

# Boksburg Gift for Benoni

Thursday  
12th. July  
1956

## Boer War Cannon Donated to MOTHS

People stared at a lorry travelling from Boksburg to Benoni along the Main Reef Road last Saturday morning. There was a double reason for their curious glances. On the back of the lorry was a cannon — in the front of the lorry was Clr. G. Walmsley.

Although he jokingly said he had "pinched" the cannon to guard Paganini, the ancient weapon was, in fact, a gift to Benoni Moth Club from Mr and Mrs R. J. Pilkington, of Boksburg.

Mrs Pilkington, the daughter of the late Clr. A. G. McGaghey, offered the cannon, which has stood in her garden for many years, to the Moths Club, knowing that they would value it.

Where the gun came from, no one can remember, but it is thought that during his 34 years as a

member of the Boksburg Council, Clr. "Mac" acquired the cannon as scrap and decided to keep it for posterity.

When the weapon was offered to Old Bill Stan Dudley, of Benoni, he accepted with pleasure. Clr. Walmsley offered to transport it to the Moth Club.

Rusted metal and rotted wheels did little to detract from the excitement of the Old Bill when he received the gift. It was not until a closer examination that an indistinct "V.R." was found on the barrel. The cannon, which was thought to be a 1914-1918 relic, was probably used by the British forces during the Anglo-Boer War.

At the moment it is a decrepit hunk of metal, but with the enthusiasm of the Moths it will soon be ready for mounting in concrete in the grounds of the Club.

