Shanks

These men had been absent from the town since the outbreak of war.

16. Population 1903 -
- | | |
|-----------|---------------|
| Europeans | 61 780 |
| Other | <u>47 672</u> |
| Total | 109 452 |

17. Insanitary Area - When first Council took office Major O'Meara drew attention to Coolie Location and Brickfields area in most insanitary condition. Narrow streets inconsistent with thoroughfares from east to west, chaotic plan, proper sanitation impossible. Suggested expropriation of 188,29 acres in order to clean up area and make east to west traffic possible.
18. Violent opposition to scheme.
19. Johannesburg Insanitary Area Improvement Scheme Commission appointed September 1902. Reported March 1903.
20. Chairman Mr.C.H.Wentzel, Magistrate, and another member, Mr. Richard Currie.
21. Commission to report whether area insanitary and danger to public health. Whether in public interest advisable to extend Bree, Jeppe, Kerk and Pritchard Streets through area. Whether desirable to spend money to improve area - what powers should be given to the Council to implement programme. Financial aspect of scheme.
22. Medical evidence regarding conditions: Dr.Porter. Consists of narrow courtyards containing dilapidated and dirty tin huts without adequate means of lighting and ventilation. Constructed without any regard to sanitary conditions. In middle of each slop sodden and filth bestrewn yard there is a well from which people get water. In other places they choose this area for washing, closets being in immediate vicinity. In one case, closet one pace from the well. Crowded as a rabbit warren. Fear of outbreak of plague.
23. Evidence of objectors led by Sir William Marriott.
24. Commission recommended expropriation, which was done at a cost of R1 204 703 - 569 plots laid out.

25. Commission appointed to study land requirements for Johannesburg.

7.10.1902 Government made over to the town 274 acres to form Milner Park.

26. Letter to Town Clerk dated 24.2.1902 ---

"As soon as possible the preparation of plans will be put in hand for the ultimate removal of the prison to another site."

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