

NUWE BOEKE/NEW BOOKS

LIEBENBERG, M.M.B. Julie 1990. *Schweizer-Reneke*. Pretoria : RGN. ISBN 07969 08176. Prys: R28,00.

Met die proklamering van 'n dorp by Mamusa langs die Hartsrivier op 3 Oktober 1888 het Schweizer-Reneke amptelik tot stand gekom. Met die oog op 'n feespublikasie om die dorp se honderdjarige bestaan te herdenk, het die Stadsraad die Instituut vir Geskiedenisnavorsing van die RGN in Februarie 1988 genader om die geskiedenis van die dorp te boek te stel.

In hierdie studie word 'n oorsig van die ontstaan en groei van die dorp en gemeenskap tot 1988 gegee. Die benadering was om die dorp binne streekverband uit te beeld omdat dit uit die staanspoor 'n dienssentrum vir die omliggende boeregemeenskap was. Feitlik geen aandag is aan aspekte soos politieke en kultuurbedrywighede, sport en ontspanning geskenk nie. Daar is veel eerder gepoog om 'n algemene ontwikkelingsgeskiedenis van die dorp aan te bied met inagneming van sosiale en ekonomiese probleme en aktiwiteite in gemeenskapsverband. Die studie maak dus geensins aanspraak op volledigheid nie, aangesien die hoofdoelmerk was om aan die plaaslike gemeenskap 'n breë blik op hul verlede te gee.

Daar het nog nie veel sekondêre werke oor die geskiedenis van die dorp en distrik verskyn nie. Die aktiefste skrywer oor Schweizer-Reneke was 'n plaaslike inwoner, H.P. Maree, wat drie werke gepubliseer het. Met die navorsing is gepoog om bestaande inligting uit sekondêre bronne aan te vul met gegewens uit primêre bronne, veral staatsdokumente. Die meeste van laasgenoemde inligting word in die Transvaalse Argiefbewaarplek gehou. Tydens 'n besoek aan die dorp is heelwat inligting van die munisipaliteit en plaaslike inwoners bekom. Weens die tydsfaktor kon nie in 'n groter mate van mondelinge getuienis gebruik gemaak word nie. Alle bronne is dus nog nie uitgeput nie en daar is ruimte vir verdere studie oor die omgewing en sy mense.

(Oorgeneem uit *RGN Nuwe Boek Inligtingsblad*. 1990. No 1.)

SWILLING, MARK. Nov. 1990. *Views on the South African State*. Pretoria : HSRC. ISBN 0 7969 0887 7. Price: R52,00.

No-one doubts that the 1990s will be the decade of transition. Transition takes place during the interregnum that occurs between the breakdown of an old regime and the creation of a new one. It will be impossible, however, to understand this transition

without an understanding of the changing balance of power within and around South Africa's *ancien regime* that preceded the transition. This is what this book papers achieves. The contributors assembled a year before F.W. de Klerk's February 2 1990 speech to share their views on the past, present and future course of the South African state. These analytical pieces by some of our best known political analysts reflect a wide range of conceptual assumptions and strategic perspectives. What they have in common, however, is a keen insight into the key issues facing all the major political actors at the end of the 1980s. In the words of Van Zyl Slabbert, these players needed "time out" at that moment to reflect on what had happened during the 1980s - the decade during which the break from apartheid had occurred, but no clarity on how to finally bury it had emerged. So as we move beyond the break and into transition in the 1990s, this collection will assist those who want "time out" to develop a better understanding of the debates about the changing nature of the South African state that preceded the current transition. For the final analysis, South African politics revolves primarily around the question of state power. But as the conclusion reached by the contributors in this collection suggest, the complexity of the South African state's institutions, ideology and modus operandi must never be underestimated.

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NOTICE

CONFERENCE ON CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION IN AFRICA. 4-9 MARCH 1991.

Venue: The University of Zimbabwe, Mt. Pleasant, Harare, Zimbabwe.

The sessions will begin at 8:00 am. on Monday the 4th of March and will close on Friday the 8th at 20:30.

The International Association for the promotion of Christian Higher Education (IAPCHE) is holding a conference at the University of Zimbabwe in Harare, March 4-9, 1991. The Conference theme is "Christian Higher Education in the African context".

IAPCHE is an association of scholars committed to pursue scholarship in Christian perspective. Its focus is on post-secondary (tertiary) education. The keynote address by dr. Bon-Hon Son of Seoul Korea will explain the vision of the Association. This will be worked out further by an address on the present challenge in Africa by dr. N. Onwu of Nigeria. A third address will deal with the relationship of theology to the other sciences: Is it the queen of the sciences or a servant?

The emphasis on Christian education in Africa will be developed further by a series of reports in an "African Panorama". Five institutions in Africa presently engaged in tertiary education will submit brief reports. A number of scholars who are presently teaching at state universities will explain how they view the relationship between the Lordship of Christ and their particular discipline.

The Association springs from a conference held in 1975 in Potchefstroom, South Africa. Other conferences have been held at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, Dordt College in Iowa, and in Breukelen, the Netherlands. The most recent one was in Lusaka in 1987. The Harare conference is the first regional conference, the third to be held in Africa.

All lodging and meetings will be in the facilities of the University of Zimbabwe in Mount Pleasant, a suburb of Harare. Additional information may be obtained from Mr. Edward Mutema, 483 Smuts Road, Prospect, Waterfalls, Harare, Zimbabwe or from the IPACHE Secretariat.

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