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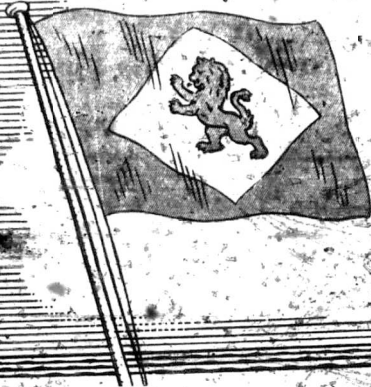
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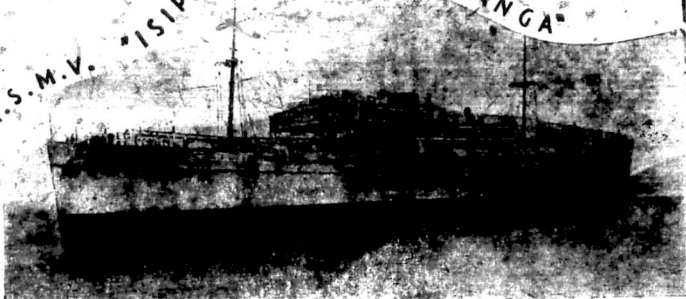
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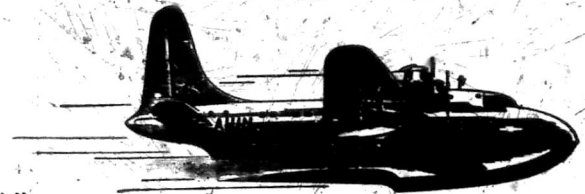
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MATTERS OF MOMENT

AFTER YEARS OF WANGLING AND WRANGLING the future of the former Italian Colonies in Africa is seemingly to be settled by the United Nations, the Political Committee of which accepted last Saturday by a large majority a plan against which Ethiopia alone cast its vote, though Soviet Russia and her satellites were among the ten nations which abstained from voting, while the Arab States withdrew their opposition only with reluctance. Unless some Powers again change their minds (as has happened in the past), forty-nine States will, when the final decision has to be made by the General Assembly, support the proposal that Italy shall for a period of ten years administer a trusteeship over Somalia, formerly known as Italian Somaliland; and because in the circumstances Great Britain is understandably anxious to be relieved of the thankless task of continuing to administer the country, the transfer of authority is intended to be made provisionally as soon as possible, without awaiting the Assembly's formal approval of the text of the new trusteeship agreement. The idea current at Lake Success is that Somalia shall become independent in ten years!

Meantime, Italy is to have the "aid" of an advisory council in permanent session in Mogadishu, consisting of representatives of Egypt, Colombia and the Philippines—Egypt having been nominated to place the Arab States and Colombia **New Style Statecraft** to satisfy the Latin Americans. What assistance such a body can be expected to give will not be apparent in East Africa, and probably not even in Rome; but we can no longer be shocked by the absurdities which pass for statecraft at Lake Success — where, in pursuance of the comedy, it was decided on Friday that the best kind of commission to discover the wishes of Eritreans about the future of their country would be one consisting of a South African, a Pakistani, a Burmese, a Norwegian, and a Guatemalan. People who can solemnly appoint that kind of commission to elucidate a highly complex and dangerous East African problem are capable of anything. It would be cynical to point out that Norway is the only one of the five countries represented which has not considerable unsolved difficulties of its own.

Convictions have had little to do with any of the decisions of the Political Committee.

Italy will owe her trusteeship of causes which have no relation to African requirements — in particular to **Unscrupulous** the determination of the **Manceuvres** Latin American countries, which have large Italian populations, to vote for the return of Italy to East Africa, and to the influence on United States policy of the millions of Italian electors in the U.S.A. and the suggestion reiterated *ad nauseam* that failure to procure the trusteeship for Italy would drive that country to Communism. Unworthy motives and unscrupulous manoeuvres by Powers who purport to protect the weak and inexperienced have thus betrayed Africa in order to appease Italy. This can assuredly not have been the wish of the Colonial Office, whose recommendations must have been overborne by the Foreign Office — to the detriment of Great Britain, which, as an "Imperial Power," is under constant fire at U.N.C. by some nations which will lend themselves to any conspiracy directed against a hated "Colonialism" which they do not even begin to understand. What those responsible for defence in Africa think of the new prospect can be easily imagined, but not expressed in polite terms.

The Somalis are certainly not a united race, as is often suggested by propagandists of one kind or another. Indeed, if European rule were withdrawn, internecine war would break out promptly, partly on account of traditional tribal enmities, and partly because the camel-loving and quarrelsome Somalis would compete *a outrance* for better grazing and more water for their stock. It is likely, however, that this incipient hostility will disappear at least temporarily when the Italians take over from the British forces which have kept order in the former Italian Colony since its conquest. The Somali Youth League, which is bitterly anti-Italian, and which has already staged several demonstrations which have resulted in bloodshed, will have ideal material for its nationalistic propaganda, and the League already claims nearly one hundred thousand full members and twice that number of active supporters. Though these figures may be grossly exaggerated, it would be folly to underestimate the desire and ability of this fanatical organization to cause serious trouble among the inflammable Somalis of British, French and ex-Italian Somaliland, and also among their twenty thousand kin in the Northern Frontier District of Kenya. That disturbances are ex-

pected is suggested by the presence of Mogadishu of the cruiser. Cruiser's arrival is certainly not accidental.

The force of this cynical "settlement," hitherto staged in comfortable remoteness by factors concerned only to speak their lines, is now to be played out in Africa, where it will be a miracle if it is not transformed into tragedy. Italy, **Disaffection Will Be Fed.** ostensibly the victor in the prolonged and devious negotiations which have resulted in the present decision, can have little real cause for satisfaction. She knows that she will assume responsibility for a country which has no hope of balancing its budget, and that it will therefore be a burden to the Italian taxpayer, who will receive no thanks from anyone, least of all from the Somalis. Some Italians, and perhaps many, will pay with their lives for a manoeuvre which has so close a resemblance to the reimposition of Italian rule on a turbulent and truculent people, who will become a focus of agitation and intrigue against Italian administration in the first place, but against European rule in Africa in general. Thus there will grow on the borders of Kenya, and soon within its borders and those of the Somaliland Protectorate, disaffection directed against British administration — and this at a time when the interests of the whole non-Communist world demand the maximum of tolerance and understanding and the minimum of friction.

If Western Union were anything but a façade, Great Britain, France, Belgium, and Portugal would have refused to consent to an arrangement which is a threat to the whole of Africa. It will, we repeat, stimulate an unbalanced, **Threat to East Africa.** inexperienced, unrestrained nationalistic movement which cannot be confined to Somalia, and which must gravely complicate the problems of government elsewhere. Even if the Italians were to send their best men and far surpass any of their Colonial achievements hitherto, the position would not be much improved, for the world has been told that they are mere caretakers for a decade — a decade within which the future pattern of East and Central Africa will be settled by our wisdom, lack of it. The reintroduction of Italy, with all the complications it will bring, is assuredly not wisdom.

Notes By The Way

Deutschland Ueber Alles

GERMANY, THOUGH BANKRUPT, has been so eager a buyer of East African coffee at the Nairobi auction as to force the price to the all-time record of £1,000 a ton, a figure which the most optimistic grower can scarcely have thought obtainable even in his most light-hearted moments. Coffee which could have been bought at any time within the past year at about £150 a ton was purchased on German account the week before last at £841 and last week at £1,000, a performance which leaves market men as astonished as people outside the trade. All they can say is that the German buyers have "gone crazy." In this country coffee is controlled by the Ministry of Food, but in New York the price has risen over the past eight weeks from 194 to 491 cents a pound because Americans calculate that world output this season is 20% below the pre-war level, whereas consumption is up nearly 10%. Before the war world production was usually 10% to 20% above the total consumption, in consequence of which Brazil destroyed 78 million bags (of 60 kilos, each) between 1931 and 1944. Now world consumption is said to be 74% above production, and this before the stricken countries of Europe can afford to buy all the coffee their populations would gladly drink. Moreover, Brazil now supplies only about half the coffee which she used to ship annually before the war, and still further decreases in output are expected as a result of exhausted soil and tired trees in many areas.

Uncontrolled Sterling

IT IS NOT WEALTHY AMERICANS, however, or the possessors of other hard currencies who have lifted the roof off the market in Kenya, but Germans using sterling funds which have been made available to them under an Empire trade agreement, which evidently fails to exercise reasonable control of the manner in which the sterling is spent. Presumably the expectation of the German bidders is that their compatriots, having gone so long without good quality coffee, will now pay almost any price for it. Two years ago Frenchmen competed eagerly for medium quality coffee on the black market at a pound a pound. Some Germans will soon be paying not much less for this East African coffee through ordinary trade channels. On learning the latest price a wag suggested that coffee may soon be sold by the bean, not by weight.

No Bilingualism

SIR GODFREY HUGGINS has declined to send a message by the contingent of Rhodesian Afrikaners who are to attend the unveiling in Pretoria next month of a Voortrekker Memorial which has been the subject of political disagreement in the Union, General Smuts and many other South Africans, objecting to the decision that all but one of the speeches shall be in Afrikaans. Rhodesia has many loyal Afrikaner citizens, but latterly there has been an influx of less well-disposed Afrikaans-speaking persons from South Africa, some of whom have engaged ardently in agitation for the adoption of that tongue as a second official language in a Colony which has few advocates of bilingualism. The Prime Minister's decision that Rhodesia shall take no official celebrations in the Union which have aroused political acerbity will have been welcomed beyond the borders of his own Colony, and especially in Northern Rhodesia.

Two Voices

DEFENCE is a word which bears so many connotations nowadays that few East Africans would be surprised to be told that the East African groundnut scheme has its defence aspect. It is, for example, directly responsible for the creation of a new port at Mtwara, which could shelter any number of great ships, and for a railway which may well be continued beyond the Southern Province groundnut areas to vast coal and iron fields. Who can say that oil may not be produced from coal in southern Tanganyika at no very distant date? Perhaps some of these thoughts were at the back of the mind of Mr. Ernest Bevin when he told a meeting in Plumstead on Sunday: "If this country does not take steps to get the groundnuts it requires, it is not only a question of food but one of defence. Like oil, nitro-glycerine, and all the rest, it is very vital for this country." But Sir Leslie Plummer, chairman of the Overseas Food Corporation, takes a different view, for, according to the *Daily Mail*, he said when asked to comment: "I do not know what was in the Foreign Secretary's mind, but I can state categorically that there is absolutely no connexion between the groundnut scheme and military defence."

Mr. L. K. Carter

NO MAN OF COMMERCE in the City of London can have closer personal acquaintance with the trade and industry of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland than Mr. L. K. Carter, managing director of Campbell Bros., Carter & Co., Ltd., who is travelling in the DUNNOTTAR CASTLE with Mrs. Carter to Mombasa to begin his annual business tour. After a short stay in Nairobi they will fly south, and spend much of the following three months in Central Africa, in which his group has great and growing interests. Campbell Bros., Carter & Co. (Central Africa) Ltd., have a godly number of locally registered subsidiaries, with branches in most of the important centres in Northern Rhodesia; the London and Blantyre Supply Co., Ltd., is markedly active in Nyasaland; and in Southern Rhodesia one of the enterprises which Mr. Carter and his colleagues were largely responsible for initiating is African Stores, Ltd., which set the example of sharing a specified proportion of its annual profits with its African customers. It will be surprising if Mr. Carter's present visit does not lead to further expansion in the activities of the group.

Strange Interlude

UNIQUE, it seems, is the case of Mr. Raymond Blackburn, M.P., whose name has been registered in Kenya as a director of a local company marketing agricultural machinery with which he has publicly disclaimed any connexion, even as a shareholder. The managing director, however, is an old friend, with whom Mr. Blackburn served during the war in France and Belgium in the East Yorkshire Regiment.

Clutch

FINANCIAL SECRETARIES to many African Colonial Governments have sat in conclave in the Colonial Office during the past fortnight. What noun of aggregation is best applicable to such guardians of public funds? Clutch and squeeze suggest themselves.

European and African "Groundnut"

How the Overseas Food Corporation Deals with Staff Problems

THERE WAS A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE as the work developed in the number of European staff employed during the year. The London staff increased from 119 to 232 and the European staff in East Africa from 440 to 967.

During the year 19,500 applications were received for work with the corporation. Difficulties were experienced in obtaining accountants, field surveyors, quantity surveyors, engineering draughtsmen, and agricultural scientists.

The turnover of European employees in East Africa did not present any serious problem. During the year there were 61 resignations and 10 summary dismissals, and 27 contracts were terminated by the corporation. In view of all the difficulties which the new recruit for work in tropical countries has to face, this rate of staff turnover is satisfactory.

A provident fund and a pension fund for employees abroad and a superannuation fund for London staff were introduced. Staff councils were established in Dar es Salaam, Kongwa, Urambo, and London.

African Labour

The groundnut scheme will be dependent on the ability to recruit and maintain in steady employment large numbers of African labour. The White Paper estimated that the peak Native labour force would be 57,100. A strong, experienced department has therefore been built up in East Africa to deal with this part of the enterprise. Contrary to some expectations, no serious difficulties have been encountered in the recruitment of skilled or unskilled labour either for the corporation or its contractors.

African labour strength totalled 14,028 on May 31, 1948, and 27,836 on April 1, 1949, this last figure including 13,619 skilled and 14,217 unskilled men. In addition, 463 non-African and 445 trainees were in the employ of the corporation. It will be noted that the labour force doubled during the year.

The African has shown a capacity and a willingness to learn. He has been particularly adaptable at transport driving and simple maintenance, work at light and heavy tractor driving, and he has shown skill in the operation of agricultural and land-clearing equipment. Simple mechanical work of a repetitive kind is well within his ability, and many Africans have made rapid progress in carpentry and joinery. Naturally, the African has much to learn, and too many who show early promise fail to stay the course.

Poor Quality

The chief drawback has been the quality of the "skilled" labour. That drawn from labour exchanges has been getting progressively worse. At Urambo, for example, the performance of skilled labour was on the whole rather poor. Luo and Kamba tribesmen from Kenya, and Sukuma from Tanganyika, showed the greatest promise, but nowhere can it be said that a skilled African is comparable to a skilled European or a skilled Asian.

Certain types of skilled workers cannot be obtained from among East Africans, e.g., superior clerks and technicians such as generator operators, refrigerator repairers, mechanics, and carpenters. As the local Indian is not an applicant for employment the corporation turned to Mauritius and the Seychelles for this type of labour, and 200 men were obtained. Such

African workers as are available were obtained chiefly from Tanganyika and Kenya. Many offered their services at the head-quarters and thousands of written applications were received. The Labour Departments of the Governments of Tanganyika and Kenya rendered great assistance and did all they could to meet the corporation's needs.

Itunda training centre started to turn out partially trained workers. They were apprentices to the corporation for four years, and as they complete only a six-months' course at Itunda are ones of outstanding rests on the foremen and supervisors to whom they are posted.

Unskilled labour offered itself in sufficient quantity in all regions to satisfy the needs of the corporation and its contractors. A severe shortage was, however, felt by the contractors engaged in constructing the railway from Mwanza and Mtwara to Nachingwea and the port of Mtwara. The railway labour position has improved, largely due to a temporary food shortage in the province, improved man-management, and recruiting efforts made by the corporation.

The utilization of labour was far from satisfactory. There is little doubt that the labour force could have been considerably reduced had proper utilization been employed in all departments.

The corporation had a large number of Europeans working with the Africans who did not know the language and who had never before worked with Africans. In these circumstances it was obvious that the best was not being got from the African. Instructions were issued to ensure that European employees learned Swahili, the *lingua franca*, and some improvements in utilization were achieved.

Labour Utilization Department

At the end of March, 1949, the corporation invited an African labour expert, Colonel E. V. Merritt, of Kenya, to visit the regions and advise on methods of labour utilization. As a result of his report a labour utilization department is being established under the control of a trained and experienced man.

The African unskilled labour turnover for the year has averaged about 10% per month, indicating a complete turnover of labour every 10 months. This figure appears excessively high, as indeed it is. Apart from this is the fact that all labour, unless under contract, is entitled to quit at the end of any one month. Many Africans do so in order to go to their homes to cultivate their own holdings, and many of them return. There is a tendency for Africans throughout East Africa constantly to change their employment, and few make a career with any one firm.

In an attempt to reduce the high wastage an experiment was carried out in Kongwa region whereby all labour, skilled and unskilled, was required to sign a contract of nine months' duration. Although the men accepted employment under these conditions, the experiment proved a failure. Many, particularly among the unskilled, did not honour the contract and deserted when they felt so inclined. The experiment was therefore abandoned.

The corporation believes that one practical way to reduce wastage is to offer to Africans better living and working conditions, both for the men and their families. There is in Tanganyika Territory no machinery for water-fixing, and accordingly wages vary greatly in different parts of the Territory. For instance, a labourer in a town such as Dar es Salaam obtains a considerably higher wage than a labourer at remote Nachingwea, 100 miles inland from Lindi.

The wages paid by the corporation are in line with those paid by the Government and leading commercial concerns.

Furthermore, the degree of skill of so-called artisans varies greatly. The vast majority of them, judged by British standards, are no more than learners or at the best apprentices. In an attempt to standardize wage rates throughout the project, a system of classification of trades into groups and trade-testing within each trade has been devised. Promotion in any group from one class to another entails passing a trade test.

As nearly all unskilled labour is obtained locally, it has been found impossible to insist on a standard rate of pay for all regions and areas. The provincial commissioner of the Southern Province has established a wage rates and task board with the object of standardizing wages in his province, and thus preventing labour continually shifting from one employer to another. The corporation's regional managers have authority to alter wages for unskilled labour as they consider necessary.

Domestic Councils and Works Committees

The East African worker, and particularly the unskilled field worker, has his grievances to be heard, discussed, and settled on the spot rather than by some distant machinery of the working of which he is unaware.

What has been required for some considerable time has been machinery whereby all non-European employees, however and wherever employed, can voice their grievances in other words, a management and employees council. The other requirement has been machinery to enable the Africans to settle by arbitration their own affairs such as matrimonial disputes, petty quarrels, etc., and to give them the opportunity of participating in the organization of their lives and recreational pursuits.

Two types of council, known as domestic councils and works committees, were set up in all units, and equivalent centres of activity in the Kongwa and Urambo regions. These councils will also be set up in the Southern Province region.

Domestic councils are entirely African. Their object is to devolve to Africans responsibility for organizing their communal life. The main functions of these councils are to settle domestic differences, to improve the well-being of the members of each community, and to attempt mediation in all cases of civil differences. They work in close liaison with the Government African courts, but do not usurp the latter's powers.

Works committees consist of representatives of management and men. The former are nominated, the latter elected. The main object is to provide an organized means of consultation between the administration and the employees. Functions include:—

- (a) Co-operation between units management and the employees with the object of achieving and increasing the efficiency and well-being of the employees;
- (b) Conditions of service;
- (c) Settlement of grievances;
- (d) Physical welfare at places of work; and
- (e) Co-operation with sports committees, welfare committees, and domestic councils.

These councils and committees were formed after full consultation with the Tanganyika Government, and enjoy the support of the Government. They proved a success, and had the advantage of making numbers of Europeans at all levels take an interest in the affairs of their African employees. At the same time, the African learnt to assume a greater degree of responsibility for the conduct of his own affairs. In fact, machinery has now been set up whereby tribal laws and customs can be replaced by a new civil and communal responsibility.

Other councils in operation were: (a) Mauritian Staff Council; (b) the D.F.C. and Associated Companies' Asian Employees Association, which is a registered trade union in Dar es Salaam; and (c) an O.F.C. African Employees Committee in Dar es Salaam, which functions similarly to a works committee.

Feeding African Employees

The policy of the corporation to feed all its African employees who are in receipt of a monthly wage of 140s. or less, on a scale of rations per head recommended by the Tanganyika Government and authorized by the corporation was as follows:

- 1 lb. meal, 2 1/2 oz. dried beans, 1/2 oz. dairy, groundnuts, 1/2 oz. oil, Weekly rations are 3 oz. sugar, 4 oz. salt, 2 oz. tea, 2 oz. other vegetable oils, and 2 lb. of meat or 1 1/2 lb. of green leafy vegetables.

This scale provides 1,500 calories a day, and costs 10s. 6d. a month.

These foods were also on sale in the corporation's shops to those who did not qualify for free rations.

In Kongwa communal cooking was the practice in the main camps. Ten European messes were established, which catered

for numbers varying between 20 and 100, according to location. There were nine communal feeding points for African workers.

In Urambo five European messes were opened during the year, but African communal messes were not started, and rations were issued to the Africans. Two European messes were established in Kundwa.

The Southern Province presented the greatest difficulty. Small supplies of vegetables were grown by the corporation at Namanga, but these were insufficient to supply everybody. Vegetables were flown in from the Southern Highlands at considerable expense, but these, while giving the Europeans a reasonable ration, allowed only an occasional allocation to the Africans. A small corporation vegetable farm at Mahiwa has produced little, and transport difficulties complicated distribution. Towards the end of the year African rations improved. Fresh meat was seldom available, and tinned meat and dried fish had to take its place. This was of reasonable quality and well liked. Tinned meat was of the type specially supplied for use as African rations.

Policy Concerning Shops

The corporation found itself in control of the shops in existence in the Kongwa region, and decided instead to transfer the ownership to private traders. It is the policy of the corporation to transfer ownership of all its remaining shops to private traders and to invite them to open new ones where they are found to be necessary. The corporation is encouraging competition and discouraging any attempts at monopoly.

A mobile shop, operated by the corporation, served the needs of the staff in the bush, while nine African shops catered for the every day needs of the men and their families.

In Urambo one shop catered for the complete needs of the European staff. A shop for Africans was opened in 1948, but, owing to the lack of European supervision, stealing was so great that it was closed, and another and smaller shop in the forward labour camp was opened in its place.

Towards the end of the year the first European shop was opened in Mikwaya and a little later one in Nachigwea. Both foodstuffs and merchandise were on sale.

Our First Twenty-Five Years

Lord Cranworth and Sir G. Rennie

THE RT. HON. LORD CRANWORTH, one of Kenya's pioneer settlers, has written on the occasion of our silver jubilee:—

"My very warm congratulations on the completion of your first quarter of a century. There have been very few issues of the paper that I have missed reading from cover to cover, always with deep appreciation. Indeed, whenever I read some obnoxious article anywhere else I reach for EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA as an antidote."

SIR GILBERT RENNIE, Governor of Northern Rhodesia, in sending congratulations and good wishes, reiterates that "EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA is highly appreciated in Northern Rhodesia, and we find it extremely useful in keeping us in touch with what is going on in other territories in East and Central Africa."

MR. RUPERT HEMSTED, who first went to East Africa 50 years ago this month, writes from Ngong, Kenya: "You must have created something like a record by maintaining, and even improving, the high standard of EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA at the pre-war price. Congratulations on your 25th birthday and best wishes for continued success."

DR. J. B. DAVEY, formerly of Tanganyika, and now resident in Natal, expresses the opinion that "EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA has gone from strength to strength, and now holds in East and Central Africa an unparalleled position for its impartiality in the treatment of news."

MR. B. ST. G. MARTIN considers that "the main quality of EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA is its balanced judgment, combined with a crusading zeal for causes which it believes to be essential to the well-being of the territories it serves." The letter continues: "I have read the paper almost from the start, and in the case of all your campaigns I have felt that wisdom was on your side, not that of your critics. They have taken short views; you always seem to me to look well ahead."

Governor Gives Financial Warning

Sir Philip Mitchell Comments on Kenya's Problems

THE QUESTION OF CAPITAL EXPENDITURE on development and reconstruction has been engaging my close attention and that of my advisers. It is clear from a review of the original Development Plan and subsequent additions that the over-all cost of what is now proposed will be greatly in excess of what was contemplated in 1946. The total bill is therefore under review. There is also the equally important matter of the rate of spending.

Quite apart from the inflationary effect which would develop were we to engage in an over-rapid expenditure of money, especially on projects not in themselves productive, there is a definite limit on the rate at which this Colony can provide finance. Moreover, the London money market is not a standpipe from which loan funds can be drawn at any time and in any quantity; it is at present a very closely controlled source of strictly limited finance.

London Loans

The Chief Secretary and the Member for Finance will leave for London in a few days for very important financial discussions, including joint discussions at which other East and Central African territories and the High Commission will be represented, to make sure that our demands in the London money market are closely co-ordinated in time, nature, and quantity, so that we may all be working to an agreed plan. I must give a warning that the sums we may be able to raise by way of loans may be so limited as to involve substantial slowing down of projects for capital expenditure.

Up to now the main factor affecting the rate of development has been the general shortage after the war of staff, plant, and materials. From now on the governing factor is likely to be not the amount of work which can be done but the funds which can be made available each year to finance it. Unfortunately, the very nature of our development plans is such that it is no easy matter to control the speed of their execution.

Moreover, study of the Development Committee's report will show that a large part of it is not really developmental. Much of it is necessary expansion of existing schemes and services in order to meet increasing demands. Much consists in the construction or reconstruction of essential assets, such as buildings, which ought to have been provided years ago.

Revision of Development Plan

The Planning Committee has begun the task of preparing the next phase of the Development Plan, a task which consists mainly of deciding between rival claims on strictly limited finance. I emphasize that every project to which I shall refer in this address must be understood to be subject to the reservation that the time when it can be undertaken must depend on the question of the permissible rate of spending.

Great demands for works have been made on the building branch of the Public Works Department. In order to meet these demands an organization has been built up capable of carrying out approximately £3,000,000 of building a year, departmentally and by contract. That organization must have a certain minimum of work annually if its overhead charges are not to become uneconomic.

The bulk of building on Kenya Government account is to meet pressing educational needs. The programme to be placed before you includes no less than 12 schools

(half of them for Asians), besides extensive additions to existing schools.

The drive to ease the housing shortage will be continued by new housing schemes, involving many European, approximately 100 Asian, and 100 African quarters in Nairobi, as well as smaller schemes in other centres.

New police stations and new prisons are projected. Hospital building will consist mainly of the continuation of the Group Hospital schemes in Nairobi and Mombasa and the new African hospital in Voi, although improvements and additions are planned for existing hospitals.

Road Programme Causing Anxiety

Roads continue to cause my advisers great anxiety because of the steady and continued increase in the cost of construction of bitumen roads. Unless some cheaper method of construction can be devised, I can see no prospect of our being able to finance and carry out the programme envisaged hitherto.

The departmental estimates will include substantial increases under the heads of defence and police, the first because it is expected that a settlement will be reached with the War Department in the near future as to the proper share of this expenditure to be met by the Colony, and the second because the conditions under which we live have necessitated very large increases in men and equipment.

The Police Reserve has attracted excellent recruits in adequate numbers, and it has already developed an admirable *esprit de corps*. Its strength is to be raised from 1,600 to 3,500. The Police Force, regular and reserve, is one of which the Colony is justly proud; I pay tribute to the great share of the credit for the state of the force of its recently retired commissioner, Mr. Ward.

Efforts have been made for some time to establish a cultural centre in Nairobi at which musical, dramatic, and other artistic performances could be given, and which would incorporate, in association with a National Theatre, the Nairobi war memorial. The centre has now been constituted with the title of the Kenya Institute, and His Majesty's Treasury have, with great generosity, made a special grant under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act of £50,000 towards the first buildings to be erected, which will include the smaller of two theatres.

Activity on the Land

In the field of agriculture and animal husbandry there is great and growing activity. The memorandum on the Agriculture Bill is being redrafted and will then be referred to a committee which will tour the country and hear evidence before a Bill is drafted.

Under the European tenant farming scheme the remaining 27 of the accepted tenants will be placed on the land next year.

The residential settlement section of the European Settlement Board will be closed at the end of 1949, but general assistance to intending residential settlers will still be given by the staff of the board.

Except for two districts in Nyanza, which have ample betterment funds of their own with which they are carrying out very important work, there is no Native land unit in the Colony where land utilization schemes financed by the Development and Reconstruction Authority do not operate. Funds have largely been devoted to arresting deterioration, but experience gained and confidence won now make it possible (subject to the reservation as to the rate at which funds can be provided) to contemplate more positive progress; for example, a five-year project of fly-clearing and water development in the coast hinterland covering an area of 1,400 square miles centred on Mariakani.

Extensions and new developments are planned for Makueni; for the Kerio Valley (where there are some 20,000 acres of fairly good agricultural land for African expansion and development); for the Masai district, which it is hoped to divide up into appropriate grazing areas supplied with well dispersed water points; for the Lamabwe Valley in South Nyanza, a tree-clearing problem; for the Northern Province, in the form of grazing control measures complementary to the Dixey scheme of water development; and for many other areas. Altogether, 40 separate schemes of African land development, reclamation, or improvement are ready to be undertaken in 1950 to the extent that funds permit, as well as a great mass of detailed conservation work in areas already cultivated or grazed.

**Being an abbreviated report of the Governor's address to the Legislative Council of Kenya at the opening of the budget session.*

The Colony is in urgent need of additional investigation work in respect of all forms of agriculture, and animal husbandry, but the position as regards recruitment of trained agricultural and specialist staff is still difficult and prevents any marked development. Much the same applies to the teaching staff at the Egerton School.

The African training centres in the Nyanza and Central Provinces are making good progress; it is hoped to open a new centre at Matuga in the Coast Province. It is my hope that before I vacate office finally it may have been possible to begin the development of one of these centres into an agricultural school comparable to the Egerton School.

The demand for the services of the soil conservation section of the Department of Agriculture continues to exceed its resources. An interesting trend is the increasing demand for complete farm planning on soil conservation lines. Group farm planning on the contours is making gratifying progress in African areas.

Encouraging Industrial Development

It is hoped that the next few years will see further progress in the industrial development of the Colony and the sound establishment of the numerous enterprises which are now in train. It is the Government's policy to encourage this development by the provision of sites on Crown land for approved enterprises on special terms and in other ways. A committee appointed by the Central Assembly is at present considering proposals for the payment of drawback of customs duty on raw materials imported for processing in local factories.

There is every indication that the supply of goods in most ranges from soft currency sources will continue to improve during 1950. It will be necessary to restrict the expenditure of hard currency to the minimum. There will be fewer dollars available than has been the case in recent years, but while purchases of new articles must be severely curtailed, every effort will be made to ensure that adequate stocks of spare parts are available to maintain existing machinery and vehicles in working order.

In this time of acute currency difficulties, the importance of building up our tourist trade cannot be over-emphasized. I was, therefore, particularly pleased to welcome to Nairobi, the third International Congress of African Touring, which cannot fail to give this important traffic a new impetus, particularly as hotel accommodation of a high standard is now available to a greater extent than heretofore. I think it only fair to the hotel industry to add that most of the delegates to the congress with whom I spoke—and they were many—commented in exceedingly favourable terms on the hotels in which they were accommodated.

Higher Cost of Education

Recurrent charges for education are a serious and difficult problem. We have had the Glancy Committee's report on European and Asian expenditure, and very recently, an admirable report by a strong committee under Archdeacon Beecher's able chairmanship on African educational development in the next 10 years. I have misunderstood the general attitude and spirit of all communities if it is not one of determination that the necessary finance must be found. But I cannot pretend that it will be easy to find, and it is certain that in one form or another, central, local or communal, more money will have to come out of the pockets of parents and taxpayers alike.

I know of no country, unless it be the United States, rich enough to give all its people the educational services which they need and generally desire so earnestly. We have to condition our thinking on this subject by the general proposition that we are certainly not now in a financial and economic position to do all that we ought and would wish to do. What matters is that we should honestly and vigorously do all that it is in fact possible for us to do, and do it in a spirit of mutual good-will and collaboration so as to spread our available resources as justly and fairly as we can.

What it is imperative for us to do promptly is to set up the proposed technical institute in Nairobi and substantially increase the opportunities for technical and secondary education and teacher training for Africans, for the time has come when the African primary schools have entirely out-grown provision for further training.

The Kabete trade school has got off to a very good start with 370 schoolboy pupils, the majority from form 1 and 2 secondary, who are setting about their manual trade training in a manner which their teachers consider highly satisfactory. I hope that as many members as possible will visit this important institution while they are in Nairobi.

I must return to matters of finance and economics. In Kenya, or indeed East Africa as a whole, the evidence seems to justify a continuation of that resolute confidence which I have always believed to be the right approach to our problems. Nevertheless, rising costs of materials, and indeed of almost all the factors in the

price structure of works, be it for other development works, together with the difficult financial conditions following the alteration of exchange rates, have made it necessary for the Member for Finance to subject the whole programme of capital expenditure to a rigorous examination.

Close Treasury Scrutiny

While I do not see any reason substantially to modify the general development policy which Government has undertaken, the rate of execution of all projects must undoubtedly henceforth be subject to the closest Treasury scrutiny so as to bring it within the limits of a prudent estimation of the finance which can be provided, be it from loans, revenue, Colonial Development and Welfare grants, or the remnants of special funds accumulated in the war years.

We are confronted with a situation which will certainly become difficult and may have dangerous consequences, a situation which requires of us, above all things, a resolute and vigorous prosecution of all productive activities which we are able to carry on, all profitable development works for which we can find the finance and materials, and all sound commerce, internal and external, which our circumstances permit.

Land Utilization by Africans

A CONFERENCE ON LAND UTILIZATION by Africans opened in Jos, Nigeria, last week under the chairmanship of Mr. C. G. Eastwood, an Assistant Secretary of State for the Colonies. The delegates include the following: *East Africa High Commission*.—Dr. E. A. Lewis, Mr. J. Ford, and Mr. L. R. Doughty. *Kenya*.—Messrs. A. E. Dorman, E. J. A. Leslie, J. T. Mpon, and E. H. Windley. *Uganda*.—Messrs. C. B. Bisset, H. Cronly, and A. J. Kerr. *Colonial Development Corporation*.—Mr. H. A. Graves. Southern Rhodesia sent Messrs. Duveague, L. Powye-Jones, and A. Pendered as observers, and the Sudan Dr. J. Smith.

The chairman stressed the great need for increased production of food and economic crops in Africa, saying that though considerable progress had been made in the past 30 to 40 years, in many ways it was disappointing. It appeared difficult to pass the point which had been reached, and there was even danger of retrogression owing to overstocking and unscientific agriculture.

The question was whether, if Africa were to progress rapidly, new agricultural techniques should not be evolved, and that was the chief matter to be considered by the conference. African agriculture needed capital and skilled management, and ways would have to be found of providing them while ensuring that it remained thoroughly African. African agriculture only would be considered at the conference.

To Plan Celebrations

SIR ERNEST GUEST is to be chairman of the National Co-ordinating Committee for the Diamond Jubilee and Rhodes Centenary celebrations to be held in Southern Rhodesia next year and in 1953. Sir Ellis Robins is vice-chairman, and other appointments to the committee are: Councillor J. M. Cleveland (Mayor of Salisbury), Councillor J. H. Butcher (Mayor of Bulawayo), Councillor J. W. A. Wixley (Mayor of Gatooma), Councillor E. K. Hadley (Mayor of Gwelo), Councillor G. Venturas (Mayor of Que Que), Councillor Saxon Wood (Mayor of Umtali), Sir Arthur Griffin, and Messrs. J. H. Allen, N. R. Bertram, T. S. Chegwidden, H. H. Cole, E. Jewell, Davies, B. W. Durham, W. D. Gale, D. Macintyre, M.P., T. W. Rudland, G. P. B. Tunmer, and P. T. van der Walt.

Questions and Answers in Parliament

White Paper Promised on Discussions at United Nations

MR. CREECH JONES told the House of Commons last week that he would "gladly arrange" for the publication of a White Paper giving an account of the recent discussions on trustee territories at the United Nations.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies also announced that on January 1 next responsibility for the accommodation of Colonial students in Great Britain would be transferred from the Colonial Office to the British Council.

MR. R. SORENSEN: "Will it be possible in future to ask questions of the Colonial Secretary regarding this accommodation when the British Council has taken over?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "I should like notice of that question."

"Shabby Circular"

MR. T. DRIBERG: "Is my rt. hon. friend of the opinion that the ex-Servicemen on temporary release who are among these students will be able to afford to stay at these British Council hostels as a result of his department's recent very unwise and shabby circular to them?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "I do not know much about the circular referred to. The standard of charges will not, I think, be any higher than those now operating in the hostels."

MR. WILSON HARRIS: "Is the cost of this activity borne by the funds of the British Council? If so, is there any danger of its being restricted owing to the impending cut on those funds?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "No, sir. The cost will be provided by a grant under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act."

MR. DRIBERG: "As my rt. hon. friend is not aware of the circular, will he find out if it is not the case that it threatens all these students that their standard of living will be reduced very drastically and their allowances cut down?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "I am not aware of the circular and would like particulars of it. I can only say that in large numbers of cases overseas Governments have recently increased the amount of the scholarships and of the allowances payable to students in London."

Millions for the Colonies

MR. THOMAS REID asked in how many cases since 1900 the repayment of Colonial loans had been waived and therefore met by the British taxpayer.

MR. CREECH JONES: "Since 1900 the repayment of 28 Colonial loans has been waived by H.M. Government; the total sum waived is £16,681,384. This figure includes three loans in respect of the South African High Commission territories of Swaziland and the Bechuanaland Protectorate, totalling £653,400, and one loan of £124,098 in respect of Transjordan. In addition there have been 61 cases in which loans made for schemes under the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts of 1929, 1940, and 1945 have subsequently been converted, either wholly or in part, to free grants, involving a sum of £1,203,349. Of these conversions five, totalling £563,773, have been in favour of Newfoundland; and 28, totalling £273,069, in favour of the South African High Commission territories."

MR. R. ROBINSON asked whether the Colonial Secretary had completed his negotiations with the Economic Co-operation Administration with regard to the attachment of 28 American geologists and associated scientists to the Colonial Geological Service; when recruitment would begin; and to which Colonies these geologists would be sent.

MR. CREECH JONES: "Yes, sir, and I hope recruitment will begin very shortly. Only 26 geologists are now required, will be posted to West Africa, 13 to East and Central Africa, two to the Borneo territories, and one to British Guiana."

SIR WALDRON SMITHERS asked how many appointments had been filled in the Colonial Service in the last two years; and

what was the present total cost of their salaries and allowances.

MR. CREECH JONES: "The number of expatriate officers recruited to the Colonial Service by my department in 1948 and the first nine months of the present year was 2,329. As these officers are paid by Colonial Governments at rates which vary according to the nature of the job and the locality in which they serve, it would not be possible to answer the second part of the question without imposing undue extra work on my officials."

Sales of Kenya Coffee

MR. HAROLD DAVIES asked the amount of coffee exported from Kenya to Italy in each month of the past year.

MR. CREECH JONES: "The amounts are as follows: 1948 (in cwt.s.): November, 267; December, 100; 1949; January, 50; February, March, April, May, and June, nil; July, 261; August, 485; September, 274; and October, 923."

MR. DAVIES asked whether the Colonial Secretary's attention had been drawn to the cancellation of the weekly coffee auctions in Nairobi following an official announcement by the Kenya Government that coffee was being sold for hard currencies.

MR. CREECH JONES: "The weekly coffee auctions in Nairobi were cancelled by merchants on October 26 pending consideration of large sales abroad for soft currency which might through resales have represented loss of hard currency to the sterling area. The auctions have now been reopened. The Kenya Coffee Board have voluntarily agreed to divert 25% of the remaining 'free' crop to hard currency destinations; although this means a sacrifice in the returns to growers."

MR. DAVIES: "Has my rt. hon. friend any estimate of what this country has lost through these 'leakages'?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "I am quite unable to say, but I am in consultation with the Governor about it."

Jivraj Air Services

SIR WAVELL WAKEFIELD asked why the licence to Jivraj Air Services, Ltd., in Kenya had been suddenly terminated by the Director of Civil Aviation in East Africa; and why the company's request for a period of three months' grace had been refused.

MR. CREECH JONES: "I am asking the East Africa High Commission for the information, and will write to the hon. member when I have received it."

SIR W. WAKEFIELD: "Is the Secretary of State aware that this company in the last year has made over 2,400 charters without accident, without uncompleted trips, and with no forced landings; and does not the rt. hon. gentleman think that this efficient private enterprise ought to be allowed to operate for the public advantage of the Colony?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "This is a matter within the discretion of the High Commission in East Africa. I have no effective jurisdiction over it."

MR. A. LENNOX-BOYD: "Will the inquiries of the rt. hon. gentleman also be directed to whether any incorporation like B.O.A.C. has made any representations to the Government in East Africa?"

Prices for Maize

MR. F. W. SKINNARD asked why the price paid to Europeans in Northern Rhodesia for a 200 lb. bag of maize was 30s., while Africans were paid 18s. for the same quantity grown and harvested by identical methods.

MR. CREECH JONES: "This year the price paid by the Maize Control Board was 27s. per 200 lb. bag, regardless of the source of production, plus 3s. if a new bag was used. In the case of Africans 18s. was paid directly and the balance of 9s. per bag was paid into the African Farming Improvement Fund. This fund is used to pay a good farming bonus of 15s. an acre to African farmers using improved methods based on rotational crops and soil conservation. Any balance remaining is used to finance the improvement of African farming and to raise the productivity of the soil. The European farmers, on the other hand, have to finance their own land improvements, conservation works, and roads."

MR. SKINNARD: "Will my rt. hon. friend bear in mind the importance of showing the African farmers the reasons for the two kinds of payments which in effect are made for their crop?"

MR. P. PIRATIN: "Can the Minister say whether the African farmers from whom the 9s. per bag is deducted have contributed to that deduction?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "All this is done in consultation with the local Africans, who are on various district boards and provincial councils as well as on the Legislative Council."

(Continued on page 350)

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BACKGROUND

Archbishop's Appeal.—"It is not yet clearly understood that this crisis affects every one of us, that unless it is solved within the next year or two the manner of life of every citizen may be disastrously changed for the worse, and the whole nation plunged into poverty. Let those in authority mark the facts plain to all. I know it is impossible now to advocate a coalition Government. Neither party would consider it. But it ought to be possible for the leaders of all parties to issue an agreed-downright statement on the gravity of the position. There is no difference of opinion over its gravity, and there need be no mention in such a declaration of the causes of the crisis or the nature of the economies required. In these matters there are wide differences of opinion. Every statesman, whatever his party, knows that we are confronted with a crisis comparable with the months after Dunkirk. The people will understand this if such a statement of facts, and an appeal for their co-operation, is made by their leaders in the simplest language, and is published in the Press by the B. C. and discarded on the boardings. When the people know the realities of the situation they will rise to the occasion, and by hard work, sacrifice, and self-reliance unite in a great and prolonged effort to save the nation. Unless the nations which deal with us see that we are making satisfactory progress towards recovery, they will refuse either to lend more money or to sell us the goods they produce. They will fear that all they send may be lost in the general crash without any hope of repayment. If there were this loss of confidence in the future the pound would fall still further in value, and the day of our downfall would come nearer."—**Dr. Garnett, Archbishop of York.**

Dilemma.—"Critics of Socialism maintain that its pegging of wages, its heavy taxation for social services, its bureaucratic controls, its suppression of incentives, and its restrictive trade union practices make for a high-cost economy which cannot compete well in the world market. Socialists answer that, ethics apart, a modern industrial system cannot flourish if it provides serious labour unrest and that full employment is an essential social objective which can be attained only through State action. Britain's great problem is to get costs down to increase competitive power in international trade and reduce the balance-of-payments trouble, it is that some of the most important trade unions demand higher wages while the Government is trying to keep wages and prices stable."—**Mr. G. E. Hudson.**

Trust the People.—"Trust the people. Tell them the plain facts, and sell them in time. Britons may not like a brick wall any more than anyone else—except perhaps to lean against it—a little too often; but Britons are at their very best when their backs are bare against it. No great empire if it floats and defies the fundamental law and elemental necessity of living within its income, can avoid present bankruptcy and ultimate privation. It would be a great mistake of the part of any Government to do anything more to clip the wings of this great city, from which radiates integrity, prestige and tradition."—**Sir Frederick Rowland, Lord Mayor of London.**

Precept and Practice.—"If the general attitude and outlook of your board were that of the politicians and departments controlling us, so that we were principally concerned with restrictions and controls with delaying rapid and efficient action in case it might be found to contravene some possibly wholly inappropriate regulation, or to require some apparently unnecessary permission, and if we were imbued, as our controllers are, with absolutely no sense of urgency or the need for action, then instead of appearing before you we should find ourselves before the Official Reserve. We do not accept as inevitable the days, weeks, and months that are dissipated every year by the delays associated with controls, regulations, permissions, and restrictions. We do not admit the necessity of a great many of these things. We when we are girded at to show more efficiency, activity, and initiative. If say that our preceptors should first put their own house in order. Let them investigate what cramps the taking of responsibility and blocks efficiency and delays speed in action. These troubles originate an over-centralization and lack of interdepartmental liaison, in the inactivity which apparently renders it impossible to answer a letter in weeks rather than hours, and in the over-regulation which is the result of theoretic ideologies held by those who have never had to deal with men or affairs. Let them get back to the principles, methods, and sense of urgency which create initiative and enterprise in business, and which tend to restrict all waste, above all waste of time."—**Major-General Guy P. Dawnay, addressing shareholders of the West London Property Corporation, Ltd.**

Wages and Profits.—"We do not need a wage structure guaranteeing a certain standard of living, but a wage policy of incentives and sanctions which will encourage the industrious and penalize the lazy. In 1938 wages amounted to £1,733 million. In 1948 they had reached £3,975 million, an increase of 129%. The distributed profits of companies, however, had risen only from £506 to £730 million, an increase of 44%. These figures reveal a picture of shareholders growing rich at the expense of wage-earners. In the light of these figures, the latest increase in the distributed profits tax is a vindictive piece of legislation without justification."—**Lord McGowan.**

Hysteria.—"The hysteria so early worked up about H.M.S. AMETHYST was another symptom of the unhealthy state of public opinion. Heaven forbid that I should sink to the mentality of growling that 'the Navy isn't what it was, but I must express my astonishment' at the spectacle of the Board of Admiralty going to Plymouth to greet the vessel. It was reminiscent of baby-sitters crowding a Waterloo platform to acclaim an arriving transatlantic film star. The officers and men of the AMETHYST behaved during their Yangtze voyage in accordance with the best traditions of the Navy. No more can be said; no more should be said."—**Commander Stephen King-Hall.**

Harvard Morrison.—"When Mr. Herbert Morrison delivers a homily on the necessity of making due account of the economic facts of life, he irresistibly recalls Mr. Micawber, who the more he fell into debt, the more plaudits and insistence he became about the desirability of living within one's means. It is all very well for the Lord President now to urge good Socialists to work harder and curb their unnecessary expenditure, and recognize the importance of incentive in stimulating production, but, unfortunately for us all, a great part of his political life has been devoted to scorning these very propositions. Indeed, his party's appeal to the electorate has been based on less work, more amenities, and the ignominy of a social system which depended on cupidity rather than the public good as a stimulus to effort. The situation will not be remedied by a still spendthrift Government belatedly coming out in praise of thrift. Whatever the Lord President may say, the policy which he, and his colleagues continue, to recommend will soon leave no cake at all."—**Daily Telegraph.**

TO THE NEWS

E.A.R.-marked.—There will be no change in the value of gold so long as I am President.—President Truman.

"Britain is slithering into bankruptcy."—Mr. Brendan Bracken, M.P.

"Great Britain is a slow-motion nation."—Mr. Eric Johnston, the American film leader.

Candidates who actually enjoy elections are either exhibitionists or thugs.—Mr. Harold Nicolson.

"The distribution of leisure is as important as the distribution of income."—Mr. George Bernard Shaw.

"German builders are working at about double the speed of builders in this country."—Mr. Walter Fletcher, M.P.

"The engineering industry now provides 40% of all exports from Britain."—Mr. G. R. Strauss, Minister of Supply.

"One cocoa tree in seven in the Gold Coast Colony is already attacked by swollen shoot."—Mr. E. H. Keeling, M.P.

"The power of the atom bomb today would destroy from 10,000,000 to 20,000,000 persons a month."—Viscount Trenchard.

"He who is never ashamed of his country has a little patriotism as he who is never proud of his country."—Mr. F. A. Voigt.

"The comradeship of the mines is like the comradeship of the battlefields—which is why miners always make first-class soldiers."—Daily Mail.

"The House of Lords is an extremely good-tempered place, and I do not know of anywhere where there is a more complete absence of snobbery."—Viscount Addison.

"Ours is the Government of the King, the House of Assembly, and the Senate. We cannot allow any man in this country to say the King has no part or parcel in our constitution."—General Smuts.

"Sweden has the highest standard of living in the world. You do not achieve that by nationalizing your industries. Sweden has had a Socialist Prime Minister for years, but she does not appear to favour nationalization."—Lady Rhonda.

"Tolerance, compassion and spiritual and moral standing are the beginning of wisdom."—Mr. John Connell.

"London's school-building programme for next year has been reduced by the Ministry of Education from £7,758,000 to £3,000,000."—Chairman of L.C.C. Education Committee.

"A leader must impress on those below him a common purpose, and there must be truth in that common purpose. Truth and character are the two great factors on which leadership is based."—Field-Marshal Lord Montgomery.

"Popular newspapers are too often staffed by able, intelligent, narrow technicians. Their competence is great, their knowledge small, their wisdom negligible. It is wisdom which we ought to seek, not mere academic qualifications or technical proficiency."—Mr. John Connell.

"Domestic consumers, industry generally, and even the nationalized industries are all dissatisfied with the performance after three years of the National Coal Board. Costs are too high and output is too low. A drastic reduction in coal prices would do more than anything to restore our industry."—The Rt Hon. R. S. Hudson, M.P.

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PERSONALIA

MR. J. WRATHALL has been elected to Bulawayo City Council.

GENERAL SMITHS will leave South Africa on Saturday to fly to London for a visit of about a week.

BRIGADIER F. TURNER has been elected a director of GEORGE'S LTD. engineers of Kisumu, Kenya.

MR. E. P. S. BELL, who has just appointed a puisne judge in Tanganyika, was formerly solicitor-general of Malaya.

MR. W. R. B. ADDISON, of Entebbe, has won the Uganda squash championship by defeating Mr. D. R. BROWN, of Jinja.

MR. FRANK WORTHINGTON is on his way to Rhodesia again in the DUNNOTTAR CASTLE, travelling by the East Coast route to Durban.

Mrs. CLYDE HIGGS spoke in last Friday's "Calling Southern Rhodesia" programme of the B.B.C. on dairying in this country.

MR. W. M. CLERK has been appointed chairman of the Cotton Export Group of Uganda in the absence of COLONEL W. R. PALMER.

DR. H. O. WATKINS-FITCHEFORD, who has been practising for some time in Nairobi, has transferred his activities to Dar es Salaam.

MR. ANTHONY EDWARD VERNON, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. G. VERNON of Nairobi, was married in that town recently to MISS ANNETTE POPE.

SIR RONALD SPORRS, a former Governor of Northern Rhodesia, is on a lecture tour in Italy, and has been received in audience by the Pope.

AIR VICE-MARSHAL A. C. H. SHARP was a passenger in a large R.A.F. transport aircraft, which crashed at Nairobi on Monday. There were no casualties.

DR. ROBERT ELLIOTT, who is both a medical practitioner and a barrister, and Mrs. DAPHNE PIGOTT, were married in Kitwe, Northern Rhodesia, a few days ago.

MR. FRANK MOYSE and MISS PAMELA MOYSE, elder daughter of the Commissioner of Police in Tanganyika and the late Mrs. Moyses, will shortly be married in East Africa.

MR. A. McLEOD is president of the Mwanza Club, MR. K. B. A. THOMSON vice-president, Mr. J. A. DASHWOOD honorary secretary, and Mr. D. THOMPSON honorary treasurer.

SIR EDWARD TWINING, Governor of Tanganyika, opened the visitors' information bureau established in Dar es Salaam by the East African Tourist Travel Association.

MR. J. BONHAM, a game warden in Kenya, and his assistant, MR. A. HANLEY, have recently shot 140 elephants in the coast area of Kenya in driving off marauding herds.

VICE-ADMIRAL G. N. OLIVER, now president of the Royal Naval College at Greenwich, will replace Vice-ADMIRAL C. H. L. WOODHOUSE as Commander-in-Chief, East Indies Station, next April.

MR. ROGER NORTON, East African Commissioner in London, left England by air on Saturday for Nairobi for consultations in regard to coffee and sugar. He is due back in London tomorrow.

EARL WINTERTON, who last Friday celebrated the 45th anniversary of his election as Conservative Member of Parliament for Hereford, is the "Father" of the House. He has held land in Northern Rhodesia for many years.

JUDGE ALF RANNING, JUDGE NUR, and JUDGE HASSAN from the Sudan, who are visiting this country, sat on the bench in the Companies Court in the Chancery Division on Monday, and were welcomed by Mr. Justice Vaisey.

MR. T. S. CHEGWIDEN is to remain chairman of the Public Services Board of Southern Rhodesia until February 2, 1955, when he will reach the age of 65. He will receive an annual salary of £2,750 and a pension on retirement of £67.

MESSRS. ARNOLD H. HABTE WOLDE, ATO E. BORRU, and BLATTIA PHARAT DESTA, respectively Ministers of Education, Deputy Director of Education, and Administrator of the Imperial Ethiopian Research Institute in Addis Ababa, have visited Fesada.

MR. ROBIN BROOK, who has been appointed deputy chairman of the Colonial Development Corporation, in the place of the late Sir Frank Stockdale, has resigned from the court of directors of the Bank of England and relinquished certain other appointments.

S. G. WILKINSON, of Kericho, and Mrs. WILKINSON, of their family returned to Kenya by air last weekend after leave in this country and France. During the war Mr. Wilkinson was second in command of a battalion of the Northern Rhodesia Regiment.

THE VERY REV. JAMES MINDEROP, who has just celebrated the diamond jubilee of his ordination in Kampala, went to Uganda in 1900, and has returned to his native Holland only twice since then. He has on several occasions acted as deputy for the Vicar Apostolic.

London newspapers reported last week that LORD MCGOWAN would shortly visit Egypt and East Africa on his way to Rhodesia and South Africa. EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA is authorized to state that no definite decision has yet been made, though Lord McGowan may shortly pay such a visit.

MR. A. J. MITCHELL, who joined the P.W.D. in Tanganyika in 1930, and became Acting Director in 1946, has been appointed a member of the Colonial Development Corporation. He has also become a member of the board of the Colonial Development Corporation (Engineering).

An East African Association of Gunners has been formed in Kenya as a result of a suggestion made by LIEUT. COLONEL J. F. G. GURNEY at the annual reunion dinner in Nanyuki, of officers of the East African Artillery. Information may be had from MAJOR JUSTIN MAGARATHY, 156 Heavy A.A. Battery, Box 1,007, Nanyuki.

THE NINTH EARL OF MARO, who served in the 1914-18 war with the King's African Rifles and thereafter worked in Kenya for some years as Lord Naas, has been found blind and destitute in a London County Council rest home in Twickenham, where he was known as Mr. Bouike. He succeeded to the title in 1939, and stated last week that having an income of only £147 a year, he had recently worked as a labourer, salesman, film extra, and book firm representative.

MR. and Mrs. A. E. FORREST, who have been living latterly on the Isle of Man, will leave at the end of this month to settle either in South Africa or Kenya. Mr. Forrest, who served with the Royal Regiment in the East African campaign in 1915-16, afterwards joined the Colonial Audit Department in the Somaliland Protectorate, was transferred to Zanzibar, and then entered the Treasury in Kenya in 1925. He went to Uganda some five years later, became treasurer in 1934 and financial secretary in 1937 and retired in 1940, but for the next three years he was on the staff of the Colonial Office. He was a member of the Kenya and Uganda Railways and Harbour Council for five years, of the Executive and Legislative Councils of Uganda for 10 years, and was chairman of the Uganda Supply Board.

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Obituary

MRS. VERNON RUSSELL D'AUVERGNE ANLEY, who served for many years in the Administration in Northern Rhodesia, and had recently been living in Natal, has died after months of serious illness. He first went to Northern Rhodesia in 1911, when the British South Africa Company was responsible for administration, being one of 10 men who joined from the old Natal Mounted Police. After his retirement he travelled frequently and widely in Africa and the East with Mrs. Anley, who survives him.

COLONEL SIR RICHARD ARTHUR NEEDHAM, who has died in London at the age of 72, was well known for his medical work in Asia and Africa. After his retirement from the Indian Medical Service in 1930 he was appointed by the General Medical Council of the British Medical Association as its visitor to medical colleges overseas. In 1939 and 1940 he acted in a similar capacity for the Colonial Office, and the territories he visited included Uganda.

MR. J. T. TILBURY, who went to Southern Rhodesia from South Wales in 1894, has died at the age of 81. His wife and he entered the Colony by bullock wagon, and their eldest son, who now farms and mines in the Charter district and was a United Party candidate in the 1948 general election, was born in the wagon in the Mangwe Pass. Mr. Tilbury was associated with the Umtswa district from its pioneer days.

Deep sympathy will be felt throughout East and Central Africa with General Sir Kenneth and Lady Anderson on the death of active service in Malaya last week of their only son, LIEUT. MICHAEL IAIN ANDERSON, The Seaforth Highlanders. Sir Kenneth, who was a most popular G.O.C. in C. in East Africa, is now Governor of Gibraltar.

MRS. IDA NEAVE, who has died in Nairobi, had lived for many years in Kenya, where she joined the Pay Corps during the 1914-18 War. Born in Surrey in 1877, she went to the Union after the South African War and later to Rhodesia. She is survived by her husband, a former transport officer, and a son.

MR. F. W. SARGISON, for the past 23 years manager in London of Argus South African Newspapers, Ltd., died suddenly in London on Monday after an operation. A northern sportsman, he was popular in Press circles, and had for many years sat on the council of the Empire Press Union.

ADMIRAL SIR LIONEL HALSEY, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.C.I.E., C.B., who died at his home in Bedfordshire recently at the age of 77, was for many years comptroller and treasurer to the Prince of Wales, whom he accompanied on one of his visits to East Africa.

MR. CHARLES FREDERICK ARMSTRONG, an engineer, who retired to Kenya in 1926, has died in Kitale after a short illness. A prominent Freemason, with a keen interest in public affairs, he leaves a widow and one son.

MR. HAROLD JAMES ADAMS, who has died at Herriard after a short illness, was a director of Consolidated Sisal Estates of East Africa, Ltd., Kilifi Plantations, Ltd., and of other companies.

MISS A. E. D'O'PANZERA, youngest daughter of Colonel F. W. Panzera, a former resident commissioner in Bechuanaland, has died in Hove, Sussex.

MR. JAMES MADDY LUMLEY, I.S.O., formerly of the Kenya Police, has died in Rondebosch, near Cape Town, at the age of 72.

MISS CATHERINE HAVERGAL SHAW, eldest daughter of the late Rev. W. H. Shaw, has died in Nakuru.

MR. A. B. NELL, a well-known Rhodesian sportsman, has died in Umtali at the age of 48.

MR. A. W. J. WHITAKER, of the Northern Rhodesian Police, has died in Livingstone.

From the City to the C.D.C.

Appointment Criticized

THE APPOINTMENT of Mr. Robin Brook as deputy chairman of the Colonial Development Corporation does not impress the *Financial Times*, which wrote on Monday:—

"The progress of Brigadier Robin Brook is interesting. In the years before the war he was one of the assistant managers of the National Discount Company, and some City knowledge he thereby gained. Much was the surprise in the City, however, when Brigadier Brook was appointed to the court of the Bank of England three years ago. The surprise was needless, for the brigadier is one of the white-headed boys of some Socialist Ministers.

"During the war Brigadier Brook served in the fantastic cloak-and-dagger club on which Dr. Dalton, as head of the so-called Special Operations Executive, lavished so much public money. In this organization many a civilian rose to dizzy military heights. Brigadier Brook ended the war with the high-sounding title of Director of Resistance in Western Europe, and he was duly decorated by several of our grateful Allies. For some years past Brigadier Brook has been giving his services as chairman of the Government's British Tourist and Holidays Board.

Now he is translated from his directorship of the Bank of England to the lucrative post of deputy chairman of the Colonial Development Corporation. The salary is £3,000 a year. At Cambridge the brigadier took a degree in economics, and he is one of England's Olympic champions in fencing. Whether he knows anything about either Colonies or development, time will show.

Bamangwato Inquiry

THE JUDICIAL COMMISSION which is inquiring into the fitness of Seretse Khama to rule the Bamangwato tribe in Bechuanaland has returned to Serowe after hearing objections by Chekedi, the regent, and several chiefs who went into voluntary exile with him.

Mr. D. M. Buchanan, counsel for Chekedi, submitted that Ruth Williams, who married Seretse, should be deported from Bechuanaland, as she could never be queen of the tribe or mother of a future chief.

Chekedi alleged that, although for many years all liquor except Native beer had been prohibited at the tribe's request, Ruth Williams as a European had bought liquor and supplied it to her husband and other non-Europeans. He said that tribal administration had broken down after Seretse's marriage to a European woman, and that a police force would now be needed to restore order, for rebellion, which he had no power to suppress, was growing. His appeals to the Government for support had been answered by suggestions that he might be a rival claimant for the chieftainship, and that an attitude of neutrality must therefore be observed.

Seretse, though indisputably the heir apparent, had disqualified himself by his marriage, and the tribal meeting convened by him in June was invalid because he had not been confirmed as chief.

In answer to a question Sir Walter Harragin stated that the inquiry was dealing with two matters only. One was whether the gathering in June was properly convened and conducted according to Native custom; the other was whether or not Seretse was a fit and proper person to discharge the functions of chief, having regard to the interests and welfare of the tribe. The question of his marriage was of vital importance in the second issue.

Adult Education in the Colonies

Lord Listowel on Needs and Aims

OUR EFFORT IS TO BRING STABILITY, good order, and mutual prosperity to the world with the co-operation of the Colonial peoples by building up in the Colonial territories responsibility and the conditions of good living. This laudable purpose can be achieved only in so far as it evokes the response, understanding, and confidence of the Colonial peoples. We wish them to appreciate the values which accrue to us in our own affairs. Consequently we are anxious that there should be a steady elimination of all discrimination, and full co-operation with them in the great tasks which have to be performed.

In achieving this active and friendly co-operation, adult education must play a dominating part. I do not use the word "education" in its narrow sense, meaning mere learning and the acquisition of the three Rs., but in a wider sense, which includes the unfolding of our latent spirit of citizenship through "the development of a sense of responsibility for the progress of the community."

We are social beings, part and parcel of the community in which we live. Some live in small village communities, and some in tribal communities. Some communities have already coalesced into nationhood and some of us are feeling our way towards a world-wide association of free and equal nations, great and small. We, as citizens of the United Kingdom and the Colonial territories, belong to this last type of community.

Fraternity of Peoples

Through long historical association in the Commonwealth of Nations we have learnt to enjoy the security of membership of a fraternity of peoples who have banished war between themselves, and to set an example of orderly and continuous political, economic, and social advance inseparable from our democratic system of government. Our united strength as a force for good in the world derives from the strength of each of the members of the association, but this depends on the character and conduct of each and every citizen.

How important, therefore, it is that the art of citizenship should be practised in increasing measure, and how necessary that education in its widest sense should be directed to that object. This is particularly true in the present day, when so many territories are going through a period of rapid political and economic development. Their peoples must learn to understand what is taking place, think for themselves, and acquire the habit of enjoying the benefits and carrying the responsibilities which progress brings.

Adult education in Colonial territories has been receiving urgent consideration from the Colonial Office for over a year. Among the people studying the problem have been the members of the Secretary of State's Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies, and, in particular, the members of a special sub-committee. This committee, of which I am chairman, is recruited from men distinguished in their calling and particularly from experts in all sorts of education. Among them are Mr. Green, general secretary of the Workers' Educational Association, and Mr. Shearman, academic adviser to London University tutorial classes committee.

The tenor of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies is that only by expanding adult education can people in Colonial territories be made aware of their rights and privileges.

*Being an abbreviated report of an address by the Minister of State for Colonial Affairs on Adult Education at Netley House, Gomshall, Surrey.

This awareness can be satisfactorily achieved only by the efforts of the peoples themselves, and it is essential to find leaders who will be willing to take the initiative to organize and educate themselves. We in this country must do everything in our power to help these leaders to benefit from our own mature experience.

It is the proud and legitimate boast of the W.E.A. that it has made and continues to make a unique contribution towards improving the quality of social life by stimulating more effective citizenship, by creating a better informed working class movement, and by providing for the thoughtful man or woman facilities for enjoying a more satisfying life. You here are all potential leaders. You have won scholarships and grants of various kinds. When you go home you will stand out as people who have received from education in this country intellectual advantages denied to many. You will be ambassadors of social and cultural values which are common to civilization in every continent.

I do not mean that we expect you when you go back to devote your whole time to adult education work, though of course we should be very glad if you were able to do this. We hope that you will preserve your interest in adult education, that you will help those who organize it, and that you will remember that you can do much by your example, by casual conversation, and by part-time work, to help your people understand what is going on in the modern world and make their own contribution to its development more effective.

Developing Colonial Resources

MR. IVOR THOMAS, M.P., formerly Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, wrote in *The Times* a few days ago:

"The development of our Colonial resources can make a substantial contribution to the dollar gap, and I deplore the defeatist note which has crept into the reports of the Colonial Primary Products Committee. In the light of the retribution which has visited the Ministry of Food for its ill-advised publicity over the groundnut scheme, I can understand a certain playing down of Colonial possibilities, but caution is being carried too far.

It is ironical that the commodities in which Sir Stafford Cripps announced specific cuts—cotton, timber, sugar—are all commodities to which the Colonies could make a much bigger contribution. The Colonial Empire can clearly enable substantial savings to be made in our expenditure on tobacco, non-ferrous metals, timber, sugar and molasses, oils, fats and resins, raw cotton, and meat. As for dollar-earners, we do not know what the resources of the Colonies are until we look for them. One condition for success in Colonial development is that we avoid the ideological controversies which have so bedevilled domestic politics. There is room here for Government-sponsored enterprise and private enterprise. But the bulk of the work must clearly be done by private enterprise, and for this purpose it is essential that investors be given some attraction greater than investment in Government bonds at home."

Tanganyika Audit Report

NEED TO RESTORE the Treasury's internal check over the accounts of sub-accountants is stressed by Mr. H. W. Skinner, Director of Audit in Tanganyika, in his report for 1947, which has just appeared. After explaining that this check could not be applied owing to the heavy additional work in the Treasury caused by the recent revision of salaries, he continues:

"The absence of any Treasury check has resulted in extremely inaccurate accounts being rendered for audit, and consequently much additional work for the Audit Department, but a more serious aspect is that since the Treasury accounts for the year are closed before the audit can be completed, the final accounts include many errors, queried too late for adjustment.

"The detailed list of misallocations comprises 1,628 errors, of which 1,392 have already been admitted by the Accountant-General. During the past five years the annual total of such errors has increased out of all proportion to the increase and extent of the accounts, the annual figures being: 1943, 203 misallocations; 1944, 506; 1945, 586; 1946, 642; 1947, 1,628."

Losses of cash and stores continued to rise during the year. The report comments:

"The existing regulations designed to prevent accounting irregularities and fraud are considered adequate, on a number of occasions frauds have been due to lack of supervision and failure to carry out regulations. About one-third of the total losses were due to the misappropriation of tax money by tax clerks, a form of theft which is very difficult to prevent."

Unsatisfactory Ocean Mails

E. A. Section of London Chamber

PARTICULARS supplied by the Postmaster-General in regard to ocean mails to East Africa (and published in full in our last issue) were stated at a meeting of the East African Section of the London Chamber of Commerce a few days ago not to represent the full inadequacy of the service.

Mr. B. E. PETITPIERRE pointed out that the maximum transmission time from London to Mombasa, even on the figures supplied by the General Post Office, was at least 41 days, not the 35 days claimed. He added that on October 24 he had received at one and the same time mails from Dar es Salaam dated August 19 and 26 and September 2 and 9, and that his company's office in Dar es Salaam did not receive until October 9 a mail packet dispatched from London on July 12.

The consensus was that the ocean mails are very unsatisfactory, and it was stated that the Posts and Telecommunications Section of the Chamber would shortly interview the director-general of the General Post Office on the subject.

German Barbed Wire

Complaint was made that the bulletin issued by the Economic Control Board of Tanganyika had recently published the name and address of a firm in London which offered early delivery of barbed wire of German manufacture.

Mr. A. E. POLLARD, representing the East African Office in London, explained that the information had been sent in the usual way to the East Africa High Commission, which had communicated it to the Governments of Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika. By inadvertence the name had been published in

Tanganyika, but gratuitous advertisement of that kind was not likely to recur.

Mr. W. H. JONES commented that the use of barbed and fencing wire from British sources was due to the inadequate quota for steel for Colonial markets.

Mr. E. W. BOVILL, chairman of the Section, mentioned that an enterprising Kenya farmer had made a fortune by bringing barbed wire by lorry from Ethiopia to Nakuru, where there had been an eager market for it.

Recent and impending shipments to East African destinations were reviewed, and it was reported that the port position had considerably improved in Dar es Salaam but deteriorated in Mombasa.

Air Services to Dar es Salaam

Withdrawal by British Overseas Airways Corporation of the direct weekly flying-boat service to Dar es Salaam as an economy measure was notified. There would, however, still be four flying-boat services a week to Nairobi, from which passengers for Dar es Salaam would be carried on next day by Dakota. There were also seven other services a week in each direction between Nairobi and Dar es Salaam.

Mr. W. H. JONES raised the question of attempts by manufacturers to sell to their customers' customers, saying that manufacturers whose catalogues his company had sent to their customers in East Africa had suggested to those customers that they should deal direct with them, rather than through the London shippers. He was convinced that merchants and shippers could render the necessary services more economically than the manufacturers; otherwise they would have gone out of business long ago.

The chairman sympathized, but felt that the Section could do no more than express its opinion, for, not being a trade association, it could impose no penalties.

Mr. PETITPIERRE recalled that the subject had been considered some years ago by a sub-committee, which regarded such actions as undesirable but had not found it possible to recommend any action. He knew manufacturers who had felt themselves forced to act directly in East Africa because the merchants through whom they had been dealing had not been sufficiently active. His view was that manufacturers who now ventured into East African markets for the first time or without very extensive local knowledge would be likely to collect some heavy bad debts.

Mr. JONES agreed, adding that the flooding of a market by manufacturers without adequate experience of it helped to create bad debts for others besides themselves.

Mr. SALTWELL, of Messrs. W. J. Bush and Co., Ltd., said that his company was always very pleased to work through shippers in this country, but that it also had its own resident agents in East Africa. What was a manufacturer to do if, after business with a buyer in a foreign market had originated through the London house, the buyer asked at a later date that it should be done directly between him and the manufacturer? They could surely not refuse. Frequently, moreover, a buyer in Africa would confirm on one occasion through one London house, and on another through a competitor. With whom was it suggested that the manufacturer should communicate if on the third occasion the buyer wrote to him direct?

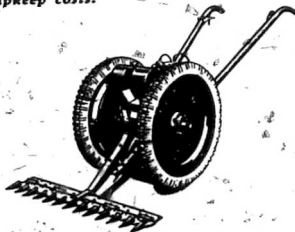
Higher Pilgrimage Costs

THE INCREASED COST of the pilgrimage to Mecca resulting from the withdrawal by the Government of Saudi Arabia of concessions to West Africans has led the Sudan Government to take precautions against pilgrims becoming destitute en route. Immigrant pilgrims must now deposit £E50 for each adult, £E25 for children between the ages of five and 10 years, and £E8 for those under five years, these deposits being withdrawable when the pilgrim reaches the Red Sea port of Suakin.

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Letter to the Editor**Marketing of East African Sisal
Comments of Sisal Growers' Committee**

To the Editor of EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA
 Sir.—My committee, which represents a majority of British East African sisal estates controlled or represented in this country, has had its attention drawn to the letter from Mr. Hitchcock in your number of October 27, and, more particularly, to the article in your issue of September 15 entitled "Selling Sisal for Dollars," to which Mr. Hitchcock has taken exception.

You stated that Kenya has one marked advantage over Tanganyika in that the Kenya Sisal Board is a statutory body controlling the whole sisal output of the Colony. The implication of this appears to be that the Kenya sisal growers, because they are subject to a greater measure of Government control, are better able to sell their product on advantageous terms to foreign Governments. This, on behalf of the members of my committee, I most emphatically deny.

The Tanganyika sisal growers have in most cases long-established arrangements for the sale of their product. Some of them sell through the Tanganyika Sisal Marketing Association, whereas those represented by my committee sell through agents or merchants. My committee members have never at any time in some 30 years during which many of them have been producing sisal had any difficulty in marketing it. They have made contracts with numerous Governments, including that of the U.S.A., and such sales are made on a normal commercial contract countersigned by reputable British firms or their overseas representatives. There is no known case where such contracts have not been correctly fulfilled and honoured. It has never been suggested by

any Government, British or foreign, that they hesitated to buy British East African sisal through these normal commercial channels, or that they have broken such contracts being honoured.

I do not believe that it was your intention to suggest that a commercial contract, backed by reputable London firms and leading sisal producers in Tanganyika, is less acceptable than one made by a Government-sponsored board; nor do I believe that it was your intention to suggest that only Governments can sell to other Governments. In the opinion of this committee, the preservation of freedom and initiative in marketing by the continued use of well-tried and established commercial channels is of the utmost importance in furthering the development of this important Empire industry.

We are satisfied that the marketing of our Tanganyika sisal is efficiently and satisfactorily organized; and that there would be grave disadvantages in imposing upon it any statutory body to control sales, which should be left to those best qualified to handle them.

Yours faithfully,

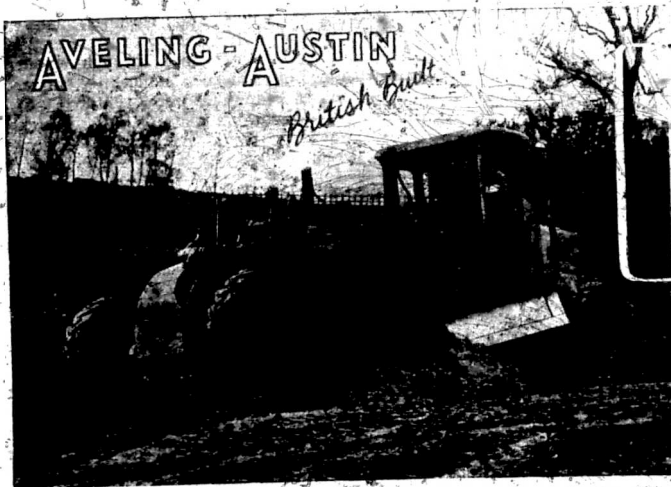
F. C. RYCOFT,
 Secretary.

2 Great Winchester St.,
 London, E.C.2.

THE SISAL GROWERS' COMMITTEE.

Undenominational Church

THE CHURCH OF GOOD WILL, built by Lady Eleanor Cole as a thank-offering for the survival of her two sons in the recent war, stands on the main road between Gilgil and Nakuru in Kenya. Constructed by African and European craftsmen, it has seating accommodation for 200 worshippers. At the Remembrance Day services the congregations included the Bishop of Mombasa, the Moderator of the Church of Scotland, Canon Martin Capon, Major Duit, the Rev. W. J. Walton, and two African parsons.



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Practical Value of Prehistory

Mr. A. J. Arkell's Address

MR. A. J. ARKELL, lecturer in Egyptology at the University of London, and previously for many years in the Sudan Government Service, said when he addressed the Royal African and Royal Empire Societies in London recently that the study of prehistory was already of practical use in regard to the pressing African problems of desiccation and soil erosion.

He continued:—

"Our investigations have shown that at various times during the half million or so years that man has lived in Africa the climate has changed. The causes of those changes are at present only partly understood, but are becoming every year clearer. Before they are fully explained, prehistorians will need the co-operation of meteorologists, botanists, and other scientists, as well as that of the geologists and palaeontologists who are already working with them.

Advance of the Desert

Whether some of these causes are world-wide, and whether wet periods in Africa are contemporary with and due to the same cause as the Ice Ages of Europe is possible, but by no means certain. It is, however, undoubtedly of practical importance to have shown that during the last 5,000 years or so, the period that man has had domesticated animals in the Upper Nile Valley, the climate has been becoming steadily drier, and there has been a continual southward advance of the desert. Already some evidence has also been brought to light to show that this advance of the desert has not been confined to the Nile Valley, but has been general along the southern edge of the Sahara.

"Until prehistorians produced this evidence it was generally thought by administrators, farmers and others that the desert was not advancing, but static. Now if

prehistorians, meteorologists, foresters, botanists, zoologists, geologists, vets, and others work together before long the reasons for this southward advance of the desert will become clear.

"Personally, I believe that the domestication of the goat has much to do with it, and that, with the increasing and careless use of fire by man, it is largely responsible for the destruction of the tree cover, and so for both a reduction in the rainfall and an increase in soil erosion.

"General Smuts, in his foreword to Brouil's charming 'Beyond the Bounds of History,' wrote:—

"Heartening Message"

"To me at least there is a very heartening message in prehistory. On that larger, truer history, we see a deeper meaning of our story than that which history conveys to us.

"On the time-scale of history we do not see much essential progress. Institutions change, forms of human life and existence change, but man himself remains much the same. Have we advanced beyond the Greeks of Homer's and Plato's day? Has the human soul changed since the Hebrew psalms were composed? Is man himself progressing, apart from the institutions he is developing in the course of history? Man physically and spiritually seems almost to be standing still when our yardstick is history.

"To see the true picture we have to take a larger time-scale. We have to call in the witness of prehistory. Then the answer is no longer in doubt. The progress physically, mentally, and socially is almost beyond belief.

"To those who have asked me whether I am a pessimist or an optimist I have replied that when I look merely at history I am tempted to be a pessimist about man, but when I look at prehistory I am an optimist. The case for progress on the evidence of prehistory is simply overwhelming.

"For us, the children of to-day, prehistory is therefore, not only a matter of deep and absorbing interest; it is also a message, to all of good cheer and faith in our future, an inspiration for the march, the endless march and the road stretching before us."

Improving African Agriculture

MR. G. B. MASEFIELD, lecturer in Colonial agriculture at Oxford University, who was previously an agricultural officer in Uganda, said in the course of a broadcast talk to East Africa recently:—

"Two-wheeled horticultural tractors hold out great possibilities for the small African farmer in the future.

"A commercial authority has given me an estimate that about 15,000,000 hoes are exported annually from Great Britain to tropical countries. One leading firm exports no fewer than 157 different sizes and shapes of hoe blade! Granted that a fair number of different types may be required for varying conditions of soil, vegetation, and cultivation, there seems to be room here for some standardization and for some research as to what really are the most effective weights, sizes, and shapes of hoe.

"A distinguished Belgian administrator has told me that he thought he had neglected the latent powers of leadership amongst such classes as retired African clerks, who often take up farming near the towns, and African shopkeepers and small business men, who also frequently run a farm with hired labour. These more educated men are much more ready to take up new methods, and if we help them more, might well set an example to the more conservative tribesmen.

"I can support this from my own observations in Uganda. African country shopkeepers there are often also outstanding farmers, though whether the shop comes first and provides the capital for the farm or vice versa I should not like to say. The Belgian Congo authorities take pains to see that people of these classes can obtain suitable holdings in the 'centres' which have been set aside for more or less detribalized Africans near the large towns. Here, it seems, is a hint which might well be applied in East African conditions."

Expensive Option

REPLYING TO CRITICISMS of sections of the Income Tax Act of 1948, the Southern Rhodesian Minister of Finance, Mr. C. E. Whitehead, said recently that powers were often used to fine tax evaders rather than take the cases to court. There was no appeal against the fine because the tax commissioner was debarred from using the information voluntarily given. Mr. Whitehead said that the Income Tax Department had lost the activities of one non-European back to the middle of the war, and that he had paid £30,000 rather than go to court.

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NEWS ITEMS IN BRIEF

The Shikar Dinner was held at the Savoy Hotel in London last night.

Northern Rhodesia's war memorial is expected to take the form of a cenotaph about 25 feet high in the middle of the roadway opposite the Secretariat in Lusaka.

The debate on the first annual report of the Overseas Food Corporation, which was to have been held in the House of Commons this week, has been postponed until next week.

The G.O.C.-in-C., East Africa Command, has denied a report published in London that the work at Maelkinnon Road depot might cease owing to lack of technical troops.

A Bill dealing with penalties for illegal possession of arms and ammunition in Uganda raises maximum sentences of imprisonment from one year to four, and fines from £200 to £1,000.

Two young white rhinoceroses, one of each sex, have arrived at the zoo in Khartoum. They were trapped by Mr. Carr Hartley, of Kenya. A bid of £E6,000 for them has been refused.

Scientific Council

Establishment of a scientific council for Africa south of the Sahara has been recommended by the African scientific conference held in Johannesburg. The region would include the East African territories, the Belgian Congo, the Rhodesias, Nyasaland and South Africa.

From the beginning of next year the teaching period of the Gordon Memorial College, Khartoum, will be divided into three terms, each of nine weeks, with one long and two short vacations. The long vacation will be from May to July, instead of from April to August.

Northern Rhodesia's contribution to the St. John's Ophthalmic Hospital fund exceeded £10,000, of which £5,000 was subscribed by the Government. Lusaka raised £1,005, Fort Jameson £844, Luanshya £550, Kitwe £544, Broken Hill £468, Chingola £296, Livingstone £117, and Mazabuka £87.

That the Sudan had made no claim to Eritrea, but would be prepared to take over the Western Province if asked to do so by the United Nations, subject to satisfactory negotiations in connexion with financial and other conditions, was made clear in the Sudan Legislative Assembly by the Under-Secretary for the Interior.

Judgment has been given for the defendant in the case in which Ol Mogogo Estates, Ltd., sued Dr. Stephen R. Barnett, a veterinary research officer at Kabete, Kenya, for £1,650 damages for alleged negligence in connexion with blood tests and other duties when 155 cattle died on the estate following an outbreak of pleuropneumonia.

Significance of African Songs

IT IS MOST SIGNIFICANT, said Mr. Hugh Tracey in a recent broadcast talk from Lusaka. "The significance of the songs sung by the Africans of the Copperbelt of Northern Rhodesia are about the breaking up of their families and the sad results of the amoral and irresponsible lives in which so many of them indulge when away from family and village ties.

"It is clear from their songs that the luxury of this disintegration—blaming everyone else, of course, except themselves—is weighing heavily on the minds and consciences of the more responsible Africans. It is not for nothing that they sing about their misdemeanours. It was always so amongst all nations. Songs and stories, plays as well as preaching, have been the proper medium of social reform.

"I recommend a full study of the contents of African songs to any student of sociology and to all who are responsible for Africans, their administration, or their welfare. It gives a small but very true mirror of the true state of their minds.

Foreign Music

"Our African Music Society hopes to publish the lyrics of Native songs of all the tribes for this very purpose, to show how vital a part in African social life is played by the songs and stories of the common people. It is a great mistake to think that the drawing-room songs of a distant land or the Negro spirituals of the American slaves have any meaning whatsoever to our people here. Any following of foreign music to the exclusion of the local product is, I believe, just a fad and a fancy, but of no real importance.

"My general impression of the Northern Rhodesian music we have heard and recorded is one of great potentiality. Your tribes have a deep choral sense; the music is capable of expressing the whole gamut of their experience; it holds them spell-bound in their dancing; and if only they would take their instruments more seriously, it is capable of adding lovely melodies and intricate sound rhythms to the music of the world."

Housing for Non-Europeans

A STRONG PLEA for better housing for the African and Coloured communities in Northern Rhodesia was made in the Legislative Council by the Rev. E. G. Nightingale, a nominated member representing African interests. Conditions, he said, deteriorated since 1946. Four or even six Africans, each paying 10s. a month, were often put into one hut. The Government's contribution towards the accommodation of Coloured persons in Government service had been three five-roomed cottages, one of which accommodated five adults and five children. Another family had for three years been paying £3 a month for the rent of a veranda of an Indian establishment in a trading area.

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S. Rhodesian Tobacco Prospects

Mechanization of the Industry

THAT SOUTHERN RHODESIA should be able to provide the United Kingdom by 1953 with an annual quantity of tobacco equal to one-third of the pre-war imports from the United States has been suggested in the *Financial Times*, whose correspondent wrote:—

"Southern Rhodesian supplies can perhaps be expanded by as much as 30,000,000 lb. in two or three years."

"Despite shortages of labour and certain nitrogenous fertilizers, there seems little question that Southern Rhodesian production can be increased both extensively and quickly. The number of registered growers has doubled since the end of the war and trebled since 1939. Mechanization has been widely adopted. The number of tractors employed on the plantations, for example, has increased from about 50 before the war to approximately 2,000. There is a wide-spread use of tying machines for the leaf, while it is hoped soon to grade the leaf for size, colour, texture, spot, etc., by machine instead of by hand."

In 1947, the Southern Rhodesian tobacco crop totalled 57,000,000 lb. This year, despite the drought in the latter part of the planting season, the crop was 82,000,000 lb. The programme for the 1953 crop is 120,000,000 lb.

Great Britain's Share of Crop

"While Britain will share in the expansion of Rhodesian output, there is little likelihood that her portion will ever exceed two-thirds. Southern Rhodesia is anxious to avoid complete dependence on a few major markets. Already about 80% of the crop is directed by the Government to be set aside for four markets: Great Britain takes 66%, Australia 6.5%, South Africa 5%, and the domestic market 3%. The portion of the crop undesignated is therefore small, and growers would be unwilling to reduce it further in order that Britain's share might be increased."

"This country has bought 52,500,000 lb. of tobacco from the Southern Rhodesian crop this year. Because of poor weather conditions—which can lighten a crop by as much as 12% to 75%—the expected 60,000,000 lb. was not obtained. Next year, if the weather is favourable, Britain's share should be 62 to 63,000,000 lb., and would rise to 88,000,000 in 1951, 74,000,000 in 1952, and 80,000,000 in 1953."

"On the basis of the cost of Southern Rhodesian tobacco and the 40% rise in the price of American leaf following devaluation, an increase in the price of cigarettes seems inevitable. But two factors have to be taken into account. On the one hand, the price of tobacco forms only a small part of the final price of a packet of cigarettes. In a packet of 20 cigs tobacco itself has probably cost between 2d. and 3d. The total cost of the packet is 4d. The difference between that and 6d. represents the tax."

"An increase in the price of the tobacco can therefore make only a small difference to the consumer price of a packet of 20 cigs. The 40% rise in the sterling price of American tobacco would mean a price increase of less than 1d. on each packet."

"The second factor to be taken into consideration is that British manufacturers buy from both America and Southern Rhodesia the top-grade tobacco, thus paying well above the average market price. Should there be any marked consumer demand for an increase in the price of cigarettes, there is scope for the British manufacturers to reduce costs, and thus to maintain the current retail price, by buying a slightly cheaper grade of leaf."

Progress against Erosion

BULAWAYO'S WATER SUPPLY could be quadrupled if sites for new dams revealed by recent surveys were utilized. Giving this opinion recently, Mr. J. Savory, Irrigation Department engineer for Matabeleland, said

the largest of the sites could hold 16 times the amount of water now held at Ncema. He believed that such a scheme was preferable to a large-scale tapping of the Zambezi, via the Gwaai, which would cost at least £16,000,000. Mr. Savory said that Southern Rhodesia was making real progress against soil erosion:

"European farmers were getting well on top of it, and the Africans, while less co-operative, were slowly learning

Afrikaners in S. Rhodesia

European Paramountcy

THE CONGRESS of the Association of Afrikaners in Southern Rhodesia has urged the Government of the Colony to hold a round-table conference to discuss a federation of all Southern African States on the basis of absolute freedom and independence in each State's internal affairs.

The resolution also advocated a co-ordinated or collective defence system for all Southern African States, "with due consideration to intricate complications that may arise in the event of war in Central African States as far north as the Equator."

A policy ensuring paramountcy of the European race and civilization should be pursued, whilst reserving for non-European and Native their rightful place in the constitutional law and economic structure of each federal State, the congress declared.

Immigrants' Ideologies

A uniform immigration policy restricting or forbidding further Asiatic immigration, together with the control of undesirables and immigrants, "with foreign ideologies which may endanger the continuance of white civilization," were urged.

A desire for co-operation between English and Afrikaans-speaking people for the maintenance of white civilization in Africa was affirmed, and the fact that certain people on both sides were disturbing this co-operation was deprecated.

It was decided to ask the Southern Rhodesian Government to consider proclaiming Dingaan's Day (December 16) as a public holiday.

Mr. A. B. Mentz was re-elected chairman of the association of which Mr. D. M. de Kock is vice-chairman. The other members of the committee are Messrs. C. Welman, H. du Toit, J. Kruger, J. van de Merwe, P. Jooste, and Mrs. L. Fourie.

M.V. Dunnottar Castle

THE M.V. DUNNOTTAR CASTLE sailed from London last Saturday for Cape Town via the East Coast, carrying the following first-class passengers for East Africa:—

To Mombasa.—Mr. D. Anderson, Mrs. J. Atkins, Mr. H. P. Barnley, Mr. B. Baron, Mrs. Baron, Mrs. B. M. H. Beattie, Miss J. J. Beattie, Lieut.-Commander J. G. R. Beauchamp, Mrs. A. E. Blessley, Colonel and Mrs. W. S. Brindle, Mrs. R. Brown, Mrs. E. E. Browne, Mrs. J. K. Cairns, Dr. J. H. Campaign, Mrs. S. W. Campaign, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Clarke, Mr. G. Clough, Mrs. B. M. Cooper, Lady Coryndon, Miss H. Coryndon, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. S. Cosh, Mr. and Mrs. G. Cruikshank, Mr. G. S. Cullen, Mrs. L. F. H. Davies, Mrs. K. M. Davy, Miss E. M. Davy, Mrs. D. K. de Las Casas, Commander and Mrs. N. W. Dixon, Mr. M. A. Docherty, Mr. J. T. Dungan, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Evans, Lieut.-Commander and Mrs. E. A. Fielden, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Fitzgerald, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Fry, Mrs. V. E. Gabbett, Mr. C. E. Gedge, Mrs. M. M. Gibson, Miss M. Gromes, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Gunting, Mrs. C. M. Hague, Mrs. H. M. Havranek, Miss M. J. Havranek, Mrs. L. E. Hawkes, Mrs. F. R. Hill, Mr. and Mrs. P. G. Hilton, Miss E. F. Humphreys, Mr. D. J. Humphreys, Mrs. Humphreys, Mrs. W. A. Ker, Mrs. E. Kipling, Miss C. Kipling.

Mr. J. S. Lightbody, Miss F. Little, Mrs. and Miss McAllen, Mrs. E. and Miss McGuinness, Mrs. J. R. McLachlan, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Merritt, Mrs. D. E. Miller, Miss V. E. Miller, Miss S. J. Miller, Mrs. J. F. Miller, Miss A. M. Miller, Mr. J. M. Miller, Miss B. M. Mitchell, Mr. V. I. Murtough, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Nunn, Mrs. Nuttall, Mr. and Mrs. N. Poynton, Mrs. D. J. Philip-Williams, Mr. and Mrs. G. N. Poynton, Mrs. D. J. Ridley, Mr. and Mrs. H. Roberts, Miss V. Ross, Mr. W. D. Russell.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Scanlon, Miss D. J. Selkirk, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Simpson, Mrs. E. E. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Smith, Mr. N. F. Stevens, Lieut.-Colonel H. F. Stoneham, Mrs. P. M. Strivens, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Taylor, Commander A. R. Wait, Colonel and Mrs. R. D. Worrall, Mr. R. C. Wainner, Mr. W. O. Westcott.

To Durban.—Miss I. L. Bastable, Miss J. Briggs, Mrs. M. Cole, Mr. I. Constantinesco, Miss I. E. Dell, Mr. A. Hamerley, Mr. G. Hunter, Miss M. T. Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. P. F. Sewell, Mr. and Mrs. F. Theeman, Mr. and Mrs. P. Twiddy, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Williams.

To Zanzibar.—Dr. (Miss) F. M. L. Sheffield, Mrs. F. M. L. Sheffield, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Squire.

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Between the Senegal in the West and Tanganyika in the East lies the vast belt of tropical Africa which exports over one-and-a-half million tons of vegetable oils and oilseeds a year, and from which comes the bulk of the world's supply of cocoa. To the rapid development of this zone, The United Africa Company has contributed in the past its initiative

resources and pioneering skills. Today its activities include the sale and distribution of every kind of merchandise and equipment, public works contracting and the buying of produce on a wide and ordered scale. To those who would trade with Tropical Africa the Company offers unparalleled experience of the country and its commerce.

East African Estates, Ltd.

Questions at Annual Meeting

THE ONLY SHAREHOLDER apart from members of the board who was present at the 43rd annual general meeting of East African Estates, Ltd., held last Thursday in London, put a number of questions regarding the company's affairs, and abstained from voting on the resolution for the adoption of the report and accounts.

Referring to the revaluation at £120,000 of land in Kenya which had previously stood in the books at £13,838, Mr. J. D. Hillman asked whether outside expert assistance had been received. The chairman, Mr. Harry Clayton, replied that the new valuation was a purely internal measure taken by the board, and that the land would, of course, take some years to sell.

Mr. Hillman then asked whether the policy of the board remained the same as it was before the revaluation.

One of the difficult years through which the company had passed, and recalling that the bank overdraft had been finally paid off only in the previous financial year, the chairman said that if more land could be sold development might be undertaken, and that the board wanted to hasten the sale of plots of land in the Likoni township area, where prospects were now brighter.

Revaluation of Likoni Land

Lieut. Colonel W. K. Tucker, the managing director, added that the 459 acres of Likoni property had been revalued at £175 per acre leasehold. The possibility of speculative building had been discussed several times in the last 10 years, but the problem had been that of the extremely high cost and scarcity of building materials.

For years the company had been pressing its agents on the coast of Kenya to try to form a local company, in which event the board would be ready in principle to sell partly for cash and partly for shares. To that extent the policy was more progressive than it had once been.

Asked to comment on the loss sustained by Evans Brothers (Kenya), Ltd., a subsidiary now to be liquidated, the managing director said that the major cause had been that a very large development programme had coincided with a heavy fall in world market prices. The subsidiary had also had to contend with periodic drought, locust infestation, and other difficulties and misfortunes.

Mr. Hillman then asked if access would be granted to the past accounts of Evans Brothers. The secretary, Mr. G. T. Gordon Stevens, replied that the reports and accounts as filed could be seen at Somerset House, but when Mr. Hillman pressed his point and explained that he meant the actual books of account, the chairman promised that the board would consider the request if made formally in writing.

Criticism of Board's Policy

Commenting on the policy of the board, Mr. Hillman said later: "The company's policy has not been very successful. But for this upsurge or windfall of revaluation, it would have been in a very poor position to-day. There is no active policy to sell the land. Unless you are going to develop, it is better to sell cheaply now rather than wait for a good price some time in the future. If the company is not going to develop, the assets should be sold at the best price obtainable."

Colonel Tucker replied that the company's recent policy had been successful. Though no dividends had been paid, the picture was very much brighter than it had been 40 years ago. Some plots had been sold a few years back for £200 an acre, and offers had been made of £300 and in one case of £400 an acre.

Mr. Hillman suggested that the shareholders had never been made fully aware of the true value of the land, and asked whether the valuation of £25,000 in

the balance-sheet on the subsidiary, Central Coffee (Nairobi) Estates, Ltd., was the true present value.

The chairman having answered that all figures were completely up-to-date values, Mr. Hillman expressed himself as personally interested in acquiring the property, and asked whether the price of £25,000 would be accepted by the board.

Mr. Clayton replied that the board was at all times eager to receive and consider offers, but that he could not commit them at such short notice. The board were, he affirmed, decidedly progressive, and wished without indulging in unnecessary risks to pursue a forward-looking policy. Their views were certainly not far removed from those expressed by Mr. Hillman.

Mr. William Evans and Mr. G. T. Gordon Stevens were both re-elected directors.

Kenya Farmers' Association

THE KENYA FARMERS' ASSOCIATION (CO-OPERATIVE), LTD., incurred a loss of £22,972 in the year ended June 30 last, compared with a loss of £65,334 in the previous year. At last year's annual general meeting members were warned to expect a deficit of £50,000 in the next accounts.

The directors now show the trading account in two sections, one covering business in agencies and farmers' requirements (which the association will continue to transact) and the other relating to lines which are being abandoned. The profit on the first was £26,059, on the second the loss was £28,058. There is also a loss of £9,602 on maize trading account and a provision of £11,705 for bad and doubtful debts. No dividend has been declared on the preference shares, which are cumulative.

Membership at the end of the year under review was 2,899 (2,750). Sales of maize amounted to £674,345.

The issued capital consists of £519,725 in ordinary shares of 20s. each and £341,922 in 5% cumulative preference shares, both of £1. Members' capital tax account stands at £9,314, capital reserve at £36,950, general reserve at £1,831, creditors at £543,107, amounts due to Government at £299,185, and bank overdraft at £601,926. Fixed assets are valued at £240,381, investments at £428,043, floating assets at £508,374, and sundry debtors at £1,154,392.

The auditors refer to a claim for £7,842 against the Kenya Government in respect of 1948-49 distribution of gunny bags, commenting that they have no evidence that this sum has been agreed by the Government.

The directors are Mr. J. Mackay (chairman), Captain L. A. Spiers (vice-chairman), Mr. W. A. C. Bouwer, M.L.A., Mr. A. Dykes, Mr. H. B. Hamilton, Mr. H. S. Smith, Mr. A. W. Symes, and Mr. G. M. Pain and Mr. R. H. O. Loppell are joint managing directors.

The annual general meeting will be held to-day in Kitale.

Mini Mini (Nyasaland) Tea

MINI MINI (NYASALAND) TEA SYNDICATE, LTD., earned a net profit of £27,968 in the year ended June 30 last, compared with £28,569 in the previous year. Taxation absorbs £15,300, but there was excess provision for taxation in previous periods, now no longer required, of £4,030. General reserve receives £7,000, and dividend equalization reserve £3,000. Dividends totalling 30%, less tax, require £4,898, leaving a balance of £4,800 to be carried forward against £2,030 brought in.

The issued capital of £29,688 in shares of £1 each. Capital reserve stands at £7,000, revenue reserves at £34,800, and current liabilities at £23,307. Fixed assets are valued at £35,091, tea plantation nurseries at £937, and current assets at £69,830, including British Government securities at £3,000 (market value, £2,909), tax certificates at £1,800, and £45,003 in cash.

The company has a total area of 624 acres under tea and 395 acres under fuel. Last season's production amounted to 625,871 (614,613) lb. of leaf at an f.o.b. cost of 11.8d. (8.62d.) per lb. The average selling price was 23.32d. (20.17d.) per lb.

The directors are Mr. J. A. Loram (chairman), Mr. G. Brown, and Commander J. G. Arbutnot.

The 26th annual general meeting will be held in London on December 1.

"Two isolated areas of tsetse bush in central Tanganyika, totalling 15 square miles, have had their dense population of *Glossina morsitans* and *Glossina swynnertoni* reduced by 95% and 93% after three trial applications of insecticides from aircraft."—Sir George Sandford.

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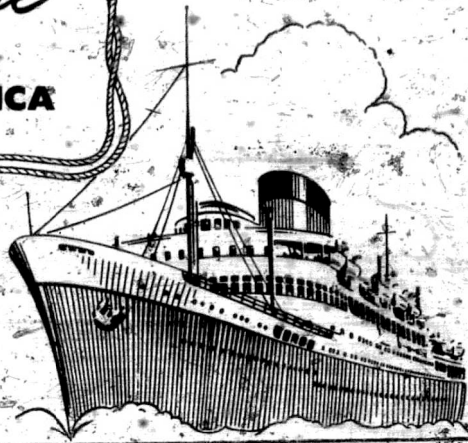
Ascension, St. Helena, Cape Town, Mussel Bay, Port Elizabeth,
 East London, Durban, Lourenco Marques and Beira.

Sailing London.
 Dec. 2

M.V. "Llanstephan Castle"
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Captain Roy Farran

CAPTAIN ROY FARRAN, having flown from Southern Rhodesia to meet the selection committee of the Dudley and Stourbridge Conservative Association with a view to nomination as their candidate for the forthcoming general election, and having sportingly retired in favour of Major F. H. Gerrard Goodhart because he thought him a more experienced rival, did not thereby destroy his own chances of adoption, for Major Goodhart's nomination has now been rejected by a full meeting of the association. Captain Farran's name is on a new short list for consideration.

He recently issued the following statement:—

"I do not, as has been alleged, hold Fascist or anti-Semitic views. On the contrary, I am a firm believer in democratic government, and I hold that Britain and the world cannot hope to recover except by good fellowship between different classes, races, and creeds.

"The outstanding characteristic of the British Commonwealth and Empire which I desire to maintain and strengthen has been its capacity to reconcile people and peoples of widely different origins, faiths, and views. In my judgment those who stir up class, racial or religious strife obstruct the onward march of mankind.

"In Palestine I carried out my orders as a soldier, and had no voice in the making of policy, which was and is the responsibility of the Government. In the light of what has been assumed, I would add that I number members of the Jewish faith among my friends.

"If I am to be considered for a Parliamentary candidature, I hope it will be on the basis of my merits and my real views as a Conservative, and a believer in the Commonwealth and Empire and its spirit of tolerance."

Christmas Mails

SURFACE MAILS for delivery in the Sudan by Christmas should be posted in London not later than November 24, and parcels three days earlier. For the Rhodesias the latest posting date is November 24 for both letters and parcels.

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Questions in Parliament

(Report continued from page 334)

MR. SKINNARD asked what changes had been made in West Africa whereby more African officers would be commissioned; and what steps were being taken to introduce a similar policy in East Africa.

MR. CREECH JONES: "Africans who attain the required standards are now eligible for the grant of King's Commission in the West African land forces. The grant of local commissions to Africans in the East African Forces is being considered."

MR. SKINNARD: "To what extent are commissions being made available to African cadets in the Royal Air Force?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "I should require notice of that question."

MR. DODDS-PARKER asked to what extent a survey had been made of a coastal road between Dar es Salaam and Lindi in Tanganyika Territory; what was the estimated cost; and whether the project had been approved.

MR. CREECH JONES: "A coast road which is possible during eight months of the year already exists. A survey of a higher standard road will be made as soon as staff is available."

Tanganyika and Nyasaland Coal

CAPTAIN F. CROWDER asked what stage had been reached in developing the coal-fields in Tanganyika and Nyasaland; what was the distance to the nearest railway; and what was the distance from there by rail to the nearest port.

MR. CREECH JONES: "The quality and extent of the coal deposits in parts of Tanganyika and in Nyasaland are still under investigation. The Nyasaland and the Tanganyika fields are between 250 and 300 miles from the nearest railway which runs down to the coast at Beira, a distance of some 500 miles."

MR. A. LENOX-BOYD asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer what was the estimate of the amount of dollars earned by the Colonial Empire in 1948; how this amount would be affected by devaluation; and what had been the effect of devaluation on prices of Colonial products sold to the dollar area and within the sterling area, respectively.

MR. D. JAY (Economic Secretary): "About 500 million dollars. I cannot yet say what the effect of devaluation on these earnings will turn out to be. Since September 18 there has been on the whole a slight fall in dollar prices but a rise in sterling prices of those products that are also sold to the dollar area. Movements in prices are continuing, though they cannot all be attributed to devaluation."

In reply to MR. W. FLETCHER, the Minister of Food, MR. STRACHEY said that the internal audit division of the Ministry of Food had no responsibility for the preparation or accuracy of the accounts of the United Africa Company when that company was acting as managing agents for the East African groundnut scheme; this was the duty of the managing agents themselves. The division was responsible only for the audit of the accounts.

Dalgety and Company

MESSRS. DALGETY AND CO. LTD., after providing £530,000 for taxation, earned a net profit of £250,832 for the year ended June 30 last, compared with £246,267 in the previous year. Interest on the preference shares absorbs £13,750, £125,000 is allocated to contingencies reserve, £25,000 to supplementary pensions fund, and dividends totalling 3.1d. per share and a bonus of .6d. per share require £78,375, leaving a balance of £190,682 to be carried forward, against £181,975 brought in.

The issued capital consists of £500,000 in preference shares of £10 each and £1,500,000 in ordinary shares of £1 each, on which 5s. have been paid. Capital reserve stands at £102,890, revenue reserves at £1,860,000, staff funds at £1,107,068, estimated taxation on profits to date at £552,649, debentures at £1,094,456, and current liabilities at £6,589,527. Fixed assets are valued at £1,622,256, investments in subsidiaries at £177,757, trade investments at £14,675, and current assets at £13,463,357, including British and Commonwealth Government securities at £3,447,377 and £2,074,350 in cash.

As representatives of the Kenya Planters' Co-operative Union, the company handled 4,893 tons of coffee out of a total crop of 6,500 tons for the 1948 season, compared with 10,543 tons out of 14,250 tons for 1947. Butter showed a slight increase in production in spite of the drought, but local consumption is rising.

The directors are Mr. D. Abel Smith (chairman), the Hon. I. Leslie McCall (deputy chairman), Sir John H. Davidson, Sir Robert Gordon Gair, Sir George G. Gair, Mr. A. K. Graham, Mr. Basil Sanderson, and Lord Tweedsmuir. The general manager is Mr. G. S. Hunter and the superintendent in East Africa Mr. E. R. S. Wollen.

The 65th annual general meeting will be held in London on December 1.

Of Commercial Concern

Rhodesia's Tobacco Crop

Between January 1 and August 31 this year 355,935 bales of cotton were booked from stations and ports in Uganda. Some £2,000,000 was collected in cotton tax. It is estimated that 707,533 acres have been planted to cotton in the territory up to the end of August, compared with 767,826 acres in the same period of 1948.

Traffic movements at Eastleigh Aerodrome, near Nairobi, taking landings and ascents separately, numbered 723 in September. Kisumu registered 376. Eastleigh is the largest and busiest of the 90 airports and landing-grounds in East Africa.

Brooke Bond and Co., Ltd., who have extensive tea estates in Kenya, announce a final dividend of 124% (the same), making a total of 224% for the year ended June 30. Consolidated net profit, after tax, is £705,320, compared with £825,792 last year.

Import into the United Kingdom of lemons, limes, mandarins, Clementines, pineapples, tangerines, mangoes and pomegranates from British Colonies and Dependencies has been authorized under the existing block licensing arrangements.

Twentisch Overseas Trading Co., Ltd., of Amsterdam, a company with extensive trading interests in East Africa, earned a profit of 1,053,000 guilders in 1948, against 976,000 guilders in 1947. The dividend is unchanged at 9%.

The chief Rhodesian investment of Cables Investment Trust, Ltd., Sir Edward Wilshaw said a few days ago, is in Rhodesia Breweries, Ltd. The trust has South and Central African holdings worth about £650,000.

Hotel Site

Tenders for a 99-year lease of a two-acre hotel site in Fort Jameson have been invited by the Northern Rhodesian Government. Buildings to a minimum value of £10,000 must be erected within two years.

Farmers in the Umali region of Southern Rhodesia have urged the Government to retain control of the local dehydration factory, and not hand it over to private enterprise or a co-operative society.

Already about 300 new growers of tobacco in Southern Rhodesia next season have been registered. This year's crop of about 81,000,000 lb. realized almost £11,000,000.

The Uganda Cotton Lint Marketing Board has approved a bulk sale of the 1949-50 cotton crop jointly to the United Kingdom and the Government of India.

E. W. Tarry and Co., engineers and merchants with branches in Rhodesia, announce a net profit of £78,309 (£61,035) for the year ended March 31, 1949.

Consolidated Sisal Estates of East Africa, Ltd., produced 440 tons of sisal and tow in October, making 2,873 tons for seven months.

For offences against the Cotton Ordinance a ginning company in Uganda has been fined £50 and had 43 bales of cotton confiscated.

The annual conference of licensed passion fruit growers in Kenya will be held at the Sotik Club on December 8.

Steel Brothers (Tanganyika Forests), Ltd., has been registered in Dar es Salaam with a nominal capital of £250,000.

Exports of groundnuts from the Sudan to the United Kingdom this year have amounted so far to 10,000 tons.

Kitanda Sisal Estates, Ltd. with a nominal capital of £250,000, is a new registration in Tanganyika.

A new cotton spinning and cotton hosiery factory is to be built in the Belgian Congo.

Buret Tea Co., Ltd., has declared an interim dividend of 74% (the same).

Wankie Deals with S. Rhodesia

Sale of Coal Areas for £350,000

WANKIE-COALBURY CO., LTD., have issued a statement to stockholders in the following terms:

Some months ago your board was requested by the Government of Southern Rhodesia to surrender voluntarily to it the major portion of the company's coal areas.

After negotiations extending over the last three months, an arrangement has been reached under which the company shall retain an area containing 350,000,000 tons of extractable coal, which will give the company a life of 100 years from January 1, 1950, based on an annual production of 3,500,000 tons per annum.

The extensions to the plant and the underground mechanization which are at present in hand will enable the collieries to increase their output to that figure. Production for this year ending August 31, 1949, was 1,904,075 tons.

Compensation Payment

The remainder of the company's coal areas, which according to geological survey have in the past been estimated to contain 2,340,000,000 tons of coal (although this has never been actually proved), is to be taken over by the Southern Rhodesian Government, which will pay the company £350,000 as compensation, payable as to £150,000 on July 1, 1950, and the remaining £200,000 by annual instalments of £100,000 each bearing interest at the rate of 34% per annum from July 1, 1950.

It is also a term of the arrangement that the company is to have five years in which to delimit the area to be retained by it.

This arrangement will not preclude the company from applying for and being granted, on terms to be arranged, additional coal locations in the area taken

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over by the Government if it should during the continuance of the 100 years be found that the company is in a position to produce and sell larger quantities of coal than the 3,500,000 tons per annum provided under this arrangement.

The board has approved these proposals in principle and recommends their acceptance. A resolution of approval will be submitted to the annual general meeting next month.

Dividends

RHOKANA CORPORATION, LTD. earned a net profit of £5,425,175 for the year ended June 30 last, compared with £4,668,094 in the previous year. The directors recommend a final dividend of 75%, making 100% for the year, less tax. The annual general meeting will be held on December 13.

RHODESIAN ANGLO-AMERICAN, LTD. has declared a final dividend of 16½%, making a total distribution of 22½% (the same) for the year ended June 30. Profit, before deducting taxation and directors' additional remuneration, is approximately £1,456,995 (£1,391,441).

TATI GOLDFIELDS, LTD. earned a net profit of £3,411 for the year ended April 30 last, compared with £5,667 in the previous year. The dividend is 2% (the same).

Tanganika Mineral Exports

MINERAL EXPORTS FROM TANGANYIKA in the eight months to August 31 last were valued at £1,473,644, compared with £910,475 in the corresponding period of the previous year. Production in August was £134,618, against £221,368.

Lupa Exploration

LUPA EXPLORATION SYNDICATE incurred a loss of £942 in 1948, compared with a loss of £915 in the previous year. The accumulated debit balance is now £5,272. The annual general meeting will be held in London on December 2.

Rise in Zinc

A FURTHER RISE in the price of good ordinary brand zinc from £85 10s. to £87 10s. per ton delivered is notified by the Ministry of Supply.

Kentan Gold Areas Report Output and Ore Reserves Higher

DEVALUATION, with its consequence of a higher price for gold, has inevitably benefited Kentan Gold Areas, Ltd.; but its effect is, of course, not reflected in the report and accounts issued on Tuesday for the year ended June 30 last.

That document, however, shows that the proceeds of gold from the Geita properties (in which Kentan holds a 90% interest) rose to £258,916, against £151,506 in the previous year, while operating expenditure rose only from £219,926 to £242,945. The tonnage milled increased from 120,214 to 153,400, the daily average advancing from 329 to 420 tons, though recovery fell from 82.21% to 76.04% owing to trouble with the treatment plant.

Ore reserves were increased by 305,559 tons to 1,612,684 long tons averaging 3.9 dwt.

The loss for the year was £993, and the accumulated debit balance of the Kentan Company is now £773,293. The consolidated loss for the company and its subsidiaries during the year was £127,156.

The issued capital of the group is £1,250,000 in shares of 10s. each, and the net accumulated losses to date appear in the balance sheet at £1,132,831. Debentures and deferred liabilities total £781,569, interests of outside shareholders represent £13,707, and current liabilities amount to £43,167. Fixed assets are valued at £822,859 and current assets at £225,688, including £3,690 in cash, and shares in Uruwira Minerals, Ltd., which cost £45,422 and had a market value in June of £22,344. The directors are Earl Grey (chairman), Sir Ulick Alexander, Mr. Maurice Hely-Hutchinson, Mr. G. F. Webster, and Mr. G. C. Hutchinson (managing director).

The annual general meeting will be held in London on December 7.

Company Progress Reports

Kagera.—141 tons of tin concentrates (including 6 tons from tributaries) were produced in October.

Thistle-Etna.—1,650 oz. gold were recovered in the quarter ended September 30 from 15,990 tons of ore crushed.

Motaps.—55,900 tons of ore were treated in the quarter ended September 30 for 6,857 oz. gold and a working profit of £26,008. Development consisted of 3,202 ft., of which 910 ft. averaged 2.9 dwts over 154 ft.

London & Rhodesia.—At Vubachikwe in October a working profit of £1,120 was earned from the treatment of 2,900 tons of ore. Main shaft: No. 7 level, No. 1 N. winze 13 ft., 6.1 dwt. over 18 in. Main drive 5' 12 ft., 4.8 dwt. over 72 in.


Coronation Group.—In October at the Tebekwe mine 8,200 tons of ore were treated for a working profit of £4,558; at the Muriel mine 1,010 tons for £3,004; at the Arasturus mine, 2,200 tons for £846. Reduced tonnages were due to shortage of Native labour.

Bushick.—A working profit of £5,655 was earned in the September quarter from the milling of 37,300 tons of ore for 4,364 oz. gold. Total development amounted to 1,408 ft., of which 500 ft. were sampled; 470 ft. were payable, averaging 3.2 dwt. over 61 in.

Tanganika Diamond and Gold.—At Alamasi in the September quarter 30,616 loads were treated for the recovery of 5,346 carats, equal to 17.46 carats per 100 loads. Specified stones included those of 49.23, 42.03, 26.85, 14.49, 13.87, 13.48, and 12.86 carats. Estimated revenue, less lease royalties and realization charges, was £28,600; working costs £13,400.

South and Central African.—Treatment of ore was started at the Mara mine, Tanganyika, with 25 to 30 tons of ore a day from surface workings on the Kumalezo, Smelt House, and Mohrama sections, which will keep the mill supplied until the reopening of the mine proper through Mara and China shafts. No work has been done on the Oupur mine, which, if satisfactory arrangements can be made, will be leased on tribute.

Globe & Phoenix.—3,139 oz. gold were recovered in October from the treatment of 6,100 tons of ore. The working profit was £22,672. Phoenix mine: 2nd level raised 37 ft., 2 dwt., 31 ft., 4 dwt. Driven 17 ft., 24 dwt., 48 ft., 1 dwt. 10th level raised 13 ft., trace. 18th level driven 21 ft., 2 dwt., 40 ft., 9 dwt. raised 31 ft., 10 dwt. 19th level driven 30 ft., 1 dwt. raised 14 ft., 13 dwt.; 25th level driven 32 ft., trace; 73 ft., 6 dwt. Globe mine: 5th level raised 42 ft., 14 dwt., 7th level driven 16 ft., 1 dwt. Raised 16 ft., 1 dwt. 8th level raised 32 ft., trace.



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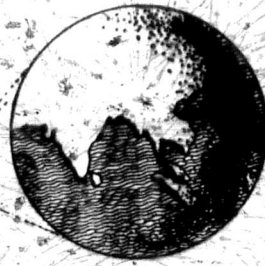
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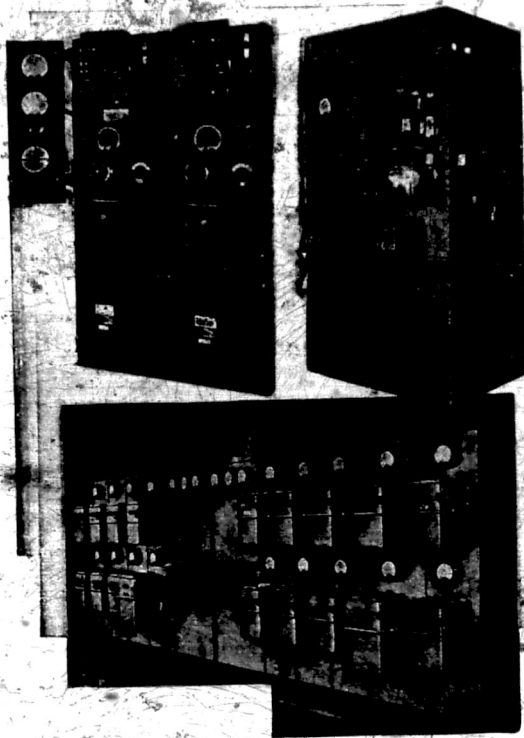
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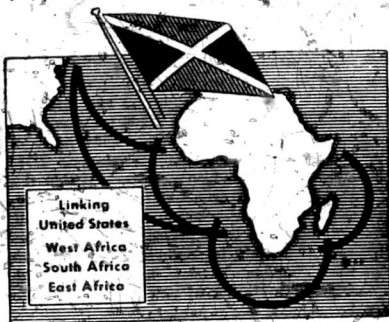
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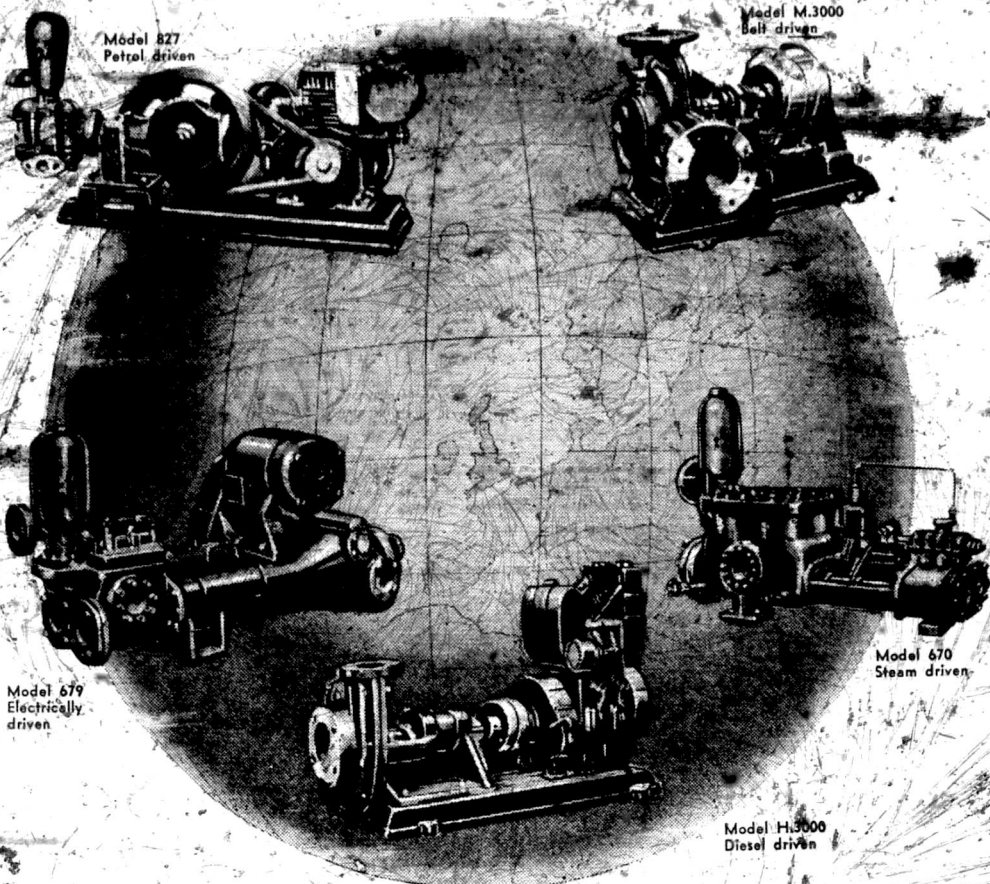
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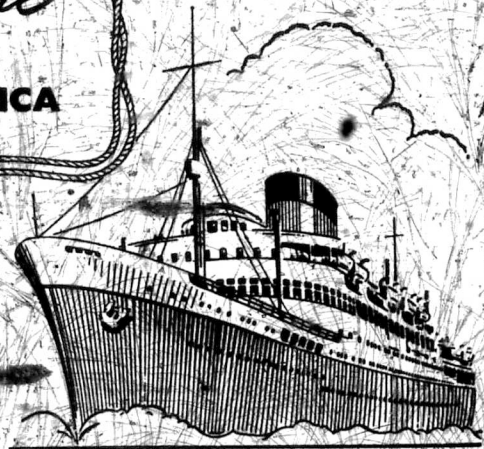
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MATTERS OF MOMENT

SIR LESLIE PLUMMER, chairman of the Overseas Food Corporation, was the real target of the Opposition in the groundnut debate in the House of Commons on Monday, though they also tried to persuade the Government to appoint a small committee of independent experts to investigate the present position and future prospects of the scheme in East Africa. The Minister of Food, who opened for the Government, was for once modest, moderate, and conciliatory, exuding an air of deep concern and high responsibility which was at strange variance with his past attitude, but in order to avoid facing the real issues before the House he deliberately wasted three-quarters of his time in covering old ground which it was quite unnecessary for him to traverse again. He was the skilled politician with plenty to hide, who, having refused to be candid throughout the sorry history of the groundnut scheme, had no intention of putting his cards on the table.

His determination was to get through his allotted hour with gravity and a semblance of frankness which would reveal nothing of

importance, and, in particular, without accepting his constitutional responsibility as Minister, without submitting to the demand for the displacement of his friend, Sir Leslie Plummer, and without explaining the grounds on which he had terminated the appointment of Mr. A. J. Wakefield as a member of the board of the Overseas Food Corporation. It was a consummate performance judged by technical standards alone; but it was highly irresponsible and unsatisfactory, for it withheld information which should have been given, and it was inaccurate in some matters which the Opposition allowed to pass unnoticed.

The truth is that the result of the debate was a foregone conclusion, and that it had, and was intended to have, no sort of relation to the damning revelations of misdirection and mismanagement which have been made by the auditors, responsible newspapers, and by members of Parliament. The case of the critics, however good, was to be treated as irrelevant, and there was to be no question of Parliament considering as a Council of State the defects and urgent

needs of the greatest single agricultural enterprise anywhere in the Empire, one in which the British taxpayer has already sunk thirty million pounds and will have to spend another twenty millions, double the expenditure planned—for one-fifth of the acreage on which the calculations have been based. On the very eve of the debate Mr. Strachey ejected two of the members of the Board of the corporation as scapegoats, and then, as a manoeuvre to defeat the demand for the dismissal of the chairman which was certain to be made, he announced that the reconstituted board enjoyed the full confidence of His Majesty's Government—which is assuredly not in possession of all the essential information available, and ought in any event to have shown Parliament the courtesy of awaiting whatever exposures might be made before announcing its decision. It had prejudged the issue for party reasons, but it was not clever to announce that prejudgment prematurely. Moreover, Mr. Strachey's speech contained nothing which could not have been said equally well by his deputy, Miss Edith Summerskill, so that he might have replied at the end of the debate. That unwelcome duty he ungallantly left to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, whom he has been so anxious to keep out of groundnut affairs—until at this time of danger to his own political position he found it useful to invoke his support.

Mr. Strachey pretended to be unaware of the heavy burden of blame resting upon him, and upon the chairman of the corporation. He steadfastly refused to face the argument that the constitutional, actual, and moral responsibility rests first upon the Minister and then upon Sir Leslie Plummer, and that the military analogy which he himself had invoked should have produced their disappearance, whether accompanied by that of other people or not. But he was happy in the knowledge that his own resignation would not be demanded by the Prime Minister for the entirely extraneous reason that it would split the Cabinet and the party, since Mr. Strachey is in close alliance with the Bevan-Shinwell-Dalton group of extremists with whom Mr. Atlee dare not quarrel. So the Minister of Food bluffed his way out of a predicament of his own making which in healthier political times would have ended his ministerial career. But nobody who heard his speech or reads it in *Hansard* and knows something of the real facts will hold him guiltless or doubt that he should have paid the penalty of his failure. He has been saved by political expediency alone. Equity has had no part in the matter.

Mr. Oliver Stanley, who put his ease with restraint and gentle humour, disdained the opportunity to score party points. He was the speech of a man who wishes the groundnut scheme well, and wants to provide it with the best chance of success, irrespective of party ties.

Recognizing that nothing but dynamite would remove the Minister, he concentrated on exposing the failures of Sir Leslie Plummer, as did subsequent speakers. Parliament it was clear, does not share the Minister's confidence in his close personal friend of many years' standing. Many questions germane to the general issue, and especially to that of the chairman's responsibility, were left unanswered or only partially answered; and that will further dishearten the men at work on the scheme in Tanganyika—to whose good work many tributes were paid. They know that the chairman has been assiduous in pressing the Minister's policy of speed at any cost, and that those who have sounded wise words of warning have paid for their temerity with loss of office. The Secretary of State for the Colonies did his best in a hopeless cause, Mr. Lennox-Boyd held the House with an able and pungent recapitulation—and the public is left thoroughly disturbed and dissatisfied. Now it remains for Mr. Wakefield to publish his factual review of the project since it came under the Overseas Food Corporation, and then, we hope, for a more responsible debate in the House of Lords. The obstinacy of Mr. Strachey and the Government will have done nothing to restore confidence, which cannot be re-established by driving obedient members of the ruling party into the right lobby. They saved Mr. Strachey's skin, but not his reputation.

TWO MONTHS AGO it was suggested in EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA that each of the European elected members in the Legislative Council of Kenya should state publicly whether he did or did not support the Electors' Union of the Colony in its demand that His Majesty's Government should give "an unequivocal statement that European settlement is a permanency in Kenya, and that the maintenance of British European leadership is paramount." The statement in which those words occurred appeared in full in our issue of September 22, a leading article in which the matter was examined at some length, and reached the conclusions that the phraseology was clumsy and unfortunate; that no Cabinet in this country could be expected to give such an assurance; that the desired statement,

even if given, would be entirely valueless unless the quality of white settlement and its leadership were such as to ensure permanency, and that racial harmony would be disturbed by the manner in which the issue had been raised by the Electors' Union.

not done throws further light on the sad state of affairs in a Colony which requires the best possible leadership and the maximum of co-operation in the prosecution of wise policies.

Since so much emphasis has been laid on the cordial understanding subsisting between the European elected members and the Electors' Union, it will come as a shock to everyone to learn from a

Strange Action of Electors' Union.

joint statement issued in Nairobi by the European Elected Members' Organization and the Electors' Union that the document entitled "Kenya Plan" was not presented to the elected members as a body, nor at that time (August last) did the Electors' Union feel that there was any obligation to do so. Therefore the elected members cannot be held responsible for any views expressed therein. The European elected members wish to emphasize that they consider that the progress of Kenya depends largely upon racial tolerance and harmony under British leadership. Whilst "Kenya Plan" cannot be regarded as an authoritative statement of the policy of the elected members, they agree that many of the suggestions in it will form a basis for future policies on different aspects on Kenya's problems.

"Kenya Plan" does not impress us, mainly because it brings too many difficult but fundamental issues and offers so little practical leadership. Even this joint statement of the Elected Members' Organization and the Electors' Union, itself confirms that criticism in some degree.

Unfortunate Oversight.

For the elected members will do no more than agree that many of the suggestions in the plan will form a basis for future policies. That means, in plain English, that the plan is no plan, but a plan for a plan. It is most unfortunate that the Union did not feel that there was an obligation to submit its conclusions to the elected members; for they would presumably have said in private at the right time what they have now been obliged to say in public. But it is good news for Kenya that the European elected members are not involved in an unconvincing, but much publicized piece of work which has already aroused among Africans and Indians suspicions which could so easily have been avoided.

It was as recently as August—when "Kenya Plan" was in the hands of the printers—that the Elected Members' Organization and the Electors' Union announced

Plan Withheld From Kenya's Leaders.

measures for better liaison, but it had been generally and naturally assumed that they had kept close and constant touch with one another. It is astonishing to be told now that a document which purports to offer Kenya a plan for ordered political progress, a document which had been in course of preparation for some three years, was not even submitted to the elected members. (We should have assumed that any body claiming to speak for the European community of that country would have refrained from publishing major proposals until it had taken the elementary precaution of discussing them with the eleven non-officials who have been elected to represent European opinion, not merely in the Legislative Council but on all other appropriate occasions. Courtesy, common sense and prudence should have ensured disclosure of the draft to all the European elected members before publication and the related admission that that was

It is to be hoped that the elected members will lose no time in examining a document which so many people will unfortunately regard as the best statement of policy that the European community of the

Suspicious Aroused.

country can produce. It is very far from that, we are convinced, and the need now is for something better to supply it promptly. Our prediction in September that the ill-adviced action of the Electors' Union would foster racial disharmony has already been fulfilled, as the statements in this issue by Mr. Mathu, the African leader in the Legislative Council, and the Indian Association prove. Though white settlement is assuredly the cement of Kenya, it will prevail and flourish only if the community as a whole continues to recognize it to be essential to the general good. We repeat that some scores of thousands of Europeans, or even hundreds of thousands for that matter, could not maintain themselves permanently in a country of five million Africans (who will have become ten millions within about twenty-five years) except by the trust, good will, and active co-operation of their African fellow-citizens, and that any policy which impedes the development of racial harmony is therefore inimical to (white settlement).

Notes By The Way

Counter-Stroke

MR. A. J. WAKEFIELD'S affective counter-stroke to Mr. Stacey's eye-of-behove manoeuvre in dismissing him and his colleague Mr. Rosa from the board of the Overseas Food Corporation deprived the Minister of Food of the advantage, on which he had evidently calculated, of being able to put his side of the case to the country in the newspapers on Saturday evening, Sunday, and Monday morning without simultaneous presentation of the other parts of the story. By promptly publishing his letter to the Minister, Mr. Wakefield performed a real service to the nation in disclosing facts which it was important for Parliament and the country to know before Monday's debate. He has a long record of candour in the public service, and those who know him well will not be surprised to learn that he rejected the opportunity of resigning with compensation which might not have been ungenerous if he had been willing to accept silently the role of scapegoat for which he had been cast by a politically powerful Minister—but preferred to force the Minister to dismiss him.

Facing Facts

IN TANGANYIKA TERRITORY, where he was the youngest Director of Agriculture and the youngest official member of the Legislature, and afterwards in the West Indies, he told the truth as he saw it to officials and non-officials alike, and insisted on shaping the policy for which he was responsible in the light of the facts. If that brought him many admirers, it inevitably caused him to make some enemies, especially among careerists and the complacent who wanted no trouble (in either sense of the word). Those who know something of the inner history of the groundnut scheme have no doubt that his determination to face unpleasant facts and recommend politically unpalatable decisions made him unpopular in some quarters, and his letter to the Minister shows that he did not refrain from the risk of taking his stand against the chairman of the Overseas Food Corporation on major matters.

Revelations to Come

"WAKERS," upon whom there have been many most unfair endeavours to fasten responsibility for decisions and actions which the Government itself has authorized and ratified, is certainly one who would welcome the closest examination by independent investigators. Though a visionary and idealist, he is also a realist, and it will be most surprising if his *aide memoire*, mentioned in his letter, does not prove that his view has been far more balanced than that of, say, the Minister of Food, who studiously avoided reference to it in the debate. The document, prepared for the confidential consideration of colleagues, can scarcely be published in its original form, but will certainly be issued to the Press with more than the deletions of a personal character which must be made in fairness to individuals who cannot defend themselves or in deference to the laws of life.

Good Work

MR. ANTHONY HALE, senior press officer at the Colonial Office, is so reticent that even his close colleagues had no prior knowledge of his marriage last week to Miss Frances Bernadette Farley. All they know was that he would be taking short leave. A.F.C. as he is known to many London newspaper men, spent a short time in Kenya in 1945, before the last war had a time to be pressed in South Africa, joined the Press Association on his return to London, and went to the

Colonial Office on the formation of the Press Association, the good reputation of which is attributable primarily to his good work and that of his colleague, Mr. D. F. Mackenzie. Now that Colonial affairs receive so much more attention in British newspapers, Mr. Hale and Mr. Mackenzie receive an extremely wide range of inquiries, and judging by the experience of the writer of this note, they are eager and prompt to provide factual information or, when it cannot be given, to explain why. They are not to be numbered among the P.F.O.s who conceive their duty to be that of refusing the facts when inconvenient or of procuring personal publicity for a Minister.

O.M.T. Expansion

COMMANDER F. T. HARE, who has left for Nairobi on another visit of about three months to East and Central Africa in connection with the subsidiaries in Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, Southern Rhodesia, and Nyasaland of the Overseas Motor Transport Co., Ltd., of which he is chairman and managing director, had the satisfaction just before his departure of concluding negotiations for the acquisition of Gibbs' Auto Tours Ltd., Nairobi, which has developed wide interests in the tourist business and in the representation of air transport enterprises.

Lord Aberconway

LORD ABERCONWAY, who has business interests in Rhodesia through the great John Brown group of steel companies, of which he is the very active chairman, has for 19 years held the office of president of the Royal Horticultural Society, and in that capacity has done more than any of his predecessors to encourage the owners of beautiful gardens to open them to the public from time to time, either free or on payment of a small charge to be devoted to a chosen charity. Now he has decided to bequeath to the National Trust some of his own famous gardens at Brodnant in Denbighshire, which are especially well known for their rhododendrons. During his 74 years in the House of Commons Lord Aberconway was Parliamentary private secretary to Mr. Lloyd George while he was Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Aspatron

SISAL MAY FAIRLY CLAIM some of the credit for the aspatron, the transportable atomic pile, no larger than a household dust bin, which has been invented at the laboratories of the A.S.P. Chemical Company by Mr. Robert Barker, and has now been disclosed to the scientific world. Major Conrad Walsh, the chairman of the company, who has been connected with the East African sisal industry for 30 years, and Sir John Ramsden, who has also had extensive East African interests for a long period, established the laboratories for the sole purpose of research on sisal. When many useful discoveries had been made by the scientists on their staff, they turned their attention to groundnuts and other tropical products, with most promising results in some cases. The aspatron, a by-product of this work, is designed to produce short life radioactive isotopes for use in medical, industrial, and other branches of research, and the commercial prototype, now produced, has aroused great interest in scientific circles. If Major Walsh and his partner had not devoted their interest to the sisal industry, their investigations into unknown aspects of the sisal plant and its products, research into nuclear energy would not have been started at Sir John Ramsden's home in Gerrard's Cross, Buckinghamshire.

Government Refuse Groundnut Inquiry

Opposition Demand Dismissal of Sir Leslie Plummer

PROMPT INQUIRY into the present position and future prospects of the East African-groundnut scheme by a small body of independent experts was refused by the Government in the House of Commons on Monday, when repeated requests for the dismissal of Sir Leslie Plummer, chairman of the Overseas Food Corporation, were likewise resisted.

In the course of a long retrospect of the difficulty of keeping proper accounts and store records in Tanganyika, Mr. Strachey said emphatically that he did not blame the United Africa Company, and that the main accounting difficulties to which the auditors had called attention arose in the books of contracting firms, not in those of the corporation itself.

"Now I come to the specific responsibility of the corporation. I have shown how these accounting difficulties arose and what they are. The most important question is undoubtedly: Are they being fully and satisfactorily overcome? It is very largely a question of the provision of sufficiently skilled man-power, and the corporation is making the most strenuous efforts to recruit accountants at the most rapid pace possible. It has on the job now 56 as compared with 18 when it took over. It is not an easy business to recruit the right men quickly enough.

"The House will want to know whether I am absolutely satisfied that the corporation during the seven months which have elapsed since the end of the period covered by this report is making enough headway to ensure that all the accounting difficulties will be overcome.

Sir Eric Coates and Mr. J. N. Rosa

"I must say that I have reached, with the concurrence of my advisers, the serious conclusion that we were not fully satisfied on that point, and it was for that reason that I had with great regret to write to Mr. John Rosa, the member of the board of the corporation responsible for finance, declaring his office vacant.

"It was with great satisfaction that I was able to announce the appointment of Sir Eric Coates to that position. He has held a number of extremely distinguished positions in India. He was directly responsible for the financial arrangements in India during the war for supplies, munitions, and production, and became later the financial member of the Governor-General's Council. He has been chief financial adviser to the United Kingdom High Commissioner in Germany, and played a leading part in the devaluation of German currency. I can think of no appointment which would give more assurance that the finances of the corporation would be in absolutely competent hands.

"When the corporation took over in East Africa on April 1, 1948, they inherited 7,500 acres of land under crops from the managing agency, and a programme for 1949 under which it was proposed to clear 82,000 acres. The corporation decided that that was too ambitious a programme and wrote it down to 50,000 acres.

MR. OLIVER STANLEY: "Which?"

MR. STRACHEY: "About this time last year. If the right gentleman is making the point that they did not write the programme down immediately they got into possession, he is correct, but when they had been operating for some months they came to the conclusion that the programme was too ambitious and wrote it down to 50,000 acres, and they were able to clear and plant almost exactly that figure—some 49,000 acres.

"For next year it seems clear the corporation will be able to clear 100,000 acres. The remaining clearance at Kongwa, nearly 50,000 acres, was nearly completed last week, but all of that will not be plantable. Clearance of 20,000 acres at Urambo and 2,000 acres in the Southern Province are both well advanced.

"By the new chain method of clearance they have brought down the cost of clearance per acre from the high figure of £30 to approximately £14 in under a year's working. It is most important to bring the costs lower than that, but it does show progress.

"The 1949 crop at Kongwa was almost ruined by the drought which struck most of East Africa, causing a most serious famine in Nyasaland. Last year's drought has caused the corporation to decide to limit their development at Kongwa to the present acreage of 100,000, of which 82,000 will shortly be under crops. The balance will be for grazing, roads, camps and villages. I think that only seven years' experience at

Kongwa will show the real suitability of the groundnut groundnuts, sunflowers, other crops.

"The main development will take place at Urambo and in the Southern Province. The agriculturists consider it is well worth while going up to 100,000 acres at Urambo.

"I should like to deal with trial plots and pilot schemes. No one who reads the scientific section of the report, pages 98 to 152, can possibly sustain the impression that this side of the work has been neglected. The crops planted for trial purposes during the last three years were sorghum, millet, soya beans, maize, sunflowers, castor seed, linseed, cotton, Niger oil, sesame, peas, beans, green maize, buckwheat, and sweet potatoes. Many of these crops have given good results, in the Southern Province especially.

Diseases and Pests

"There will be diseases and pests. For example, rosette disease is present in almost all areas where groundnuts are grown in Africa. If we are not willing to face this fact we had better close down any such development scheme at once, and allow the bush to repossess the cleared areas, roads, villages, townships, railways, and ports which we have built.

"The Opposition propose an inquiry. Is it to be an inquiry into what has happened or what we propose to do? The facts of the past are given fully in the report we are discussing. I shall now give the essential facts and figures of the programme which the management in East Africa has proposed and which His Majesty's Government have adopted.

"We believe in public enterprise, and we appointed a public corporation to do this job because we knew it was too big and too difficult to be tackled in any other way. Having appointed that corporation, we think it must get on with that job within the framework of policy laid down from time to time by the Government. I can see no way of making more certain that public enterprise will be held bound and unwilling to face and take risks than to appoint an inquiry the minute it encounters difficulties.

"An inquiry must have a most unsettling effect on the men who are doing the job, and doing it very well indeed on the spot. It must interfere grievously with the day-to-day working in East Africa. If there is any desire to look further, for example into the accounts—

MR. STANLEY: "Perhaps the right hon. gentleman would read the terms of our amendment."

MR. STRACHEY: "It says: 'In view of the most disquieting facts disclosed, regards as essential and urgent a full inquiry into the present situation and the future prospects of the corporation's work in East Africa.' I should have thought that the words 'present situation' involved inquiry into the record of the corporation.

No Case for Inquiry

"If there is a desire to look further into the accounts, the Public Accounts Committee has full competence to examine them and send for persons and papers. I can see no case for setting up a new *ad hoc* inquiry when Parliament already possesses all the instruments and machinery which it may desire to use.

"The right hon. gentleman is not to hamper the corporation with inquiries, but to examine the board and see whether we have absolute confidence that it is the best possible instrument to do the job. If we conclude that it is not, then we must make changes, however hard they may be on individuals. We have done that; we have made changes which in our considered view were necessary to strengthen the board. Having done that, we have no intention of hamstringing and hampering it, as reconstituted, with further inquiries or commissions.

"In a scheme of this kind we have either to go on with it, chuck it, and we have decided to go on with it.

"The programme of development which we have adopted was evolved by the management in East Africa. That management is led to-day by Professor Phillips on the agricultural side, and Mr. Raby on the engineering side. These two gentlemen and their workers enjoy the utmost confidence of the Government. Professor Phillips is one of the most eminent authorities on tropical agriculture, not only in theory but in practice, and Mr. Raby, an Englishman, comes straight from building the new steel mills in South Africa and is shown great powers of engineering ability and organization.

"The management in East Africa—Professor Phillips, Mr. Raby, and on the financial side, Mr. Troughton—elaborated the best possible programme for carrying on the scheme in present circumstances. They recommended it to the board, which considered it in great detail and recommended, through me, to the Government that it should be adopted. The Government have adopted it, and it has now been put into operation.

Clearance for the crop of 1951 will begin in a few weeks and be completed this time next year. There is to be no further clearance at Kongwa; 70,000 acres will be cleared at Urambo, and 20,000 acres in the Southern Province, where for next year's harvest we propose to clear 2,000 acres. Is not that so about the pilot-scheme which we are asked to undertake? For the harvest of 1951 we propose to plant 20,000 acres, which is not a very big target either. 100,000 acres for the 1952 harvest, and 150,000 acres in the following year. That will take us to the harvest of 1954, and will see 600,000 acres cleared.

On the calculations worked out by the management examined first by the board and then by my department this is a programme which can be carried through to the harvest of 1954 within the existing financial resources of the corporation.

"Will the 600,000 acres cleared prove an adequate asset? Shall we grow oil seeds and other crops profitably?" If we mean by 'profitably' that the revenues on a 600,000-acre scheme in 1954 will more than balance the outgoings on current account, it must depend on the price of oil seeds at that time. On the present price there is a very fair prospect indeed that 600,000 acres would more than pay its way on current account.

Revenue and Expenditure

What prospect is there that the excess of revenue over expenditure on current account on 600,000 acres can pay a satisfactory return on the capital invested, which is calculated to be £45 to £50 million? Let me say perfectly frankly that on a 600,000-acre scheme it is impossible to get a commercially attractive return on that amount of capital. The estimates contained in the original Wakefield-Martin-Ross report on costs have proved to be too far out for that to be possible.

"Am I implying that we have finally decided to stop with a scheme of 600,000 acres in 1954? It would be quite wrong if any decision of that sort were taken. The scheme must work to a plan, but I should be the last to say that the plan must not be revised either upwards or downwards. As 1954 approaches it will be necessary to review the position in the light of the existing difficulties and the urgency of our needs for oils and fats, as well as the world's needs.

"A great private corporation in these circumstances would undertake an early capital reconstruction. Many of our greatest private corporations have undergone the process of capital reconstruction. It would write down the initial capital used so that the current operations were not asked to bear capital charges which could not possibly be sustained. Between now and 1954 it will be necessary in my judgment to prepare an analogous scheme, requiring legislation, of course, for the Overseas Food Corporation, but I am quite sure that several more years' experience are needed of the scheme before we do that.

Private Enterprise

"I have spoken about railway development in the south. One piece of news which I would like to give to the House is in respect to the railway there, which has only been open for four weeks. I said that I anticipated and hoped when these communications—railway, port, and pipeline—were working that private profit-making enterprises would come into the area. That railway has been open only four weeks, and already Messrs. Steel Bros., an important timber firm, has taken out a concession on the Rondo Plateau. They have formed a company to work the timber there.

"Everybody has always known that the timber was there, but it has been inaccessible until now. Steel Bros. have only to build a short road from the area of their concessions down to the railway and they will be able to ship the timber down the rail, out of the temporary port on the Lindi Creek which the Overseas Food Corporation have bought and paid for. I believe that the enterprise of Steel Bros. will be only the first of a long series of enterprises which will further round the port and the new communications.

"I turn to the strengthening of the board of the Corporation. I have already spoken of the appointment of Sir Eric Coates. I had to recommend to the Prime Minister that I should take further measures. I have appointed a most experienced administrator, Sir Donald Perrott, to be deputy chairman. He carried out an examination of the corporation's affairs both in East Africa and in London. He has been deputy secretary in my Department. In addition to great administrative powers, he has an intimate knowledge of the scheme, and I believe he can give more rapid help on the board than any other appointment could do. Mr. McFadyen, the existing deputy chairman, will continue as a full executive member in charge of his existing functions, which are supply, transport and welfare.

"As part of that reorganization I had to write to Mr. Wakefield declining vacant his office on the board. I did so with great regret. Mr. Wakefield was a leader of the original mission and he was chief author of the Wakefield-Martin-Ross report. Undoubtedly the scheme owes much to his vision and enthusiasm at the initial stage, but I could not avoid coming to

the conclusion, which was shared by all my advisers, that the board would be strengthened by this change.

"The very last thing I want to do is to enter into controversy with Mr. Wakefield, but I was very sorry to see that Mr. Wakefield, the chief author of the Wakefield report, was causing his colleagues of disregard for cost and of attempting to go too fast. After all, the Wakefield report contained estimates of costs and proposals for speed of clearance far more unrealistic than any which the corporation has ever considered.

Full Confidence in Reconstitution

"That is the extent of the changes which, on my recommendation, the Government have decided to make in the board. I say with all possible emphasis that the board as now constituted enjoys our full confidence. This obviously applies to the new members, but it applies absolutely equally to Sir Leslie Plummer, the chairman, and the other members of the board.

"The House has a right to know whether I still believe in this scheme. I feel profoundly concerned with my responsibilities to this House and to the country for the groundnut scheme. I regret the initial miscalculations which underlay the estimates of costs and of times in the Wakefield report which I and the Government accepted. I recognize that we have had to pay a substantial sum for the experience we have gained. That constitutes an admission that the difficulties to be faced in opening up East Africa were underestimated.

"Yet, in the face of those difficulties I and my colleagues are convinced that the need to proceed with this scheme is at least as great to-day as it was in 1946. I say this both because our national needs for primary raw materials from Commonwealth sources are greater to-day than ever, and because our supply of oils is still far from sufficient for our needs. I believe that the world's needs in 1954 will be greater than ever.

"Is this the time to falter? Is it not rather the time to press on with Commonwealth agricultural development? What we have done so far is to discover—by the hard way of trial and error—a technique for clearing the bush and forest of tropical Africa on a mass scale. I am convinced that in the end we shall not have bought that discovery dearly."

Mr. Oliver Stanley's Speech

MR. OLIVER STANLEY, who led for the Opposition, said, *inter alia*:

"I shall make allegations which should either be confirmed or denied and ask questions to which answers will be necessary. I gather that the Secretary of State for the Colonies will wind up the debate. He has no more than the ordinary Cabinet responsibility for this scheme. I wish he had more. I always thought that the scheme should be under the Colonial Office, not the Ministry of Food, and I am sure that under the right hon. gentleman the scheme would have fared better. He is more prudent and more prudent than his colleague.

"I ask for some fuller explanation of these two dismissals of members of the board which have taken place within the last few days. I hold no brief for either gentleman. I knew them both when I was Secretary of State for the Colonies, and both were loyal to the office they served and had a sincere desire for the public well-being. What is the particular reason for dismissing these gentlemen now, and what caused the Minister to dismiss these two members of the board and no others?

"Why now? The facts which have been revealed to the public in the annual report must have been known to the right hon. gentleman very soon after the completion of the first year. If it is the comparative failure of the first year's operation which has led to the dismissal of these two gentlemen, it is odd that that dismissal was not made during the summer after these first results were known and that it has been delayed until November. What has been the particular cause which has made necessary in November dismissals considered unnecessary in the summer?

"I assume that these dismissals have nothing to do with the fact that these two gentlemen were signatories of the original Wakefield report three years ago. Much later these two gentlemen were appointed to the board, and I assume that this dismissal is connected with their conduct as members of the board. I assume that the circumstances of the case, if any, could confirm that that is the case."

(Continued on page 374)

Dismissal of Two Groundnut Directors

Mr. A. J. Wakefield's Resignation as Minister of Food

TWO EXECUTIVE MEMBERS of the board of the Overseas Food Corporation, MR. A. J. WAKEFIELD and MR. J. N. ROSA, were dismissed by the Minister of Food just before the House of Commons was due to discuss the first annual report of the corporation—dismissed because they rejected his suggestion that they should resign.

Front-page prominence was given by almost all the week-end newspapers to this act by Mr. Strachey, and to Mr. Wakefield's letter declining to resign and suggesting that if there were to be resignations the first should be that of the chairman of the corporation, Sir Leslie Plummer.

It was early on Saturday afternoon that news of these developments first reached the Press. Immediately the Minister had announced his action, Mr. Wakefield issued the full text of a letter which he had written to Mr. Strachey two days earlier. Dated November 17, it read:

Facts Which Should Be Known

Dear Minister,—I have been thinking carefully over our talk of yesterday evening, when you told me that the Cabinet had decided upon my removal from the board of the Overseas Food Corporation, and have reached certain very definite conclusions.

During the course of our conversation you put to me the alternatives of resignation or dismissal. At the time I was prepared to consider resignation in the belief that, as you had mentioned that commanders in military operations had to be sacrificed when things went badly amiss, Sir Leslie Plummer was similarly to be asked to tender his resignation. In those circumstances I was prepared to accept the dictum.

Nevertheless, so firm is my belief in the doctrines I have preached throughout, doctrines which have been consistently ignored by those who in the final event were responsible for the successful conduct of the scheme, that I feel I should not be in the interests of the corporation as a whole and the groundnut scheme in particular that I should resign.

The whole deplorable progress of events is carefully documented in the memorandum which I discussed with you yesterday. This memorandum is a plain statement of facts which, I feel, have hitherto been withheld from you by those whose responsibility it was to keep you apprised of events.

They are facts which, in my view, should be known to Parliament and to the public at large, if the groundnut scheme and the wider development of Africa are not to suffer by ill-informed comment and debate.

I would specifically refer to two points in the memorandum regarding the disastrous speed and cost of operations for which the Overseas Food Corporation was solely responsible in 1948-49:—

Cost of Buying Time

(1) I refer in §56 to a note I wrote to executive members on June 30, 1948, saying:—

"It seems to me to be a matter for political decision as to whether it is essential to accelerate production far beyond the economic level; if this is so, it should be understood by Parliament at least, and the cost of buying time will have to be written off."

(2) In §61 I refer in a memorandum I wrote on February 23, 1949, which was discussed at a meeting in Kongwa of the chairman, Sir Charles Lockhart, Mr. Rosa, the local management, heads of departments and myself.

This memorandum stated my arguments for extending the period of clearing over two years, which would have resulted in considerable financial saving.

The chairman, however, overruled my proposals and urged upon the meeting that the question of cost should be ignored, and that clearing operations should be pressed on with all possible speed.

I cannot believe that your attention has hitherto been drawn to these and other vital facts. They are points which cannot be ignored if the case is to be presented truthfully to Parliament.

I therefore reiterate that, in my view, my resignation would not be in the interests of the public or of the scheme itself, and I find myself unable to acquiesce in your request that I should do so.

Mr. Strachey wrote on the following day (though the letter was not delivered to Mr. Wakefield until Saturday).

"Dear Mr. Wakefield.—I wrote to you on February 13, informing you that I proposed to appoint you to a full-time member of the Overseas Food Corporation with effect from February 6, 1949. In that letter I set out the terms of the appointment, which you accepted in your reply dated February 16, 1948.

"I now have to tell you, with regret, that you no longer have my confidence as a member of the corporation, and accordingly my duty requires me to declare your office vacant in accordance with that part of 5 (c) of the terms of your appointment that provides that I may so act if in my opinion, you are for any reason unable or unfit to discharge your functions as a member of the corporation.

"Accordingly, this letter is to give you formal notice of such declaration by me, and of the fact that your office has thereby become vacant.

O.F.C. Board Reconstituted

Very shortly after that letter reached the addressee the Minister made the following announcement through the Central Office of Information:—

"Sir Donald Perrott has been appointed deputy chairman of the Overseas Food Corporation. Sir Eric Coates has been appointed a full-time member, with special responsibility for financial matters.

"Mr. J. McEadyen has relinquished his appointment as deputy chairman, but will remain a full-time member of the board, responsible for supplies and transport.

"Mr. J. Rosa and Mr. A. J. Wakefield cease to be members of the board, the Minister having informed them that he has terminated their appointments.

"Sir Donald Perrott has been deputy secretary to the Ministry of Food since the beginning of 1947.

"Sir Eric Coates was Financial Secretary, war and supply finance, to the Government of India, subsequently finance member on the Governor-General's Council, and has lately been financial adviser to the United Kingdom High Commissioner in Germany."

Mr. Wakefield thereupon notified Mr. Strachey that he was issuing to the Press his letter of November 17. It was published in full by the afternoon newspapers on Saturday, by all the Sunday papers, and by many newspapers on Monday morning, some using headlines across the full page. Never before had so much prominence been given to groundnut matters.

No Question of Chairman's Resignation

That caused Mr. Strachey to issue a further statement, saying:—

"In view of the letter which Mr. Wakefield has published, the Minister of Food states that the chairman and board of the Overseas Food Corporation, as now constituted, enjoy the full confidence of His Majesty's Government, and that there was never any question of requesting the resignation of the chairman or any member of the board other than Mr. Wakefield and Mr. Rosa."

Sir Leslie Plummer also made a statement on Saturday afternoon. It said:—

"The memorandum to the board to which Mr. Wakefield refers in his letter of November 15, and has not yet been considered at a board meeting of the corporation. When it has, I will recommend to the board that the memorandum be published together with any comment the board may wish to make.

"I cannot accept Mr. Wakefield's account of the conference at Kongwa to which he refers, and in particular I cannot agree that I expressed the views on costs which he attributes to me.

"Mr. Wakefield states in his letter that his proposal for extending the period of clearing over two years would have resulted in considerable financial savings. This opinion was not accepted by the management in East Africa or by myself and the other members of the board who were present in East Africa.

"Mr. Wakefield also states that the discussion centred around the clearing programme for 1949-50, which was subsequently reduced to 55,000 acres. The programme for that year and subsequent years was proposed by the East

...management and accepted... including Mr. Wakefield.

It now appears to be clear... for 1949-50 will in fact be completed... Mr. Wakefield replied.

It is incorrect for Sir Leslie Plummer to refer to the document referred to as a letter of November 1948... I prepared primarily as an aide memoire.

I put it before Sir Leslie Plummer, Mr. J. McFadden and Mr. Rosa on November 15 for their information. Sir Leslie concluded the brief discussion on the memorandum, saying that he could not be expected to do anything about it, but that I was free to do what I liked with it.

Later I advised my colleagues that I had decided to send a copy to a Ministry of Food official. I forwarded it to the Ministry on the morning of November 16 under a host name. Its aim is to present the uncoloured facts without which it may be difficult to reply to criticism. I am taking steps to see that the substance of my retrospect is made public.

Sir Leslie states that he cannot accept my account of the conference at Kongwa to which I refer in my letter to the Minister. My memory is clear regarding this meeting, and I have confirmed that, as chairman of the meeting, Sir Leslie pushed aside my views, suggesting they be forgotten.

The clearing programme to which Sir Leslie refers was separately discussed, and Sir Leslie correctly states that the

...responsible target figures for 1949-50 and subsequent years were... In other words, as far as possible to avoid misunderstanding, I want to make it clear that in discussing my resignation with the Minister of Food I declined to comment upon other possible changes on the board of the Overseas Food Corporation. As stated in my letter to him, he merely referred to the... of military commanders from which I obviously drew the wrong conclusion.

In another statement Sir Leslie Plummer added— Mr. Wakefield's memorandum was sent to all members of the board in Beppan, including myself, with a request that it should be discussed. Unless disclosed in a manner in which all papers intended for the board are first reviewed by the executive director.

I certainly propose to have it discussed by the full board for I have already said that I will recommend that it be published—not in substance but in full—in view of Mr. Wakefield's allegations, all facts are being suppressed. The House of Commons will debate the groundnut scheme tomorrow, and it seems to me futile for me to engage in a point-by-point debate with an ex-colleague.

Such were the public exchanges just before Monday's debate in the House of Commons. [Editorial comment appears under Matters of Moment.]

Press Views of the Groundnut Scandal

Minister's Resignation Demanded by "The Times"

RESIGNATION OF MR. STRACHEY, the Minister responsible for the groundnut scheme, which EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA has demanded in several leading articles—being, we believe, the first newspaper to argue the case for such a course—was powerfully supported by *The Times* on Monday.

In the course of a long leading article *The Times* wrote:—

Commanders in military operations have to be sacrificed... Mr. A. J. Wakefield, now dismissed from the board of the Overseas Food Corporation, which directs the East Africa groundnut scheme, are Mr. Strachey's own. Mr. Wakefield, who refused to resign at the Minister's request and claims that his earlier warnings of "disastrous speed and cost" in his enterprise were ignored, wonders, naturally enough, why the stigma does not also apply to the chairman of the board, Sir Leslie Plummer.

Changes at the Top Essential

The House of Commons, which will debate the groundnut scheme to-day, may well ask why it does not apply both to Sir Leslie Plummer, who has been personally in charge since March, 1948, and to Mr. Strachey himself, who as Minister of Food has had the highest responsibility for the scheme throughout its ill-starred career. It is hard to see how confidence in the future can be created without changes at the very top both in the Overseas Food Corporation and in Whitehall, not only among the brigades but among the generals as well.

The doctrine of personal responsibility is a principle of rare value in public life, and men who engage themselves in the highest positions must be prepared to take the consequences, whether good or ill. This must be recognized, however the impartial historian may eventually apportion precise blame for the mistakes.

Mr. Strachey may try to-day to diminish his own as well as Sir Leslie Plummer's responsibility by pointing to the faults of other persons—not only of the discarded Mr. Wakefield and Mr. Rosa, but also of the United Africa Company, of the contractors, or of all the responsible parties originally involved in the scheme, and instead of anybody who has been practically concerned with the undertaking during its calamitous misadventure. This will not do.

At the moment there had a half year ago when he first cast a favourable eye upon Mr. Samuel's suggestions the Minister of Food has himself been ultimately responsible for... Mr. Strachey was misleading agent for him. He is not only responsible in the final reckoning for the fact that Sir Leslie Plummer... failed to exert confidence (even among his loyal... in the higher conduct of the scheme or, in spite of a

little more than a... to set it on the right... since the corporation took over in March, 1948, he is responsible for all that went before.

Mr. Strachey's Duty to Resign

If the counsel given to him were uncheckered by local knowledge, if the projectors first rested upon the African terrain without a practical assessment of its possibilities and limitations as laid for... the estimates of outgoings and ingoings have been consistently unreal and the records of stores and equipment charges, if personal friction and discontent on the site have gone on growing... Mr. Strachey, even though he may well plead... must accept the censure, just as he would have taken credit for success.

It would be new and dangerous constitutional doctrine if Ministers of the Crown could excuse the failure of their policies by turning upon the experts whose advice they have taken or upon the agents whom they have employed. There may be explanations; there are no excuses. There is no escape now, whatever the grounds, by jettisoning Mr. Wakefield and Mr. Rosa, subordinates of both the chairman of the board and the Minister.

The duty of the Government to-day is to confess past mistakes, to recognize the personal responsibility for them, and to give guarantees that the undertaking will be properly and prudently handled in the future. First among those guarantees must be not only new policies but also a change in the men most of all responsible for carrying them out.

Which is what EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA has been arguing for weeks.

Minister on Trial

The *Financial Times* was briefer but no less direct, saying, *inter alia*:—

The Government cannot in decency refuse the Opposition's demand for a full inquiry. Nothing less can allay the fear that even now the whole truth has not been told.

When the report of the Overseas Food Corporation was issued the public at least had the right to expect that the wrong had been disclosed. Now it is clear that even that sorry document was an understatement. Not from political opponents or outside critics, but from inside the organization, come fresh allegations of 'disastrous speed and cost,' of warnings ignored, and of information withheld.

Disquieting as this is, the first reaction of the responsible Minister is even more disturbing. A statement from the Ministry of Food blandly declares that the reconstituted board has the 'full confidence' of His Majesty's Government. Mr. Strachey has mistaken his role. He is not the judge in this affair. With a bill for £23,000,000, an auditors' report that would have finished any private enterprise, dismissals and recriminations among his organizers, it is he who is on trial. The confidence in him and his administration that is challenged.

The *Daily Telegraph* similarly emphasized that whether the new board enjoyed "the full confidence of the Government" was beside the point, and that the matter at issue was that of the confidence of the public.

The *Sunday Dispatch* commented that Sir Leslie Plummer's qualification for his post "was never very noticeable," that Parliament would want to know why he remained chairman, and that "the public may well wonder why Mr. Strachey, who has perpetrated another characteristic blunder, remains Minister of Food."

It added:

"Mr. Wakefield's memorandum should be made public. If the Cabinet intended to hush up the truth about the failure of this particular piece of State enterprise, Mr. Wakefield's action may well force them to change their minds, and for that he deserves the thanks of the nation."

Lack of Leadership

The *Economist* gave prominence to an article by a correspondent who was recently in Tanganyika. He wrote:

"One factor above all which has led to the sad pass in which the groundnut scheme now finds itself is quite simply lack of leadership. At no point has there been genuine respect for or trust in the wisdom or competence of the directors of this enterprise. What was lacking? A master hand to galvanize the enterprise and reconcile the difficulties within it."

"Throughout its early history, the groundnut scheme was regarded and run as an operation of war—with the implication that the cost need not be counted. But imagine an army corps with no code of discipline, an ill-defined chain of authority, demoralizing orders and counter-orders, occasional short visits from the C.I.G.S. publicly countermarching rules and regulations—some purely domestic—which had painstakingly been agreed and accepted. Add to this the awareness, which can never be hidden from all grades, that the powers that be were (and still are) at variance with each other. It takes only the added factor of spasmodic political interference overruling all else to produce chaos."

"Bewilderment and disillusion are and have been the prime sentiments shared between all grades engaged on the scheme."

"Lack of respect has done fearful damage to the scheme. When one is in the middle of it all, one finds out quickly enough the few personalities who have the power of inspiring this first essential of good organization. They stand out head and shoulders above their fellows. They have their own personal tug-of-war in trying to fight for the principles in which they believe, and they are tempted to clear off to other fields where they can do their work without this fight against dictatorial ignorance and obstinacy."

No Inspiration

"A reasonable man begins to despair at the low standard of efficiency and even intelligence among his colleagues, until he realizes that he himself is not giving of his best, since no one seems to encourage it. No amount of planning, good, bad or indifferent, can ever come to life without the yeast of inspiration."

"Five minutes of the technique which Field-Marshal Montgomery knows so well would have changed the picture completely. He could not have raised acres of nuts perhaps, but he would have explained what was happening on a basis of truth. One clear statement that could be accepted by the men whose lives are wrapped up in the success or failure of the venture and by the public, would have saved morale. So far one story has been served up for the public, quite another to the workers—if indeed they have been told anything at all. No wonder there has been mistrust and lack of confidence."

"This lack has been crystallized at least twice in one year in the form of a signed round robin statement of 'no confidence' drawn up by a number of responsible heads of departments who have clearly demanded better guidance. Nothing has happened, of course, except a further breach in the already flimsy fabric of authority. The reaction has been a degrading 'fend-for-yourself' there is £25,000,000 in the till, and nobody cares anyway' attitude."

Picture Post had the good fortune to publish in its issue for last week 11 pages of pictures and news about the groundnut scheme, having sent Mr. Fyfe Robertson and Mr. Raymond Kleboe to Tanganyika to collect the material.

Mr. Robertson's conclusion was that "the finest thing which could happen would be the resignation of Sir Leslie Plummer." He wrote, in part:—

"One has to go back a long way for a more shocking case of top-level tomfoolery almost wrecking a worth-while job. Enough has been written about the early blunders, most stemming from the political pressure for speed—failure to test Kongwa soils, and so discover the abrasion and tough roots that have wrecked programmes and eaten money; planning without regard to port or rail-and-road capacity; prospecting for water after choosing sites; planning tractor performance without regard to conditions or spares; forgetting the need for adequate repair shops; and so on. There will be heard in the House about enormous stores of spare parts and the complete lack of control of expenditure until last April."

Questions Needing Answers

"Who made all the bad buys—not forgetting the latest East African joke of enough Angostura bitters for all Tanganyika's Europeans for 70 years? Why was specially designed equipment—root-cutters, root-rakes, Shervick tractors—tested only in England? As a result first models were useless, and lie in melancholy ranks beside war tractors that have never turned a wheel."

"Why was water in Kongwa chosen as H.Q. instead of the original sweet-water Sagara? How much has it cost to carry water by lorry from Sagara to Kongwa and the units? Is the unofficial estimate of £500,000 (the cost of a pipeline) and 6d. a gallon true?"

"Is it a fact that thousands of acres of sunflowers were planted too late by normal reckoning and in spite of protests in order to swell acreage figures? Were 18,000 of the 30,600 acres cleared on Kongwa No. 3 unit last season clear any way, so that the plough went straight in? What is the figure of European resignations from the staff? Why was the Kongwa cost-of-living survey never finished?"

"Is it lack of enough and dependable water that limits clearing in the Southern Province to two teams? Is it true that water prospecting and boring there is costing £2,000 a week—and finding only exhaustible pockets?"

"Will O.F.C. deny that too heavy administration costs add 45s. per acre to the cost of land-clearing at Urambo? Is it a fact that at Urambo—whose regional manager was strong enough to call a halt to machine-wrecked haste—clearing costs have been a quarter of those at Kongwa?"

Sir Leslie Plummer Should Go

"If the groundnutters are to be welded into a tight-co-operative, contented, economical organization, some ruthless major surgery is essential—and the finest single thing that could happen would be the resignation of Sir Leslie Plummer, O.R.C. chairman."

"In responsibility to Parliament and people, in leadership, in his handling of executives, in his approach to the 'blameless little men,' so many of whom have been and will be 'redundantized,' Sir Leslie has failed to give the new venture what it most needed."

"My information is that six months ago certain Tanganyika executives called for Sir Leslie's resignation, and that his reaction was to demand (in vain) the resignation of 'the ring-leaders.' Perhaps Mr. Strachey would tell us about this, and explain (six months later) how any organization could work efficiently in the circumstances."

"Professor Phillips, agricultural chief and joint general manager, has the respect and affection of everyone, and competent men speak well of his co-manager and engineering chief, George Raby, newer and tougher: he has been tough enough, they say, to put London in its place."

"In the Southern Province, strong-man J. A. Stirling, able and necessarily ruthless in clearing up a mess of demoralization, over-staffing, and inefficiency, has in the process come up against Kongwa. He will go places or get out. At lower levels, too, good men have got to the top."

"I could not check completely the statement that the three Kongwa farming units, with 65 working on the job, have a regional H.Q. of 36 administrators and a total regional H.Q. strength of 262. The European staff in East Africa in March last was 957, and is now presumably fewer. Kongwa G.H.Q. employs 102, Dar es Salaam employees number 180, Nairobi's 14."

"For some 1,000 European employees there are 14 people in the personnel department of Kongwa H.Q. alone—one chief personnel officer, one deputy, four assistants, three secretaries, one statistics clerk, three other clerks, and a records clerk. A busy regional executive, fulminating against forms in quintuplicate, could scarcely find words for Kongwa personnel department's 'book of instructions'—152 pages and 42 forms. Why do intelligent men perpetuate or tolerate tomfoolery like this?"

"Decentralization has begun on paper, but that is about as far as it has gone. The manager is a limpet who cannot easily be dislodged. Men who have enjoyed an unwieldy authority will not easily discard it."

Responsibility For "Kenya Plan"

Elected Members' Organization Not Consulted

THE FOLLOWING JOINT STATEMENT has been issued by the European Elected Members' Organization of Kenya and the Kenya Electors' Union:

The preparation of "Kenya Plan" was undertaken by the Elected Members' Organization and the Kenya Electors' Union during the past year and entirely on their own responsibility. It was a joint effort based on the opinions of the European electors throughout the Colony as expressed at annual conferences of the Electors' Union and at meetings in the constituencies.

When the new machinery for more direct consultation between the Elected Members' Organization and the Electors' Union was set up in August, 1949, Kenya Plan was already in the printer's hands. It was not presented to the elected members as a body, not at that time did the Electors' Union feel that there was an obligation to do so. Therefore the elected members cannot be held responsible for any views expressed therein.

Racial Tolerance and Harmony

The European elected members wish to emphasize that they consider that the progress of Kenya depends largely upon racial tolerance and harmony under British leadership.

While the Kenya Plan cannot be regarded as an authoritative statement of the policy of the elected members, they agree that many of the suggestions in the Plan will form the basis of future policies on different aspects of Kenya's problems.

The Indian Association of Kenya has issued the following announcement:

It is necessary for every non-European in East Africa to study carefully the Kenya Plan prepared and published by the Electors' Union, a European organization representing 80,000 Europeans only among a total population of over 5,000,000.

The Plan leaves no room for doubt that the desire of this handful of the European community is to dominate perpetually over all others politically, economically, and socially.

Gold Coast as a Model

This association categorically rejects the claim of this small European community settled in Kenya to control the affairs of this country as envisaged in the said Plan, and believes that the constitutional development of this country must honestly and inevitably take place on the lines of the Gold Coast in West Africa, with a transitional period when the three major communities, Africans, Asians, and Europeans, must be equally represented in the legislative and executive authority of this country.

In the opinion of this association, the time has now arrived when the three major communities of Kenya must be represented by equal number in the Legislative Council, and must be given an equal voice in the administration of the country, and pending the introduction of such an arrangement, the ultimate and effective power must remain with His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom.

This association is of the firm opinion that the Europeans who have made their homes in East, Central, and South Africa, will never exercise any political influence in their own countries and demand to the non-European sections is clearly evidenced in South Africa, where the political power is being wielded by the Europeans (of the previous generation and offspring of the non-European immigrants and oppressors of the non-European immigrants of that country).

In the opinion of this association, the maintenance of Tanganyika Territory under the immediate control of the United Nations Organization is in the best interests of the non-European population of the territory, who are the majority of the total population thereof, and a complete rejection of the suggestion of Kenya Europeans for abolishing the franchise

which is a prerequisite for the benefit of the non-European population.

In the opinion of this association, any suggestion that East African territories with the Central African Council, the inauguration of the three major communities in a non-nominative office, adverse to the interests of the non-European communities of these territories, and thus be a serious impediment.

This association is informed that it supports the motion proposed by Sir Alfred Vinton, of the East Africa Central Legislative Assembly, asking the East Africa High Commission to approach the Central African Council with a view to the creation of a joint consultative committee between the Central African Council, and the East Africa Central Legislative Assembly.

This association condemns the present agitation and movement by the Electors' Union as a call to the non-European population to a political warfare, and warns all concerned that any action of the part of the non-Europeans to take counter steps to safeguard their present and future will undoubtedly harm the interests of their future generations.

Mr. Mathu, the senior African member of the Legislative Council, has also said publicly that the declared intention of the Electors' Union to curb the political advancement of the African is tantamount to a declaration of political war.

Criticism Endorsed

The editorial criticisms published by EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA on September 22 of the action of the Electors' Union have been endorsed by the Kenya Weekly News in a leading article of October 21, which said, *inter alia*—

The Electors' Union was unwise to require His Majesty's Government to declare the maintenance of British European leadership to be paramount.

That is tantamount to asking H.M. Government to give a blank cheque to British European leadership, and the obvious reply is that all depends on the direction and the quality of the leadership. To require H.M. Government to declare that European settlement is a permanent in Kenya is reasonable enough, but it must be clearly realized that no such assurance could pledge the policy of succeeding Governments.

In any case, it is improbable that any such demand would evoke the desired response, and even if it did no realist could believe that any of the major political, economic, or social problems of Kenya, or of East Africa, would have been brought much nearer to solution. You cannot establish leadership by decree or declaration, but only by example, act and achievement.

The Electors' Union has stated on the restraint of political advancement for the African: "We believe in qualitative, not quantitative democracy." Accordingly we are bound to oppose any alteration in the proportion of racial representation in the Kenya Legislative Council.

Need for Precise Thinking

As an example of how necessary it is to be precise in these matters, one may well ask if the union would support an increase of European representation in Legislative Council without a proportionate increase of Asian and African representation? They have declared that they are bound to do so, but it is hard to believe that they would do so.

Secondly, the union has stated: "We cannot share the views of those remote theorists who seek to impose upon the African a political development which in reality can only be a slow progress. We do not deny the right to any African with talent or ability to reach the highest position, but we do contend that the first problems confronting the African are economic. The African will not solve them by playing at high politics. We oppose those who see self-government for the African and by the African as a practicable possibility within any foreseeable future."

Thirdly, the union has stated that political advancement for the African must be won, and won only by merit, ability, and an appreciation of responsible British citizenship.

If the union had paid some heed to the imperative need to plan for the political progress of the Africans in the Native Trusts, it would be reasonable to state that it was not concerned to restrict the political advancement, but rather to direct it towards those spheres which provide the best chance to meet the political needs best suited to African needs and talents.

"If Mr. Mathu believes that the political objective for Kenya must be self-government for Africans by an African electoral majority, then there must be political war. If, on the other hand, Mr. Mathu believes that the development of Kenya can be based on a genuine partnership between Europeans and Africans, that the present and future interests of Kenya can be served only by a policy of whole-hearted co-operation between the different sections of the community, based on the real interests of each section, then there can be no place for political war."

"Along the road of local government there is no need for arbitrary restraint upon the sound political advance of the African community. If we admit the right, as the Electors' Union does admit, of an African with merit and ability to reach the highest position, we cannot deny the opportunity to do so, whether in politics or any other sphere. There cannot be restraint on the just reward of merit, ability, and an appreciation of responsible British citizenship."

"Within the field of local government there is ample scope and opportunity for the African to learn the hard and bitter lessons which the British people have learnt in a thousand years of history and are still learning."

"In East Africa all else depends on the quality and the direction of European leadership. The quality must be very high and the direction as clear as the wit of our generation can present to the people. It is well to remember that the certain reaction to arbitrary restraint of human progress is a sincere zeal to sweep that restraint aside. Leadership cannot be soundly based on a negation; it must be positive and have definite objectives."

[Editorial comment appears under Matters of Moment.]

"Any relaxation of the immigration restrictions at present is unthinkable; on the contrary, if possible, restrictions should be tightened." This statement was made recently by the Southern Rhodesian Minister of Internal Affairs. The continued heavy flow of immigrants into the Colony was, he added, straining social services well-nigh to breaking point, and the housing problem in the large towns was still critical.

Northern Rhodesia's Finances Expenditure Exceeds £10,000,000

SIR GILBERT RENNIE, Governor of Northern Rhodesia, when opening the first meeting of the second session of the ninth Council that the Government estimated revenue for 1949 at £9,826,068 and for 1950 at the record figure of £10,360,863. Expenditure was also expected to exceed £10,000,000 for the first time.

For the current year revenue was likely to be some £800,000 above the estimate, thanks primarily to the rising price of base metals, and the excess of expenditure over the estimate would probably be under £300,000. Of that windfall of £500,000 the standing Finance Committee had decided to appropriate half to the Development Fund and half to a new fund from which all works undertaken by local authorities could be financed.

Surplus balances at the end of the year were now calculated at £2,214,637, with £2,650,000 in the reserve fund.

Including loan expenditure, outgoings in 1950 would be about £13,300,000. Departmental expenditure would increase by £700,000, largely on account of increased staff and facilities in the education, health, postal, police, and survey departments in order to provide the expanded services required by increasing population, and, in the case of the agricultural, forestry, veterinary, and water development departments in order to provide for economic developments.

Continuation of the policy of subsidizing essential foodstuffs and of suspending the customs duties on certain essential commodities, which have been in force since 1947 in order to stabilize the cost of living, would cost more than £1,000,000 next year.

Priorities

"We have been giving first priority to food production, houses, and roads," said the Governor. "My personal view is that these three matters should still be given the highest priority, but now that specially trained staff is becoming available, preventive health work must be given a higher priority than has been possible in the past."

"We must pay more and more attention to the conservation and proper utilization of natural resources. Soil erosion has not yet taken the terrible toll of top soil and fertility that it has in some other parts of Africa. Time and attention given now to soil conservation measures, and to the adoption of good husbandry practices, will pay rich dividends in the years to come."

"I need not emphasize the part that Africans can play in the conservation and proper utilization of soil, water and trees. I have been greatly encouraged to see what they have done in certain areas by voluntary work under enthusiastic chiefs. Development and progress in this and other directions can be achieved only by hard work, determination, and the spirit of self-help, and I hope that this lesson is being learnt by all Africans."

"The African will never be able to make full use of development unless in our schools we lay greater emphasis on the development of character. Too many Africans today expect from education, and acquire from it, only scholastic learning, and fail to appreciate the need for and value of qualities of character."

"Unless we can develop adequately in African boys and girls the qualities of trustworthiness, self-reliance, honesty, truthfulness, and, when the children are old enough, a real sense of responsibility, much of our development planning will be wasted effort."

"I appeal to all our educationists to give much thought to character-building in African schools."

Uganda's Wedding Gift

SIR JOHN HALL, Governor of Uganda, has received from Princess Elizabeth a letter of thanks for the suite of dining-room furniture which was Uganda's wedding present. The letter reads: "The Duke of Edinburgh and I are so pleased with the wedding present which the people of Uganda have had the kindness to send us. The furnishing from *mvule* wood of a room in my house will always remind me of the affection and good will which Uganda has shown me. Would you please tell all those responsible for this gift how grateful we are, and how much we value this most lovely and useful present?"



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BACKGROUND T

Unrepentant Germans.—A starry-eyed view of Western Germany as a country rejoicing in the downfall of Hitlerism is quite unjustified. One visitor, after touring the western zones for several months recently, came to the conclusion that the majority of the Germans whom he had questioned thought that the U.S.A. had declared war on Germany, and he learned that many Germans say that Fascism and Nazism were good things badly mismanaged. The existence all over Germany of such opinions is impossible to deny. In a speech at Oldenburg a major-general asserted that Germany's nationalists would be ready to seize power within two years. The senseless violence of blarneying out these chauvinist sentiments while Germany is still under armed occupation disturbed some of the general's countrymen, but his frankness pleased many old soldiers. Perhaps most Germans did not even regard their chains under Hitler and the Kaiser as chains, and there is no evidence that, despite the appalling record of Nazism, there is to-day any general feeling of guilt in Germany or any certainty that on a plebiscite Hitler would not be welcomed back if he were alive and his return were practical politics."—Mr. A. P. Ryan, in a broadcast talk.

Develop the Empire.—"By all means let us try to export more both to the U.S.A. and Canada, but do not let us carry this policy so far that we neglect our friends and lose our traditional markets in the Empire. Were we to do this it would be a disastrous and dangerous short-term, short-sighted policy, the results of which we should live to regret, for in the British Commonwealth and Empire (including of course this country, which so many people are apt to exclude from the phrase) we have everything—the best commercial brains, the best trading know-how, the most skilled workmen, the best farmers, the greatest mining and constructional engineers, and all the different climates of the world. Nor do I think there is any tree, shrub, plant, or crop that cannot be grown somewhere in its vast territories, and there is, so far as I know, no mineral that is not to be found somewhere within its borders. Let us therefore devote our main efforts to cultivating and developing this great heritage. If we do this with the determination, foresight, and endurance which we as a race have always shown when confronted with difficulties, we shall soon pass from our present state of despair and discontent to as glorious a future as has been our past."—Lord Llewellyn, president of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire.

Sea from New York.—"Not one member of the British Cabinet is built up in esteem for his Government or himself in the American Press. Mr. Ernest Bevin has the personality to perform this task, but he has been handicapped by ferocious attacks from the Zionist Press. Mr. Attlee is regarded here as something of a cipher. Sir Stafford Cripps, admired for his integrity and industry before devaluation, is now considered a muddled Messiah. Mr. Herbert Morrison is not unknown to the American masses; and though Mr. Aneurin Bevan gets considerable publicity in the magazines it is mostly hostile. The only beloved British political figure remains Mr. Churchill. Mr. Eden, once the darling of the more feather-headed type of American newspaper reader, has dropped out of the U.S. picture."—Mr. Don Iddon, *Daily Mail* correspondent in New York.

Back to Titus Oates.—"To many people, the Chancellor of the Exchequer's announcement that 'in suitable cases' rewards will be paid to persons who give information to the authorities which leads to convictions under the Exchange Control Act must seem like the last straw. When Mr. Churchill, in the course of the last general election, predicted that the principles of Socialism must inevitably lead to the creation of a British Gestapo, he was very widely derided. It begins to look as if the country owes Mr. Churchill an apology: it is happening here. Exchange control is one of those departments of the law for which the public may—or may not—be prepared to concede a justification in expediency. It has no moral basis. How could it—since it prohibits transactions which were perfectly legal only 10 years ago, and are still in most people's minds honest (though illegal)? Yet this new branch of law interferes at countless points with the ordinary life of the ordinary citizen. It prohibits him from going abroad when he wants to; it prohibits her (if the ordinary citizen is a woman) from taking her normal jewellery with her, it involves such absurdities as a prohibition on the sending of stamp collections to schoolboys abroad. To enforce this collection of irritating restrictions the secrecy of the mails can be violated in peacetime. Now there are to be rewards to informers and rat-bags; the State is deliberately to put a premium upon private spying and grudge-bearing, but throughout the whole population. No form of economic control is worth this price. Away with it!"—*Economist*.

Canada Shockingly Treason.—"The politicians behind the Board of Trade are making a complete mess of the task of organizing newsprint supplies, and it will be a happy day when the dithering politicians include which newsprint is really required. If ever a country deserved well-deserved punishment for its magnanimous war and post-war services to this country, it is ever one branch of industry owed a tribute to another, it is due from all British newspapers to Canadian manufacturers of newsprint for the way they kept our industry functioning throughout the war; they sacrificed profit and stretched their resources to ensure continuity of our business. When peace came, a contract after contract, made with the full knowledge and consent of this Government, was broken by Government under pleas of 'crisis'. Once again, the British Government seeks to break a contract with the Canadians—for 100,000 tons of newsprint in 1950. Arbitrarily the Board of Trade intimated that not one dollar would be allocated to honour that contract. The Canadians, both manufacturers and Government, are fighting bitterly against such complete severance of their link with this market, which they value highly. It has been suggested that British politicians are trying to force Canada on to sterling. George III tried to play a forcing hand across the Atlantic, and the results were not happy. We should hate to see any comparable outcome result from the latest Whitehall technique."—*Work Press News*.

Time for Bluntings.—"A Welfare State that promises everything to everybody and demands nothing in return from anybody must break down. Our people can only enjoy the social services they earn. We should say so bluntly. We must emphasize our confidence in the ability of our people to overcome our difficulties. It is true we are living beyond our means, but our overall industrial production is only about 75% of what it could be. If we all took off our coats and set about the job, we could be self-supporting within 12 months. But we have no right to demand from organized labour any sacrifices we are not willing to share. The Socialist age says: 'I couldn't care less.' Our reply must be that, as we live by the labours of others, others are entitled to live by our labours. We should put upon the young and strong to put more into the common pool of life than they take out of it. The only way of preserving the social structure is—Mr. C. Osborne, M.P.

TO THE NEWS

L.A.R. marked. — "The United Nations has proved a worse failure than the League of Nations." — Mr. Paul van Zeeland, Belgium Foreign Minister.

"Communism is the devil's caricature of Christianity." — Lady Margaret Sackville.

"Sir Stafford Cripps has a first-rate mind and he makes it up." — Lady Violet Bonham Carter.

"I recently had to have new window frames put into a small cottage. The cost was roughly equal to nine years' rent." — Mr. R. P. Gibson.

"Mr. Shinwell's expressed preference for fish and chips wrapped in the *Daily Herald* is perhaps natural for anyone exuding his own temper." — *Time and Tide*.

"Democracy with us is ceasing to be government by reasoned discussion. It is degenerating into a mechanical system of majority-party voting." — Lord Macmillan.

"The British are not getting their exports into the American market in anything like the quantities imperative if devaluation is to make any sense at all." — Mr. Don Iddon, writing from New York.

"The difference between a career and a job with the difference between a 60-hour week and a 40-hour week." — Mr. Douglas F. Freeman.

"A Serviceman trained under the best conditions for six months will be a better soldier than one who serves under present conditions for 18 months." — General Sir Harold Brandyn.

"It is depressing to be told that the *News of the World* is read by every second adult in the country and the *Daily Mirror* by one in four. On these organs is contemporary British civilization based." — Mr. Wilson Harris, M.P.

"One cannot be in contact with the British Press without appreciating the real sense of independence in its members, and their feeling of obligation to find out the facts for themselves and make up their own minds." — Lord Radcliffe.

"Whereas the national income of Great Britain with a population of 50 millions is £10,620 million, that of the United States, with its 146 million inhabitants, is £61,300 million. The relative incomes per head are thus £212 and £417." — National City Bank of New York.

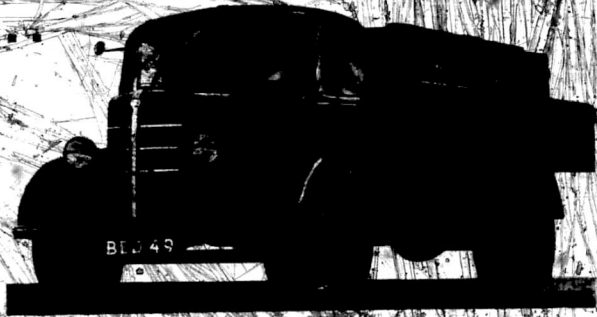
"Real danger from the Germans lies in their national character. Nobody who has been in Germany recently could say that they understand democracy or can be brought to understand it short of a long period of tuition." — Mr. A. M. Crawley, M.P.

"If an atomic bomb burst at 2,000 feet there will be a large radio-active contamination. It would have to burst at something like 500 feet or on the ground to create serious radio-action for any length of time, and when the burst is at low level the area of damage is very much reduced." — Lord Teynham.

"When we considered converting a coal-burning ship to oil fuel the price quoted in this country was about £25,000, against the Continental price of £15,000, and the time to carry out the work here was three months against three weeks there." — The Hon. I. P. Phillips, chairman of the United British Steamship Co., Ltd.

"Storm clouds are gathering in the North, West, and East, particularly in the East. A situation is developing such as has not been seen for centuries. We still live in the illusion of a settled world of peace and good government, but the Victorian era is gone. Modernism in every branch of the human race, is on the march." — General Smuts.

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PERSONALIA

BRIGADIER H. MAUGHAN-JONES recently arrived in Kenya by air.

MR. T. DE M. BARTLEY, puisne judge, has just on leave in this country.

BRIGADIER C. C. HAWES, chief engineer to the Uganda Electricity Board, recently visited South Africa.

MR. H. M. LEWIS, Director of Tsetse Research in Tanganyika, has arrived in this country on leave.

LORD FAULSTICH, former Secretary of State for the Colonies, has sold part of his Liverpool estates for £247,000.

SIR J. H. B. NICHILL, Chief Justice of Kenya who is in this country on leave, is due to return to the Colony in March.

SIR ALAN BURNS and MONS. E. RYCKMANS, former Governor-General of the Belgian Congo, have been visiting Kenya.

LIEUT.-COLONEL P. ZEYLMANS, who recently flew from South Africa to Kenya, is a director of Marshalls Food Products, Ltd.

LADY BYRNE, widow of a former Governor of Kenya, has been paying a visit to her daughter and son-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. BOYLE, in Nairobi.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN BOLTON HUDSON, of Nairobi, have celebrated their silver wedding. They were married in Calcutta on November 15, 1924.

MONS. GEORGES DAHOUB has arrived in Zanzibar from Brazil to replace as French Vice-Consul MONS. J. BELLISSOT, who has been appointed to Nairobi.

MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL has agreed to a proposal that one of the halls in the extended Coryndon Memorial Museum in Nairobi should be named after him.

MAJOR GEORGE CALLOW, who has resigned from the Kampala branch of United Africa Co., Ltd., has joined Messrs. Gibson and Co., Ltd., of Dar es Salaam.

MR. ALAN C. W. DIXON, who was recently appointed general manager of the British Central Africa Co., Ltd., has just arrived in London for consultations with the board.

MR. E. A. VASEY, M.L.C., has been appointed by the Member for Health and Local Government in Kenya to conduct an inquiry into African housing in the Colony.

MR. A. F. HANSCOMB, who is on holiday in this country for the first time since 1902, won £10,000 in the Southern Rhodesian State Lottery. He is now in his 70th year.

JUDGE NATHAN MAREIN, adviser to the Prime Minister and Ministry of Justice in Ethiopia, and MRS. MAREIN have returned to Addis Ababa from their holiday in this country and the United States.

MAJOR GENEVIEVE DE MONTMAGNEY, Governor of Southern Rhodesia, LADY KENNEDY, and Miss KENNEDY, leave Southampton today in the STIRLING Castle on their way back to the Colony.

MR. E. J. MARDON, J.P., of Hallway Manor, Crowlands, Somerset, is on the point of leaving for a visit to South and East Africa. He was last in Kenya two years ago. His son is farming in the Colony.

MAJOR WILFRED YURGENSEN, of the Salvation Army, who after some seven years' service in Kenya and Uganda was transferred to Canada.

The Union of South Africa about the end of this year. BRIGADIER C. MORRISON, D.S.O., M.C., late The Leicestershire Regiment, has been appointed private secretary to Sir Edward Twining, Governor of Tanganyika Territory, whose A.D.C. is LIEUT.-COMMANDER BRIAN Palmer.

MR. H. D. HUGHES, M.P., and MR. ARTHUR SKEFFINGTON, M.P., will speak on "Dilemma in Planning" at a Fabian Colonial Bureau meeting to be held in the Caxton Hall, Westminster, S.W.1, at 7 p.m. on December 1.

Delegates from Mauritius to the Sugar Conference which opens in London on Monday are SIR PHILIPPE RAFFRAY, MR. P. G. A. ANTHONY, MR. A. M. OSMAN, M.L.C., MR. H. R. VAGHDEE, M.L.C., and MR. K. V. MACQUIRE.

MR. G. F. HOTBLACK has relinquished the chairmanship of the Atlas Assurance Company, but remains a member of the court. He is a director of Messrs. Smith, Mackenzie and Co., Ltd., and a partner in Gray Dawes and Company.

MR. P. WYN HARRIS, who left for the Gambia in the SANGARA on Saturday, was received in audience by THE KING on Friday. Before sailing the new Governor and MRS. WYN HARRIS attended a meeting of Gambian students in London.

MR. I. BLAU and MR. E. F. BECKER, of the U.S.A. Office of International Trade, are spending three months touring Africa. They recently arrived in the Belgian Congo, and will go on to Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanganyika, Mozambique, and the Union.

SIR ALFRED VINCENT, leader of the non-official members of the East Africa Central Assembly, left London by air early this morning for Nairobi. He had arrived in this country only a few days earlier from a business visit to the United States.

LIEUT.-COLONEL G. M. STANTON has been appointed to follow MAJOR G. A. V. KEAYS as Director of Stores and Ordnance in the Sudan. Major Keays is due to retire next year.

MR. PATRICK C. GORDON-WALKER, Under-Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations, was one of four directors of Theatre 46, Ltd., who were fined £10 each at Bow Street Court, London, last week for permitting a default in making annual returns to the Board of Trade for 1947 and 1948.

SIR RAYMOND HASTLEY, who has been appointed chairman of the governing body of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad, in the place of the late Sir Frank Stockdale, has been chairman of the Universities Advisory Committee of the British Council for the past three years.

MR. C. F. MITCHELL, who is retiring from the editorship of the Bulawayo *Sunday News*, has received a joint presentation from local sporting organizations for his long service to all kinds of sport. It was largely his advocacy which resulted in the establishment of a central sports ground in the city.

The engagement announced between Mr. NEVILLE COLLINGWOOD WELLS, only son of the late Mr. A. C. Wells, and Miss L. D. WELLS, of Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, formerly of Ilford, Essex, to Miss ELIZABETH ROBERTS, second daughter of Major R. Gilda Roberts, and daughter of the late Major R. Gilda Roberts, and Mrs. Gilda Roberts, of Arford, Surrey.

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MR. WILLIAM JOHNSTON, Commissioner of Customs in East Africa, will shortly come on leave pending retirement. Before becoming Commissioner of Customs in Tanganyika he had served in Mauritius, Jamaica, Sierra Leone, and British Honduras, where he acted as Governor from time to time.

MR. B. E. PETITPIERRE, Vice-Chairman of the East African Chamber of Commerce, London member of Commerce, and a director of Bell Brothers (Africa), Ltd., accompanied by Mr. H. D. LEHMAN, a director of Bell Brothers (Africa), Ltd., and R. Lehmann (Africa), Ltd., will leave London by air on December 1 for Dar es Salaam on a short-business visit.

LORD INCHCAPE, a director of Messrs. Smith Mackenzie & Co., Ltd., and of the British India Steamship Company, who is now in East Africa, will be best man at the wedding in Johannesburg, December 1 of Mr. GEORGE MANN, the English and Middlesex cricketer, to Miss MARGARET CLARK, Lord Inchcape, and the bridegroom were at Eton together.

MR. E. E. SHENTON, managing director of Island Products (Pty.), Ltd., of Cape Town, and Mr. J. SHENLEY, a co-director, are investigating the possibilities of establishing fisheries off the coasts of Kenya and Tanganyika. Plans have been made to base on Lamu 10 diesel-driven boats between 30 and 40 feet long. The main product will be sun-dried fish, for which there is a great demand.

MR. JOHN SCHLESINGER, who controls a group of some 400 cinemas, hotels and other enterprises in South, Central, and East Africa, has arrived in London. Mr. Schlesinger, who is now only 26 years of age, inherited control from his American father. Towards the end of the war he served as a bombardier in the United States Army Air Force. He has now adopted South African citizenship.

BRIGADIER T. F. GIVEN will assume the duties of political secretary of Somalia at the end of this month, vice LIEUT. COLONEL G. J. PINK, who will shortly leave the territory at the conclusion of his short-service commission. It is understood that Colonel Pink will receive another appointment under the Foreign Office. MR. A. C. JOMARON will replace Brigadier Given as provincial commissioner, Mijertein.

MR. F. J. BLAKE, managing director of Riddoch Motors, Ltd., Tanganyika, and this year's president of the Northern Province Chamber of Commerce of the Territory, is on leave in Aberdeenshire. Mr. Blake, who arrived in Kenya in 1927, and has ever since been associated in business with Mr. John L. Riddoch, was president of the Dar es Salaam Chamber of Commerce four years ago. Arusha is now his place of residence.

MR. C. M. DEVERELL, lately secretary of the Development and Reconstruction Authority of Kenya, has been promoted Administrative Secretary on the retirement of MR. C. H. GORMLEY. Mr. Deverell, now 42 years of age, went to Kenya as a cadet in 1931, was seconded to the Secretariat eight years later, and acted as clerk to the Legislative Council until he joined the Forces in 1941. He was with the British Military Administration in Somalia for some time, and after the end of the war was posted to the War Office for special duty. For a short period this year he has acted as Financial Secretary and Chief Native Commissioner.

Rail Survey Report

EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA is able to state that the Anglo-American survey team recently in Africa have presented their report on the subject of a railway connexion between the Rhodesian and East African systems to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. No official announcement is to be expected until the document has been considered in London and Washington and by the East and Central African Governments.

Obituary

Brigadier-General T. P. B. Ternan

BRIGADIER-GENERAL TREVOR PATRICK BREFFNEY TERNAN, C.M.G., D.S.O., who died last week at his home in Worthington, Sussex, was one of the outstanding figures in the troubled period at the end of the last century in Uganda, which then included the western part of what is to-day Kenya.

Born in 1860, and educated at Bromsgrove School and Sandhurst, he was in action against the Abegins within a year of receiving his commission in 1879. Two years later he went to Egypt, where he served with the Egyptian Army, the 9th Sudanese battalion, and on the staff.

Led Operations Against Rebels

It was in 1894 that he joined the Uganda Rifles, of which he became commandant in 1896, and served in the expedition in Bunyoro. The following year he was in charge of the operations against Mwangi, and subsequently against the mutineers and rebels. He acted as Commissioner and Consul-General of the Uganda Protectorate in 1897 and again in 1899, and held the same position for British East Africa in 1900. Fort Ternan, named in Kenya, was named after him.

Brigadier-General Ternan took part in the punitive expedition against the Ogaden Somalis before serving in South Africa, in which country he remained in staff appointments in his regiment in 1902. He rejoined the Army from 1906 to 1917 as A.A.C. and C.M.G. of the Northumberland Territorial Division, and later in command of the 102nd Tyneside Scottish Brigade.

Testimonies to his exploits during the most difficult and dangerous period of Uganda's history are to be found in most of the reminiscences of the early pioneers, many of whom were missionaries.

Major W. M. Campbell

MAJOR WILLIAM MAXWELL CAMPBELL, The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, attached to the Staffordshire Highlanders, who was killed in North Johore, Malaya, a few days ago in action against terrorists, had served for some years in East Africa, where he was first posted to a battalion of the King's African Rifles in 1937. He served through the campaigns in Ethiopia and Burma, and early in his military career was for some time in Palestine. He became a well-known figure in East Africa, playing Rugby football for Nairobi, Mombasa, and being a member of the Mombasa and Nairobi Clubs, and in London of the East India and Sports Club, which has a large East African membership. "Mustard," as he was known to his intimates, returned to Malaya from leave in England only a few weeks ago. He was 35 years of age, and the eldest son of the late Dr. Basil Patrick Campbell, of Skerington, and Mrs. Campbell.

MR. DONALD MCGILLEN, F.R.I.B.A., a former M.L.A. for Bulawayo Central, who was closely associated with public affairs in Southern Rhodesia for 40 years, has died in Bulawayo. Founder of the firm of architects bearing his name, he designed several of the best-known public buildings in Bulawayo, where he was a town councillor at one time. Born in Scotland in 1879, he studied in Inverness and London before emigrating to South Africa in 1901. He practised in Cape Town and seven years later went to Rhodesia. He was a past president of the Institute of Southern Rhodesian Architects.

MR. JOHN CHARLES SAGE, who has died in Bulawayo at the age of 83, left the Transvaal for Rhodesia in 1893, carrying in his wagon the first load of farming implements and the first bags of seed potatoes to be conveyed to Bulawayo.

Groundnut Debate

(Report continued from page 364)

MR. STRACHEY: "I think it is better if I leave my rt. hon. friend the Secretary of State for the Colonies to reply."

MR. STANLEY: "How is it that these two gentlemen have been selected to bear responsibility for the failures of the last year? If a minority of members take a view different from the remainder of the board, there is no alternative but resignation or dismissal of those who disagree. However, I can find no record of such a disagreement on principle having taken place upon the board of the corporation."

"It is quite true that Mr. Wakefield on several occasions brought to the notice of the board the fact that they were going too fast, and that the speed at which they were attempting development was unnecessary and gravely increasing the cost. But he made the first of those protests as far back as June, 1948. That has been published in the Press. The next was in March of this year, and neither protest was followed by any demand for his dismissal."

The second possibility would be that the chairman of the corporation said to the Minister: "These two colleagues do not give me the support or satisfaction to which I am entitled, and I ask you to remove them. One would have thought if that had been the case that the chairman would at least have told his colleagues of his dissatisfaction and that he was making this report to the Minister."

As far as I can make out, nothing of that kind was ever done. Perhaps the rt. hon. gentleman will tell me? The chairman never raised with either of these two gentlemen the question of their fitness to continue as members of the board or said that he intended to make any adverse report to the Minister. Indeed, I am told exactly the opposite by Mr. Wakefield. Is he not entitled to have the facts of the case brought before this House? He informed me that, far from this being the case, the chairman consoled with him on his dismissal, said that he had done his best for him, but that the Minister was insistent.

Minister Wanted Scapegoats

Therefore we are forced to the conclusion that the dismissal of these two men has really nothing to do with their personal responsibility under the scheme. The fact is that just before this debate the Minister wanted scapegoats, and he has chosen the two scapegoats most convenient to him.

The rt. hon. gentleman said that in military operations the penalty of failure was dismissal and that this must be regarded as a military operation. However, that principle must be one of general application. In this case it is of particular application. When this military operation fails we sack the battalion commanders but do not touch the general who planned the attack, still less the commander-in-chief who ordered it.

I believe that in the first year of its existence the corporation made mistakes as grave as any which were made by the managing agency during their year of responsibility, and that they had less excuse for making those mistakes because by the time they took over at least some of the roughest pioneering work had already been completed.

I was glad that the rt. hon. gentleman called attention to the fact that it is impossible to hold the managing agency wholly accountable for the difficulties that have arisen. Of course, they were only an agency, and under his control. Their audit was done by the audit department of his Ministry. Secondly, although the corporation did not take over until March, 1948, the chairman had been appointed months before. He had free access to all the books and papers of the managing agency; he spent several months in Africa with them, and after November, 1947, no policy decision could be taken without his knowledge and concurrence. Therefore there was plenty of opportunity for criticisms of the accountancy system to have been made earlier.

The auditor, however, is not referring merely to left-overs on the assumption of authority by the corporation; his remarks concerning the books which have been improperly kept and the statements which are not available refer to books and statements during the period when the corporation were in authority. As far as I can see, little progress was made during that first year to clear up the accountancy mess. The rt. hon. gentleman now, 20 months after the corporation assumed authority, is still unable to give any assurance that by the end of the present financial year in March the same sort of note will not have to be attached to the accounts again.

Morale under the managing agency was on the whole very high—but it did not remain high after the corporation took over. Is it not a fact that in September, 1948—six months after the corporation took over—all the heads of department in East Africa sent a memorandum to the resident member calling attention to the rapid lowering of morale and deep feeling of bewilderment which exists at present among heads of departments and rank and file almost without exception.

Nothing happened. Therefore at the end of January, 1949, another memorandum was sent to the chairman and executive members of the board. Many of them, including the

chairman, were about to go to Kogwa. In this memorandum, sent nearly a year after the corporation had taken over, the same gentlemen expressed the opinion that the situation had become worse in the five months. They made many suggestions as to how this distressing state of affairs could be corrected and morale improved.

Critics Silenced

I do not know what the suggestions were. I can give you one result, however, and I think it will interest some members if I read a list of the officers concerned and the fate of the signatories of the memorandum in question. The chief health officer is the only one who is still in the chief health officer has been reduced in rank; chief labour officer has been reduced in rank; chief motor transport officer dismissed; chief civil engineer dismissed; chief mechanical engineer dismissed; chief personnel officer transferred to the secretariat; chief merchandise officer dismissed; and so on.

If the chairman, as a result of this memorandum and the action he took, did nothing to improve morale at least he has done enough to secure silence. Will the Minister affirm that during the year covered by the report of the corporation there was improvement in morale?

I have here the background notes issued to the press by the corporation at the time of the publication of the report. Such notes would not be issued without the authority of the chairman, and he took a part in drawing them up. I was to read one extract from these background notes, but he oddly enough, it does not appear in the report. It is this:—

"It was the view of some officers of the managing agency in East Africa that, because of the delays encountered in the first year, the year 1948-49, the second year should be regarded as the first operative year, and that 150,000 acres, most of them in Kogwa, could be cleared, cultivated, and planted. The corporation took a different view, and during the course of the year covered by the report reduced this target to 50,000 acres. This figure was almost reached, 49,820 acres being sown to crops."

I should have felt on reading that statement that the rash, improvident agency, before it relinquished its authority, had thought of developing 150,000 acres, but that when the corporation came in at the end of March, before the planting season started, they were more cautious, more realistic, and reduced that target to 50,000 acres.

Is it not a fact that after the corporation took control the resident member proposed as the target for the year the clearing and planting of 125,000 acres? Is it almost exactly the figure which we are told the managing agency had so foolishly suggested? Is it not a fact that objections were raised in East Africa to that figure and by Mr. Wakefield in London, but that it was warmly and enthusiastically welcomed by the chairman, and in June the target was given by the chairman and the resident member to the area manager of 125,000 acres?

False Claims of Target

"The Minister of Food was there at the time or shortly after. Is it not a fact that as late as August of that year the target for the year was still 121,000 acres? Is it not true that, when the rt. hon. gentleman talks about 'now'—almost at the close of the planting season—they decided on the target of 50,000 acres, the target was always 125,000 acres and was still that in August and thereafter, but month by month they had to drop, not the target, because that had been set, but the extent to which they were going to be able to reach that target?"

MR. STRACHEY: "It is perfectly true that I discussed the matter with Major-General Harrison in July and he was very reluctant when he came into the scheme to say immediately that the target acreage for the next year should be reduced. I do not blame him for that. But is the rt. hon. gentleman's argument anything more than that during the first month in which the corporation came into possession of all the facts and possibilities on the spot they cut off 25,000 acres at once and gradually reduced the target to a realistic figure?"

MR. STANLEY: "Yes, I am saying a great deal more than that. I am saying that three months after they came—by which time they must have had time to look round—against the advice of many people, they fixed the target of 125,000 acres, and two months later it was still that figure; and when the rt. hon. gentleman talks about reducing a target to 50,000 acres, what happened was that month by month they fell further and further behind in reaching the target they had set for themselves, and in the end the target of 50,000 acres represented what in fact they had been able to sow."

After referring to the work at Kogwa and Urambo, Mr. Stanley turned to that in the Southern Province saying:—

"The sawmill at Noli, we are told with pride, the most modern and complete in East Africa, costing some £250,000, has been erected at Noli on the grounds that around it would be a quantity of valuable timber available as raw material, and that the site would be there of the new town which would be the centre of that agricultural district in which it would find a rich market for its products."

That was what the sawmill was built for. Now, but it was built after it was built that anybody made either a survey of the local timber or the agricultural soil survey upon which the site of the new town depended. Is it not a fact that the survey of the forest area has been most disappointing, that utilisable timber has been found to be only four to the acre, that only 30 per cent permits resistance that the cost of production is something like three times the controlled price in Liverpool, and that if the sawmill worked full time it would exhaust the whole of the available supply in between one and two years?

I gather that as a result of the soil survey it is most unlikely that the town will be built at all, that in fact the agricultural centre may be some miles distant and that any town to be built will be built there. So we have the sawmill built and paid for and now find that its raw material is largely deficient and that its market has been moved 30 or 40 miles away from it.

Is it not a fact that in Block A, the very large area immediately around the railroad, the soil survey has been rather disappointing and that only about a quarter of the area has been found fit for agricultural development?—that is, about 300,000 acres out of 1,200,000? When I say "fit" for agricultural development, that means fit for growing anything, not necessarily oil seeds. Even that is dependent upon the water being available, and the water survey has not yet been completed.

The hon. gentleman has told us now when three-fifths of the money has been expended, that those responsible for the scheme have tried to see how far it is possible to go before the rest of the money voted in Parliament has been expended. He is told that on their estimate, which I think is based on the assumption that there will not be any new difficulties or any undiscovered water trouble, the result will be that by 1951 we shall have planted at a cost of £50 million 200,000 acres of agricultural land.

Minister for East of Africa

...with the original idea of three million acres at a cost of £25 million we see how far we fall short of the target.

...with a bias that we must carry this scheme to a conclusion if we possibly and prudently can.

...there is the position of the staff. The great majority of them have given devoted service. They do not bear any of the blame. Although it is true that increasing the staff has been against national advantage, we must consider the interests of them.

...the money already spent. Are we to write it all off as a loss? If we dropped the scheme as a total loss, it is not present to spend rather more and by that means get the results on what we have already spent?

...this is most important; this is a question of prestige. This scheme has been hatched all over the world as a great British idea, and for the sake of prestige all over the world we cannot afford to see it fail.

...the Colonial territories, and although this is an indirect way of helping them, no one would suggest that if we were to give £30 million to be spent in helping Colonial territories we would spend it like this.

Mr. STANLEY: Rightly or wrongly, that is just what I do say. I believe that if we can succeed as I think we now have done, in a technique for large-scale clearance in Africa and mechanized agriculture there, that is incomparably the greatest benefit we can give to the Colonial areas by the expenditure of £30 million. I may be wrong.

Mr. STANLEY: I will ask the Colonial Secretary, who is to reply to my question of £30 million had been given to him to spend for the benefit of the inhabitants of East Africa, this is how he would have done it.

...this scheme to succeed there are two essentials: the personal one. There is an article in *Parliamentary Post* upon this scheme. No one will say that that paper is particularly hostile to this Government or particularly friendly to us. This article is written most objectively and on the whole very fairly. It says:

And the finest single thing that could happen would be the resignation of Sir Leslie Plummer, G.F.C. chairman of the responsible to Parliament and people in leadership, in his handling of executives, in his approach to the blameable third party, many of whom have been thoroughly re-educating. Sir Leslie has failed to give the scheme what is most needed.

If People Could Speak Freely

That reporter did not get that information in Whitehall as from Tory politicians. He got it from the people on the spot. If people could speak freely and without fear of the consequences, I say that nine out of every ten concerned in this scheme would say the same thing to-day.

His appointment was a gamble. It did not appear at the time to possess the particular qualifications for this particular job. Agricultural and tropical knowledge, engineering development, large-scale industrial administration—none of this (Hon. Members: 'Aobs for the boys').

The gamble has failed. He has split the staff in East Africa from top to bottom. He has been responsible for the speed-at-all-costs policy, which has over the last year involved us in too much extra expense. It has been largely due to him that there has been objection of the board from London, that there has been a swelling of staff here and over-centralization—now being corrected—in East Africa itself.

The best and greatest service he could render to the corporation could now be to resign from it, and allow a new man to take his place.

I make no reference to the Minister of Food. He knows his responsibility and makes his choice. It is clear that it would require dynamite to move him. I really do not mind if we have a new chairman, independent, courageous, ready to tell the public the truth, if we have a new scheme, with the authority of a new committee. Then the blame which the Minister says do will in future be strictly circumscribed.

The other essential to the inquiry we ask for is the speed of it. So far as I am concerned, it is a demand for an inquiry not into the past but into the future. My hon. member for East Coventry (Mr. Crossman) wrote the other day in the *Sunday Pictorial*: "Mr. Ross and Mr. Wakenand are worth £3,000 apiece. It is a hard rule, but a good one, that in public or private enterprises, the (when things go badly) highly paid heads must fall; but not too highly paid, heads; £3,000-a-year heads, yes, let them fall; but £5,000-a-year heads, no, they must stay. He goes on to say 'that these two should go at once and that Parliament should set up a special inquiry to probe what really went wrong. Sack them first and then have an inquiry to see who is responsible for it.'

Inquiry into the Future Needed

What I want is an inquiry into the future. No man would be wasted while that committee was inquiring. I should like to have a committee composed entirely of experts, with no political bias whatever. I should say that finance, engineering, agriculture, and African conditions were the four branches of knowledge to be represented.

The committee need not take very long. Its report—which would have to be accepted or rejected by the Government of the day—might have the most tremendous effect upon the future of the scheme.

The report of this committee may give the basis for a new start in which all of us could join. Those responsible for carrying out the scheme should have the authority of an independent report behind them.

All of us could feel no matter in what part of the House we are, that we could support the new decision, and in supporting it be prepared to take our share of responsibility for carrying it out. In that way something—perhaps a great deal—could be saved of what otherwise might become the wreckage of a fine conception which has hitherto been ruined by over-optimism and mismanagement.

This is too important for personal feelings. There ought to be a discussion of face-saving. I appeal to all of those who think only of the scheme and its future, and who are conscious of the result of failure, and of the great result which might come from success, to adopt this plan. I am not out for the fine score of the past. I am not here merely to fix responsibility on this man or that man. I want an agreed basis for the future which we all can support.

I believe that the course suggested in our amendment is the only thing which can restore confidence so badly shaken. It can give all of us in a new support behind this venture, which all of us must wish to succeed.

(General comment appears under "Matters of Moment.")

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Rhodesia Always Developing Sir Arthur Griffin Replies to Critics

SIR ARTHUR GRIFIN, general manager of Rhodesia Railways, has said in a speech that he has been unable to find a parallel anywhere in the rate of development of the Colony's railways, which would double their capacity within the next five years. Operations for the year were 29% above the 1946 level, and had now reached 38% above the latter level.

Appealing for a wider recognition of the problems involved, Sir Arthur said that the rate of development of the railways was "alarmingly" slow. Up to the end of 1952 they would spend a further £17,000,000 on capital works and £13,000,000 on renewals. The railways were being maintained at the top of the market, and it would be wiser to "back on wild expenditure. The only thing to do was to make a traffic analysis every six months for the next three years.

Sir Arthur was replying to Mr. Stanley Cooke, president of the Federation of Rhodesian Industries and of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce, who had opened a meeting between representatives of various national bodies by declaring that railway problems in Southern Rhodesia might also be said to have reached a state of national emergency.

Congestion A Serious Threat

Congestion and the frequent closing of traffic to large areas, and general delay in the transport of goods within the Colony, as well as in receipt of urgently required machinery and materials from abroad, had, he said, become a serious threat to trade, commerce, and general development.

Sir Arthur Griffin replied that whilst railway phasing was going on, others in the Colony should be phasing too. There was the question, for instance, of planning for warehouses and the dispersal of industrial development. Bulawayo and Salisbury were reaching saturation point, but there was always the danger, in the other extreme, of industrial development starting anywhere in the Colony.

Trains Through Beit Bridge

About 200 tons of selected traffic from South Africa were to be ferried through the Beit Bridge gate in a month, to relieve the congestion caused by a small "grey" on the Mafeking-Bulawayo line. It would be conveyed by road transport from Beitbridge to West African mines and thence, rail to Bulawayo. It was also expected to import another 500 tons monthly through Beit, and to convey in direct to Bulawayo by rail.

Discussing future plans, the general manager said that they planned to open up areas for road transport first and then later consider the question of new lines. The Beit Bridge route has received most careful study, and other possibilities were being examined. He favoured a connexion via Pafuri to Lourenço Marques. That would give three separate outlets to the coast, through Beit, Lourenço Marques, and Union ports.

Banangato Inquiry Ends

Serete Khama's Testimony

FINDING no "good uncles" accompanied Serete Khama into exile after the marriage of Serete Khama to a European woman, a witness named Serete giving evidence before the judicial inquiry into the actions of Serete Khama to be chief of the Banangato tribe in Bechuanaland, and disagreed with the view that the chiefs of the tribe had left.

Serete testified that he was confident that the chiefs of the tribe, almost to a man, had abandoned Serete Khama Christian in marrying his wife. There was true affection between them and he had no intention to spite a woman.

Admitting that he had not been consulted about the consent of the tribe, he claimed that he had been pardoned for this breach of tribal custom, and that his marriage and the chiefdom had been accepted by the chiefs of the tribe and the British Government.

The commission considered it wrong for Serete to state that his wife had been a prostitute, or that his children should not be allowed to inherit. A court of law considering a case of this kind would not consider of itself the question of ethics alone could.

Chiefs in the area were commiserated with the dramatic intoxicating liquor, and being as they were in excess, that did not constitute a reason for removing them from office. They were self-governing territories.

The commission ended its sitting on Friday. It is hoped that the report will be made for Sir Evelyn Baring, British High Commissioner in South Africa, to bring to this country in the next few days, and that it will be published within a week.

Copperbelt Films

FILMS OF THE COPPERBELT in Northern Rhodesia were shown in London last week to the Messrs. Copper Mines, Ltd., Nchanga Consolidated Copper Mines, Ltd., Rhosana Corporation, Ltd., and Road Antelope Copper Mines, Ltd., for whom they had been made by Gaumont British. A general interest film in colour well portrayed the life of the Europeans and Africans in the area, several technical films demonstrated the processes from the prospecting stage to the production of the finished metal, and a story picture well illustrated the effects upon African life of the establishment and development of large-scale industry, which was shown to widen the outlook in ambitious Africans and bring better living conditions for their families. The distinguishing feature of all the films was their naturalness; they showed the Copperbelt as it was and is.

On arrival at Plymouth from East Africa the 9,000 ton liner MULBERA was boarded by detectives to investigate allegations that 11 mail bags had been tampered with.

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Kenya Budget for New Year Budgetary Expenditure Rises

The Government of Kenya estimates that for 1956 the total expenditure, including contributions to the High Commission services at £10,000,000, will be £11,000,000. The comparable figure for 1955 was £8,946,740. The general revenue balance at the end of 1955 is calculated at £243,349.

There are some sharp increases in expenditure. Contributions to military expenditure, which amounted in the current year to £241,517, is expected to be an excess of £500,000, and Mr. V. G. Matthews, the member for Finance, stated when introducing the budget that Kenya's contribution to the costs "of that element of the military force which is related to our internal security has been calculated hitherto on wholly unrealistic lines."

Revising Defence Contribution

"During and since the war we have been paying our pre-war contribution plus 25%. No one with the slightest knowledge of the rise in the cost of maintaining the armed forces could regard that basis as fair and just. It is not surprising, therefore, that His Majesty's Government is asking for a revision based on actualities. With this request this Government feels bound in principle to agree."

The amount of the contribution is still a matter for negotiation, and there is no doubt that there will be some difference of opinion as to what are the actualities. Nevertheless, I think it will be found that the figure in these estimates is of the right order."

The cost of the education department is put at £1,092,039 (£1,004,573 last year); police at £729,535 (£672,325); prisons, £302,570 (£268,842); agricultural department, £291,244 (£277,283); forest department, £167,555 (£140,913); veterinary services, £235,492 (£144,005); medical department, £780,109 (£713,813).

The Secretariat and Legislative Council vote is up from £91,661 to £110,445, printing and stationery from £79,747 to £104,124, and of the two Public Works Department votes from £623,020 to £852,440.

Present rates of income tax are to be continued for a further year, but the Finance Member gave a broad hint

that there may then have to be changes. Custom and excise duties are expected to produce £350,000 over the revised estimate for 1955, when some £5,500,000 is expected to be collected.

Development projects now under consideration would cost about £40,000,000, not with £3,000,000 of the original 10-year programme. The Colony could, however, not meet such heavy commitments, and Mr. Matthews said that the annual development programme, which could be increased to £11,000,000, might be obtained by loans.

One major aim in the programme would be the provision of a water supply for Mombasa, at an estimated cost of £2,000,000 for the first year of the scheme.

Recurrent commitments falling upon the budget of the Colony by the end of 1955, when the development programme should be completed, would be something over £4,500,000, including services of the loan and a sinking fund contribution of 1%, the statutory minimum.

Congo Basin Treaties

THE SOUTHERN RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT intends to take the initiative in trying to secure the ratification of the Congo Basin Treaties by the South African Government, although both Governments have promised full support in the interests of increasing economic co-operation and development in the southern and Central Africa. This is one of the results of the recent five-day meeting at the Victoria Falls between Mr. P. F. Malpas, Southern Rhodesian Minister for Trade and Industrial Development, and the British-Lower Union Minister of Economic Affairs, Mr. Hasted, revealed in an interview that Southern Rhodesia has unwittingly broken one clause of the Congo Basin Treaties by allowing a distillery to be established in Umtali, to which their attention had been drawn by the British Government.



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Financial Adviser in S. Rhodesia Sir George Sandford Leaving E. Africa

Sir Gordon Munro's Appointment

THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA ANNOUNCES the appointment of SIR GORDON MUNRO, K.C.M.G., M.C., to be Financial Adviser to the Government for a period of two years with effect from January 1, 1949. The appointment will also carry with it the chairmanship of the Southern Rhodesia Currency Board, which serves Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

Under this appointment Sir Gordon will be an independent adviser to the Government of Southern Rhodesia on financial, economic and banking policy in the domestic and international fields, both presently and in relation to future development. The position of Financial Adviser in relation to the Government will be closely comparable to the relationship which exists between the Governor of a Central Bank of a country and its Government.

It is understood that, on completion of preparatory work in London, Sir Gordon Munro will take up residence in Salisbury towards the end of February.

Banking Experience in London

Aged 54, he was educated at Wellington College and P.M.C. Sandhurst. Commissioned in February, 1914, in the 5th Dragoon Guards, he was invalided from the Army, on account of wounds, in 1923. The same year he entered the investment banking firm of Melbert, Waag and Co., Ltd., of which he was a managing director from 1934 to 1946. From November, 1941, to 1946, he served as Financial Adviser to the United Kingdom High Commissioner in Canada.

In 1946 he was appointed to be United Kingdom Treasury Representative in the United States and a Minister at the British Embassy, Washington. He retired, at his own request, in December, 1948. In 1947 he was, in addition, appointed an alternate governor, and also United Kingdom Executive Director of the International Bank, from which he has recently retired after the completion of his two years' appointment.

Sir Gordon was awarded the M.C. in France in 1918, appointed C.M.G. in 1946, and created a K.C.M.G. in 1947.

Ex-Italian Colonies

PLANS BY THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE of the United Nations to make Libya independent by January, 1952, to place Somalia under Italian trusteeship for 10 years, and to appoint a special commission to study the future of Eritrea were endorsed by the General Assembly on Monday by 48 votes in one, with nine abstentions.

The Government of Northern Rhodesia is to start a small pilot scheme for groundnut production in the Mumbwa district.

Appointed Governor of the Bahamas

SIR GEORGE RITCHIE SANDEFORD, K.B.E., C.M.G., Administrator to the East Africa High Commission, has been appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Bahamas.

Born in 1892 in Scarborough, he was educated at Blencowe Grammar School, Penrith, Christ's Hospital, and Queen's College, Cambridge, on leaving which he joined the Colonial Administration. He joined the Kenya in 1915. Nine years later he resigned to become editor of the *East African Standard*, but that arrangement was of short duration, and after being called to the Bar at The Inner Temple, he returned to the Colonial Service, being appointed in 1926 clerk to the Kenya Legislative Council. He became deputy treasurer five years later, was transferred to Tanganyika as treasurer in 1936, and to Palestine as financial secretary in 1940.

He returned to Tanganyika as Chief Secretary to the Conference of East African Governors in 1946, and when the East African High Commission was formed two years later he continued similar duties in the new office of Administrator.

Utilization of African Land

GROUP SETTLEMENT, mechanization, and collective farming had all made their appearance in Africa, said Sir John Macpherson, Governor of Nigeria, when he opened the international conference on indigenous rural economy in Jos last Friday which ended on Tuesday. Sixty delegates represented Great Britain and British dependencies in Africa, France and the French African territories, Belgium and the Congo, Portugal and Angola and Mozambique, South Africa, the United States, and the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization. Discussions were confined to African land utilization, and no attempt was made to deal with land tenure in detail. One suggestion was to increase the number of women agricultural officers, because of the predominant part played by women in Native agriculture.

Second-Class Air Mail

FACILITIES for the dispatch of second-class mail by air, which have been available for months to the U.S.A., Canada, South and Central America, and the West Indies, have now been extended to Egypt, the Sudan, Iran, Iraq and Persian Gulf ports at the postage rate of 3d. per half-ounce, and to Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, Zanzibar, Southern and Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, South Africa, and West Africa, at the postage rate of 4d. per half-ounce. The service is available for printed and commercial papers, samples, literature for the blind, and, to those countries which accept them, small postal packets.

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Parliament

Empire Trade Conference Suggested (U.N.O. and Somali Youth League)

IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS on Monday, the Foreign MINISTER was asked by MR. A. MARLOWE whether he would now endeavour to convene an Empire trade conference with the object of ascertaining the fullest possible extent to which imports now obtained from dollar sources could be obtained from Empire countries without payment of dollars.

MR. ATTLEE: "No, sir. I do not think there is any need for a special conference such as the hon. member suggests, as the Governments of the Commonwealth are already in very close touch on all questions of dollar-saving and dollar-earning. The proposed Commonwealth Conference in Colombo next January presents a further opportunity for consultation of which full advantage will be taken.

MR. MARLOWE: "Does the rt. hon. gentleman realize that what he calls keeping in 'very close touch' means at a considerable distance, and that it would be much easier to solve this problem if he got the Empire countries round a table, where it would soon be discovered that we could get most of what we require from the Empire, and so reduce dollar imports?"

MR. ATTLEE: "That is not our experience in this matter."

MR. W. GALLAGHER asked the Foreign Secretary what was the attitude taken by the British Government's representative at the United Nations Political Committee towards the letter of the Somali Youth League sent to the United Nations on October 13, 1949, and discussed by the Political Committee.

Baseless Allegations

MR. ERNEST BEVIN: "The letter in question, which contained a number of baseless allegations against the British administration in Italian Somaliland, was discussed in the Political Committee on October 15 and 18. The Minister of State refuted the allegations. A resolution which might have implied criticism of the British administration of the territory was subsequently rejected."

MR. GALLAGHER: "Is it not the case, as the Minister admits, that very serious allegations have been made against the British military and political administration, and that the only rebuttal of it by the Minister was a statement from the accused official, and will not the Foreign Secretary encourage an independent inquiry into what is going on in Somaliland?"

MR. BEVIN: "I would like to be able to conduct a thorough, independent inquiry into how the hon. member's friends managed to stir up this thing."

MR. HENRY USKOFF: "Will the Foreign Secretary tell the House what proportion of the reports issued by the Political Committee, he has ever time to read?"

MR. BEVIN: "I do my duty when my hon. friend is asleep. I start at 5 o'clock in the morning."

MR. L. D. GAMMANS asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies if, in view of recent events in the Seychelles, he was prepared to issue instructions to Colonial Governors to clarify the status of Colonial judges.

MR. CREECH JONES: "No, sir. The independent status of

Colonial judges in relation to the Executive is fully established, and is well understood by Colonial Governors."

MR. GAMMANS: "Is the rt. hon. gentleman aware that if there is any ambiguity on the subject it is due to the improper and unfortunate remarks made by his Under-Secretary in this House, for which he has received a 'ticking off' by the Lord Chancellor? Would the rt. hon. gentleman therefore draw attention of the Under-Secretary to this fact?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "The Lord Chancellor's remarks have nothing to do with the statement made by the Under-Secretary of State."

MR. A. MARLOWE: "Did not the Lord Chancellor express a directly contrary view to that expressed by the Under-Secretary?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "That is a complete misunderstanding. COLONEL GOMME-DUNCAN asked the Colonial Secretary what percentage of the 10-year plans under the Colonial Development Acts had had to be revised on account of rising costs for other reasons.

MR. CREECH JONES: "Two out of the 23 approved Colonial development plans have been revised, four others are in the course of revision or are about to be revised, and the remainder will fall to be revised under general arrangements which provide for review in the light of changed circumstances at approximately three-yearly intervals."

MR. A. DODD-PARKER asked whether the salaries of American scientists and technicians assisting in Colonial development schemes would be paid in sterling or dollars.

MR. CREECH JONES: "Salaries will be paid in dollars from the local Economic Co-operation Administration funds. Where local allowances are payable in addition to salary, these will be paid in sterling from Colonial Government or Colonial Development and Welfare Funds."

Land Purchase by Officials

MR. J. RANKIN asked whether the Colonial Secretary would amend the Colonial regulations and general orders of Colonial territories which permitted officials to buy land, in order that no British expatriate member of the Colonial Service might purchase land in any Colony until he had terminated his membership of the Service.

MR. CREECH JONES: "Under the existing Colonial regulations and the general orders of Colonial territories, an officer may be given permission to acquire land only if his private affairs would not thereby be brought into real or apparent conflict with his public duties. I am satisfied that this procedure has not been abused."

MR. F. W. SKINNARD asked whether, in the development of Makerere College as a university institution, it was intended to provide facilities for students of all racial origins in East and Central Africa, including Europeans, and if equal opportunities would be afforded for Makerere graduates to proceed to further education in the United Kingdom.

MR. CREECH JONES: "The answer to the first part of the question is: 'Yes, as an object of policy.' The answer to the second part of the question is: 'Yes.'"

MR. P. PRATTIN asked how many Coloured seamen had been accommodated nightly on the average at the hostel in Lemnau Street, Stepney, what were the alternative places to which seamen who would normally use the hostel at Stepney were to be sent, what amount of accommodation was available in those places, and how much of that was already taken up.

MR. CREECH JONES: "The Lemnau Street hostel had sleeping accommodation for 13 persons. Colonial seamen are accommodated by the British Sailors' Society, the Mission to Seamen, and at the Queen Victoria Seamen's Rest. I have no information about the total accommodation of these institutions, but I am satisfied that they can meet the needs of Colonial seamen in London."

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NEWS ITEMS IN BRIEF

The first all-Sudanese court martial has been held in the Sudan.

The Convention of Associations of Nyasaland will meet tomorrow.

More than 100 Sudanese are now students in the United Kingdom. This is a record.

Work is to start at once on extensions and improvements at Zanzibar airfield costing £75,000.

Gifts to the Dean of Westminster's appeal fund for African students' welfare now total £17,394.

A reception was held last Tuesday to celebrate the jubilee of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

The salary of the Speaker of the Southern Rhodesian Parliament has been increased from £1,250 to £1,500 per annum.

It is proposed to form a Naval Officers' Association of East Africa. Anyone interested should write to Box 39, Mombasa.

Africans of the Lumbwa tribe are reported to be stealing cattle dip in bottles and cans from European dips for use on their own cattle.

Two sets of triplets were born on the same day at the Pumwani Maternity Home, Nairobi. Both the mothers were Africans of the Kikuyu tribe.

Major Road Contracts

Seven major road contracts placed by the Government of Northern Rhodesia for the construction of 153 miles of first-class roads next year will cost about £657,000.

Salisbury, capital of Southern Rhodesia, now has one municipal official to every 147 persons (European, Coloured, Asiatic, and African). The ratio in Bulawayo is one to every 158 persons.

Native pass rules imposed on the Kitosh and Bugishu tribes in the North-Nyanza district of Kenya as a result of disturbances in connexion with the proscribed *Diniya Msimbwa* have been repealed.

The Land Acquisition (Amendment) Ordinance Order, by which the Sudan Government is permitted to take over unused land for a period of 30 instead of 15 years, has been approved by the Legislative Assembly.

An exhibition entitled "Tea: A progressive industry," which will open at the Tea Centre, Lower Regent Street, London, in mid-December, will be open for two months. It will show developments in British Africa and elsewhere.

Large-scale employers of Native labour in Southern Rhodesia have agreed, after a special meeting in Bulawayo, to recommend raising the official monthly allowance of 20s. in lieu of rations to 25s. in view of the higher cost of foodstuffs.

Strong Sense of Duty

An African shopkeeper in Kiyela, Tanganyika, has been commended by the local magistrate for recognizing and capturing an escaped convict. After a chase the criminal jumped into a crocodile-infested pool, but the shopman jumped after him.

Deputations of Somalis have protested to the district commissioners in Kismayu and Gardo against an Italian trusteeship over Somalia. Representations to the same effect have been made to the Chief Administrator in Mogadishu by the Somalia Conference.

The new Belgian Army military base which is being created at Kamina in the Belgian Congo, about 100 miles from Bukama on the Lower Congo-Katanga Railway and 300 miles from Elisabethville, is estimated to cost 1,000 million Belgian francs. Units of the Belgian Metropolitan Army are already stationed at Kamina.

Private cars registered in Southern Rhodesia during the first nine months of this year totalled 509 fewer than in the same period in 1948, when 3,634 new vehicles were bought. Registrations of commercial vehicles were, however, 2,206, compared with 2,032 in the comparable period last year.

Planning conditions and a more precise knowledge of costs have indicated that the provision of £17,000,000 for the Development Plan is likely to be inadequate if the original programme of works and services is adhered to, said Sir Gilbert Rennie, Governor of Rhodesia, recently.

Under the Municipal Loans Guarantee Bill, given a second reading in the Southern Rhodesian Parliament, the Minister of Finance may guarantee loans not exceeding £5,000,000 obtained outside the Colony in any financial year by municipalities. Salisbury and Bulawayo are both negotiating for loans.

African Railway Guides

The experiment of training African railway guides to assist and maintain discipline among Native passengers at Bulawayo is proving successful, according to the Rhodesia Railways *Bulletin*. The first group have been trained by the British South Africa Police in practical law and discipline, and have passed a written examination on railway practice as it affects Natives. The scheme will be extended to other areas of the Colony.

The Coinage and Currency Bill, which the Southern Rhodesian Minister of Finance hopes will pave the way to the establishment of a Central Bank for Central Africa, has been given a second reading. It adds one member (who will be the chairman) to the Colony's Currency Board. The Minister explained that this additional member would be a representative of the Bank of England, and it was hoped that he would shortly arrive to advise on the establishment of a Central Bank.

Air France, which operates a weekly air service in each direction between Paris and Madagascar, with stops in Tunis, Cairo, Khartoum, Nairobi, and Dar es Salaam, has devoted a special edition of its review to French territories in Africa. It is a splendid production, profusely and admirably illustrated by photographs, sketches and graphs, one of which shows that the aircraft of the line are scheduled to reach Khartoum in just over 16 hours after leaving Paris, and Dar es Salaam in under 25½ hours.

Rhodesian Students in S. Africa

Rumours that Rhodesian students are no longer admitted to South African universities are without foundation. The registrar of Natal University has said in a letter to the Director of Education in Southern Rhodesia: "This university is most perturbed at the possible effect such entirely baseless rumours may have upon student enrolment, a considerable portion of which consists of Rhodesian students. Inquiries about courses, admission, and general information are always welcomed from Rhodesian parents and teachers."

"While the railways work seven days a week and the rest of the Colony five and a-half, periodic rail congestions are bound to occur," said the Southern Rhodesian Minister of Transport, Mr. G. A. Davenport, in the Colony's Parliament recently. There was insufficient warehouse accommodation in the railway yards, a shortage of labour and a lack of proper handling facilities at warehouses and in certain private sidings. Mr. Davenport claimed that delays associated with customs clearance had been eliminated by Government action. Negotiations were taking place with the Portuguese Government with a view to making a joint application to the Economic Co-operation Administration for assistance in conducting economic and rail surveys to provide access to East Coast ports.

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Company Meeting

Roan Antelope Copper Mines, Limited

Mr. A. Chester Beatty's Statement

THE FOLLOWING IS AN abridgement of the statement by the chairman, Mr. A. Chester Beatty, dated November 11, 1949, which has been circulated to the stockholders of the Roan Antelope Copper Mines, Limited:—

Price of Copper

"For some years the pricing basis for copper delivered by us to the Ministry of Supply has been the American quotation converted into sterling at the official rate of exchange and adjusted suitably by freight and grade differentials. I have previously stated that our sales to the Ministry are for delivery six months ahead. Last July, at the Ministry's request, we reduced this pricing period to three months.

"It is public knowledge that the Ministry, subsequent to devaluation of the £ sterling, asked the Rhodesian producers to consider the adoption of some new pricing basis. This matter has been the subject of consideration for some weeks, and although I am not in a position to announce any final agreement, the Ministry has indicated that the previous pricing basis shall continue—that is to say, the American quotation, converted into sterling at the new rate of exchange will be used as the pricing basis.

"However, I am not in a position to say what price this will result in, at the present time, as there are other matters still under discussion with the Ministry on which agreement has not yet been reached, namely, questions relating to the freight and grade differentials. An official announcement will be issued in due course as to the result of the negotiations.

Results for the Year

"Production for the year was 56,162 tons (51,757 tons in the previous year). Cost of production was £72 14s. 11d. (£66 4s. 10d.) per long ton blister copper. Some of this production was retained as stock, which will be built up this year to about 18,000 tons. The remaining copper produced was sold at an average of £120 7s. 9d. per ton (£115 10s. 7d.).

"The appropriation for replacements and obsolescence for the year is £700,000, compared with £450,000 for the previous year. We are in the middle of a considerable expansion programme brought about by the opening up of the western end of the mine. The programme for the next few years includes not only the shaft sinking and development required to bring the Roan Extension into production, but also the surface transport arrangements as well as additional power and housing requirements involved.

"The board has felt that the reserve for this year should be made at a figure approximating the actual amount which will be paid, rather than on a figure based on the average which will be required over the next five years.

"In line with previous policy, £100,000 has been transferred to general reserve to ensure that the increase in the book value of the copper stocks is not treated as distributable profit for the year.

"The board recommend the same dividend for the year as during the previous year—namely, 1s. 14d. per unit of stock or share, of which 6d. was distributed as an interim dividend in June.

Mine Conditions

"The measures which have been developed in recent years to combat the difficult underground conditions are

proving effective. The current year, it is expected, will be the peak year for costs arising from the build-up of development work which has been involved in this change over. This is the first occasion for some years when I have been able to indicate the prospect of easier mining conditions and of a reduced mining cost per ton. During the current year it is expected that the equipment of the Irwin shaft will be completed. This will mark the end of the first stage of the programme designed to bring about the simultaneous development of the east and west ends of the Roan Basin and Roan Extension areas with a view to the simultaneous exhaustion of both these areas in due course. Drilling has also been started again on Muliashi, the westernmost of the three grants comprising the leased area of your company.

Labour Relations

"The last year has seen the formation, under Government sponsorship, of an African trade union; within a short time the union had formulated certain demands, and at the conciliation proceedings agreement was reached resulting in an adjustment to some of our Native labour wage scales.

"The companies are also introducing in the case of the more skilled Africans an inclusive wage system whereby, instead of rations being provided by the company, the employee will be paid a wage covering his rations and an improved standard of housing. This was one of the recommendations of the Dalgleish Commission. There is no progress to report on the subject of the advancement generally of Africans in industry, following the discussions, referred to last year, between the Government, the staff association, the union, and the companies.

African Trade Union

"The establishment of an African trade union is a development which will be watched with interest. If it is to be a permanent and successful part of the employer-employee relationship in the Northern Rhodesia copper mining industry, it will require the development of a sense of responsibility on the part of the Africans, who have attained this highly developed form of organization in what is relatively speaking a very short space of time.

"There is a dispute between the copper companies and the Northern Rhodesia Mine Workers' Union, the Union having requested the companies to recognize the principle of a 40-hour week. The dispute was referred to conciliation, at which no agreement was reached, and there the matter stands.

Coal Position Still Unsatisfactory

"The coal position is still not satisfactory. We should receive more coal this year, but it will still be necessary to undertake intensive wood-burning.

"Given uninterrupted production, output should average, during the current year, between 4,500 and 5,000 tons of copper per month.

"The outlook for the copper market still depends largely on the business outlook in the United States. At the present time, the copper market in the United States is in a sound position.

"The London Metal Exchange will reopen this month for transactions in tin. No indication has been given of the market being reopened for other base metals nor of cessation of bulk buying. I should, however, expect that there would be developments in one or both of these directions during the year, although I am only expressing my own opinion in this matter."

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Of Commercial Concern

The tallest building in Central Africa, the new Salisbury headquarters of Rhodesia, Ltd., electrical and mechanical engineers, has been opened. An eight-storey reinforced concrete building, 110 feet high, it provides 168 office units. Mr. Spencey Parker, president of the Institute of Architects of Southern Rhodesia, designed the building, which covers an area of 12,000 square feet.

Production of sugar in Mauritius for the current year is estimated at 410,000 metric tons, and exports at 391,000 tons. Output up to October 28 amounted to 287,750 tons and exports to 193,002 tons, of which 143,394 tons came to this country.

African Explosives and Chemical Industries, Ltd., have announced a capital bonus in the proportion of one share to seven now held. The issued ordinary capital was raised to £3,500,000 by a bonus issue of 500,000 shares in December, 1948.

Pest Control, Ltd., a company with wide-spread interests in the Sudan, East Africa, and Rhodesia; is to send a team of scientists to the Gold Coast to investigate the use of insecticides for the control of the swollen shoot disease of cocoa.

N. Rhodesian Tobacco

Virgin tobacco production in Northern Rhodesia this season has exceeded 4,000,000 lb. in the Eastern Province and in the Western Area has risen to 1,750,000 lb., compared with 780,000 lb. last year.

Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.) announce a final dividend of 4% on the A stock and the amount paid up on the B shares, making 8% for the year ended September 30. Net profits were £666,879 (£649,873).

Import licences held in Kenya and Uganda for the purchase of manufactures from North America which expire on December 31 next have been extended to January 31, 1950.

Tait Co., Ltd., announce a dividend of 2% (the same) for the year ended April 30 last. Profit amounted to £5,411 (£5,667), of which taxation absorbed £2,791.

The Government of Northern Rhodesia is to start a small pilot scheme for groundnut production in the Mumbwa district.

Messrs. James Finlay and Co., Ltd., with tea interests in Kenya, have announced an interim dividend of 7½% (10%).

East African Sisal Plantations, Ltd., have declared a dividend of 30% (25%), less tax, for the year ended June 30.

Fresh sea fish are now being flown from Lamu to Nairobi at an average of a ton a week.

E. W. Tarry & Co., Ltd.

MESSRS. E. W. TARRY & CO., LTD., engineers and merchants with branches in Rhodesia, after providing £180,500 for taxation, earned a profit of £78,309 for the year ended March 31 last, compared with £61,035 in the previous year. Interest on the preference shares absorbs £4,950, provision for stock contingencies account receives £35,000, and £5,000 is allocated to the pension fund. A dividend of 15% net will require £20,625, leaving a balance of £34,287 to be carried forward, against £21,553 brought in. A record turnover exceeded that of the previous year by no less than £296,654.

The issued capital consists of £150,000 in 6% cumulative preference shares of £1 each and £250,000 in ordinary shares of 5s. each. Capital reserves stand at £143,400, revenue reserves at £184,287, taxation reserve at £82,500, stock contingencies at £70,000, and current liabilities at £322,937. Fixed assets are valued at £138,354 and current assets at £1,064,770, including stock at £778,525 and £1,231 in cash.

The directors are Sir Fortescue Flannery (chairman), Commander G. Locker-Lampson, Mr. W. O. Stevenson, and Mr. L. T. S. Hawkins.

The annual general meeting will be held in London on December 7.

Brooke Bond & Company

BROOKE BOND AND CO., LTD., a concern with large interests in East African tea, after providing £429,712 for the year ended June 30 last and £4,003 for previous periods for taxation, earned a consolidated profit of £701,317, compared with £802,471 in the previous year. General reserve receives £117,006, and costs of preference share issues amounted to £86,887. In connection with subsidiary companies £12,587 is added to capital reserves, and £93,026 to revenue reserves; £13,371 is written off goodwill and preliminary expenses, and £3,200 allocated to redemption of preference shares. Interest of the preference shares for six months absorbs £16,300 and dividends totalling 22½% on the ordinary shares £250,000, leaving a balance to be carried forward of £1,415,805 brought in.

The issued capital consists of £150,000 in "A" ordinary shares, £450,000 in "B" ordinary shares, and £1,500,000 in 4% cumulative preference shares, all of £1 denomination. Capital reserves stand at £2,464,543, revenue reserves at £3,146,743, mortgages, debentures and loans at £166,373, sundry provisions at £256,651, staff funds at £1,096,153, and current deposits at £660,566, suspense account at £4,735,632, and liabilities at £3,012,163. Fixed assets are valued at £12,696,154, investments at £326,969, and current assets at £12,696,154, including tax certificates at £516,850 and £3,014,570 in cash.

The directors are Mr. Gerald Brooke (chairman), Mr. John Brooke (deputy chairman), Mr. J. H. N. Peel, Mr. L. E. Gray, Mr. Neville Brooke, Mr. T. D. Rutter, Mr. A. D. Dorrington, Mr. V. Blackwell, Mr. C. D. Warner, and Mr. L. G. Green.

The 57th annual general meeting will be held on December 8 in Leeds.

Ruo Estates, Limited

THE RUO ESTATES, LTD., earned a profit of £38,712 from their tea plantations in Nyasaland for the year ended June 30 last, compared with £56,492 in the previous year. Taxation absorbed £20,183, development reserve received £10,000, an interim dividend of 8% required £2,200, and a proposed final dividend of 27½% will need £7,425, leaving a balance of £5,774 to be carried forward, against £6,870 brought in. The total distribution is the same as for last year.

The issued capital is £50,000 in shares of £1 each. Revenue reserves stand at £60,000 and current liabilities at £49,518. Fixed assets are valued at £63,559, work in progress at £2,541, and current assets at £119,375, including Government securities at £12,164 (market value £11,876), tax certificates at £17,875 and £37,588 in cash.

The report states that the company's estates experienced the worst drought in their history. The crop from 1,401 acres in bearing and 140 acres in partial bearing amounted to 1,244,916 lb., including bought leaf, against 1,519,192 in the previous 12 months.

The directors are Mr. D. L. Bateson (chairman), Mrs. M. Wykesmith, Mr. H. R. Lupton, Miss G. M. S. Simey, and Mr. J. A. L. Loram.

The 39th annual general meeting will be held in London on December 20.

Greatermans Stores Report

GREATERMANS STORES (RHODESIA) LTD., earned a profit of £12,408 for the period from April 1, 1948, to June 26, 1949, compared with £5,174 in the previous year. Taxation absorbs £3,922, and interest on the preference shares requires £3,895, leaving a balance of £7,429 to be carried forward against £2,838 brought in. The directors recommend a dividend of 5% on the ordinary shares, reducing the balance to £2,741.

The issued capital consists of £125,000 in 6% cumulative preference shares of £1 each, and £150,000 in ordinary shares of 5s. each. General reserve stands at £19,603, liability to a holding company at £8,184, bills payable at £6,038, and provision for taxation at £4,000. Freehold property is valued at £74,456, equipment at £23,164, interest in a subsidiary company at £15,037, loans to an associated company at £82,131, stock at £70,481, debtors at £32,103, and cash at £22,882.

The directors are Mr. Harry Herber (chairman), Mr. Somah Hamba, Mr. Gustave Ackerman, Mr. Leon Segal, Mr. W. G. F. Sill, Sir Allan Ross Walsh, Mr. Donald Macintyre, Mr. Percy Eagle, and Mr. Isaac Isaacson.

The third annual general meeting was held in Bulawayo yesterday.

Postal business in Northern Rhodesia increased by 25% during the first half of this year. Savings Bank deposits increased by more than 40%, and the number of depositors by some 2,000.

Labourers' Increase in Weight Extra Pay No Incentive

THAT AN ARBITRARY INCREASE in wages would not necessarily raise production but might even reduce it is the opinion of the Northern Province Labour Utilization Board in Tanganyika in its report for 1948. While encouraging payment of extra monthly bonuses for diligent and long-service employees, the board has insisted on no change in the basic rates of pay during the year.

There has been only a very limited response to attempts to increase tasks and hours of work in return for increased wages and bonuses. "The challenge 'work or want' scarcely applies in the Territory.

A total of 9,175 labourers, including dependants, were recruited during the year, and 323 distributions were made to 135 estates, which had an aggregate male labour force of 12,612 out of a total of 17,210 men registered with the 338 agricultural estates employing more than 10 labourers in the province.

Insistence on the rejection of recruits in the lower medical categories has improved the physical standard by 30%. The ration scale laid down by the Department of Labour provides 3,900 calories per day. An average increase in weight of 7.2 lb. was recorded in Africans who completed their contracts.

Areas of Matabeleland are only now beginning to feel the full effects of the 1946-48 drought, say reports from Southern Rhodesia. The toll of cattle deaths from lack of grazing has mounted sharply in recent weeks. Although surface water supplies appear to be much the same now as a year or two ago, the underground water table has dropped considerably. One of the worst areas is along the watershed from Bulawayo to the Shangani district.

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Mining

Tanganyika Concessions, Ltd. Greatly Increases Profits

TANGANYIKA CONCESSIONS, LTD., after providing £475,000 for taxation, earned a profit of £388,244 for the year ended July 31 last, compared with £287,205 in the previous year. Dividends of 10% on the preference stock require £196,818 on the ordinary stock £1,200,000, leaving a balance of £215,680 to be carried forward, against £126,936 brought in.

The issued capital consists of £2,000,000 in preference stock and £3,159,678 in ordinary stock. Reserve reserves stand at £1,559,932, and current liabilities at £1,047,800. The company is revalued at 14,387,089, interest in the Benguela Railway at £7,471,287, and current assets at £5,600,886, including quoted stocks at £253,274 (market value £201,664), unquoted securities at £161,496, and cash at £1,062,310.

The sum of £20,599 (£525,585) was received in dividends, interest, and royalties from Union Minière du Haut Katanga, which produced 155,515 (150,840) metric tons of copper and 4,322 metric tons of cobalt, in addition to uranium ore and concentrates, zinc concentrates, platinum, gold and silver.

The net revenue of the Benguela Railway for 1948 was £793,804, compared with £250,865 in 1947. The company also holds 173,345 shares in Kenton Gold Areas, Ltd., 30,000 shares and £144,250 debentures of the Geita Mining Co., Ltd., and 199,673 shares of 5s. each in Uruwira Minerals, Ltd.

The directors are Mr. M. Holy-Hutchinson (chairman), Earl Grey, Mr. E. E. Van Der Straeten, the Hon. A. O. Erichton, the Earl of Selborne, Mr. G. C. Hutchinson (managing director), and Lieut.-Colonel P. B. Pollen (assistant managing director).

The annual general meeting will be held in London on December 8.

New Consolidated Gold Fields

NEW CONSOLIDATED GOLD FIELDS, LTD., and its subsidiary companies, after providing £653,275 for taxation and £120,000 for depreciation reserve, earned a profit of £541,200 for the year ended June 30 last, compared with £519,464 in the previous year. Interest on the first and second preference shares absorbs £99,000 and a dividend of 2s. 6d. per share, less tax and subject to confirmation, will require £288,750, leaving a balance of £687,724 to be carried forward, against £551,639 brought in.

The issued capital consists of £4,200,000 in ordinary shares, £1,750,000 in 6% first cumulative preference shares, and £1,250,000 in 6% second cumulative preference shares, all of £1 denomination. Share premium account stands at £1,354,181, capital reserve at £192,835, revenue reserves at £3,866,538, capital and reserves attributable to outside shareholders at £350,932, secured loan at £72,307, and current liabilities at £6,810,108. Fixed assets are valued at £2,433,200, and current assets at £10,596,613, and current assets at £2,702,200, and current liabilities at £192,075 and £3,899,100.

The company apart from interests in South Africa, America, Canada, West Africa, Australia and elsewhere, has holdings in the Gold Fields, Rhodesian Development Co., Ltd. and the Botopha Gold Mining Co., Ltd.

The directors are Mr. Robert Spang (chairman), Sir Joseph Ball, Mr. J. R. Fleischer, Mr. J. H. Geikie, Mr. M. Maglachlan, Sir Donald Malcolm, Sir Gordon R. M. P. Preston, Sir Cecil H. Rodwell, and Sir J. S. Harris Watt.

The annual general meeting will be held in London on December 8.

Sherwood Starr Gold Mining

THE SHERWOOD STARR GOLD MINING CO., LTD., after providing £3,788 for taxation, earned a profit of £1,843 in the year ended June 30 last, compared with £1,843 in the previous year. Expenditure on realization of assets amounted to £3,611, farm depreciation to £252, and £30 is allocated to staff pensions, leaving £221 to be carried forward, against £1,036 brought in.

The issued capital is £125,000 in shares of 5s. and creditors stand at £1,472. Property is valued at £31,224, machinery and plant at £20,535, Pickstone claims at £8,874, stores at £518, farms and improvements at £3,743, crops at £2,068, debtors at £1,104, and cash totals £39,271.

Revenue for the year consisted of £1,929 from mining, £3,133 from tribute royalties, and £613 from other sources. A loss of £300 was incurred on farming operations.

The directors are Mr. Bailey Southwell (chairman), alternate, Mr. B. I. Breaugh, Sir Digby Burnet, alternate, Mr. R. V. Ord, Mr. J. H. Mitchell, and Mr. E. K. Jenkinson. The secretaries and consulting engineers are the London and Rhodesian Mining and Land Co., Ltd.

The 26th annual general meeting will be held in Southern Rhodesia on December 9.

Mufulira Copper Mines, Ltd.

Large Increase in Profits

MUFULIRA COPPER MINES, LTD., earned a profit of £1,723,362 in the year ended June 30 last, after providing £754,724 for taxation, compared with £1,132,908 in the previous year. General reserve receives £550,000 and loan-stock redemption reserve £35,700. Dividends totalling 8s. 6d. per share, less tax, require £1,142,774, leaving a balance of £205,318 to be carried forward, against £125,310 brought in.

The issued capital is £4,888,874 in shares of £1 each. Revenue reserves stand at £2,901,391, loan-stock redemption reserve at £172,550, taxation reserve at £769,000, 4½% loan stock at £700,000, provision for replacements at £1,631,154, and current assets at £4,517,257. Fixed assets are valued at £3,778,950 and current assets at £10,006,588, including British Government securities at £172,400 (market value £165,115), tax certificates at £400,000, and £6,398,549 in cash.

In spite of coal shortages, the continued use of wood fuel enabled the mine to produce a record tonnage of ore. During the year 70,966 (53,360) long tons of blister copper were produced at an average cost of £52.336 (£56,165) per ton, f.o.b. Bessie. Ore reserves, including the Chambishi and Baluba properties, are estimated at 429,404,000 short tons containing 38.5% copper.

The directors are Mr. A. Chester Beatty (chairman; alternate), Hilda J. R. Micklethorp, Mr. R. L. Fraim (managing director), Mr. A. Chester Beatty, jr. (alternate), Mr. T. H. Bradford, Mr. C. W. P. Gore, Mr. J. N. Buchanan, Mr. J. B. Dennison, Mr. D. B. Irwin (alternate), Mr. G. F. Amherst, Mr. Douglas Malcolm (alternate), Mr. C. D. Haly-Hutchinson, Mr. P. C. Neave, Mr. R. M. Peterson, Mr. C. F. S. Taylor and Mr. E. Heath Stegle. The general manager in Northern Rhodesia is Mr. L. Duckett and the manager is Mr. F. E. Buch.

The annual general meeting will be held in London on December 15.

Rhodesian Selection Trust

RHODESIAN SELECTION TRUST, LTD., which holds the controlling interest in Mufulira Copper Mines Ltd., earned a profit of £727,602 for the year ended June 30 last after providing £592,000 for taxation, compared with a profit of £643,189 in the previous year. Dividends totalling 2s. 6d. per share require £400,000, leaving a balance of £18,307 to be carried forward, against £12,349 brought in.

The issued capital is £2,444,921 in shares of £1 each. Share premium account stands at £1,265,154, capital reserve at £52,000, revenue reserves at £263,130, and current liabilities at £400,110. The share holding in Mufulira Copper Mines Ltd. is valued at £4,831,019 and current assets at £621,836, including £1,649,008 in cash.

The directors are Mr. A. Chester Beatty (chairman; alternate), Hilda J. R. Micklethorp, Mr. A. Chester Beatty, jr. (alternate), Mr. T. H. Bradford, Mr. C. W. P. Gore, Mr. H. K. Hochschild (alternate), Mr. Douglas Malcolm, Mr. C. D. Haly-Hutchinson, Mr. R. M. Peterson, Mr. R. L. Fraim, and Mr. Heath Stegle (alternate; Mr. D. C. D'Eath). The 21st annual general meeting will be held in London on December 15.

Mining Personalia

MR. W. W. VARVILA has resigned from the board of the Exploration Company Ltd.

MR. R. K. MCLEOD, ASSOC. INST. M.M., has returned to the Department of Mines, Tanganyika.

MR. G. WINDSON, STAFF INST. M.M., is leaving the Transvaal to join the Geological Department in Kenya.

MR. D. P. SANDERSON, ASSOC. INST. M.M., has joined the Colonial Development Corporation in Tanganyika.

MR. B. G. HANCOCK, INST. M.M., has been promoted consulting engineer to African Associated Mines Ltd. in Bulawayo.

MR. A. J. M. CLESHAM, STUD. INST. M.M., has been appointed to the Northern Rhodesia staff of Roan Antelope Copper Mines, Ltd.

Mining Outputs

NORTHERN RHODESIA'S COPPER PRODUCTION in the first nine months of this year reached 194,904 tons, valued at £24,651,291, compared with an output in the corresponding period of last year of 159,641 tons, valued at £19,103,777. The production of zinc has risen from 16,640 tons, valued at £1,179,046, to 17,135 tons, worth £1,487,777, and the production of lead is up from 9,640 tons to 10,470 tons, the respective values being £871,829, and £1,031,495.

Cam and Motor Gold Co. Profit More Than Doubled

THE CAM AND MOTOR GOLD MINING Co. (1919), LTD., earned a profit of £197,069 for the year ended June 30 last, compared with £94,097 in the previous year. Taxation absorbs £76,000, general reserve receives £200,000, and dividends totalling 18% require £84,375, leaving £70,928 to be carried forward, against £365 brought in.

The issued capital is £468,750 in shares of 12s. 6d. each. Capital reserve stands at £19,825, revenue reserves at £35,553, taxation reserve at £78,086, provisions at £2,511, and current liabilities at £114,601. Fixed assets are valued at £22,514, deferred revenue expenditure at £18,960, and current assets at £52,852, including £42,795 in cash.

During the year 221,300 (199,500) tons of ore were treated for 51,925 (49,841) oz. of gold, an average of 4.66 (5) dw. per ton. Working costs averaged 27s. 3d. (30s. 6d.) and total revenue 47s. 30d. (42s. 84d.) per ton milled. Depreciation amounted to 5,596 (3,154) feet. Ore reserves are estimated at 1,401,700 tons valued at 71 dw.

The directors are Mr. Bailey Southwell (chairman; alternate), Mr. J. H. Mitchell, Viscount Elbank (alternate), Mr. R. V. Ord, Sir Digby Burnett (alternate), Mr. G. H. B. Matthews, and Mr. E. K. Jenkinson (alternate). Mr. G. H. B. Matthews is secretary and consulting engineer, and is based in London and Rhodesia Mining and Land Co., Ltd., 11, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4.

The 36th ordinary general meeting will be held in London on December 9.

Lead and Zinc

A FURTHER RISE in the price of good softening lead from £103 to £104 per ton, as announced by the Ministry of Supply, has caused the price of lead in the United States to drop by half a cent per lb. to 20.5 cents, and the price of zinc by a quarter of a cent to 24.5 cents.

Rhodesian Broken Hill

MINERS who had been on strike since November 10, Rhodesian Broken Hill Development Co. Ltd. in Northern Rhodesia, returned to work on Monday. The strike was caused by a dispute about the pay of European underground workers.

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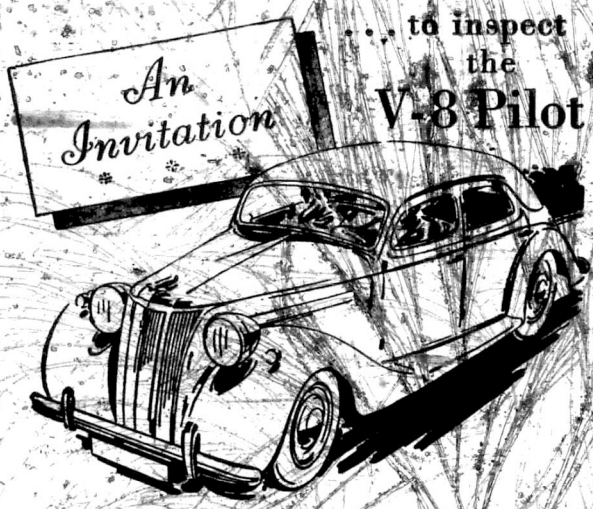


SOUTHERN RHODESIA

The table shows some of the goods that Southern Rhodesia bought from Britain in 1948. There is a market, too, for many other British products. Write for our new booklet 'Overseas Markets'. It contains detailed trade tables for Southern Rhodesia and other territories where the Bank has branches.

TOTAL 1948 U.K. EXPORTS TO THE TERRITORY WERE £15,507,000. THESE INCLUDED:	
	CUTLERY, HARDWARE, IMPLEMENTS ... £471,000
	ELECTRICAL GOODS & APPARATUS ... £959,000
	MACHINERY ... £1,915,000
	POTTERY, GLASS, ABRASIVES, ETC. ... £472,000
	WOOLLEN & WORSTED YARNS & MANUFACTURES £563,000
	COTTON PIECE GOODS ... £2,221,000

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