



PC 1/1/7/1

SMUTS & HOFMEYR: CHRONOLOGY

Embark for Mr Strauss

Jan
Dec 1919

- 1894 Hofmeyr born.
- 1913 First letter to Smuts and reply. Smuts has no material for Hofmeyr's biography of "Onze Jan".
- 1919 ^{F.S. Malan} ~~Smuts~~, Acting P.M. approaches H. to become Organising Secretary of S.A.P.
- 1919 Hofmeyr writes paper on Republicanism and corresponds with Patrick Duncan about it. ~~(I do not know whether H. wrote paper before Smuts approached him or after)~~
- March 15. Hofmeyr became Principal of the School of Mines. Not known whether Council alone conceived the idea. H. certainly pulled no strings, and was as surprised as anybody.
- 1920 October, Smuts invites H. to Doornkloof. H. very impressed
November 5, Smuts writes to H. re his Republican article calmly and without enthusiasm.
November 13, H. replies to Smuts regretting he cannot help in writing an Anti-Republican pamphlet.
November 25, Smuts replies, taking no offence.
- 1921 October 17, Smuts offered Honorary degree by Johannesburg University College.
- 1922 Hofmeyr has grave staff troubles threatening whole institution.
- 1923 Staff troubles continue, but Smuts said to Sir Herbert Stanley, re Hofmeyr, "There goes the future P.M."
- 1924 Hofmeyr made Administrator of Transvaal. It seems true that Smuts did this in spite of his knowledge of staff trouble. Smuts clearly had a great future in mind for H. Could this have been anything less than the Premiership?
- 1927 Nationalists very anxious to win over H. Smuts advises H. to accept the Presidency of the S.A. Association for the Advancement of Science. "It will help the plan we have in mind."
- 1928 Smuts writes to H. several times re ^{standing for} Parliament. Hertzog also speaks to H. *has a long talk also active*
- 1929 October, H. wins Johannesburg North.

- 1930 H. makes poor maiden speech.
- 1932 December, Smuts calls for new Government. Roos resigns.
H. negotiates with Roos
- 1933 January, Negotiations break down. H. negotiates for Smuts-Hertzog Coalition. Smuts tells H. he wishes to be left out
February, P.M. invites Smuts to cooperate.
March, Hofmeyr becomes Minister.
May, triumphant election.
- 1936 April, H. opposes Native Bills. Later clashes with Pirow over private Bill. H. leads delegation to India.
- 1937 February, H. speaks on Alien Bill and Mixed Marriages Bill.
March, causes Cabinet crisis on Private Asiatic Bill.
Votes against clause in Native Laws Amendment Bill. Causes crisis by speech to Tox H Johannesburg.
- 1938 May Triumphant election. — *AP's name a casualty - Kemp & the incident at Roberts Ht^s - Stutterford resigned - ~~Stutterford~~ Stutterford came back -*
September, H. and Sturrock resign.
H. writes to Paton, "For the first time I feel that I shall be the P.M."
- 1939 May, H. resigns from Caucus.
September, back in Smuts's Cabinet.
- 1940 First Budget Speech.
Stands on platform with Smuts when first troops go Up North.
Says to Paton, "You know Smuts isn't much taller than I am."
- 1941 Heavy year. H. has lapse of memory ~~at~~ Rotary Club lunch.
- 1942 Heavy year. H. has half a week's holiday. Suffering from kidney trouble.
- 1943 (Day unknown) Smuts says it is his last election.
H. attacks Malan for bringing up Coloured Soldiers' Riot.
Kilpin mentions H's growing unpopularity.
H. offered to resign over Trading Bill.
H. has swollen vein in arm.
Several times Acting P.M.
- 1944 Doctor takes serious view of blood pressure and kidney condition.
H. consults friends about the Premiership - should he take it or not? Steyn says, "Not a candidate."
September, H. visits Springboks Up North and is greatly impressed by General Alexander.

1934 Fernwood & Crick -

Lawrence in Cabinet
July 16, 1938 - Louis' part? -

Lawrence
b. 7/10/01

- 1945 H. set aside four-fifths of his salary for philanthropy.
War ends. H. gets D.C.L. and is made a P.C.
- 1946 January, Doctor takes serious view of thrombosis of right arm. H. has severe kidney trouble
- March, Second reading of Asiatic Bill.
March 16, Herrenvolk speech to University.
May, more kidney trouble.
Smuts lends Botha House to Hofmeyr.
Newspapers anxious about H's health.
Date unknown, Malan says next election will be Hofmeyr election.
- 1947 Balliol Boys' Club reforms into four Houses, one of which is called Hofmeyr House. H. asks friend to put it in the paper
- May, P.M. suggests H. takes External Affairs
July, P.M. no longer keen.
Hottentot-Hollands bye-election.
Dr. Craib warns H. about his physical condition
December 24, Smuts speaks inconclusively about H's health and portfolios.
- 1948 January, H. asks Smuts for relief.
January 15, H. is relieved of Treasury. (Did H faint once in Parliament?)
March 24, H. thinks indications good for election.
May, U.P. loses election.
June, much Hofmeyr propoganda in U.P.
June 26, full confidence in H. by Transvaal head committee.
Barlow active against H.
August, new Parliament meets.
Various moves to bring in Havenga.
H. claims to be indifferent to attacks and intrigue.
September 7, H. speaks in Committee on non-European policy of Government.
November 4, unanimously elected Leader of U.P. Transvaal.
"End of witch hunt", writes H.
November 23, Bloemfontein U.P. Congress.
November 27, H. collapses at opening of turf wicket.
December 3, H. dies.