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Thursday, December 23, 1948

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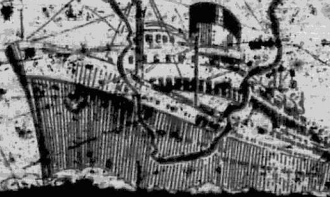
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PRINCIPAL CONTENTS

Christmas Fare

Pages 472-482

Secretary for
Groundnut Scheme
Personally

Page
486
Of Commercial Concerns 495
Latest Mining News 496
Company Meetings 497-500

Christmas Fare

No Just Cause or Impediment

Being a transcription made from the telephone recording of a spontaneous debate between Mr. Stewart and Mr. Lloyd held at Broadstairs House in November, 1951.

STEWART.—Well, Lloyd, it is indeed a happy coincidence that we should meet again in front of the mike just when it is turned towards Rhodesia. What brings you to London this time?

LLOYD.—Always pleased to see you, Stewart, in whatever company. I'm here to see the Whitehall authorities about that Brigade of Guards we have with us. My mission is semi-official, and I don't mind telling you in strict confidence that I have behind me everyone that matters in the Dominion.

STEWART.—I can understand that, but do tell me how you came by that Brigade of Guards out there.

LLOYD.—Very well, but I shall have to go back a bit, because you newspaper men have to be very thorough. You may remember that there was some difference of opinion between the people of the two Rhodesias as to whether they should send Whitehall about the suggested unification of the territories.

STEWART.—The Rhodesians wanted to marry and Whitehall forbade the match. That was a horrible loss, wasn't it?

LLOYD.—That's about it. Well, when the people out here found that Whitehall was obstinate they just went ahead and amalgamated.

STEWART.—A kind of Boston Tea Party?

LLOYD.—Certainly not! A most improper observation! Nevertheless, the duly elected representatives in both territories held formal sessions and each legislative body passed a resolution, with more than a two-thirds majority, in favour of unification. Then they held a joint session of the combined assembly, affirmed these resolutions, sang God Save the King and carried on. The first act of the new Federal Parliament was to pass, with acclamation, a resolution of loyalty to the Crown, Commonwealth and Empire.

STEWART.—For my own part, I'll be glad to see you, but will you tell me about the reaction in Whitehall.

LLOYD.—Oh, they were snuffy, of course, decidedly snuffy. Threatened sanctions. Said they would stop buying tobacco from the south and coffee from the north and all that sort of thing. But such a hullabaloo arose from the consumers in the United Kingdom that that idea was very quickly dropped. Then they talked about cutting our dollar allocation, but that was taken to get beyond the monetary stage. After all Rhodesia produces gold, chrome, and other dollar earners.

STEWART.—My, my! It's a brave job for the moment and keep our economies. Ever life is left to the disintegrators with economics. My question was about that Brigade of Guards. How did you manage to get them?

LLOYD.—Well, what Whitehall found that all that, but about sanctions would not work, and that their legal arguments would not hold water.

STEWART.—Just a minute! What about the legal argument?

LLOYD.—It's you who are now stalling me, aren't you, going on the Guards. Whitehall said in effect: "All you are not a Dominion, you are no right to cut the master. To that our learned legal advisers

replied in theocratic manner: (a) please define "Dominion" after which we will discuss the application of the word to us; (b) the painter has not been cut; and at our end anyway, is never likely to be.

And as everyone has probably stopped listening by now, I might tell you, Stewart, that not all Whitehall was, or is, smug with us. In fact, you might say that we have our fifth column even there.

STEWART.—That's interesting.

LOYD.—Just so. During one of the most momentous conferences over here, at which our request for investigation was turned down, as usual, one very important Personage winked. That infiltration of the eyes, was not recorded, in the minutes, though it was more important than anything that was. It was presumably seen only on our side of the table.

STEWART.—Now, let's have another try to get to the Guard's Brigade.

LOYD.—Right! Well, as talking led nowhere, Whitehall took action. They sent a punitive expedition.

STEWART.—Invaded the country?

LOYD.—A most successful campaign too. There was a Brigade of Guards that had just finished idling up things in Malaya, and it was felt that a short spell in the mild and temperate highlands of Rhodesia would be just the thing to put the men in good fettle before returning to the fogs of the Old Country.

But difficulties arose. The Union of South Africa were a bit sticky about allowing the force to use their ports and railways for such a purpose. They are always our very good friends. The Minister of Communications in Rhodesia, a great sportsman, offered his services to Whitehall as mediator, but Whitehall had dropped the idea before any formal application was made. Then the Rhodesians called, suggesting that the expedition should come via Beira, pointing out that they had a long-standing agreement with the Mozambique Government, which made that possible. At the same time, on their hands, they said, and so the deal with Beira, they were sure one or two (these) authorities would be helpful.

The hospitality committees.

STEWART.—Wait a bit. It's my turn. You've turned over two pages.

LOYD.—Sorry, Go ahead.

STEWART.—Now, I've been through that Beira system myself. One heads over one's rifle, shot gun, ammunition and so forth to the port and then they at Beira, and see a receipt for the firearms, and one. These heavy things are then put in a train, and one is required to accompany the train, and the

train in Rhodesia everything is returned through the Rhodesian Customs.

LOYD.—That's it, and it is just what was done with the Brigade. The hospitality committees met the trains with tea and cakes, and the loudspeakers played patriotic airs during the customs formalities. The stations were beautifully decorated.

STEWART.—Wasn't there a guard of honour — Rhodesia Regiment or B.S.A.P.?

LOYD.—No. Only the mayor and town clerk in their regalia and the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides. It was thought tactful to avoid any display of force while the expedition was still without weapons.

STEWART.—That was certainly in good taste.

LOYD.—The real snag was accommodation, for the Guards had brought only little single tents.

STEWART.—Not like the War Office that. But I still don't see why the Brigade was not landed at north somewhere, in one of the Tanganyika ports, or Mombasa. There's that new holiday resort near Mikindani and several on the coast of Kenya.

LOYD.—Officially, because that would have meant more troops on the men, unofficially, because the Overseas Food Corporation let it be known that they did not want hundreds of men tramping over their sunflowers and groundnuts.

STEWART.—That seems to throw a new light on this railway, they are building from Mombasa to Broken Hill.

LOYD.—Yes, but keep that to yourself.

STEWART.—Quite. Well, how did you tackle the housing difficulty?

LOYD.—The P.W.D. had the great beam-ways. But while they were roofing in Zimbabwe — with asbestos sheets over girders from the One Que steelworks, you know — the accommodation committees had to travel. Police, camps, drill halls, private houses, farms and mines, all had their staff, and every office, and other things was put up. Then when Zimbabwe was fixed up, and electricity and water laid on, the military objection to dispersal was overcome. Curious wasn't it that the Acropolis should be back to its original purpose? But with modern embellishments — machine-gun hideouts all the way up and a radar mast on top.

STEWART.—And how would you get them out in the event, most unlikely I suppose, of your wishing to?

LOYD.—Turn the water off.

STEWART.—What about amusements for the troops — keeping up morale and all that?

LOYD.—At first the men seemed to want a complete rest, so there were lectures, quite voluntary, of course, on soil erosion, rotation of

crops, prospecting, and so forth. Llew, Hevan was great on typanosemiasis; nearly brought the comical tower down. Then, when the first signs of boredom appeared, the sports committees came out with their programmes. We have never had such a boom in sports. You can imagine the infinite variety of first-class matches — Welsh Guards v. Wankie Grenadiers v. Gaborone Coldstreamers v. Coppabell Lance Corporals v. Lusaka, and so on.

STEWART.—Lovely alternative headlines for the sports editors.

LOYD.—Cricket, football, tennis, golf, boxing, swimming, the possibilities are infinite. And it has done out young fellows a lot of good. Colonel Capell, who is in charge of the shooting sub-committee, has as steady an eye for a serving snipe as he had forty years ago and Mr. Justice Thomas, who is bossing up the Rugby games, sticks it up and down the sidelines with all the old Varsity verve and velocity.

STEWART.—I know your Rhodesian hospitality. No doubt everyone is having a fine time. I wonder the Guardsmen want to get back to their wives and families?

LOYD.—The wives and children have been ticking in ever since the Brigade arrived. Some had arrived by air in time to greet their menfolk. Besides, a number of the men were too young to be married when they left the Old Country. I've had to query the ages of some, when they applied to be put on the voters' roll. Of course, they are all registered now, so we shall have to give the Victoria District another Member of Parliament before the next election.

STEWART.—If everything in the garden is so satisfactory, why have you had to come over?

LOYD.—Obviously it's just a case of bother with Whitehall about uniforms and bearings. You know these lovely great bushy addresses. We want their hands to be properly dressed when they play Mosses Functions and in the parks. But the War Office won't send out their full dress; wants them to get ahead with the subjugation of the country.

We point out that the territory is entirely subjugated. The Brigade is in undisputed occupation and excellent health. For reasons which do fit nothing but credit, the expedition staff feels that band uniforms and extra instruments should be shipped. It's a way of returning hospitality, specially for the Christmas season. Of course, both parties are very anxious not to get Whitehall's back up. Officially, that's why I am over here.

STEWART.—The better, that, could be chosen for such a delicate mission. I imagine. But you say — ostensibly

and officials. "What is the low-down on that?"

LLOYD: — Ultra-secret and confidential, my dear fellow. I can give you only a mere hint. If you spot it, will you give me your word as a journalist to keep it strictly under your hat?

STEWART: — Cross my heart and spit on my fezzain, pee...

LLOYD: — But it can be only a clue. Mind, I'm saying nothing

definite. Do you know that children's game called Nuts and May?

STEWART: — Oh yes. Two lines of kids hold hands and face one another. One line advances and retires singing: "Here we come gathering nuts and may nuts and may nuts and may."

LLOYD: — That's it. I did not know you could sing like that, Stewart. Well, in Rhodesia, now, when the children get as far as

"Who will you send to take them away, take them away, take them away, the other line answers. We'll send a division to take them away, take them away. We'll send a division to take them away on a cold and frosty morning. Just think that out, Stewart."

STEWART: — You mean that you are trying to cook another expedition? But there goes the red light.

F. M. G. S.

Income Tax Amendment

MAC TAVISH is not the first Kenyan settler to complain that the community is far too individualistic to take any interest in other people's schemes. He is disappointed that no leader of public opinion has given enthusiastic support to his proposed Income Tax Amendment (Exemption for Holiday Makers) Ordinance. This apathy, coming on top of four months in this country during which he was scarcely exempt from a pain in the pocket, perhaps the most sensitive part of the man—sorely afflicted his spirit.

His case was based on the fact that Government showed clearly by the conditions of service granted to their officials that they believed it to be highly beneficial for the Europeans of the Colony to go to a temperate climate every few years. It must be admitted that Mac Tavish had strenuously opposed that view whenever Mrs. Mac had pressed it in the past. Any man who took his family to England, he argued, was therefore really assisting the Government indirectly, since improved health would result in higher production of more efficient work by its members, when they returned. Moreover, he would also be contributing his mite to Britain's financial recovery by spending money in the Mother Country. How, then, he asked, could the Government of Kenya recognize these sacrifices made by families men than by exempting them from income tax for the year following their return to Kenya?

The holiday had been a saddening and exasperating experience for Mac Tavish. It was not so much the large sums demanded for passages, hotel accommodation and the like, but the never ending demands for small sums. One day, in particular, stuck in his hand.

An afternoon trip in a motor launch was to be made from a resort near where the Mac Tavish family were staying. They had walked over in the morning, with the sandwiches which the hotel had provided in lieu of lunch. Mac, his wife and six-year-old Annie sat down on chairs on the front of the launch. At

last the collector came round for the money, taking a shilling from him ("Mon, think o' a chairful"), giving him three tickets.

After their frugal meal, there was still at least an hour before the boat left, so Mac decided to take his full fourpennyworth by dozing comfortably in the chair until it was time to go. He even stopped Annie from playing on the sands so that she should have her full fourpennyworth too.

Not long before it was time to embark the man returned, punched three more tickets, and demanded another shilling. Producing those he had been given in the morning, Mac protested that he had paid. Whereupon the man with a broad smile—as if he were granting a good joke which Mac would be the first to appreciate—explained that the chairs were hired for three sessions during the day at four pence a session. It was now the afternoon session, and Mac must pay again.

There was not so great an altercation as might have been expected, for it was getting late and the boat tickets had already been bought. Still, it was perhaps unnecessary for Mrs. Mac to remark that she had thought at the time that it would have been wiser to let Annie play on the sands.

Because of their late arrival at the quay, there was no time for an adequate protest against an embarrassing charge of fivepence a head. But when they arrived at their destination for tea, he found himself confronted by a tall little man with large glasses and a walrus moustache who demanded threepence each as a landing fee, he fairly let himself go.

His wife, feeling that his argument was not to the taste of Annie, took the child aside out of the queue and pretended an absorbing interest in a very ordinary boat which was moored alongside. Meanwhile Mac held forth with increasing heat in spite of the intrusiveness of the policeman, and the more he talked and

colourful remarks of the people in the queue behind. Finally, swearing vengeance, he banged down nine pence on the table and strode away to recover his equanimity. Two small boys behind him, grasping their opportunity, pocketed their three pence hastily and followed Mr. Mac Tavish.

A man had now entered the launch boat and was baiting lobster pots, so it was with difficulty that Mrs. Mac Tavish removed her daughter from the quayside. All the rest of the passengers had passed through the turnstiles and Mac was just returning to find out what had happened to his family. He arrived breathless and furious just in time to see his wife pay the iniquitous charge a second time.

"Now hold your tongue," she said severely, "and mind to owe me sixpence."

Anyone who is interested in Mac Tavish's scheme should write to him, taking care to enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

CRACKERS

That Parliamentary delegation to Kenya did not leave a very good impression, B. Hand.

Ex-airmen in Southern Rhodesia who have adopted the military as a career object to be described as ex-R.A.F.

Special efforts were made by the Sudan police when keeping order at political meetings not to show favour to the Savyed rather than the other.

Sir Reginald Robins has urged that restriction as a means of relieving congestion at East African ports. In fact he advocated berth control.

Though the Secretary of State for the Colonies agreed to the sale of the output of the Williamson diamond mine in Tanganyika through the Diamond Corporation Ltd. there is still a hitch in the arrangement that he has been heard saying "De Beers De Beers, diamonds De Beers."

Fauna and the High Commission

A Tale of Many Problems

THIS IS A STORY with a moral, so the one will expect it to be true.

The Secretary of State, worried by a Parliamentary question as to whether the fauna of East Africa wished to be inter-territorialized and as to the steps taken to ascertain their views, had, of course, passed the query to the East Africa High Commission.

The Executive members agreed that the first question should receive the obvious answer that "the fauna are game if you are," but that was not so easy to explain, how this opinion had been ascertained.

How could a dispatch record that the question had been popped in a moment of levity by a member who shall be nameless; that his colleagues said it might not be a bad joke; that they had bandied witty retorts while drinking the coffee for which they had adjourned; that nothing better emerged than "the fauna are game if you are," and that then, and only then, did the rest of the debaters realize that the mental exercise had sprung from a question in the House?

But it was clearly necessary to describe the methods of elucidation for the High Commission were understood that the Minister and his officials in Whitehall submitted adequate evidence against the back-benders, not to mention the facile, or Fabian, or inter-territorial, or inquisitiveness of the inquirer who had put the question.

Initially it is, of course, on top of the High Commission, where the appropriate adviser thought that Odondo might help. Now Odondo is an African who had made a name for himself by selling protective skins against attack by wild beasts. He was popularly supposed to be able to talk discourse with the animals in the bush and to have some power of control over them.

His history was interesting. He had started by selling the charms cheaply to men who were most unlikely to run into any kind of danger. Then, banking on a continuance of good luck, he had gone boldly into markets in which other entrepreneurs were to be met by disaster and was seen to have made a fortune. His own riches were not so great as Odondo's, and he promptly collaborated with the latter, and ultimately dropped out of the picture, but he had a strong opinion that wild animals would

would attribute the unfortunate man's death to the fact that he had carelessly left the charms at home. In quite a short time he had made enough money to retire, and had taken employment as a clerk in a Government office for the enhancement of his prestige.

But as Odondo could not see any benefit to himself in the proposed affair, whereas there might be some fairly repercussions, he respectfully declined the invitation to collaborate with the *Serkali*. Explaining that he was deeply chagrined to have to disappoint himself and his honoured masters by reason of an age-old question of this type, which condemned him to a life of arduous anti-sterilization work at the most inhospitable season. The cause specified had something to do with the poor maize crop after his wife's younger sister's second child had seen a snake on the morning of the day on which his father had heard the honeyeater call thrice from the east.

But by him is indispensable, the aid of Odondo was not available, one report had to be made without him, and quite a plausible report was produced.

The dispatch, or, to be precise, the interim dispatch, sent to Church House, Westminster, asserted that the majority of the animals approved of inter-territorial administration in principle, but that there were several reservations. All the carnivorous beasts, for example, made a distinction on the maintenance of a bald policy of unrestricted private enterprise, while the others stipulated that strictly supervised system of meat rationing should be introduced. The dispatch concluded with the stereotyped paragraph urging better facilities for the dissemination of information and for exchange visits of delegation between the territories.

These closing words of narrative have never caused more trouble than all the earlier paragraphs or three. Precedent was to be repeated, for this last point was seized upon by a bright young man in the secretariat, who had been advised by a more senior friend to look out for opportunities of supplementing schemes in connexion with any idea which was occupying the mind of Government at the moment. That he had been told was the short cut to promotion. He hadly wanted promotion and the best he felt was a chance in a thousand. So he drafted a three-page argument that the inter-territorial system should be arranged for home.

The Serengetti lions were a national asset; they were admirably behaved, and added large sums to the revenue through the tourist traffic they attracted. In Uganda, on the other hand, less well behaved lions were known to be consuming large numbers of taxpayers and potential taxpayers, and they were assumed to be responsible for the disappearance of one or two tax collectors—minor tax collectors, admittedly, but still of the status of officers of Government. Moreover, good Government money had to be spent on their (lions') destruction. In the circumstances it appeared reasonable to propose the visit of a delegation of Uganda lions to the Serengetti in the confident expectation that they would become models of decorum, and, as a later remove, perhaps bring prosperity to Uganda by attracting tourists who were tired of the accumulation of the plains nearer Arusha.

There was an early obstacle to progress. Ebena did not appear in the index to the atlas in the possession of the High Commission, and none of the senior members consulted had ever been near the place or knew of the alleged man-eating episode. Fortunately the card index for the territories minor showed two revealing entries. One was noted as "Abandoned," said by local gossip to have become a were lion. Of another, also previously omitted to Uganda, the file testified that he had disappeared with Government funds. No trace of any money, but the human animal that bears him a bush were those of this man who had been eaten by a lion.

That means of corroborative made all the difference to Serengetti. Fluffelthwaite's personal evidence was well informed young man thought Highest Authority. This is the age of youth and he shall have his chance.

So the plan was authorized.

Algy was told to get cracking on condition that he asked for no funds. Though he might cause any help from the territories Government which could be obtained by charm, bluff or gentle bullying, but he was to take care that nothing about aid or refusal of aid got committed to paper.

Now Algy had been in the same R.A.F. squadron as a sporting officer of the Game Department merely for the fun of hearing the yarns about lions. This he considered a great

while from was Bertie's chance to do his stuff. And he did it from being himself secondarily to this— which was by now being described as the Secretary of State's official bit of foreign research. In less time than the time wallahs had taken to find the index cards, Bertie had trapped his first brace of miscreants, and, when others had been added, arranged for them to be sent in cages to a well-known spot on the Serengeti. There they were placed in plain sight of the local pride. In order that they (the country cousins) might earn their education by watching the daily parade of lionsists. Gradually they were moved nearer, until at last they could talk freely with their lion.

Should in fairness be proposed that the head of the Game Department was furious when, on returning from leave, he found, of those antics, as he called them, the formally recorded this disapproval of the experiment, but—as it had been warmly welcomed by the Inter-territorial Language Committee as contributing to their study of gutturals, and as two peers and four Fabians were known to take a keen interest in the committee, it naturally won the day.

"What is the matter with you?" asked a lion from Upeua one day with an exceptionally large group of American tourists from Nairobi. "I had done their turn in the usual way. I have never seen before striped caracaras (then) those which I hunted around to-day. That man in the broad hat, striped trousers and big boots, for example. How you folk could keep your paws on him I can't think."

But surely one does not treat these humans, he said a Serengeti local with shocked surprise. "I was told by my father, and so were the rest of us, that they are not fit for human consumption. Besides, I've heard that there is a Government order for something about them."

Anyhow, I had a friend who tried a man from Abyssinia once, and he told me that, when all the gitting out the spectacles, tampons, fish and whatnot, it was really a case with the trouble. And don't forget that they had a confidant in a crowd who is mighty good in protecting American interests. It's true of Frenchmen and Belgians and Portuguese also, you know. How could we be sure of eating only an Englishman?"

"Well," retorted the visitor from Upeua, "I'll never get out of this cage you just want me. I'll do something so good that your English cougar will see what what you called him?—why I've tried to swab his skin and what should have been the best of my sample became a muffed one."

Whereat the young Serengeti lions looked at him impressed.

They (who shed his material things with graceworthy aplomb) busily enjoyed their picnic, but each day found them less and less enamoured of the idea to which they were committed. Yet there seemed no way out. For a moment was the only policy, in the hope that something would turn up.

They blamed it for quite a time, until at last there came from what are known in the Civil Service as high levels, the unmistakably firm indication that the Upeua lions had had superabundant time to learn department and recognize the material benefits of posing for snapshots, films and the admiration of visitors. That was the preamble to a peremptory order that on the following morning the cages were to be opened.

When the Upeua lions therefore found themselves at liberty, they strolled over to see the local residents.

"Listen!" said the leader, stretching himself with satisfaction after his long confinement. "When we last busy, take your time from me. We'll wait until all to-day's affairs are out of their ears, before we give chase."

"I'll rest as the starting signal. Wait for it."

And he stalked himself away to reposit himself beneath a tree.

But when a group of shiny American cars arrived, the Serengeti lions, leaving their chests shining, then charged in these animals as such as the first occupants had alighted.

This is then a reminder that still communications corrupt good intentions, sadly shocked Algy, who realized simultaneously that Bertie was using his title and had put paid to them, was already, for he did not bit *prone*, which meant that in a couple of minutes most of the pride had been shot.

That, of course, meant a frightful row with the Administration and the Game Department. There was another row, because tourists no longer went to the Serengeti. And the worst row of all was that it was the man in the High Commission who had backed the scheme with zeal.

To cap it all, Algy was instructed for the future guidance of officials of the High Commission, to desire the weak masses of the plan and discard the moral. "That task is in hand, or will be exact, under active consideration."

The End of the Races Triumph of Alsoran

AT THE FIRST MEETING since the amalgamation of the two chief anti-racial and anti-national societies under the title of the Anti-racial League and Society for the Obiteration of Racism and Nationalism, which was held at one of the new offices in Farelly Court, the president, PROFESSOR HATSON BELLEBY, felt it a great honour to assist in sowing the seed of what was destined to be a movement of world-shaking importance.

The main trouble in the world to-day was due either to racial or national conflicts. It was obvious that if any progress was to be made, the cause of such conflicts must be destroyed and the most effective way of doing that would be to erase from the tongue all racial and national adjectives so that it would be impossible to utter a race or national name, etc. These adjectives, he felt, were the root of the trouble being so frequently coupled with others denoting either insufficient abolition or excess of *homo-sloddy*.

A L.S.O.R.A.N. had no intention of interfering with geography, the names of countries would remain on the map, but if best names were

of the committee were accepted an Englishman would henceforth be known as a person whose parents and/or ancestors had lived in England, thus avoiding all use of the word English.

Mrs. M. J. HADAM intended to say that he thought that care should be taken in their terminology, not to offend the most delicate susceptibilities. He suggested it should be made plain that the parents and/or ancestors had lived in the countries concerned prior to their own time. The phrase was the real one whose parents and/or ancestors had elected to live in England.

The president gladly accepted the amendment, but MISS ABELLA PAYNE did not think it went far enough. She pressed that some parts of the world were more attractive than others, and to say that someone had elected to live in the less pleasant parts of the earth might reflect on their good taste. She proposed that the phrase should be "whose parents and/or ancestors had selected or had good and creditable reason to live in" wherever country it might be.

PROFESSOR HATSON BELLEBY regarded the suggestion as wholly acceptable. It now only remained for

Turncote in Trouble Proceedings in Court

them to substitute the word "guest" for "foreigner" or "immigrant" and "host" for the "indigene" or "Native." They would then have the basis to begin their propaganda.

MRS. LIZA WAKE did not like the word "guest" because it implied a short visit, it also reminded her of "speecheless parties." Why should not the old word "sojourner" be revived? In the case of a "guest" in a Colony for example, she suggested "sojourn" as an alternative. But she could say "a sojourner" many years traveling.

MRS. PAYNE said the word "sojourner" made her think of a man who kept on walking. At this point a grey-bearded man at the back of the hall exclaimed, "like Felix and his brown cat." Even when the sojourner stopped, she was still walking, she would want to go on, she would not want to stop, she would not want to get a little more needed rest.

Mrs. HAYES agreed. Like all good people she said the movement was simple, there was no easy way out of racial and nationalist dogmas.

"Let us assume," she said, "that one wanted to say 'an Arab met an African in Zanzibar. All it would be necessary to do would be to enter the sentence as 'A sojourner in Zanzibar for many years, whose parents had elected to live in Zanzibar and whose ancestors had elected to live in Zanzibar and whose ancestors had elected to live in Africa.'"

Their difficulties and indeed the difficulties of the world, were solved, in that small room they had started a movement which was destined to sweep through the world. "Never again must they allow a racial or nationalist adjective to pass their lips, or show it to be passed at their hearing without protest. The fate of such words was sealed. They were doomed. Those four walls, at any rate, would never hear one again.

Professor Batson-Belfry rose and said a great ovation, and tea was served.

Someone asked if children were obtainable in the building.

"Yes, sir," replied the water-Tinkish or Egyptian?"

The successful appeal of a dealer in business near the Ripon Falls in Uganda against a conviction for selling adulterated loaves is said to have taken the guilt off the Bija bread.

IT IS INDICATED that the construction of a railway from the coast to the interior is being considered. The railway will be built by the Government and will be operated by the Government. The railway will be built by the Government and will be operated by the Government.

Leaving his always ready flash light in the back of his ancient car, he must write Morris' message. He then stepped out of town with the unquestioned ability of a fireboat answering a distress call from the fog. Beside him, as guide, sat Turncote's boy, who had come with the message.

Women and children were in danger, Turncote had written. That was enough. But why had Turncote asked for a large packet of orange jam?

A few days later the packet reached town again just in time to catch the night passenger train for Salisbury. It was going to the ticket office, not to the first class tickets for himself and his cat.

"There will be no difficulty in my having the cat in the compartment with me?" he asked.

"If the other passengers don't object," replied the sleepy ticket clerk. "Here you are, one first and one dog."

"Very well," said Anstruther. "I'll be exact."

"Cat and dog, sir, the same, joined the clerk.

"Very well, have it your own way," said the clerk.

As the train started, the guard blew his whistle and turned towards the rear of the train to await the coming of his van. Anstruther ran across the deserted platform, opened a carriage door, called "Come on, Fido; hurry, hurry," and, preceded by a large, heavy maned lion, sprang into the rapidly accelerating train.

Finding an empty compartment, Anstruther folded his lion, lying comfortably along the seat, while the lion, who had evidently no qualms about travelling with his back to the engine, lay along the other. Both being very tired, they soon asleep.

It was just daylight when the conductor made his tour along the corridor, tapping on and opening the doors to rouse the passengers and inform them that they were due in Salisbury in half an hour.

On looking into Anstruther's compartment, he caught his breath, suggested that the door be shut sharply and he led the way to the

train, pulling himself together, he slid the door open an inch and peeped in.

Old hunter as he is, Anstruther awoke, grasped the situation in an instant, and said: "Come, fight in his all right. I've got a ticket for him."

"Come in, nothing," replied the badly-staged official. "What is this?"

"But what he intended to add was cut short by a gasp of astonishment as the lion sat up and began to nibble about the fibres of the wash-basin. "Wants his morning tea, and he's fed," explained Anstruther, who opened the lid and pressed the cap. "Any tea on the train?"

The conductor was a man of resource. Taking advantage of the animal's back being towards him, he opened the door another inch, inserted his arm, pulled the emergency chain cord, and shut and locked the door. Then, as the train came to a standstill, he rushed back to inform the guard.

Having slaked his thirst, the lion nudged about the compartment, and then jumped out at the open window.

While Anstruther was peering at him on the grass beside the track, the conductor, now accompanied by the guard, unlocked the compartment and cautiously peeped in.

"Come along in," called Anstruther, opening the door wider.

"Here," shouted the guard to the conductor. "What the blazes has gone over you, stopping the train with a cow and bull story? Is a lion in the first class? Were three minutes lost? No. You'll just forget this."

"Don't be angry with the conductor," said Anstruther, "he's quite right. The lion has just slipped out for a moment. He may finish the forgotten to bring his sixth day."

"So you're being funny too," said the guard as he shut the door again. But his wrath was concealed until the conductor, and then voices continued to rise as they tumbled down from the train and hurried along obediently give their respective accounts of the occurrence to the engine-driver.

The lion meanwhile responded to Anstruther's call and sprang back into the window from which he had leapt. Because all the passengers were hanging out of the windows on the other side of the train, the lion to enjoy the light breeze the guard and conductor, the apparently effortless grace of the leap went entirely unnoticed.

Perhaps the events that led to another finding himself chaperon to a lion of affectionate disposition and refined habits can most succinctly be conveyed by means of some extracts transcribed from the official shorthand record of a case that subsequently came before the Court of Oyer and Terminer (recently revived in deference to the wishes of the Liberal Party).

Mr. Justice Outside Wright, well-known for his wide learning and kindly tolerance of nervous witnesses, presided. Both he and his shorthand writer did their best. Nevertheless, the story when contending counsel extracted from the principal witness by some thing of the process of a film scenario, so that the preliminaries, we will plunge right in.

JUDGE: "Now, Mr. Trip. We will hear the complainant's version."

MR. TRIP: "As your honour please, (to usher) please call Mr. Turncote, and please bring one year's Government Gazette for him to stand on."

Witness duly sworn.

MR. TRIP: "Mr. Turncote, you are claiming certain fees due to you for services rendered by you to the respondents, and have heard the reasons alleged for withholding same. Tell us honour what happened, in as few and simple words as possible. Just a few words, please."

TURNCOTE: "I am speaker so sorry my mistake you should to say I deliberately impacted them to do it while immigration is restricted to my clients while fitting cargo with my dentures is as bad as impacting natives in the use of firearms would have been. I am satisfied but for the young rascal flapper with 100, his tails. Besides it would cost thousands now that sterling is so much lower than dollars which I have been working my bones to the finger."

MR. TRIP: "Just a moment, please. Perhaps you had better tell your client, Mr. Trip. I think it is very kind of you to agree."

MR. VAN TANGLE: "I am prepared to acquiesce, your honour, though of course I reserve."

JUDGE: "Just so! Quiet! Mr. Trip."

MR. TRIP: "As your honour please, Mr. Turncote, please look at this card, Exhibit O. Did you have any and a number of similar cards printed and did you dispatch them to certain addresses in the United States—some to old and very wealthy clients?"

them done by the Rhodesia Printing, Bulawayo and

MR. TRIP: "Please read what is on that card to the court."

TURNCOTE reads

EXPEDITIONS INTO UNKNOWN RHODESIA.
Personally Conducted
by one who knows thoroughly
Fauna and Flora Guaranteed.
 Wild-life Mystery. Thrills.
 Sunsets.
 Feasibly by arrangement with
 Dam Ram Saiming.
Ex Africa semper aliquid novi.
 With the compliments of the dry
 season.
 S. O. U. TURNCOTE, ex-M.P.

The reason I didn't stand at the last election was the issue of the party reform.

MR. TRIP: "Quiet, Lanson, quiet. Mr. Turncote read as a result of the invitation, were you involved in conducting complainant's wife and daughter on a picnic tour into the wild?"

TURNCOTE: "I had a right and the young lady said."

MR. TRIP: "Never mind just now, we'll let the lady say. Go on with the narrative."

TURNCOTE: "We left the train station into the bush at the Dingyza stream and we drove in a north-westerly direction or it may have been north-easterly sometimes till it petered out you know what these fourth-class roads are twisting and turning, and drifts practically impossible, notwithstanding taxpayers' money that the F.W.D. do things with shot or white-collared civil servants when any decent firm of contractors."

MR. TRIP: "And so, Mr. Turncote, and you eventually formed a camp at which it is alleged that certain mysterious things occurred?"

JUDGE: "Where? Where? In what area or district were you, Mr. Turncote?"

TURNCOTE: "My cook boy said it was *Isagan*, and the other boy said it was *Isagan*. I can't say he has only been with me since, um, nay."

MR. VAN TANGLE: "Perhaps witness would indicate the position on this map."

TURNCOTE: "Well, you see these names don't show their own."

MR. TRIP: "I must object, your honour, and on two grounds. *Primo*, my client had undertaken to take his clients into the unknown and *secundo*, the haunts of game are as much the privileged secrets of professional hunters as"

MR. VAN TANGLE: "Professional hunters?"

hunters?" *Fragus pendente pro immolatione.*

JUDGE: "Shall we leave the court for argument later? Proceed, Mr. Trip."

MR. TRIP: "Mr. Turncote, what happened when you made your camp?"

TURNCOTE: "The next morning when we were preparing breakfast we heard a shout out in the bush sounds which I thought must be coming from a flock of guinea fowl. I spread my clients out in open order with their bows and arrows at the ready."

JUDGE: "Bows and arrows!"

TURNCOTE: "Yes, sir, by special arrangement clients own wishes no modern, mechanically advantaged unsporting."

JUDGE: "How about the case? Be careful, on."

TURNCOTE: "As the sound came nearer, we saw all three of them the big one in front was playing a mouth organ just in and out you know and the middle one was holding the front fife's tail coming along and the little one was holding the middle one's tail straight towards us."

JUDGE: "One moment. The story, which now rapid, is still a riddle in my mind. If the third one's tail was towards you, these somewhat remarkable guinea fowl must have been advancing backwards."

MR. TRIP: "My client is referring to three elephants, your honour, who were approaching in."

MR. VAN TANGLE: "I protest, your honour, my learned friend is putting the words."

MR. TRIP: "Common ground, your honour. All three elephants are in the pleadings."

JUDGE: "Were they guinea fowl or elephants, Mr. Turncote?"

TURNCOTE: "Oh, indubitably elephants, your honour. Trunks in front and tails behind."

JUDGE: "Very well. The first elephant was playing a break, Mr. Turncote, did that?"

TURNCOTE: "Mouth organ, sir, and then they stopped in front of us and let go their tails and held out their trunks to us and the young lady jumped up and said to me 'This is where you get your ctime upface like Mr. Phil-Panties' which I mean to say though I'm not tall."

JUDGE: "Phil-panties? Come upence? I'll ask for the sake of the record, I must ask for some elucidation of those terms."

MR. TRIP: "Hollywood hang-on."

MR. VAN TANGLE: "Certainly not the best Boston in the most civilized New England cities mud and is an expression used to im-

er-express riding breeches. A very picturesque synonym, if I may say so.

JUDGE: "I see. And were you wearing 'puff'—I mean riding breeches, Mr. Turncot?"

TURNCOTE: "Yes sir, a nice bright check-ou-weather mixture; a little tight below the knee but the fullness above allows."

JUDGE: "And 'come upence.'"
MR. VAN TANGLE: "Merely your due of fee, I am instructed, your honour."

JUDGE: "I see. What's coming to you. Pray continue, Mr. Turncot. And the young lady make any further comments?"

TURNCOTE: "She said my jacket had come wide open with small ears, tummy foreleaps and switchbacks, real African elephants had, umbrella ears and big faces like someone her poppa and mamma had, come all this way to see the celebration of the rajah's twenty-first wedding."

MR. VAN TANGLE: "Excellent. And the witness exhibit introduced."

MR. TRIP: "Please continue, Mr. Turncot."

TURNCOTE: "Well, as I was chatting of this and that, you may say the little elephant came up behind me and took off my hat and put it on its own head and she said 'Oh, isn't he cute?' so I pulled out my revolver and fired it in the air in self-defence and the little one knelt down, coiled its trunk on the ground and hoisted its hind legs in the air and waggled its tail, most insulting with wiles; and the other two got hold of each other's tails again and went round and round so I did not see the lion crawling along the ground till it made a rush into my tent to get under the bed, but it couldn't because it has too many little black meat legs like an accordion."

JUDGE: "Steady, please, Mr. Turncot. My clerk informs me that the shorthand writer cannot keep abreast the stream."

TURNCOTE: "My apologies, your honour. But when it couldn't get underneath it got on top all mixed up in the mosquito-net and my new blue-striped pyjamas only that was received, C.O.D. Cape Town from that shop that off Plein Street fairly got my goat."

MR. VAN TANGLE: "I must have notice of that, your honour."

TURNCOTE: "A figure of speech, your honour. I dislike goats, as Mr. Van Tangle."

MR. TRIP: "Now, Mr. Turncot, please answer this question very fully. At any time during any of your clients have reason to suffer fear or discomfort from the presence of any of these creatures?"

TURNCOTE: "Oh, no. The gentleman dodged around trying to find his statement, the lady fell on his to the elephants, and the young lady stroked the lion feeling him to see as he was amongst friends with."

MR. TRIP: "Mr. Turncot, did you see the lion of irregularly arrange that time, that creature, or any of them, should come of your camp or even open the territory?"

TURNCOTE: "Certainly no, I had never seen or heard of them before anybody more interested."

MR. TRIP: "That's all I wish to ask the witness, your honour."

MR. VAN TANGLE: "All right. Are you sure, Mr. Turncot, that you never saw that lion before the morning he was found in your bed? Thank carefully."

TURNCOTE: "I never."

MR. VAN TANGLE: "Do you ever go to the pictures, Mr. Turncot?"

TURNCOTE: "The cinema? Oh, yes. I like to keep my Dorothy Langier and there's kids."

MR. VAN TANGLE: "Your honour, I wish to produce the lion."

JUDGE: "Oh! Indeed, ah, well from what we've heard, very well then Mr. Van Tangle, but no elephants, no elephants, Mr. Van Tangle, please."

MR. VAN TANGLE: "As your honour wishes. (To usher) Please ask Mr. Anstruther to bring an exhibit."

MR. ANSTRUTHER: "A lion's center and I mean to stop the judge's and Lion-sees himself and Joffe's I like a paw. Judge leans-over and is about to hit the animal's head but is warned by Mr. Anstruther to avoid its nose. Anywhere you like, sir, but avoid the nose."

MR. VAN TANGLE: "Now, Mr. Turncot, will you extend your right arm, so, and join the tip of your forefinger and thumb, thus, so that you can see the exhibit's head through the circle produced, that's right. Hold that a fixed point, Mr. Anstruther, please, pull the animal's tail."

JUDGE: "Really, Mr. Van Tangle."

MR. VAN TANGLE: "I assure your honour. Please pull, Mr. Anstruther."

ANSTRUTHER pulls and the lion, turning his head four right, and then gives a short roar.

Again, please, Mr. Anstruther."

MR. VAN TANGLE: "There, Mr. Turncot, can you now tell the court that you have not long been acquainted with that lion, you've seen hundreds of times, in fact?"

MR. TRIP: "I am object. To see the figure of a creature as the"

caption to a picture is not to be acquainted with the original."

MR. VAN TANGLE: "Resisting, although I'my fear, and cannot be heard to say that he is more intimately acquainted with Donald Dudd."

MR. TRIP: "In fact, conflict, matter, to whom that acquaintance might involve mutual knowledge. Does my learned friend suggest that Donald Dudd is acquainted with me? It may surprise your honour to"

JUDGE: "Nothing of this sort can now surprise me. Pray continue your cross-examination, Mr. Van Tangle."

MR. VAN TANGLE: "As your honour pleases, I may have told you, Mr. Turncot, that when the lion took refuge in your bed that the young lady indicated to reassure"

TURNCOTE: "Oh, yes. She licked some chocolate and when that were finished she gave it a blow or a stick of chewing-gum and after some minutes it turned round and round, showing all over my blankets and stretched at its feet by the end of the night."

JUDGE: "A moment, please. You mean the sticks of chewing-gum fell off?"

TURNCOTE: "Yes, no, sir. The sticks stayed and the creature centures it up and the lion fell got in one piece and the young lady took them back to the lion with her and that night, her new slippers fixed them with pins with sticks and a heavy stone to the wall that was left of the bedroom, she under a bush to the back wall, but I never could understand why she heard any sound from that spot when"

MR. VAN TANGLE: "Never mind that now, please. The lion having been disarmed, how did you get with the elephants?"

TURNCOTE: "I got rid of them all right, in a matter of moments, for the circus had been open for some time and the lions and tigers of the show were tame."

MR. VAN TANGLE: "But how did you get rid of these nuisances?"

TURNCOTE: "Yes, how? Well, the young lady honked some tame hobo, he was sort of taller, fruit sound and healthy and she got some and the elephants finally loved them."

MR. VAN TANGLE: "Please answer my question. How did you get rid of the elephants?" and you've tried to that with your five omniscience where lay the lion's fruit."

TURNCOTE: "We tried to drive them, but that only started them"

NEWS OF THE WEEK

Accountability for Groundnut Scheme

House of Commons Debate Manifests Moral Responsibility

WHAT TYPE OF QUESTIONS about the East African groundnut scheme may be put to Ministers in the House of Commons was debated last Friday.

For the Opposition, Mr. Winfield Diney, for several times propositions: (1) that the Ministers of Food took too narrow a view of his responsibilities to Parliament; (2) that he was inconsistent in the questions which he answered or refused to answer; (3) that he should be ready to answer for no less power than he in fact exercised over the scheme, and that it was intolerable and contrary to the public interest that he should exercise very much more power than he would admit in the House. His refusal to answer questions concerning the yield per acre and the yield cleared was serious for the answers would have represented a progress report on the scheme, over which the Minister could exercise wide influence in all matters of policy.

In regard to the yield of groundnuts per acre, the Minister was on extremely unsafe ground in refusing to admit that that was a matter of interest to him or of fundamental importance to the scheme. When speaking to the Rotary Club in Nairobi he had admitted that he was interested in the yield and was prepared to take a hand in the questions concerning the yield per acre. He said:

Minister on United Ground

By jumping to conclusions before full agricultural experiments have been made, it might be possible to get increased yields. So long as I and the present chairman and board of the Overseas Food Corporation have control of the scheme, some of this will be done.

"Control" was the word used. So in one breath he was admitting that he controlled the scheme and could control such important questions as yield, and in the next breath he was saying that that was merely a matter of detail.

The facts, which the Minister refused to discuss in the House and which I subsequently obtained from the Corporation, confirmed Mr. Diney's view that the actual yield per acre was 50 lb. for Valencia, 67 1/2 lb. for Natal Common, and 52 1/2 lb. for Spanish Bunch—none of them anywhere near the 100 lb. set as the target for the scheme, despite the fact that this was again implying a great deal of fertilizer had been used upon the crop.

The Minister was quite unprepared to refuse to answer questions of fundamental importance, which might endanger the future of the scheme.

The Minister of Food has not scrupled to make an announcement about this scheme in the most grandiose way, so as to get the maximum amount of publicity for himself and the only approach to consistency which I can discern from his references to Parliamentary questions is that the Minister himself approaches the Opposition and it is they, the Opposition, who should be asked to answer the questions. That is not good enough. Some very important questions being done by the friends of the Opposition on the 10th, by Mr. General Harrison and the Minister is to say to all the world he should be asked to answer for the difficulties as well.

The Opposition have a very serious case to answer on this point of the Minister's refusal to let the world know when things are not in his right of public interest, that is, being spent, and they have to fight whatever is said and hide behind technical discussions and say that they call questions of detail, but which are fundamental questions affecting the whole future of this very important scheme.

The ANTI-TRUST Bill, which drew a distinction between the Overseas Food Corporation and the Colonial Development Corporation, said Parliament had been opposed

cars to insist that the O.F.C. should have special regard for the interests of the local inhabitants, yet the Minister declined to answer questions concerning the welfare of the people employed by the Corporation.

Judging by the rapid turnover of native labour at Konawa, which is 160% in six months, there is need for the most searching questioning about the conditions of employment. Clearly, the Minister of Food is denying the right of Parliament to be assured about the welfare of the men employed by the Corporation.

Inconsistency

"There is no consistency in the practice of Ministers, because on December 15 I asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies about the terms of service under which Africans are working on the new railways and both in Tanganyika projected for the groundnut scheme. He gave me an answer, whereas the Minister of Food on an earlier occasion had refused an answer. Indeed, on the Committee stage of the Overseas Resources (Development) Bill the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies gave a most specific assurance that his department would answer questions about the welfare of the Natives, whether employed by the Corporation or anyone else. This divergence of practice between Ministers must be embarrassing to you, Mr. Speaker, in dealing with questions Ministers will answer. I submit that in any matter affecting the safety, health and welfare of persons employed by the Corporation, the Minister should answer questions publicly in this House.

Parliament a Trustee

Parliament is a trustee for the peoples of the Colonial Empire. As we are to exercise that trusteeship we must have free access to reliable information. The Minister should be required to answer in Parliament on the job being entrusted to the Corporation.

The Corporation information put out the figure of 100,000 tons that it is their intention to grow 45,000 of groundnuts and 55,000 of sunflowers this year and that the total acreage to be sown in Konawa will be just under 50,000 acres. This marks a big change from the development programme which the Minister committed to this House. It was then the acreage of groundnuts in 1949 was to be 120,000. Now it is to be 45,000. That is surely something more substantial than day to day fluctuations. It is a fundamental change.

The Minister has used information about the crop yields of the last harvest. Now the Corporation have stated that those crop yields were, instead of an average yield of 130 lb. of certificated groundnuts to the acre, we should be prudent and reckoned average yields of 100 lb. per acre. A reduction of one-third of the yield must alter the whole financial assessment of the scheme, and Parliament is entitled to know how the Minister will be able to fulfil his financial commitment and to understand the reasons why any substantial output and the necessary cost, the balance sheet, and the Minister presented the prospectus to Parliament. We were to wait for the Overseas Food Corporation to get as fully into the red as the Airways Corporation before the Minister is prepared to share his knowledge with Parliament.

It is in the interests of the success of this scheme in Tanganyika, and of the new big raising scheme in Oldensland, which the Overseas Food Corporation are now undertaking, that the Minister of Food should keep the House fully informed on substantial points of policy, and should do this from time to time. Opportunities for debate are being snatched and that is no good reason for drawing a veil of official secrecy over these schemes which are being carried out in thousands of miles away from Westminster and away from the public eye, but at the public expense.

We all want the schemes to be successful and we are fully informed if they are profitable to the Minister and the

corporation to overcome the difficulties which are already apparent. The difficulties suggested to be possible to the point where the spirit of the men or women is seriously affected might cause them to lose heart, and they will wreck the best of our efforts if we do not want that to happen.

It is in the public interest that the Minister of Posts should discontinue the responsibility in question of keeping the House informed of all points which affect the well-being of those controlled by the Overseas Food Corporation and all other points affecting the policy which is being proposed to carry out the intentions of Parliament.

Lord President's Reply

MR. CHIEF PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL (Mr. Herbert Morrison), who replied for the Government, agreed that Ministers must be answerable for what they did and for what by law they had power to do even if they did not do it, and that the House was within its rights in claiming Parliamentary accountability in such matters.

The course of his speech in this regard was as follows:—
The provisions of the Overseas Resources Development Act have to be read in the light of the relationship between the Minister of Posts, the Overseas Food Corporation and the Colonial Development Corporation. It is not surprising that in the other legislative measures, and in the correspondence, like those relating to the railways, the responsibility should be left free to the Minister of Posts to administer.

In general, therefore, the same principle applies to questions about the corporations as in the case of other public-owned industries. They are not, however, entirely left to do because they are operating in Colonial territories. This introduces a new element into the situation. It only because there will be matters relevant to the conditions for which the Government of the territory will have responsibilities and for which the Colonial Secretary will be answerable to Parliament on the same footing as for other acts of Colonial Governments.

Section 1 of the Act requires that, in determining their policy as to the activities to be carried on by them in any territory and the manner in which they are to be carried on, and as to assigning and participating in the carrying out by others of activities in any territory, the corporations shall have particular regard to the interests of the inhabitants of the territory. They must be established only under the terms of such measures as are approved by the Government of the territory as appear to the responsible Ministers to be practicable have been taken.

Section 3 requires that the corporation shall take all practicable steps to secure the safety, health and welfare of persons in their employment or in the employment of others in activities carried on with the assistance of the corporation or in connection therewith, that part of the primary responsibility of the corporations but section 2 provides for consultation with the Colonial Government concerned.

Colonial Secretary's Responsibilities

The Colonial Secretary said that in these leading paragraphs of the Act, it is clear that the Colonial territories themselves would have the duty and responsibility for the Government of State for the purposes of that, which is the Colonial Development Corporation and the Overseas Food Corporation, which are functioning in these territories, reasonable and proper standards were maintained, and that their activities fitted in with the general economic plan of development of the territory concerned. It will be his special responsibility to see that reasonable standards are maintained, and that the corporation functions in consultation with the Government and the responsible Ministers.

It will be primarily the duty of the Colonial Government to ensure that the corporations are providing adequate standards of safety, health, wages and conditions of labour. The corporation will, of course, be subject to all the general legislation of the country, and these matters are other economic undertakings in private enterprise. Beyond that as a Government organization it will be expected to be a model employer in these respects.

Both the Colonial Office and the Ministry of Posts are in close contact with the respective corporations on these matters as on other matters. Apart from day-to-day contacts, there are regular meetings between the departments and the corporations, at which the Government's point of view can be expressed. In fact, however, both the corporations are fully alive to their responsibilities to their employees and to Colonial peoples. There is every reason to be thankful for thinking that the corporations will carry out their obligations to their employees and to the inhabitants of the territories in which they are operating, but should the responsible Minister be satisfied that either was not doing so, the matter is one on which he would be prepared to exercise his power of issuing a warrant under Section 9(1) of the Act.

These are the situations it is that, broadly speaking, subject to the ruling which you, Mr. Speaker, will give in due course, the questions in connexion with these corporations which the Minister concerned would feel it right to answer fall into the following categories—and the House will see that these categories are pretty considerable and pretty wide.

First, questions relating to the discharge of their specific statutory obligations under the Overseas Resources Development Act, 1946. Examples are the powers relating to the appointment, tenure and vacation of office, by members of the corporations, advances to and borrowings by the corporations, and provisions as regards the accounts and audit.

Secondly, questions arising from the provisions of Sections 2 and 3 relating to consultation with Colonial Governments and the consultation of local interests on the safety, health and welfare of employees, and from the general responsibility which the Government assume for seeing that the interests of employees in Colonial territories are safeguarded by the maintenance of reasonable standards. This does not, of course, mean that the Government contemplate interference in the detailed administration of these matters, and that they would, for example, regard it as the responsibility of Ministers to answer questions about individual complaints of the detailed administration of a particular project. The circumstances will vary in each case, and the Minister will be guided by his experience, and by a body of practice which has been developed for the guidance of both.

Thirdly, questions to the Colonial Secretary relating to the discharge of Colonial Governments of their general responsibilities, such as to bear upon the activities of the corporations.

Fourthly, subject to the discretion of Ministers to decline to reply, the submission for statement of matters of public importance, referred to by Mr. Speaker, under the Order.

As with the nationalized industries, the corporations will also be acceptable to Parliament and the public through their responsibility to their Ministers and through him to Parliament, and by virtue of the statutory obligation to publish annual accounts and an annual report, which must be laid before Parliament, and which will, so far as time from time can be, be the subject of debate.

It is this the duty of the Ministers which is shared by the

(Continued overleaf)

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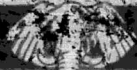
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Obituary

Mr. W. A. Devine

MR. W. A. DEVINE, J.B.E., who was chairman of the Public Services Board of Southern Rhodesia from 1933 until his retirement in 1938, has died in the Colony at the age of 71. He had had a distinguished career in the Civil Service, extending over 40 years, having arrived in the Colony in 1897. Starting in the Posts and Telegraphs Department, he was transferred to the Attorney-General's Office in 1916, appointed Assistant Native Commissioner in Umtali; he remained in the Native Department until 1927, when he became secretary to the Department of Agriculture and Lands. After his retirement, he was elected to the Committee of the Central African Archives, and became chairman in 1947.

Mr. E. K. Figgis

THE REV. R. S. HEYWOOD, former Bishop of Mombasa, writes: "Mr. E. K. Figgis, whose death in Salisbury has been reported, was the first registrar of the Diocese of Mombasa, and in that voluntary office he gave the most skilful legal advice which he always tendered with real interest. The diocese owes him a great debt for his invaluable help."

THE REV. JOSEF OTHMENS, of the Church of Sweden Mission in Southern Rhodesia, who has died in Bulawayo, arrived in the Colony in 1914, and took charge of Mifingo mission in the Belingwe district. Some years later he went to work in the Union, but returned to Rhodesia in 1931 and spent the remainder of six years until his retirement at Masasa, West Rhodesia. He then settled in Bulawayo, carrying on missionary work by conducting services in the Native location.

MR. ERIC PHILPOTTS, a pioneer resident of Bulawayo, who helped to set up the type for the first issue of the *Bulawayo Chronicle* in 1894, died in the Seychelles at the age of 80 recently. With Mr. C. Collins he founded the firm of Philpotts and Collins, and was one of the same movers in founding the Southern Rhodesia Chamber of Industries. During the Matabele rebellion of 1896 he served with the Volunteer Force.

MR. B. E. DREYFUS, who has been killed in a car accident in Kenya, went to the Colony last year, and practised as an advocate in Nakuru. His sister, Mrs. Gabbett, lives in Nakuru.

MR. SHERIDAN, a South African who went to Kenya in 1943 and, after farming in the Uasinjishu district for 10 years, returned to Paris, has died there at the age of 70.

Mrs. LADY PERCY, wife of Major-General Sir Jocelyn Percy, who is now living in Kenya, died suddenly near Kisumu earlier in the month.

Prices of Decontrolled Goods
Disclosure of Balance-Sheets

SMALL TRADERS, not members of chambers of commerce, who deliberately sought loopholes in the regulations, made price control necessary, said Mr. A. M. Molaren, Price Controller in Northern Rhodesia, recently. Boots and shoes, which were in plentiful supply and were recently released from control, were already rising in price, and control might have to be reimposed. Exorbitant profits were also taken on certain foodstuffs.

Defending the move to make it compulsory for merchants to reveal balance-sheets, Mr. Molaren said they would be seen by himself alone, not by members of his staff. Balance-sheets were not as secret as some people claimed; as a business man he had seen hundreds of them, and, in fact, would have refused to do business in some cases unless they had been made available to him.

He was attempting to establish hotel rates, but, owing to lack of a hotel association, it was impossible to discover what profits individual hotels were making unless he had balance-sheets and accounts.

"When I first came to Northern Rhodesia," Mr. Molaren said, "I thought traders were making excessive profits. I have since changed that view, but without having had access to some of these documents, I could never have been able to arrive at the true position."

Uganda Cotton Crop

THE WHOLE of the forthcoming cotton crop in Uganda, estimated at about 350,000 bales of 400 lb., has already been sold. The British and India Governments had agreed that the first 250,000 bales should be made available in the proportion of 175 to 75 to the Raw Cotton Commission and to Indian interests respectively, and representatives of the two parties are now in Uganda for the purpose of arranging the prices to be paid. In the absence of the free market which was previously available in Liverpool, the Government of Uganda had to decide how to dispose of the balance of approximately 100,000 bales. As an experiment, it was decided to invite private tenders for a maximum of 10,000 bales daily. So successful was the method that the whole of the balance was bought forward in less than a fortnight at the high average price of 28d. per lb.

The conference of representatives of Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia, and Nyasaland to discuss federation of those territories is to be held at the Victoria Falls early in February.

The British and Ethiopian Governments are to undertake demarcation of the southern boundaries of Ethiopia during 1950. Discussions in regard to the western boundaries are now taking place.

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Exhibition of Native Art

AN EXHIBITION OF NATIVE ARTS and sculpture from Southern Rhodesia will be held in the galleries of the Royal Society of Painters in Water Colours, 26, Candour Street, London, W.1, from January 17 to 29. Her Majesty the Queen has graciously promised to visit the exhibition. The paintings and carvings are the work of African boys and young men between the ages of 10 and 20 who have received their training at Cyrene Mission, near Bulawayo. The principal Canon Edward Paterson, has during the past nine years developed what is, now known throughout Southern Africa as the "Cyrene experiment". He provides his pupils with the materials for their work—wood, soapstone, paper, brushes, poster colours, water colours, and carving tools—but wants for them to evolve their own style with as little interference as possible and without giving them any examples of finished art. Canon Paterson is coming to London for the exhibition, at which he will lecture and answer questions.

Bulawayo's New Power Station

BULAWAYO'S NEW POWER STATION was opened recently by the Governor of Southern Rhodesia, Sir John Kennedy, who set in operation the first unit of the complex in a massive structure dominating the city's landscape. It increases Bulawayo's capacity to 28,500 kw. to 41,500 kw. The installation of a second 15,000 kw. unit is proceeding and the ultimate capacity of the station will be 150,000 kw. When the municipality took over the electricity undertaking in 1924 the plant capacity totalled 870 kw. By 1939 an increase of 230% in the loads carried had been achieved. Although revenue per unit dropped from 8d. to 6½ pence, the price increased from 12% to 24%. It is claimed that the municipal undertakings in the Empire do much these achievements.

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NEWS ITEMS IN BRIEF

Refugees in Southern Rhodesia this season has so far been well above the average.

Wandegaya Muslim School in Kampala has been entirely built by an African contractor.

An African Advisory Council elected on democratic lines has been established in Tanganyika.

Intense feeling for two months anti-racial tactics has been given to 100 selected officers of the Kenya Police emergency staff.

Employment vacancies for Europeans in Southern Rhodesia have risen to 796, compared with 699 at this time last year. The greatest demand is still for building artisans.

A European Authority for Education and an Indian and Goan Authority for Education will be established in Tanganyika under a new Non-Native Educational Ordinance.

Road programmes in Southern Rhodesia have been delayed through non-delivery of heavy tractors, lack of cement, a dearth of skilled plant operators, and an acute shortage of Native labour.

Ministers Accredited to Ethiopia

The Governments of Holland, Norway, Poland, and Czechoslovakia have all accredited Ministers to Ethiopia during the past year, and Legations are likely to be opened in Addis Ababa by Portugal and India.

An African clerk employed at the Government African school in Kapenguria, Kenya, has been sentenced to 24 months' imprisonment for misappropriation of school fees. Earlier in the year he was fined £25 for forgery.

Central African Airways have announced that until the accommodation provision improves in Salisbury only passengers who had paid a single fare of more than £80 or a return fare of more than £90 will have night-stop accommodation reserved for them.

Gwelo's bus service is expected to start again soon. The Gwelo firm who propose running the service calculate that the use of 2½-ton microbuses, which will permit first-class fares of 2d. per mile (with a minimum of 3d.) and second-class fares of 1d. per mile (minimum 2d.).

Three Europeans, two of whom admitted being deserters, who had escaped from Nakuru prison in Kenya, have each been sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment with hard labour for escaping from custody and six months' with hard labour and 12 strokes for robbery with violence.

Information for the Colonies

The Central Office of Information issued 6,000 lectures on the Commonwealth and Empire in the year ended March 31, but out of a total of 18,253 lectures only a total of 7,553 Press notices issued, 11% were for the Colonial Office. The annual report gives interesting particulars of the London Press Service, which supplies to newspapers overseas.

Subscriptions, totalling £56,000, have been received from the British Colonies towards the United Nations Appeal for Children. Of that sum, as previously reported, Kenya has raised £13,000, or 23%. Collections from Tanganyika and Northern Rhodesia were sent direct to UNICEF. Nyasaland gave £1,025, the Seychelles £1,965, and Zanzibar £249.

Nearly 17,000,000 covers produced by the Government Printer in Salisbury during 1954, compared with just under 16,000,000 in the previous year. Expenditure was £20,543 and 2½ cents. 2,277,000 separate forms numbered 1 to 475,738. 1,147 sheets of sealing wax were issued during the year, red type does not appear on the list of sales.

Of Commercial Concern

American interests in African trade is evident from the fact that whereas 25 slow mail, under the United States flag, were engaged in service between Atlantic and Gulf Ports and South, East and West Africa in 1949, there are now 45 new fast vessels so equipped. The American Maritime Marine Institute reports that bulk passenger and cargo vessels are to be added, and two ships of the C.S. flag will be converted, and there are plans for two new 19 knot vessels with accommodations for about 300 passengers each and large cargo space. Vessels on the American-Africa line carry more than 112 passengers. There are three times as many sailings as there were before the recent war, and the speed of the voyages has been almost doubled.

For the third time in six weeks cotton prices were raised on Monday by the Government-sponsored Raw Cotton Commission. Under G.S. Cops. Tokar and L types 3 and above were all increased by no less than 4d. per lb. to 51.25d., 48.75d., and 49.75d. respectively. There was an advance of 3d. per lb. in Sudan L types 24 and below at 34.15d., and of 1d. per lb. in East African B.P. 52 at 27.90d. In the Sudan group G.S. types and Tokar are now 11d. per lb. above the mid-November prices.

Import Licences

Warning that goods imported into Northern Rhodesia from foreign countries without the necessary import licence would be confiscated in future has been given by Mr. J. Paterson, Director of Civil Supplies. Several firms in South Africa were, he revealed, on the black list; they were importing goods of foreign manufacture in their packages with the excuse that they did not require an import licence.

Mr. J. C. Ferrer's letter in our issue of last week on the growing of soya beans in Africa mentioned a price of 50s. per bag of 200 lb. He has intended to write. The average African crop per acre, needing 60 lb. for seed, will yield from 800 to 1,200 lb. which at 80s. per bag of 200 lb. being delivered to the port, would be attractive.

The National Bank of India, Ltd. have acquired the share in Grindlays Bank, Ltd., which have been held since 1924 by National Provincial Bank, Ltd. It is intended that the present capital and reserves of Grindlays Bank, Ltd., should be substantially increased.

Marshall's Food Progress, Ltd., a company with interests in Kenya have acquired control of Tinter Byes, Ltd. of which Mr. S. H. Marshall M.P. has become chairman, and Mr. E. W. Harris M.P. managing director. Both have resigned East Africa recently.

Some of the more ancient Native growers who are members of the Petate African Tobacco Growers' Association, Northern Rhodesia, have this season received as much as 2s. 6d. a lb. for their leaf.

Messrs. Stewart and Lloods of South Africa, Ltd. who have large Rhodesian interests have declared a dividend of 10% (the same) on trading profit for the year ended June 30 last amounting to £729,022 (£344,930).

Chambers and Co. Commercial through Kenya have urged the formation of the European employment exchange established by the Government.

Dwa Plantations, Ltd. has secured 164,000 cwt. of ash and tea in November, totaling 1,400 tons for the 3 months of the financial year.

Anglo-Rhodesian and General Investment Co. Ltd. announce a dividend of 6% (the same).

East African Airways Corporation are now carrying about 14,000 passengers monthly.

Mills for Jinja

EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA is able to state that licences have just been granted to the Calico Printers' Association of Manchester for the establishment of a corns' piece goods mill in Jinja, and to an Anglo-Belgian group for a cotton blankets factory in the same town of Uganda.

Export Duties Imposed

THE GOVERNMENT OF NYSALAND is to impose export duties of 2d. per lb. on tea; 2d. per lb. on local tobacco, and 3d. per lb. on store tobacco as from April 1 next. So far as we can learn from people prominently connected with the tobacco industry of Southern Rhodesia and Northern Rhodesia, none of them had had any indication that such action was contemplated by the neighbouring tobacco-growing country.

Copra Contract

THE OFFER by the Board of Trade on a three-year contract to the copra producers of Zanzibar has been accepted in preference to an alternative contract for nine years. The price for 1953 is fixed at £87 for coconut oil and £53 45s. to £54 10s. for copra. In the years 1950-51 the price for copra, which will be not less than 64s. will be negotiated at the end of the preceding year, and in each case the price will be not more than 10% higher or lower than in the preceding year, calculated to the nearest 5s.

Mitchell Cotts & Co., Ltd.

Mitchell Cotts and Co. Ltd., are unlikely to hold their annual meeting until the end of March, owing to delay in completing the accounts overseas, the second interim dividend of 15% making 25% (the same) for the year ended June 30 last, has been announced. Subject to receipt of final accounts from overseas the combined profit of the group, including £14,000 relating to earlier years and before discounting tax, is approximately £754,000 (£620,000). Taxation absorbed about £229,000, leaving a consolidated net profit of £525,000 (£419,000) which will be increased by about £50,000 (all from the sale of fixed assets).

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Company Meetings

Dwa Plantations, Limited

Mr. S. R. Hogg's Statement

Production, Prices and Prospects

THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF DWA PLANTATIONS, LIMITED, was held on Wednesday, December 15, 1948, at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, London, E.C.2.

In the absence through illness of Mr. S. R. Hogg, F.R.A., the chairman of the company, Mr. Arthur Rawlins, M.A., F.R.A., presided.

Mr. Rawlins read the following address, which had been prepared by Mr. Hogg:

"I am sorry that the holding of this meeting has been delayed until a late date, but the delay was accentuated by the visit of the managing director and myself to Kenya from where we did not return until September 1948.

Results of the Year

"Output of sisal in 1948 amounted to 766 tons, compared with 1,030 tons in the previous year, the decrease being due to acute labour shortage. By reason of the increase of £20 per ton in the price of sisal, however, which took place in March, 1947, our output realized an average price of £58 7s per ton compared with £38 9s in 1946. Production expenses, including a higher charge for estate redemption and amortization, increased from £1 2s per ton to £3 1s per ton.

"After providing for all expenses the operating profit was £1,916, subject to taxation compared with £10,163 for the previous year. With the addition of 2s per cent interest there is a net profit of £14,929, making with £1,125 brought forward an available balance of £15,054.

"Taxation absorbs £6,500, and the directors recommend a transfer of £1,500 to the pensions reserve and £1,659 to the general reserve, bringing this latter reserve up to a round figure of £6,000. The fixed 6% dividend on the preference shares was paid to December 31, 1947, and a dividend of 20% on the ordinary shares is recommended for the year 1947, compared with 7 1/2% for 1946.

Dividend Policy

"The board makes no apology for appearing to act contrary to the wishes of the Chairmen of the Exchange in recommending the payment of a high dividend, as they feel that the ordinary shareholders are entitled to a better return having regard to the loss sustained in 1937, when eleven-twelfths of the capital was written off, and to the fact that they received no dividends at all between 1929 and 1946.

"The dividend of 20% now recommended is equivalent to 1.66% on the original capital and the total dividend amounts to only £971.0s. 0d after deduction of income tax, and this is shared by nearly 300 ordinary shareholders.

"The preference shareholders are entitled to their full dividend of 10%, and a participating dividend of 4% on the preference shares is recommended.

"The appropriations for taxation and reserves and the dividends absorb £13,649, leaving £1,410 to be carried forward.

Sale of Kedah Estate

"The balance sheet has been prepared to conform with the provisions of the Companies Act 1948, but few changes were necessary in the form of your company's accounts as these for recent years had been prepared on the basis of anticipating the new Act.

"As I mentioned last year, the Kedah estate was sold in 1947 at a price in excess of the book value. The sale was not completed until 1948, and the whole of

the purchase price has now been received. The proceeds will be used towards development and re-equipment expenditure on Dwa and Masinga Estates.

"In consequence of the sale of Kedah the total of the fixed assets shows a reduction. Additions to the equipment of Dwa and Masinga consist of the building of staff houses and Native camps and the purchase of rail track, transport and tractors.

"Adequate amortization of the sisal assets and depreciation of buildings and machinery have been written off.

Visit to Estates

"No visit to the estates was made on a tour for in 1947, but Mr. Heley spent two September months on a visit during which he spent nearly two months on the Dwa, most of which time he spent on the Dwa and Masinga estates. During that time he examined in detail every operation on the estates and he discussed at length with the general manager plans for increasing output and for the provision of additional machinery so as to minimize in the future any danger to production on account of machine failure. I visited East and South Africa while Mr. Heley was there, and I was able to have discussions with him and the general manager during the visit.

"It seems to be desirable that the managing director should make an annual visit to the estates, except in the years when the general manager is in England on leave. Our visits in 1946 and 1947 have shown that there are many problems which can be solved only by personal consultations.

Labour

"The shortage of African labour remained acute during 1947 and 1948, and this not only in a lower output of sisal, but also delayed the starting into operation of operations for the clearing and replanting of certain of the original areas of Dwa and the planting of new areas at Masinga.

"At the time of our meeting last year, Mr. Brown, the manager of Dwa Estate, was engaged on a recruiting mission in the African reserves, and this mission was a complete success. Some few months had necessarily to elapse before the results of his work became apparent, but the labour force of Dwa increased to 400, between November, 1947, and October, 1948.

"Every effort is being made to improve the standards of the African estate assistants, to encourage them to remain for a further period after the expiry of the contracts on which they are recruited. There has been some improvement in the labour supply at Masinga, but more effort is needed, and a recruiting mission on behalf of this estate will be undertaken in the near future.

Increased Output

"The increase in the labour force at Dwa and Masinga has enabled us to record higher outputs in 1948, and the combined output from the two estates up to the end of November amounted to 1,400 tons, compared with 780 tons in the whole of 1947.

"The price of sisal was increased in January, 1948, and again in July, 1948, so that with a higher output and a better price, we shall be able to show improved results in the current year.

"The contract with the Ministry of Supply was extended to December 31, 1948, but there will be no

some time after that date. East African steel will therefore be sold from January, 1949, on an uncontrolled market, and it remains to be seen what effect this will have on prices. It is possible that prices will recede from their present level, but they should remain on a remunerative basis at least for a few years. A review of the difficulties experienced by growers of hardwoods in rehabilitating their estates in the Dutch East Indies and in Malaya.

Rehabilitation of the mine

It has been decided to clear annually a substantial area of the old coal and Duro estates, and to plough and replant vast areas by the best modern methods. The replanted areas will on maturity give an first class yield, and when the operation is completed we can expect higher outputs than we have recently obtained.

It had been hoped to begin clearing in the early part of 1948, but we experienced disappointing delays in the delivery of the heavy tractor and other machinery required, and operations could not be started until October. To date about 400 acres have been cleared.

New machinery has been ordered to replace or supplement the existing plant, and it is planned to have sufficient machinery available to deal with the land which the new areas will yield on maturity. The second deepening unit at Bona has been installed and a third unit will be put in shortly. This will ensure that we mine coal always be as work while the third is overhauled, and all three units can thus be kept in good condition.

Conditions remain satisfactory, the operations we refer to above are financed almost entirely out of our own resources, including the proceeds of the sale of Kodal, and any temporary borrowings which may be required should not amount to a large sum.

The next few years will be in the nature of a transition period, during which we shall rely on the remaining old areas for our output.

Further areas will be planted at Misinga, and a new factory on a more convenient site will be built. An improved water supply is being installed, and every possible step will be taken to increase the labour force.

Local Management

We are very much indebted to the general manager, the estates managers and their engineers and field assistants for the manner in which they overcame the difficulties created by the acute labour shortage and labour troubles in 1947, and the use they have made of the higher labour forces in 1948 to increase output and to carry out improvements and extensions to roads, buildings, and machinery.

Additions to the staff have been made to provide sufficient supervision for the large number of Africans now employed, and the amenities provided for the staff have been improved. The managing director reports that all the European employees are well satisfied with their conditions of service, and the board is appreciative of the services they have rendered.

I should like with your approval to send to the general manager and his staff a message expressing our thanks to them and our appreciation of their continued loyal and enthusiastic service.

The directors' report and accounts were unanimously adopted; a dividend of 20% on the ordinary shares and a participating dividend of 4% on the preference shares of the company were approved, and the retiring director was re-elected.

Shareholders do not have a message of sympathy should be sent to Mr. Pegg in his illness, with an expression of the hope that he would soon be restored to health.

Wankie Colliery Company, Limited

Sir John Chancellor's Statement

New Capital Expenditure Required

THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF WANKIE COLLIERY COMPANY, LIMITED, was held on December 16, at Whitehead House, 1 and Broad Street, London, E.C.

SIR JOHN R. CHANCELLOR, G.C.V.O., G.B.E., F.R.S.O., Chairman and joint managing director of the company, presided.

The secretary, Mr. H. M. Lewis, read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors.

The following is the Chairman's statement, which had been circulated with the report and accounts:

Particulars of the operations for the year ending August 31, 1948, are shown in the directors' report for reference. The accounts it will be observed that this year the sum of £1000 has been written off the coal mining and other rights by way of amortization.

Trading Results

The profit for the year amounted to £94,682, to which had been added the balance brought forward from the previous year, £19,981, making a total of £114,663.

From this amount the sum of £50,000 has been transferred to general reserve, leaving a balance of £64,663, out of which the Board recommend the payment of a dividend of 5% less income tax, £45,719, which will leave £18,944 to be carried forward.

Although our sales of coal and coke show an increase of 27.10% and 18.63% respectively, when compared with the previous year, the shortage of railways

wagons again made it impossible for us to supply the whole of the orders of our customers, and adversely affected the systematic operation of the colliery.

There is a rapidly increasing demand for coal in both Southern and Northern Rhodesia, and a considerable number of further enquiries were received from overseas. We unfortunately cannot take advantage of this business until the railways company are in a position to supply additional transport.

New Plant

A washed coal storage bunker has recently been completed, and the installation of a further storage bunker for large coal with the necessary equipment will be completed as soon as possible. This installation will not only be of assistance to the railways in enabling us to give a quicker turn-round of their trucks, but it will also be of considerable benefit to us in dealing with fluctuations in the supply of trucks.

The new battery of coke ovens has been completed, and the final section is now in commission. The ovens have given excellent results as regards both the quality and quantity of the coke produced.

Progress has been made in connexion with a by-product plant. Portions of the tar distillation plant have already arrived at the colliery.

In connexion with the increase of the capacity of the plant to which I referred in my last annual general meeting, the new coal washer plant has been ordered and orders for the additional main plant will shortly be

placed. In order to ensure sanitary conditions at the collieries, we have authorized the installation of a water-borne sewage system.

"The year under review has been an extremely difficult one for those in control of Native labour. The heavy wage increases granted to Native employees made the Government award caused much distress among employed Natives, including colliery employees. To avert a threatened strike, considerable wage increases (not unparagoned in view of the heavy increase in the cost of living) were put into effect, and the situation is now generally satisfactory.

"During the year, our general manager, Mr. D. W. Darby, called on me. His visit afforded your board an opportunity of discussing with him the many problems that arise in common with the operators of the collieries. Once again I wish to thank Mrs. Darby and his staff for the highly efficient manner in which the affairs of the company have been conducted at the collieries.

Chairman's Additional Remarks

Addressing the meeting, the Chairman said: "In view of present difficulties in obtaining the greater supplies of Native labour necessary to increase our output of coal, we have taken steps to increase a further degree of mechanization of our plant and have been necessary both in milling and transport."

"In all, the capital expenditure contemplated amounts to some £100,000, and in this connection it will be pointed out in the note on the balance sheet that, at August 31, 1948, the definite commitments incurred at that date for the purchase of plant and machinery amount to approximately £100,000.

"As this company is the only producer of coal in the Rhodesias, and in view of the estimated future requirements of our contract customers, the increasing demands of the growing population and of newly established industries, it is essential to provide that the collieries

should be able in a position to meet these demands. As I have already stated, the shortage of rolling stock has prevented us from supplying the whole of our customers' existing requirements. The railway company has, however, obtained and is continuing to obtain delivery of additional wagons and locomotives, and we look forward to a considerable improvement in the relatively near future."

"We have received letters from a stockholder who has commented adversely on the dividend recommended by the board, and asked if the limitation to 3% was due to the voluntary arrangement prevailing in this country. I would state that the limitation of our dividend to 3% is in no way connected with that arrangement."

Provision of New Capital

"I advised the stockholders at the last annual general meeting that in order to enable the company to meet the greatly increased demand for coal in Southern and Northern Rhodesia, the Belgian Congo and possibly for export markets, it would be necessary to incur considerable capital expenditure and that further substantial sums would have to be provided from revenue during the next few years to meet the total amount of expenditure envisaged."

"To meet, however, of the substantial expansion in the demand for our products, it is necessary to incur a greater capital outlay than has hitherto been anticipated, coupled with the increasing cost of plant, machinery, etc., it will not be possible for this expenditure to be financed wholly out of revenue, without an arrangement for a short-term loan."

"The alternative would be to increase the capital of the company by an issue of shares, which does not commend itself to your board, as in their opinion the interests of the stockholders would be better served by the procedure which we propose to adopt."

"The report and accounts were adopted and the other formal business duly transacted."

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Tanganyika Concessions Ltd. Rosterman Gold Mines, Ltd. Company's Interests Reviewed Effect of Rising Costs

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF TANGANYIKA CONCESSIONS LIMITED, was held on December 16 in London.

MR. MAURICE HEY, F.R.S., M.C., Chairman of the company, presided.

He introduced a résumé of his circulated statement.

After crediting an amount of £522,339 received from the Union Minière Company in respect of dividends and interest for 1947 and £250,830 in respect of amount received from the Benguela Railway Company on account of redemption of 4% debentures for 1947, and after providing £30,000 for taxation, the surplus on profit and loss account was £287,203, appropriated as £126,818 for dividend on the preference stock at the rate of 10%, less tax and £13,000 for dividend on the ordinary stock at the rate of 5%, less tax, the balance of £126,936 being carried forward.

Comparison with 1947

It is interesting to compare the balance sheet presented to-day with the balance sheet of July 31, 1947, four years ago. Since then the 2% unsecured loan amounting to £1,781,805 has been redeemed from the liabilities reserves have been increased to £1,302,304 (including £1,027,770 formerly in suspense and since transferred to profit and loss) to £650,000; profit and loss balance has been set up from nil to £126,936 and cash and pledged from £321,440 to £953,742, of which £102,900 is in book value of British Government securities included among the assets in the balance sheet.

At the same time current liabilities have increased from £929,255 to £1,746,983, which latter figure includes £423,817 reserves for United Kingdom taxation for April 1949 and £264,964 for the dividends now proposed. There is also a reserve of £230,000 for United Kingdom income tax for fiscal year 1949-50.

Your principal interests are in the Union Minière du Haut-Katanga; the Benguela Railway Company, Kenya Gold Mines, Ltd., and Geita Gold Mining Co., Ltd.

Union Minière fixed assets have been revalued, and now stand at \$694,988,111 Belgian francs. Copper output in 1947 amounted to 158,840 metric tons, compared with 133,885 in 1946.

Benguela Railway Results

Gross operating receipts of the Benguela Railway for 1947 amounted to £1,124,154 as against £621,175 in 1946, and after providing £360,000 to reveal reserves account, the excess of income over expenditure set aside towards redemption of debentures, was £250,800, as compared with £66,000 in the previous year.

Gold production in the Geita Gold Mines for the year ended June 30, 1948, was 17,710 oz., compared with 18,173 oz. for the previous year, production being affected by labour troubles and mechanical breakdowns which seriously interfered with operations. Since the end of June, however, there has been a gradual improvement in operating results. All necessary equipment for the mill, of a design of 1,000 tons daily capacity has been installed.

Over 30,000 tons of ore have been brought into production during the year, and it is thought that other properties and the grade higher than the present 0.5% mill. Development of a 7 level of the mine will provide a considerable improvement in the grade of ore over the mine average, with a great increase in tonnage estimates. The estimated ore reserve at June 30, 1948, showed a total of 1,307,025 tons of an average grade of 1.37 dwyt. per ton, but no less than the strike level is included.

The report was adopted.

THE THIRTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ROSTERMAN GOLD MINES, LIMITED, was held on December 16 at the registered office, 20 Copthall Avenue, London, E.C.

MR. A. H. MORRING, ASSOC. M.INST.C.E., Chairman of the company, who presided, said:

"My first duty is to express our sorrow at the unexpected and untimely death of our chairman, Lieut. Colonel G. J. S. Seavell. He was the firm of the company from its inception, and, in all my experience I have never known a chairman who devoted himself more closely to the interests and well-being of the company than which he presided. I regard him as a very close and intimate friend, and I can assure you that it is with the resolve to endeavour to follow faithfully in his footsteps that I accept my task as chairman of the company.

The following is an extract from the restoring chairman's statement and the consulting engineers' and general managers' report circulated with the report and accounts for the year ended December 31, 1947:

Mineral Operations

"During 1946 the ore milled and treated was 41,700 tons for a recovery of 14,430 oz. of gold, equivalent to 34.4 dwyt. per ton milled; whereas during 1947, as a result of increased hand-sorting, 30,333 tons were milled for a recovery of 11,232 oz., equivalent to 7.3 dwyt. per ton milled.

Early in the present year the Board decided to authorize the remaining engineers to drive a main south crosscut at the No. 21 level. This crosscut had been intended as the intersection of an ore channel, disclosed by diamond drilling, which was assumed to be the No. 3 footwall reef. The results that have been obtained are of considerable interest.

"It appears that there is, as expected, a reef conforming to the general east-west trend of the other footwall reefs, but, in addition, another reef has been disclosed, the strike of which is north-south, at right angles to the strike of the other reefs. What this reef really means it is impossible to assess at the moment. It may be that there are other reefs parallel to this one, and the consulting engineers are now considering what a test should be taken to ascertain whether this is so or not.

Year Results

"At the end of the year under review (December 31, 1947) the ore reserves were estimated at 67,490 tons of an average value of 10.49 dwyt. per ton, compared with 77,000 tons and 10.10 dwyt. respectively for 1946. Thus, despite the disappointing result in the quarterly figures, some development has largely kept pace with the rate of mining. The principal additions to the reserves were made from the No. 4 footwall reef group.

The tonnage of ore milled during the year was 43,233 tons of which 11,066 tons and 16,511 tons were drilled from No. 1 and No. 4 footwall reefs respectively. Of the total, 51,700 tons were from development.

Hand sorting was continued and 12,617 tons of ore was reworked during the year 30,563 tons of ore were milled and treated by cyanidation for a recovery of 11,232 oz. of gold, equivalent to 7.34 dwyt. per ton milled, and the extraction averaged 43.8% compared with 43,000 tons, 24,890 fine oz. and 7.16 dwyt. respectively for the year 1946.

The average working costs, including all development, was 78s. 4d. per ton of the milled compared with 75s. in 1946. Development cost 15s. 5d. per ton milled, compared with 15s. per ton for the previous year.

The report was adopted.

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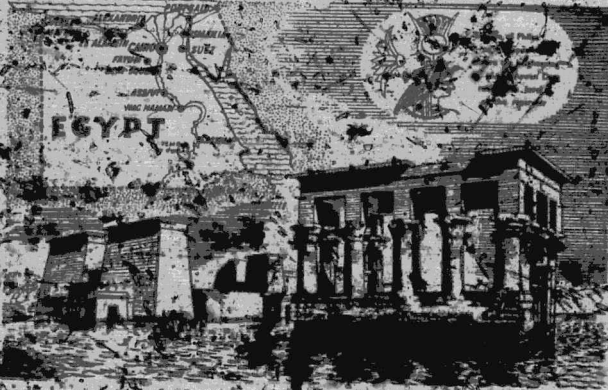
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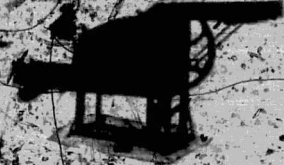
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PRINCIPAL CONTENTS

Page	Page
Matters of Moment 507	Nyasaland's 50-Year Progress 512
Uganda Oath 508	N. Rhodesia's Budget 520
Tricommision 509	Colonial Students 524
Comments on the Groundnut Scheme 511	Latest Mining News 526
Letters to the Editor 514	Company Meetings 528-532

MATTERS OF MOMENT

MISUNDERSTANDINGS concerning Nyasaland Railways should be dispelled by the candid statement of the chairman of the company which appears in full on another page. It abundantly justifies the **Good Fortune** comments made editorially in this newspaper some months ago when criticisms which seemed to us exaggerated had been made in the Legislative Council of the Protectorate. From all over the world there have been reports since the end of the war of desperate shortages of locomotives and rolling stock and, to the best of our knowledge and belief, there is no railway anywhere in Africa which is not in urgent need of replacements and additions in order to handle its traffic (which in many cases has grown enormously since pre-war days). Nyasaland, which could scarcely expect to be the unusual one and only exception, is in the unusually fortunate position of having a backlog of traffic which amounts to no more than one-tenth of the total tonnage carried by the railways last year.

That fact suggests that the directors have in the past provided an adequate margin of equipment for although there can have been

very little increase in that respect since 1939, the traffic carried has almost exactly doubled in the intervening eight years. Though fifty wagons have recently arrived and a further fifty should be delivered in about six months because trucks were placed long ago, substantial relief is not to be expected for another year, for the real handicap is lack of powerful new locomotives; the first of these on order will not be shipped before next June, despite the high priority given to their manufacture. All things considered, Nyasaland should congratulate herself on receiving so high a preference as to have the railway system serving far more highly developed territories like the Union of South Africa, the Rhodesias, Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika Territory, and Nigeria, are all clamouring for engines and rolling stock.

There has been much talk of "remote control" of the Nyasaland railway system from London. Mr. Goddington points out that four of the five members of its board have visited Nyasaland, and welcome that the fifth, Sir James Milne, Candour, who became a Government nominee less than a year ago, is about to visit London for Central Africa

there have, in fact, been four visits by directors in the past three years, within which period the general manager has also visited England. Those who control policy must therefore have thoroughly up-to-date knowledge of local conditions, and executive responsibility is, of course, placed in the local administration. In such circumstances what justification can there be for complaints of "remote control", particularly as two of the five directors are nominated by the Secretary of State, which means that the Nyasaland Government has its own spokesman on the board. Criticisms in regard to the bridge at Chiromo are likewise answered by Mr. Codrington, the candour of whose statement is to be welcomed.

It might well be emulated by the chairman of some other important enterprises in East and Central Africa, for white companies have the opportunity of their annual

Opportunities for informative review. **Company Chairmen**, addressed as much to the general public as to their members, often cling to the outworn and narrow conception that they are addressing a small and almost private audience of shareholders, and that almost their only concern need be to describe the finances of the enterprise. One result of that unenlightened attitude is, in many quarters, in Great Britain and the United States especially, has been the widespread growth of the idea that the prosperity of private enterprise is something quite distinct from the general well-being of the community, and even in conflict with it. That attitude has led to a deep and incalculable source of ill-feeling between capital and labour, from which has sprung an antagonism favourable to the growth of mass hatred and Communism. Company chairmen and directors, if they care, should use the opportunities afforded by their annual reports and meetings to make their contribution to public enlightenment in Company affairs.

ILLEGAL PROFITS of about six hundred thousand pounds a year are made by cotton buyers in Uganda, most of them Indians, through the deliberate policy of cheating the illiterate African growers, writes the **Uganda Race Relations** Cotton Industry Commission in its report, from which extracts appear in this issue. Box-tons connected with Uganda has known the malpractices were prevalent, but few

can have suspected that they were on so vast a scale. Many buyers and ginters are, of course, above reproach, but the commissioners were driven to the conclusion that in many cases "the cheating is instigated from the top." A respected and experienced Indian alleged that all the Africans engaged to prevent fraudulent practices, from chiefs to African agricultural officers, are "approachable," and other Indians deplored "the disastrous effect" which this widespread cheating by Indian cotton buyers has had upon the relations between the African and Asian races in Uganda, as a result of which in the eyes of the African cotton grower all Indians are branded as swindlers, and the honest Indian has to suffer in reputation by reason of the misdeeds of the dishonest competitors. Here, then, is a challenge to Indian, political, commercial and cultural leaders as grave and urgent as that to the Government in the Protectorate.

A WELL-KNOWN MERCHANT HOUSE in East Africa, Messrs. Kettles, Roy & Tison (Mombasa) Ltd. and a leading manufacturing company in England, Raleigh Industries Ltd. have each undertaken to provide a scholarship worth £120 annually at Makerere College, Uganda for two or three years according to the course selected by the successful candidate and after the expiration of the initial period to consider whether they can continue the arrangement. Since the object of the gifts is to help Africans attain higher education, there is no condition that the studies undertaken shall be of a commercial or industrial nature. Moreover, either award may be made by the committee entrusted with the appointments to a new entrant to the college or to a candidate who has completed the two-year course in the science and is ready for advanced study. East Africa and Rhodesia suggested years ago that those who had prospered in East Africa might provide scholarships at Makerere, but so far that institution has received little financial support from non-official sources. Mr. Williams, of Tanganyika, made the munificent gift of £5,000 some months ago and Messrs. Kettles, Roy & Tison, Ltd. have, we know, for some time paid the fees of two African students, being the first commercial concern to take that initiative. The two scholarships now announced afford a further proof of the genuine interest of the seeing business men in the better education of Africans and a new challenge to others to emulate their example.

power would be paid for 80 lbs, and the other gets the balance of the odd 20 lbs. These odd fractions amount to, and we have heard in evidence that he aggregate the total would average 10% with 3% as an outside figure. This represents a legitimate average.

What constitutes a scandal is that many are not content with that but continually instigate their buyers to cheat the illiterate grower by the scales in order to make the average something like 10%, which on a crop of 300,000 bales and a seed cotton price of 30 cents per lb. works out at some £400,000 illicit profit.

When we began to hear evidence to this effect we wondered how this illegal excess could be covered up in a firm's books. After looking into the matter we are satisfied that this can easily be done. The most common practice appears to be for the buyer to enter up his illicit gains in purchases from fictitious growers and to draw out the cash as though the cotton had been paid for to growers.

We are satisfied that the evidence that cheating takes place both at gineries and at stores, but that it is more prevalent at gineries. Hence there is still no compulsion between buyers and also there is more cheating at gineries.

Malpractices Arise from Illiteracy

The reasons why there are so few convictions are: (1) That it is extremely difficult to catch out the delinquent; (2) That buyers are clever and have evolved a technique; they do not cheat white Europeans or other responsible persons, are about, and they do not cheat a grower whom they know or find to be intelligent and literate; (3) That the chiefs and askaris, whose only job should be to help them and detect offences, were frequently bribed to look the other way.

So far we have dealt only with malpractices by buyers. The buyer has also to protect himself from certain malpractices of growers.

The root of the evil of these malpractices lies in the illiteracy of the thousands of growers, which makes them so easy and tempting a prey, and in the enormous rapacity of many buyers and, we repeat to add, in some cases of the persons who employ them.

All the ill growers could read and write, it would manifestly be difficult to catch them successfully, but dishonest buyers would probably abandon the attempt in despair. But the ideal state of affairs cannot be attained so quickly before the close of many years.

An Indian gentleman suggested that something might be done by the way of teaching all growers to read figures. His idea is that when the growers are assembled at gineries or stores to sell their cotton classes might be organized at which one of their number who has some education, or perhaps a chief, would instruct them in the rudiments of figures.

It is for us that the simplest solution might be to arrange such classes during the month preceding the opening of the cotton season, the work of headmasters, or perhaps at each school, making it compulsory for every cotton grower to attend until he has attained the very modest standard of class, which would be sufficient to enable him to read correctly the figures on the scales.

Should Buying Be Divorced from Cheating?

A number of responsible persons have expressed the view that the only substantial cure for this evil is to do away with the practical monopoly in selling buying at present exercised by the ginners and to divorce buying from selling by instituting some form of primary marketing based on a Government, but which would operate largely through Native Administration, and co-operative societies. Some such possibility was fully envisaged by Sir Charles Johnston in all his reports.

We were inclined to the Government that consideration as to the advisability of such a change was not intended to be included in our report of 1945, so that we have been precluded from pursuing the matter further, but it seems to us important that the ginning industry should realize that unless the collaboration wholeheartedly in putting a stop to this cheating, the time may come when there will be no option but to place the buying of seed cotton in their hands.

Emmema Indians, some connected with the ginning industry and some not, as commented, have before us explored the consequences of such a change, and the relations between the Indian cotton buyers and the relations between the African and Asian seed growers, all of which is the eyes of the African cotton grower. All Indians are branded as swindlers, and the honest Indian has to suffer in reputation by reason of the wholesale of his dishonest competitors.

We do recommend that even when the buyer is a ginner, the manufacturer doing the physical weighing of the scales should always be a local African. This is a serious matter, and we call out the weight in the language of the grower, and that the grower be present to be a protection against cheating. There is little doubt that there is good grounds for the almost universal belief among growers that everyone concerned in the weighing, including himself and asked detailed to be

wise and prevent abuses, is likely to be bribed by a dishonest buyer.

Early in our deliberations we were greatly impressed by the evidence of two well-known and highly respected leaders who strongly advocated some form of standard automatic scale for use at all buying centers. We understand that this possibility is being discussed with manufacturers in England. The ideal would be a scale with a dial face which automatically records the weight on a ticket which is given to the grower. If such a scale is not procurable or if the cost is prohibitive, our recommendation is that at every ginney and buying center there should be provided a standard Government scale at which the grower can ascertain the weight of his cotton immediately before selling it.

Need for Standard Scales

All growers are enthusiastically in favour of this standard scale, and we suggested that the expense of buying them might suitably be borne by the accumulated Cotton Fund, arguing that any money so spent would directly benefit the grower by enabling him to protect himself against cheating.

We recommend that at each scale there should be a public board showing how much money a grower should receive at the current price for one to 100 lb. of seed cotton.

We have been greatly impressed by evidence as to the system of weighing in open baskets of a standard size which is in force in some parts of the Sudan.

Some of the advantages of such a system would seem to be: (1) that it does not require any possibility of getting in touch with any other foreign matter, since the basket and scales are kept in the bush and easily seen by the grower; (2) that there can be no difficulty in getting the scales, and (3) that there can be no difficulty in getting the scales, and (3) that there can be no difficulty in getting the scales.

The Agricultural Department and the Uganda Cotton Association are in favour of this proposal. [Editorial comment appears under Matters of Moment.]

**New Government of the Sudan
Hall Executive Council Sudanese**

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL of the Sudan, after consultation with the leader of the Assembly has made the following appointments by virtue of his powers under the Executive Council and Legislative Assembly Ordinances:

- Ministers:**
 - AGRICULTURE: Abdulla Bey Khalil
 - HEALTH: Dr. Ali Beal
 - EDUCATION: / Abdel Rahman Ali Taha
 - Under Secretaries:**
 - INTERNAL AFFAIRS: Abdel Salam Abdalla
 - FINANCE: Mecawi Suleim Jusuf
 - BUDGET: Mohamed Ali Shawki
 - RAILWAYS: Abdel Rahman Abdoun
 - PUBLIC WORKS: Abdulla Masud
 - ECONOMICS & TRADE: Abdel Gadir Humaid
 - DEFENCE: Abdel Masud Ahmed
 - POSTS & TELEGRAPHS: Sheikh Abdulla Baer, C.A.S.
 - VETERINARY SERVICES: Sami Muhammad Ahmed
- The Governor General has appointed as Councillors without Portfolio in Council Ibrahim Ahmed, A. Gairdell and R. J. Hallard.

After consulting the Leader of the Assembly the Governor General has appointed the following Under Secretaries to be members of Council: Abdel Magid Ahmed and Abdel Rahman Abdoun. The Civil Secretary, the Legal Secretary, the Financial Secretary and the Kaid have also been appointed members of the Council.

The Executive Council will consist of 17 members, the Leader of the Assembly, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Education, Ibrahim Ahmed, A. Gairdell, R. J. Hallard, the Civil Secretary, the Legal Secretary, the Financial Secretary, the Kaid, Abdulla Masud Ahmed and Abdulla Bey Khalil.

Opening the Sudanese National Conference at Khartoum, the Governor General has announced that the hope of the Sudanese people for a new Sudan Government has been realized. The Sudanese people have elected a new Government, the Sudanese National Conference, which will be the first Sudanese Government since the Sudan's independence.

... have been used in the super-saturable soil. The ...
... must be collected. An experimental rake is being
... developed. Meanwhile the alternative is manual labour.

Groundnuts need good germinating conditions, freedom
from weeds, with supple top soil, easy entry of the
spike into the ground. The red band of KwaZulu is proving
intractable; the subsoil sets so hard that even after a season's
cultivation ploughing is practically impossible in the dry
season, leaving all too short a time of routine preparations.

I'm critical of the claims, possibly most people who have
seen it. But it must not fail, because the costs, the difficulties
of despoiling the soil, the need for suitable insects,
not only because of the damage to subsequent crops, it fails
but also because of the need for increasing the production
in this troubled world. Rome was not built in a day and
intra-Africa will not be built in a year or two.

Pest Problems

Dr. A. C. Evans, the corporation's entomologist,
writes:—

We shall be faced with problems of controlling some
insect pests and encouraging some beneficial insects.
For instance, rosette disease has already appeared on
the first plantings of groundnuts at Ntumbo and
Mwanza in sufficient amount for them to be undertaken.
The programme of research to discover methods of

control of the rosette disease is to be a root-rot and
weeds in the uncleaned soil. This insect, *Stenobothrus*
maritimus Stal., but usually just called 'Midge', is a major
pest of groundnuts in Senegal and it has caused a lot of
damage in the Simons area of East

... of an adequate population of honey
bees is essential to bring about pollination of sun-
flowers, and it may be necessary to develop a new system
of bee-keeping to ensure a sufficient number of bees at
the right time and place, because bush clearance is likely
to deplete the present numbers of bees very considerably,
indeed.

Rosette Disease

The groundnut is a young, tender plant, often a species
which transmits virus disease, as a vector. The
groundnut plant is not known. If it were discovered,
it might prove economical to cut down the tree or bush to
a certain depth in the soil around the growing areas. Suitable
crop rotations also can be devised to minimize damage.

Recent developments in the control of rosette have been
frenching, both in the range of chemicals used and in methods
of applying them. Before the last war we were dependent on
about six basic materials for controlling insects on agricultural
and horticultural crops; and the use of these was somewhat
restricted on grounds of danger to man and beast, and of cost.

Since the discovery of the value of D.D.T. another six
potent insecticides have been discovered, and more will be
in the near future. These recent developments have enabled us
to protect our crops much more effectively than in the past.
It provides a virtually unlimited source of control and it
is quite clear that for the time being in the Kenya area we
shall have to rely on insect control work. Recent develop-
ments in the technique of insecticide application, which
may become possible in the future, may become available,
if it is now possible in some cases to distribute insecticide
in gallons of water evenly over an acre.

A brick church is to be built at Kongwa by a C.M.
chaplain who is to arrive from Australia.

Nyasaland's Ten-Year Programme

How £7,000,000 Will Be Spent on Development

NYASALAND'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME for
the period ending in December 1955 is esti-
mated to cost £6,939,000. Of that total £1,978,000 is to
be spent on economic development, £2,662,000 on the
development of social welfare, and £2,253,000 on the
provision of additional services.

These and many other interesting facts are given in
a report entitled 'The Nyasaland Development Pro-
gramme' which has been compiled by the Govern-
ment and printed by Longmans.

When post-war development plans were first made
three years ago they showed an expenditure of
£7,500,000 over the 10-year period in addition to normal
departmental expenditure. Now the total has been cut
by nearly £3,000,000.

Preservation of Natural Resources

One of the main objectives of the agricultural develop-
ment plans, which cost £2,000,000, is the conservation
of our soil fertility and natural resources, the production
of ample food for all, and increased and more
efficient production of cash crops. There are to be
research and experimental stations for fire-cured
tobacco, tea, and tea and coffee, and a research unit
for the export of tung and saw research will
undoubtedly make the station to provide information
on the output and efficiency of these major export
industries may be greatly increased. There is also a
plan for a research experiment in mixed farming on
the Nyasa Highlands to ascertain the possibilities
of agricultural development on the high grasslands,
which are now unproductive.

It is provided that a great improvement in
the standards of African agriculture. Particular
attention is to be paid to the conservation of soil and
soil fertility, the management of the farms, rotation
of the better spacing of crops and the timely sowing
and weeding. The cultivation of even sugar
improvements in these aspects of Native agriculture
would be to have profound effects on the present

... and cash crops and a proportionate effi-
cient method of living. The plan also provides for
the conservation of more efficient living systems.

It is also planned to establish a research station
in the more thickly populated parts of the Province
to study to relieve the women of the laborious and
tender task of pounding maize, to help to couple this
fact with the plan for improved local malting, and
it is also recognized that the success of this plan
depends almost entirely on propaganda and
organization. The bulk of the expenditure will there-
fore be for the new institutions, which will comprise
six agricultural officers' live assistants, and a staff of
Native agricultural demonstrators.

Flavour of Tobacco

At Kasungu an experiment is to be made with fire-
cured tobacco. The report states:—

Tobacco is an export of the greatest importance in the
Protectorate's economy on account of its direct monetary value
and the indirect benefits of employment, trade and transport
which it entails. The production of fire-cured tobacco has
decreased in Nyasaland, and its characteristic flavour has tended
to reduce the quality of the leaf. These are, however, areas in the
northern part of the Central Province where soil and climate
appear to be favourable for the production of fire-cured
tobacco comparable with the best in Rhodesia, and it is
improbable that the sector is more consistent and pro-
ductive than that enjoyed by the local industry.

Since it is essential for success that the tobacco grower
should be able to obtain the highest possible price for his
product, it is necessary to conduct an experiment in the
curing etc. of the tobacco. To this end, an
agricultural farming, an operation which started in 1947 and
1948 and has since been supervised by a District Officer
to take charge of it.

The tea industry, with an almost export in the region
of £1,000,000 a year, is approximately equal in importance
to the tobacco industry. The largest single employer of
labour, it will benefit from soil and climate research such
that most of the experimental work done in other tea
production countries can be of very limited application in

Letters to the Editor

Views of Baganda Intelligentsia Mrs. Elspeth Huxley's Reply

To the Editor of EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA

SIR—Would you allow me space to comment on some of Mr. Mullira's criticisms of my book? The *Serforer* is my opinion.

My remarks about taxation in Buganda referred in your context to both *land* and income tax, to which all are liable, and I stated correctly that the rich Muganda pay no more than the laborer, and is exempted from income tax. Of course, when men pay more in specific taxes, for instance, some pay licences on motor cars, and to scarcely affects the argument that a landowner pays a special contribution of 1s. 6d. per acre from his 10% annual rent.

In this country there is a 10% on men's gifts, but if he has a flat-rate and not a graduated income that it would not be a very convincing argument to cite against the proposition that the rich paid no more than the poor in such a matter. It is true that the Muganda landowner pays a special tax of up to 25% (maximum) a year, but a man with say 50,000 acres throughout Buganda with no rent to pay, cannot regard this as a very serious levelling-up measure. Perhaps I should have said "direct general" tax, but as a question of principle, I think it quite clear, and Mr. Mullira is wrong to confuse it with a pig-herring.

As to the £20 an acre paid by the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation, Mr. Mullira says this was not a political device, but a fair price, though he thinks that it is much higher than the ordinary cost of land in the district. The fact remains that this and the wanted and the same private property, but to be permitted to be carried out for the benefit of the local cotton growers, who refused to part with it except at a price completely far above market value. My informant felt angry or wrongly, that the Government should not have given away land this was an honest view-point which I felt was worth recording.

Mr. Mullira's most unfortunate point concerns the attitude towards the Baganda Native Government, with the Kabaka at its head, of the group of so-called *expatriates* in the white, he was glad to find the pleasure of meeting in Kampala. I am, of course, delighted to receive this assurance, that all the individuals I met on that occasion entertained feelings of unqualified loyalty towards the Kabaka. However, critics like you, have blamed the *Kabaka* and the system of local government through *chiefs* and *sub-chiefs* officers. Nevertheless, it is surely disingenuous to be blaming to lead us to believe that there is no objection to the Kabaka and his Government among the Baganda *intelligentsia*, or that the fact of having been at school at Luanda is proof of support for the young king.

As Mr. Mullira well knows, there is an undercurrent of hostility towards the whole setup, which never long ago was carried to the lengths of rioting and murder. I am not for a moment suggesting that any of the individuals I met on the occasion mentioned would associate themselves with such extremist views, and Mr. Mullira will no doubt recall that since my visit the Protectorate Government has found it necessary to pass a law empowering them to compel newspapers to correct inaccuracies, so serious a view do they have of some of the deliberately misleading reports which have been printed, and which tend to bring discredit both on the Kabaka's and on the Protectorate's Governments, and on the Government of the set, therefore, that he can hardly dispute the point. I was making that among the educated Baganda, of whom I met a representative cross-section of a church and National Government, Balthazar and the young anti-Kabaka feeling.

It is any matter to Mr. Mullira for pointing out a slip in the name of one of the vernacular newspapers. It should have been *Guloboi*, not *Uganda*, which of course is a Kenya paper. This will be corrected in any future edition.

Finally, I cannot trespass on your space to answer all his points. I am sorry that Mr. Mullira feels that so little attention was paid in the book to missionary endeavour. Nothing could be further from my intention than to underestimate his work, and in fact, the book has overlooked a number of references to him, and to those he pays, in a close-packed survey of this kind, one is bound to leave out far more than one puts in, and various descriptions of mission work are given in the sections on Kenya and Tanganyika as well as on Uganda. This is a subject that needs, and deserves, a book to itself.

Yours faithfully,
ELSPETH HUXLEY

Points from India

Higher Educational Standards

Mr. Mullira's criticism said and written about high living standards in India, about the unduly high living standards in India, East Africa. It is not apparent to accept in essential, however, all sorts of conveniences and luxuries which the Indians never dreamt and which were not available very far even 10 or 15 years ago. They cannot, temporary difficulties and shortages, be met by temporary improvisations. The scandal of black marketeering, in fact, will continue for years until the Government encourage local authorities and the individuals to put up cheap temporary structures of essential goods, and township areas. Thousands of cheap comfortable cheap mud huts could and should be quickly built and provided with the services. They would give comfortable accommodation to thousands of families who now crowd the hotels.

Highest Common Platitudes

I have just heard a phrase new to me which may be a useful addition to the vocabulary of some of our political leaders (or, so far as I can recall, I have never heard it used in public in East Africa). When a title is used in talking about your reports, the widest any of us had seen of the African Conference in London, one of our number asked: "Did you notice the difference between the news extracted at the Press conferences and the uselessness of the formal communications? I suppose all we can expect from departmental statements is the highest common platitude. How apt that term is! Our legislative councillors might make very effective play with 'highest common platitude' when official spokesmen are nominated, as they often are."

Nationalization of Steel

While His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom are about to nationalize the steel industry, His Majesty's Government in Southern Rhodesia have financed a modern steel plant at Que-Que, and negotiating with leaders of the United Kingdom steel industry with a view to taking them into partnership. Surely it is Rhodesia, not the United Kingdom which is showing wisdom.

Learning from the Colonies

You have often emphasized that the Colonies can learn a great deal from the experience of the Dominions, and tried that more men from the Dominions should be attached into the Colonial Service, so as to be helpful in the Colonies, and being grateful that representatives of the Colonies should be attending the conference, and the Colonies, and the Empire Parliament Association.

Sense of Urgency and Pride Needed Sir Clarence Bird on Rhodesia's Problems

SUCCESSFUL POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT must be dependent on and follow satisfactory economic development and not vice versa, said Lt. Gen. Sir Clarence Bird in a recent speech in Bulawayo.

In this, his first public address since his arrival in Southern Rhodesia three months earlier, Sir Clarence added (in part):

"We need a sense of urgency. When Lt. Gen. Mountbatten had to work out the handling over of responsible government in India in the course of a few weeks, he had produced the issues to all officials, fear of soldiers indicating the number of days left before zero day. The same idea must permeate all our activities. The time now is not the time for survival just as much as it was in 1939-45. Our contribution to the phased and programmed economic development of Southern Rhodesia in relation to the Commonwealth with the maximum possible speed.

"The planning for the Normandy landing, the first steps required were to establish an adequate information source and create an operations planning division. In a comparatively young country the collection of necessary basic information and data is not the least of the problems of development planning.

"Four fundamental factors are population, food, coordination and mutual trust.

Education All-Important

It is mainly on the number and the individual worth of the population, European and African, that the future of the country will depend. There is no way there ahead from the younger generation of Europeans, whether they have lived here all their lives or are new comers, the same standards will continue to be demanded in the development of the country. This must be prepared for with the best we should do in the conditions that are really in fact to health and contentment be drawn from due to existing conditions, possible to make life interesting and attractive.

"The problem of educating the Africans, better citizens and increasing their economic usefulness is pressing. The education in the widest sense of young Africans, boys and girls, and in relation to the individual's future walk in life is all important.

"Population is increasing while in many areas food production here is going down. In one large area affecting some 400 million people an increase in the annual food grain production by some 25% on 16 million tons to be achieved in six or seven years has been calculated as essential if a major disaster is to be averted. Here the need appears to be just as insistent and potentially as great, if not greater, in proportion.

Instruction about Diet

"Closely allied is the question of nutrition and of the African. I appreciate that there are difficulties here, but as a result of publicizing information on nutrition in a popular and easy way by simple pictures and visual demonstrations, campaigns of food and health exhibitions in which the young children of the household is taken into practical account and forms an important feature, the encouraging results have been achieved elsewhere. It is in such efforts we would like to see possible there to scope here in the education more particularly among the African women. The Regional Distribution of essential vitamins and adequate co-ordinating mechanism is an essential part of any plan for development, and we must ensure that all schemes are adequately considered from all aspects and in their relation to one another, but also to overall progress. It is in clearing bottle-necks and holding up of schemes which revision or adjustment due to any number of circumstances. The Regional Distribution of industrial resources in the United Kingdom affords an excellent example of what can be achieved by such co-ordination in relation to a specific development policy.

"Trust and mutual co-operation can be a vital part of all stages of a development plan. So much can be done and so often misunderstood, can be avoided or remedied by getting round a table and by an intelligent appreciation of the other man's job.

"New comers like myself may tribute to the rapid strides that have taken place, particularly in recent years, in the development of this country, and the hard work, energy and

(Continued on top of next column.)

The Kabaka and His Bride



Mulaga N. Kabaka of the Kingdom of Busoga has married on his 24th birthday to Miss Ramani Kisonko, aged 17. The Kabaka had recently returned to Uganda after spending two years in Cambridge University, while his bride had been studying in London in the House of Commons, reading sociology and history in particular.

The wedding took place in November Cathedral which is one of the seven hills on which the administrative capital of Uganda, Kampala, is built. The bishops of Uganda and the Upper Nile, assisted by an African bishop, all of the Church of the Province, officiated at the ceremony, which was presided over by the Governor of East Africa.

The bride was attended by five bridesmaids dressed in blue satin gowns.

Seven hundred guests attended the wedding reception at the Kabaka's palace.

It is a great pity that those who have made it possible for Southern Rhodesia to attain its present status should not be able to do so.

Arthur Bryant wrote victoriously: "We may ask ourselves how to give men pride in the society they inhabit, love for their native land and satisfaction in the institutions which they have built. That is the problem that faces Europe, bankrupt and economically British in kind, in the years ahead. It has to be solved, not only by the legislative chamber and the administrator's and industrialist's official but in the parish and the national broadcasting studios, and also in the school, and I would add in the home."

BACKGROUND

Jerusalem To-Day.—In Jerusalem and Bethlehem this Christmas the murmur are still trained on the Holy City. Arab soldiers ink to each other, but from machine-gun posts. Politicians no longer bother to conceal their ambitions. "If I should forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning" is a vow which filled and inspired the Jewish people in dispersion for centuries; but it was also the motto of a terrorist group. The Jewish rabbis and zealots, traders and terrorists will never forget Jerusalem. Neither will the Arabs. Certain Christians will be allowed to make the pilgrimage to Bethlehem, again in Jewish military transport and escorted first by Jewish and then by Muslim soldiers. Within the walls of the Old City a large area of rubble marks the site of what was once the Jewish quarter. There is little evidence of malicious damage to holy places, and looting was generally confined to shops and dwellings, often belonging to those of the same religion as the looters; accusations of vandalism are generally unfounded. The Chapel of Ascension stands serene upon the Mount of Olives. Below the Garden of Gethsemane is still tended by Franciscan Fathers. The Via Dolorosa is as it was, except for some superficial damage caused by a shell to one of the arches. Only three mortar bombs damaged the roof of the Holy Sepulchre. The Wailing Wall remains. Jerusalem is still a lovely city, which would attract pilgrims even if its religious associations counted for naught. No wonder an English administrator said that there was no promotion after Jerusalem.—Special correspondent of *The Times* in Palestine.

U.N.E.S.C.O.—The United Nations' Educational, Social and Cultural Organization has gone out of its way to lay itself open to adverse criticism. It is highly regrettable that when nearly one third of its budget is spent on official salaries and administrative expenses, there should still be so much administrative incompetence and laxity as there undoubtedly is. The scheme to compile a world philosophy has been quickly dropped; but in the present state of the world the proposed compilation of a catalogue of world music does not seem of burning urgency. And last July it was reported that the group of social scientists (including a Brazilian sociologist, a Hungarian Marxist, and a Norwegian philosopher) engaged on a study of the causes of tensions which make for war were about to issue an agreed statement which would define a minimum area of working agreement between opposing ideologies. What practical use is this to anyone?—*Economist*.

Bishops of Race Relations.—Discrimination between men on grounds of race alone is inconsistent with Christian principles. In every kind, men of every race should be encouraged to develop according to their ability. This involves fairness of opportunities in trades and professions, in facilities for travelling, in housing, in education, and in schemes for social welfare. Every churchman should be assured of a cordial welcome in any church. South Africa's only hope is in harmonious relationships between racial groups. If Buryans seek for themselves the exclusive benefits of Western civilization and allow its burdens only to non-Europeans, South Africans will inexorably draw apart into mutually antagonistic racial groups. South Africans must meet this special challenge, reconsider their race attitudes in the light of the teaching of Christ, and uphold the Christian doctrine of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.—Bishops of the Church of the Province of South Africa.

Exports from Japan.—The Americans are determined that Japan shall stand on her own feet within five years and compete in the Eastern and African markets sufficiently to keep her population reasonably well fed. The Americans in Japan are not satisfied that Lancashire and Yorkshire have ever been hurt by Japanese competition in textiles. The cotton and woolen industries in Great Britain had better get busy before the peace treaty with Japan is settled if they want to sell in those markets again. The most industrial Americans consider that Lancashire and Yorkshire moan too much. During my visit there were only two people in Tokyo with an ounce to General MacArthur and his lieutenants who could give facts and correct figures. It is high time we sent experts not only to Washington but to Tokyo, since textile history is being made in Tokyo and Osaka at the moment. Even under present restrictions Japan in the last quarter exported more cotton piece-goods to the East than the whole of the exports of Lancashire and Yorkshire in the same period to the whole world. Yet the Supreme Command Allied Powers in Tokyo will not admit that Japan and Great Britain are rivals at all. It is a serious position for the north of England.—Mr. William Teeling, M.P., in *Commonwealth and Empire*, Review.

Fire and the Commonwealth.—The Prime Minister's statement that he does not regard Fire's action as placing her in the category of foreign countries smacks too much of complacency—and of irrelevant complacency. What matters is whether foreign countries will so regard her and press their case with every probability of success before the League Court. If that court says that she is a foreign country, then no application for other foreign countries to receive exactly the same treatment for their citizens and commerce as we propose to accord Fire citizens could fail. The logical and startling conclusion that General Franco could claim to be an associate member of the British Commonwealth shows the risks that are being run through not thinking things out. Mr. Churchill has denied that the situation is being fully estimated. One advantage of a Commonwealth connection without having any reciprocal obligations towards the Empire is that there will be common advantages but no common obligations. The Commonwealth Club will be composed of members some of whom belong for the very reason of passionate attachment to the Crown—which others repudiate. That cannot make for strength. It involves a complete reversal of the spirit of the Statute of Westminster. Nobody objects to the old order changing, giving place to new; but it is desirable that the process should be thought out and not developed into disintegration. The Socialists have changed the status of Britain for the worse. Let us hope that they will not also change for the worse that incomparable organization, the British Empire.—*Daily Telegraph*.

Nationalization.—Mr. Noel Baker, Minister for Commonwealth Relations, said the other day "a challenge is open to produce an example of private enterprise put under public control and put back under private enterprise." Well, there was the United States Shipping Board which lost £670,000,000 in 14 years and was then handed back to private interests. The same thing happened in France and Australia, where the nationalized railways of Belgium and the coal mines of Westphalia were lost so much money and were so inefficient that they went back to companies. In the first world war the American railways under State control lost \$2,600,000 a day. In the second world war under company control they paid \$4,000,000 a day in taxes. Mr. Noel Baker misled the public.—*Daily Mail*.

TO THE NEWS

E.A.R.-marked. — "The export trade, operated by private enterprise, has beaten all targets." — Mr. Leakey, Ceylon.

"In this world of weeping, wailing and nationalization of teeth." — Mr. Chester Beatty, junr.

"The United States are a great country, of free love, life & in America, the wonderful planners outside." — Mr. Erling, Swin.

"Our visible exports of 1948 will be above 5% above the 1937 figure and 6% of £80,000,000 above the Government's forecast." — Sir Stafford Cripps.

"A man who boasts that he has lost a family that he has read the bible." — *Editor, Home Journal, Philadelphia.*

"The turnover of waltzers at dog races in 1947-48 was about £95,000,000 and £65,000,000 was staked, with football and jockey pools." — Commissioners of Customs and Excise.

"The latest Russian jet bomber promises to revolutionize the whole concept of bomber design. The biggest, swiftest, in a propelled fighters have come from Russia." — *Aircraft Annual.*

"It is strange that those who want to abolish class talk so much about it. The rule of the proletariat is to be as wicked as the rule of the old capitalists." — The Rev. W. H. Elliott.

"The total estimated strength of the Royal Navy, Army, and Air Force on January 1, 1949, is 610,500, the net reduction during 1948 being about 31,000." — Mr. A. V. Alexander, Minister of Defence.

"Men do not desire to be the Common Man any more than they are the Common Man. They need gratitude in others and the occasion to discover the greatness in themselves." — Willing C. Wedgwood.

"British exports to Russia in the first nine months of 1948 amounted to about £53,000,000 and in the same time Europe's exports to Britain totalled £22,000,000." — Mr. S. MacBride, Minister of Overseas Affairs in Eire.

"Unless the United Nations in due course acquire power, and therefore their power politics, it will be as futile as the League of Nations." — The Rt. Hon. R. S. Menzies, Leader of the Opposition in Australia.

"In proportion to population, Scotland has out-wisdomed many engineering graduates as the United Kingdom taken as a whole, and 50% more graduates in physics and chemistry." — Mr. Herbert Morrison, M.P.

"A long experience of the British public has taught me that it can rarely be convinced by logical or dramatic force of public events but only by its participation in homeopathic doses." — Mr. Wickham Steed.

"The basic scientific discoveries which most of the developments of the war were based were not made by American scientists but by European scientists." — From a speech made before the Senate of the United States.

"Though M.P.s receive £1,000 a year their latches may be subsidized by the taxpayer to the tune of £10,000 a year, which is about 2s. per member or candidate for which the House sits." — *Light Colonel C. Barker, Chairman (Tret).*

"The real mischief of patronage is the time-serving which it induces, the habit of stumbling over the boundary of assuming the correct sympathies, or of giving the acceptable answer, the unobjectionable, it may be, the only hope of being bought off." — Mr. G. M. Young, in the *Sunday Times.*



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W/VERN, 4 cyl. 1 1/2 litrs., 1 litrs. Best fuel saving. Small road economy with performance above average in the 1 1/2 litre class. 33-35 m.p.g. with normal driving and a top speed of 64 m.p.h. Unladen weight 2170 lb.

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MR. JOHN FRANCIS GIBSON, whose ...

Sir E. L. BAKER, former Governor ...

LORD and LADY HICKING, LORD ...

Mrs. G. ...

MR. ...

MR. ...

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MR. ...

MR. ...

MR. ...

MR. ...

MR. ...

MR. EDWARD HODGSON, ...

MR. GEORGE BURRELL, general ...

MR. ...

MR. ...

MR. ...

MR. ...

MR. ...

Plans to honour ...

Mr. ...

Mr. ...

Mr. ...

Mr. ...

Mr. ...

Mr. ...

Mr. ...

Mr. A. H. Benson, Administrative Secretary in Uganda, whose appointment as Chief Secretary of the Central African Council we announced last week, was for two years during the war on the staff of the Cabinet Office, and acted as an assistant private secretary to the Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill. Born in South Africa, he married a daughter of Sir Bernard Ryan, Minister of Finance in Southern Rhodesia from 1923 to 1933, and then Minister of Internal Affairs until 1939. After leaving Exeter College, Oxford, Mr. Benson joined the Colonial Service in Northern Rhodesia in 1932 and was a district officer for seven years. Then he was seconded to the Colonial Office for two years, and owing to the war did not return to Northern Rhodesia until 1944. Two years ago he went to Uganda. He is expected to take up his new post in Salisbury in a few weeks.

Colonial Group in London

A COLONIAL GROUP in process of formation by the Royal Empire Society, Sir Stewart Symes has accepted the chairmanship of the interim committee, of which Mr. T. F. Southard is acting as honorary secretary. It began on January 13. Sir Gerald Hawkesworth will address the group on local government in the Colonies. Fellows of the Society, who have lived in the Colonial Empire are especially invited to join the group.

Nokrashy Pasha

NOKRASHY PASHA, Prime Minister of Egypt, who was assassinated on Tuesday, apparently in revenge for his campaign against terrorist organizations, had supported the idea of a Unity of the Nile Valley and of the restoration of Egyptian sovereignty over the Sudan. On that issue, of course, his ideas were not complete in line with those of the British Government.

Obituary

Dr. HORACIO DE CARVALHO, Secretary-General of Mozambique, has died in the Colony at the age of 57. He had previously served as Judge in Feta.

We recently reported that, according to Press releases from Kenya, COLONEL GERALD SYDNEY ADAMS, of Kitale, had been killed by an African. It is now known that his death was due to heart failure. He was found dead in bed and there was no evidence of violence. The house had been burgled, but whether before or after his death cannot be ascertained.

SENOR ESTYVAO DE SOUZA DO BOURBON, Director of Public Works in Beira, was shot and killed recently by a member of his staff who had been suspended. Senhor Bourbon was in the room with his wife when the assailant wounded him in the chest with a revolver shot. Aged 40, and the son of Count Azevedo, he was provincial chairman of the Beira National (the only Portuguese) football party and chairman of the Beira Sporting Club.

Public Appointment

**CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES
E.g. RAILWAYS AND HARBOURS**

Applications from qualified candidates are invited for following post:

MARINE ENGINEER required by the East African Railway and Harbours, for the Transportation Department, for a term of 10 to 12 months with prospect of permanent employment. Salary £590 rising to £600 a year. Outhouse allowance £30. Post quarters and passages for officer and family married. He must be a holder of a licence of three adult passages in all, or be a holder of full licence. Candidates must cover by first-class first-class Board of Trade or Ministry of Transport Engineer's (Steam) Certificate, in motor engines, but desirable, but not essential. Apply at once by letter, stating age, whether married or single, and full particulars of qualifications and experience, and mentioning EAST AFRICA and RHODESIA to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 1 Millbank, London, S.W.1, quoting M/W/24738/13E on each letter, and envelope.

Kenya Immigration

NON-NATIVE IMMIGRANTS by all routes to Kenya reported during the second quarter of this year totalled 12,115 of whom 2,076 were in transit to other territories. Permanent immigrants without previous residence numbered 3,279, an increase of 52% over the corresponding period in 1947, and there were 3,219 temporary visitors, an increase of 40%. Of the new permanent immigrants 1,306 were Europeans (comprising 768 from the United Kingdom and 538 from Italy) and 1,218 Indians. Temporary visitors included 1,463 from neighbouring territories and 4,756 from other countries; visitors from the U.S.A. numbered 17 compared with 39 in the first quarter of the year, and 72 for the whole of 1947. During the second quarter of this year there were 1,247 emigrants, of whom 789 were Europeans and 257 Indians. The corresponding figures for 1947 were 824, 582, and 135.

Better Pyrethrum Outlook

KENYA plans to double its pyrethrum production in 1949, the aim being a crop of 3,500 tons. A large proportion of the estimated output has already been sold forward to the United States at 25% above the 1948 price, and it is estimated that for good quality flowers growers should receive not less than 4s. 3d per lb. Recent research suggests that pyrethrum may have new uses as a protective agent for foodstuffs in store, and experiments are being made in this country with grain, pulses and in West Africa with breadfruit, palm kernel and cacao. If the results are satisfactory, an immense increase in demand would follow. Indeed, it is probable that for this purpose alone requirements would far exceed the combined crops for Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, the Belgian Congo, and Nyasaland.

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N. Rhodesia's £10,250,000 Budget £500,000 Transferred to Reserve

WHEN THE REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE Appropriation Bill was considered in the Northern Rhodesia Legislative Council, the Financial Secretary said that the estimate of revenue in 1949 had been £9,200,000, of which £7,000,000 was in respect of customs duties, and that the Controller of Customs had given evidence that £357,000 of arrears of customs revenue was due from South Africa and Southern Rhodesia. Thus the total estimated revenue had risen to £10,250,000.

Variations in the expenditure estimates represented a substantial sum. Deliveries of maize from the 1947-48 crop would be larger than expected, thus permitting a reduction in maize subsidies, with a consequent saving of £230,000 in food subsidies. Since the Select Committee considered that there was no justification for the provision of funds for a State scheme of maize production, they had deleted the item of £300,000 for that purpose.

Expenditure Totals £9,483,825

With regard to recommended increases, a further £80,000 was required for loans to local authorities; £50,000 for the Government contribution towards the capital of the cement works; and £38,500 for improvement of the Lusaka electricity and water undertakings.

The effect of these variations was to decrease the expenditure estimates from £9,799,725 to £9,483,825. An uncommitted surplus of £522,065 thus remained, and the Select Committee recommended that £500,000 of this should be transferred to the reserve fund, leaving a surplus of £222,065.

The total of the reserve fund, the development account, and general reserve balance as a result of the

variations was estimated to be £7,635,000 on December 31, 1949, after meeting development expenditure of £1,059,000.

MR SIMON COPE-BROWN said that the Government were now dealing with as many million pounds as they had dealt with shillings when he first entered the country.

On the subject of African education, all members must be concerned with the magnitude of the vote and the increase over previous years. Nobody grudged the African's generous share of the available funds, but a sense of proportion had to be preserved.

The increase is nearly £41,000. We must consider whether in future it may not be necessary to put some of the cost of African education on the Africans themselves by way of educational levies or cesses. It is said that this is done in certain States. I think that the Africans have no objection to such a scheme. Indeed, in one or two districts education levies are already raised, and it has been suggested to me at meetings in different parts of the country that Africans are prepared to meet by a specific levy or cess the education of some of the recurrent cost of their education.

There is the barrier pointing out to the African population that their vote contribution in direct taxation amounts, excluding Barotsi, to approximately £100,000, whereas the social service of education alone amounts this year to well over £200,000.

Right Kind of Education

"Is education on the right basis? The Director convinced us that it is. He dismissed the mind of anyone who might have held the view that African education is purely selfish, and producing a white-collared black-skinned class. It gives us some impressive figures.

Even so, with all that is spent to-day we are dealing with only 42% of the African population of school age. It is not a very high proportion, but in this country, as far as I know, we do more in the way of African education than in the majority of not all Colonies and Dependencies. That is something of which I think our numerous ill-informed and volatile critics are not aware.

MR C. B. BARKER said that when the thoughts of members were rightly dwelling there and more upon development, there was some danger of failure to check the humdrum day-to-day expenses in the public service.

The Department of Agriculture was dangerously short of staff, and recruitment would in the next few years be extremely difficult. It was essential to train young men and perhaps young women for entry into the department. The Government should also provide for those who showed distinct promise to go outside the country to qualify for the higher posts in that and other departments.

Requirements of barbed wire were estimated at 1,500 tons or about 1,000 miles of fencing. Obviously that needed a considerable number of fencible standards and droppers, which must be of local timber. He hoped the Forestry Department would publish information on the best methods of treating local timber against termites and rot.

The beer control regulations in force in the Chisumba district should be extended to other farming areas. Absenteeism among Native farm labour was a growing nuisance and beer drinking was one of the causes. Discipline on the farms was being affected because, with the acute labour shortage, farmers took no action against absenteeism.

Department of Fisheries and Irrigation

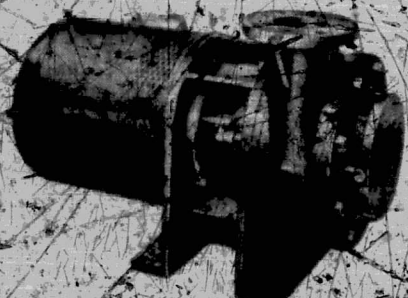
MR VAN EEDEN raised the question of vermin extermination, saying that farmers considered the present methods inadequate. Cattle were being preyed upon by wild beasts, and in some areas concentrated action was necessary. Instead of sending a game ranger for a day or two, a unit capable of vermin extermination on a large scale should be sent for a month or more.

On the subject of cattle he said that cattle were being stolen at an almost unbelievable rate, and that there were considerable areas being carried off, not only the cow, but the calf and the bull. A rural area needs a better police system and mounted patrol, it was quite useless for a white, European policeman and a few askaris to go out for the night.

The Department of Water, Development and Irrigation said MR VAN EEDEN reminded him of the Voltaire and once said of the South African Empire that it was neither Wily, No-Roberts nor an Empire. The Department of Water, Development and Irrigation said that the Department of Fisheries and Irrigation should be called the Department of Fisheries and Irrigation.

MR A. A. MUMBY considered the telephone maintenance work inadequate and in many cases said that rural lines were not being maintained and that in some urban areas there were no telephones. He said that in some urban areas there were no telephones.

MR L'ANDE said that the Government were establishing an institute for research into disease in stock, especially in cattle and sheep.



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East African Conference in London Colonial Students in Britain

Transport Problems To Be Discussed

Sir Philip Mitchell, chairman of the East African High Commission and Governor of Kenya, Mr. E. R. E. Sprague, Acting Governor of Tanganyika Territory, and Sir Reginald Robin, Commissioner for Transport in East Africa, accompanied by technical advisers of the East African Railways and Harbours, left East Africa yesterday by air to attend a conference in London at which transport questions will be discussed, especially those concerning the improvement of conditions at the port of Dar es Salaam. Representatives of the Colonial Office, the Ministry of Transport, the Ministry of Food, and probably the Ministry of Supply, are to attend. Future policy in regard to the groundnut scheme in the Koniwa area of Tanganyika will be discussed, and it is understood that a 10-year plan submitted by the Overseas Food Corporation provides for priority for transport requirements even at the cost of reduction of the groundnut planting programme.

Water Resources

All water supplies in Kenya are vested in the Crown by a new Water Ordinance. A Water Resources Authority consisting of the Member for Health and Local Government, a representative of the Department of Agriculture, the Chief Native Commissioner and such other persons as may be appointed will be established by the Member for Agriculture and Natural Resources to investigate the water resources of the Colony and make recommendations for their preservation and use. The coastal area leased from the Sultan of Zanzibar is excluded from the operation of the ordinance.

New Policy Announced by Mr. Rees-Williams

COLONIAL STUDENTS in the United Kingdom and Empire now number 3,481, said Mr. D. R. Rees-Williams, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, when speaking in Croydon just before Christmas. Of that number 1,396 hold scholarships.

Except, possibly as an emergency measure, the Government did not expect to increase the number of students; its policy now being to develop local institutions of higher education and send to Great Britain those needing post-graduate training, since the most valuable results came from sending to this country men somewhat older than the undergraduates and with more experience of life; moreover, those rather older men were normally married and brought their wives with them.

Among his audience at the International Language Club were a number of Colonial students. Addressing them directly, Mr. Rees-Williams said:

"You can serve your people best by working hard by getting a good education in the broadest sense of the word, and then by going back to the territories from which you come and dedicating your lives to the service of your fellow-men. I found in my recent travels barristers and others of good education helping in their spare time with the cooperative movement, with business, with small factories, and in other ways. Their object was to broaden the economic basis of the country and to afford their fellow-countrymen a more varied way of life than had been possible before.

Work, Not Words

"There is a tremendous lot to be done in all the Colonies and this can only be done by saving ourselves by steady effort for better opportunities. What are needed are men who get their coats off and put their shoulders to the wheel, not men who sit back with their hands in their pockets yearning at the chance of those who are trying to get the work of this country done."

Pleading that criticism be constructive and founded on fact, the Under-Secretary said:

"The number of arm-chair Colonial developers in London is only equalled by the number of arm-chair warriors in war. What is required is for people not to dream dreams, but to look at the world as it is, and having looked at it, to examine our policy in relation to the innumerable facts."

"I think it is most important that those who desire to do for the Dominions should have the necessary opportunity of learning to defend their own country. Service in the armed forces has a great educational value. I liked volunteer soldiers all the more because I started as a very small soldier in 1912 at the age of 11, and have been off and on a soldier ever since, usually an unpaid one. Some of my happiest memories are of soldiering at home and abroad."

"It was the hope of the Government," he said, "that distinguished men from the Colonies would take an increasing part in international conferences and business affairs, for they brought a freshness and breadth of view which was most stimulating."

Settlement or Unsettlement

MR. EDWARD LEVY, a 41-year-old Luxembourgian, who settled in the Usa River district of Northern Tanganyika nearly 20 years ago, after leaving Germany because he disliked Nazi rule, has been given notice to quit his farm of 420 acres in order that it may be acquired by the Government for public purposes. The Usa Planters' Association have made a strong public protest, claiming that the public need can be suitably served by an alternative which will not involve injustice. Mr. N. W. E. McDermott, who has leased a small farm near Arusha for the past five years and was recently given notice to quit "as not having been selected as a permanent occupant by the Land Settlement Board," has been told that he may remain temporarily as the matter is still under consideration. In a communication to EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA, he asks why he should have been told to quit if the price he was asked being considered. He also asks if it is true that he has been heard to dispossess him, and to remove him from the land for a few residents of the area.

**HOTEL SITE
JINJA, UGANDA**

Tenders are invited on the basis of payment of programme fee, one for the lease of a plot on which to erect a first-class hotel in Jinja.

The area is approximately 2.81 acres. An immediately adjacent plot this may be increased up to approximately 3.5 acres should the site plan of the proposed building and amenities justify the increase. Any successful tenderer will be required to submit a site plan for the approval of the Lands Officer, and detailed construction plans for the approval of His Excellency the Governor before authority to commence building operations will be given. The Schedule giving details can be obtained from the East African Office, Grand Building, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2.

Sealed tenders marked "Tenders for Hotel Site at Jinja" must be submitted to the Lands Officer, P.O. Box 1, Entebbe, Uganda, so as to reach him on or before March 31, 1949.

The highest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

G. M. GIBSON,

Secretary for Land Office.

NEWS ITEMS IN BRIEF

By means of a garden fête in Nakuru £230 was raised for St. Christopher's Church.

Mombasa's new European hospital is expected to be completed about a year hence.

Kenya's maize crop for 1948-49 is estimated at 1,500,000 bags from all sources.

Trinity Presbyterian Church, Gwelo, has just celebrated the 50th anniversary of its foundation.

Over 90% of cases of homicide among Africans in Northern Rhodesia arise from beer drinking according to the Crown Prosecutor.

Hitlers recently broke into the garage of Mr C. H. Mphahlele, Chief Secretary of Kenya, and stole all the movable parts of his car.

Two commercial films, one on the East African transport schemes and the other on the Copperbelt of Northern Rhodesia, are shortly to be shown in this country.

Sabena's Air Services
Sabena's two African air routes, Brussels-Leopoldville via the Sahara and Brussels-Standleyville via the Nile Valley, have carried more than 20,000 passengers in the year.

A special issue of postage stamps in the Sudan will commemorate the inauguration of the Legislative Assembly. The denominations will be 10 millimes and 5 piastres.

The sound of the world broadcast preceding H.M. the King's speech on Christmas Day included greetings relayed from the grounds, scheme headquarters, at Komawa, Tanganyika.

Salisbury is to be the site of the Rhodesian University. A motion to this effect, moved in the Southern Rhodesian Parliament by Mr. L. M. A. Hodson, was carried by 14 votes to nine.

The booklet entitled "Kenya: 77 Questions Answered" issued by the Kenya Information Office, is on sale at the East African Office, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2, at 1s.

The non-official members of the Legislative Council of Northern Rhodesia have decided that in order to expedite the work of the House, their views, when unanimous, shall be expressed by one speaker only.

Because so few of its European staff speak Swahili, the Overseas Food Corporation now offer a bonus of £10 to those passing a proficiency test in the language, and air extra £25 to those reaching a "distinguished" standard.

Central African Federation Conference
The conference on Central Africa Federation which is to be held in February at the Victoria Falls will, it is hoped, be attended by Mr. R. O. Stockill, leader of the Opposition in the Parliament of Southern Rhodesia.

Only 37 of the 200 members of the Mombasa branch of the British Legion attended the reunion dinner. Although the decision to invite women had been taken at a general meeting, the presence of four ex-Servicewomen is thought to have caused some members to absent themselves.

Damages totalling £5,628 were recently awarded against the Minister of Agriculture in Southern Rhodesia, when Mr. H. C. Jones claimed £15,000 for serious injuries involving the amputation of his right arm, suffered in an accident with a machine belonging to the Department of Agriculture.

The Central African Council decided at a meeting held in Salisbury last week to recommend the Governments of Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland to appoint a fully representative commission to investigate all projects in Central Africa for new railway lines and routes to the ocean.

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Ministry of Supply—and most of our tractors come from this source—strip it completely, fully survey the condition, scrap all parts that reveal the least sign of wear, and re-build it with precision down to the smallest nut or screw. The re-constructed engine is submitted to the most exhaustive dynamometer tests. The final run alone lasts for six continuous hours and the test is not complete until an official Certificate of Performance can be issued. The fully assembled tractor undergoes an equally severe round of trials before it is passed fit for export. When finally it leaves our workshop it is actually, if not literally, a new machine and will behave as new, which is what we and you expect of it.

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Unlikely to be the assembly centre for Ferguson tractors for both the Rhodesias. Designed on the most modern production line system, the factory will offset the tractor skeletons, assemble them, and render them road-worthy within a few hours. Mr. A. Downes, formerly chief inspector of the Coventry factory in which the tractors were made, has been appointed technical manager at the new works, and M. J. D. Wright-Wick will be general manager for the Rhodesias and Nyasaland.

Our exclusive report last week that a licence had been granted in East Africa for the establishment of a cotton textile mill in Jinja by the Galico Printers' Association of Manchester came as a surprise to that company, which had received no official notification of the acceptance of their tender. Business and financial circles in England and East Africa have been very critical of the fact that nine months have elapsed between the submission of tenders and a decision by the authorities.

The Uganda Electricity Board are to provide a supply of electricity in the Mbeale township area. In the first instance the supply will be provided by a diesel electric power station, the plant being transferred from Jinja and Kampala towards the end of 1949 when larger generating units will have arrived to serve those two districts. Ultimately Mbeale will be connected to the main transmission system and supplied from the Owen Falls hydro electric scheme.

Coffee Prices

Prices of Kenya coffees have continued their steady advance as the crop estimates have staged, says the current market letter of Messrs. Adam, Schuler & Co., who report that the small offerings available have been bought at about 15% above their value in world markets. After the spectacular advance of 25% in November, native-grown coffee from Uganda have declined with similar momentum.

A substantial increase in Southern Rhodesia's trade, revealed by the Colony's *Economic Bulletin*, reporting in the first nine months of 1948. Exports for that period were valued at £3,337,000, exceeding the total for the comparable period in 1947 by nearly £8,500,000. Exports totalled £2,000,702, a rise of 60% over, than £1,200,000 over the same period in 1947.

The Ministry of Food offers £1.80 per ton for sunflower seed in 1949, but export to destinations other than the U.K. will be allowed if higher prices can be obtained elsewhere. The exportable surplus from the Colonial Empire in 1948 was brought at £2.115 by the Ministry.

Sales of electric wire in District Southern Rhodesia have risen from 4,500,000 to nearly 9,000,000 yards in the last three years. The average cost per unit is said to be the lowest yet recorded.

Leaflets telling the story of various Empire products were published by the Imperial Institute before the recent war. The subjects included Uganda cotton, East African sisal, and Kenya coffee. Additions to the series have now been made to covers Central African tobacco and Sudanese gum Arabic.

This price control should be abolished as soon as possible, and that goods in plentiful supply should be decontrolled, for which, was unanimously resolved by the annual general meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce of Southern Rhodesia.

Helicopters (Africa) Ltd., has been registered in East Africa. The directors are Wing Commander E. B. Fielden and Mr. Stanley de P. Weal. The principal function of the company will be to spray crops in pest control operations.

Kettles-Roy & Iyson's New Branch

Messrs. Kettles-Roy & Iyson's (Mombasa), Ltd. opened a new branch in Kisumu on December 20. Europeans, Indians, and Africans were invited to a sundowner held to mark the occasion.

The new motor cargo liner, *Seavall*, of 9,000 tons gross, built of the Clyde for the P. & O. Company, is due to leave London in a few days on her maiden voyage to the Far East.

Hinjaya Omnibus Co., Ltd., have begun operations. By arrangement with the City Council, 49% of the ordinary shares of the company were offered for subscription locally.

The Companhia das Juteis de Mocimboa has been registered in Beira to produce jute bags. Small investors rapidly took 20% of the £75,000 worth of shares offered.

Barclays Bank (D.G. & O.) have opened a branch in Kongwa, the main area of the groundnut scheme in Tanganyika.

The cotton crop in the Northern Sudan in 1947 was estimated at 12,200 metric tons and valued at £28,000.

The cotton crop in the North Nyanza district of Kenya is expected to range between £75,000 and £100,000 this season.

Anglo-Rhodesian and General Investment Co., Ltd., have declared a dividend of 6% (the same).

The crop-buying season in Burundi will start on January 15th.

K.F.S. Share £25,334

A Loss of £25,334 has been incurred by the Kenya Farmers' Association for the year ended July 31, 1948, compared with a profit of £29,081 in the previous year. Dividends of 5% and 1% on the preference and ordinary shares respectively have been declared, reducing the reserves from £116,360 to £39,670.

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Nyasaland Railways, Limited

Mr. W. M. Codrington's Statement

Review of Nyasaland's Transport Problems

THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF NYASALAND RAILWAYS, LIMITED, AS TO BE HELD IN LONDON TODAY.

Mr. W. M. CODRINGTON, Chairman of the company, has circulated to the shareholders with the report and accounts for the year ended December 31, 1945, a statement in the following terms—

To replace the late Mr. C. W. Rooke, Sir James White, K.C.V.O., C.S.I., has been nominated by the Secretary of State as one of the Representatives of the Nyasaland Government on the board of the company. His help in dealing with the problems which confront us in Nyasaland is already proving of inestimable value. He is leaving for Nyasaland on January 6 in order to investigate on the spot various administrative and technical problems arising out of the transition between war and post-war conditions in Nyasaland.

General Increase in Traffic

During the year under review our gross receipts of £450,115 reflected a general increase in the usual traffic carried by the railway. No noteworthy increase has yet occurred in the production of any of the new crops, the development of which we have sought to encourage by the quotation of low rates.

Restocking and re-equipment accounted for a substantial increase in several classes of imports. At the same time operating costs continue to rise, both labour and stores showing substantial advances over previous levels.

Emergent difficulties have recently been drawing attention to the effect on renewals policy of the depreciation in the value of our currency, or, to put it in other words, the tremendous increase which has occurred in the cost of all commodities required for the gradual replacement of the assets of a company such as ours.

Under pre-war conditions of relative stability in prices, it was our practice to base our calculations on the original cost price of the various categories of equipment and to make annual allocations calculated so as to provide the replacement of locomotives, rails, workshop equipment and so forth at the end of their estimated life.

High Cost of Renewals

Now, however, prices of all replacements have risen to such an extent that renewals, if based on original cost, would not suffice to meet more than a fraction of the cost of replacing equipment when it reaches the end of its normal life.

To avoid a few instances applicable to our own business in the years preceding the war we might covered by the war cost which cost us approximately £500 each. Those which we now have on order will cost £1,100 each. Third-class railway coaches used to cost about £2,500 each. Now, as we were unable even to get the firm price, but a leading manufacturer estimates that the cost will be £1,100 each, and even this figure is liable to rise now almost in excess of a hundred per cent, which saddles the purchaser with an appreciation in the manufacturing costs which have admittedly invariably been in an upward direction. The same thing can be said about permanent way materials. Everything else which a railway must have to keep its plant and equipment in good condition.

Therefore we make for more generous provisions in our annual budget—we have, as a pro-

visionary measure, in the accounts under review considerably increased the allocation to renewals—we shall ultimately find ourselves without the resources we need to replace our plant and equipment as it reaches the end of its useful life.

Effect on Working Costs

The necessity also has a bearing on free operating costs. For instance, for a new restaurant car we are likely to have to pay something like £20,000, to which must be added freight and shipping charges. The depreciation according to respect of so costly a vehicle, which does not become an important element in assessment of working costs.

During the year more progress was made in reinforcing the tanks of our administration, which had carried on with a reduced staff during the war years. Stores and materials of all kinds, which we had ordered long before, began to arrive and replenish our sadly depleted stocks. Progress on various projects examined by General Hammond during his visit was continued. In particular, additional houses were built for our staff, and the construction of the 500 cottages at our Native village at Mphahwe was pushed forward. Unfortunately this work has been considerably delayed owing to the difficulty of procuring satisfactory roofing material. This however will shortly be due for shipment. The strengthening of our bridges to carry four- and six-wheeled motives was continued and is now practically completed.

No Basis for Charges of "Remote Control"

It is sometimes said that a concern such as ours must be handicapped by remote control from London. This might well become true if executive responsibility were not sufficiently devolved on the local administration or if those who controlled policy had no knowledge of local conditions.

In our case neither of these criticisms can be said to apply. Every member of the board has visited Nyasaland with the exception of Sir James White, who is proceeding there within a year of his resignation. At the end of the war the general manager has visited London, and there have been four visits by directors. I myself visited Nyasaland last April and was able to discuss on the spot with our experts many points affecting present-day operation and future developments. Brigadier Storar is just concluding another visit to Nyasaland.

Traffic Doubled Since 1939

Since 1939 the volume of traffic handled by us has measured in net-ton-miles has approximately doubled. But during these years, owing to war conditions, our ability to repair and maintain our stock has been much below what it used to be before the war. Thus it is not too much to say that we have only been able to give the service which we have done in recent years thanks to the "fat reserves" we had stored up by good maintenance in the years preceding the war. This is now exhausted. Some of the stock which were arriving while I was in Nyasaland had been identical for us as much as three years previously, and there was still a considerable shortage of experienced staff in our workshops.

Conditions such as these are not very peculiar to Nyasaland. They confront railway administrations in almost all parts of the world—in many instances

in a form far more acute than in Nyasaland. Our staff are making every effort to keep the maximum amount of rolling-stock in traffic, but it is clear that when we begin to receive the new locomotives we have ordered it will be difficult to handle the tonnage offering.

From the authorities we have received valuable support in our attempts to expedite delivery of these coaches, but the first batch will not be delivered before next June. Meanwhile, in conjunction with the Trans-Zambezi Railway, we have doubled the number on order, and shall eventually receive 11 powerful engines of a new type. These will be a substantial addition to our stock, and should put us in a position to handle all the traffic likely to be offered to us. Fifty more wagons have already arrived in Africa and we have recently placed an order for a further 50. These should be delivered about the middle of next year.

Chitromo Bridge

In July of the year last year, I attended to the contract we had placed for the construction of a new bridge at Chitromo. Some years ago, three piers of the bridge which carries our main line over the River Shire were slightly displaced by volumes of silt floating in the flood season. Remedial measures had, of course, been applied, and the piers had stabilised. Each year, precautions were taken to prevent the floating islands from lodging against them and subjecting them to further pressure. On two occasions this bridge had been inspected by independent engineers nominated by the Government, who had expressed themselves as entirely in accord with the measures we had taken.

Moreover, we had sent out to Africa a Callender Hamilton span of sufficient length to replace temporarily the span supported by the threatened piers. Unfortunately, this year an unusually large volume of silt floating in the river, several acres in extent, came down on a high flood and swept away not only the piers which had previously been threatened but almost the whole of them, leaving a gap far larger than could be spanned by the temporary bridging which we had sent out for the purpose.

Accompanied by the general manager and the chief engineer, I flew over the site myself and was able to discuss on the spot measures to be taken for restoring traffic. As soon as the bridge went, our traffic department organized the shipment of goods and passengers.

No. 200th Neck

At the same time, after considering various other alternatives, we decided to construct a wagon ferry and the necessary sidings and terminals. This was completed in 52 days. It is capable of carrying all the traffic which can be brought to the rail, and in no way constitutes a bottleneck.

We have been accused of lack of foresight in regard to this matter. I want to make a plain statement that the threatened spans were the only ones to be destroyed, through rail communication in this area being restored by a temporary cable line, and that, if only what we were then told was a disaster of magnitude which none of the experts—either our own staff or independent—had forecast.

Meanwhile the relocation of our line has been completed and work is now starting on the construction of the new permanent site. In spite of the difficulty of obtaining promptly even the comparatively small amount of steel required, we hope that everything is now in hand, and that the bridge will be bearing normal traffic in 1940.

Other railway work in connection with the new main line at Victoria has now been completed, the keel has been laid, and we hope that nothing will prevent the delivery in the near future of the rolling stock

which will provide much-needed facilities for overhaul and repair of ships on the lake.

As a result of investigations extending over a number of years, we have decided that Monkey Bay is the best site for the headquarters of the Lake Service, and a start has been made locally on the provision of the necessary facilities.

Folded Price Increases

In addition to the purchases of locomotives and wagons to which I have already alluded, we have been trying for some time to place an order for the purchase of coaches of various classes, owing perhaps to priority being given, partially, accorded to goods vehicles, the deliveries of which are two and a half years and over. Moreover, the complete sellers' market enjoyed by the work people and employers in this industry, and the difficulty in obtaining promptly controlled materials, have, as I indicated above, resulted in the quotation of prices roughly four times those ruling before the war. Many of our present coaches are due for replacement, and we need additional carrying capacity, especially for Native passengers.

Other schemes which we have in hand include a considerable extension of our workshops at Lilongwe, the plans of which are now being studied on the spot by Brigadier Storor—and the construction of a large storage and grain-drying equipment. The latter is needed in order that we can handle under normal conditions the considerable amount of meal required for our African staff. We are also to be able to put part of its capacity at the service of other interests in Nyasaland.

New Finance at Lower Rates

It will, of course, be evident some time ago that our company would need new finance in order to carry out all these schemes—and other schemes which become necessary to overcome arrears of maintenance and to fit our system to carry the traffic which is being offered to it. We therefore initiated steps not only for raising a loan at a lower rate of interest than the previous existing 5% debentures, but also to obtain the further resources we needed.

Finance was entirely beyond our control, it was not possible to issue our prospectus until early this year. The issue was over-subscribed, money was received together with a further sum which will be provided by the Government against consolidated income debenture stock and our own cash resources should suffice to meet the capital work and improvements to which I have alluded above, the cost of which will amount to not less than £400,000.

Nyasaland's Prospects Encouraging

Prospects in Nyasaland are certainly encouraging. Lord Prebarn, chairman of the Colonial Development Corporation, is recently reported to have announced the intention of the corporation to invest a million pounds in development projects on the Victoria plateau. The Colonial Development and Welfare Fund has granted a grant of £2,000,000 to the Government of Nyasaland for the construction of roads, the improvement of local services and other purposes, local interests, stimulated by remunerative prices paid by Nyasaland for its produce, are also likely to extend their activities. Increases in African wages should result in greater consumption of imported goods, but leaves unsolved the difficult problems of securing greater productivity on the part of the African, or the wasteful utilization of the soil.

For the past 2 months, until new rolling stock and equipment became available, we face a period of difficulty and anxiety, but we shall proceed with confidence to the full-scale development of the line. We shall be able to make promptly any traffic offers to our. We welcome the main active development of the Colony, for which we are pleased to be doing our part, and which, how-

seems to be a sign that we shall be fairly busy our part is it.

Mr. Bucquet, our general manager, and his staff have been confronted with many difficulties during the year under review. They faced them with courage and resource, and I should like to express the board's appreciation of their good work in difficult conditions.

The new issue of debentures and increased stores shipments threw a heavily increased load on our London manager Mr. Carey, and his small staff. The manner in which they carried but this work reflects the greatest credit on them all.

Trans-Zambesia Railway Company, Limited

Mr. Vivian L. Oury's Statement

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF TRANS-ZAMBESIA RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED, IS TO BE HELD IN LONDON TO-DAY.

Mr. VIVIAN L. OURY, chairman of the company, has circulated to shareholders with the report and accounts for the year ended December 31, 1947, a statement on the following lines:

In the place of the late Mr. Eric Robert Sir James Milne, C.B.E., has been appointed one of the representatives of the Government on the board. His help in dealing with the problems that confront us will be most welcome.

The accounts for 1947 now before you are drawn up in the form required by the Companies Act, 1948. The returns to which they are included figures of the Southern Approach, shows that the receipts for the year ended December 31, 1947, including interest on investments, £2,214,400, and provision for taxation no longer required, £1,150, were £343,230, compared with £226,780 in the previous year, whilst expenditure including provision for reserve for renewals and for taxation was £282,400, or 73.41% of the gross receipts, compared with £284,330, or 76.16% for the previous year.

Higher Receipts and Expenditure

Thus whilst gross receipts increased, expenditure also increased, but to a greater extent, with the result that the surplus of receipts over expenditure was £58,910, compared with £17,448 in 1946. The heavy increase in expenditure was due to the increased cost of materials and wages.

Interest on the income bonds is payable out of the net earnings of the Southern Approach, and accordingly £4,852 of the £58,910 was applied to the payment of interest for these bonds, the balance of the net earnings of the Southern Approach, £54,058, being applied to the payment of accumulated interest on advances from the Government of the Nyasaland Protectorate. After meeting the service of the advances against which £96,000 2½% first debenture stock was to be issued, there was available £12,571 for interest on the agreed amount of £4,500,000 in respect of which 5% income debenture stock was to be issued.

In May of the current year the Portuguese Government published a decree authorizing the issue of the 2½% first debenture stocks and the 5% income debenture stock, and accordingly these stocks were issued.

Carriage of goods carried during the year was 190,283, compared with 181,172 in 1946. The number of passengers was 103,652, compared with 99,540 in 1946. The principal commodities carried were general merchandise 57,406 tons, sugar 49,920 tons, such as 22,244 tons tobacco, 2,889 tons and 6,732 tons cotton

and 4,508 tons and Tanned skins, construction material 13,510 tons.

Mr. Codrington's Visit

Early in the current year, one of your directors, Mr. Codrington, visited the railway. He made a thorough inspection, and of the recommendations made by him some are already being carried out and the others will be as soon as the necessary materials can be obtained.

I mentioned at our meeting last year the strain on our engines, power and rolling stock during the last few years. In fact, the volume of traffic handled by us, measured in net ton-miles, has increased from 13,669,272 in 1939 to 27,780,780 in 1947.

Since then the position has become more difficult, for tonnage to be carried has increased, and although the Public Works Bill (put for us by Gregg Car Company) are now being erected in Africa, delivery of the 11 new locomotives, ordered by Nyasaland, always in conjunction with ourselves, is not due to begin until the middle of 1949.

So there is no doubt that during the greater part of 1949 our difficulties must continue. Every effort, however, is being made to secure delivery of these locomotives, or at least of some of them, as quickly as that at the earliest possible date, we may be able to clear of any backlog of traffic that there may be; and be in a position to deal with the future increases of traffic expected.

Progress of Tete Railway

Worked on the Tete Railway is now 66 miles from the coal mine at Moatze, and it is expected that through rail communication to the mine will be established by next July. The completion of this line will give the coal mine direct access, via the Tete Railway, the Zambezi Bridge and our line to the Port of Beira, and this will enable the Companhia Camiloneira de Moatze to produce fuel for their plants and for their coal output.

Reginald Stone, one of your directors, is at present in Africa discussing with the management questions affecting present day operation and future development.

The order for new locomotives to which I referred above was increased from 10 to 11 in order to replace one of our 4-6-2 engines, which was destroyed in a collision on the Beira Railway line between Dombos and Beira on July 24 last. In addition to the loss of our engine and damage to wagons, I regret to have to report that one of our staff lost their lives in this accident. The question of responsibility for the accident is *sub-judice*, and I can at this stage therefore make no comment.

New Rolling Stock in 1949

Nyasaland Railways, in conjunction with ourselves, have placed an order for a further 20 covered bogie wagons, delivery of which is expected about the middle of 1949.

Our relations with Government and others of Government continue to be of the most cordial nature, and we record our appreciation of the consideration and courteous manner in which, as usual, the duties of the Fiscal are carried out. We acknowledge the very willing assistance and cooperation of the Southern Railway and the Beira Railway and would like to record our appreciation of the services rendered in a difficult year by our general manager, Mr. Bucquet, and our staff in Africa and in London.

In regard to bus services, I report that a Nyasaland firm is to start bus services in Swaziland, Southern Rhodesia, we have been assured that it has no connection with the Nyasaland Transport Co., Ltd., the only bus company operating in Nyasaland, or with any of the subsidiaries of the Central Motor Transport Company's group.

The Beira Railway Company, Ltd. Rhokana Corporation, Limited

Summary of Notice to Shareholders

An agreement (subject to the approval of the shareholders) has been made with the Portuguese Government for the sale to them in April, 1949, of the company's undertaking in Africa (excluding only the Sanyo Hotel) for £2,000,000.

For nearly 50 years this company's railway, consisting of some 200 miles of main line joining the Port of Beira and the Mozambique Railway, has been operated under working agreements to an integral part of the whole Rhodesian railways system of 2,500 miles. Indeed, Rhodesian Railways, Limited, have supplied, on moderate terms of life all engines, rolling stock, heavy workshop services, and personnel. Under similar agreements that company also operated the land side of the Port of Beira.

So long as the Rhodesian Railways, Ltd. were privately owned, the Portuguese Government raised no objection to this arrangement. But at their request the existing working agreement, made in 1937, provided that it should *ipso facto* terminate if the Rhodesian railway system became absorbed into a State-owned system. It could not have been expected that the Portuguese Government would view with favour the operation of railway and port services in their territory by the Government of a neighbouring British Colony.

In May, 1947, the share capital of the Rhodesian Railways, Ltd., was acquired by the Government of Southern Rhodesia. The Beira Railway Company had then, as a condition, having to acquire engines, rolling stock, and other equipment, and personnel and set up its own organization in Beira.

Director's Recommendation

It would have involved heavy capital expenditure if it would have been impracticable for the company to raise the large amount of new money required (estimated at not less than £5,000,000) and convert the present debenture stock (for which about £1,300,000 is outstanding unless it could have assured for such new ventures at least a 20 years' life. But under the existing concession the Government has the right to expatriate the undertaking in eight years.

Discussions with the Portuguese Government were obviously most necessary, and on two occasions (first in Lisbon by members of the board) negotiations were conducted on alternative hypotheses, (i) (a) of a concession or extension of the concession, and (b) of absorption of the company.

After a careful survey the directors came to the conclusion that an ordinary sale would be the best course for the shareholders, provided an adequate price could be obtained. Eventually a price of £4,000,000 was agreed. This provides £1,700,000 to pay off the present debenture stock, and £2,300,000 for the shareholders (about 44s. a share), on their affairs undertaken only excluding the Sanyo Hotel. There would be no liquidation, a heavy liability for arrears of pension fund contributions, and it would not be prudent to assume that a shareholder would get on liquidation more than 47s. 6d. a share. If at that rate, if he reinvested the proceeds on a 5% basis, he will continue to receive his present dividend of 2s. 6d. a share.

A price of £4,000,000 must cause disappointment to the shareholders who have during 1948 been buying certificates of title to Beira Railway shares at prices much higher than 47s. 6d. and even as high as 60s. But it is very difficult to find any grounds for such a price for a security the market price of which never rose much above 60s. before 1948.

Taking all considerations into account, the directors strongly recommend the sale at the price proposed, as being in the best interests of the shareholders.

Increased Production

THE TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE RHOKANA CORPORATION, Limited, will hold on December 21 in London.

Mr. S. S. TAYLOR, C.M.G., D.S.O., the company chairman, having dealt with the changes which had been made in the accounts in order to comply with the Companies Act, 1948, said:

Quite apart from the fact that the methods we have adopted in framing the balance sheet conform with the new law, they have the advantage of showing with greater clarity than before the amount of shareholders' money that has been expended on those assets which are still employed in the corporation's business.

It will be all to the good if this has the effect of emphasizing the policy to which I have often drawn attention of considering the amount received by ordinary stockholders by way of dividends having been financed by the employment of the nominal amount of the asset's ordinary capital.

Our production for the year shows an increase of over 2,000 long tons of copper compared with the previous year. This increase would have been greater had it not been for the shortage of coal deliveries, which caused a total or partial shut-down of the plant on a number of occasions. We can, however, congratulate ourselves on the results for the year.

The income from the sale of metals after making adjustment for opening and closing stocks was £8,555,599, compared with £6,736,740 for the previous year. An increase of £2,318,859. Operating costs decreased by £777,854. This sum has been absorbed by higher wages and royalties, increase of overheads and other expenses.

This leaves the corporation's profit before providing for depreciation at a figure approximately £1,540,000 higher than the previous year. This sum no less than £1,152,000 is absorbed by depreciation over the amount set aside last year for taxation.

Dividends and Reserves

The amount set aside for depreciation and reserves have been increased by £236,000, leaving only about £481,000 available out of the additional operating profit to increase the net dividends to the ordinary stockholders. The net amount received by the corporation by way of dividends and interest was, however, approximately 16% more than in the previous year. Of this £206,190 is available for increasing the ordinary dividend equivalent to 75% net of the nominal value of the ordinary stock.

The total amount of basic taxation on the profit for the year is £2,541,000. Your directors have decided to appropriate £661,438 to general reserves, compared with £600,000 last year.

After making provision for the maintenance of the redemption fund, and after taking into account the preference dividend and the interim dividend on the ordinary and A stock already paid, the directors recommend that a final dividend of 75% equivalent to 15s. 6d. unit of stock be paid.

There is no application for the redemption of any impending fall in the world price of copper.

When considering the prospects of the corporation you, of course, take into consideration our investments in the Ferreira Lopes Mines, Ltd., and Nelunga Consolidated Copper Mines, Ltd. Both these mines are potentially great profit-makers, though Nelunga has still to complete its expansion programmes.

Arrangements have been made to sell to the Ministry of Supply the larger portion of the corporation's plant for 1948.

The report was adopted.

Arusha Plantations Limited

St. L. Smith-Gordon's Review

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ARUSHA PLANTATIONS LIMITED was held at the Plantation House, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3, on Monday, December 26, 1948.

MR. HENRY ST. L. GORDON, the Chairman of the Company, had presented the following statement to the Shareholders with the directors' report and accounts for the year ended June 30, 1948:

Company Statement

It is satisfactory to be able to state that the comparatively modest prosperity which you last year had seen more than realized. The year under review had, in fact, been by far the best in the company's history and not all of this improvement is accounted for by the increased prices of coffee.

You will see from the accounts before you that the actual trading profit for the year amounted to £4,175, which compares with £2,200 for the previous year. Unfortunately, in these days of prosperity is somewhat of a transient, and we have ourselves faced with a bill for taxation (income tax) which has actually become due until January 1, 1949, of no less than £19,654—whereas last year we provided only £2,721 in respect of profits tax. As a result the net amount available is £2,140, against £17,483 last year. At the end of this year directors have transferred £10,000 to a reserve and recommended a final dividend of 15% amounting to £1,100 leaving £1,040 for carry forward.

Statement of Henry St. L. Gordon

Those who lament the somewhat erratic nature of the dividend may wonder why the directors have not conveyed a larger dividend. The answer is that they have emerged from 10 years of adversity, it being so hard almost to exceed expenditure in days when the accumulation of reserves is rendered impossible if the conflicting claims of the shareholders and the tax collector are to be satisfied. Shareholders must console themselves with the reflection that the directors believe the policy adopted to be in the best interests of the long run. The fact that the liquid assets of the Company exceed current liabilities by more than £20,000 is a guarantee of future stability.

I said above that the improvements in the company's affairs was not confined to the increase in the price of coffee. We can, in fact, congratulate ourselves (and the whole Empire of course) have previously spoken more of an industry as last year a labour force, amounting to several hundred, not yet in being, and the output has begun to be seen in our production. We have, however, been fortunate in securing a satisfactory profit on our coffee as against a substantial loss in the previous year. We have increased our small earnings from papaya and mango and our small estate shows a small loss. This is a result of our 1947-48 benefits obtained from the supply of coffee to the Government for leaf labour. As regards the financial results, our experiments are continuing.

The Outlook

I think you will have to leave you in a mood of unqualified optimism. The profits for the six months of the current financial year which have already expired will undoubtedly be as good as or better than those for the corresponding period. But there are misgivings in certain quarters as to the price future of sisal after Government proposals made on January 15, 1949, and these are local facilities to be foreseen in the fact that, owing to the implications in 1946-47 of "requiring sufficient means for your position is in arrears, and also in the fact, which I have always emphasized, that the only thing certain about coffee is its uncertainty.

These doubts must not bother you, and you must weigh them up for yourselves, but having said so much I will add my own belief that the results to June 30, 1949, which is as far ahead as any of us probably care to look at, present a picture which will continue to give you satisfaction.

As usual, I have to add my personal thanks—which I hope you will endorse—for the efforts of our staff and managers in East Africa, whose loyalty and enthusiasm appear unabated.

The chairman informed the annual meeting that since his statement had been circulated information had been received from East Africa which indicated that conditions would be adversely affected by the temporary failure of the short rains in the Arusha district of Tanganyika Territory.

Control of Finance

KENYA'S Standing Finance Committee and Select Committee on the Estimates are to be replaced by four standing or select committees: (1) a Committee of Supply, consisting of the whole of the legislative Council, the function of which will be to consider the draft estimates of expenditure; (2) a Committee of Ways and Means, also consisting of the whole Council, whose function will be to consider the ways and means of raising the revenue to meet the Council's requirements; (3) a Select Committee on Appropriations, consisting of members of the Council and the Standing Finance Committee in so far as it is necessary from time to time during the year to vote additional grants; and (4) a Public Accounts Committee, whose function will be the examination of the accounts. In future the Director of Audit will report to the Council, not to the Director of Colonial Audit in London.

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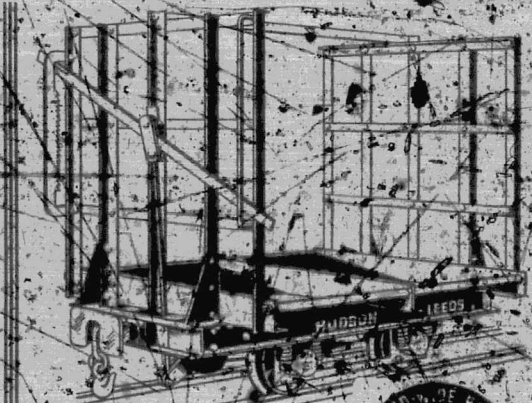
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