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AGREKON

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AGREKON

AGREKON word kwartaalliks deur die Landbou-Ekonomiese Vereniging van Suider-Afrika (LEVSA) uitgegee. Alle bydraes en korrespondensie moet gerig word aan:

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Agrekon poog om navorsing en bespreking van landbou-ekonomiese aangeleenthede wat betrekking het op Suider-Afrika te bevorder. Dit sluit in dissiplinêre-, multi-dissiplinêre- en probleemgeoriënteerde werk. Die tydskrif verwelkom alle oorspronklike bydraes van 'n aanvaarbare professionele standaard. Nog LEVSA nog die redaksie onderskryf noodwendig, of aanvaar verantwoordelikheid vir verklaarde gesigspunte of menings, of die korrektheid van feite en syfers.

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DIE LANDBOU-EKONOMIE VERENIGING VAN SUIDER-AFRIKA

Objectives

- o To promote education, research and interest in agricultural economics.
- o To promote the application of agricultural economics to solve agricultural, rural and national problems in Southern Africa.
- o To promote liaison between agricultural economists at regional, national and international levels.
- o To promote the interests of agricultural economists.

Membership

The membership of AEASA consists of ordinary members, student members, associate members and honorary members. Ordinary members comprise the majority and are persons who have at least obtained a three year university degree with specialization in agricultural economics, economics and/or other fields of application of economics, or who apply because of their experience, position and/or professional interest in the field of application of agricultural economics, provided their membership furthers the objectives of AEASA.

Doelstellings

- o Om opleiding, navorsing en belangstelling in landbou-ekonomie te bevorder.
- o Om toepassing van landbou-ekonomie ter oplossing van landbou-, landelike- en nasionale probleme in Suider-Afrika te bevorder.
- o Om skakeling tussen landbou-ekonome op streeks-, nasionale- en internasionale vlak te bevorder.
- o Om die belang van die landbou-ekonoom te bevorder.

Lidmaatskap

Die lede van LEVSA bestaan uit gewone lede, studentlede, assessorlede en erelede. Gewone lede verteenwoordig die meerderheid en is persone wat minstens 'n driejar universiteitsgraad verwerf het met spesialisasie in landbou-ekonomiese, ekonomiese en/of ander toepassings van die ekonomiese, of weens hul ondervinding, posisie en/of professionele belang in die toepassingsveld van landbou-ekonomie, mits hul lidmaatskap bevordelik is vir die doelstellings van LEVSA.

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HULDEBLYK/TRIBUTE FR TOMLINSON



'N HULDEBLYK : PROF F.R. TOMLINSON (1908-1991)

Professor Frederik Rothmann Tomlinson het ons ontval op 25 Februarie 1991. Hy is begrawe in sy geliefde Swellendam waar hy op 21 Oktober 1908 gebore is en vir die grootste deel van die tyd sedert sy aftrede in 1973 gewoon het.

Na sy skoolopleiding te Swellendam en die Hoër Jongensskool, Stellenbosch, het hy opeenvolgend in 1929 die BSc (Agric) - en in 1930 die MSc (Agric)- graad aan die Universiteit van Stellenbosch verwerf. Hy het daarna sy studie in die V.S.A. voortgesit en die Ph D graad by Cornell verwerf in 1933. Later in 1937 behaal hy ook die graad DSc (Agric) aan die Universiteit van Pretoria. Die eregrade DSc (Agric) (*honores causa*) is onderskeidelik in 1975, 1984 en 1986 deur die Universiteite van Pretoria, die Oranje-Vrystaat en Stellenbosch aan hom toegeken. Ander eerbewyse het nie uitgebly nie. Die Suid-Afrikaanse Akademie vir Wetenskap en Kuns ken in 1957 die Havengaprys vir Ekonomiese aan hom toe, en in 1968 ontvang hy 'n Oorkonde van Universiteit van Stellenbosch "ter erkennings van die uitstekende bydrae gelewer ter bevordering van die landboubedryf in die algemeen die hoër landbouonderwys en navorsing in die besonder". Die Misstofvereniging van Suid-Afrika ken aan hom in 1972 'n goue medaile toe. Erelidmaatskap van die Suid-Afrikaanse Vereniging van Landbouvoorligting (1972) en die Landbou-ekonomiese Vereniging van Suider-Afrika (1978) was ander eerbewyse. Die belangrikste was egter die Dekorasie vir Voortreflike Diens wat in 1985 deur die Staatspresident aan hom toegeken is.

Prof Tomlinson het 'n uiters bedrywige beroepslewe gehad. Hy was na sy terugkeer uit die V.S.A. eers lektor in Landbou-ekonomiese aan die Universiteit van Stellenbosch en daarna ekonoom by die Afdeling Ekonomiese en Marke in Pretoria. Vanaf 1939 tot 1973 was hy mede-professor, en later professor in Landbou-ekonomiese aan die Universiteit van Pretoria.

A TRIBUTE: PROF F.R. TOMLINSON (1908-1991)

Professor Frederik Rothmann departed from life on February 25, 1991. He was buried in his beloved Swellendam where he was born on October 21, 1908 and where he lived for most of the time since his retirement in 1973.

After his schooling in Swellendam and at the Hoër Jongensskool, Stellenbosch, he successively obtained the degrees of BSc (Agric) in 1929, and MSc (Agric) in 1930 at the University of Stellenbosch. He thereafter continued his studies in the USA and obtained the PhD degree at Cornell in 1933. Later, in 1937, he also obtained the degree of DSc (Agric) at the University of Pretoria. The honorary degrees DSc (Agric) (*honores causa*) were conferred upon him by the Universities of Pretoria, Orange Free State and Stellenbosch in 1975, 1984 and 1986 respectively. Other marks of esteem did not fail to materialise either. In 1957, the South African Academy of Science and Arts awarded him the Havenga Prize for Economics, and in 1968 the University of Stellenbosch awarded him with an Address "in acknowledgment of the outstanding contributions to the advancement of the agricultural industry in general and to higher agricultural education and research in particular". The Fertilizer Society of South Africa awarded him a gold medal in 1972. Honorary membership of the South African Society for Agricultural Extension (1972) and the Agricultural Economics Association of Southern Africa (1978) followed. The most important, however, was the Decoration for Meritorious Service awarded him by the State President in 1985.

Professor Tomlinson had a very busy career. After his return from the U.S.A. he became lecturer in Agricultural Economics at the University of Stellenbosch, and thereafter economist at the Division of Economics and Markets in Pretoria.

Tussen 1955 en 1973 was hy terselfdertyd ook eers Assistent Direkteur en later Direkteur van die Transvaalstreek, Departement Landbou-Tegniese Dienste. Professor Tomlinson was verder lid of voorsitter van minstens twaalf Kommissies of Komitees van Ondersoek. Die belangriktes hieronder was waarskynlik die Kommissie van Ondersoek na die Sosio-economiese Ontwikkeling van die Bantoegebiede binne die Unie van Suid-Afrika (die sogenaamde Tomlinson kommissie) (1955), die Kommissie oor Kleinhewe (1957) en die Interdepartementele Studiekomitee oor die gebruik van Landbougrond (1968). Hierbenewens was Professor Tomlinson outeur of mede-outeur van 15 wetenskaplike pamflette, 32 wetenskaplike tydskrifartikels, 5 hoofstukke in boeke en 12 populêr-wetenskaplike artikels. Hy het ook 'n groot getal wetenskaplike referate gelewer. Professor Tomlinson was voorts promotor of medepromotor vir 23 doctorandi en leier of medeleier van 18 magister graduandi. Hy was vir 6 jaar lid van die Raad van die Universiteit van Pretoria.

Professor Tomlinson was 'n stukrag vir die stigting van LEVSA in 1961, was voorsitter daarvan vir die eerste ses jaar, en onmiddellik daarna ere-president vir twee jaar. Dit is besonder gepas dat LEVSA sedert 1986 'n jaarlikse F.R. Tomlinson Gedenklesing aanbied as 'n besondere prestige gebeurtenis, waartydens die leweraar die F.R. Tomlinson Gedenkpenning ontvang. Die eerste gedenklesing is deur Professor Tomlinson self gelewer.

Die beknopte lewensskets hierbo is egter nie, selfs by benadering, voldoende om Frederik Rothmann Tomlinson se bydrae te beskryf of op te som nie. 'n Paar eienskappe het hom veral gekenmerk: 'n Onkrekbare integriteit, 'n wye belangstelling in aangeleenthede wat die landbou en menslike welvaart raak, 'n vermoë en aandrang om deur te dring na die kern van 'n saak, 'n logiese en sistematiese denkwys en 'n ware belangstelling in mense. By sy oudstudente en meeste kollegas, veral die jonger as hyself, het hy 'n vaderfiguur geword. Aanmoediging, aanprysing waar geregtig, en berisping waar nodig het gereeld van hom na sy oudstudente gevloei. Sy invloed was landswyd en ook persoonlik. Sy aandrang op eerlike analise en sy integriteit het, in tye toe sommige politieke leiers onaantsbaarheid vir hulself toegebien het, hom met hul laat bots tot nadeel van sy eie loopbaan; desnitemin het hy nie teruggekyk nie. Juis dit het hom merkwaardig gemaak en, namate dit duidelik geword het dat hy inderdaad die logiese benadering gehad het, het dit nuwer geslagte beleidmakers veral na sy afrede genooph op systellings van voor af te bestudeer en meer nawaarde te skat. As leermeester en as leier in vele ondersoekte het hy sy studente en kollegas ongonaakbaar gedwing om te dink. Hierin was miskien sy grootste enkele blywende bydrae - sy bydrae tot die vermoë van mense om te dink. Op hierdie wyse het hy eksponensieel tot menslike kapitaal bygedra, en wel tot die mate dat oudstudente en kollegas hopelik op hul beurt ook die vermoë en lus om te dink aan 'n jonger geslag oorgedra het. In hierdie sin, in die denke van jonger wetenskaplikes, in gesindhede en in respek vir integriteit lewe hy steeds voort in iets wat hy ontasbaar en onaantsbaar in ander mense oorgeplant het.

Frederik Rothmann Tomlinson, of Tommie soos hy algemeen bekend was, word oorleef deur sy vrou Grady, vier dogters, twee seuns (een van hul 'n landbou-ekonom), 17 kleinkinders (insluitende een landbou-ekonom) en een agterkleinkind. Ons deel in hul verlies. In ons hulde aan sy nagedagtenis kan ons hul daarvan verseker dat wat hy gebou het, hom in 'n ontasbare vorm oorleef.

Between 1938 and 1973 he was professor, and later associate professor of Agricultural Economics at the University of Pretoria. Between 1955 and 1973 he simultaneously filled the posts, first of Assistant Director and later, Director of the Transvaal Region of the Department of Agriculture -Technical Services. Professor Tomlinson was also member or chairman of at least twelve Commissions or Committees of Enquiry. The most important of these were probably the Committee of Enquiry into Socio-economic Development of the Bantu Areas within the Union of South Africa (the so-called Tomlinson Commission) (1955), the Commission on Smallholdings (1957) and the Interdepartmental Study Committee and the Use of Agricultural Land (1968). Professor Tomlinson was also author or co-author of 15 scientific bulletins, 32 scientific journal articles, 5 chapters in books and 12 popular scientific articles. He also delivered numerous scientific papers. Professor Tomlinson was in addition to this, promoter or co-promoter for 23 doctoral, and supervisor or co-supervisor for 18 masters' degree graduates. He served on the Board of the University of Pretoria for 6 years.

Professor Tomlinson was a driving force for the foundation of the AEASA in 1961, acted as chairman of the association for the first 6 years and as honorary president for the next two years. It is rather fitting that since 1986, the AEASA has offered an annual F.R. Tomlinson Commemorative lecture as a special prestige event, during which the deliverer receives the F.R. Tomlinson Commemorative Medal. The first commemorative lecture was delivered by Professor Tomlinson himself.

The concise biography above is, however, not even approximately sufficient to describe or summarize Frederik Rothmann Tomlinson's contributions. He particularly displayed some attributes: Unimpeachable integrity, a wide interest in affairs influencing agriculture and human welfare, an ability and insistence to penetrate to the very heart of a matter, a logical and systematic mindset and real interest in people. Among his ex-students and colleagues, particularly those younger than himself, he became a father figure. Encouragement, commendation when justified, and reprimand when necessary formed a regular stream from him to ex-students. His influence was nationwide and also personal. His insistence on honest analysis and integrity in times when some political leaders regarded themselves to be beyond approach, caused him to clash with them to the detriment of his own career; he nevertheless did not budge. This, in particular, rendered him remarkable and as it became clear that he had the logical approach, this caused newer policy makers, particularly after his retirement, to study his statements anew and evaluate their value more realistically. As mentor and as leader in many investigations he mercilessly forced his students and colleagues to think. This possibly constituted his largest single contribution - his contribution to people's abilities to think. In this manner he exponentially contributed to human capital, particularly to the extent that hopefully, ex-students and colleagues in their turn also transferred the ability and desire to think to a younger generation. In this sense, in the thought of younger scientists, in attitudes and in respect for integrity he still lives on in something which he intangibly and indelibly transplanted in other people.

Frederik Rothmann Tomlinson or Tommy as he was generally known, is survived by his wife Grady, four daughters, two sons (one of whom is an agricultural economist), 17 grandchildren (including one agricultural economist) and one great-grandchild. We participate in their loss. In our homage to his remembrance we can ensure them that what he had built, survives him in an intangible form.

JAN GROENEWALD