

# A Service to Nursery Schools

Hannes Oberholzer

Cess Bleeden, artist at the Museum, applies the finishing touches to her painting of a ground squirrel family, the first of a series of travelling showcases which will shortly circulate among the nursery schools in Bloemfontein.

This Nursery School Museum Service was initiated by the National Museum after consultation with the various nursery schools and the Nursery Schools Association. The showcase depicted here deals with the ground squirrel (waaiersterteekhorring) and consists of a small glass case in which there are two mounted specimens of this animal. The painting on the panel depicts a family group at ease near their burrow. Samples of the seeds and bulbs which form the main part of their diet are also mounted on the panel. A predatory bird which is a natural enemy of the ground squirrel hovers in the air above.



The panel and its stand – which also houses a board on which the children can pin their own drawings of these animals – was designed and built by Mr. Henry Koen of the Museum. The display panel slides into its stand

in such a way that the latter affords protection during transportation.

A printed sheet with particulars on their life-cycle, distribution, food etc. accompanies each display case. ■



Do you recognise this building? In our next issue (October 1979) an article will be published on this Bloemfontein home and the family who lived in it.