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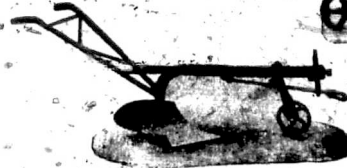
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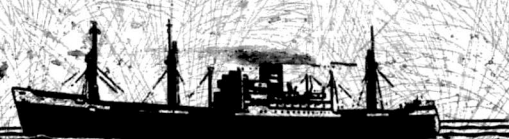


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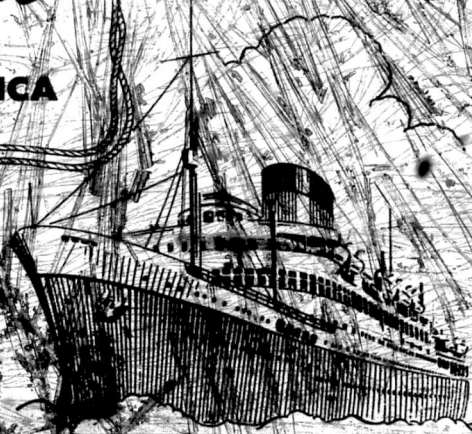
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MATTERS OF MOMENT

CAREFUL EXAMINATION of the groundnut debate in the House of Commons and the statements issued by Mr. Strachey, Minister of Food, Sir Leslie Plummer, chairman of the Overseas Food Corporation, and Mr. A. J. Wakefield, one of the two members who were summarily dismissed on the eve of the debate, confirms the judgment expressed in these columns last week that the Government majority saved Mr. Strachey's skin but not his reputation, that the Minister refused to face any of the major criticisms against himself and his protégé, and that his steadfast determination not to resign his office, despite his constitutional, actual and moral responsibility for the groundnut fiasco, had been made possible by the entirely extraordinary circumstances that the Prime Minister could not dismiss him because that act would have split the Cabinet and the party. Mr. Strachey has escaped the normal and salutary penalty of his failure for that reason alone. By clinging to office at all costs, "even if it meant stooping to the ignoble policy of shuffling blame on to subordinates" to quote the *Economist*, he has lost, in the words of the *Daily Mail*, what little remained of his political character.

The Minister has ~~not~~ made no attempt to explain his dismissal of Mr. Wakefield, though that action was sharply criticized in the debate by Socialists as well as Conservative, Liberal and Independent speakers. **Mr. Wakefield: Why Was He Dismissed?** They asked why a member of the board whose main protests against the policy of speed-at-any-price were made in June, 1948, and March, 1949, should be dismissed in November. If it was not to provide the Minister with a convenient scapegoat, what was the reason? Mr. Strachey would not reply, presumably because he could not. Nor did he attempt to justify his announcement before the debate that the reconstituted board of the corporation enjoyed the full confidence of His Majesty's Government. The public regard that affirmation as incomprehensible if only because the board is still headed by the man whose responsibility for the present position goes back beyond the constitution of the corporation, for Sir Leslie Plummer was designated its chairman months before his colleagues were nominated, and in the interval he was in the closest touch with the managing agency and a party to all its decisions. How can the substitution of two civil

servants, however able, neither of whom has any knowledge of Colonial development or tropical agriculture, give better balance to a board which simultaneously loses two of the three signatories of the original groundnut report, especially when one of them, Mr. Wakefield, is indubitably one of the ablest authorities on tropical agriculture?

Parliament was told that Mr. Rosa had been displaced because the accountancy, a matter within his particular province, had been unsatisfactory. Mr. Strachey did not dare, however, to advance the parallel argument that Mr. Wakefield's disappearance results from unsatisfactory agriculture and research, the two subjects with which he was specially entrusted; the truth is that agriculture has scarcely started in the scheme, and that the research work has been outstandingly good (as the Minister himself had to admit). Moreover, if Mr. Rosa was sacrificed for deficiencies in the bookkeeping and store-keeping, why was a similar fate not visited upon the member primarily responsible for personnel, Sir Charles Lockhart? That large numbers of wholly unsuitable persons were appointed, often at high salaries, and that many did little or no effective work for months on end, is well known. Having failed to explain why two changes only were made, and why a reconstituted board which lacks adequate Colonial knowledge has the complete confidence of the Cabinet, Mr. Strachey did not deign to notice the suggestion from many quarters that the headquarters should be in East Africa, not London. One thing is certain: that no great City group would entrust the direction of a large Colonial enterprise to the board which the Cabinet is said to esteem so highly.

The Minister of Food took care to leave the unwelcome task of replying in the House to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, who has had no responsibility whatever for this grossly mismanaged project. Even if Mr. Creech

Inadequate Time For the Debate.

Jon's had wished to answer the many searching questions—to which his colleague would have volunteered the answers in advance if he had wanted to be frank—time would not have allowed, for he had merely thirty minutes at his disposal, thanks to the Government's decision to give one day only for the discussion. At least two days were necessary. Then several Conservatives with

exceptional qualifications to speak might have been called. As it was, a banker member who had made a close study of the accounts and such East African representatives as Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Dodds-Parker, Mr. Walter Fletcher and Colonel Pongweby did not catch the Speaker's eye. Their participation would have strengthened the case against the Minister and the chairman of the corporation.

This inconclusive debate has not told the country whether Mr. Stanley was justified in asserting that in September of last year all the departmental heads engaged in the scheme in East Africa drew the attention of the resident member in writing to the

Vital Questions Left Unanswered.

rapid lowering of morale and deep feeling of bewilderment which exists at present among heads of departments and rank and file, almost without exception, whether a similar document was submitted four months later, likewise unavailingly; and whether "nine out of every ten concerned in the scheme would say to-day that the finest single thing that could happen would be the resignation of Sir Leslie Plummer." No answer was vouchsafed to Sir Peter MacDonald's allegations that Professor Phillips, now general manager in charge of agriculture, handed the chairman an important memorandum for circulation to the board before he took up his appointment, and that it was withheld from the members, and that a report submitted last year by the area manager of the southern region was similarly suppressed by Sir Leslie Plummer. The same speaker declared that departmental heads asked the chairman to resign during his visit to Kongwa last May.

Even Mr. Stanley's blunt accusation that the chairman had personal responsibility for a false statement recently issued to the Press about the target for the 1948-49 acreage drew

Serious Charges Met with Silence.

retort, and silence met the assertion that a sawmill costing about a quarter of a million pounds had been recklessly built at Noli without adequate survey of the available raw material, and that the mill, if it were to work full time, would exhaust the whole supply in under two years. Is there truth in the further charge that a belated soil survey has shown that only about a quarter of Block A in the Southern Province of Tanganyika is suitable for agricultural development of any kind, even if adequate water is found, and that the water survey is still uncompleted? These

damning accusations might have been trivial side issues to judge by the cavalier treatment they received. The debate, in fact, revealed party politics in the most cynical, irresponsible mood, not democracy seeking the best way out of a dilemma. The suggestions made here last week that Mr. Wakefield should issue his memorandum and that the House

of Lords should debate the groundnut issue were promptly accepted. Mr. Wakefield's statement appears on another page, and when the debate in the Upper House takes place in a fortnight, the country will be given a better insight into the shortcomings of the two men whose failure ought to entail resignation or dismissal.

Notes By The Way

O.F.C. Chairman

SIR LESLIE PLUMMER, who has been much more prominently in the news as chairman of the Overseas Food Corporation than he ever was as a director of the newspapers owned by Lord Beaverbrook, that ardent believer in personal publicity, has been a professing Socialist almost all his adult life. Indeed his experience in the business management side of newspaper work began on the *New Leader*, the *Miner*, and the *Socialist Review*, three somewhat extreme Labour organs (of the last two of which Mr. Strachey, now Minister of Food, was editor at the time). Then he went to the Socialist *Daily Herald* as assistant manager, before passing on to the Beaverbrook citadel, where he was to hear almost daily references to the existence of an Empire of boundless potentialities. In that stimulating environment he made his mark, so that when he left Fleet Street at the bidding of his old friend Mr. Strachey to accept the chief responsibility for the groundnut scheme—with the obvious prospect of an early knighthood—Lord Beaverbrook made him the handsome parting gift of £10,000. During the groundnut debate in the House of Commons last week Sir Leslie was given a seat under the gallery, one newspaper commented that he must at times have wished himself under the floor.

Wilshaw in Wonderland

SIR EDWARD WILSHAW, who has twice visited Southern Rhodesia in the past couple of years, and proposes to return to that Colony shortly, described himself as feeling like "Wilshaw in Wonderland" last Friday at the meeting of Cable and Wireless (Holding), Ltd., which had been called to obtain approval of a scheme proposed by the directors for the distribution among the stockholders of £32,000,000 of the compensation received from the Government for the nationalization of the undertaking, and the retention of the balance of the company's funds, some £15,000,000, with which to operate as an investment trust. A committee representing those stockholders who favour complete liquidation of the enterprise managed to defeat the scheme by a narrow margin, and the board will now have to make new proposals. Though the investments of the holding company total £15,000,000, the average holding in any one undertaking is no more than £11,000, which indicates the wide spreading of risks.

Investment in Central Africa

SINCE NATIONALIZATION the number of directors has been reduced from 22 to nine, and a point which Sir Edward did not fail to stress was that the board had eventually obtained from the State £12,000,000 more than the Government had at first offered. Loud laughter was caused by the suggestion of one stockholder that if the chairman of the Holding Company, of Globe Telegraph, and of Cables Investment Trust consulted together, the last two could relieve the first of many of the unquoted investments and quickly achieve unani-

imity. Sir Edward as chairman of all three. He has a firm belief in the Rhodesias and a fight for sound investment, and the fate of the modified scheme may therefore influence the flow of funds from London into Central African industries.

Ifunda Secret

THE OTHER DAY the Overseas Food Corporation joined in the general and merited condemnation of the Colonial Development Corporation for its jejune "Lindi tiger" story. Now, while still under the shadow of the gravest unanswered charges, it has let the world into a similarly weighty secret—that 31 mild cases of malaria have occurred at its training centre at Ifunda! Anyone but a nationalized industry would accept so normal an occurrence with quiet regret. Not so the O.F.C. It sends extra medical staff (when the simple treatment necessary could have been followed by any layman), and rushes to tell the Press of its triumph. The story must go on record. Here it is:—

Telling the World

THE OVERSEAS FOOD CORPORATION announces that an outbreak of malaria has occurred at Ifunda training centre in the Southern Highlands of Tanganyika. Of the 52 men, women, and children living there, 31 are infected to a mild degree. Preventive measures, such as the taking of anti-malaria tablets and the use of mosquito nets, have always been in force at the camp. Extra medical staff have been transferred to the centre from other groundnut areas, and the outbreak is under control. It is at Ifunda that the corporation trains Africans to become skilled mechanics, medical orderlies, laboratory assistants, clerks, and such like. Will the public relations officer turn from the trivial to the important, and supply answers to the questions asked in our leading article this week? That would be more to the point.

Fourth Point

DEVALUATION, the Chancellor of the Exchequer has said, was intended, among other things, to attract dollar investment to Great Britain and the Colonial Empire, thereby giving practical effect to President Truman's Fourth Point, which proposed "a bold new programme for making the benefits of our scientific advances and industrial progress available for the improvement and growth of the under-developed areas of the world." Now Lord Pakenham declares that "we in the Government do not feel that in making the great economic and social dispositions in this country we must be guided by the view that foreign investors should be encouraged." Are those Americans who might possibly be disposed to invest in the Colonial Empire to trust the word of Sir Stafford Cripps or accept the assurance of Lord Pakenham that he speaks for the Government? These two Ministers contradict one another flatly on a major matter of policy. What is the view of the Cabinet?

Mr. Strachey and Sir Leslie Plummer Severely Criticized

Members of Parliament Demand Their Resignations

MR. WILSON HARRIS, independent member for Cambridge University, who recalled that he had always supported the East African groundnut scheme as an imaginative and constructive enterprise which should contribute to the economic salvation of Europe, was very critical of the Minister of Food, Mr. Strachey, and called for the resignation of the chairman of the Overseas Food Corporation, Sir Leslie Plummer, in last week's debate in the House of Commons.

He said (in part):—

"I have followed the progress of the scheme from the documents published and with personal contacts with some of the men who are bearing the burden of the work in the field, men who are doing a magnificent job in face of great frustration, and are still satisfied that this great scheme can be carried to a successful issue.

"They have talked to me as men often do talk to editors. [Mr. Harris is editor of the *Spectator*.] I have been deeply impressed by their sense of frustration. One has resigned, one has been dismissed, but I think the letter of dismissal met his resignation half way. They worked under the United Africa Company and under the Overseas Food Corporation, and found the conditions in the latter case very unfavourable. They felt that men who did not know African agriculture were giving orders to men who did know it, orders which could not for practical reasons be carried out and never were carried out. Far from objecting to an inquiry, they would welcome it profoundly.

"The scheme is at present a partial failure, and the man who proceeded with that policy is Sir Leslie Plummer, chairman of the corporation. It would make the debate utterly unreal if, after reading about the dismissal of Mr. Wakefield and there being no confidence in Sir Leslie Plummer, we did not say something about these two men. I know neither and have had no communication direct or indirect with them.

Responsibility for Failure

"In my profession if any serious fault is committed by a newspaper, the editor must bear the responsibility. If a military operation goes wrong, even through the fault of a subordinate, it is the general who gets broken. The captain of the *MAGDALENA*, for all his remarkably clean record, and though he had a responsible officer on the bridge at the time of the wreck, suffered the most severe penalty that a master mariner can suffer. Therefore I say that the national sense of fair play has been very gravely affronted by the dismissal of Mr. Wakefield and the laudation of Sir Leslie Plummer.

"I turned to their biographies in 'Who's Who,' because the particulars of each case are supplied by the personage himself, though, of course, excessive exuberances are sometimes pruned by the editor.

"Of Sir Leslie Plummer, it says:—

"Whole working life, from age of 15 until autumn of 1947, spent in newspaper offices, beginning rather humbly with Lincoln Springfield's *London Opinion* and ending rather grandly as a director of Lord Beaverbrook's *Daily Express* and *Sunday Express*, *Evening Standard*, *Glasgow Evening Citizen* and a number of associated enterprises. On invitation of Government became chairman of Overseas Food Corporation, the body responsible for, among other projects, the East African groundnut scheme.

"I am gratified to find anyone associated with the Press reaching such advancement, but I am bound to remember that what he was put in charge of was a highly technical enterprise for the production of groundnuts in the East African jungle. Remembering that I turn to the record, rather more strictly factual, of Mr. Wakefield in 'Who's Who,' I find that he was educated at the Harper Adams Agricultural College—not a bad beginning—and that he was:—

"Stock inspector in the Veterinary Department of Northern Rhodesia, 1923; agricultural officer, 1924; deputy director of agriculture, 1935; Director of Agriculture, 1938, Tanganyika Territory; member of the Legislative Council, Tanganyika Territory, 1933 and 1938-40; Inspector-General of Agriculture and Agriculture Adviser to Comptroller for

Development and Welfare in the West Indies, 1940; Acting Director of Agriculture, Jamaica, 1945."

"It seems to me strange that a man whose chief distinction is his lieutenantcy to Lord Beaverbrook should be praised for carrying through the enterprise to the point to which it has been carried, and that another man whose whole life has been spent in Colonial agriculture should be dismissed because he would not offer his resignation. I believe that the aspect of our discussion.

"I do not think that justice has been done; I do not think that fair play has been given; and I am driven to the conclusion that nothing would more benefit Sir Leslie Plummer now than to offer his resignation, and that nothing would more benefit the Minister than to accept it."

Reckless Expenditure and Too Much Secrecy

MR. FREDERIC HARRIS, who mentioned that his interests took him to East Africa about three times a year, said that the groundnut scheme had been a brilliant conception handled in an unbusinesslike manner. The House was being told: "We got on with the job and worried about the financial aspects afterwards."

He strongly supported the idea of an inquiry, and added:—

"I originally estimated in this House that the scheme would cost over £80 million. I was laughed at, but the costs are now far beyond that estimate. Why has there been no interest on the £21 million, which would have amounted to at least £500,000? The balance-sheet contains an item of £450,000 for furniture and office equipment which is striking when compared with £492,000 for agricultural equipment.

"At Kongwa 486 houses were built for Europeans and 1,488 for Africans at a cost of £585,000. At Urambo 105 European houses and 1,052 African houses cost £63,000. At Kongwa the number of European houses is nearly five times as great and the number of African houses only one-third more than those at Urambo, yet the cost is nine times as much. The report says that mud and wattle are easy to obtain at Urambo. Can anybody suggest that there is not enough mud and wattle at Kongwa?"

"There has been a lack of truthful publicity and too much secrecy. Amazing individual achievements have been accomplished, and if only the publicity had been better right the way through the people of this country would have had a better understanding of the scheme.

"Who was responsible for the extraordinary lack of control on expenditure? Who did all the purchasing so badly in East Africa? Who decided to send out equipment which had only been tested in England?"

"The controlling board should be not primarily in England but on the spot. Success cannot be achieved unless there is control on the spot. Capable control on the spot would mean much to the scheme. The mess can be summed up as due to foolish buying, insufficient accountability, wrong decisions, and needless haste.

"The people responsible are those at the top, and if we are to expect real confidence from those who are to continue the scheme, an example must be made at the top. We must pinpoint responsibility on those in charge. If they have let the country down, these changes should be made automatically and quickly."

Dismissed for Courage

MR. HURD asserted that the Minister had thrown Mr. Rosa and Mr. Wakefield off the corporation because they had had the courage for several months to try to instil some common sense and realism into the policy of the board.

In spite of hasty makeshifts to please the Minister and all the other bungling on the administrative side, the men on the site in Tanganyika had never lost faith. A letter written in Kongwa on November 6 said:—

"Mr. Kaby addressed the staffs of the three units a few days ago. He said that he and Professor Phillips had decided there must be a cessation of work on all construction of a capital nature to give them an opportunity of assessing where we were heading, and to give Professor Phillips an opportunity to make up his mind about the agricultural future of the various areas. I should have given up the unequal struggle some months ago but for some obstinate kink in my make-up

which wants to see it through and feels one day we may be allowed to make our way out of the mire into which we have sunk."

Mr. Hurd continued:—

"Who gave the Minister the estimates which enabled him to give a succession of optimistic estimates to the House? I speak particularly of the estimates we had in March of this year. Was it the chairman of the board? It is this lack of judgment that the Minister has shown which has brought ridicule on the whole scheme."

"Neither we nor the world will regain confidence in our ability to make a success of this scheme, which must be a land development scheme, until the Minister and the chairman of the corporation hand their responsibility over to more competent people. The Minister must know that neither the men in Tanganyika nor some of the men at London headquarters trust the judgment either of the Minister or of the chairman of the corporation."

"We cannot go on like this, spending £1 million a month without any clear idea of the acreage of suitable land or what crop can be grown. I strongly support the proposal for a small commission to give us a reliable opinion on the prospects of this gamble. Is there a 50-50 chance of our getting some return in, say, five years? What is the total investment to be? Before we heard that the minimum that would economically carry the overheads of the scheme was 4,500,000 acres. Now we are told that the objective for 1954 is to be 600,000 acres. Those are two very different bases for future plans."

"I can think of several men who would be well qualified to give this House reliable advice. There are not only men of the type of Frank Engledow, of Cambridge, but Professor H. D. Wainman, of Australia, and men in Kenya whose advice would give us confidence to go ahead and invest the taxpayers' money prudently."

"We have had this shocking downfall over the groundnuts so far. The House should recognize frankly that it is the headlong folly of two men, the Minister of Food and the chairman of the Overseas Food Corporation, Sir Leslie Plummer, which has led us to this great disappointment and this feeling of frustration."

Scheme Run on Socialist Party Lines

SIR PETER MACDONALD said that no Colonial scheme had had such whole-hearted and overwhelming support from all sides at the onset, but that he and others had deplored the boasting and ballyhoo of the Minister and his colleagues to the effect that they were launching something that was entirely new and that the Tory Party had done nothing in their whole history for Colonial development. If a great project had descended to party lines the Minister had himself to blame.

"Any friction with his colleagues on the board has been because Mr. Wakefield has tried to put the brake on people who tried to rush things. He is not the only one who has come into conflict with Sir Leslie Plummer. Almost everyone connected with the scheme to-day has come into conflict with him."

"The scheme has been conducted on good Socialist Party lines, and the policy is to spend as much as possible in as short a time as possible regardless of the consequences. That is where we are told by Mr. Wakefield he came into conflict with the Minister and the chairman. He advised caution and delay, and the board was told by the chairman that they must disregard the advice of the agricultural and research advisers, Mr. Wakefield, and go straight forward regardless of cost."

"I know Mr. Wakefield well. I met him when he was a very important member of the Stockdale Commission in the West Indies, doing a magnificent job. I have seen other things he has done, including his trip to Germany on which he gave excellent advice to the Minister then in charge of that territory. He is a very able civil servant, and I know him to be of the highest possible integrity. When he says that that was the conflict between himself and the chairman, I believe him. That is where the trouble has lain."

"The chairman, no doubt carrying out the policy of the Minister of Food, has been rushing things, to try to get quick results, probably before the next election and for something to talk about, whereas those who knew Africa and what they were up against were inclined to be cautious and tried to save a certain amount from the wreck."

"The Minister and the chairman of the corporation are the people who ought to be sacrificed to-day, instead of these very admirable civil servants who have served their country with ability and distinction. We on this side of the House are convinced that the whole truth has not been told."

"In addition to the questions which my hon. friend asked about a memorandum that went to the chairman of the corporation signed by various heads of departments, all of whom with one exception have since lost their heads, I ask if it is not a fact that Professor Phillips—that very admirable gentleman who is still on the job, who was lent to the scheme by

General Smuts, and who is regarded very highly to-day by everybody in Africa—when he was general manager-designate to the scheme decided not to take up that appointment because of the conditions he found when he went to East Africa? Is it not a fact that he came home armed with a memorandum which he presented to the chairman and asked that it should be sent to the board of the corporation? Is it not a fact that that memorandum was never presented to the board?

Allegations that Chairman Suppressed Documents

"Major Patton, who was area manager of the southern region, issued a report in the summer of 1948 describing the scandalous state of affairs in the region at that time. It was submitted to the chairman of the corporation, but it was suppressed and never presented to the board. I happen to know that."

"Is it not a fact that heads of departments at Kongwa waited on the chairman in May, 1949, and asked him in the interests of the scheme to hand in his resignation?"

"I want to know the contents of the memoranda which were suppressed. That is why it is essential to have an inquiry into the workings of the corporation and the activities of the chairman."

MR. LENNOX-BOYD, the last Opposition speaker, said that though the scheme was easily the largest venture of Government in the Colonial Empire, in the annual report of the Colonial Office it occupied only 12 lines, because it was not the responsibility of that office, as they would have wished it to be.

"The Minister of Food knows that many people who are anxious to see this scheme succeed believe that it is his personality and his approach which have added to the difficulties."

"The corporation has many schools in East Africa, a large police force of its own, a vast hospital and a health service probably as large as the health service of the Government of Tanganyika. Is it right that those responsible for the discharge of those functions should be responsible to the Minister of Food?"

"Would the Secretary of State for the Colonies have put the hospital at Kongwa? If he was given £30 million to spend on Colonial development in East Africa, would he spend it in this way?"

"Above all, it is the complications in regard to Native life and customs about which the Colonial Secretary must be most alarmed. It is because the Colonial Secretary is charged with responsibility for that problem that we regret that the Colonial Secretary is not responsible for this great scheme."

"We believe that Native cultivators, given fertilizers, could play a really efficient part in what could be a marriage between mechanized farming and Native cultivation, bringing the advantages of new science and engineering to the aid of the Natives and their old and out-of-date methods of husbandry, preserving a blend of the best of both worlds. The future lies with both forms, and it should be the function of this Government to see that both forms can flourish."

Achievements of Private Enterprise

"When he heard the hon. member for Rutherglen, Mr. McAllister, talking a few minutes ago about the Tories having failed to do anything for Colonial development, and suggesting that Colonial development really began only with the general election of 1945, the Colonial Secretary must have wondered at the ignorance of his followers. The Colonial Secretary could tell his hon. friend of the £30 million invested in tin of £40 million in copper in Rhodesia; of £250 million invested in rubber in Malaya; the 1,500,000 smallholdings with their peasant proprietors in Malaya who, together with their large estates, are earning more dollars for the Empire than the whole of the manufacturers of the United Kingdom."

"The Colonial Secretary could have told his friend about the deal in Kenya and the export of half the cocoa in the world grown in West Africa; of the great Sudan Plantations scheme in the Gezira, with 850,000 acres on a profit-sharing basis with the Natives—which might well have been a model for a scheme of this kind. Or he could have told of the West African groundnut production, whose annual export is not merely output, but export—is some £30 million sterling a year."

"We have had three debates on the groundnut scheme. In the first the Minister of Food refused a White Paper as a basis of discussion, saying that he did not wish to anticipate the annual report of the corporation. When we approached the corporation and asked for some answers, they said they did not want to anticipate the Minister's statement, which also was due in March. Now we have a little information, although those who go to East Africa are told that there are some things which it is not yet desirable that people should know."

"Sir Leslie Plummer is quoted as having said: 'Visiting newspaper men have a habit of asking questions the answers to which are none of their business.' He added that while reasonable questions should be answered, confidential questions

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Mr. Wakefield replied:—

"The Overseas Food Corporation do not challenge the truth of that part of my memorandum referred to in my letter of November 17 to the Minister of Food, which was published in the Press on November 23.

"This recorded the dates and substance of the warnings given by myself and others as to the disastrous speed of operations. The present statement of the board that on no occasion since I voted against the board's decision is correct, and I make no attempt to disclaim any part of the board's collective responsibility.

"I would, however, observe that from the time of my return from Australia in March, 1948, until the autumn of that year I was engaged together with Professor Phillips, general manager designate, and other executives in the sustained endeavour to curtail the speed of operations. The facts are on record, and an inquiry would prove that our views were considered and rejected.

"By the end of 1948, the lessons of the disastrous failure of that year were so plain as to be accepted by the chairman and the board. There then remained no major cause for my dissenting from the decisions of the board."

Post-War Revival of Commonwealth Trade

World's Largest Importer and Exporter

BY 1948 THE COMMONWEALTH had regained its pre-war share of about 30% of total world trade. The long-term tendency for the United Kingdom to derive an increasing proportion of its total imports from Commonwealth sources has again become manifest.

"A Review of Commonwealth Trade," the 33rd report of the Commonwealth Economic Committee (just published by the Stationery Office at 1s. 6d.), shows that last year the Commonwealth (including the United Kingdom) supplied 28.4% of the world's exports, compared with 25.6% in 1938. Imports, however, were lower: 30.4% of the world total last year, compared with 32.7% in 1938. The relevant figures for certain areas of the Commonwealth were as follows:—

Exports	Percentage of World Trade	
	1938	1948
U.K.	10.4%	11.5%
S. Rhodesia	1%	2%
Colonies	3.8%	4.0%
Imports		
U.K.	18.1%	13.2%
S. Rhodesia	2%	3%
Colonies	3.4%	4.0%

United Kingdom exports were valued at £471,000,000 in 1938 and £1,583,000,000 in 1948, whilst the Colonies exports totalled £171,000,000 and £558,000,000 in the same two years. The figures for Southern Rhodesia's exports were £5,000,000 and £21,000,000.

Rising Imports

Imports for 1938 and 1948 were: U.K., £920,000,000 and £2,080,000,000; Colonies, £175,000,000 and £624,000,000; S. Rhodesia, £11,000,000 and £47,000,000.

"The facts summarized," comments the report, "seem to show that on the whole the war and post-war years have affected the position of the Commonwealth in world trade to a smaller extent than might have been expected: its position as the world's largest exporter and importer has been maintained."

Both before and after the war about three-fifths of Commonwealth imports and more than one-half of Commonwealth exports were to foreign countries. Percentage fluctuations in Commonwealth trade were as follows:—

Exports from the Commonwealth: to foreign countries, 1932, 37%; 1938, 31%; 1947, 53%; to the U.K.: 1932, 20%; 1938, 21%; 1947, 19%; to Commonwealth (excluding U.K.): 1932, 15%; 1938, 16%; 1947, 16%; to Commonwealth (including U.K.) from Commonwealth countries (excluding U.K.): 1932, 8%; 1938, 8%; 1947, 12%.

Imports into the Commonwealth: from foreign countries, 1932, 62%; 1938, 58%; 1947, 59%; from U.K.: 1932, 13%; 1938, 14%; 1947, 13%; from Commonwealth (including U.K.): 1932, 26%; 1947, 19%; from Commonwealth (excluding U.K.) into Commonwealth countries (excluding U.K.): 1932, 6%; 1938, 7%; 1947, 9%.

Subsequent returns show that in 1948 the United Kingdom sent slightly over 20% of its exports to Commonwealth countries, about the same proportion as before the war. On the other hand, the proportion of imports from Commonwealth countries rose to 44% for the United Kingdom and to as much as 80% in the case of Southern Rhodesia.

"The future development of the trade depends, of course on many diverse factors," comments the report, "and it is perhaps hardly possible to estimate how far it is likely to expand. A competitive level of export prices and willingness to import are here of fundamental importance. Given these conditions, there are several factors which have a bearing on productive developments. One is the substitution by sterling area countries of sterling for dollar sources of supply; a second is the current programme for Colonial development; and a third the fact that many countries have accumulated large sterling reserves.

"Colonial exports to the United Kingdom are programmed to rise from the current level of about £200,000,000 to a total of about £240,000,000 in 1952-53 (which in terms of volume would represent well over twice the 1938 figure), while prospective exports from the U.K. to the Colonies in 1952-53 were estimated at £250,000,000."

"In a section on trade with North America, tables show that while exports from the Colonies to the U.S.A. and to Canada respectively were valued in 1938 at £29,000,000 and £6,000,000, the figures last year were £106,000,000 and £20,000,000. Imports into the Colonies from the U.S.A. and Canada were £16,000,000 and £6,000,000 respectively in 1938, and rose to £86,000,000 and £26,000,000 in 1948.

Colonies' Dollar Earnings

"The high level of the dollar exports of both India and the Colonies is of particular significance," states the review, "as are the plans for Colonial development and those for increasing the flow of Colonial raw materials to the United States under E.C.A. arrangements, as a result of these plans it was estimated that the dollar surplus of the Colonies might increase to about £70,000,000 by 1952-53."

Gold production in the Commonwealth in 1948 was valued at £154,000,000 (including Southern Rhodesia, £4,000,000, and the Colonies, £8,000,000), compared with £203,000,000 in 1941 (Southern Rhodesia, £7,000,000; Colonies, £12,000,000). The report attributes the decline to labour shortages, higher mining costs, and the fact that the price of gold had not risen *pari passu* with the prices of other commodities.

Dealing with Africa, the review points out that, apart from the United Kingdom, Canada is the only Commonwealth country outside Africa with a large market in that continent (mainly in the Union). No Commonwealth country, other than the United Kingdom and Southern Rhodesia, draws on Africa for a considerable proportion of its imports.

Exports from the United Kingdom to Southern Rhodesia in 1938 were valued at £4,000,000 and in 1948 at £16,000,000, whilst exports to British East Africa in the same two years were valued at £4,000,000 and £31,000,000 respectively.

Exports to Southern Rhodesia from Canada last year totalled £1,000,000, and to British East Africa £1,000,000.

Imports into the United Kingdom from Southern Rhodesia were £2,000,000 in 1938 and £11,000,000 in 1948, whilst from British East Africa they were £5,000,000 in 1938, and £19,000,000 last year. Canada imported £2,000,000 worth of goods from British East Africa in 1948.

Trade between the Colonies and Southern Rhodesia and Australia and New Zealand was as follows:—

Exports to Australia from the Colonies, £4,000,000 (1938), £13,000,000 (1948); to New Zealand from the Colonies, £1,000,000 (1938) and £4,000,000 (1948). Exports to Australia from Southern Rhodesia, £1,000,000 (1948).

Imports into the Colonies from Australia, £4,000,000 (1938), £22,000,000 (1948); from New Zealand, £1,000,000 (1938),

Imports into Southern Rhodesia from Australia, £1,000,000 (1948).

The following table summarizes the comparative extent of Commonwealth markets in 1938 and 1948:—

	Imports from Commonwealth		Percentage of Total Imports	
	£ million	1948	1938	1948
United Kingdom	350	500	39	51
Canada	150	150	33	21
U.S.A.	180	750	30	38
Europe*	300	700	60	35
South Africa	50	150	50	38
India, Pakistan & Ceylon	50	225	42	45
Australia & New Zealand	100	300	67	67

*Excluding trade between the member countries of the region. Price changes and the volume of trade are the subjects of a special section of the committee's report. Based upon the pre-war index figure of 100, export prices in 1946 and 1948 were, *inter alia*: United Kingdom, 196 and 147; Southern Rhodesia, 161 and 177. Import prices were: United Kingdom (1946 and 1948), 211 and 289; Southern Rhodesia, 215 and 272.

The post-war years have witnessed a very rapid recovery in trade in most countries. Most Commonwealth countries (except India) have recently been exporting on a much heavier scale than before the war, apart from Canada, this development is most marked in the United Kingdom and Southern Rhodesia.

Taking the pre-war index figure as 100, the volume of exports from Southern Rhodesia is shown as 118 in 1947 and 142 last year, while the import index figures for the same two years were 140 and 174.

Remarkable Expansion in S. Rhodesia

Dealing with industrial production, the review notes that in all the Commonwealth countries surveyed, except the United Kingdom, there was during the war a very large expansion in industrial activity. The most remarkable degree of expansion is revealed in the case of Southern Rhodesia, where, compared with the pre-war index figure of 100, industrial output for 1947 was registered as 293, compared with 172 in Canada, 144 in New Zealand, and 197 in South Africa.

The main items noted in this expansion of production in Southern Rhodesia are cement and other building materials (except bricks), valued at £223,000 in 1938 and £639,000 last year; clothing, textile, and canvas goods, £121,000 and £911,000; and footwear and leather goods, £9,000 and £707,000.

"A survey of the facts leaves no reason to doubt that the tendency towards industrialization will continue," comments the review, "and that during the next few years an even larger expansion of industry may take place in countries formerly regarded as primary producers."

"Such a tendency is not necessarily inconsistent with an expanding agriculture, to which new techniques are constantly being applied. Notwithstanding the constant danger of erosion and the marked fluctuations to which primary production is subject in many Commonwealth countries as a result of the vagaries of climate, a long-term upward trend is discernible in the efficiency of agricultural output, reflected, for example, in rising yields of crops and milk."

"This tendency, accompanied in some cases by a gradual shift from extensive to intensive types of farming, should be maintained under the influence of an increased use of fertilizers, growing mechanization, and the progress of scientific breeding of crops and stock."

Development plans are reviewed territorially, and the report contains the following summaries:—

Southern Rhodesia.—The four-year development plan of the Colony envisages expenditure of £67,000,000, including £20,000,000 or more for railways and over £13,000,000 for public utility concerns, such as electricity, steel works, and national housing. In the aggregate it is estimated that development needs will call for an outlay of more than £20,000,000 of new capital per annum, and that not more than £5,000,000 can be provided by the Colony itself.

"The reports of the Development Co-ordinating Commission outline certain proposals for agricultural and industrial expansion. In general terms they put the target for 1950 at a 50% increase as compared with 1946 in the overall economic capacity of the Colony. This would involve not only considerable development of transport and other fundamental services, but also a large expansion of industrial and agricultural production."

"Among the projects recommended are the manufacture of iron and steel, with a target figure of 150,000 tons per annum

of steel ingots to be used as raw material for the development of secondary industries, the increase in output of cement to approximately 270,000 tons per annum, and in that of coal to about 5,000,000 tons per annum (enabling 4,000,000 tons to be exported).

"At the same time, it is recommended that the production of tobacco, the main export crop, should be increased to 110,000,000 lb. per annum, which would represent almost a two-fold increase on the 1947 output."

Economic Objectives for Colonies

Colonies.—Economic development in the Colonies has four main objectives:—

(1) to restore and improve the capital equipment of the Colonial territories so as to provide a firm basis for future development;

(2) to promote those types of economic activity, whether primary or industrial production, in which the territories are best fitted to engage, having regard to the balance of their economies and the advantages of external trade;

(3) to maintain and then raise the living standards of the Colonial peoples as rapidly as the level of their productivity permits; and

(4) to secure the mutual advantage of the United Kingdom and the Colonial territories, having regard to the finance, equipment, and skill which the former may be able to provide."

"In Colonial development the primary criterion must continue to be the interests of the Colonies themselves, but in practice the interests of the United Kingdom and the Colonies are complementary, and Colonial long-term planning on the economic side has been aligned with the European Recovery Programme."

"From this aspect its purport is to secure increased production from sterling sources of essential materials which can either earn or save dollars. Such development is of particular importance, since the trade of the Colonies has some special characteristics."

"Their productive resources in the aggregate cover a wide variety of products; Colonial exports thus comprise not only foodstuffs, but minerals, industrial fibres, and plantation crops, such as rubber and tobacco, though many individual Colonies are largely dependent on the proceeds of relatively few commodities."

"Furthermore, owing mainly to climatic conditions, some of these products are of a kind that cannot be readily or economically produced elsewhere; such products can therefore be regarded as imports which it would be difficult to do without."

"Finally, a point of high importance at the present time, the market for these products is especially wide since it includes both agricultural and industrial countries, and also sterling and dollar areas. An increase in trade as a result of Colonial development may thus be regarded not merely as a measure to meet the immediate dollar emergency, but as a long-term contribution to the stability of the sterling area."

Development Programmes

"Many of the development programmes have a direct bearing on the production of some of the main Colonial export products, and target figures for the prospective increase in production of some of the more important of these commodities drawn up for O.E.E.C. envisage, as compared with 1936, a two-fold increase in the output of rubber and copper, and a much greater expansion for bauxite and lead, while a very large increase is planned also for sugar. These forecasts were based on a number of assumptions regarding prices and markets which may not be fulfilled; and the figures are liable to revision."

"For 1948 there is an official estimate of the current level of investment in the Colonies which is of interest as giving an idea of the order of magnitude of the present pattern of investment. Gross capital investment projected for 1948 was estimated to be in the region of £188,000,000, of which £112,000,000 represented the cost of imported equipment and materials of a capital nature, and the remaining £76,000,000 represented local expenditure in the Colonies, mainly on labour; although conditions varied between Colonies, in most between one-third and one-half of the projected investment was for maintenance and the balance for new work."

"Directly productive investment in industry, commerce, mining, agriculture, and forestry amounted to about one-half of the total, while one-quarter was devoted to the maintenance and development of transport facilities, chiefly railways."

"In a brief review of bulk purchase arrangements, the report states that this system, introduced early in the war, was a natural corollary of war-time conditions, enabling emphasis to be placed on the supply and procurement of goods considered essential in the general interest and permitting the allocation of scarce materials under controlled arrangements."

"Bulk purchase had been discontinued in many respects since the end of the war, and its most common application to-day lay in the field of agricultural products, usually taking the

form of long-term contracts for all or a major proportion of the export supply of particular commodities, with the object of stimulating their production by providing an assured outlet for a number of years ahead and, in some cases, of limiting the extent of price changes.

The developmental aspect is particularly important in the Colonies, and in the East African groundnut scheme direct participation by the U.K. Ministry of Food, through the Overseas Food Corporation, in production and marketing is a feature.

In addition, bulk purchase is effected by United Kingdom Departments of a wide range of Colonial products, covering all or part of the port surplus, the sellers being the producers' marketing organization or the Colonial Government, or both.

In setting out the U.K. Government attitude to long-term contracts for Colonial products, the Chancellor of the Exchequer indicated that such contracts may be made for periods of up to 10 years, and, normally, for quantities limited by the United Kingdom's requirements for consumption and re-export.

Imported commodities bought by Britain from Southern Rhodesia under bulk contract were cement, maize, and wheat, and amounted to only 4% of all imports.

In its conclusion, the committee state:

"External factors may affect Commonwealth trade to a marked extent, and in this context the maintenance and expansion of imports by the United States and the recovery of Western Europe are of manifest importance; the significance of these factors was emphasized in 1949, when the effects of the first pronounced check to post-war expansion became apparent.

It should also be noted that Commonwealth countries, which have been able to restore or increase their export trade more rapidly than some foreign countries formerly important in world trade, may expect to encounter competition from such countries. The importance of overcoming these problems need not be emphasized at a time when all Commonwealth countries are seeking to establish a more-satisfactory pattern of trade.

Difficult Task

"The above considerations suggest that, although Commonwealth trade, particularly on the export side, has increased in volume as well as in monetary terms since before the war, the task of the Commonwealth in maintaining and expanding this trade may prove difficult.

There are, however, other factors operating to make the prospects of Commonwealth trade more favourable, both in the United Kingdom, still the largest market for other Commonwealth countries, and in the United States and Western Europe, the Commonwealth's other main markets.

Briefly, these new factors may be summarized as the need of the United Kingdom in present circumstances to utilize Commonwealth sources of supply as far as possible, the corresponding need for all Commonwealth countries to expand dollar exports to the maximum extent, and the plans formulated by O.E.E.C. countries to draw more extensively than formerly on sterling countries. It is difficult to evaluate the ultimate effects of these factors, but it seems reasonable to infer that, taken together, they may give an impetus to a further expansion of Commonwealth trade.

This, however, is only part of the picture, and in view of changing world conditions it would be unrealistic to limit possible developments to those in the older markets. The progress of large-scale industrialization in primary producing countries and the execution of large-scale development plans in under-developed countries might, in fact, imply changes in the volume, character and direction of Commonwealth trade which would alter very considerably the present pattern.

"Whatever the present difficulties, there are aspects of the situation both in the Commonwealth and elsewhere which should ensure that the Commonwealth will continue to make an important and, it is hoped, an increasing contribution to world trade.

The chairman of the Commonwealth Economic Committee is Mr. Frederic Hudd (Canada), and the members are Messrs. A. E. Bryan (Canada); H. P. Hamilton and G. R. Clarke (U.K.); N. R. Mighell and C. E. Critchley (Australia); W. J. Jordan and H. E. Davis (New Zealand); V. K. Krishna Menon and M. J. Desai (India); Habib I. Rahimtoola (Pakistan); K. M. Goodenough (Southern Rhodesia); O. E. Goonethilleke and C. E. P. Jayasuriya (Ceylon); and A. Emanuel and Julian S. Crossley (Colonies). Mr. G. S. Dunnett is the secretary.

Kenya has been developing at a frightening rate for a small country.—Major F. W. Cavendish-Beattick, Member for Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Former Italian Colonies

"Cynical Betrayal"

"WE EXPECT GREAT THINGS of Italy," said Mr. Hector McNeil in the General Assembly of the United Nations at Flushing Meadows when referring to the future of Somalia in the debate on the former Italian Colonies, and I am certain none of our expectations will be disappointed through any voluntary act of the new Italy and its Government."

So far as Great Britain was concerned, Ethiopia had convincingly pointed out that nearly half of Eritrea's population desired union with Ethiopia.

The assembly decided by 48 votes to seven, with three abstentions, that Italian Somaliland should be put under United Nations Trusteeship for 10 years, with Italy as administering Power, and with representatives of Colombia, the Philippines, and Egypt forming an advisory council.

By 47 votes to five the disposition of Eritrea was postponed until a United Nations commission had studied the problem on the scene during the next few months.

A composite resolution embracing these decisions was passed by the council as a whole by 49 votes to one (Ethiopia), with nine abstentions. These decisions are binding under the Italian peace treaty, and not, as is usually the case, moral recommendations to members.

Russian Accusations

Before the vote was taken Russia alleged that Italy was preparing a fully armed division, including 900 airmen, for shipment to Somalia. The troops, the Soviet delegate declared, were called gendarmes, but if they were police why did they need an air force? Italy, he said, was trying to regain her former African Empire "one way or another." The Ethiopian delegate said that the restoration of Italian supervision would give rise to troubles for many years.

Many delegates to the United Nations conference concede privately that the plan for the disposal of the former Italian Colonies is "cynical and wrong in its betrayal of Ethiopian claims in Eritrea," writes the special correspondent of *The Times*, who adds that the intentions lack realism, since Italy will return to Somalia in face of deep local resentment, "and the presence on her frontier of a hostile Ethiopia, which sees itself seriously menaced, cannot make for tranquillity while the problem of Eritrea remains unresolved."

It is now known that the commission consisting of representatives of Burma, Guatemala, Norway, Pakistan, and South Africa which is to make recommendations for the future of Eritrea not later than mid-June next, has been asked to take into special account "the interests of peace and security in East Africa and the rights and claims of Ethiopia based on geographical, historical, ethnic, or economic reasons, including in particular Ethiopia's legitimate needs for adequate access to the sea."

Officials, Not Consultants

ARCHITECTURAL and quantity surveying work for the Northern Rhodesian Government will in future be done by the staff of the Public Works Department, which is being increased. This has been stated in the Legislature by the Director of Development, Mr. F. Crawford, who added that arrangements were also being made to engage a first-class road engineer and subordinate road staff, so that it would be unnecessary in future to employ private road consultants, except in certain cases. The cost of engaging engineering and architectural consultants for the years 1947, 1948, and 1949 had been nearly £70,000.

BACKGROUND

Ministerial Manners.—“In the last four or five years there has been a deplorable deterioration in political manners. A healthy investigation has traditionally enlightened our public life, but until recently scurrility of the grosser sort was restricted to the obscure rhetoricians of Hyde Park. In the brave new world now being forged the language of Billingsgate itself has begun to be regarded as by no means inconsistent with the dignity of high office. To go away from a public banquet and deride the fare is regarded as a good rabble-raising expedient not unworthy of those endowed with a natural fitness to rule. We are a good-humoured race, and there need be no disposition to take these civilities too seriously, though it is perhaps reasonable to hope that they may remain personal to their practitioners rather than a general mode of political expression. What is less tolerable is the tendency to treat the mildest retort as evidence of moral turpitude. Mr. Aneurin Bevan yesterday found occasion to make sardonic remarks about men between the wars who travelled with rolled-up umbrellas. We do not know how Mr. Bevan carries his umbrella; conceivably he does not carry an umbrella at all, whether rolled or unrolled, lest he should be mistaken for a member of the vermin class. But the observation by one of his hearers that the same men were quick to exchange umbrellas for rifles in time of need no doubt reminded Mr. Bevan of Mr. Churchill's description of him as a ‘squalid nuisance’ during the war. He denounced the remark as an example of ‘rudeness’ towards Socialist Ministers. Thinness of skin is certainly one of their besetting weaknesses, smugness is another. Are we approaching the point where it will be public treason to say so much as ‘boo to the Socialist goose?’—*Daily Telegraph*.

U.N.O. Interference.—“The United Nations is increasingly arrogating to itself the position of a world Parliament, with the right to interfere in the domestic affairs of member States and tamper with their freedom at will. The principle having been accepted that agitators can obtain entrance to its council chambers, by-passing a country's own legal Government, there seems to be no limit to interference any more. The way has become wide open for incitement and the creation of unrest from outside. To-day South Africa is a prey of this conduct. To-morrow it will be others.”—Dr. Malan, Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa.

Germany.—“The new German programme seeks to do three things: (1) It seeks to promote the prestige and authority of the structure of Government which has been created for the Federal Republic; that is why we have proceeded by free discussions instead of a *Diktat*. (2) It seeks to reintroduce Germany into international political society; hence the announced intention to encourage the participation of Germany in organs of international collaboration; hence also the agreement for the establishment of German consuls and commercial representatives abroad. (3) It seeks to remove causes of friction between the Occupying Powers and the German people. The chief of these has been the dismantling of industries for reparations and the restrictions imposed on the shipbuilding industry. It cannot be easy, and may be impossible, to remove all causes of friction between the occupying and the occupied. We feel that in the agreements which we, with the approval of our Governments, have reached in this settlement, we have made a generous contribution; indeed, a maximum contribution. We have held back nothing save on considerations of strict security. We recognize that the Federal German Government has made a notable contribution, also. We are clearly not expecting that this agreement should be regarded as a stepping-stone for further demands.”—Sir Brian Robertson.

Passing the Buck.—“Mr. Shinwell by implication blamed the fuel crisis on to his experts. Mr. Strachey has done the same with the groundnuts fiasco. When the economy cuts were made in 1931 it was a ‘bankers’ ramp’. To-day the value of the £ has fallen catastrophically owing to Socialist economic policy. But it is still a ‘Throgmorton Street conspiracy’. When things went wrong after World War I it was the fault of the ‘wicked Tories’. When they went wrong after World War II it was the ‘international situation’. In 1948 British austerity was due to ‘high prices in America’. In 1949 it is caused by ‘low prices in America’. One muddle is blamed on too much snow in Britain, another on too little rain in Africa. They blamed the Lords for obstructing the Sugar Bill. When the Lords suggested an acceptable compromise—well, they still blamed the Lords for obstruction. Their favourite scapegoat is the Press. They blamed the Opposition newspapers for the devaluation of the £ and the groundnuts scandal. Yet Mr. Dalton says these papers have lost all influence.—*Daily Mail*.

Mr. Strachey Should Go.—“When the groundnut scheme was originally presented, for the Government's approval it was envisaged that the corporation, entirely owned by H.M. Government, would be run on commercial lines. In the groundnut scheme the Government declared that it was ‘agriculturally sound; and that, subject to reasonable assumptions, it involves no unjustifiable financial risk’. And in June last year in Tanganyika Mr. Strachey himself said that there was not the slightest ground for fear that an inevitable rise in capital costs is likely to prevent the groundnut scheme from being a profitable one. Now the Minister's tune is very different.

What prospect is there? he asks (incidentally doubling the original estimate of cost), ‘of the revenue over expenditure paying a satisfactory return on the capital, which is calculated to be between £45 and £50 millions by 1954.’ Let me say perfectly clearly that on a 600,000 acres scheme it is impossible to get a rate of commercially attractive return on that amount of capital. The first and most immediately important consequence of this admission is that his personal connexion with it should be immediately brought to an end. This is partly because his personal connexion with it has made, and will inevitably make, the whole undertaking the subject of political argument. More important, it is he especially who is associated in the public mind with the conception of the scheme as a military campaign against world hunger; and it is from this conception that the worst mistakes have sprung. Neither his earlier sneers at the ‘mistakes’ of the managing agency nor his most recent attempt to shift the blame to individuals on the board can conceal Mr. Strachey's responsibility.—*Financial Times*.

German Menace.—“Germany is a greater menace to world peace than Russia. Fear of German aggression is the basic factor behind Russia's attitude. As long as we stand up to Russia and maintain a strong front, I do not think we shall have trouble. The Germans are far more of a problem to the world. Two defeats have not changed their nature much. They are the most dangerous people in Europe. The Russians do not want war if they can possibly avoid it, and are really only trying to build up a wall against German aggression.”—Field-Marshal Lord Wavell, speaking in Ottawa.

TO THE NEWS

"E.A.R. ... Russia ... this country £36,000,000 in respect of the 1939-45 war."—Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

"We have ceased to import sugar from dollar sources."—The Minister of Food.

"My mother raised a family of seven on my father's wage of never more than £2 a week."—Mr. W. J. Brown, M.P.

"Every young National Service conscript in the Air Force costs the country £500 a year."—Viscount Templewood.

"The need for responsible and independent judgment in public affairs has never been greater."—Mr. Laurence P. Scott, chairman of the *Manchester Guardian*.

"The vital issue at the next election will not merely be that of which party shall win, but whether the country as a whole shall survive."—The Marquess of Salisbury.

"Up to last summer no fewer than 6,000,000 cocoa trees had been cut out in the Gold Coast because of swollen shoot, and cutting is now proceeding at the rate of 350,000 a month."—The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

"Gin and orange is the most barbaric drink that any people accepted voluntarily."—Mr. Eugene Burdick.

"This Socialist Government has disproved the Socialist theory that the State is capable of earning the nation's living for it."—*Time and Tide*.

"Before the war the radio and other communication equipment in a destroyer cost £3,000. Now for radar alone the cost is £72,000."—Lord Hall.

"To-day the Germans want equality. By 1952 they may want domination. In saying this I exclude the Communist and right-wing nationalists, and concern myself with the middle area of German political thought."—Commander Stephen King-Hall.

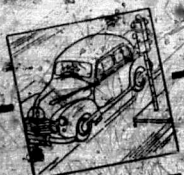
"The deadliest disease we suffer from in South Africa is colour insanity. All of us are guilty of allowing this poisonous growth to come to the stage where we are reaping a dreadful harvest."—The Rt. Rev. S. W. Lavis, Coadjutor Bishop of Cape Town.

"Whereas the world price of sugar is about £32 a ton, the price paid to the Colonial producer is nearer £23."—Mr. William ...

"... cost to each of the 738 people at the dinner in London to mark the 75th birthday of Dr. Weizmann, President of Israel, was 175 guineas. Their annual tribute more than £70,000 to the fund with which to plant a Weizmann Forest."—*Daily Mail*.

"Inside the Labour Party we are beginning to produce our own breed of automatic overlords. The chairman of the boards of the nationalized industries enjoy greater economic power—and its powers of patronage—than any private industrialist."—Miss Jenny Lee, M.P., wife of Mr. Aneurin Bevan, M.P.

"Inflation is the greatest barrier to England's recovery and solvency. I cannot understand why no punishment is given to politicians who debauch, debase, and devalue the currency, stealing the savings of industry and of every person in the community. There will be no hope for British industry until we return to honest money. We face the worst financial and economic crisis we have ever known."—Mr. Brendan Bracken, M.P.



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PERSONALIA

COLONEL THE HON. I. LESLIE MELVILLE flew to Nairobi last week.

MR. L. SHOOLMAN, Director of Supplies in Uganda, is in this country on leave.

MR. A. H. STRACHAN has been appointed an additional member of the Rhodesia Railways Board.

LORD DE LA WARR and the RT. HON. R. S. HUDSON, M.P., have arrived in Kenya on a short visit.

OLIVE LADY-BADEN POWELL left England on Sunday for a tour of Africa which will last about five months.

THE KARAKA of BUGANDA led a football team which defeated the Gayaza Social Club by seven goals to one.

BRIGADIER ANDREW DUNLOP and MRS. VIOLET MARY KAULBACK are to be married in Southern Rhodesia to-day.

MR. R. L. WORELEY is on leave pending retirement from the post of Commissioner of Prisons in Northern Rhodesia.

THE HON. MRS. WILSON-FOX has left London for another visit to Southern Rhodesia, where she will stay until February.

LORD LISTOWEL, Minister of State for Colonial Affairs, has returned to London by air from his visit to the West Indies and the United States.

SIR PHILIPPE RAFFRAY gave a cocktail party at the Dorchester Hotel on Monday to meet the Mauritius delegates to the Sugar Conference.

MR. and MRS. HAMISH DAVIDSON have arrived in Juba, Sudan, after an 11,000-mile journey to South Africa and back in a British light car.

GENERAL SMUTS lunched with The King and Queen at Buckingham Palace and was received by Queen Mary during his brief visit to London last week.

SIR VERNON THOMSON, chairman of the Union-Castle Line, is outward-bound for the Cape in the EDINBURGH CASTLE, accompanied by MR. J. S. BEVAN.

THE REV. and MRS. GEORGE FRASER, of Luanshya, have arrived on leave from Northern Rhodesia. After their holiday they will join the Mindolo mission.

PROFESSOR T. WILLIAMS, principal of the Teachers' College, Johannesburg, will in January next become Director of European Education in Northern Rhodesia.

SIR GERARD CLAUSON is representing the Colonial Office at the fifth session of the Food and Agricultural Organization, which opened in Washington last week.

MR. PETER H. B. ALLSOP, only son of the late H. H. Allsop, formerly of Tanganyika, and of Mrs. B. Hilpern, has announced his engagement to MISS ELIZABETH BOWN.

COMMISSIONER DAVID LAMB sailed in the MAURETANIA last week for New York for another good-will tour of five or six months in North America. He is now in his 84th year.

THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER, who is to present the King's charter which will confer the status of a city upon Nairobi next March, is to be asked if he will become the first honorary freeman.

MR. C. J. EDGECOMBE will relinquish the post of Warden of the Rhodesian Fairbridge Memorial College on December 31 and take up the appointment of inspector of Schools in Matabeleland.

MR. W. J. SAUNDERS, managing director of the African Mercantile Co., Ltd., has returned to London from his visit by air to the company's branches in Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika Territory, and Zanzibar.

THE COUNTESS OF BANDON, BRIGADIER and MRS. BRADSHAW, LIEUT.-COLONEL and MRS. STANFORTH, DR. and MRS. T. H. MATHEWS, and PROFESSOR E. G. HOLMES are among recent air passengers to Kenya.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR HUBERT HUDDLESTON, a former Governor-General of the Sudan, presided when MR. A. J. ARKELL addressed the Royal African and Royal Empire Societies recently on "An Introduction to African Prehistory."

COLONEL ALICE STERLING, regional general manager for the groundnut scheme in the Southern Province, is stated to have tendered his resignation. The appointment which he has filled was previously held by MAJOR-GENERAL F. J. WALKER.

THE REV. CECIL NORTHCOTT, home secretary and literary superintendent of the London Missionary Society, has been appointed general secretary of the United Council for Missionary Education and editor of the Edinburgh House Press.

MR. T. H. W. BEADLE, Minister of Justice, Internal Affairs, Health, and Education in Southern Rhodesia, who is visiting this country, addressed a meeting of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association last week on the present situation in the Colony.

SIR CLEMENT JONES has been elected chairman of the council of the Royal Institute of International Affairs. New members of the council include FIELD-MARSHAL LORD ALANBROOKE, MR. DENIS HEALEY, SIR ARTHUR SALTER, and MR. VINCENT TEWSON.

MR. K. W. BLACKBURN, Director of Information Services at the Colonial Office, is to address the Colonial Group of the Royal Empire Society next Tuesday evening at 6 o'clock on "Battle against Suspicion: the Work of Information Services in the Colonies."

The engagement has been announced between MR. RICHARD ALAN MAULE BIRKETT, of the Colonial Administrative Service, son of the late Brigadier R. M. Birkett, and of Mrs. Birkett, of Fontwell, Sussex, and MISS HEATHER ANNE MOORE, daughter of Mrs. Winifred Moore, of Kerih, Kenya.

MR. J. H. HEIJZINGA, London correspondent of the *Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant*, who recently made a tour of Africa as a special correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*, is to address the Royal Empire Society at a lunch-time meeting on December 15 on "Africa: Continent of To-morrow's Trouble."

LADY TAT, who recently broadcast in the "Calling Southern Rhodesia" programme of the B.B.C., said that when she was at Government House, Salisbury, she entered on the back of the daily menus a list of the guests, the table decorations, and the dresses which she and her daughter wore, so that when the same people were next invited there was no repetition.

SIR WILLIAM FITZGERALD, K.C., has been appointed chairman of the Commission of Inquiry to report upon the recent disorders in Nigeria. He has had a long and distinguished career in the Colonial Legal Service in Nigeria, Palestine and Northern Rhodesia, where he was Solicitor-General from 1932-33 and Attorney-General 1933-37. He was Chief Justice in Palestine from 1944-48.

MR. A. B. GILLET, county chairman of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial, and Overseas) since the middle of 1943, and MRS. GILLET are on their way to South Africa in the DURBAN CASTLE for a prolonged holiday. Formerly a partner in Gillett & Co., bankers in Oxford and Banbury, he became a local director of Barclays Bank in Oxford in 1919, when the family business was incorporated in that bank. He joined the main board two years later, and became a director of Barclays (D.C. & O.) on its formation.

TRAVELLING COMPANION

LADY returning East Africa will act as companion to another in return part fare. References exchanged. Box 364, EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA, 66 Great Russell Street, W.C.1.

E. African Service Appointments - Tanganyika European Council

Recent Promotions and Transfers Results of Dodoma Conference

AMONG recent promotions and transfers in the Colonial Service are the following:—

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE.—Mr. R. P. Bush, provincial commissioner, to be Secretary for Native Affairs, Northern Rhodesia; and Mr. F. V. N. Fenech, administrative officer, Hong Kong, to be administrative officer, Kenya.

AGRICULTURAL SERVICE.—Mr. P. J. G. Chambers, agricultural officer, Kenya, to be Director of Agriculture, Cyprus; Mr. W. I. M. Irving, senior agricultural officer, to be assistant director of agriculture, Dares Salaam; and Mr. J. C. Muir, Director of Agriculture, Tanganyika, to be Member for Agriculture and Natural Resources, Tanganyika.

POLICE SERVICE.—Mr. K. D. H. Holmes, Court, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Barbados, to be superintendent of police, Nyasaland; Mr. W. R. B. Pugh, senior superintendent, Kenya, to be Deputy Commissioner, Gold Coast; and Mr. S. C. Sinclair, assistant commissioner, Gold Coast, to be Deputy Commissioner, Tanganyika.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Mr. C. S. Campbell, accountant, to be assistant registrar of co-operative societies, Uganda; Miss K. Gray, women's education officer, Nyasaland, to Uganda; Mr. H. Forrester, collector of customs, to be senior collector of customs, East Africa High Commission; Mr. A. C. Harrison, district magistrate, Gold Coast, to be resident magistrate, Kenya; Mr. A. C. Lindsay, accountant, Nigeria, to Tanganyika; Mr. D. B. O'Shea, Deputy Director of Public Works, North Borneo, to be executive engineer, Nyasaland; Mr. F. I. Parnell, assistant district officer, Basutoland, to be assistant director of game and venise control, Northern Rhodesia; and Mr. H. M. Stubbey, senior veterinary officer, Tanganyika, to be Deputy Director, Nyasaland.

Mr. R. L. Hardy

MR. R. L. HARDY, O.B.E., M.C., Secretary of the Department of Mines and Transport in Southern Rhodesia, is now on six months' leave pending retirement, after 37 years in Government service. Educated at Launceston College and Hertford College, Oxford, he went to the Colony in 1912 to take up an appointment with the British South Africa Company. He served in the Native Affairs Department until 1927, reaching the rank of assistant Native commissioner. During the 1914-18 war he was wounded and taken prisoner at the Third Battle of Ypres, and received the Military Cross while in France. He was the first secretary of the Public Services Board (1928), chief clerk in the Department of Mines and Public Works (1929), and chairman of the committee appointed to report on Sir Harold Howitt's recommendations regarding nationalization of railways. He accompanied the Prime Minister to London in 1939 to discuss civil aviation, and in February of that year led an official delegation to the South African Air Transport Conference in Pretoria.

"The case of Kenya has always been the apathy of its European inhabitants."—Major-General C. C. Fowkes.

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DESCRIBING THE GATHERING as the most representative meeting of Tanganyika Europeans ever held, Mr. J. F. Anderson presided over the recent assembly in Dodoma of 28 delegates from different parts of the Territory, who had met for the purpose of "achieving unity of European opinion in Tanganyika and forming an organization to give effect to it."

The Northern Province Council was represented by Messrs. J. F. Anderson, W. H. Baldwin, F. A. F. Schmid, who were accompanied by the executive officer, Mr. S. F. Male; the Kongwa area by Mrs. Cripps and Messrs. C. W. Coulsley, B. W. Cully, R. H. Nocton, P. Hargreaves, W. E. Bond, and J. B. Dar es Salaam by Messrs. J. S. Davis, A. Morrison, and Colonel E. H. Bax; Iringa by Brigadier W. E. H. Scupham, M.L.C., Mr. H. T. Constantinides, and Mr. C. P. Lyons; Soa Hill by Brigadier L. R. Stansfield and Mr. E. W. Helps; Mufindi by Messrs. F. J. Paterson and R. S. Pringle; Uwemba by Group Captain and Mrs. V. Croome and Mrs. Baylton; Mbeya by Mr. I. G. W. Bayldon, M.L.C., Dodoma by Mr. G. Kypris; Chunya by Mr. S. P. Fuller; and the Usambara Association by Colonel C. Budge. Mr. C. V. Salter, president of the Electoral Union of Kenya, also attended.

To Forge and Crystallize Views

Brigadier Scupham spoke of the value of a large and thinking body of Europeans, "not a mere European Protection Society, but a vehicle to help Europeans to think and formulate their ideas and crystallize them."

The objects of the new organization are:—

- (1) To secure the permanency of European settlement and interests in Tanganyika Territory;
- (2) To preserve the traditions of Western civilization within Tanganyika through the purposeful development of an expanding European culture for the benefit of all its inhabitants;
- (3) To promote and maintain as paramount European leadership in Tanganyika, whilst working for the advancement of all peoples in the Territory;
- (4) To do all such things as may be necessary to assist Europeans in achieving their aims.

Membership of what is called the "electorate" of the Tanganyika European Council "will be a right accorded to every person in Tanganyika Territory who is of European descent, has reached the age of 21 years, and has resided in the Territory for at least 12 months, other than those who were German-born subjects. A German-born subject who has been resident in Tanganyika for 12 months may apply to the council for admission to the electorate. The council, while exercising its discretion in the matter, shall not admit to the electorate any German who is known at any time to have held Nazi tendencies."

The council is to consist normally of 12 members (with 10 as a minimum and 14 as a maximum), with proportional representation from each "electoral province," based on the total European population qualifying for electoral membership.

The headquarters are to be in Arusha or such other place as the council may from time to time determine; there is to be a salaried executive officer; and one of the duties is to be to represent the European community of Tanganyika within and outside the Territory.

Mr. Fuller, of Chunya, expressed the gratitude of the Territory to the Northern Province Council for its efforts, from which this larger body had sprung.

First Pylon

MR. C. R. WESTLAKE inserted the last bolt in the first pylon for the 66,000-volt single circuit overhead line to be erected between Kampala-B power station and the site of the Owen Falls power station in Uganda. At first the line will operate 33,000 volts from Kampala for constructional work on the dam. Ultimately it will supply 66,000 volts to Kampala from the hydro-electric generating station. It will be one of two circuits for this purpose. The line, which is 44 miles long and will require 236 supports, will be constructed on steel towers 551 feet high.

Judgment on Baganda Rioters

Heavy Sentences for Insurrection

THE FULL TEXT of the judgment given in the Principal Court of His Highness the Kabaka of Buganda in the trial of 12 Baganda who were accused of insurrection against their lawful ruler has now become available. Three were acquitted.

James Miti Kabazzi, a man of about 75 years of age, who retired on pension from a saza chieftainship, admitted that he was leader of the Bataka Society and responsible for the collection of their finances, from which Semakula Mulumba was supported in England. He was fined £500 or the confiscation and sale of enough of his property to realize that sum.

Monthly meetings of the Bataka had been held at his home, and at one such meeting a letter purporting to have come from Mulumba was read stating: "You can do nothing without overthrowing the Government by force."

In the course of evidence against this man it was stated that the Bataka greet one another with "Bu," which is derived from the first letters of the two words *Bataka Uganda*.

Five of the accused were sentenced to 15 years' hard labour each.

One of them, Leuben Sparts Sebbanja Mukasa, an educated man, was described as the leader of the Orthodox Church in Uganda. A letter of his which was read in court appealed to supporters to be more active, in order that the movement should succeed in its struggle, and be saved from these damned foreigners who have deprived us of all our property and left us poor."

"Another Government Would Come"

Another, Gabulieri Lubega, was said by a witness to have suggested at a meeting that "the British Government should quit this country of the Bataka, and that another Government would come and take over."

Nasanaeri Mayanja, a leader of the Uganda African Farmers' Union and the Bataka Society, was sentenced to five years' light work, and Temusewo Luwule, another Bataka leader, to five years' hard labour.

Yekonia Yake Musoke Siki Kyazze, a well-educated non-official representative of Kyadondo County in the Lukiko, was sentenced to 12 months' hard labour and a fine of £25, or an additional six months in prison if the fine is not paid.

In all cases the charge was that of "rebelling against the Kabaka, thereby contravening Native custom."

After hearing that a mass meeting desired audience with him last April, the Kabaka addressed a letter to his Katikiro (Prime Minister) stating that he would see six representatives only. Copies of that communication were widely distributed, and the chiefs were told to warn the people against the proposed demonstration.

Nevertheless, four days after the letter had been written a great crowd, variously estimated by witnesses at between 3,000 and 7,500, gathered at the palace at Mengo, though the law prohibits assembly at the Lubiri without written permission.

Eight people selected by the crowd presented to the Kabaka a letter containing the five following demands:—

- (1) His Highness should adopt democracy. People should begin to elect their rulers.
- (2) The 60 non-official representatives number should be made full.
- (3) The present Government should be made to resign.
- (4) We must gin our own cotton.
- (5) We must sell our crops directly to the world markets; such was the free trade.

(5) We must sell our crops directly to the world markets; such was the free trade.

The Kabaka's reply to the first three points was that he intended to adhere to the Uganda Agreement of 1900, and that on the last two he would receive the advice of those dealing with such matters.

The court record continues:—

"He instructed the representatives to return to their homes and to return to their people whom they had at the Lubiri. The people and the representatives did not leave the Lubiri, and although the Kabaka had already ordered them to go, they did come back on 26.4.49. The position became really critical when they refused to leave the place at all, and consequently a European magistrate, who was reading a Riot Act, which stated that if they refused to go away they would be considered as having committed an offence, was hit on the head with a missile. Here the police were forced to disperse the crowd by force; the crowd fought the police.

Lectadarianism

"After the crowd had been driven from the Lubiri they began setting fire to buildings at Omukulu we Kibuga and other houses belonging to the chiefs. Throughout the villages the burning of official and private buildings and property started; this included property of those people who were sympathetic to the rioters. Evidence was shown that the people who were driven from the Lubiri captured motor-cars and lorries with petrol which they used to burn houses and as means of easy movement everywhere.

"Three hundred and nineteen permanent and temporary Buganda Government buildings and 238 private buildings were destroyed throughout the counties; many vehicles were destroyed, also many properties were either burned or looted.

"The known societies which held an assembly at the Lubiri were that of the Bataka and the Uganda African Farmers' Union.

"One of the accused stated that the Bataka had accused 19 persons (three Ministers and 16 saza chiefs) to the Kabaka for disowning the Bataka, and again that the Bataka had already intimidated the Kabaka that they had no confidence in the present Government. It is also stated in exhibit 5 that the 16 saza chiefs and three Ministers had already committed treason against their country and contravened the agreement, and that the Kabaka, the foundation of the agreement, remained silent.

"It appears that the crowd that ran from the Lubiri attacked the authority of His Highness the Kabaka and his chiefs. Hence the destruction of the property belonging to the Buganda Government, such as buildings, etc. They sought to do harm to officers of His Highness's Government, and one of them was kidnapped and taken prisoner to Jemusi Miti. All these things were done with intention of intimidating the Kabaka and his Government to do according to their will without following what was proper for the good of his country, Buganda, as a whole.

"The witnesses who were summoned from various counties confirm that the gangs who set fire to buildings and property used the same techniques of destruction, such as burning with the aid of petrol, capturing of motor-cars and lorries and others, all these disclose that there was a plan known beforehand as to how these rebellious acts would be carried out. Gangs which attacked Government administrative centres released prisoners from the Government's prisons.

Egypt and the Sudan

UNITY OF EGYPT WITH THE SUDAN is one of the demands being made by all the political parties in Egypt in anticipation of the general election in January. Nahas Pasha, the Wafdist leader, is asserting that the British must realize that there can be no stability in the Middle East until the Nile Valley is independent and an end put to attempts to separate the Sudan from Egypt. Makram Ebeid Pasha, an independent Wafdist leader, has urged that his "Sudanese brethren" may be allowed to stand as candidates in the election and become eligible for appointment to the Egyptian Senate and Diplomatic Corps. He said that he would denounce the Condominium negotiated in 1899 and the treaty with Great Britain of 1936, and revise the Egyptian constitution so that the King of Egypt would also be King of the Sudan.

Parliament

**African Public Assembly
Report on Somaliland Protectorate**

MR. SKINNARD asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies in the House of Commons about the regulations governing the meetings of Africans in Kenya to discuss their own racial problems; and why special difficulties had occurred in the Fort Hall and Nyeri districts recently leading to a prohibition of such meetings.

MR. REES-WILLIAMS: "Public assemblies in Kenya are regulated under Section 30 of the Police Ordinance of 1948, which is of general application. The Minister is not aware that any special difficulties have occurred recently, but he is asking the Governor for information."

MR. SKINNARD: "In view of the urgent necessity of setting up suitable local administrations in which the African population are required to participate, would not my hon. friend agree that the absolute banning of African peoples from discussing local affairs is regrettable?"

MR. REES-WILLIAMS: "Well, it does not take place. The regulations in Kenya are on the same lines as in this country, and the African member, Mr. Mathu, expressed appreciation when this ordinance went through."

MR. SKINNARD asked the Secretary of State whether he would be particular of the charge of seditious on which the editor-proprietor of the Luganda newspaper *Nugobansonga* was sentenced to three years' hard labour.

MR. CREECH JONES: "The editor was convicted of publishing a seditious article on August 23, in which he incited the public to violence. I am sending my hon. friend a copy of the article in question."

Roads in Kenya and Uganda

MR. F. ERROLL asked when the roads in Kenya would be brought up to the standard of the roads in Uganda.

MR. D. REES-WILLIAMS: "Comparisons are difficult to make, but in Kenya there are greater distances in relation to population, less favourable soil conditions, heavier traffic and greater expense involved in building and maintaining roads. Larger sums have, however, been allotted to road development in the Kenya development plan."

SIR R. GLYN asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies if he would make a statement as to the present position in British Somaliland and to what extent projects that equally concerned French Somaliland were carried out as joint undertakings; what had been the total of British expenditure in the whole of Somaliland since 1939; and how far any portion of that was repayable by the French authorities.

MR. CREECH JONES: "Civil administration was resumed in the Somaliland Protectorate on November 15, 1948. It is H.M. Government's policy to collaborate with the French Government on matters of common interest to their respective Colonial territories in Africa, but no specific joint projects have been carried out affecting the Somaliland Protectorate. There is therefore no question of any portion of British expenditure in Somaliland Protectorate being repayable by the French authorities."

"So far as can be ascertained, the total expenditure by H.M. Government on civil administration in the Somaliland Protectorate from 1939 to the present date has been £1,378,374. Of this amount £230,156 has been issued under the Colonial Development Act, 1929; and the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts, 1940 and 1945; £596,533 has been issued from the Colonial and Middle Eastern Services Vote as grants-in-aid of expenses of administration; and the net cost to H.M. Government of the government under British Military Administration from 1941 to 1948 was £551,685. The last figure includes the recorded value of stores and services provided by the Army after June 30, 1943. There are no records of the cost of such provision before that date."

Markets for Coal

MR. LENNON-BOWD asked what were the prospective markets for any coal that might be produced from the development fields in Tanganyika and Nyasaland; how much railway track would have to be laid to connect them; and what port facilities existed, or were under review for construction, for the export of any surplus coal.

MR. CREECH JONES: "The quality and extent of coal deposits in Tanganyika and Nyasaland are still under investigation. The points referred to by the hon. member, while in mind, have not yet been the subject of special examination."

MR. E. SKINNARD asked what alternative accommodation and subsistence provision had been offered by the Kenya Government to the people rendered homeless by official action in burning three huts in the Ndeiya Reserve."

MR. REES-WILLIAMS: "The Minister has asked the Governor for information and will write to my hon. friend when it is received."

MR. SKINNARD: "Will my hon. friend bear in mind, together with the Government of Kenya, the practice which obtains in some other Colonies of providing suitable alternative accommodation before having the order for destruction carried out?"

MR. REES-WILLIAMS: "We have not heard of any destruction of this was the first information that came to us on the subject."

MR. W. GALLACHER asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs if he would now institute an inquiry into the origin of the accusation made against British Administration of Italian Somaliland.

MR. C. MAYHEW: "No, sir."

MR. GALLACHER: "Will the Minister kindly explain to me how it is that, while his rt. hon. friend says he would like to make an inquiry into how my friends managed to start these reports going when he receives an invitation to make an inquiry into how my friends started the reports the answer is 'No, Sir. What does it mean?'"

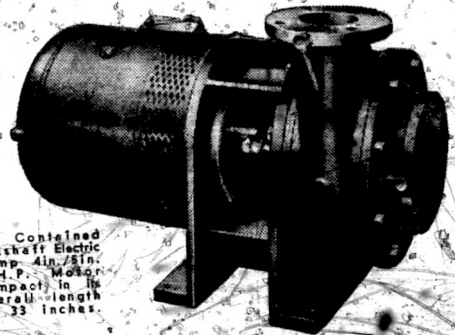
MR. MAYHEW: "That the investigation is not worth making."

MR. GALLACHER: "Last week the hon. gentleman's rt. hon. friend said he would like an opportunity to make such an inquiry. Now, I give him the opportunity of instituting an inquiry. What is he afraid of?"

AN HON. MEMBER: "Your friends."

Dollars for Groundnut Scheme

DOLLAR EXPENDITURE on the groundnut scheme up to November 9 totalled \$8,690,000. This was revealed by the Economic Secretary to the Treasury, Mr. Douglas Jay, in a written answer to Mr. Anthony Hurd. The expenditure was divided as follows: By the managing agents to March 1, 1948: \$3,800,000 on heavy tractors for clearance, \$750,000 on agricultural tractors and equipment, and \$150,000 on other equipment; by the Overseas Food Corporation from March 1, 1948; to November 9, 1949: \$1,751,000 on heavy tractors and equipment, \$1,995,000 on agricultural tractors and equipment, and \$244,000 on other equipment.



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Mr. Stanley's Charges

AFTER THE GROUNDNUT DEBATE Sir Leslie Plummer said, with reference to the charge made by Mr. Oliver Stanley that he had dismissed senior members of the O.F.C. staff who had signed a memorandum suggesting improvements in policy and management:—

"The true position about the alleged dismissals is as follows:—

"The chief health officer, Colonel Woods, was specially seconded to the scheme from the Army for a limited period and has returned to his post on the expiry of his secondment. The chief labour adviser, Colonel Marchant, is still with us. The chief personnel officer, Mr. Seabrook, has been promoted to the post of East African secretary at higher pay. The chief civil engineer, Brigadier Pritchard, was also seconded from the Army and has returned to his post. The chief mechanical engineer was declared redundant as the result of a reorganization scheme."

Seven Senior Officers

Mr. Stanley replied:—

"Sir Leslie Plummer refers to five out of the eight signatories of the memorandum in January, 1949.

"In three of the cases there appears to be no difference between us. As I stated, the chief medical officer still holds his post; the chief labour officer (not the chief labour adviser) is still employed, but in a lower grade; and the chief personnel officer has been transferred to another department.

"In these circumstances it is difficult to see what was the object of Sir Leslie Plummer in raising these cases, though of course the result might be that the reader, not having heard my speech or seen *Hansard*, might think that I had stated that these officers had been dismissed and was being corrected for this mistake.

"With regard to the chief mechanical engineer, who, I stated, had been dismissed, Sir Leslie desires to substitute the word 'declared redundant.' It is certainly a more euphemistic phrase, but to the unfortunate officer both mean the same thing: he had to go.

"With regard to the chief civil engineer, he states that he was seconded from the Army and had now returned to his post. It would have been franker to state that this return took place long before the term of his secondment had expired.

"Despite all Sir Leslie Plummer's explanations the fact remains that of eight senior officers who signed the memorandum in January only one now remains in the post he then occupied."

Northern Rhodesia's Estimates

Revenue and Expenditure Rise

NORTHERN RHODESIA'S BUDGET has risen to over £10,000,000 for the first time, as stated in our last issue.

The Acting Financial Secretary, Mr. J. O. TALBOT-PHIBBS, said in his budget speech in the Legislative Council that revenue had increased at an average rate of only 16% between 1936 and 1948, but that the estimate of £10,361,000 for 1950 was more than three times the 1946 figure, or four times that at the outbreak of war.

This was largely due, of course, to copper. During the depression it was valued at £27 per ton, had averaged £44 between 1938 and 1946, and had risen to £106 in 1947, £121 in 1948, and £125 in the first nine months of 1949. Moreover, the volume of copper output has risen by 42% since 1946.

Income Tax from Mining

The estimated increase of £766,000 in the revised revenue for 1949 and the increase of over £500,000 expected in 1950 were accounted for by increases in income tax derived from the mining industry and by the general expansion in economic activity throughout the territory. Next year the revenue would benefit to the extent of some £450,000 from the Government's share in the mining royalties.

The 1950 revenue was estimated to be derived in the following proportions: income tax, 68%; customs, 13%; other licences and taxes, 3%; the balance of 16% consisting of post office revenue and other miscellaneous items, including the share of the mining royalties.

Of the total estimate of £7,200,000 from income tax, about 50% would be derived from Northern Rhodesian companies, 30% from local companies, and only 5% from foreign firms.

The cost of departmental services was estimated to rise from some £3,000,000 to about £4,250,000 in 1950, but this increased charge still represented less than half of the total budget. New services included provision of a mobile unit for the police, establishment of an immigration division of the police department, £50,000 for coal investigations, the establishment of trade testing organizations and a central employment registry, and £15,000 for welfare services.

Expenditure included the maize subsidy of £660,000, an increase of £29,000 over 1949; wheat subsidy, £70,000, an increase of £19,000; meat subsidy, £15,000, a decrease of £45,000 on account of higher consumer prices; £400,000 for major capital works; £300,000 to the local authorities; and £50,000 to the new forest fund; and £1,000,000 for development.

£10,000,000 for Development

By the end of 1950 more than £10,000,000 would have been credited to the development fund, of which £6,000,000 would have come from territorial surplus balances and revenue. Just over £10,000,000 would have been spent by the end of next year, including £1,566,000 on schemes financed under the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund. Expenditure upon Development and Welfare schemes would in 1950-51 be heavier than in any other year, as it was hoped that by the end of that period the great majority of schemes would be well under way.

It was obvious, Mr. Talbot-Phibbs declared, that if departments were to be given larger funds, economy in their use was of paramount importance. It was therefore proposed that a small committee consisting of non-official members, with a chairman from outside the territory, should be appointed early next year to review the organization of as many departments as possible, with special reference to proper financial controls and economy in expenditure.

Tanganyika's Budget for 1950

Export Tax on Sisal

TANGANYIKA'S REVENUE for 1950 is estimated at £7,639,000, which is rather less than the actual receipts for the current year, but £7,300,000 above the estimates for 1949.

The only new impost is an export tax on sisal when the f.o.b. price exceeds £75 a ton; for the first three months of next year the tax will be at the rate of 5%, and during that period a full inquiry is to be made into the capacity of the industry to bear a 10% levy.

Sir Edward Twining, the Governor, stated in the Legislative Council a few days ago that the mineral exports in the first nine months of this year had been worth approximately £1,500,000, an increase of 36% over the comparable period of 1948; that the struggling gold industry had received a welcome respite by devaluation; and that the Territory's dollar imports at about three million dollars compared with dollar exports at the rate of more than £3,000,000.

Inter-Racial Co-Operation on Provincial Councils

He disclosed that the Department of Economic Control had lost £148,000 by the bulk buying of Japanese cotton piece-goods, and that the Government was consulting with the Overseas Food Corporation in regard to taking over its auxiliary police, its social welfare activities, and the technical training centre at Ifunda.

Constitutional progress, said the Governor, would be based on the appointment to provincial councils of non-official Europeans, Africans, and Indians. The councils would handle local funds and have some form of popular support, and if they proved successful they might become electoral colleges for non-official representation on the Legislative Council. The main features were inter-racial co-operation and building from the bottom upwards.

"Public bus services in Dar es Salaam, with no segregation of races and frequent instances of elderly behaviour among African passengers in towns, are not entirely suitable for young European schoolchildren. — Kenya Information Service"

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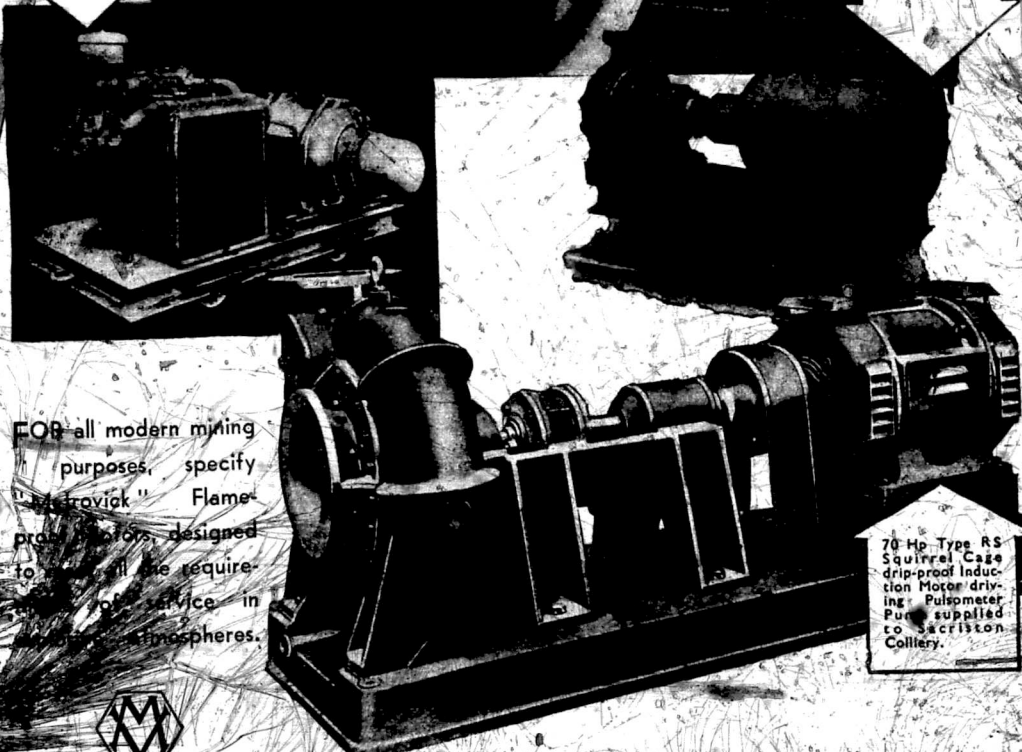
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Kenya Legislative Council Increase in Pensions Approved

THE PENSIONS INCREASE BILL, which was introduced in the Kenya Legislative Council at the beginning of the year and withdrawn for consideration by a select committee, has now been passed by the last session of the Legislative Council.

It dates the proposed increases back to January 28, 1945; raises the ceiling for participation to £645 a year for Europeans and £387 for Asians from £452 and £197 10s. respectively; reduces the age at which a pensioner becomes eligible to participate from 55 to 50; and deals with pensions on the revised rates of salary recently introduced.

MR. S. V. COOKE (Coast) argued that the means test should be dropped, that the increased ceiling should apply to all pensioners, and that the scale of pensions should be raised. He considered that every pensioner should be entitled to some increase, and suggested that "all should be pushed up to £600," which would be 21% increase for bachelors and 4% for married people, and that no one should be entitled to draw the increase over the first £600.

Depreciated Pound

In his view it was a hardship if a pensioner had to carry on at the old rate if the pound had depreciated nearly 50%, finding himself on a pension adequate only to a standard of living far below that to which he had been accustomed.

MR. MICHAEL BLUNDELL (Rift Valley) said that nobody wished to see a man who had given his life in the service of the Colony and the Crown reduced to poverty in his old age, but in equity the rest of the community pensioners could not be entirely insulated against economic shocks during the life of the recipient. Yet he supported the Bill, and urged the Government to push boldly forward with it.

MR. J. HOPKINS (Aberdares) attacked the Bill, which withheld the increase from the senior officials and the means test, especially with regard to earned income, since it put a premium on idleness.

MR. D. O. ESKINE (Nairobi South) said that when he joined the select committee he received a document from a pressure group in England complaining of great hardship. A means test might reveal that there was very little hardship in individual cases. Nor did he feel that it was necessary to ensure that senior officials retired into the conditions to which they had been accustomed. The committee had found abundant evidence of serious hardship for which the Bill contained reasonable relief.

MR. E. A. VASEY (Nairobi North) believed that the fundamental justice of the claim was that a public servant who had given his time, life, brains and energy to the development of the Colony was entitled to consideration. He supported the contention that the first £600 of any pension should be brought into the scheme. He would vote for the Bill but struggle for further adjustment of the position.

Control of Stock

Three measures to tighten control over stock and stock movements were passed during the session. By the Townships (Amendment) Bill wider powers are given to the authorities to control or prohibit stock on portions of townships, to permit the court to order the confiscation of the animals in certain circumstances, to sell such stock, and to devote the proceeds as the court thinks fit. Mr. C. E. Mortimer, introducing the Bill, stressed the harm which illicit grazing was causing to the stock industry.

MR. T. R. PRESTON (Nyanza) testified in a maiden speech to the uselessness of fines, quoting an instance of an estate in Gilgil on which the same cattle from the township were found grazing within 24 hours of their owners having been fined £20 for a similar offence.

Amendments to the Diseases of Animals Ordinance and the Resident Labourers Ordinance provide for stricter control and increased penalties for stock offences.

It was agreed that the Increased Production of Crops Ordinance and the Pyrethrum Amendment Ordinance should remain in force until March 31, 1951.

A Bill to enable Government to sell surplus land and other assets acquired on behalf of the Settlement Fund was passed. The Director of Agriculture said that it was too early to say what failures there would be, but that to date the failures were financially nil. The tenant farmers were doing extremely well in difficult circumstances.

in moving the Coffee Industry (Financial Assistance) Bill, the Member for Agriculture and Natural Resources said that financial assistance was given to the coffee industry in 1944-45, and that every penny had been repaid. In spite of the high prices ruling for coffee at present, only 2,000 tons out of a possible 6,500 tons could be sold in markets other than the Ministry of Food.

Extra relief in respect of income tax on the unearned income of men over the age of 65 and women over 60 is provided by the Income Tax (Amendment) Bill.

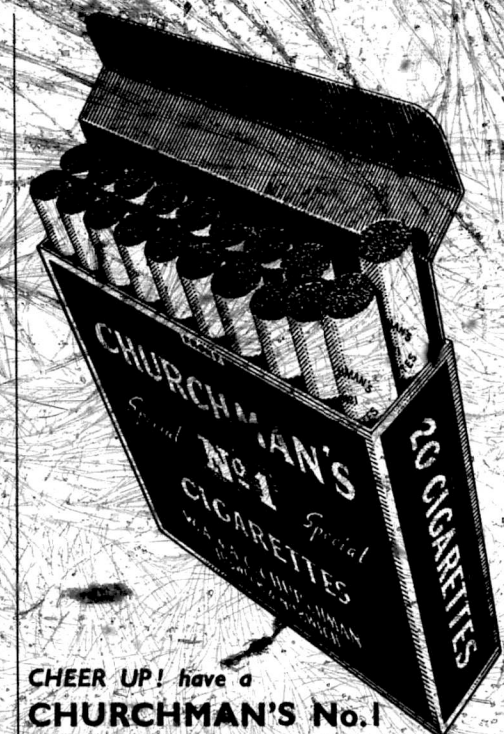
The Chief Secretary said that the select committee's report on a new chamber for the Legislative Council found that a proper chamber, with offices, committee rooms, restaurant, etc., on the site recommended by the town planning report was desirable, but that the pressing need for housing, schools, and schools precluded the possibility of doing justice to the scheme for perhaps 25 or 30 years. As the present accommodation was unsatisfactory, the committee suggested that some buildings should be erected to include a council chamber in the town to bridge the interval before the permanent building could be undertaken.

MR. RANGEL mentioned that Nairobi Municipality intended to build a City Hall, and that the Council might find a temporary home there.

A Bill was passed to enable the municipality of Kisumu to impose a rate of 24% on the unimproved value of sites, since the maximum in the Municipalities Ordinance is 2%.

Aviation Communications

A SPECIAL COMMITTEE appointed by the East Africa High Commission to investigate air radio communications has recommended that the operating staff should be controlled by the Director of Civil Aviation and that technical services should be provided separately. The ideal solution is considered to be that all aviation services, including operational and technical services in connexion with aviation communications, should come directly and exclusively under the Director of Civil Aviation. Sir Reginald Robins, Commissioner for Transport, presided over the committee.



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Groundnut Debate

(Report continued from page 399)

should not. Why should this operation be treated on the lines of a secret war-time landing on enemy soil? What is confidential about clearing the bush? What secret process is there in growing a groundnut?

A year or so ago, the Minister of Food told us the Colonies 7314 that substantial new sources of revenue from timber areas in the Southern Province were likely. Yet in the report we are considering to-night the chief scientific officer states on page 101: "The vast areas proposed for development in the Southern Province are as yet imperfectly known, and little reliable topographic work has been done." It would indeed be criminal if, after the set-backs elsewhere, large and expensive schemes are started in the Southern Province without pilot schemes proving successful.

We urge a full inquiry into the working of this scheme. This inquiry is more than ever necessary in the light of the recent strange dismissals of two of the chief executives, in particular as one of them is known to hold the view that production was being accelerated far beyond the economic level, and that Parliament should be warned of this fact in time.

Proved Inability of Sir Leslie Plummer

As to Sir Leslie Plummer, it is not often in this House that personal charges are made against a man who cannot answer on the floor of the House, because it is a very salutary principle that in nothing but the most extreme cases should that be done. But there are some cases when Members of Parliament have duties which they cannot refrain from exercising in this way, and this seems to us to be such a case. The circumstances of his appointment, his complete ignorance of East African life and customs, his proved inability to get on with many who were working with him, all justify an inquiry.

It must be very hard for the Minister to sever an association with somebody he has known since his old I.L.P. days, and someone I believe, who actually made the Minister of Food editor of a journal which he himself founded after the general strike. But the right hon. gentleman has a greater loyalty even than to the various parties to which he has belonged, and that is his loyalty to this House. We have no confidence in his conduct of affairs. He is both the prosecutor and the defendant when the affairs of this corporation come before his Ministry. We believe he always sees himself in the rôle of the defence.

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"Sir Leslie Plummer said, 'The future is terrific; what is needed is capital and vision. The Government have had the capital. They have many people of vision in East Africa. Let them have the inquiry so as to give those people the leadership they so greatly need.'

Secretary of State's Reply

MR. CREECH-JONES, Secretary of State for the Colonies, thought that members in all quarters of the House were anxious for the success of the scheme, which was concerned not only with the supply of food-stuffs but with the long-term interests of Africa.

He continued (in part):—

"The scheme at its inception was supported by the very best opinions which could be obtained — by agriculturalists, scientists, commercial and business people — and all recommended that the Government should drive ahead.

The recommendation made to me by the Colonial Economic and Development Council, which included Lord Portal as chairman, Sir Graham Cunningham, and Sir William Goodenough, said:—

"The council accept and endorse the principle of this scheme as being of great value to the United Kingdom and to the Colonies concerned, and recommended their adoption even though they appreciate that practical difficulties will probably prevent the production targets set out in the report from being realized at the times indicated. They consider that the implement of the proposals should be regarded as a matter of extreme urgency. After carefully considering the alternative suggestions put forward for controlling and financing the project, the council consider control by a Government department, either direct, or on an agency basis to be impracticable for a scheme of this character. They therefore consider that unless there are any alternative methods of management which could be suggested, control by a Government-owned corporation is the only suitable proposal. They recommend that such a corporation should be set up at the earliest possible moment.

"That view was endorsed in all quarters of the House and by all the advisers whom we could approach, and it was in that spirit that the scheme was launched. While these charges are flying about concerning mistakes, blunders, waste, and inefficiency, I suggest that the men in East Africa have already made an enormous contribution to the technique of large-scale clearance and added considerably to the application of scientific methods. They have made a real contribution to the development of Africa.

"Many hon. members apparently base their view of the scheme on an article in *Picture Post*, an article making a series of charges against the management and the corporation and in regard to the conduct of the scheme. There is a tremendous amount of misrepresentation and distortion throughout the article, and it is not a suitable statement of the facts on which to form a judgment.

No Political Interference

I say emphatically that, regarding the operation of the scheme, there has been no political interference of any kind and no pressure either by the Minister of Food or anyone else in the Government on the corporation in regard to its target and time-table. It is suggested that perhaps the management of the scheme would have been better if the Colonial Secretary had had more responsibility for it, that the Colonial Office was specially concerned with the well-being, happiness, and development of the Colonial people, and that the Government by adopting a scheme under the Ministry of Food had thereby forced the Colonial Secretary to abdicate his responsibilities in regard to Colonial development.

I want to make it perfectly clear that I have always supported the view that this scheme should be under the ultimate direction of the Minister of Food.

"If the Overseas Food Corporation comes to work in a Colony, it comes only with the consent of the local Government and of the Secretary of State. He has a responsibility to see that the policy pursued is consistent with the social, economic, and political policy of the Government. There is no abrogation by the Secretary of State of his responsibility.

"If anyone wished this scheme to succeed, no one could have wished it more than the United Africa Company. After all, it was Mr. Samuel who had the original conception of this scheme, and was most anxious that it should be tried out. If the scheme had to be started, there was no corporation, no firm, no group of persons more competent for the task of getting it started than the United Africa Company. However critical we may be of certain features of their work they have rendered our country a valuable service.

I should not like to take up too much time in dealing with the accountancy and auditing, for the very good reason that many more vital issues have been raised in the debate. It is imperative and right that in public finance there should be the

(Continued on page 416)



FACETS OF ENTERPRISE

Vol. 1, No. 1

Timber



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NEWS ITEMS IN BRIEF

A conference of the labour commissioners of the East and Central African territories will meet shortly in Entebbe.

The new currency to be used in Somalia when it takes over the trusteeship is to be called "Somali," with a coverage guaranteed by the Bank of Italy.

Administration in British African Colonies was debated in the House of Lords yesterday afternoon on a motion introduced by Lord Tweedsmuir. A report will appear in our next issue.

A bazaar in aid of the Princess Isahai Memorial Hospital, Addis Ababa, is to be held in the Kingsway Hall, London, W.C.2, from 2 to 7 p.m. to-day and from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. to-morrow.

Some 300 men of the 1st Battalion, The East Surrey Regiment, the vanguard of the British troops withdrawing from Greece, sailed last week from Athens in the troopship EMPIRE KAN for Mogadishu.

The pipe-line from Mtwara to Nachingwea, 128 miles away, was opened last Friday by Sir Edward Twining, who said that the Government of Tanganyika intended to stimulate African production in the southern province. At present 13,000 tons of oil fuel can be stored at Mtwara. The maximum pumping rate is 40 tons an hour.

Chiromo Bridge

The centre span of the new Chiromo Bridge for Nyasaland Railways has now been placed in position, and it is expected that the side span from the north bank will be completed early next year. In March of last year the old bridge collapsed under heavy pressure of sudd carried down by exceptional floods. The new centre span weighs 386 tons and is 265 feet long.

A sub-committee of the North Nyanza local Native council appointed to consider the bride price system reported that it was not normally considered as a trade and therefore liable to fixation. It was a friendly arrangement, and the amount should be decided by the parents according to Native law, but the council should be empowered to regulate and supervise payments. Marriages other than Christian should be registered and witnessed.

A land resettlement scheme for Coloured ex-Servicemen is to be launched by the Southern Rhodesian Government. A farmer already owning or leasing a farm may be granted a loan not exceeding £500. If he does not own a farm, the ex-Serviceman has the choice of being allotted a farm on Crown land, free from payment, up to a maximum of 1,000 acres, or of being assisted in obtaining a farm on private land. A further loan of £250 may be made to those taking Crown land where no preliminary work has been done.

Groundnut Debate

(Report continued from page 414)

closest scrutiny, but no fraud or corruption has been suggested in connexion with the way in which the accounts were presented.

Let this be said to the credit of the corporation's chairmen. They have set up a budget office in London; they have adopted a sound system of accountability and a proper system of storekeeping. There is complete evidence of the effort of the corporation, under the inspiration of their chairman, to get the accounts properly presented. Immediately the corporation took over, with no inventory of the existing accounts or auditing systems, they proceeded to overhaul the whole of the arrangements and put a sound system into operation.

The problem of large-scale mechanical clearance and the possibility of large farming had to be considered. Undoubtedly there was a great deal of blundering, and mistakes were made in those early stages.

An enormous cost is borne by the corporation which in normal conditions would not be borne at all. Great social services had to be inaugurated for the welfare, housing, and health of the people involved in the enterprise. In the ordinary way local government would carry those charges, but the resources of the Tanganyika Government are such as not to be able to meet those costs, and if a scheme was to start at all then it was absolutely essential that this provision should fall on the corporation. I hope that before long the cost of certain of these public works can be transferred to the Tanganyika Government, and that an arrangement can be made for the maintenance in part by the Government of Tanganyika of the social services.

Not Seeking Scapegoats

The Minister of Food has explained the circumstances under which Mr. Ross was removed from the board. I want again to assert in regard to Mr. Wakefield that the Minister is not seeking any scapegoats, nor is he trying to abate that responsibility, but what he feels is the service Mr. Wakefield rendered is no longer necessary for the successful prosecution of this scheme.

It has already been pointed out by the right hon. member for West Bristol that Mr. Wakefield is out of step with the rest of his colleagues on the board, and that the change was made by the Government because of the imperative importance of strengthening the board for the tasks which lie ahead. The usefulness of Mr. Wakefield was exhausted, and if a contribution of a satisfactory kind were to be made in the field in which Mr. Wakefield operated it was necessary that such a change should be made.

The demand has been made that the chairman should be removed. It seems to me that the Opposition want their scapegoat not because they have tested the merits of the chairman but because of his origins in the Independent Labour Party. No evidence has been produced that Sir Leslie Plummer is unsuited for the job he is doing. No one has demonstrated either his incompetence or his lack of business quality, and no one suggests that he lacks drive. In point of fact, what success has come to the corporation has come largely as the result of his inspiration, and those who tell us that he knows nothing of Africa really know nothing about his connexion with the scheme during the last three years.

I conclude by saying that we cannot accept the suggestion of the Opposition that this matter should go to an inquiry. We have a tremendous amount of information on the scheme, and it will be utilized. The time has come when all this tacking and misstatement in regard to the scheme should be put on one side, and the "All clear" signal given to the men who have served the country and have put national and international needs above their own personal convenience in order that we shall go forward and the scheme should reach fruition both for our nation and for the world.

The House rejected the Opposition motion for an inquiry by 315 to 161 votes.

[Further editorial comment appears under Matters of Moment.]

Commercial relations between the two Rhodesias are developing every day, said the Southern Rhodesian Minister of Finance, when he asked Parliament to confirm a taxation agreement between the two Governments. Mr. Whitehead commented that such agreements, aimed at avoiding double taxation and preventing fiscal evasion, were now normal international practice, but had never before existed between the two Rhodesias. A number of citizens of both territories were suffering from double taxation.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA CORPORATION, Ltd.

(Incorporated in East Africa)

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All Offices in East Africa
"INCORPAC"

London Office:
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Old Broad Street,
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MUKINDANI

Devaluation and the Rhodesias Breach of Agreement Alleged

THE SOUTHERN RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT did not consult Northern Rhodesia before announcing price increases last month as a result of devaluation. This was stated in the Northern Rhodesian Legislative Council recently by Mr. B. A. NICHOLSON, Economic Secretary, in answer to Mr. ROY WELENSKY.

SIR STEWART GORE-BROWNE asked whether there were not certain undertakings in Northern Rhodesia which were so closely connected with Southern Rhodesia that no change in price structure should be made without prior consultation between the two Governments.

Mr. NICHOLSON: "Yes; there was an agreement of which a record was made at a Central African Council meeting on December 19 or 20, 1947, that so far as possible prior consultation should in future take place between the Governments of Southern and Northern Rhodesia before fixing the prices for agricultural products."

Mr. WELENSKY: "Can the Economic Secretary say if this Government has in any way protested to Southern Rhodesia that the agreement has not been kept?"

Mr. NICHOLSON: "No, not formally. It was mentioned during the course of discussions with the Southern Rhodesian Minister."

Mr. A. A. DAVIES: "Has Southern Rhodesia given any reason for not consulting this Government when these alterations took place?"

Mr. NICHOLSON: "Yes, a reason was given during the discussion with certain people who went down to see the Minister of Finance."

Improving Police Services

CHIEF DETECTIVE-INSPECTOR S. G. BARNES, of the Special Branch of Scotland Yard, will shortly visit Uganda at the invitation of the Government of the protectorate to advise on the establishment of the nucleus of a special branch in that country. A sergeant from the Surrey Constabulary is to spend a short time in Kenya to train dogs for police work.

S. Rhodesia and Bechuanaland

THE SOUTHERN RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT should press for the cession to the Colony of the northern part of Bechuanaland in the event of any change in the latter's status, and, if the inhabitants desire it, should also consider the incorporation of the southern region. This resolution in this sense has been passed at a meeting in Bulawayo of the United Central Africa Association. "We have for years urged that our claim for the northern half of Bechuanaland—that is, north of the line which should be registered in London in case of any change in the controlling authority of the Protectorate," said Mr. Stanley Cooke, chairman of the Association. "It would appear that the inhabitants of Tati Reserve are anxious in any case for incorporation into Southern Rhodesia." Captain Frank Harris, president of the association, commented that a West Coast port for the Rhodesias might soon be built, and that the route to it must pass through Bechuanaland, thus opening-up that territory. Support was also given by Archdeacon E. Aldington Hunt, who expressed the belief that the Bechuanaland Africans would prefer federation with Rhodesia and the north to incorporation in the Union.

You Have Been Warned

"WE HAVE MADE THIS COUNTRY what it is to-day, and if anyone should have a say in its government, it is the Europeans," said Mr. Welensky, leader of the non-official members of the Northern Rhodesian Legislative Council, in a recent speech. After comparing the introduction of the new constitution for the Gold Coast with the situation in Northern Rhodesia, he said: "I am in honour bound to recognize the agreement that was reached in London; that we will accept the existing position here for 30 months. After that I shall do my best to bring about changes."

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Of Commercial Concern New Insecticide

Arusha Plantations, Ltd., announce a net profit for the year ended June 30 of £10,975 (£26,694). After providing £7,435 for taxation (including £3,115 in respect of East African tax for past years), there is a balance of £3,540, to which is added £1,566 brought forward. The directors consider it prudent, in view of the continuing absolute drought in the Arusha region to conserve the company's resources to the fullest possible extent, and therefore propose to carry forward the balance. Last year a dividend of 15% was paid. A meeting will be held on December 30.

Pysil is the name of a new and effective insecticide for the protection of grain which is being produced by the Kenya Farmers' Association and the East African Diatomite Syndicate. Composed of 25% superfine pyrethrum powder and 75% diatomite, it is used at the rate of 1 lb. per 200 lb. of grain at the time of bagging.

Messrs. Booker Brothers, McConnell and Co., Ltd., a business with large interests in East and Central Africa, have offered 817,180 ordinary shares to existing ordinary shareholders in the ratio of five for every eight shares held at 22s. each.

Rise in Coffee Prices

Recent sharp increases in the price of coffee in East Africa have cost some traders very large sums of money, for, not expecting any advance, they had sold substantial quantities forward without covering their requirements.

The Standard Bank of South Africa, Ltd., announce an interim dividend of 7s. per share for the year to March 31, 1950 (the same). Last year a final dividend of 9s. per share was supplemented by a bonus of 4s. per share.

Gross output of the organized building industry in Southern Rhodesia during the first nine months of this year was valued at £5,160,815, compared with £4,606,538 in the corresponding period of 1948.

The Governor of Northern Rhodesia told the Legislative Council earlier this month that the estimate of customs revenue of £1,485,000 for 1949 is likely to be exceeded by a substantial margin.

Aberdare Cables of South Africa, Ltd., a company with interests in Southern Rhodesia, has declared a dividend of 6% for the year ended June 30, compared with 24% for the previous year.

Kamma Estates, Ltd., state that profit for the year ended October 31 was £15,279 and the net surplus £7,214. A dividend of 10% and a bonus 10% are announced (both the same).

The Development and Reconstruction Authority of Kenya is budgeting for an expenditure in 1950 of more than £6,000,000, half of it on new buildings.

Experimental fish farming at Chilanga, Northern Rhodesia, has already shown that the local "bream" can yield about 1,000 lb. per acre per annum without artificial feeding.

Low and Bonar, Ltd., of Dundee, who have Rhodesian and East African interests, have declared an interim dividend of 7½%. The total distribution last year was 27½%.

The Tobacco Company of Rhodesia and South Africa, Ltd., announce a profit of £2,751 (£4,434) for the year ended June 30 and a dividend of 7½% (the same).

The building trade is reported to be active everywhere throughout East and Central Africa.

Licences for imports into Kenya and Uganda from Japan have been cancelled.

Building Control Extended

BUILDING CONTROL IN NORTHERN RHODESIA is to continue for another year. Moving the second reading of the Construction of Buildings (Temporary Ordinance), 1949, the Economic Secretary, Mr. R. A. Nicholson, said that building potential in the territory was still limited, that the number of contractors was insufficient to provide for the degree of competition necessary to keep down costs, but that the most important limiting factor was labour. There were still too few artisans, of both high and low grade, and unskilled labour in the main towns remained inadequate. Removal of building control would in these circumstances result in considerable inflationary pressure. The Bill was read a second time after Sir Stewart Gore-Browne had said that the non-officials would introduce an amendment to allow building to a value of £150 without permit. The present limit is £50.

East African Sisal Plantations

EAST AFRICAN SISAL PLANTATIONS, LTD., earned a profit of £80,682 in the year ended June 30 last, compared with £76,405 in the previous year. Excess amortization appears at £5,965, taxation absorbs £40,872, general reserve receives £25,265, and a dividend of 30%, less tax, requires £15,675, leaving a balance of £22,344 to be carried forward, against £18,209 brought in.

The issued capital is £95,000 in shares of 10s. each. Capital reserve stands at £1,131, revenue reserves at £77,609, income tax reserve at £31,950, and current liabilities at £80,705. Fixed assets are valued at £112,883 and current assets at £173,512, including quoted securities at £24,975 (market value £25,345), tax certificates at £34,450, and £56,713 in cash.

Output of sisal and tow for the year amounted to 2,250 tons, against 2,205 tons in the previous year. The percentage of No. 1 and 1a sisal was 53.55%, against 59.91%.

The directors are Mr. S. T. Harman, Mr. A. L. Du Bois, Mr. R. S. Doyle, and Mr. W. A. Long.

The twenty-first annual general meeting will be held in London on December 21.

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The London and Blantyre Supply Co., Ltd., Blantyre and branches.

Bookers Limited, Chingola.
Carter's Ltd., Fort Jameson and branches.
Kitwe Stores, Ltd., Kitwe.
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Company Meetings

The Gold Fields Rhodesian Development Co., Ltd.

Mr. Robert Annan's Review

THE THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GOLD FIELDS DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LIMITED, was held in London on November 23.

The following is an extract of the address of the chairman, MR. ROBERT ANNAN:—

"Conditions throughout the year were most unfavourable for share dealings; no major sales were effected, and the profit from sales of investments was £8,611, compared with £73,587 in the previous year. There was also a fall in the profit on sundry land sales from £23,720 to £12,236. The main item of profit arises from the sale of the Kenilworth estate at a profit of £63,023 over the book value. The gross profit was £83,513, compared with £125,049.

"After providing £30,016 for income and profits tax, transferring £20,000 to depreciation reserve, and bringing in £26,804 from the previous account, there is an available balance of £60,301. Your directors recommend paying a dividend of 5%, less tax, absorbing £34,571, and leaving £25,730 to be carried forward.

"The total value of the investments at the date of the balance-sheet was in excess of the value shown. Mining properties and ventures at £68,326 show a decrease of £30,171, sales of property, including Kenilworth, amounting to £62,152, while properties, ventures and prospecting equipment were increased by £31,981, reflecting our present policy of concentrating on mining rather than agriculture. Current assets exceed current liabilities, including provision for the dividend recommended, by £282,946.

Greatly Improved Prospects

"The index of gold share prices reached in January was the lowest point since August, 1931. Since the devaluation of the pound there has been a remarkable recovery, and the prospects for the gold mining industry are greatly improved.

"In Southern Rhodesia gold production increased during the year, reversing the decline which has persisted for several years. This change is due mainly to the Motapa mine coming into production. All forms of industry suffered from a shortage of Native labour, which was particularly acute in the case of underground labour for mines. Drought and shortage of coal also contributed to the difficulties of mine operation.

"At the Wanderer mine there was a fall in tonnage milled, gold output, and profit. But for the subsidy operations would have resulted in a loss. A dividend of 3½%, less tax, has just been paid, compared with 5% in the previous year; the mine suffered from operating difficulties, its life has been an uncertain factor in the past few years, but prospects are greatly improved at the present price of gold.

"At Motapa full production has not been reached owing to shortage of labour, though the reduction plant was completed last February. The mine has been earning steady profits and will benefit greatly from the increased price of gold.

"Active search for new mining properties was continued, and 39 properties, of which two-thirds were gold prospects, were investigated. Our policy is to concentrate on mining, and during the year the company's holdings were reduced from 368,000 to 196,000 acres.

"Dealing with our share interests, the year covered by the accounts was unfavourable, the continued rise in costs with the fixed price of gold reducing profits and share values.

The report and accounts were adopted.

Rosterman Gold Mines, Limited
Mr. A. H. Moreing's Statement

THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ROSTERMAN GOLD MINES, LIMITED, was held on November 29 in London.

MR. A. H. MOREING, ASSOC. M.INST.C.E., chairman of the company, who presided, said in the course of his speech:—

"During the year 48,975 tons of ore were mined, of which 18,821 tons were rejected by sorting, as compared with 43,210 tons mined and 12,617 tons sorted during the preceding year. There was an increase of 2,884 fine oz. in the gold recovered, the revenue from which showed a corresponding increase of £24,880. The loss after charging £7,100 for depreciation was £11,448, a reduction of £23,785 compared with the previous year.

Ore Reserves

"A mine is dependent on discovering adequate supplies of ore to maintain its production, and although in the last three years we have spent £67,617 on this work, we have not met with a great deal of encouragement, and our ore reserves position is causing some anxiety. £26,703 was spent on development and diamond drilling during the year, equivalent to 17s. 8½d. per ton milled.

"Last year I told you that a main south cross-cut at No. 21 level had intersected a reef channel conforming to the general east-west trend of the other footwall reefs. It now appears that the reef does not quite extend upwards to No. 21 level horizon, and therefore the No. 21 level main south cross-cut only just intersected the top of the reef. It was necessary to winze below the level, cross-cut and drive. About 1,300 ft. of main cross-cutting and 369 ft. of other work was done, but nothing definite was proved. Subsequent development has continued disappointing. The reef is there, but values are erratic.

"There has been a 6½% reduction in tonnage of ore reserves and a reduction in average value of just over 1 dwt. per ton.

Mr. E. A. Loring's Visit

"In August Mr. E. A. Loring visited the mine and discussed the position of the ore reserves with the management, and has recommended that further exploration be done in the upper levels. This work is now in hand.

"The increase in the sterling value of our product came too late materially to affect the results for the current year, as we had some serious breakdowns in the treatment plant which have reduced our production in recent months. These difficulties have been overcome and we hope for a considerable improvement in 1950.

Effect of Devaluation

"Whilst the new price of gold has improved the position for the time, working costs for 1948, excluding development, rose by 1s. 1½d. per ton milled, and it is likely that devaluation may cause these to rise still further. The price which we pay for fuel oil was raised on October 25 by no less than 33%. As our mine is entirely dependent on fuel oil for power to drive the compressors, the winding engine and the treatment plant, and for lighting, this rise will affect us considerably. There is, unfortunately, no other source of cheaper power available.

"The supply of Native labour was satisfactory during the year, and we had no labour troubles."

The report and accounts were adopted.

Mining

Rhokana Corporation Report

RHOKANA CORPORATION, LTD., earned a profit of £5,425,175 in the year ended June 30 last, compared with £4,068,094 in the previous year. Taxation absorbs £2,966,002, general reserve £1,125,000 and share redemption fund £7,500, interest on the preference shares needs £43,669, and dividends on the ordinary and A stock totalling 100% require £1,375,001, leaving a balance of £560,270 to be carried forward, against £491,589 brought in.

The issued capital consists of £2,450,324 in ordinary stock units, £49,678 in A stock units, and £1,443,613 in 5% redeemable cumulative preference shares, all of £1 denomination. Capital reserves stand at £9,303,314; revenue reserves at £5,983,921; reserves for future income tax at £2,624,027, and current liabilities at £3,930,351.

Fixed assets are valued at £13,227,642, redeemable development at £825,653, stores at £1,309,411, and current assets at £10,427,522, including British Government securities at £247,395 (market value, £251,066), tax certificates at £1,191,575, and £7,008,571 in cash.

Production for the Year

During the year 67,720 (57,654) long tons of electrolytic copper and 12,262 (11,704) tons of blister copper were produced, and 101,394 (16,812) tons of concentrates from Nchanga were treated for 34,250 (25,752) tons of blister copper. In addition 1,171 short tons of cobalt alloy, containing 443 tons of cobalt metal, were produced.

The directors are Sir Ernest Oppenheimer (chairman), alternate, Mr. A. C. Wilson, Mr. S. S. Taylor (deputy chairman), the Rt. Hon. E. S. Amery, the Earl of Bessborough, Mr. J. N. Buchanan, Mr. Carl R. Davis, Mr. J. B. Dennison, Mr. C. D. Hely-Hutchinson, Sir Douglas Malcolm (alternate), Mr. P. V. Emrys-Evans, Mr. H. F. Oppenheimer, and Sir Mark Turner.

The 27th annual general meeting will be held in London on December 13.

Geological Survey in Rhodesia

A FREE GRANT of £67,600 for geological survey work in Northern Rhodesia has been approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. The grant covers expenditure over five years, and includes a proposed capital outlay of £25,150. It is planned to recruit a senior geologist and a geologist before the end of the year, and two more geologists during 1950. The scheme was drawn up by the research secretary of the Central African Council, with the aim of co-ordinating geological survey work in the three Central African territories. The Southern Rhodesian Government is willing to afford laboratory facilities through its Department of Geological Survey, and the Northern Rhodesian Government will defray from Colonial Development and Welfare funds any expenses involved in extensions of premises or equipment in Salisbury. According to present plans the new survey unit will have its headquarters in Ndola.

Company Progress Reports

New Siza.—17,914 tons of ore were treated in the third quarter for 4,636 oz. gold and 4,834 oz. silver.

Rosterian.—754 oz. gold were recovered in September from 2,990 tons of ore milled and 1,263 tons of waste sorted. The estimated loss was £2,015. No. 5 footwall reef—No. 22 level; Raise 560 ft. W., started off W., drive 1,015 ft. S., and advanced 78 ft., average 1.5 dwt. over 27 in. No. 4 footwall reef—Sub-level 70 ft. below No. 20 level; W. drive off winze 465 ft. W., started and advanced 28 ft.; to 25 ft., values av. 8.5 dwt. over 53 in.

Pickstone

ANOTHER GOOD BOREHOLE RESULT on the Pickstone gold property in Southern Rhodesia is reported. Values of up to 4,300 inch-dwt. are said to have been revealed at depths of 300- to 700 ft. Participants in the option to acquire the claims are the London and Rhodesian Mining and Land Co., Ltd., holding 50%, and Coronation Syndicate, Ltd., and Sherwood Starr Gold Mining Co., Ltd., with 25% each.

Tanganyika Coal

THE COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION has agreed in principle with the Government of Tanganyika on terms for the investigation and development of coalfields in the Southern Province by the Corporation. The Government will become a partner in any company formed for the purpose of extracting the coal by the allotment of a large block of shares without payment. Geologists, engineers and drillers representing the Corporation are already at work.

Financial Results

RHODESIA COPPER REFINERIES, LTD., report a profit of £83,622 (£61,536) for the year ended June 30. Taxation absorbs £26,401 (£37,594).

WANJIE COLLIERY CO., LTD., have announced a dividend of 5% (the same) for the year ended August 31. Profit amounted to £122,769 (£94,682) after taxation.

ANKOLE TINFIELDS, LTD., announce that profit for the year to March 31 was £604 (£693), plus £919 (£538) brought in, making £1,523 (£1,231). A meeting will be held at 99 Fenchurch Street, E.C.3, on December 15 at noon.

Uranium Discovery

THE THIRD SAMPLE OF URANIUM ORE discovered by Mr. A. J. Gurney in the Copperbelt region of Northern Rhodesia has assayed at almost 4% of radio-active substance. Mr. Gurney was in retirement in Salisbury when he heard of the British Ministry of Supply's bonus offer for radio-active mineral finds. Having discovered uranium ore while on a hunting expedition in the Copperbelt in 1942, he at once staked a claim some miles from Shinkolobwe, which lies across the Belgian Congo border and is the world's richest uranium mine. Mr. Gurney's first sample was assayed at 2%.

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Telegrams: Sameters, Rand London. Cables: Sameters, London



Total 1948 U.K. exports to the territory were £31,350,000. These included:

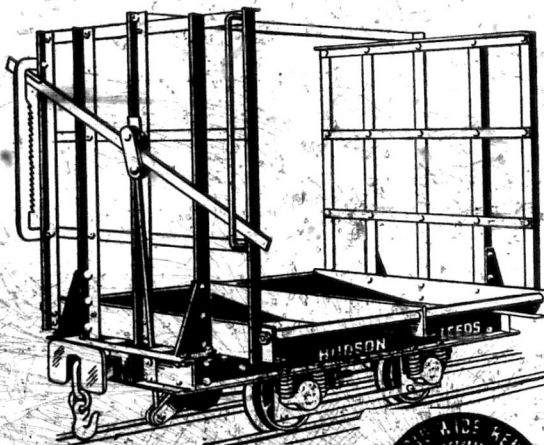
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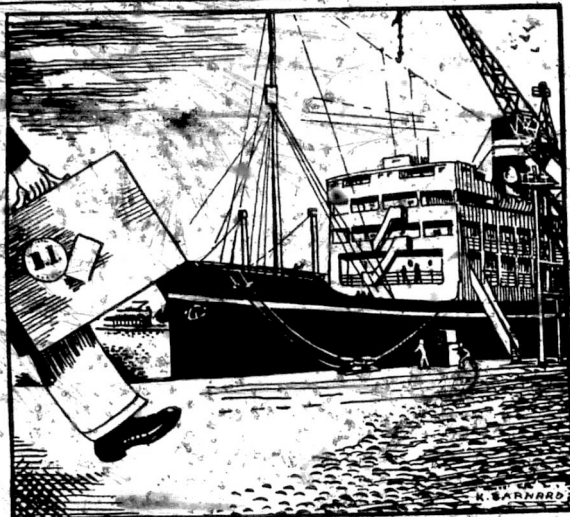
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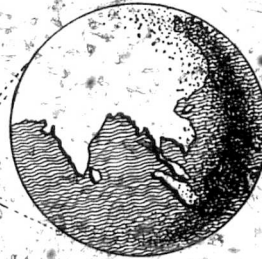
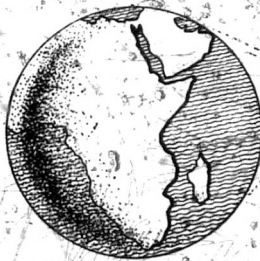
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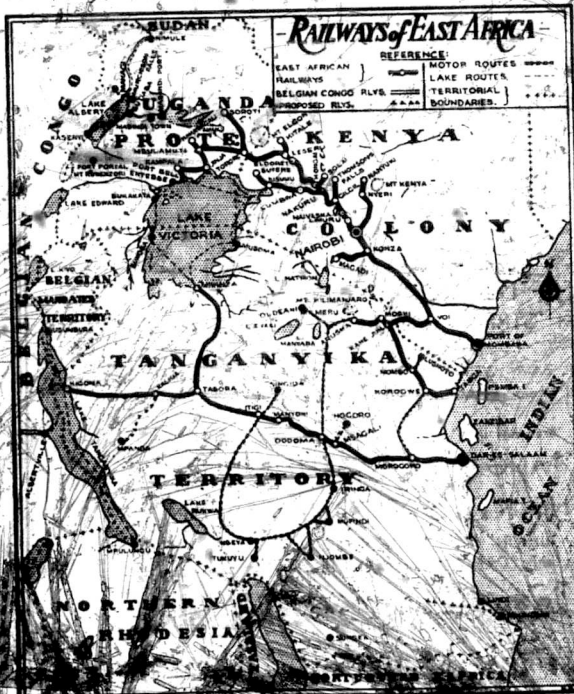
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Despite a continuing shortage of rolling stock and equipment, the East African Railways and Harbours are handling more traffic than ever before. In 1948 passenger journeys increased by 225 per cent. and freight tonnage by 185 per cent. over 1939.

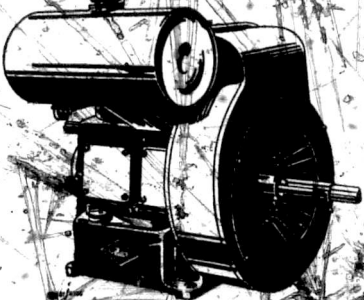
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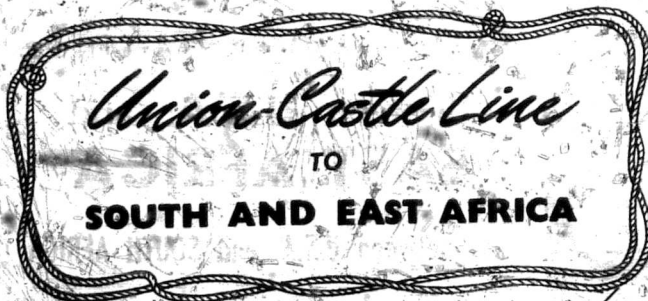
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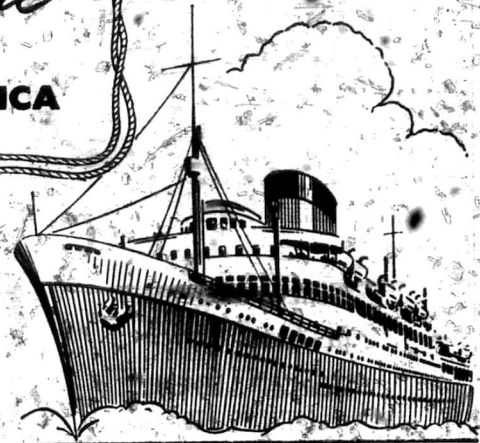
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Thursday, December 8, 1949
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MATTERS OF MOMENT

A FIRM STAND has to be made by the Colonial Powers against the campaign of denigration and the attempt to usurp their sovereign rights which has been deliberately launched against them by the **Unacceptable Demand Of United Nations.** Various committees of that body, including in particular the Trusteeship Council, have repeatedly demonstrated their bias, jealousy, and suspicion, their ignorance of Colonial affairs, and their determination to exceed the powers with which they have been invested. These manoeuvres in which Russia and her satellites, the Latin American republics, and the States of Asia have been most prominent, persistent, and provocative—have been directed mainly against the administration of trust territories, but last Friday the General Assembly adopted a series of resolutions which assert the principle of international supervision of all dependent territories, including Colonies. That is, of course, a demand which the British Commonwealth, France, Belgium, and the Netherlands will flatly reject. On such an issue there can be no compromise; it would be better for Great Britain to withdraw from the United Nations than for its duty to sixty million peoples in the Colonies to be made the sport of irresponsible, inexperienced politicians from half a hundred States,

scarcely any of which would be competent to contribute usefully to Colonial development and welfare.

Many Colonies are, indeed, more progressive and prosperous than some of the countries which seek to interfere in their affairs. In no British Colony is freedom denied to anyone as it is

No Possibility Of Compromise. to scores of millions in the Soviet Union. Is Kenya less happy than

some Latin American republics over which a dictator holds temporary sway? Is India so settled and successful that Uganda or Northern Rhodesia requires her guidance? Does even one British Colony wish to substitute the United Nations for The King? The loyalty of the whole Colonial Empire in two wars is answer enough. His Majesty's Government has no course but to resist all attempts to impose obligations which do not appear in the Charter. That decision is implicit in the firm statements made in recent weeks by several British spokesmen, including Lord Listowel, Minister of State for Colonial Affairs. The plain truth is that many member States of the United Nations are bent on sabotage in all Colonial territories, especially the British, and that their venom has now driven them individually and collectively to reveal the naked facts to all the world. Britain's overriding duty is to

the Empire, not to the Disunited Nations; and that duty will assuredly be done. It is a dispensation of Providence that the stand should be taken by a Labour Government, not by an administration which might be misrepresented as indifferent to the will of the mass of the people.

NO MEMBER of the headquarters staff of the Overseas Food Corporation can have had more intimate knowledge of the weaknesses of that body, of the real feelings

No Faith in Minister Or Sir Leslie Plummer.

of its senior officials about the chairman, Sir Leslie Plummer, and of the relations between the corporation and the Ministry of Food, Mr. J. N. McClean, a former deputy president of the National Farmers' Union of Great Britain, who joined the organization as special adviser to the chairman. It is quite safe to assume not only that Mr. McClean has had an exceptional insight into the corporation, but that he would be extremely reluctant to withdraw while the chairman was undergoing heavy attack from many quarters, and that his decision to resign at this juncture has sprung from an overriding sense of public duty. It is the more important on that account, and will be so judged by the public. It exposes the absurdity of the pretence of the Minister, Mr. Strachey, that all that was needed to put things right was to dismiss summarily (and still without satisfactory explanation) two members of the board, and announce that the reconstituted board enjoyed the full confidence of His Majesty's Government—thereby prejudging and prejudicing the imminent debate in the House of Commons.

We wrote last week that the affirmation was incomprehensible if only because the board is still headed by the man whose responsibility for the present position goes

Resignation of the Chairman's Adviser.

back beyond the constitution of the corporation, for Sir Leslie Plummer was designated its chairman months before his colleagues were nominated, and was a party to all major decisions thereafter. A week earlier we asserted that the Government was assuredly not in possession of all the essential information available, and that its pre-judgment was based purely on party reasons. Mr. McClean's resignation now proves that the holder of one of the most responsible appointments in the headquarters organization has lost all faith in the chairman—with whom he has probably been in closer touch than any other member of the staff—and in the Minister. In the statement published

in our news columns Mr. McClean says in so many words that he has no longer any confidence in Mr. Strachey or Sir Leslie Plummer, that in the recent debate the Minister misled the House of Commons and the nation, that the Minister and the chairman of the corporation should bear the prime responsibility for past failings, and that neither the public nor the staff of the corporation can have confidence until there is a public inquiry.

This is authoritative corroboration from the highest level within the corporation's staff of the editorial arguments which we have been advancing for weeks. Mr. McClean has done the public a real service

Forthcoming Lords Debate.

(and we have no doubt that economic reasons alone prevent other men in key positions from following his example: having wives and families to support, they cannot afford to take the extreme step). The regional general manager for the Southern Province of Tanganyika has also resigned, seemingly after efforts had been made to persuade him to reconsider his intention. More will be heard of these matters when the House of Lords debates the groundnut scheme next week. Criticism is bound to be focused upon Mr. Strachey and Sir Leslie Plummer, and in the Upper House the Government will not be able to use the steam-roller to smooth out its difficulties. Colonial debates in the House of Lords are almost always of far higher quality than those in the House of Commons, and we expect that to be the case again on December 14. The irrelevancies, trivialities, misconceptions, and mere party manoeuvrings which vitiated the Commons debate will be absent, or at least greatly diminished, when the peers pronounce judgment.

We hope and believe that their attention will be concentrated on the main issues, so that the public may be shown quite clearly what has happened and where the main responsibility for failure

Men Primarily Responsible.

The two men primarily accountable are Mr. Strachey and Sir Leslie Plummer, and their right course is to resign; but since they cling to office so tenaciously in the face of general condemnation, the Government will remain under the charge of putting party expediency before the national interest unless it does dismiss them both. The Cabinet is in the dilemma of knowing that that is so, but of recognizing also that to take the right course might split the party; for Mr. Strachey could evoke the support of the

militant Left Wing. That may save him and his *protégé* for the moment; but the developments of recent weeks make it certain that

Sir Leslie Plummer will be dismissed if the Socialists lose the forthcoming general election.

Notes By The Way

Sir Miles Thomas

SIR MILES THOMAS, who has shown himself so good a publicist in recent years, and notably for Southern Rhodesia since Sir Godfrey Huggins invited him to accept the chairmanship of the Government commission appointed to co-ordinate development plans, was manifestly destined for the presidency of the Advertising Association sooner or later. Now he has been asked to follow Mr. Oliver Lyttelton, M.P., in that office, one in which he ought to be very much at home. After the 1914-18 war, in which he served in the R.A.F., he was a journalist in London until Mr. Morris, now Lord Nuffield, suggested that he should join his staff. Sales and publicity were very much his concern in the great Nuffield organization, and since he became chairman of B.O.A.C.—in the aircraft of which he has done much flying in East and Central Africa in the past two years—he has kept their name under constant public notice. So it is no wonder an advocate of the right kind of publicity, whether it be for the Colonial Empire, an air line, or manufactured goods, ought to be an unusually successful president of the sector or advertising body in this country. No doubt he will seize his opportunities to persuade the leaders of the business to direct more attention to the scope for increased British trade in East and Central Africa. Sir Miles now owns a farm in Rhodesia.

Wise Move

IT IS GOOD NEWS that the Uganda cotton ginning industry is about to initiate measures of reorganization, starting with the creation of an effective secretariat. This is a wise move, for the ginning interests have been much criticized, and some allegations to their disadvantage for which little authentic evidence was produced, had allowed wide circulation without any effective reply. The public relations of the industry have always been poor; indeed, it would scarcely be an exaggeration to describe them as non-existent. Now that the leaders of the industry have at long last recognized the need for a new attitude to their common problems, all who are interested in the progress of Uganda and of cotton growing within the Empire will hope for a successful outcome.

Important New Appointment

MR. PHILIP ANTHONY HINDE will, I learn, become secretary to the Uganda Cotton Association on New Year's day, and his career suggests that a good choice has been made for this challenging assignment. He was elected a member of the Liverpool Cotton Exchange at the age of 24, being at that time the youngest man to enjoy membership, and one of four partners in a firm which became most successful. Five years later, in 1931, a friend and he founded the cotton trading firm of Clark and Hinde, which was also doing well when, as a Territorial, he was embodied in the Army a week before the outbreak of war in 1939. He was demobilized in 1945 as a major, with a Military Cross, the American Bronze Star, and a mention in dispatches to his credit, having served in the Western Desert, Sicily, and Italy with the 8th Army, and then for his last year in Italy as liaison officer between the 15th British Corps and the 2nd American Corps. Recently he sold another business which he started after the war and quickly brought to a position of prosperity.

Parliamentary Candidate

MR. W. H. JONES, the well-known shipper to East African and other markets, who misses no opportunity at meetings of the East African Section of the London Chamber of Commerce and elsewhere of criticizing controls which have outlived their usefulness and of upholding the fair rights of the individual, is one of those progressive and aggressive business men who believe that men of experience in commerce should make their voices heard in the political field also. He is therefore a prospective Parliamentary candidate (Liberal) for the Barret Division of Hertfordshire, in which he lives. He has recently been elected to the executive committees of the Australia and New Zealand Section of the London Chamber of Commerce and the British Eastern Merchant Shippers' Association.

Seaman Settler

REAR ADMIRAL S. H. T. ARLISS, who has just been placed on the retired list of the Royal Navy after 41 years' service, for much of the time in destroyers, has for some time owned a farm in the Ol Joro Orok district of Kenya, and expects to fly to East Africa almost immediately, possibly with a view to settling in the Colony. For the past two years he has been Flag Officer Commanding British Naval Forces in Germany. Early in the last war he was appointed Captain (D) 7th Destroyer Flotilla, while holding which appointment he was awarded the D.S.O. for "outstanding gallantry, fortitude and resolution during the battle of Crete." As a rear admiral he commanded the destroyer flotillas of the Eastern Fleet, and then a cruiser for two years.

Heavy Humour

HARSH FACT is not normally a product of the Kenya Information Office, but that department of Government recently decided that the presentation of insignia by the Governor was a suitable occasion for a break with its customary practice. So it wrote and distributed widely: "The years between the end of the war and to-day have had their effect on the waistlines of those who were once gallant figures in uniform. This was noticeable at the presentation of insignia at Government House, when several members of the services who approached the dais for their presentations wore uniforms that fitted with painful snugness, while others gave it up as a bad job."

Labelled for Courtesy

IN the same news-letter the Information Office made it clear that a visitor who will take the trouble to make his identification easy may discard the fear of assault and battery in the main streets of the capital. Referring to the visit of delegates from tourist organizations in many countries, the Information Office wrote that they had received a smart and distinctive lapel badge, and continued: "Its effect on officials of public institutions, hotel managers, and even taxi-drivers is usually instantaneous. The wearers receive courtesy, for they are delegates to the Third International Congress of African Touring. Government circles and members of the commercial and business community are anxious that these visitors shall go away with the best possible impression of Kenya"—which they might not have done had they seen the news-letter paragraph about their visit.

Britain Resists U.N. Encroachment on Colonies

Lord Listowel's Firm Statement on Government Policy

THERE IS A DANGEROUS TENDENCY, which has become more marked in the past year, for other members of the United Nations to try to assume the duties exercised by us as the administering authority of trust territories in East and West Africa.

The powers of the United Nations in regard to trust territories are laid down clearly in Article 87 of the Charter, and we have never at any time suggested that these powers should be diminished or whittled away; nor have we opposed their legitimate application in the appointment of visiting missions or the scrutiny of annual reports submitted by the United Kingdom.

We placed these territories voluntarily in trusteeship in order to avoid any suspicion that we had annexed Colonies as spoils of war from the vanquished enemy. We have constantly acknowledged our accountability to the United Nations for their good government, but the proper rôle of the United Nations is to watch, to criticize, to admonish on occasions if necessary, and to supervise generally the conduct of the administering authority; it is not to take any part in the actual process of administration.

Britain Alone Responsible for Policy

The Trusteeship Council and the General Assembly are fully entitled to make suggestions and recommendations about the way in which these territories should be governed, and such advice will always be carefully considered by the United Kingdom. But the final decision as to whether any or all of their suggestions can be accepted, and, if so, how they are to be carried out, must rest with the Government of the United Kingdom, as the administrative authority.

We have sole responsibility for formulating the policy pursued in these territories and for choosing the right method of putting our policy into effect. We cannot allow any outside authority to usurp a function which we regard as essential to sound and progressive administration.

It is our duty, in judging policy, to consider first the welfare of the indigenous inhabitants and to reject the counsel of the United Nations Assembly when in our opinion it conflicts with their interests. Hence our attitude to some recent resolutions accepted by the General Assembly, which we have regretfully had to oppose.

U.N. Flag for Trust Territories!

They included a proposal that the administrative headquarters of trust territories should be located inside the territories, which would mean that the Cameroons and Togoland would no longer be administered from Lagos and Accra respectively. A further proposal was that the United Nations flag should fly beside the Union Jack in all trust territories.

No less dangerous has been the tendency to use Article 73 (e) of the Charter as the means of encroaching upon our unqualified responsibility for our own Colonies over which we have ruled for a long period. This clause of the Charter places us under an obligation to convey to the secretary-general of the United Nations information relating to economic, educational and social conditions in the British Colonies.

The Assembly has now been asked to request Colonial Powers to add to the subjects about which we have already agreed to give information the political and constitutional development of their Colonies, and to appoint

** Being a slightly abbreviated report of a speech made in the House of Lords on November 30 by Lord Listowel, Minister of State for Colonial Affairs. Other speeches will be reported next week.*

a committee, which will sit for three years, with powers of roving inquiry into social conditions and educational practice in Colonial territories, and, indeed, into the question of whether any particular territory is or is not self-governing. It looks as if the intention in some quarters is to establish a counterpart of the Trusteeship Council which will subject Colonies to the same scrutiny and criticism as trust territories.

But the United Nations Organization has no right to advise us about the policy we ought to pursue in building up social services or introducing constitutional reform in the Colonies than it has to give us its views about the way to run the National Health Service or the proper functions of your lordships' House. Indeed, it would be a dereliction of our duty to the peoples of the Colonies if we were to offer to share our present responsibility with the representatives of other countries.

Anti-British Prejudice

I hope it will not be said that we resent criticism or that we turn down outside advice on the grounds of national prestige, or because we consider that the administration of the British Colonies is so perfect that it cannot be improved. Such a judgment would be a complete misunderstanding of our motives.

We welcome constructive criticisms from any source, but what matters is the spirit in which the criticism is made and the motives of the critics themselves.

Our reasons for not wishing to throw the Colonies into the arena of debate at Lake Success are that criticism there is too often warped by anti-British or anti-Colonial prejudice and too infrequently directed to serving the genuine interests of Colonial peoples.

In the second place, the criticism we receive from the United Nations is characterized by an absence of realism and a failure to put forward practical suggestions, which results naturally and inevitably from the ignorance and inexperience of non-administering Powers.

Back-Seat Driving by 58 Nations

Finally, there is the unfortunate and, I am afraid, constant attempt at "back-seat driving" by 58 nations, which seem unable to draw the dividing line between supervision of trust territories and interference in administration all along the line.

I should not like to leave the subject of the United Nations and its attitude to dependent territories without paying tribute to the skill, patience, and courage with which our delegates to this year's Assembly have put the unpopular British case.

Lord Tweedsmuir suggested that to some extent we are allowing policy in regard to constitutional advance in Africa to be influenced by the course of events, that we are being pushed forward under pressure from extreme nationalist groups. This is not the case; agitation in the Colonies makes no difference one way or the other to the pace of our constitutional advance.

Our policy of helping the peoples of the Colonies, after consultation and by agreement with them, to reach as soon as possible the successive stages along the road to responsible government within the Commonwealth has been so often repeated that I hesitate to repeat it this afternoon. But this is the policy which we have consistently pursued, from which we have not been deflected by events, and which we shall continue to carry out.

We cannot fix a time-table for the attainment of the different stages on this journey towards self-government. Some people would like a definite date set for the achievement of self-government, because they feel that this would hurry things forward. Others would like a time-table as a brake to slow down the speed of constitutional change. But the growth of a constitution is more akin to the growth of a living organism than to the building of a house. It depends on the wills of men, on the economic and political conditions under which they live, and which they themselves create; and these are factors which cannot be calculated or evaluated in advance.

We shall continue to do everything we can to encourage progress towards self-government in all territories for which we are responsible, taking into full account the stability of government, the degree of material development, and the readiness and desire of each particular people for further responsibilities.

I will now say something about the problems of East and Central Africa. The main difference between these territories and West Africa is the existence of considerable settled immigrant communities. Our policy for helping these countries to achieve responsible government in this part of Africa must, of course, embrace these communities as well as the indigenous African population. It is our task to help the immigrant communities themselves recognize and to help the Africans to develop politically, socially and economically so that they can take their full part in the administration and development of the countries concerned and in local and central politics.

There is no prejudice against these immigrant communities and no desire in any quarter to minimize their importance to the life of the territory in which they have settled. In East and Central Africa, Europeans, and in East Africa, Indians, and Arabs, have made their homes for generations, and they must now be regarded as belonging to those countries just as much as the Africans themselves.

The skill, ingenuity, and enterprise of these immigrant communities have made possible economic and social progress which would have been inconceivable without them—and all in the short space of some 50 years.

Tribute to Immigrant Communities

In Kenya, for example, the budget has now topped £10,000,000. Twenty-five years ago it was little more than £2,000,000. Income and other direct taxes paid by Europeans and Indians are bringing in over £1,400,000 per annum. Direct taxation of Africans brings in some £650,000 per annum. Fifty years ago great parts of Kenya were sparsely inhabited and most of its inhabitants were living under most primitive conditions. There was not a harbour, a road or a railway, in the country.

We cannot exaggerate the results of the initiative, courage and hard work of men and women alike who brought to Africa blessings and opportunities which the African could never have received in any other way.

We hope that in Kenya, as elsewhere, there will be a growing sense of partnership between all concerned in the joint enterprise of developing this great territory for the benefit of the whole population. In the vast and sparsely populated territory of Tanganyika, enterprise and investment, whether European or otherwise, has a most important part to play.

It is our policy to safeguard African interests and to ensure that the present and future land requirements of the Africans are adequately met. But it is no less important that social and economic services should be built up for the benefit of the whole population. If medical, educational, and agricultural services are to be provided on the scale required, there must be sufficient revenue to cover this expenditure. The money can be raised only if the economic development of the territory continues.

For this purpose we shall need not only capital but the ability and experience of European and other farmers, planters, miners, and technicians. The planned development of mining, food crops, tobacco and sisal must go forward if a reasonable standard of social services is to be provided, and for this purpose we must create and maintain the right conditions for the employment of capital and technical skill.

Sense of Insecurity Alleviated

The report of the visiting mission of the Trusteeship Council created a feeling of insecurity. But I think our reply to the report, which was endorsed by the views expressed by your lordships, will have done much to remove the sense of insecurity it caused in Tanganyika.

Lord Tweedsmuir has referred to the question of the limitation of leaseholdings for non-African settlers in some cases to 33 years; and this subject is under active consideration at this time by the Governor and by the Secretary of State. The Governor hopes to bring a position to make an announcement about it very shortly.

Throughout East and Central Africa, Africans are taking an increasing part in government. In Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika there are four Africans on each Legislative Council, and Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland each have two. This will give them the opportunity of learning their responsibilities towards the community as a whole. As citizens it is the interests of their country—as it must also be for the European and the Indian and the Arab—that they must have at heart, not any one part of it or any one section of the community. What we want is a partnership between all who have made their homes in these territories.

We are doing what we can to provide greater opportunities for experience in local government, for such experience

provides the best possible training for the conduct of affairs in a central legislature. In Kenya the African District Council Bill is designed to enable elected African representatives to decide how money shall be raised and spent on a wide variety of local needs, such as roads, education, markets, dispensaries, and water supplies. These African district councils will also be concerned (as the local Native councils which they will succeed are also concerned) in the choice of candidates for the Legislative Council.

Steady Progress in Tanganyika

In Tanganyika steady and encouraging progress is being made in the development of local African authorities, in the expansion of their functions and responsibilities, and in making their membership more representative of the people. In this Territory it is the intention of the Government to set up in each province a provincial council, with considerable legislative and executive powers, in which all communities will be represented. One such council is already in being in the Lake Province.

In Uganda the trend towards increased responsibility in local government is well under way, and financial and legislative authority is being devolved on local African bodies. Representatives in these African bodies are increasingly chosen by election, and they are linked with the Legislative Council through provincial councils.

In Northern Rhodesia steady progress is being made in the development of local government by the creation of stronger African tribal councils, on which existing chiefs and traditional councillors are joined by the more progressive and efficient Africans of the tribe. A system of African provincial councils is well established. The African Representative Council is serving a most useful purpose as a forum for the discussion of African problems.

In Nyasaland the same process is going forward. The provincial African councils and the Protectorate Council are working most satisfactorily. I am sure that this experience in the field of local government will enable Africans to serve much more effectively alongside their European, Indian, and Arab colleagues on the Legislative Councils of the territories to which they belong, and to discharge their duties as legislators with real efficiency and sound judgment.

Racialism Must Be Banished

The true interests of all the people in these territories, with mixed communities lie in mutual recognition of each other's needs. European and African interests in East and Central Africa are essentially complementary. There is growing a general recognition by each of the communities in East Africa of the advantages of co-operation and mutual understanding. There is so much to be done for the future that it is essential for every responsible person, whether he be European or African, Indian or Arab, to play his part in building up a prosperous economy and political responsibility.

All responsible leaders recognize that the bitterness and strife of racialism are an evil that must be banished if progress is to be achieved.

In Nairobi the Kenya Academy, where the people of all races will enjoy concerts, lectures, plays, and films, will soon be built. In Uganda an Indian citizen has given £10,000 to help found a commercial institute for Africans. In the Kenya Highlands European farmers have built at their own expense a welfare and community centre where Africans may come for medical attention, to study and to trade.

These are actions of wise and far-sighted leadership, which will be remembered in time to come, and which have laid the firm foundations of future progress. It is to such examples and inspiration that people will continue to look when they are seeking what should be done to help forward the peoples of Central and Eastern Africa.

Several references have been made to the Colonial Service. The pace of recruitment has been faster this year than last, and we have filled a larger number of existing vacancies. Yet at the end of this October there were still 1,168 vacant posts in the administrative and technical branches. Of these vacancies 788 were in the African Colonies. The whole question of security of service is at this moment under consideration by the Secretary of State, as well as by the Colonies concerned.

I have often thought that, if I could live my own life over again and choose my own station, I would like to be a district officer in the interior of one of our African Colonies or in British Guiana. The work that is done there is of a fascinating quality, such as no other occupation or career offers. The quality of the work and the opportunities which it offers provide compensation for any physical hardship or absence of material reward.

[Editorial comment appears under Matters of Moment.]

No Confidence in Mr. Strachey or Sir Leslie Plummer

Special Adviser to O.F.C. Chairman Resigns

MR. J. N. McCLEAN, a former deputy-president of the National Farmers' Union of Great Britain, who was invited to join the headquarters staff of the Overseas Food Corporation last year as special adviser to the chairman, Sir Leslie Plummer, has resigned—"because I no longer have confidence either in the chairman of the board or in the Ministry of Food as being capable of ensuring the success of the groundnut scheme," though I retain my belief in the concept under present conditions of large-scale agricultural development projects."

Mr. McClean, who is widely known as one of the most progressive farmers in this country, and who has visited East Africa at least twice in the past couple of years, has publicly given three grounds for his resignation, in these words:—

"The immediate reasons for my loss of confidence are:

(1) The information on the groundnut scheme given by the Minister of Food in the recent debate in the House of Commons, which, in common with his previous statements, cannot fail to mislead the general public who cannot obtain the full facts.

(2) The attempt to push all blame for past failures on to two members of the board in place of admitting collective responsibility of the board as a whole, and in particular of the chairman and the minister.

(3) The refusal to hold a public inquiry, without which it is impossible either for the general public or, in my view, the staff of the corporation, to have any confidence in those at present responsible for the scheme.

Regional General Manager Also Resigns

Mr. A. J. Stirling, who has been regional general manager for the groundnut scheme in the Southern Province of Tanganyika, has also resigned from the Overseas Food Corporation, and is on his way to London.

When the news was first published in this country some days ago that he had resigned, a spokesman for the corporation said that the London office was not aware that that was the case; all they knew was that he had suggested resigning, and that the matter was to be discussed with Sir Charles Lockhart, a member of the board who is revisiting East Africa. It now seems that Mr. Stirling has insisted on the acceptance of his resignation.

EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA understands that this course has been prompted by what the regional general manager has considered undue interference from the management at Kongwa after he had accepted the office of regional general manager on the specific assurance that he would be given the widest discretion within his own area.

New Deputy Chairman Visits Tanganyika

Sir Donald Perrott, who was recently appointed deputy chairman of the Overseas Food Corporation, arrived in Tanganyika Territory last week to visit the three groundnut areas. He is expected back in London just before Christmas. Until his recent appointment to the board and the deputy chairmanship he was a senior official of the Ministry of Food.

Tribune, the Left Wing Socialist weekly, is critical of Mr. Strachey and the Government, for it has written:—

"The circumstances and causes of the dismissals of two members of the board of the Overseas Food Corporation are still unexplained in any manner that carries conviction. Neither are we comforted by the knowledge that Sir Eric Coates has been appointed to take the place of one of the dismissed men. He was the man responsible for carrying through the currency reform in Germany. Such a reform was certainly

necessary but the omission of any other saving measure to alleviate its effects of gross social injustice and to leave a scar on German society, and it is hard to see why the men responsible should have earned so prominent an appointment by the Socialist Government to a highly important post."

The Public Accounts Committee of the House of Commons, under the chairmanship of Sir Ralph Ascham, a Conservative, and assisted by the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, has begun its examination of the accounts of the Overseas Food Corporation. The committee has power to send for all relevant papers and to call witnesses.

Ancestor's Example

Commander Stephen King-Hall, writing in the *National News Letter*, has not only suggested that Mr. Strachey would enhance his reputation by resigning the office of Minister of Food, but has given the constitution from an account of the life of an ancestor, Sir John Strachey (1823-1907):—"The perfect system in which the Army accounts were kept, discovered the very erroneous estimate of the cost of the Afghan war of 1878-80. For this error Strachey was technically responsible, and it was made the occasion of a violent party attack which resulted in his resignation."

Speaking in Dundee on Sunday night, Mr. Strachey said that the £29,000,000 so far invested in the groundnut scheme had been spent in the "absolutely indispensable task without which this country cannot survive of developing the Colonial Empire."

[Editorial comment appears under Matters of Moment.]

Southern Rhodesia's 60th Anniversary

A LONDON COMMITTEE to aid in arranging celebrations for the 60th anniversary of the founding of Southern Rhodesia is to be formed. This has been agreed by the executive committee in the Colony, comprising Sir Ernest Guest, Councillor R. M. Cleveland (Mayor of Salisbury), Sir Ellis Robins, and Mr. W. D. Gale (Acting Director of Public Relations), with Sir Philip Gaister as secretary. Sir Douglas Malcolm, Sir Miles Thomas, and Sir Wavell Wakefield are to be asked to serve in London. Ideas mooted include the issue of commemorative postage stamps, sporting events (including tours by visiting teams), a palatial conference and exhibition, a gliding contest, and a military pageant or tattoo. The celebrations in 1955 to mark the 100th anniversary of the birth of Cecil John Rhodes will include a Royal show and exhibition in Bulawayo, a pilgrimage to the Matapos by Rhodes scholars from all over the Empire, and sporting events such as a Zambezi Regatta and a road race round the Rhodesias.

Royal Hunting Lodge

THE HUNTING LODGE which the people of Kenya offered Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh as a wedding present is to be built in the forest reserve on the slopes of Mount Kenya above the Sagana River some 20 miles from Nyeri. The grounds run down to the banks of the river, which is well known for its good fishing, and the building, which will be of the bungalow type with stone foundations and walls and roof of cedar, will be within easy reach of the haunts of much big game. The lodge, designs for which reached London a few days ago, is attractive but simple. The recipients have assured that the house shall not remain empty, but that it shall be at the disposal of the Government of Kenya, which will, of course, provide for it to be vacated if and when the Princess and the Duke can manage to visit the Colony.

Seychelles Councillors Reply to Mr. Rees-Williams

Under-Secretary of State Charged with Misleading Parliament

SHARP DENUNCIATION of MR. D. REES-WILLIAMS, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, is now recorded in the Seychelles *Hansard*.

The four elected members of the Legislative Council voted for a motion deploring his speech in the House of Commons on June 3.

The member for South Mahe moved that:—

"Council deploras that in his speech to Parliament on June 3 the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies gave no sign that the unhappy situation which has developed here, mainly as the result of wrongful acts and uncontrolled abuses of power by the ex-Acting Attorney General, is in any way realized by the Colonial Ministry;

"It deploras that, on the contrary, the Under-Secretary made light of those acts and abuses, and, in order to do that, criticized the findings of the Supreme Court, thereby endangering its authority;

"That he made most damaging references, prejudicial to respect for Government amongst this populace, to former Governors of the Colony, and that he made obnoxious statements about a section of this community which the community resents and repudiates;

"And, in the light of these facts, Council calls for the immediate termination of Mr. Collet's membership of it;

"For a declaration that the findings of the Supreme Court are immune from Executive criticism and the Court itself absolutely independent of and detached from any influence or pressure by the Executive;

"And for the substitution of a Commissionership for the Governorship."

Colony Sacrificed to Party Exigency

The mover said that the Seychelles had suffered the bitter disappointment of discovering that Colonial grievances, even when they involved mere matters of administration, could not be discussed in the House of Commons in an atmosphere free from the influence of supposed party exigency.

"During most of last year," he continued, "this Colony was under the permitted domination of one man, a native of the soil, who after many years' absence from his country returned here manifestly imbued with a veritable hatred of sections of the community to which he belonged. The origin of that hatred was quite clearly close association during his long years in Europe with those movements which at the present day are threatening the quiet and peaceful life of society and menace its very existence and orderly development.

"Whether these social animosities were deemed to be a recommendation for his being employed in Government service we do not know; but we do know that in order to make such employment possible a vacancy was actually created for him to fill—a vacancy in the department for which his technical qualifications fitted him, the legal department, in which a person with predilections such as his would have most opportunity to harm that class against which he mainly cherished his causeless hatred.

"I say this vacancy was created. The account which was given in Parliament of his appointment was to our knowledge completely distorted and inaccurate.

"It was intended at first to appoint him to the Bench, but the length of his experience at the Bar was less than that laid down by law. The then legal adviser, appointed two years previously because he was a specialist in legal drafting, was withdrawn from his specialist work and put on the Bench.

This was done notwithstanding that before leaving the Colony our previous Governor has satisfactorily provided against the vacancy by arranging that it should be temporarily filled by our friend, Barrister Touris, who had often before assisted Government in the same way. The displacement of the legal adviser was therefore quite needless. This needless displacement created the vacancy into which to thrust Mr. Collet.

"The new office gave him easy means to overbear and usurp the administration of income tax law. He used them with alacrity, and in a short time the community found itself suffering from illegalities and abuses of power in the assessment and collection of tax which must be without parallel. Many vain and fruitless complaints were made to local authorities and to the Colonial Ministry.

"Despite almost insurmountable difficulties—the chief of which was the non-availability of legal aid—some of these grievances got to Court. I call attention to the judgment in one of them—Chief Justice Vanniasinkam's judgment of September 6 in the Loizeau case. This was six months before our present Chief Justice Lyon's scathing condemnation of Mr. Collet's procedure.

Scathingly Condemned, but Appointed M.L.C.

"It is inconceivable that any British Administration could have knowledge of that judgment and be complacent about the situation here. Scattered throughout its length are criticisms of this Acting Attorney-General's goings-on and of Government itself for permitting them.

"Was this judgment known to the Under-Secretary when he spoke on June 3? It must have been, unless Ministers get up in Parliament completely unbriefed on the affairs of Dependencies powerless because they are small and hitherto law-abiding. But there is not an atom of a sign that the Under-Secretary had ever heard of it.

"All we know here is that no action whatever was taken after the judgment was delivered. No, I am inaccurate when I say 'no action.'

"This ex-Attorney-General, who was the principal target of Mr. Vanniasinkam's strictures, was invited to accept nomination to a seat on this Council two months later. That is the action that was taken on this damning document!

"Is it not galling for Seychelles citizens to read that when a Member of Parliament called the attention of the House on June 3 to the intolerable state of affairs engendered by this uncontrolled temporary bureaucrat, the spokesman of the Ministry came as near as he dared to praising him, though he had been, he thought, 'perhaps rather over-zealous'? That was all!

"Mr. Gammans mentioned three cases of 'over-zeal'. We could multiply that several times. To take one example, was it 'over-zeal' to be prepared to accept on behalf of Government tax to the amount of 8,000 rupees and yet try to extort 125,355.40 rupees by methods of intimidation and duress, including the threat to use written admissions of indebtedness which would have been contemptuously ignored by the court (as in the Loizeau case), and which had been obtained from panic-stricken taxpayers at their wits' end for lack of legal advice? Is 'over-zeal' the correct denomination for that sort of thing?

Blackmail

"Council knows that it would be called blackmail in ordinary commercial life—and that is what Chief Justice Lyon rightly called it. It was none the less despicable because done on behalf of Government; that only made it worse, for it involved Government in disrepute.

"The Under-Secretary made much play with the plea that, according to him, 'the man did not get anything at all out of it.' Can the plea be substantiated? Mr. Collet was appointed on a higher salary than his predecessor received, and he was allowed to continue his private practice—incidentally, Chief Justice Vanniasinkam censured Government for allowing this in the Loizeau judgment to which I have referred, and censured Mr. Collet himself for confusing his functions as private counsel with his official functions.

"He used his illegal privilege to a good tune: I know of one single fee paid to him which amounted to more than half his year's salary as a Government officer. That is not all—was not the 3,000-guinea job that it was sought to procure for him the pretence of canalizing his energies another attraction? If it is said that these monetary benefits could not account for the zest and energy which Mr. Collet displayed, I should be disposed to agree; there was also the pleasure of hurting those in his native country who have been born into a class which he hated.

"The Under-Secretary's criticisms of the judgment of our present Chief Justice have a very far-reaching and most serious import. As the Chief Justice pointed out in his dignified and weighty answer, if such criticisms are allowable—as one must assume they are since they were made from the Ministerial Bench in Parliament—it seems that the executive authority is free to question any Colonial court's findings of fact that may seem inconvenient to it. That must surely be 'new knowledge' for most Colonials—and it is knowledge which will not be welcome.

"In his answer the Chief Justice added that the terrifying state of affairs to which I have been referring could not have arisen if last year the court had felt itself free and independent of executive influence and pressure. English judges are so free, under irrefragable guarantees. Now that the disability under which Colonial judges labour has been brought into the daylight of full publicity, it is hard to believe that it will be permitted to remain. We demand that it shall be removed.

Unjust Disparagement of Former Governors

"The Secretary of State has denied that the references which the Under-Secretary made to former Governors of this Colony were intended to bear the harmful construction that had been put on them. Here is one of the passages which was not intended as disparagement of those hitherto highly respected gentlemen; after stating that certain pre-war Imperial Governments put this and other Colonies 'on a care-and-maintenance basis, with not much care and very little maintenance,' Mr. Rees-Williams added: 'There was very little planning from here. The caretakers were such as we would not wish to employ in any position of trust.' If this was not intended disparagement of former Governors it was inductive disparagement—which is worse. How can the Ministry expect primitive people like the mass of Seychelles residents to respect the local Government if, after successive heads thereof have retired, its spokesmen alludes to them in this fashion?

"The Under-Secretary's references to the employing classes (although he does not allude to them so) is particularly reprehensible. The statistical division of this community was ridiculously untrue. But why drag in the appellation 'slave-owners' for our forefathers, except for purpose of stirring up vague prejudice in the minds of his hearers? When some of our near-ancestors did own slaves, I make bold to say that they did not treat them as ill as the leaders of the early industrial revolution in England—which was about contemporaneous—treated their factory serfs.

"Few communities where there exist such great differences in race as here have lived in such harmony and happiness as the Seychelles; but now that missionaries of the Left and monomaniac busybodies from outside are beginning to feel that Seychelles is an easy field in which to gain notoriety we must fear that that is past and over.

Under-Secretary's "Misleading Speech"

"Many other passages in the Under-Secretary's speech were inaccurate and misleading. One obvious one is the reference to the elections for the Praslin District Council, over which Mr. Rees-Williams chortles as over a great victory for the party of his friend Mr. Collet. We here know quite well how that victory was gained, and with what promises to innocent, illiterate labourers. Let me remind Government that this kind of inculcation of the under-privileged—as it is the fashion now to style the poorer classes—is playing with fire. If ever there is a violent class-war here, we who are born here will know whom to hold responsible. Government knows that these poor folks can be deluded by anybody who is unscrupulous enough to wish to deceive them.

"One of our most highly-respected members of the Coloured class remarked recently that never before had he detected anti-white feeling amongst his fellows, but that lately incipient signs of that poison were plain enough.

"The Under-Secretary stated that under previous Governors special, educational, and health services were almost non-existent; unless the annual estimates lie, that is a direct misstatement. It is a pity that some Member of Parliament did not invite Mr. Rees-Williams to read the long chapter on 'Social Services' in the 1946 Report on Seychelles which is published by his own department—and then to withdraw, and apologize for what he had said.

"I have to add, on my elected colleagues' behalf, and on my own, that our sole reason for attending this meeting of Council is to put in this motion. Immediately after Council has recorded its decision, it was our intention to withdraw from this meeting as our only means of strikingly demonstrating, on behalf of our constituents and of ourselves, the deep resentment which Mr. Rees-Williams's speech has inspired in all classes, including those of the under-privileged who have knowledge of it, but the importance of the Bill which is on the agenda prevents us from carrying out that intention, to our great regret."

MR. G. DE COMARMOND, representing Praslin and La Digue, endorsed what had been said, adding:—

"The Governor of the Seychelles has too much power; it has become worse lately now that the Colonial Office seems to have practically delegated all its powers to the Governor, for to every serious representation we submit to the Secretary of State we receive as reply that 'the Secretary of State regrets he is not in a position to interfere with the decision of the Governor.'

"I was disgusted by the slurs cast on our former Governors by Mr. Rees-Williams. We have had so many distinguished Governors here. I speak by experience, for I have known them all. We resent the slur cast by the Minister that they were not such persons as the Colonial Office would wish to employ in any position of trust.

"By our laws here we cannot give a certificate of bad conduct a servant. What does this phrase uttered in the House of Commons on June 3 mean? Simply that our former Governors had not worked conscientiously in Seychelles, and that when they returned home they would not be employed in any position of trust. How can one expect to employ in this Colony to retain any respect for Government when they learn what has been said of their former Governors? To call such persons as Sir Edward Davidson, Sir Edouard Fienon, Sir Michael O'Brien, Sir David Honey, Sir Marston Logan, to name the best known, persons who could not be trusted is an outrage. Coming from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary for the Colonies it is a betrayal of his responsibilities."

Mr. Rees-Williams's Insult to Colony

MR. J. B. BEAUCLER BENOITON, member for North Mahé, alleged that never before had the Colony suffered "such tyranny and oppression from our Government and received such insult from a Minister of the Crown as during the last 18 months or so.

"These acts of abuse of power and tyranny by one man were perpetrated with the full approval or knowledge, if not under direct orders from Government. The Secretary of State in the House of Commons confirmed that the Governor knew of the doings of the ex-Acting Attorney-General. Yet he was allowed to proceed to the bitter end. He was only being 'over-zealous,' says Mr. Rees-Williams.

"The Under-Secretary of State, by his insulting references to the leading members of this community, has planted the seed of distrust here. It is his job now to try and uproot it, if he can.

"On behalf of my constituents and myself, I reject and despise this Minister's remarks, and I ask that my protest be recorded."

No Conscription of Native Labour Report Rejected in S. Rhodesia

CONSCRIPTION OF A NATIVE LABOUR CORPS is unacceptable to the Southern Rhodesian Government, said Mr. W. A. Winterton, Minister of Native Affairs, in the recent debate on the report of the select committee on labour shortage.

Not did the Government favour the committee's scheme for two years' compulsory training. Whilst agreeing that the Native should be made to realize his responsibilities in the development of the Colony, Mr. Winterton thought that such a scheme would do more harm than good. After a period of service the Native would desert agriculture in favour of employment in the towns, or would return to his kraal. The possibility of forming a pioneer corps of volunteers was, however, under consideration.

The Minister said that the Government had no present intention of introducing the tax on Native domestic labour proposed in the last budget.

Steps were being taken at the highest level to stop the leakage of labour to the south, and to effect with the Union a migrant Native labour agreement on the same lines as that with Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

Mr. Winterton said that there was an improvement in the numbers of Africans entering the Colony for employment, and attributed this both to better recruiting methods and to famine in Nyasaland.

He agreed with the committee's recommendation that a permanent labour force on farms was an ideal to be aimed at, and that the one way to do this was to aid and encourage Natives to bring their wives and children to the farms with them. More houses and crèches should be built to enable Native women to take up jobs.

Deadlock in Negotiations for Federation

Statements in Southern and Northern Rhodesia

SIR GODFREY HUGGINS, Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia, said in Gatooma on Saturday that the scheme for the federation of the two Rhodesias and Nyasaland appeared to have reached a deadlock.

The original idea of amalgamation had been rejected by the British Government because it was determined to carry out a policy of trusteeship towards the Native peoples which entailed the retirement of the trustee when the ward grew up; Southern Rhodesia, on the other hand, favoured an evolutionary process leading to partnership which would assure European survival in that part of Africa.

The Central African Council, which had been offered as an alternative to amalgamation, was nothing more than a sop: "but Government accepted it because we felt it would help prove our case that closer union was desirable, and because we hoped it might lead to amalgamation."

Need for Closer Union Proved

"The first point, that closer union is desirable, has been proved to the hilt. The council has clearly shown that; but the second point, that of its being a stepping-stone to amalgamation, has not been realized, and many people now regard the Central African Council as an unnecessary extravagance."

Sir Godfrey Huggins continued:—

"I have for many years been an advocate of amalgamation with the North, because from every point of view it has been the common-sense thing to do. We live in a world where might is very much right, and the bigger and more powerful you are the better chance you have of surviving. There is not the slightest doubt that from the economic standpoint it would be in everybody's interest to link up with the North, and once you have the economic strength you are in a much better position to stand up to the hurly-burly of international politics."

"Since the war I have had several talks with Ministers of the present British Government, and it became apparent to me that amalgamation was looked upon by them with even greater disfavour than by their predecessors in office. I say this with deep regret, but it is perfectly plain to me that we in this country are not considered fit and proper persons to whom the future destinies of Native central African people should be entrusted."

Ill-Informed Opinion

"I believe some of those in responsible positions do not hold this view, but they have to adjust their views to the body of opinion within their party—a body of ill-informed opinion. I should say, because the very great majority of them, while being very vociferous in their pronouncements on the Native problem, have never even bothered to come out and see things for themselves."

"I have had clashes with these people, whose solutions for our Native problem were founded on ideas unrelated to existing conditions. It took many hundreds of years for the British people to evolve their present system of government, but these people see nothing absurd in the suggestion that a primitive people, only recently knowing no form of government except that of a military despot and the attendant train of wizards and witch-doctors, and even now ridden with superstition, should quite suddenly be transmuted into a people who understand the Westminster system of government and are capable of bowing to the will of the majority without having a

revolution every now and then, like South American republics."

Educating Africans in Responsibility

"To me it is tragic and almost criminal to force on an ignorant people a system of government they are incapable of carrying out. It seems to me that we must first educate the African to govern himself by starting with local Native councils, and eventually step by step bring him to the stage where he is capable of taking part in the national government."

"I might say—and I expect it will be regarded as heresy in some quarters—that it is possible that our system of government might not suit the African. While our system may suit us, it is no guarantee that it will work with another race. It has already failed with many."

When the idea of federation instead of amalgamation had been put forward, the delegates had found at the Victoria Falls conference that there was a good deal of common ground, but the problem was the place of the African in the federation.

"I felt that we could overcome some of these difficulties by having no change in the Southern Rhodesian constitution at present, and that reservations in regard to Native questions in Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland could be left to the House of Commons—in fact, including a provision similar to that of the North America Act when it was first promulgated for Canada."

Political Dogmas v. Realities

"I gather that the United Kingdom Government would require representation of Africans by Africans from the start. I am quite sure that the time has not arrived for that and further that there are as yet not enough civilized Natives to justify one constituency; so, while the ultimate participation of Africans in the central Government was accepted, the fact that they are not yet ready seems to provide a complete deadlock, and the future of South Central Africa and its development are to be held up until the Natives in all three territories are sufficiently advanced to enable them to understand the advantages of being part of a strong British State."

"It is no good being impatient, but, if the position is as I have stated, then the matter must be regarded as closed. It is a pity, but it seems to me that, unless we see a great change of heart, any scheme of this sort is doomed to founder on opinions which are dictated by political dogmas rather than by the realities of the situation."

"Can the Central African Council secretariat achieve anything more than the secretariat in the Southern Rhodesian Cabinet Office?"

"Mongrel" Constitution

"I have reason to believe that Whitehall would favour something like the East Africa High Commission. From a study of that body from the constitutional angle, it appears to be a real mongrel as constitutions go. It is a kind of senape without a lower house and not acceptable to Southern Rhodesia, as it would take over part of the function of the Southern Rhodesian Parliament, and neither Parliament nor the people here would accept such a proposal."

"In regard to the second destiny, with changes in the world and in Africa, we may be obliged to press for Dominion status though we are not yet ready to assume all the obligations entailed. I am sure we can make a great country of Southern Rhodesia without any political alliance with any of our neighbours, but not as rapidly as we could if amalgamated with the North; and I must say, from the point of view of my descendants, I do not relish the prospect of an independent Native State as a neighbour. Native States tend to revert to

type, and in place of an autocratic chief they would have a dictator and his friends.

"Before leaving the second possible destiny—and I believe that to be quite feasible—I would like to refer to something I read recently regarding development by Americans and other capitalists of backward areas which offer promise of considerable development:—

"(1) National development effort must first be applied near the bottom. No new industry is likely to flourish under conditions of ill-housed, ill-nourished, ill-trained labour supplied by people indifferent to the outcome, and in any case without the purchasing power to buy new products."

"(2) Capital is not a substitute for skill and experience."

"I think we should consider this and in regard to our own development and progress. We want many more Europeans, and we want a more highly developed indigenous population. The allocation of most of the land to the Natives in Northern Rhodesia condemns that country to perpetual backwardness; a big influx of Europeans is essential to promote progress. I was interested to hear this action of the powers that be described by an American as 'subsidization of backwardness.'"

"In regard to the third destiny—union with the Union of South Africa—that was decided at the referendum. I think opinion has hardened since then against this proposal. In our short history we have founded a tradition and way of life which has something peculiarly Rhodesian, and I don't believe we would wish to lose this identity by uniting with the South."

Call to Rhodesians

"It seems then we shall have to go forward on our own and build a new Dominion. If we are to do this, it means hard work, firm faith in our own future, and a really genuine effort on the part of each one of us to put our country before ourselves. Dominion status implies a considerable measure of economic self-sufficiency; we must be strong enough to stand on our own feet. When we go into the international market we must be able to say: 'We want this commodity and in return we will give you some other commodity.'"

"One gets nothing for nothing, and if we are not in a position to trade goods, we may well find ourselves having to trade political liberty."

"I should like to emphasize the point that if you or your children are to be Rhodesians, then you must work for that goal. The coming years will be crucial ones in this Colony's history, and whether there is to be a Dominion called Rhodesia or not lies entirely in the hands of the people. There is no room for the faint-hearted, the weary, or the apathetic. It is in apathy and selfishness that the greatest danger lies. We want some of the war-time spirit for the problems of peace."

"This country is a rich prize; there are greedy hands ready to seize it. Our strength to resist lies not in the Government alone, but in the will of the people. I do not think sufficient people are alive to all the possibilities."

"There are still some people in Whitehall who think we will inevitably join with the Union and that we are working for a lost cause. I know that grit and determination will prove that prediction wrong. For Africa to pull its weight in the world there will have to be a United States of Africa one day, but that is a long way off."

Captain F. E. Harris, President of the United Central Africa Association, and a former Minister of Agriculture in Southern Rhodesia, issued a statement on Monday in which he described the Prime Minister's speech as "a shock to those Rhodesians who are anxious to forward the ideals of Cecil Rhodes and create a great British Dominion in Africa." He said that the association would continue to press for federation as being in the best interests of Africa and the Empire.

Northern Rhodesian Points of View

A few days earlier the Government of Northern Rhodesia had been asked by a motion tabled in the Legislative Council by MR. ROY WELENSKY, leader of the non-official members, to invite the Imperial Government to take the lead in Central African federation.

The motion was carried by nine votes to five. The official members abstained from voting after Mr. G. Thornton, Acting Chief Secretary, had stated that the Government had an open mind on the subject, and the four members representing African interests, and Mr. F. Morris, elected member for Mufalira, voted against the motion.

MR. THORNTON said that he must make it quite clear especially to Africans, that if the motion was passed its terms would be communicated to the British Government, but that that would in no way imply that H.M. Government would agree to take the action suggested.

In any case, any proposals for federation would be referred to the African Representative Council and all African provincial councils, and ample opportunity would be given for African opinion to be consulted.

Referring to faults and inconsistencies in the arguments of non-official members, Mr. Thornton said that the officials disagreed entirely with some of the remarks made concerning Colonial Office government and with some of the comments on race relations. In view of the fact that the Government had been so adversely criticized, he found it ironical that they should be asked to assist in the matter.

Moving his resolution, MR. WELENSKY said that the part played by Europeans in the development of Northern Rhodesia was fully recognized by the Bledisloe Commission, who as far back as 1922 had considered a link-up of British Central African territories to be inevitable.

It was in London in 1946 that he first realized the magnitude of the task of achieving amalgamation. Discussions with members of all parties in Britain had shown him then that amalgamation was out of the question.

Whilst still firmly believing in that solution, he felt that federation could offer the advantages of unification while permitting the territories to retain their individuality and providing the necessary guarantees to Africans.

"It is no use denying that a great deal of suspicion came about as the result of the Victoria Falls Conference," Mr. Welensky admitted. "The fact that the meeting was held in secret gave the opponents of federation a glorious opportunity of sowing distrust."

"It solidified African opinion against federation. The fact that no African representative was there was looked upon with considerable suspicion, and African opinion subsequently hardened very much against any change whatsoever. I do not see at the African attitude. I understand it."

Policy of Apathy

"It was hoped that another meeting would take place, when a draft constitution would be placed before the delegates. This hope soon dwindled, and as a result, I went to Southern Rhodesia two months ago and had a discussion with the Prime Minister. I said that the delay in preparing a draft constitution was doing the cause of federation tremendous harm. The Prime Minister agreed that we should ask the lawyers concerned to draft a constitution providing for the minimum form of federation that would work satisfactorily."

"However, when these terms of reference were put to the Prime Minister's advisers, the difficulties came to a head. We should have realized some years ago that the drafting of constitutions is a job for specialists. It therefore became necessary for the Southern Rhodesian Government to take some action, and the Prime Minister has arranged for his Minister of Justice and the Attorney-General to have discussions in the United Kingdom on the question of the snags in the proposed constitution."

"Has the time not arrived for the United Kingdom to recognize that the present policy of apathy, so far as the Colonies are concerned, can lead only to dismemberment? We believe that the creation of this Dominion will help to strengthen the existing ties between Central Africa and the United Kingdom."

"Nothing has been done because we have been governed from the Colonial Office. I believe that if we had had responsible government, or had been part of a self-governing State, development would have been five or six times greater. A Government, which is 6,000 miles away must lack the initiative and incentive that would be displayed by a Government of the people living in the country."

Mr. Welensky said that the African had been encouraged by the Press of the United Kingdom and by Parliamentarians, particularly supporters of the present British Government, to believe that the only Government likely to give him a square deal was the United Kingdom Government. That was resented by the settler community of Northern Rhodesia.

Federation and some form of self-government for the people of the territory were inevitable, and might be brought about only after bitter strife. It was apparently the policy of the Colonial Office that concessions should be made only at pistol-point.

"Let me warn them that I know how this will end," said Mr. Welensky. "I say that changes will come about; changes are inevitable."

Should the Government decide with the African representatives to vote against the motion, it would be defeated, but that

will not be the last the Government would hear of the matter. At the present rate of European immigration the population of Northern Rhodesia would within the six years reach the neighbourhood of 100,000. The subject would come up again and again, and he pleaded with the Government to point out to the United Kingdom Government that now was the opportunity for something to be done, without bitterness. "I hope that someone in the United Kingdom will have the courage and wisdom to see that what we are trying to create is in their interests," Mr. Welensky concluded.

Africans and Federation

SIR STEWART GORE-BROWNE, representing African interests, said that no thinking person, European or African, could deny that there were many advantages in federation. The difficulty arose in connexion with Native policy, which had formed the principal theme of the Bledisloe Report.

"Some of us thought that a form of federation which, while providing for a variety of common services, left African policy in the northern territories unchanged, would enable the advantages of amalgamation to be achieved without incurring its obvious disadvantages where African affairs are concerned.

"Unfortunately the fact that no Africans were invited to attend the Falls conference, either as members or observers; the uncompromising nature of the Prime Minister's speech; the fact that the proposed constitution, expressly excluded African representation, either direct or by Europeans, in the House of Representatives; above all, the fact that it was clearly stated that African rights, including land rights, would be guaranteed by the Federal Parliament, and not by the Imperial Government—all these points caused Africans to feel that federation was designed entirely for the benefit of Europeans, and would result in the northern territories losing privileges they had already gained.

"The secrecy with which the discussions were conducted and the delay in making the proposals known helped to increase those fears. The general verdict of the African public as disclosed at numerous gatherings in all parts of the country is overwhelmingly against federation.

"That being so, my three colleagues and I will vote against this motion. But, apart from our duty to represent African opinion as it actually is, we feel that, in view of the universal African opposition to federation, we cannot honestly say that the time is opportune for H.M. Government to take the lead in creating a federal State.

"Further, we must in all honesty make it clear that we ourselves are opposed to the proposals made at the Victoria Falls, on the grounds that they appear to be amalgamation by another name."

Government Has Open Mind

The ACTING CHIEF SECRETARY said that the Northern Rhodesian Government had been invited to lend the services of the Attorney-General and the Financial Secretary to assist in the preparation of the draft federal constitution. The Government had made it clear that before this could be granted it would be necessary to state the precise terms of reference. These had not yet been given, and the two officers had therefore attended no meetings and given no advice.

Mr. Thornton reminded the Council of the statement made in the House of Commons on July 29 last by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, when he stated that there had been no complaints concerning the present functioning of the Central African Council, and that there had been no substantial evidence that reorganization of government in the form of a confederation was necessary. Mr. Crech Jones had added that they would not enter into any arrangements which sacrificed the solemn commitments entered into by treaty with the African people in days gone by.

On October 19 the Colonial Secretary had stated that no proposals arising out of the Falls conference had been received, and that before any constitutional change affecting African interests could be considered full account would have to be taken of African opinion.

"It is clear from these statements by the Secretary of State," Mr. Thornton went on, "that H.M. Government have not a closed mind on the subject of federation. It is also clear that they have been awaiting the results of the negotiations set on foot by the Falls conference."

"In view of the statement made as recently as September 1949 by Mr. Welensky that a draft constitution on a minimum basis would be prepared by the end of December for submission to the territories, I imagine that they expected that full details of the constitution would be available by the end of this year."

Mr. Thornton asked what had happened to necessitate a departure from the original plan. They had heard that certain difficulties had arisen, but had not been told whether they were merely drafting problems or had arisen through failure to reach agreement on basic principles.

"We on this side of Council cannot vote in favour of the motion," he concluded. "We are not sure that the time is opportune. On the other hand, we do not propose to vote against it, as we do not wish to prevent the motion from going forward as an expression of the view of the majority of non-official members. Moreover, a vote against the motion would be regarded by many as a vote against federation, and this Government has an open mind on that question."

African Member's Fable

MR. NALUMANGO, one of the African members, quoted a Barotse fable to illustrate the views of Africans.

"There were two ducks who lived on a pond. One day they found a turtle living there, too, and made friends with him. One day they discovered that the pond was getting dry, and planned to go to another place. But they did not like to leave the turtle, who could not fly, so they made a plan to carry him with them.

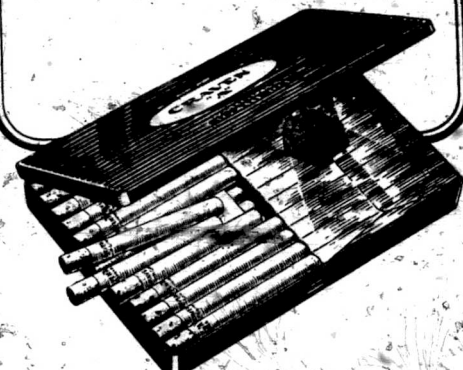
"They got a stick, which they put in his mouth, and each gripped one end of it. Off they flew until they passed over a village. The children shouted and laughed when they saw this strange sight, and this made the turtle very angry. He opened his mouth to rebuke them, and fell to the ground and was dashed to pieces.

"This story," said Mr. Nalumango, "makes us fear federation, amalgamation, and responsible government until such time as we are able to fly together with our European leaders."

Central African Airways have painted the upper surfaces of their aircraft white as a protection against the excessive heat of which passengers complain when an aircraft has been standing in the mid-day sun. As a result, inside cabin temperatures have dropped by 15° F.

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BACKGROUND TO

Misleading the People. — Sir Stafford Cripps said in Bristol: There can seldom have been a period when the majority of the Press have set out to mislead and confuse the people of this country as they have done over the last few months. If the Chancellor can believe that he must live in a strangely rarefied atmosphere. What is true is that the overwhelming majority of newspapers, even some which were by no means unimpeachable when it was elected and have supported it since, have limited in emphasizing the seriousness of our present plight. They have condemned the Government's leadership as faltering and inadequate. The Chancellor and many of his colleagues confuse the interests of the nation with the interests of the Socialist Party. To read the speeches of Ministers, one would imagine that it is tantamount to treason to expose the shortcomings of the Government. We have to penetrate a fog of Ministerial contradictions and self-contradictions such as I have never known. — Mr. Eden, M.P.

Abuse of the Press. — The British Press has many critics in high places. Until recently Mr. Viscount was probably the most violent. He has now been excelled by Messrs. Shaw, Spry, and Byers. Sir Stafford Cripps has also entered this race of abuse. His idea of a newspaper is that it should give him publicity but no criticism. The Chancellor accuses the Press of being gloomy about Britain's financial prospects. It was not a newspaper that said devaluation would increase the price of our imports and decrease the price of our exports. That statement was made by the Treasurer, Chancellor, who crossed it long before he obtained sterling. Sir Stafford is fantastic in the manner that he suggests that protests can be made from understanding the truth that he is most like a chamberlain than a Chancellor of the Exchequer. — Mr. Brendan Bracken, M.P.

Blame the Paper. — Dr. Lee, in a recent issue of the *Financial Times*, says much to journalists. It seems that it was him at three times and again after dinner. That was how the political campaign started in 1930. The fact is that an advance copy of the report of the President's message was circulated to newspapers two days before it was published. Journalists are free to find fault, as if Lord Patrick's message were that the plume came of making inquiries should be made. Lord Patrick would have been grateful if they had told the truth as to and that the matter is — "But, through" in the *Daily Telegraph*.

Lethargic Railwaymen. — Fringe and lethargic spirit is rampant everywhere on the railways. The atmosphere is soulless, demoralizing and individually-killing. Lack of interest in the work was never so rife, and bus-time-keeping has become so prevalent that supervisors are worried to death about the problem of keeping the job going. Trains are held up for hours because of men not turning up for their jobs, and even breakdown vans have been held up for lack of an engine crew. Goods and merchandise are going astray or never delivered at all because men are not interested in their work or because of inexperienced staff in and on the goods depot. Supervisors of all kinds seem powerless to arrest this decline in railway morality. Good honest men are leaving the railways every week in large numbers because of the soul-destroying system of remote control by some who they have never seen. — *Railway Review*, official organ of the National Union of Railwaymen.

Develop the Empire. — Malaya last year earned more dollars for the British Empire than the total manufactured exports produced in Britain. Malaya sold in that number worth 270,000,000 dollars. We exported British goods worth 250,000,000 dollars. In Empire soil lies the key which can open the gates of economic freedom from dollar dependence. We should concentrate on a policy of Empire self-sufficiency on a scale unthought of by any past Government. This Government banks our whole future on 50,000,000 Britons being able to sell to 140,000,000 Americans sufficient British goods which Americans could make for themselves. Let us sell to America all we can, but not live under an illusion that by this means we shall ever square our dollar account. — *Lord Halifax* of Inchiquin.

Telling the Facts. — The attitude of press officers of Government departments to inquiries from the Press should be governed by a desire to furnish as full, accurate, subjective information as possible, and they should not act as channels of communication, nor as barriers between the rest of their department and the Press. It is the duty of press officers to make the facts available, whether they are favourable or unfavourable. The officer has a right to be told and to communicate. It is his duty to tell the truth as it is, and to make the public aware of the facts. — *The Daily Telegraph*.

On Leaving England. — London is the most wonderful place I know, in the way of providing peace you will find a perfect garden, a perfect garden, the original of some of the best pictures of great crime in a London which is now Georgian houses. It takes a good man to imagine to believe in houses which are better than the best of the world. You will find many of the best of the best of England and the Mansion House in the heart of the hall of the British Empire, but you will find you will find a number of trees which were there at the time of the Great Fire and still give a good crop of berries. It is a pity you are always conscious of the fact of a living organism, and a good position conception of a strikingly distinctive with English people. And England has the habit of making a man no one people of British stock. During a week and a fortnight one of my commandments was of the British Empire and of the British Empire. It was in England 10 years ago and is now naturalized and a foreign Englishman by adoption and nationality. Nothing could seem more English than a foreigner, but in fact most of the time in the grounds and native of other countries which had been planted there and flourished in the beginning of an assembly. English seem English always in exciting place to live in. So much happens here, so much is decided here in terms of world history. England will have shown us how to appreciate more keenly the importance of Rhodesia. — Mr. W. E. Arnold, in a broadcast to Southern Rhodesia.

Comparison. — The average worker in Great Britain has to work 48 hours a week as against the average American to buy 20 cigarettes, two and a half times as long to buy a pound of sugar and three times as long to buy a suit or overcoat as for commodities on the budget of the average Briton, the average British worker has to work three and a half times as long as the average American — largely because the average hourly wage of the American and British worker are 16s. 2d. and 3s. 1d. respectively. — *National Industrial Conference Board of the U.S.A.*

The German — The German... (text is heavily obscured and difficult to read)

TO THE NEWS

E.A.A.-marked.—“The English-speaking peoples have got nearer than anybody else to the ideals of justice and mercy.”—Lady Astor (an American by birth).

“Three million Americans drink to excess, and 750,000 are alcoholics.”—American Medical Association.

“While happiness may be possible without health, it is pretty sure that health is impossible without happiness.”—The Radio Doctor.

“It is the South African Government's duty to prevent messages besmirching South Africa from being sent abroad.”—Mr. Erasmus, Minister of Posts and Telegraphs.

“Britain should not feel disheartened over its failure to raise peanuts in Africa. It can always raise something in the United States.”—New York World Telegram.

“We regard the maintenance of adequate information services as an indispensable aid to administration in modern conditions, as well as a democratic necessity.”—Mr. Herbert Morrison, M.P., Lord President of the Council.

“The achievement of Dr. Chaim Weizmann, President of Israel, bears comparison with that of Moses.”—General Smuts.

“About the time that a certain liveliness was reported in Boston Harbour the Americans used 10 lb. of tea a head yearly. Now it is less than one lb.”—Samur Webb.

“The greatest failings of the modern Press arise from the frequency with which matter is included or excluded solely on the criterion of whether it will sell.”—Manchester Guardian.

“The danger of war has lessened to some extent in recent months, but the United States is ready for any eventuality at four o'clock in the morning.”—Mr. Louis Johnson, U.S. Secretary for Defence.

“Democracy is founded upon free speech, and nothing could be more fatal to the permanence or continuity of the democratic principle than to keep your mouth shut when you think the national interest is being prejudiced by some action of the Government. Such a course leads only to the evils of the Totalitarian State.”—Mr. Oliver Lyttelton, M.P.

“Members of Parliament ought not to wrap themselves in cotton wool against criticism, or even against a certain amount of reasonable abuse simply because they happen to be M.P.s.”—Sir Hartley Shawcross, M.P., Attorney-General.

“H.M. Government will endeavour to ensure that Japan undertakes to conform to the provisions of international conventions which provide a common standard of international commercial conduct, and to abstain from dumping and the kind of unfair practices which have done the war.”—Mr. Arthur Bottomley, M.P., Secretary for Overseas Trade.

“I despair of Unesco producing anything except bureaux for the interchange of one thing and the other. I feel profound concern that Unesco, which attempts to draw nations together on an educational, scientific and cultural basis, should have left out religion. I do not believe that they can get any further in international relations on the basis of a very shallow humanism. Until the various religions get together and discuss their problems they can hardly expect a United Nations body to put religion into its programme.”—Dr. Raven, professor of divinity and former vice-chancellor of Cambridge University.



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TRUCKS, VANS, BUSES

PERSONALIA

THE DUKE OF ABERCORN was 80 last week.

PRINCE AXEL OF DENMARK was due in Kenya by air last week-end.

A daughter has been born in Nakuru, Kenya, to the late Mr. NIGEL FAWCUS, of Ngoina, Kericho.

Mr. J. L. WORLEDGE, Director-General of Colonial Affairs, has returned from a visit to the West Indies.

Mr. C. C. CONWAY has retired from the board of the Metal Box Co. Ltd., which is building a factory in East Africa.

SIR HERBERT MATHEWS, a well-known authority on forestry, is on his way to Northern Rhodesia to visit a nephew and niece.

The late J. H. THOMAS, Secretary of State for the Colonies in 1924, 1931, and 1935-36, who died last January, left £15,032.

SIR F. VERNON THOMPSON, chairman of the Union-Castle Line, has retired from the board of the London Maritime Investment Co., Ltd.

SIR JOHN HALL, Governor of Uganda, and LADY HALL recently gave a garden party at Government House, Entebbe, for more than 750 guests.

MR. A. ATKINSON, A.R.F.S.A., Colonial Office liaison officer at the Building Research Station at Garston, is visiting the East and Central African territories.

MR. H. H. RUSSELL, general manager in East Africa for the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, returned to Dar es Salaam a few days ago from leave in this country.

SIR EVELYN BARING, British High Commissioner in the Union, and formerly Governor of Southern Rhodesia, is due to leave Pretoria to-day by air on a short official visit to London.

MR. RONALD JOHN HARVEY, of the Colonial Administrative Service in Tanganyika, and Miss WENDY ANGELA SHORT, elder daughter of Colonel and Mrs. W. Short, of Durban, have announced their engagement.

MR. T. H. W. BEADLE, Minister of Justice in Southern Rhodesia, and MR. R. F. HALSTED, Minister of Industry and Development, hope to leave by air for Salisbury in a few days on the conclusion of their discussions in London.

MR. ARTHUR HOLDEN, for some years general manager of Unga, Ltd., the flour milling subsidiary of the Kenya Farmers' Association, has been appointed managing director "as a special tribute to his ability and able management." In making this announcement at the recent annual meeting of the K.F.A., Mr. James Mackay, the chairman, said that the Association's interest in Unga now stood at more than £450,000.

MR. R. G. JACOBS has been appointed traffic manager of the Sudan Railways, of which Mr. R. D. COCKBURN will become assistant traffic manager.

The marriage has taken place in Nairobi between CAPTAIN "TONY" PALMER, only son of Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. B. H. Palmer, of Orpington, Kent, and Miss MOLLY PURVIS, eldest daughter of Mr. R. J. Purvis, of Exeter.

MR. C. WHYBROW, provincial education officer in the Lake Province of Tanganyika, is on leave pending retirement after 23 years' service. He has been prominently identified with the development of the Boy Scout movement, and is a keen ornithologist.

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL SIR JOHN SLESSOR, who will become Chief of the Air Staff in the New Year, in succession to LORD TEDDER, landed at Northolt on Saturday after a two-months' tour of R.A.F. stations in East, Central and South Africa, India, and Pakistan.

MR. L. F. MANTON, who has joined the board of Kettles-Roy and Tysons (Mombasa), Ltd., and is now at the company's headquarters in Nairobi, is a son-in-law of Mr. A. N. Stuart, chairman of Messrs. Alex. Lawrie & Co., Ltd. Mrs. MANTON will join her husband in Kenya in a few months.

DR. AUDREY L. RICHARDS, M.A., PH.D., reader in anthropology at the University of London, a senior member of the staff of the London School of Economics, and a member of the Colonial Social Science Research Council, has accepted the post of director of the East African Institute of Social Studies at Makerere College, Uganda. She will take up her new appointment in a few months.

DR. JOHN HIGGINSON and Miss NAN MCKEE, daughter of Major H. K. McKee, Commissioner in London for Northern Rhodesia, and of Mrs. McKee, were married a few days ago in the University Chapel, St. Andrews, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. Professor W. R. Forrester and the Rev. W. Hulbert. For the past three years the bride has been studying at St. Andrew's University. Dr. Higginson, who is a graduate of Dublin University, has been on the staff of the pathology department of the University of Glasgow for some years, and has just been appointed pathologist to the institute of Medical Research for South Africa, the headquarters of which are in Johannesburg. His wife and he will sail for South Africa at the end of the year.

SIR PERCY SILLITOE, a director at the War Office, who has been in South Africa to consult with the Government of the Union, is believed to have discussed the introduction of legislation which would provide greater powers against Communism on the basis of the introduction of similar legislation in other British territories in Africa. Sir Percy, who was at one time in the British South Africa Police, served in the German East African campaign of 1914-18 and then transferred to the Colonial Service as an administrative officer in Tanganyika Territory. He became chief constable of Chesterfield in 1923, of the East Riding of Yorkshire in 1925, of Sheffield in the following year, and of Glasgow in 1931. There he did excellent work in smashing gangs of law-breakers, and when it became necessary to provide exceptional police measures in south-east England and the closest liaison with the Forces before the invasion of the Continent, he was transferred to Kent in 1943 as chief constable of the county.

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APPOINTMENT REQUIRED

B.Sc. CIVIL ENGINEER (Scottish), aged 26, proposes to emigrate early in January, 1950, to Kenya. Experienced in housing sites, quarrying, road construction and repairs, piling and bridge work. Also small private works, including buildings, water supplies, sewage disposal, etc. Hard work and long hours no deterrent. —Brown, Eastwood, Gordon, Berwickshire, Scotland.

Obituary

Archdeacon A. G. B. Glossop

Half-A Century in Nyasaland

THE VEN. ARTHUR GEORGE BARNARD GLOSSOP, O.B.E., whose death in Nyasaland on November 26 is reported, had spent 56 years in that country, almost all of it on Likoma Island in Lake Nyasa, the headquarters of the Universities Mission to Central Africa.

Born in 1866, he was educated at St. Edward's School, Oxford, and Trinity College, Oxford, and then at Wells Theological College. Appointed a curate at St. Mary's-at-the-Walls, Colchester, in 1891, he heard Bishop Smythies speak in that town two years later, and promptly volunteered to join the mission.

When Likoma Cathedral was built some years later, he was appointed priest-in-charge, and in 1912 he became Archdeacon of Likoma. From 1921 until 1939 he was warden of St. Andrew's Theological College there, and since 1922 he had held a canonry in the cathedral.

Likoma Island is the property of the mission, and for many years Archdeacon Glossop was entrusted by the Government of Nyasaland with the oversight of civil affairs, bearing the strange, and probably unique, title of "principal head man." His office was to represent Government to Africans and Africans to Government. Now that duty has devolved upon a council of four Africans.

A very good and keen sportsman in his early days, he won his Blue for Association football at the university and ran for his college (and afterwards played for the Casuals). He was a good linguist, and revised the Chinyanja translations of many parts of the Bible.

Lord Pender

LORD PENDER, who has died in London at the age of 67, was for many years governor and managing director of Cables and Wireless, Ltd., and previously for a long period in the service of the Eastern Telegraph Co., Ltd., with which his family had had long connexions. He made a point of keeping in close touch with those who served the company overseas, and on his 50th birthday he was presented with a volume containing 10,000 signatures of employees, although only in the previous year, at a time of financial crisis, he had had to ask them to accept salary reductions. Lord Pender was keenly interested in East and Central African development.

MR. T. D. WILLIAMS, a former secretary of the Standard Bank of South Africa, Ltd., has died at the age of 73. He joined the bank in Cape Town in 1902, and became secretary in 1929, retiring in 1936. He was deeply interested in hospital charity work, and was also closely identified with the fund raised in tribute to the work in Africa of Dr. Albert Schweitzer.

MRS. G. B. P. TUNMER, who was Mayoress of Gwelo from 1939 to 1947, has died in Bulawayo Hospital. She was well known for her public work, and received the M.B.E. for her war services.

MAJOR CHARLES DULY, one of Southern Rhodesia's best-known pioneers and business men, has died in Bulawayo at the age of 79. A memoir will appear next week.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL NOEL WILMOT HOUSEMAYNE DU BOULEY, C.M.G., who died recently at the age of 87, served in the Sudan Expedition of 1884-85.

MR. WILLIAM PERCY SHIELDS, late of the Colonial Civil Service, Kenya Colony, has died in Cambridge.

British Council and the Colonies

Year's Expenditure Totalled £369,000

PROJECTION OF THE BRITISH WAY OF LIFE and the promotion of closer relations in cultural matters between people of Great Britain and those of the Colonies is one of the responsibilities of the British Council, which says in its annual report for 1948-49 that the "processes of development will be eased if a spirit of mutual trust and understanding can be fostered between the people of Great Britain and the peoples of the Colonies: this is the end to which the work of the Council in the Colonies is contributing."


The duties of the office in Kenya are to be extended and staff are to be sent to Tanganyika, Uganda and Northern Rhodesia.

Expenditure during the year on Colonial purposes was estimated at £369,000, of which £242,000 was spent directly on work in the Colonies, and the balance in this country on film and other services for the Colonies and on Colonial visitors, students, and bursars.

Among the African visitors were groups of chiefs, teachers, trade union leaders, and leaders in youth organizations. Fifty Colonial students were awarded scholarships at U.K. universities, colleges, and technical schools; and artisans and craftsmen were brought from the Colonies to study British methods in workshops, factories, and offices.

The Council has 11 advisory committees and panels but none dealing with the Colonies.

Persons denied entry or deported from Southern Rhodesia last year numbered 1,809, about one-tenth of the total number of immigrants during the year. The main reasons for refusal were indigency (944), economic grounds (539), and illiteracy (210).



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Britain's Attitude to Eritrea

Awaiting Commission's Findings

IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS a few days ago Mr. PETER FREEMAN asked the Foreign Secretary whether, having regard to the fact that the United Nations Political Committee had proposed the sending of another commission of inquiry to Eritrea and the postponement of the decision on the future of that former Italian Colony for a further year, he would give an assurance that His Majesty's Government would uphold in the General Assembly of the United Nations the policy of the reunion of Ethiopia and Eritrea sponsored by Britain at the last Assembly and urge an immediate decision.

MR. C. MAYHEW: "His Majesty's Government has not changed their views in regard to the best solution of the problem of the disposal of Eritrea, but they have accepted the resolution of the General Assembly providing for postponement of a decision, and consider that the only attitude which they can properly adopt is one of strict neutrality pending the findings of the commission of inquiry and subsequent decision by the General Assembly."

Before Italian Aggression

MR. FREEMAN: "In view of the fact that before the Italian aggression and domination Eritrea was politically united with Ethiopia, will the Government continue to urge upon the United Nations the desirability of a reunion along similar lines?"

MR. MAYHEW: "I think that is now a matter for the commission who will, no doubt, take into consideration the factor which my hon. friend mentions."

MR. FREEMAN also asked whether, in the interests of democratic government, the Minister would instruct the British Administration in Eritrea to prepare an electoral roll for the capital of that territory, in order that the opinion of the population of the capital might be adequately expressed on the question of the future disposal of the territory and any other matters of importance which might arise, with proper safeguards against personation, intimidation, and corrupt practice and to preserve the inviolability of the ballot.

MR. MAYHEW: "No, sir. The General Assembly of the United Nations has decided to establish the commission to which my hon. friend refers, and it is for the commission itself to decide how it should carry out the instructions it has been given by the General Assembly."

MR. FREEMAN: "If Eritrea is to be consulted on the matter of her own future, is it not desirable that proper facilities be provided for her along the lines indicated, so that she can express her own desires in a democratic manner?"

MR. MAYHEW: "It is the principal task of the commission to discover the views of the inhabitants. I do not think that action such as that is called for by H.M. Government."

MR. RALPH GLYN: "Can the hon. gentleman assure the House that when this commission appears in Eritrea there will be no diminution in the control by the British of Eritrea during that period?"

MR. MAYHEW: "No, we shall carry on the administration as usual."

MR. SOMERVILLE HASTINGS: "Are not the wishes of the people of Eritrea already quite clear?"

Wheat Imports to Eritrea

MR. FREEMAN asked the Foreign Secretary whether he was aware that from January, 1949, the British Administration in Eritrea had ceased to allow the import of wheat from Ethiopia, to what extent this prohibition referred purely to wheat consumed in Eritrea itself, and whether he would review this regulation in view of the fact that it was causing serious distress among the farmers of the adjacent Ethiopian province.

MR. C. MAYHEW: "No imports of wheat for consumption in Eritrea were required in January and February of this year because adequate stocks were available. Imports started again in March and are continuing. The movement of wheat in transit through Eritrea was not affected."

MR. J. PLATTS-MILLS asked what was the purpose of the recent conference held in Nairobi under the chairmanship of the Governor of Kenya and attended by the Commander-in-Chief, East Indies Station, the General Officer Commanding in East Africa, the Air Officer Commanding, the Governor

of Tanganyika and Uganda, and the British Resident in Zanzibar.

MR. A. CREECH JONES: "I assume that the hon. member has in mind the fourth routine meeting of the East Africa High Commission, held in August. The purpose of such meetings is to discuss matters arising within the purview of the High Commission."

MR. PLATTS-MILLS: "Does that mean that this extraordinary assembly of high-powered officers was there to consider what is to be done in the face of the rising discontent of the Native peoples of West Africa, and may we assume, as a matter of course, that a report of the deliberations was sent to the American Chiefs of Staff?"

Kenya's Road Programme

MR. F. ERROLL asked the Colonial Secretary if he would make a statement on the programme for road construction in Kenya for the next 10 years.

MR. CREECH JONES: "The Kenya Government is considering recommendations by a special road committee that there should be a £9,000,000 road programme during 1951. The Government authority to lay down policy and priorities. Meanwhile a considerable road programme is already in hand, and this will continue during 1950."

MR. ERROLL: "Is there any danger of this programme being slowed down as a result of the personal views of the Governor?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "No, sir. The programme is under constant view, but there is no intention to slow it down."

MR. J. PLATTS-MILLS protested that Mrs. Ruth Khama, the Englishwoman who had married Seretse Khama, chief-designate of the Bamangwato tribe, was the only white person in the district who was not invited to an official reception given by the Resident Commissioner in Serowe, Bechuanaland.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS replied that no official reception had been held since Mrs. Khama's arrival in Serowe. A small cocktail party had been given by the D.C. for the chairman and members of the judicial inquiry established to investigate the claim to the chieftainship. It would have been inappropriate to invite Mrs. Khama, whose husband was the subject of the inquiry.

MR. PLATTS-MILLS was interrupted when he asked whether it was not true that "this decent young chief and his white wife have been exposed to most serious racial persecution."

EARL WINTERTON asked whether Mr. Platts-Mills was not attempting to interfere with the course of the judicial inquiry.

The matter was closed when MR. NOEL-BAKER agreed that as the case was the subject of an inquiry, it was improper for him to make any comments, beyond saying that he repudiated virtually every word that Mr. Platts-Mills had said.

Congo Basin Treaties and Japan

MR. W. PRESCOTT asked the Foreign Secretary what was the policy of H.M. Government with regard to the Congo Basin Treaties, and particularly as to the continued participation of Japan in their benefits.

MR. C. MAYHEW: "The policy of His Majesty's Government in regard to the Congo Basin Treaties and the position of Japan in regard to these treaties is set forth in the replies given to the hon. member on May 26, 1948, and on October 25, 1949. I have nothing to add to those statements. I should perhaps explain that although the Japanese Government was a signatory to the 1919 Convention of St. Germain-en-Laye, which reaffirmed the principle of freedom of trade in the territories of the Conventional Basin of the Congo, as set out in the Berlin Act of 1885, it is the view of H.M. Government that, since no peace treaty has been concluded with Japan, that country is not entitled to claim any such benefits as a matter of right from any Power which is a party to the 1919 Convention and with which Japan is still technically at war."

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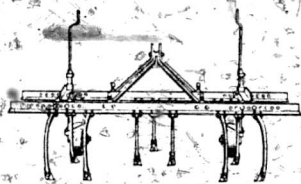
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Gradual Decontrol Suggested Associated Chambers of N. Rhodesia

THE ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY OF NORTHERN RHODESIA held their 11th annual meeting in Lusaka on Sunday, November 20.

MR. E. F. ANGER, the president, pointed out that the Master Builders' and Allied Trades Association and the Employers' Association of Northern Rhodesia had both joined during the year, that the new Hotels Association was likely to affiliate, and that the Farmers' Union had been invited to appoint a member to attend all meetings of the executive committee. A year ago the association had consisted of six constituent bodies with a membership of 164; now it represented 10 bodies and 325 members.

Closer association with our Southern and Eastern relatives was highly desirable, but federation must be framed on an equitable economic and political basis.

Petrol supplies were still precarious, and since shortage of oil-fuel might jeopardize development, he pleaded with the Government to provide local storage for some 2,000,000 gallons.

Costs of living might be alleviated by remitting customs duties on British motor vehicles and certain other consumer goods, and by concessions in income tax, including a tax on companies, in order to increase immigration.

In Southern Rhodesia and Nyasaland many price control orders had been lifted, and though decontrol was not suggested in Northern Rhodesia while the effects of devaluation could not yet be measured, he asked for immediate acceptance of the policy of gradual and piecemeal decontrol in regard to commodities which were in plentiful supply.

Commerce was glad that it was at long last being given the opportunity of quoting for a fair share of the Government's local requirements.

Railway Needs

In the matter of transport, provision of a double-line railway system was urgent, the port of Lobito Bay should be made complementary to Beira, and there was great pleasure at the proposed rail link with Tanganyika. The association hoped that within the next year or so there would be a tarmac road from Livingstone to Chingola; the primary need was to put the Lusaka-Ndola road in first-class order.

MR. C. J. CHAMBERS, Deputy Postmaster-General, said that within the next year the number of trunk telephones would be approximately doubled. Telephone equipment orders placed in 1947 would not be delivered before 1950, and it had been possible to install only 207 new telephones since the end of the war; 958 applications were still outstanding.

The Economic Secretary, MR. R. A. NICHOLSON, who said that Government fully realised the urgency of providing bulk storage of petrol, drew attention to the need for British manufacturers to appoint direct agents in Northern Rhodesia, instead of attempting to compel the country to buy through sub-agents hundreds of miles away. British industrialists proceeded through South Africa with increasing exhaustion, until they had apparently not enough energy left to cross the border into Northern Rhodesia; important textile manufacturers, for instance, had visited the Union without troubling to inquire into Northern Rhodesia's needs.

One such need was the establishment of a large wholesale house with sufficient reserve stocks. Large motor concerns were extremely inadequately represented, and their supplies of spares and accessories were poor.

MR. F. DAVIDSON, of Ndola, endorsed these opinions, adding that British goods were often unsuitable and too expensive, and that wholesalers and other large firms would soon open in Ndola or Lusaka.

MR. H. C. PAICE recalled that the Ndola Chamber of Commerce and Industry pointed out to Government 12 years ago that the distribution rates granted by the Railways to merchants operating in Bulawayo had prejudiced the establishment of wholesale houses in Northern Rhodesia.

MR. J. PATERSON, Director of Civil Supplies, said that two oil companies were installing two tanks each of 18,000 gallons capacity, and another company one tank of 36,000 gallons for petrol storage. Consumption by contractors for the first six months of this year had been 315% above the comparative average two years ago, and in the same period petrol consumption by farmers had risen by 311%.

Monthly requirements were now about 500,000 gallons, and the output from the port of Beira had reached 2,300,000 gallons in one month. Unfortunately, of 25 tank cars the Rhodesia Railways had recently imported, 15 were being used to bring to drought for the carriage of water in Southern and Northern Rhodesia, partly for use by the Railways themselves.

MR. NICHOLSON interposed that the allocation of petrol supplies between the two Rhodesias was arranged by the two petrol controllers, and that Northern Rhodesia had in fact nearly always obtained more than the agreed proportion.

Price Control Methods Criticized

MR. R. M. DUNN criticized the methods of price control, and quoted a case in which an overcharge of one penny on a packet of biscuits had involved the trader in legal expenses amounting to £63, although there was no conviction.

CAPTAIN A. A. SMITH moved a resolution expressing concern at the continual upward trend of African wages, with no corresponding increase in ability or production, and recommended the stabilization of wages by industrial agreements which should be binding on employers and employees' organizations.

He thought that in the case of semi-skilled and unskilled African labourers the rate of pay should include both rations and housing, since until they learned to feed and house themselves it would be difficult for Africans to understand their responsibilities.

Apprenticeship in all trades for both Europeans and Africans ought to be made part of the policy of the country. Industrial training centres might be an answer to the Fabian Society, but they would not provide the right kind of recruits to industry; that required apprenticeship.

Margaret Wrong Prize

WHEN MISS MARGARET WRONG died in Uganda last year, it was decided to perpetuate her memory by an annual award which would encourage literary work in Africa. The trustees of the memorial fund have therefore resolved to award a silver medal and a money prize of £5 for the best original composition received before December 1, 1950, from a writer of African descent resident in the southern Sudan, Somaliland, Uganda, Kenya, Tanganyika, Zanzibar, or the Belgian Congo. Manuscripts must be in English or French, of between 5,000 and 15,000 words, of an imaginative character or descriptive of African life or thought, and suitable for general reading. Submissions should be sent to the International Committee on Christian Literature for Africa, 2, Eaton Gate, London, S.W.1.

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Combating Inflation in N. Rhodesia Increased Home Production Urged

GREATER HOME PRODUCTION and the retention of controls were urged by Mr. Roy Welensky, leader of the non-official members of the Northern Rhodesian Legislative Council, when he introduced a motion asking the Government to say how they proposed to counter inflation and aid the commercial community to obtain supplies from soft currency areas.

Prices generally, especially in the building industry, were rising, he said, and devaluation would send them still higher. It would therefore be wrong for the Government to relax controls, which he did not favour for ideological reasons. Prices should if necessary be pegged, and further rises might be met by subsidies from revenue.

British Socialism

Referring to the British Government's policy, Mr. Welensky said: "I have never been unsympathetic towards the Socialist Government, but I cannot understand how they can possibly believe that their attempts to introduce Socialism can be successful unless they have the necessary means to bring it about. If the Socialists wanted to bring about Socialism in the United Kingdom, the best thing they could do would be to call a halt for the moment to enhancing the benefits to the people there and spend the money on developing the Colonial Empire. Then they could afford greater benefits in the not too distant future."

Last Saturday, December 3, marked the centenary of the sighting of Mount Kenya by a European, Dr. Ludwig Krapf, of the Church Missionary Society. It was 50 years later that Mr. (now Sir Halford) Mackinder made the first ascent—on September 13, 1899.

India and Africa Effect of New Bill

THE INDIA (CONSEQUENTIAL PROVISIONS) BILL, which is to be debated in the House of Commons this week, provides that after India becomes a republic on January 26 next, whilst still remaining a member of the British Commonwealth, all laws of the United Kingdom and the British Colonial territories shall have "the same operation in relation to India and to persons and things in any way belonging to and connected with it as they would have had if India had not become a republic."

In this connexion, it is apposite to record that Raja Maharaj Singh, a former Indian member of the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations said recently:

Uganda Will Achieve Self-Government

British West Africa will throw off Colonial rule in not many years. British East Africa is also bound to achieve self-government, but it will be first in Uganda, where the Baganda people are better educated and have a stronger sense of unity. Tanganyika will be the next, as it is a trusteeship territory, and Kenya, where the European element is stronger and the African people not yet educationally advanced, will take a longer period. . . . Only a united front of all non-European races can bring about political emancipation of Africans."

Pandit Nehru said recently in the United States: "All remaining vestiges of imperialism and colonialism will have to disappear from Africa. Racial relations constitute one of the great danger points of the modern world."

The Government of Northern Rhodesia, which had planned to raise a loan of £5,000,000 in London early next year, does not now expect to be able to do so until late in 1950 or early in 1951, said Mr. F. Crawford, Director of Development, in the Legislative Council on Saturday.



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NEWS ITEMS IN BRIEF

The Civil Service Board constituted in Northern Rhodesia in 1944 has been dissolved, and a Commission for the European Civil Service has been established.

The latest date for posting air mail correspondence to the Sudan, Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, Zanzibar and the Rhodesias in order to secure delivery by Christmas is given by the G.P.O. as December 15.

In the first nine months of this year 10,793 immigrants arrived in Southern Rhodesia, 2,771 fewer than in the corresponding period of 1948. Capital declared totalled £2,982,000, compared with £4,612,000.

Rome has been chosen as the permanent headquarters of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, which will be housed in a new, seven-floor building originally intended for the Ministry of Italian Africa.

Bills have been passed in the Legislative Assembly in the Sudan to prohibit unauthorized persons from wearing the uniforms or insignia of the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides. This legislation has been made necessary by the growth of youth organizations.

A European youth in Gwelo, Southern Rhodesia, found guilty of indecent assault upon an African woman, was fined £50 and sentenced to two years' imprisonment with hard labour, the latter part of the punishment being suspended for three years on condition of good behaviour.

Zomba Prison Riot

Prisoners in Zomba gaol rioted recently, and before order was restored one warden, one policeman, and two convicts had been killed. A commission of inquiry under the chairmanship of the Chief Justice of Nyasaland, Sir Enoch Jenkins, is investigating the matter.

Further extension of air mail services for second class mail at reduced rates is announced. To Eritrea and the Somaliland Protectorate the rate will be 3d. per half-ounce, and to Mauritius, the Seychelles, and Somalia 4d. per half-ounce. Similar facilities are now available to all destinations in the British Commonwealth outside Europe.

For the purposes of "maintaining the principle of white supremacy in governing of Colony," of opposition to the amalgamation or federation of Southern Rhodesia with Northern Rhodesia or Nyasaland for at least another decade, and of "establishing the principle that Europeans only should be elected to Parliament, municipal councils and other local authorities," a White Rhodesia Council is in process of formation in Salisbury. Preliminary details are announced over the signature of Mr. Charles Olley.

The "family travel" plan of Central African Airways, introduced in June, has been extended. Wives accompanying their husbands may now buy a return ticket for the price of a single fare, and children between the ages of 12 and 21 may also make return journeys at single fare rates when travelling with their father, or, if there is no father, the mother. Family tickets are valid for four months.

The new hotel overlooking the Victoria Falls which the Government of Northern Rhodesia has been anxious to see built is not to be of the super-luxury type envisaged, but is to be a first-class establishment costing about £250,000. The Colonial Development Corporation will provide 51% of the necessary funds and the Government the balance. It has not yet been decided whether the hotel shall have about 100 rooms or half as many again.

Plain Speaking on Racial Issue

A POSITIVE STATEMENT by the highest possible authority to clear up the issue between black and white once and for all is necessary, said Sir Stewart Gore-Browne, nominated member for Native interests, in the Northern Rhodesian Legislative Council recently. "Plain speaking," he said, "may clear the air. The African has to be told plainly that he will not be allowed to get rid of the European within this country, and the European must be told that any policy of repression, any policy for straight government by settlers on their own, is out of date and impossible." Mistrust between the races was caused by fear, and although he did not agree that there was a long legacy of bitterness in Central Africa, he feared that bitterness was now growing. Honesty and forthrightness might achieve what carefully worded phrases had failed to do.

Southern Rhodesian Citizenship

A RUSH BY IMMIGRANTS TO QUALIFY for Southern Rhodesian citizenship is reported from that Colony following publication of a notice drawing attention to the provisions of the Citizenship and British Nationality Act, which comes into force on January 1 next: British subjects who have lived in the Colony for a continuous period of six months and in an electoral district for a continuous period of three months before the date of application are eligible to have their names recorded on the voters' roll. They will become citizens of the Colony at the beginning of 1950, but after that date British subjects who have not become official citizens under the Act must wait for two years. The total number of registered voters in Southern Rhodesia at September 30, 1949, was 47,417, including 373 Africans, 536 Asiatics, and 598 Coloureds. Ten years ago there were only 28,090 registered voters.

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JESUS, MY LORD, MY GOD, MY ALL
(Fr. W. Faber—Trad.) (Tune: No. 3, App. W. H. from 'Crown of Jesus Hymn Book', 1864. Words: No. 80, W.H., omitting verse 3) C.3914

LOOK DOWN, O MOTHER MARY
(E. Vaughan—J. Richardson) (No. 181, W.H.)
SWEET SAVIOUR, BLESS US ERE WE GO
(Fr. W. Faber—G. Herbert) (No. 172, W.H., omitting verses 5 and 6) C.3915

SOUL OF MY SAVIOUR
(Anon.—W. J. Maher) (Nos. 81, W.H.)
TO CHRIST, THE PRINCE OF PEACE
(E. Caswall—W. H. Havergal) B.9822

SALVE REGINA
(Words: No. 264, W.H.) (Trad: Plainsong antiphon from the Liber Usualis)

HAIL, QUEEN OF HEAVEN
(J. Lingard—H. F. Hemy) (Tune: No. 8, App. W. H. Words: No. 116, W.H., omitting verse 4) B.9823

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Of Commercial Concern

United Tobacco Companies (South), Ltd., announce that net profits for the year ended September 30, including dividends received from subsidiary companies, and after deducting all charges and expenses for management and providing for taxation, were £1,134,010 (£1,127,591). Interim dividends and dividends on preference shares already paid took £656,000, and after paying a final dividend of 5% free of South African tax (the same) on the ordinary and deferred ordinary shares, making 10% (the same) for the year (£150,000), and allocating £300,000 to general reserve (the same), there remains £27,510, which, together with £276,310 brought forward, leaves £303,820 to be carried forward. A half-yearly dividend of 10% (5% quarterly) is also recommended.

Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.) announces that a local board has been established in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, to supervise the bank's business in the Rhodesias and Nyasaland. The local directors are Mr. O. Gordon (chairman), Mr. H. V. Gibbs, Colonel Sir J. Ellis Robins, and Sir Harold Carmel Robinson. Mr. C. S. Slipper has been appointed general manager in Rhodesia.

Hides Control Changes

Control on imported raw cattle hides and calfskins (other than those from East Africa) is to be removed by the Board of Trade on December 31. The purchase of hides from East Africa will revert to private trade as soon as the existing contract with the Leather Control can be terminated. The latter will, however, continue to be responsible for the sale and distribution of Native hides and calfskins up to June 30, 1950, when a further announcement will be made.

The Raw Cotton Commission announce that the price of East African cotton has been raised by 1½d. to 34.30d. and of East African BP 52 by 1d. to 35d. Sudan L types 3 and above are raised 165 points to 44.50d. and L types X 4 and below 115 points to 40.25d. S types are 120 points higher at 44.75d., whilst Tokar is raised by 115 points to 43.50d.

Metal Box Co., Ltd., who are building a factory in Tanganyika Territory, have declared a dividend of 5% (the same). Last year the total distribution was 20%. Forestal Land, Timber and Railways Co., Ltd., have declared an interim dividend of 3% (the same). The total distribution last year was 12%.

The London telephone number of Messrs. Mitchell Cotts & Co., Ltd., has been changed to London 366,600.

African Lakes Corporation, Ltd., announce a dividend of 8% (the same).

Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.)

BARCLAYS BANK (D.C. & O.) held their 24th ordinary general meeting in London yesterday afternoon. The full text of the annual statement of the chairman, Mr. Julian S. Crossley, appears on other pages in this issue.

After meeting all expenses, providing for taxation, and deducting transfers to inner reserves, out of which provision has been made for writing down the value of assets, the net profit for the year ended June 30 last amounted to £666,879, compared with £649,874 in the previous year. The reserve fund has been increased by £200,000, the investment in Barclays Overseas Development Corporation, Ltd., written down by £150,000, and interim dividends of 4% paid in June on the A stock and B shares less tax absorbed £156,673. After paying a final dividend of 4% less tax, the balance to be carried forward is £185,513, compared with £181,980 brought forward last year.

The issued capital is £6,671,550 in A shares of £1 each, converted into stock, and £500,000 in B shares of 25/- each, £1 paid. The reserve fund totals £8,000,000. Company assets reached a grand total of £27,434,581, comprising investments appearing at £106,206,444, investments in British, Colonial, and Colonial Government securities at £1,121,779, bills and cash at £60,669,854, cash at £20,551,499, and money at call and short notice at £10,450,000. The investment in the subsidiary Development Corporation is £2,500,000, and has previously stood in the books at £2,500,000.

The directors are Mr. J. S. Crossley (Chairman), Mr. J. S. Crossley (deputy chairman), Mr. E. L. Jackson, Mr. G. C. Gibbs (vice-chairman), the Earl of Strathmore, William Carr, Mr. C. T. Dalziel, Captain George Fitzroy, Mr. R. W. Foot, Mr. A. R. Gillen, Mr. A. I. Grant, Sir Ian Mackay, Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, Marshal of the Royal Air Force Viscount Portal of Hungerford, Mr. W. L. Stevenson, and Mr. A. W. Fisher.

The general managers are Mr. A. V. Dunlop, Mr. W. B. Hume, Mr. R. D. Smith, and Mr. D. Claver, the assistant general managers, Mr. J. F. Cook, Mr. E. E. Macdonald, Mr. R. F. R. Smith, and the secretary, Mr. C. F. S. Brink.

Barclays Development Corporation

BARCLAYS OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, Ltd., the policy of which has been to lay the groundwork for the development of the countries in which it has been established, has today announced that it has received a grant of £100,000 from the Government for the year to September 30 last showing a further £100,000 after paying all expenses including taxation, and £100,000 to be carried forward to the next year. The reserve fund totals £8,000,000, the investment in the subsidiary Development Corporation is £2,500,000, and has previously stood in the books at £2,500,000.

The chairman is Mr. J. S. Crossley, the vice-chairman, Mr. G. C. Gibbs, the deputy chairman, Mr. E. L. Jackson, and the directors, Mr. J. S. Crossley, the Earl of Strathmore, William Carr, Mr. C. T. Dalziel, Captain George Fitzroy, Mr. R. W. Foot, Mr. A. R. Gillen, Mr. A. I. Grant, Sir Ian Mackay, Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, Marshal of the Royal Air Force Viscount Portal of Hungerford, Mr. W. L. Stevenson, and Mr. A. W. Fisher.

During the year the A. & C. Barnes, Ltd. of the West Indies, the West African Bank, and another in the West Indies, and in Kenya and Uganda. Mr. Gibbs expressed his satisfaction with the progress so far achieved.

The directors of the Barclays Development Corporation are Mr. J. S. Crossley (deputy chairman), Mr. G. C. Gibbs (vice-chairman), the Earl of Strathmore, William Carr, Mr. C. T. Dalziel, Captain George Fitzroy, Mr. R. W. Foot, Mr. A. R. Gillen, Mr. A. I. Grant, Sir Ian Mackay, Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, Marshal of the Royal Air Force Viscount Portal of Hungerford, Mr. W. L. Stevenson, and Mr. A. W. Fisher.

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Sale of Uganda Cotton Crop Liverpool's Protest to Government

THE LIVERPOOL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE has protested to the Secretary of State for the Colonies against the bulk selling of the Uganda cotton crop.

Mr. W. W. Higgin proposed, and Sir Henry Hancock seconded, the following motion, which was unanimously adopted at a meeting of the council of the chamber:—

"That the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce protest against the negotiated sale of the 1950 Uganda cotton crop to India and the Raw Cotton Commission.

"It considers the system of bulk sale to be detrimental to the interests of the Native population of Uganda and also to the economy of the Protectorate as a whole in that:—

"(a) the selling prices are below those which would have been obtained in the world markets;

"(b) friction has been caused with potential buyers in foreign countries and markets prejudicial for the future;

"(c) the bulk sale of Uganda lint cotton has progressively determined a change in the principle of free access to the cotton markets of the British Colonial Empire which may eventually also lead to a stifling of international trade and consequently a loss of foreign exchange.

Unusually Compulsory

Mr. Higgin presented the motion at a meeting of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce. The Secretary of the Chamber, Mr. J. H. Handley, presented the motion on behalf of the Chamber. The Secretary of the Chamber, Mr. J. H. Handley, presented the motion on behalf of the Chamber. The Secretary of the Chamber, Mr. J. H. Handley, presented the motion on behalf of the Chamber.

Since the British Government had purchased the whole crop, he said, this having passed as a war measure. Subsequently, however, the Raw Cotton Commission in the U.S. had assumed the functions of the Liverpool Cotton Market, and had since considered that Colonial crops were its special prerogative. Sales negotiated for the 1949-50 crops were at prices much lower than would have obtained under free market conditions.

"They have indeed been a hidden subsidy by the Uganda cotton grower to the Raw Cotton Commission. Obviously there would be no point in India and the Cotton Commission concluding these bulk contracts unless at prices less than they knew they would have to pay at auction.

"Lately the Uganda Government have tried to be left free and last year the Cotton Commission would have respected this wish had it not been for the pressure exerted by India, which for some reason considers she is entitled to coerce the East African Government.

"Ultimately, at the representation of those who feared the effect of the loss to Uganda of other long-established outlets, and the friction that was being engendered, 100,000 bales were set aside from the 1949 crop for private trading to other countries. This was all sold in about 10 days at advancing prices.

Pressure from Whitehall

It was assumed, the speaker continued, that never again would a bulk sale be agreed to, nor would it have been by Uganda had it not been for pressure from Whitehall. This did not take the form of an actual order, but no option was left to Uganda except to acquiesce in the wishes forcibly expressed from Downing Street.

The ostensible reason for the action taken was shortage of dollars, but that completely ignored the fact that the sole method of regaining prosperity was the restoration of international trading; it was "typical of the ignorance of trading matters which has become a commonplace in all Government actions in this sphere."

"It ignored the rights of Colonial Governments and peoples and forced them "to finance the follies of Socialism and State Trading." Moreover, it took no account of the friction caused by high-handed and indefensible action, or of the fact that we were passing our dollar shortage in the main to Western European countries with which we were trying to form a strong free trade bloc.

"All the trading activities that had made Liverpool a great port were being exchanged for direction from Whitehall," by people who knew nothing of trade and who had never made a contract as a principal.

As another example, Mr. Higgin said the coffee grower in Uganda had had most of his crop sold for him to the Ministry of Food at £75 a ton, while the price to-day was about £400 a ton.

It was decided to send the resolution to all M.P.s representing Liverpool constituencies.

Uganda Electricity Board

IN ITS FIRST YEAR, which ended on December 31, 1948, the Uganda Electricity Board borrowed £664,112 from the Uganda Government to provide for the payment of the undertakings required from the East African Power and Lighting Co., Ltd., at a cost of £364,212, the construction of new power stations in Kampala and Jinja, preliminary expenses in connection with the hydro-electric scheme at the Owen Falls, and sundry development works. Outstanding commitments at the end of the year are given in the annual report at £2,000,000. The demand for power has continued to rise, and applications already received for new and additional power will absorb the whole of the increased output from the second power station in Kampala. The number of consumers at the end of the year was 3,263, compared with 3,001 six months earlier. A new station in Mbale will shortly be in commission. Since the date of the report contracts have been placed for the great new hydro-electric station at the Owen Falls. The members of the Uganda Electricity Board are Mr. C. R. Westlake (chairman), two Government members, Mr. H. S. Potter and Mr. S. S. Tindall, and three non-official members of the Legislative Council, Mr. C. Handley Bird, Mr. H. R. Fraser, and Mr. A. N. Maini, with Sir John Kennedy as London member acting in a liaison capacity on finance and supply matters.

Coffee Growers Warned

A WARNING that the present high prices for coffee were detrimental to the industry was given by Mr. K. B. MacKenzie, honorary secretary of the Coffee Buyers' Association of London, in a broadcast to East Africa on Sunday. He pointed out that the consumption of coffee per head of the population in Great Britain, which stood at the ridiculously low figure of 12 oz. a year at the outbreak of the war, had doubled during the war period, largely through the presence in this country of American and Continental troops. In order to maintain that level of consumption, and if possible increase it, his association had engaged in a propaganda campaign, directed largely to improving the standard of coffee brewing in hotels, restaurants, and homes. The results had, he said, been strikingly successful, but they might easily be obliterated if coffee prices were too high for a nation of tea-drinkers, who had just had their tea ration increased by 25%. Indeed, if retail prices were raised much above their present levels, consumption would certainly be seriously affected, and many people who have been converted to coffee would give up the beverage.

Acquired by Rhokatan

AN OLD-ESTABLISHED KENYA BUSINESS, the Anglo-Baltic Timber and Hardware Co., Ltd., of Nairobi, recently passed into the possession of the Rhokatan Investment Co., Ltd., and the new board of the Anglo-Baltic Company consists, we understand, of Messrs: A. A. Lawrie, C. Kenneth Archer, R. S. Alexander, A. F. Cade, and D. Finnie. Rhokatan, which has interests in other parts of East Africa and in Rhodesia, has one director, Mr. H. W. Foster, resident in Salisbury, and another, Mr. L. K. Carter, is now on his way to Rhodesia from London on his annual visit. Their colleagues on the board are Messrs. David Finnie, A. E. V. Barton, and G. M. Corbett, Major R. O. R. Kenyon, Capt. Colonel the Hon. R. G. Hamilton-Russell, and Lieut. Colonel J. A. Stirling.

In recent weeks some thousands of gallons of concentrated pyrethrum extract have been flown to London from Kenya by chartered aircraft.

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas)

Mr. Julian Stanley Crossley's Statement

Reserve Fund now £,000,000

TWO MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL BODY, IN OUR STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING, THE BARCLAYS BANK (DOMINION, COLONIAL AND OVERSEAS) will be held at 2, Bartholomew Church Street, London, E.C.4 on Wednesday, December 13, 1939, at 12 noon.

Mr. Julian Stanley Crossley, chairman of the Bank, has circulated the following statement to the stockholders with the annual report and accounts for the year to September 30 last.

Appointments to the Board

Since our last meeting the directors have appointed to the board Mr. R. W. Fox, C.B.E., M.A., and Sir Eric G. Maching, C.B.E., K.C.H., M.A. Mr. Fox's wide business experience and Sir Eric Maching's long and intimate knowledge of Commonwealth affairs will be of great value to the Bank, and I feel sure the stockholders will approve their re-election to the board which we reach for them in the agenda at the annual meeting.

Mr. J. H. Burnes, our deputy chairman, paid a visit to Kenya, Tanganyika, and Mauritius. He has now also returned from the Middle East, where he was able to visit our branches in Israel and Cyprus.

During the year we were glad to welcome again Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, who came on a short visit to England.

Before dealing with the changes in our local boards overseas and other appointments, I particularly wish to mention the impending retirement of our general manager, Mr. A. T. Dudley. Mr. Dudley leaves us this year. I regret to say before the date of the annual meeting after 44 years' banking service. He joined the Colonial Bank in 1895 and has held a number of senior appointments both in home and overseas, including that of local director in New York. He was appointed a general manager in 1925. Mr. Dudley has a wide knowledge of the Bank's business, together with personal experience of many of the territories in which we operate. He will be much missed by his many friends at the Bank overseas and in this country. I know it will take both his warmest good wishes and that you would like him to express your gratitude to him for all his good work.

Mr. R. D. Smith, formerly an assistant general manager, has been appointed a general manager of the Bank.

Overseas Changes

In our overseas local boards and general management there have been several changes. Mr. G. Murray has retired from the South African board, in which he had been a member since 1922. His long service in that capacity, and formerly as one of our senior managers in Africa, has been of great value and we are grateful to him for all he has done for the Bank.

Mr. M. W. J. Bull, formerly a general manager in South Africa, who retired last year, has been appointed a member of the South African board, and we are glad to have the continuing benefit of his extensive knowledge of South African business.

Mr. Herbert J. Stanley, who has been a member of our Cape local board since 1932, has also retired, though like it was the opportunity of thanking him for his services during his term of office.

Mr. R. F. R. Smith, formerly an assistant general manager in South Africa, who has been a member of

our board at the Cape for many years, has retired after a long and devoted service to the Bank. He will be much missed by the many members of South Africa who inside and outside the Bank have benefited from his wisdom in his retirement.

Mr. C. D. Alcock, who was manager of Capricorn Place branch during most of the war, and later became an assistant general manager in South Africa, has been appointed a general manager there, and has succeeded Mr. John de Merwez at the Cape.

For June this year Mr. A. P. S. Clark, our local director in Palestine, retired on pension after 17 years' service. As I mentioned in my statement last year, Mr. Clark has been in Palestine for over 20 years and has a practical knowledge of the territory and its many problems. His wide experience has been of the greatest value to the Bank, and I am pleased to say that he is continuing temporarily in charge as local director.

Our local director in Tel-Aviv, Mr. J. Hackney, who was appointed to that position on his retirement from the management of Tel-Aviv branch three years ago, has retired. During Mr. Hackney's period as local director he has been concerned with many difficult problems, and we are indebted to him for the loyal service he has rendered to the Bank over a very long period and often in most trying conditions.

Mr. R. F. R. Smith, formerly manager of our Capricorn Place branch, has been appointed an assistant general manager of the Bank.

Secretary's Sudden Death

I deeply regret to have to report the sudden death in April last of the secretary of the Bank, Mr. Alan Grove, who had held that office since 1925. His death was a great shock to us all, and many of us have no feeling the loss of a loyal friend as well as a faithful and conscientious colleague. Mr. C. F. S. Pingle, formerly assistant secretary, has been appointed secretary in succession to Mr. Grove.

Stockholders will, I know, be interested to hear that since our last meeting we have expanded our operations in a new territory—British Honduras, the only British Colony in Central America—where we opened a branch in October last. I am pleased to say that the branch appears to have made a satisfactory start.

Before dealing with the balance sheet and profit and loss account, I would like to say a few words about our staff. Conditions both in England and in many countries overseas are still difficult, although steady progress has been made in improving the staff position. Pressure of work is still high, but the staff continue to give an excellent service and their own efficiency is of the highest grade. The question of being accommodated is still a major difficulty in many areas, although during the last 12 months some progress has been made towards improving conditions. Unfortunately, it is a problem which seems likely to remain with us for some time yet. The annual general meeting now will be asked to pass a resolution of appreciation of the work of the staff, and I feel sure that this will be no more formal but a true reflection of our sense of gratitude for all the good work they have done during the past year.

South West African Board

The staff of the Bank now number over 1,000, the increase being 200 since 1937.

has been a year of exceptional activity. This has been reflected in a further small increase in our profits after allowing for increased taxation. I do not think we can assume that this level of activity will be maintained throughout the current year; indeed, owing to restrictions of one kind or another, there has been a sharp reduction in some directions during recent weeks. If this should persist the Bank's earnings might be adversely affected.

"We shall propose to you that the dividend of last year be repeated; as the figures show, it now enjoys the protection of a good margin. We are transferring £200,000 out of profits to the Bank's reserve fund, bringing this up to the figure of £8,000,000, and £150,000 is being applied in writing down the premium on the new capital subscribed for the Development Corporation, which was issued at a premium of 50%.

Development Corporation Increasingly Active

"I am glad to say that the Corporation is becoming increasingly active, and we believe that the foundations for a useful and valuable business are being laid. I feel sure that our stockholders will not expect to see quick results or spectacular profits. We have, as you know, always held the view that results could only be shown over a period of some years. In the meantime, it is satisfactory to know that small profits are being earned. These have been made possible only by keeping running expenses low, and strict attention is paid to this aspect of the matter.

"In my statement last year I referred at some length to the situation in Palestine, and stockholders will doubtless wish to know how the Bank has fared since then in the new State of Israel and in the adjoining Arab territory. As soon as circumstances would permit, we sent to Israel under a senior official a special staff to clear up outstanding matters. A great deal of progress has been made, and there is every reason to believe that the amounts which we set aside against possible loss and to which I referred last year are likely to prove more than adequate. Our branches in Western Jerusalem, Tel-Aviv, and Haifa are again functioning normally, even if their activity has not yet returned to its former level; and the same can be said of our branches in Nablus and Gaza.

"There are, nevertheless, serious difficulties still to be dealt with; among them, the very high cost of living in the State of Israel, in spite of steps that have recently been taken to reduce it, presents a problem not only for the State itself but for everyone in it. The neighbouring Arab States also have pressing problems, both political and economic. It is greatly to be hoped that the conclusion of peace treaties between the Jewish and Arab States will be pressed forward, so that the present atmosphere of suspicion and ill-will may be dissipated and that this part of the Middle East may once again enjoy peace and prosperity.

Balance-Sheet Items

"Turning now to the balance-sheet, the most striking change to be noticed is the sharp reduction shown in our deposits. On the assets side, advances to customers remain at much the same figure as last year, and consequently represent a substantially higher proportion of our resources. They slightly exceed the total of our investments, so that the ratios of these items to our total deposits now stand at 30.88% and 29.02% respectively. Although cash has fallen sharply to 20.27%, the balance-sheet still shows a very liquid position, more especially since under the heading of bills discounted we hold over £42,000,000 of Treasury bills of the British and South African Governments, and British Exchequer bonds maturing early in 1950.

"The investments, which are the second largest item in our assets, stand at £99,832,156, and include for the

first time our shareholding in the National Finance Corporation of South Africa. Although the amount is not large—£75,000—it has a rather special interest for us. The new corporation, which was established in terms of an Act passed by the Union Government, has a capital of £1,000,000, subscribed for by the South African Reserve Bank, the commercial banks, building societies, mining houses, insurance companies, and other financial institutions. It began operations on September 19. Its object is to help to integrate the financial structure of South Africa. Your Bank is represented on the board of the new concern, which is designed to play an important part in the financial life of the community; its progress and development are watched with close interest.

"Having in mind the sharp fall which took place in gilt-edged securities during the year under review, stockholders will wish to know how the Bank has been affected. Although the depreciation in values that we have experienced has been severe, it would undoubtedly have been greater had our investments not been almost entirely confined to those Government securities which have a definite date for redemption, and for the most part to those which are of short or medium term. This policy, which we have been following for some time past, can, I think, be said to have proved its worth under existing conditions. Our investments, amounting to £99,832,156, appear in the balance-sheet at under cost and below market value.

Decline in Deposits

"The shrinkage in our deposits reflected in the current balance-sheet is notable for being the first decline of any importance in this figure to be recorded since this Bank was formed in 1925. The fall in deposits has taken place almost entirely in South Africa, where great changes have occurred during the past 12 months. As an illustration, it is interesting to see that whereas on September 30, 1948, our balance with the South African Reserve Bank stood at over SA£65,000,000, this figure had shrunk 12 months later to SA£23,000,000.

"The great change which has come over the picture in South Africa during the past year has been due to more than one factor. While opinions may differ as to the main cause, it seems to me that the whole matter may be best summed up in simple language by saying that South Africa—like the United Kingdom, and, for that matter, like numerous other countries—has for some time been living beyond her means. The effect of the heavy adverse trade balance is clearly shown not only in the figures of our own Bank but also in the published figures of the South African Reserve Bank, where the reserve ratio on September 9, 1949, fell to 29.1%, the lowest recorded.

Symptoms of Maladjustment

"It is no doubt true that some slowing down in the phenomenal rate of progress of recent years had to come, but the underlying factors governing the situation were for a time obscured by the flow of capital from the United Kingdom, which reached altogether abnormal proportions during the year 1948. When this flood tide eventually receded, the bare facts quickly became exposed, showing unmistakably the need for drastic regulations to control imports. It was inevitable that adoption of these measures should create inconvenience and hardships, but when considering the whole picture we should not allow our view to be obscured by these temporary factors; although at the time they loom large on the horizon, they are in reality symptoms of maladjustment rather than of any fundamental change.

"It is, perhaps, true to say that those who recently took an unduly gloomy view of the picture were doing as much harm as those who, a year or two ago, felt that there was scarcely a limit to the opportunities for expansion and profit.

It is too early yet to say exactly what effect the recent devaluation of sterling and of the South African pound will have on the economy of the respective countries, but in the case of South Africa it must, I think, be admitted that until this change took place the 'terms of trade' were weighted heavily against her; while on the one hand she had to pay greatly increased prices for her imports, she was obliged to dispose of her staple article of export at the old price. The 'terms of trade,' however, have now moved once more in her favour, and, although the dollar price of gold remains unchanged, and restrictions on imports from the U.S.A. may have to be maintained for a time, it seems certain that South Africa should in the near future be able to restore her sterling resources to a figure which will permit of normal imports from the United Kingdom.

"The idea of devaluation is, naturally, repugnant to those who are by training particularly concerned with the fulfilment of obligations and the sanctity of contract; the word itself has an ominous sound. Moreover, the road to salvation is not usually to be found by following the line of least resistance, or through some short cut. There can surely be few people to-day so credulous as to believe that, by this means alone, anything of permanent value will be achieved.

Blow at the Habit of Thrift

"While some may profit, others will lose, but, generally speaking, it is the creditor who suffers. Thus one more blow is struck at the habit of thrift, a habit which has now become so much out of fashion that those who still try to practise this difficult and almost forgotten art are perhaps no longer considered of much account. Nevertheless, the attitude towards such questions is significant, for the prospect of becoming a shiftless, thriftless, predatory society is not a pleasing one for any of us to contemplate. It may well be that this is the fate we shall be laying in store for ourselves if the savings of the people are to be indefinitely penalized by crippling taxation, which not only destroys the urge to build up and progress, but encourages all forms of waste and extravagance.

"It seems to me that, as in the case of other specific remedies for different complaints, the effectiveness of taxation becomes impaired by too much use. As an antidote to inflationary ills it has arrived at, and in fact long passed, the point at which it ceases to be effective. Indeed, the stage has now been reached when it helps to create those very conditions which breed the disease itself. Private extravagance in the individual, moreover, cannot be dissociated from over-spending and wastefulness in public affairs, for the one reacts upon the other, and both lead in the same direction.

Test of a Genuinely Free Market

"But, for good or ill, the step has now been taken, and we cannot believe that devaluation was accepted lightly. Indeed, all the exhortations and speeches on this subject—some of which may at times have been a little bewildering, and even seemed contradictory to a public not versed in these matters—appear to show that the contrary was the case. It may be true that there is sometimes a tendency for the critics themselves to be too dogmatic on the subject of devaluation.

"While great injustice may be done to large sections of the community, this is not necessarily the case, for the old rate of exchange may have given a fictitious value to one currency in terms of other currencies prior to an act of devaluation; so that some corrective may have been overdue. Without the test of a genuinely free market, however, which means the price at which the willing buyer and the willing seller come together, there is no one who can say with certainty what the true figure should be.

"One of the weaknesses inherent in any rigidly controlled economic system is that the structure erected upon it is based upon a number of arbitrary assumptions. For example, there was nothing sacrosanct about the old relationship between the dollar and the pound, which lasted throughout the greater part of the war. Yet this rate was taken as the basis on which our post-war economy was planned. Without the aid of some pressure gauge such as that provided by a free exchange market, the stresses and strains to which the whole fabric of the national economy is subjected cannot be accurately assessed at any given moment. Those in charge of our affairs of State are controlling the mechanism without having in front of them the familiar panels of an instrument board to indicate where the leaks are occurring and where the pressures are too high. Certainly the public at large has very little means of knowing what is really happening.

Devaluation a Measure of Miscalculations

"The failure to apply corrective measures at the right time means that eventually we are brought hard up against reality with a sudden shock. The extent of the recent devaluation is a measure of the miscalculations which have been made. Under a less rigid system the exchange rate would soon have reflected the current trend of affairs, and remedial measures might well have been adopted at an earlier stage. The need for such a drastic readjustment at the last moment might thereby have been avoided.

"To anyone accustomed to orthodox methods it may appear surprising in retrospect to find that the great changes that have come over the scene in recent times, both in the United Kingdom and in South Africa, have not been accompanied by a rise in short-term money rates. These have shown practically no change throughout the whole period. On October 13, however, the South African Reserve Bank raised its official rediscount rate from 3% to 3½%, the rates quoted by the banks in South Africa for commercial loans and advances, and also for fixed deposits, being simultaneously adjusted.

Future of Money Rates

"This particular instrument has been laid by for so long now that there appears to be some reluctance to make use of it again; as with a weapon that has long been rusting in the armoury, one grows to mistrust its efficacy, and even in time to forget how it was once used. It may be true that the element of money rates has to some extent been overshadowed by new factors, which have perhaps reduced the field of its effectiveness; nevertheless, if brought into play at the right time, I believe that it could have exercised a powerful influence, and that in the future it may resume something of its former importance.

"While it is a natural desire on the part of Governments to raise loans from the public on favourable terms, the rate of interest should not be regarded as the sole criterion of success, and the prestige of a Chancellor should rest on a surer foundation.

"Whatever views may still be held about the virtues of a controlled economy, the belief that by this means any country concerned with international trade can insulate itself from external conditions has surely now been shattered beyond repair. While the severity of the upward and downward swings of the trade cycle can be mitigated to some extent, and the curve of business activity may be smoothed out, this does not mean that economic laws can be indefinitely suspended. Eventually these forces make themselves felt; they have, in fact, just done so in unmistakable fashion.

"I believe it to be true, nevertheless, that the effects of devaluation need not all be bad. If we prove resolute enough in confronting the danger of a rising spiral of

costs, some real benefit may be derived, but this will require a degree of discipline not easily achieved; failure to achieve it would mean that we should find ourselves within a short time faced with the very same problem, and perhaps in a more acute form.

Undoubtedly the time has come for us to recapture

that sense of urgency and of the imminence of danger that was present to all of us throughout the war. Although events in the economic field may be less dramatic and are certainly less easy to interpret, their influence is nevertheless real and far-reaching, and may even be of a more lasting character.

Mufulira Copper Mines, Limited

Mr. A. Chester Beatty's Statement

THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MUFULIRA COPPER MINES, LIMITED, will be held in London on December 15.

The following is an abridgment of the statement of the chairman, MR. A. CHESTER BEATTY, dated November 24, 1949, which has been circulated to shareholders:

Copper Price

For some years the pricing basis for the 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 our sales to the Ministry 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, asked the Rhodesian producers to consider 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 of the Year

Production was restricted during two months of the year, due to the fuel position. In spite of this copper production for the year was 70,966 tons of blister, compared with 53,360 tons during the previous year. The cost of production was £54.12s. 2d. (£58 10s. 1d.) per ton of blister copper. This is the first time in 10 years that the upward trend of costs has been reversed. However, the devaluation of the £ has altered the whole outlook and costs will undoubtedly be affected, although it is too early to say by what extent they may increase.

"The ore hoisted was the record of 2,973,935 tons. All of the blister production was sold at an average price of £121.8s. 9d. (£115.8s. 9d.) per ton.

"A provision for replacements has been made this year in the sum of £500,000 (£400,000).

"In the year ending June 30, 1948, a sum of £500,000 was transferred to general reserve as a first instalment towards the eventual cost of the electrolytic refinery, and this year the sum of £550,000 has been transferred to general reserve, which may be regarded as the second instalment.

The board recommend the payment of a dividend of 8s. 6d. per share for the year, of which 3s. 6d. was distributed as an interim dividend in May.

Progress of the Company

These results will, I trust, be as gratifying to shareholders as to those of us who for so long had to watch

Mufulira struggling to overcome the difficulties which beset it in its early years. I have recently been reading some of the reports of the proceedings at the earliest shareholders' meetings of this company and of Rhodesian Selection Trust, Limited. I submit that events have justified the confidence which I always expressed in the Mufulira mine.

"For instance, 20 years ago I described Mufulira as already a very valuable mine and I looked forward to it becoming one of the premier copper mines of the world. Three years later I described Mufulira as ranking as one of the largest high-grade sulphide copper mines ever developed; that it was a remarkable mine with first-class equipment and high-grade ore, and that it should be capable of producing copper on a large scale at a price to compete with the lowest-cost producers in the world.

"With these high expectations of the mine, it was disheartening to watch its ill-fortune, first in reaching the stage of production, in the middle of the depression of the early thirties, and later during the war years when this company was affected so exceptionally by the severity of the excess profits tax.

Mine Conditions

"The diamond drilling for the location of the Peterson shafts has exposed new sections of the ore-bodies, which outline approximately a further 34,400,000 tons of ore at 4% copper, which are not yet included in the published ore reserves.

"The caving methods, which account for an increasingly large proportion of the mill feed, worked well.

"The Peterson shaft programme is proceeding satisfactorily, but until certain parts are completed it is unlikely that, for another year or two, the production rate will be exactly up to the planned maximum production of 285,000 tons of ore per month. For the current financial year the production may be in the neighbourhood of 80,000 tons copper, provided there are no delays due to fuel shortage.

"It will be necessary in the near future to begin the process of augmenting our copper stocks and it is likely therefore that sales for the current financial year will be less than the full production for the year.

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 a conciliation proceedings agreement was reached resulting in an adjustment to some of our Native labour wage scales.

"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 Salaried Staff Association, the Northern Rhodesia Mine Workers' Union, and the companies.

"There is a dispute in existence between the copper mining 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, in which no agreement was reached, and there the matter stands.

General

"The coal position is still not satisfactory. We should receive more coal this year, but it will be necessary to undertake intensive wood-burning.

"The outlook for the copper market still depends largely on the business outlook in the United States. At

present the copper market in the United States is in a sound position.

"The London Metal Exchange has reopened this month for transactions in tin. No indication has been given of the market being reopened for the other base metals, nor has any indication been given of the cessation of bulk buying. I should, however, expect that there would be developments in one or both of these directions during the course of the current financial year, although I am only expressing my own opinion in this matter."

Kentan Gold Areas, Limited

Earl Grey's Review of the Position

Income Now Meets Cash Requirements

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF KENTAN GOLD AREAS LIMITED, was held in the hall of the Chartered Insurance Institute, 20 Aldermanbury, London, E.C.2, yesterday, Wednesday, December 7, 1949.

THE RT. HON. EARL GREY, chairman of the board of directors of the company, had circulated to the shareholders with the annual report and accounts for the year ended June 30, 1949, a statement in the following terms:

Mr. Merritt's Appointment

During the year under review Mr. Weldon, who had already resigned from the post of general manager of the Geita Company, further resigned his chairmanship of the Geita board, and was succeeded by Mr. H. H. Merritt.

No member of the Kentan board has visited East Africa in the past year, but Mr. Merritt has twice passed through London on his way to and from Canada on leave, and the board had the advantage of very full discussions with him.

Mr. J. Coolbaugh, an American consulting metallurgist with an extensive practice in Southern Rhodesia, has been engaged as mill consultant, and has visited Geita twice during the year. On his recommendation Mr. N. W. Stansmore, an experienced mill operator, was engaged as mill superintendent, and he took up his duties in February this year.

Steady Improvement

"Milling operations at the Geita mine showed steady improvement for the year ended June 30, 1949. The increased production has put the company in a position where its income is now sufficient to meet cash requirements, so that no further loans have been necessary since the end of 1948.

"After providing £58,232 for depreciation, as against £50,407 in the previous year, and setting aside £7,267 as provision for premium on redemption of debentures, the loss for the year was £119,218, as against £158,980 for the previous year. The balance of loss at June 30, 1949, amounted to £343,730. Loans from associated companies had risen to £300,000, and unpaid interest was £27,621 in respect of loans and £75,650 in respect of debenture interest.

"Progress report No. 34 dated November 14, 1949, is sent with this report, setting out the milling returns for the months of July, August, and September of this year, from which will be seen the improved results following the rise in the price of gold which took effect on September 19.

Profits Now Being Earned

"Gold produced after the first week in August was sold at the higher figure, and in consequence there was

an operating profit for the August production of £9,431, and for the September production of £14,633. This is an indication of the improved results which can be expected from the company's future operations, although it must be borne in mind that there will be an inevitable increase in the cost of supplies from dollar sources which has not yet made itself felt.

"However, it is safe to say that the current price of gold should enable the company to show profits even on the present scale of operations, and this position should be further improved as the tonnage is increased. The effect will be that the Geita company should be able to pay off its indebtedness and reach the dividend-earning stage more quickly than would otherwise have been the case.

Extensive Modifications to Plant

"Operations have been retarded by breakdowns in the old plant, the overhaul of which was overdue. These are now being rectified, and extensive modifications advised by Mr. Coolbaugh are being incorporated in the mill layout. Every effort is being made to raise production to the 1,000 tons a day basis, which can only be done gradually as the modifications are completed during the next year.

"As the tonnage treated increases, it should be possible to effect a substantial reduction in costs. A local condition which should in future contribute much to the lowering of mining costs at Geita mine is the opening up this year of wider-ore zones which are amenable to cheap sub-level stoping methods. Wider ore-bodies are also being developed at Ridge 8 mine. This is an important feature in considering future mining costs.

Encouraging Ore Development

"Ore developments this year have been most encouraging. At Geita a wide ore-body of better than mine average grade has been partially developed, enabling reserves to be substantially increased, and a considerable additional tonnage is indicated.

"At Ridge 8 mine also the new fifth level in the sulphide zone has shown encouraging ore widths and values. Mr. Merritt states that while development has not been carried far enough to show more than a small portion of this ore in reserves this year, it has gone far enough to convince him that a major extension to the Ridge 8 ore-body is indicated.

"I would like to congratulate Mr. Merritt and the Geita staff on the improvement in operations which has been effected, and to wish them success in the efforts which they are making to improve still further the Geita Company's position."

With regard to Ufuwira Minerals, Limited, in which your company holds 137,502 shares of the issued capital of 4,000,000 shares of 5s. each, the programme of work outlined in the chairman's speech at the annual general meeting of the Uruwira Company in November, 1948, is being proceeded with, but no results have so far been published. Further information should be available in the annual report of the Uruwira Company.

Company Registrations in S. Rhodesia

AMONG NEW COMPANIES REGISTERED in Southern Rhodesia recently are the following: Chikurubi Estates, Ltd., Salisbury, tobacco planters, farmers, and ranchers (nominal capital £100,000); Eland Estates, Ltd., Salisbury, tobacco planters, farmers, and ranchers (£50,000); Weston Park Estates, Ltd., Salisbury, farmers (£50,000); Clifton Estates, Ltd., Salisbury, farmers and ranchers (£30,000); G. B. P. Tunmer & Son, Ltd., Gwelo, financial and insurance agents (£30,000); I. Pelham, Ltd., Salisbury, furniture dealers (£30,000); Gilbert's Distilleries, Ltd., Salisbury (£25,000); Rhodesian Caterers, Ltd., Salisbury, hotelkeepers (£20,000); Chinomwe Estates, Ltd., Salisbury, farmers (£20,000); Wilson-Fox Estates, Ltd., Salisbury, farmers and ranchers (£20,000); Gilchrist Enterprises, Ltd., Bulawayo, general dealers and auctioneers (£15,000); Lindmill, Ltd., Bulawayo, farmers and ranchers (£15,000); Trees' Asbestos Mining Co., Ltd., Bulawayo, miners (£10,000); George Shearer and Co., Ltd., Salisbury, builders and contractors (£10,000); Lines Brothers, Ltd., Salisbury, stationers, lithographers and publishers (£10,000); H. D. Milne, Ltd., Umtali, chemists and druggists (£10,000); Webblow, Ltd., Bulawayo, dealers in land and building (£10,000); and D. H. Clarke and Partners, Ltd., Salisbury, building, civil, mechanical and electrical contractors (£10,000).

Mini Mini (Nyasaland) Tea Syndicate, Limited

Mr. J. A. Loram's Review

THE TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MINI MINI (NYASALAND) TEA SYNDICATE, LIMITED, was held on December 1 in London.

J. A. LORAM, the chairman of the company, presided.

The following is his review for the year to June 30, 1949, as circulated to the shareholders with the balance sheet and accounts:—

"It is satisfactory to be able to report that in spite of an exceptionally severe drought during the season, with a total rainfall 34 inches below that of 1947-48, the crop at 614,613 lb. shows an increase of 11,258 lb. compared to the season 1947-48.

"In the circumstances I do not think the shareholders will be surprised to know that the agricultural condition of the estate is well reported on. The fertilizer position has improved since I last addressed you—so much so that your directors have sanctioned an application for 1949-50 of a mixture giving some 60 lb. of nitrogen per acre in the mature fields, compared with about 30 lb. during the year under review.

Development Prospects

With regard to development, during the season 1949-50 a further 10 acres will be planted in tea, and with the prospect of improved labour it is hoped to increase new planting during the next few years thereafter to a rate of 30 acres per annum.

"I am satisfied that every effort has been made by our manager to supplement the Government supplies of foodstuffs by growing maize and other foodstuffs on the estate. In addition, we have undertaken to support financially the co-operative scheme foreshadowed in my last review. At the present time foodstuffs are in sufficient supply, but difficulty may yet be experienced later in the year.

"Buildings and machinery are reported on as in good order and well maintained.

"Excellent progress has been made in constructing new permanent huts and in maintaining those already built. Ten new brick huts with asbestos-cement roofs were completed during the season.

"Once again the whole of the company's tea crop was sold to the Ministry of Food. The existing contract expires at the end of December, and no decision has yet been reached with regard to the 1950 crop.

Another Satisfactory Year's Trading

"The accounts reflect another satisfactory year's trading, with the net profit for the year of £27,968 being only slightly less than that for the previous year, when £28,569 was earned. The directors recommend the same final dividend of 22%, payable less income tax at 9s. in £, and have placed the further sums of £7,000 and £3,000 respectively to general reserve and dividend equalization reserve.

"Taxation has been provided for in full on the profits to date. With ever rising costs both for current estate working and the replacement of capital equipment, it is vital that the company continues to strengthen its liquid position.

"I cannot let this occasion pass without expressing our thanks and appreciation for another successful season's work to our estate manager, Mr. Hardwick, and his staff, to the visiting agent, Mr. Snell, and to our local agents, all of whom have contributed to the satisfactory result I have dealt with above.

The report was adopted.

The proceedings terminated with a cordial vote of thanks to the staff at home and abroad and to the agent.

**CAMPBELL BROS.,
CARTER & CO.
(CENTRAL AFRICA),
LTD.**

HEAD OFFICE:
*Cocoa House, Kitwe,
Northern Rhodesia*

**MERCHANTS,
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AND
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Campbell Bros., Carter & Co., Ltd.
14/20, King William Street, E.C.4.

Mining

Mashaba Rhodesian Asbestos

Option on Honeybird Claims

THE MASHABA RHODESIAN ASBESTOS CO., LTD., have notified shareholders that, subject to the approval of an extraordinary general meeting, an option over the company's Honeybird claims, situated some 40 miles from Mashaba, is to be granted to the Oceana Consolidated Co., Ltd., for five years for the sum of £50,000, which may be taken by the Mashaba Company in cash or in Oceana shares at par. Oceana undertake to spend on exploratory work not less than £10,000 plus the net proceeds of the sale of asbestos property from the property, and to keep Mashaba closely advised of all that is done.

The declared policy of the Mashaba Company has been to concentrate attention on its Murie property, which is stated to be developing very satisfactorily. In the opinion of the directors, it "will absorb the energies of every suitable person whose services can be secured by the company for years to come." Experts consider it the best property owned by the company, and the board are therefore unwilling to have the attention of their staff diverted from it.

The Honeybird property is also considered a good one by experts, but the Mashaba Company, having owned it for 13 years without being able to develop it, feel that the time has come to turn it to account. The directors therefore recommend the shareholders to accept the proposals received from Oceana Consolidated.

Mashaba owns two other properties in the vicinity of the Murie mine, namely the D.S.O. and Rosey Cross claims.

In addition to the option to take the purchase price in Oceana shares at par if the option should be exercised, Mashaba will have the additional right to subscribe at par for a further £50,000 worth of Oceana shares.

If the option should not be exercised, Oceana will pay to the Mashaba Company any unexpended balance of the £10,000.

Rock Secretariat, Ltd., are secretaries to both companies, and Oceana stockholders are asked to approve the extension to March 31, 1955, of the option given to them to subscribe at par for up to 500,000 of the company's shares; at present the option period extends to the end of 1950.

Company Progress Reports

Thistle-Etna.—November: 506 oz. recovered from 5,200 tons of ore. Estimated operating profit before depreciation, £745.

Rhodesia Broken Hill.—Output for November, in long tons: zinc, 1,890; lead, 1,125; fused vanadium (91.80% V2O5), 14.

Matapa.—19,500 tons milled in November yielded 2,368 oz. gold, and a mine profit of £10,526 (October, £11,125).

Kentani.—2,767 oz. gold were produced at the Geita mine in November from the crushing of 13,981 tons of ore.

Wankie Colliery.—Coal sales in November totalled 154,027 tons, and coke sales 8,573 tons.

Star Explorations

STAR EXPLORATIONS, LTD., announce that they do not intend to pay a dividend for the year ended October 31. Last year and in 1947 dividends of 2½%, less tax, were paid, but no dividend was paid from 1937 to 1946. Profit for the year was £100 (£4,040).

News of Our Advertisers

MR. E. C. WOODALL has joined the board of the Ford Motor Co., Ltd.

THE AUSTIN MOTOR CO., LTD., report that profits have amounted to £2,232,674, an increase of £579,047. Total production, 126,685 vehicles, was 48% higher than in the previous year.

THOMAS FRITH AND JOHN BROWN, LTD., are to pay an interim dividend of 2½% tax free for the year to March 31, next. For the previous period of 15 months an interim dividend of 2½% was followed by a final payment of 10% tax free. Lord Abercromby is chairman.

Trading profit of ELECTRIC AND MUSICAL INDUSTRIES, LTD., together with subsidiaries in this country and British overseas territories, totalled £1,040,418 for the year ended June 30, including £150,000 relating to previous periods. Net profit was £346,720 (£498,192), and the annual dividend is 8%.

MR. H. R. GOUGH has resigned the chairmanship of the British American Tobacco Co., Ltd., but has accepted the office of president. MR. T. F. WINMILL is the new chairman, and MR. D. M. OFFENHEIMER has been elected vice-chairman, whilst resigning the office of solicitor to the company. MR. A. D. MCCORMICK has been appointed secretary of the company, in place of MR. E. G. LANFORD.

Uruwira Minerals, Limited

URUWIRA MINERALS, LTD., incurred a total expenditure of £221,179 for the year ended March 31 last, compared with £166,178 in the previous year. After depreciation interest, fees and rents, £19,228 is transferred to development account.

The issued capital is £1,000,000 in shares of 5s. each, share premium account stands at £372,500, and current liabilities at £352,360. Fixed assets are valued at £843,276 and current assets at £779,605, including £356,394 in cash.

Development at Mukwambwa mine during the year amounted to 1,291 metres. The directors consider that it is amongst the best interests of the company to publish individual reports on the best present indications are that the lead values sampled about the present indications are that the lead values may be lower and the copper, silver, and gold values higher than was expected. Diamond drilling totalled 5,256 metres. The main vertical shaft is now down to 398 metres.

An airstrip licensed for aircraft up to 28,000 lbs. weight is completed. The construction of the branch railway to Mpanda is progressing, and it is expected to reach Mpanda station site in May or June next; it was opened to traffic as far as the Ugalla River station last August.

The directors are Mr. L. S. Weldor (chairman), Mr. J. R. Desmarais, Mr. J. de La Vallée Poussin, Mr. L. M. Koenig, Mr. E. Asselberghs, Mr. J. R. Leslie, and Mr. R. Brasseur.

The 14th annual general meeting was held yesterday in Mpanda, Tanganyika.

Coal from Wankie

BY JULY NEXT it is hoped that Rhodesia Railways and the Wankie colliery will be able to deal with practically all coal requirements, certainly all those of Southern Rhodesia. This forecast has been made by Major A. J. Darby, general manager of the colliery company, which is installing new equipment costing more than £2,000,000. The output is now 10,000 tons a month more than the railways can carry, having risen from 154,000 tons in January to 172,000 tons in August. By July of next year it is expected to reach 200,000 tons.

Copper Price

THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY, which bought the January copper production of the Mafurira Company on the basis of a New York price of 17.25 cents per lb. for electrolytic, has agreed to pay 18.50 cents for the February output. That is equivalent to £148 a ton, the current quotation in New York.



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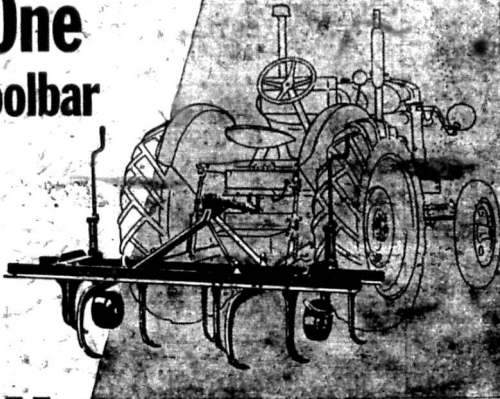
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Telegrams: Sametters, Rand, London. Cables: Sametters, London



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
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