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PROF. P. DE V. PIENAAR

'n Blyk van Waardering

Prof. P. de V. Pienaar, die vader van Spraakheelkunde in Suid-Afrika. So word met trots en eerbied na hierdie groot man verwys deur spraakterapeute dwarsoor die land en daarom was dit 'n wonderlike voorreg om hom vir sy pionierswerk op die gebied van Spraakheelkunde lewenslange ere-president van die Suid-Afrikaanse Logopediese Vereniging te kon maak. Hy het reeds op vroeë ouderdom 'n belangstelling in hierdie gebied getoon en vertrek in 1927 na Utrecht, Holland, en 'n jaar later na Hamburg, Duitsland, vir verdere studie in die taalkunde, fonetiek en Logopedie. Hier word die Ph.D.-graad in Fonetiek en Taalkunde in 1929 aan hom toegeken. Na sy terugkeer, het hy in 1933 'n lektoraat in Fonetiek aan die Universiteit van die Witwatersrand aanvaar. Hier het prof. Pienaar se baanbrekerswerk in Logopedie begin. In 1937 is die eerste Diploma in Spraakheelkunde in Suid-Afrika deur sy toedoen ingestel. Daarna het hierdie

afdeling 'n volwaardige Departement geword, met Professor self aan die hoof en met Spraakheelkunde en Fonetiek as volwaardige hoofvakke. Later is Oudiologie ook by die kursus ingeskakel en is die eerste Spraak-, Stem- en Gehoorkliniek in Suid-Afrika begin. In 1957 verhuis hy na Pretoria om sy baanbrekerswerk voort te sit deur nog 'n graadkursus in Spraakheelkunde, Spraakwetenskap en Oudiologie aan die Universiteit van Pretoria te begin. Prof. Pienaar word in 1959 aangestel as hoogleraar en Hoof van hierdie departement. Die duidelike welvaart van beide departemente kan met reg toegeskryf word aan die ywer, toegewydheid en liefde van 'n groot man vir sy vakgebied.

Dit is egter nie net sy studente wat bevoorreg is om van hom te kan leer en te kan waardeer nie. Sy invloed het verder gestrek. Hy is lid van die Internasionale Vereniging vir Logopedie en Foniatrie asook die Internasionale Vereniging vir Oudiologie. Die belange van die gestremde kind in Suid-Afrika dra hy ook reeds lank op die hart as Staatsverteenwoordiger van die Transoranje Instituut vir Buitengewone Onderwys en lid van die Uitvoerende Komitee van die nuwe Vereniging vir die Gestremde Kind. Vir baie jare reeds beywer hy hom vir samewerking tussen die verskillende paramediese dienste en tree hy op in raadgewende hoedanigheid by die Suid-Afrikaanse Geneeskundige en Tandheelkundige raad. Vir sy bydrae op die gebied van Taalkunde, Letterkunde en Kultuur het hy reeds landswye bekendheid verwerf deur sy vele publikasies.

Prof. Pienaar het die aftreeouderdom bereik, maar vir sy studente en oudstudente sal hy nooit aftree nie; vir hulle sal hy steeds inspireer met sy toewyding, sy liefde en sy werksvreugde vir dit waaraan hy glo. Hulle bly steeds sy getroue en lojale bewonderaars wat na hom opsien vir leiding. As huldebetuiging aan 'n wonderlike mens en leier het sy studente en oudstudente besluit om 'n skildery van „hulle professor" te laat maak. Op Vrydag, 18 Oktober, is hierdie skildery in die Departement Spraakwetenskap, Spraakheelkunde en Oudiologie onthul.

So bring ons hulde en so sal ons onthou.

I. UYS, B.A. Log. (Rand).

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PROFESSOR P. DE V. PIENAAR

An Appreciation

Professor P. de V. Pienaar, the father of speech therapy in South Africa — in this way speech therapists throughout the country refer, with pride and respect, to this great man. The South African Logopedic Society was privileged to honour him for his pioneer work by conferring on him the Honorary Life Presidency of the Society. At an early age he showed an interest in this field, and in 1927 he went to Utrecht and later to Hamburg for post-graduate study in Linguistics, Phonetics and Logopedics. In 1929 he received a Ph.D. in Phonetics and Linguistics. He was appointed lecturer in Phonetics at the University of the Witwatersrand in 1933; here he began his pioneer work in Logopedics. In 1937 a diploma course in Logopedics was introduced and subsequently a fully-fledged department developed with Professor Pienaar as head, and with Logopedics and Phonetics as major subjects. Audiology was added later, and the first Speech, Voice and Hearing Clinic in South Africa was opened. He furthered his work by introducing a degree course in Speech Therapy, Speech Science and Audiology in Pretoria, where in 1959 he was appointed Professor and head of the new department at the University of Pretoria. The welfare of both departments may indeed be attributed to the diligence and devotion of a great man to his profession.

Not only his students have been privileged to learn from him; his influence has a wider scope. He is a member of the International Association of Logopedics and Phoniatrics as well as the International Society of Audiology. As state representative of the Transoranje Institute for Special Education and member of the newly formed Society for Handicapped Children, he has worked in the interests of the handicapped. He has worked for many years in an advisory capacity on the South African Medical and Dental Council, striving for a closer liaison between the different paramedical professions. He has received national acclaim for his literary, cultural and linguistic contributions and publications.

Professor Pienaar has reached the age of retirement, but for his students past and present he will never retire; to them he will always be an example through his devotion and his love for his work and for those things in which he believes. His wise leadership and personal warmth are an inspiration to all who are privileged to know him; they remain his loyal admirers who look to him for guidance. As a token of homage to an outstanding person and leader, a portrait of Professor Pienaar was unveiled in the Department of Speech Science, Speech Therapy and Audiology at Pretoria University, on the occasion of his retirement.

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