

EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA

Thursday, November 3, 1949

6d. weekly; 30s. yearly post free

Vol. 26 (New Series) No. 1302

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper

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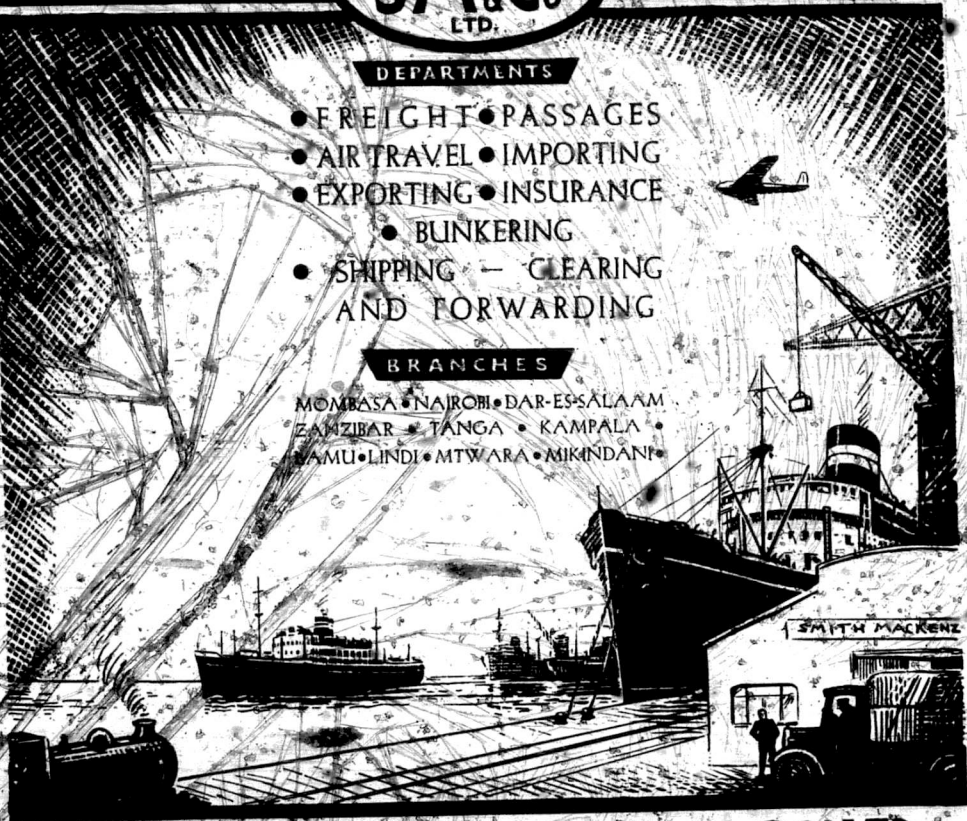
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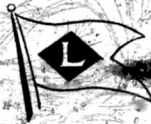
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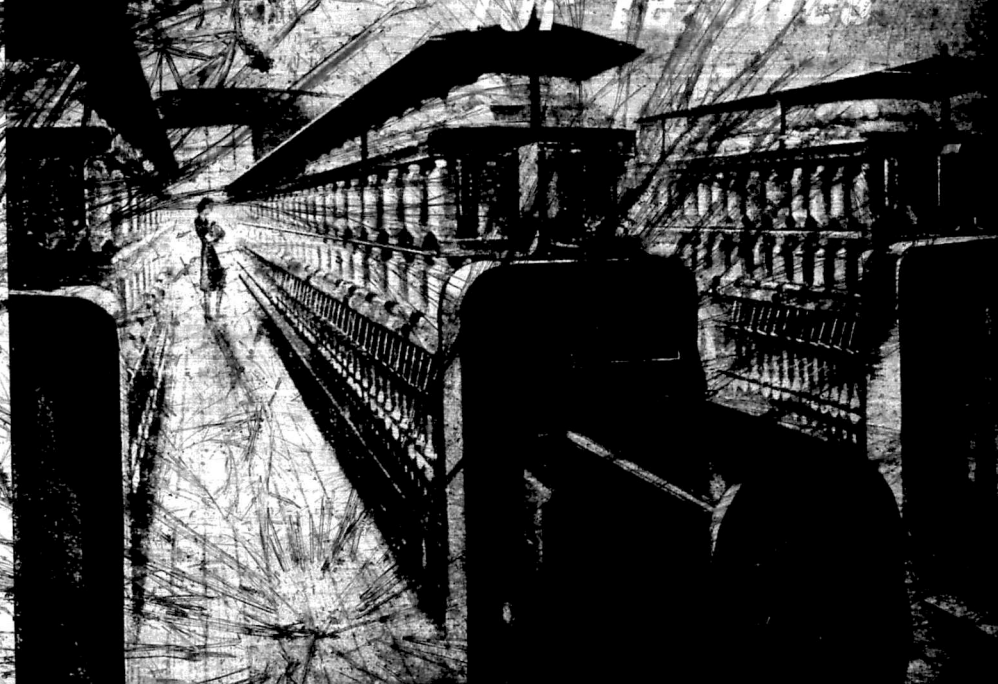
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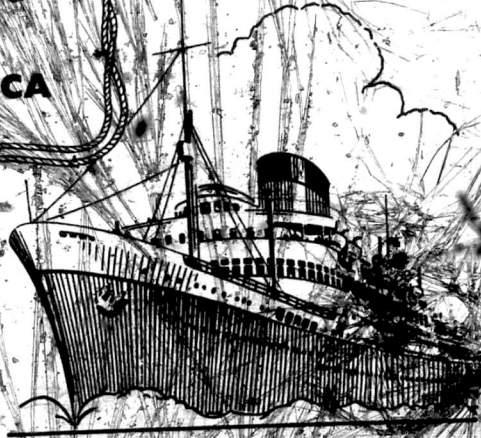
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Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper

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F. S. JOHNSON

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MATTERS OF MOMENT

THE OVERSEAS FOOD CORPORATION, the public organization created by the Government to operate the East African groundnut scheme and other food-producing projects, has not kept proper records of its expenditure on fixed or current assets and cannot produce documentary proof of many of the transactions recorded in its books. These damning revelations are made by the auditors, one of the leading London firms of chartered accountants, with branches in East Africa, in the first annual report of the corporation, which was presented to Parliament on Tuesday. The auditors' endorsement of the balance sheet with the qualification that proper books have not been kept and that they have not been able to obtain all the information and explanations necessary for the due discharge of their duties constitute most serious charges, and Parliament, Press and public will certainly expect, especially from the Minister of Food, a much ampler explanation that has yet been provided. When the political conscience was more susceptible than it is nowadays, the responsible Minister would have resigned as a matter of course. Mr. Strachey, it is safe to predict, will do nothing of the sort. Having been blindly indifferent to public opinion hitherto, he

will not now accept what should be the automatic penalty of his failure to exercise satisfactory control over the instrument which he was so anxious to keep responsible to himself, rather than to the Secretary of State for the Colonies (who must be heartily thankful to be spared the worries of a scheme which was well and worthily recommended but has been incredibly mismanaged). The ultimate responsibility is that of Mr. Strachey, and in a healthy political system he would, we repeat, make way for a successor who would take a much more serious view of his obligations.

It was on March 1 of last year that the corporation assumed general control of the groundnut project, and a month later the day-to-day direction of operations in Tanganyika Territory was transferred to it by the United Africa Company (which for the previous sixteen months acted as managing agents for the Ministry of Food). According to the report, it was not until the latter part of September—almost seven months after it had taken over the direction—that the corporation notified the Minister of Food that there were so many

gaps in the accounting records that the preparation of complete accounts was impracticable, as a consequence of which the corporation had entered on its managerial functions "on the basis of a skeleton check of major assets only." Yet the same memorandum states that the chairman of the corporation and General Desmond Harrison, whom that body had selected as general manager designate, had visited East Africa in connexion with the work in the autumn of 1947—that is to say, a year earlier. Did they not take the elementary precaution of examining the store-keeping system? Whether at some date between the autumn of 1947 and September, 1948, the full board of the corporation and the Minister of Food were informed privately or officially of the chaotic condition of affairs is not to be gleaned from this report. That doubt should not be allowed to remain.

The country—which had spent more than twenty-three million pounds on this project at the end of the financial year—ought to be told why there was such delay in recording

Why Such Delay?

of a proper system for the receipt, pricing and physical custody of all the various stores required, inadequate organization for controlling expenditure in East Africa, inadequacy of control of contractors' work, and gravely inadequate repair and maintenance services." These are the words of the corporation itself, not of the auditors. What would be thought of the directors of an important subsidiary company in a commercial group which, having been charged with the reconstruction of a large business, waited seven months before bringing similarly grave defects to the notice of the parent organization? Even allowing for the distance between London and Kongwa—which is but a matter of hours reckoned in flying time—a few weeks, not seven months, should surely have sufficed for the state of affairs to become apparent and for immediate disclosure to be made to the responsible authority. There was the dual obligation upon the Minister to make constant inquiries and upon the corporation to furnish regular information on major matters. The Minister can therefore not escape on the argument that he was not told. He should have made sure that he was told, and, if not perfectly satisfied, should have dismissed the obstructionists.

The most cursory examination of the spot or even the non-arrival in London week by

week of the returns which any large business would normally require, should have shown the unsatisfactory nature of the accounting in Tanganyika, and the prudent course for the corporation

Questions To Be Answered.

would surely be to say to the Minister: "For obvious reasons we are opening new books of account from the date on which we assume responsibility. When the many matters outstanding for the preceding period have been settled, the accounts in respect of them can be brought into the reckoning." That would have been the businesslike approach to the problem. Surely it must have occurred to the corporation, some of whose members were appointed primarily because of their financial experience. Did they not make recommendation in this sense to their colleagues? If they did, were they overborne, and why? If they did not suggest this course, was it not proposed by the chief accountant in London or his opposite number in East Africa? If all these people overlooked the obvious (which would be astonishing), did it also escape all the other senior executive officials in England and East Africa? Finally, were the auditors not consulted on this subject as soon as they were appointed, and what was their advice?

Answers to all these questions should be exacted in the House of Commons from Mr. Strachey, who should also be asked the date on which he was first told, whether privately

When Was the Minister Told?

or officially, of the inadequate control of expenditure running into many millions of pounds. If he was in fact given no hint long before he received the memorandum of September 23, 1948, he would have good reason to complain of the lethargy of the corporation. That, however, would not excuse his own failure to discharge his clear responsibility of making investigations himself. If he was told at an earlier date, why is the memorandum of September 23 the first indication in the report of a communication in this sense to the Minister? Parliament ought to have categorical information on these and other aspects of a most unsatisfactory affair, and ought to insist on a far better definition of the Minister's responsibility to the House for adequate supervision and information.

The report, which is in many respects a candid document (and other aspects of which we hope to examine later), deals with opera-

tions to March 31 last. It was therefore seven months out of date on the day of publication. It is true that the report and accounts of many great commercial enterprises appear no more promptly; but many others provide their shareholders and the public with full information within a few weeks of the end of the financial year. State corporations should surely set an example in rendering a prompt account of their stewardship. There is very little in this document which should not have been known almost as soon as the financial year ended, and much of it could have been written in advance of that date. Our guess would be that most of the delay has been caused by the praiseworthy firmness of the auditors. They must have wished to give the corporation's officials every opportunity of satisfying them in Tanganyika, and, when that proved impossible, representations were presumably made in London, from which further reference to Tanganyika would follow. If these deductions are sound, it may be expected that future annual reports will appear a good deal earlier. There seems no reason why they should not be laid before Parliament each year before it rises for the summer recess.

Prompt Reports Desirable.

** ** **

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN BRITISH AFRICA a committee composed entirely of Africans has been entrusted with the responsibility of making proposals for constitutional advance, and the able manner in which this delicate and difficult task has been performed is highly creditable to Mr. Justice Coussey and his thirty-nine colleagues. It is also a portent for other parts of Africa. Their report on constitutional reform in the Gold Coast ought to be carefully considered by every official and non-official leader in East and Central Africa, both for its intrinsic value in regard to subjects with which many of them are themselves concerned, and more for the heartening evidence it affords of the ability of Africans representing the most divergent classes and interests to reach agreement on complicated matters which had excited high passions. We know no parallel to this document. There has certainly been nothing comparable in East or Central Africa; nor is there any likelihood of anything similar in these territories for a considerable period, for, as Mr. Kenneth Bradley emphasized when addressing the Royal African and Royal Empire Societies in London a few days ago, Eastern African is separated from the Gold Coast not merely by some thousands of miles but by two or three generations. The whole difference between the politician and

the statesman is, however, that the one thinks of expedients for immediate problems and the other seeks to peer into the future and so order affairs that progress may be wise and soundly based, not erratic and vulnerable. To expect from the present generation of Africans in East and Central Africa anything like this Coussey report would be folly; but to doubt that the time will come when there will be large numbers of Africans of outstanding character and competence in the territories would be equally foolish.

That the committee should have achieved actual unanimity on the main issues is in itself a great achievement; and the reasonable nature of the recommendations is evident from the fact that the Secretary of State for the Colonies has promptly accepted most of the proposals. Considering that a number of the extreme political leaders in the Colony were deliberately nominated to the committee, this is indeed instructive. It means that moderate African opinion, when confronted with a highly responsible duty, can even at this stage prevail over opinions so advanced that they had landed a number of the members of the committee in jail, and persuade those extremists to abandon their recalcitrance. It required courage on the part of the Colonial Office to resolve to leave the initiative in this highly important matter to Africans on the Gold Coast after the riots, which had involved bloodshed, but this report, one of the most remarkable Colonial documents of the post-war era, is abundant justification. The main principles are matters of moment from the standpoint of our territories, and we therefore bring this report to the notice of East Africans and Rhodesians, especially those engaged in public affairs. Every member of every legislative body in Africa ought certainly to study it.

Moderates v. Extremists.

Commission of Inquiry for Eritrea

A FIVE-POWER COMMISSION OF INQUIRY into the future of Eritrea has now been proposed at Lake Success by the United Nations drafting committee on the former Italian Colonies.

This is the sequel to days of fruitless discussion, during which many compromises were discarded. Earlier the American delegation had put forward a proposal for an autonomous Eritrean State under the Ethiopian Crown, modified by a plan for a plebiscite in 10 years. Italy declared support for immediate Eritrean independence, and was at once backed by the Latin-American States.

An announcement had been expected that the British administration in Eritrea would be withdrawn next year because of the political difficulties of implementing any federation scheme, but a British spokesman announced that if a commission of inquiry was to be sent, the British authorities might be prepared to stay another year.

Auditors Condemn Groundnut Accounting

Blunt Criticism of Book-Keeping and Store-Keeping Systems

FRANK ADMISSION of many miscalculations in connexion with the East African groundnut scheme is made in the first annual report of the Overseas Food Corporation, which was published on Tuesday. The report, a document of 157 pages, covers the 13 months to March 31 last.

The auditors, instead of giving the usual clear certificate, endorse the balance-sheet with the blunt declaration that:

"We are unable to report that in our opinion proper books of account have been kept by the corporation and that we have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purposes of our audit because

- (1) proper records of the expenditure relating to both fixed and current assets were not maintained; and
- (2) there have been many instances where documents in support of transactions recorded in the books have not been produced to us."

That endorsement from a leading firm of chartered accountants, perhaps the most important statement in the whole report, is discussed in a leading article in this issue.

On September 23 of last year—seven months after the corporation had assumed responsibility for the direction of the groundnut project—the chairman addressed to the Minister of Food a brief but disquieting letter which deserves quotation in full. It reads:—

Memorandum to Minister

"The Overseas Food Corporation, at the request of the Minister of Food, took over responsibility for the direction of the East African groundnut scheme from February 29, 1948. From that date the managing agency became answerable to the corporation instead of the Minister of Food. On March 31 the corporation took over from the managing agents the day-to-day direction of operations in East Africa.

"This decision to transfer responsibility to the Overseas Food Corporation as soon as practicable was in harmony with the early discussions between the Ministry of Food and the United Africa Company, who agreed to undertake the duties of the managing agents for the time required by His Majesty's Government to establish the Overseas Food Corporation.

"Under the original arrangements the managing agents with only a transitory responsibility were alone able to exercise the functions of management, while the members designate of the corporation could merely advise. Although the members designate received full and free co-operation from the managing agents, and their advice was invariably sought in matters concerning policy, this interim arrangement could not be continued indefinitely without weakening the temporary management's power of decision and action.

"While administrative efficiency made the speedy transfer of responsibility to the Overseas Food Corporation desirable, the serious nature of the many difficulties being encountered in East Africa made it imperative that the responsibility for day-to-day decisions should be in the hands of the people who were to be ultimately responsible for the scheme.

"It had become apparent from an early date that operations could not go according to the plans envisaged by the Wakefield Mission's report. The principal contributory factors of which could not have been foreseen at the time the mission reported were, first, the condition of the essential mechanical equipment—the heavy tractors obtained from surplus war stores—on which the whole operation depended was much worse than had been anticipated. Many machines required a thorough overhaul before they could be kept at work. Spares for these overhauls were not readily available. Second, the technical problems of clearing the Kongwa thorn bush and preparing the ground for sowing proved much more serious than had been anticipated.

"These difficulties were aggravated by the fact that Kongwa is at the end of a long and difficult line of communication through the very congested port of Dar es Salaam. It took months to ship stores of all kinds to Kongwa and over-

"These various difficulties were apparent and dominated the situation when Mr. Plummer and General Harrison, together with Mr. Faure, of the managing agency, paid a visit to East

Africa in the autumn of 1947. To avert the risk of an administrative breakdown, it was then decided to reorientate the immediate programme to a more realistic scope of operations more in line with the actual on-the-ground position and thereby to counteract the effect on morale, which the frustration, resulting from continued difficulties, was having on the staff.

"The difficulties of starting an enterprise of this magnitude on a basis of improvisation, without a prior adequate period of preparation, were having their effect, and had resulted in:

- (1) An incomplete overall plan of operation;
- (2) Incomplete integration between the operations;
- (3) Over-centralization and the absence of an adequate administrative machine.

"All these circumstances rendered the transfer of day-to-day management to the corporation at the earliest possible date (very desirable). Not having been submerged in the detailed day-to-day decisions, the corporation was better placed to see the scheme in perspective.

"In normal circumstances the transfer of responsibility would have been accompanied by detailed audited accounts at the date of transfer, but, in the circumstances in which the scheme was started, it was apparent that there must be many gaps in the accounting records so as to make the preparation of such complete accounts impracticable.

"For these reasons the corporation had to agree to take over on the basis of a skeleton check of major assets only.

Four Serious Problems

"Some of the more serious problems which the corporation has to meet are:

- (1) the gravely inadequate repair and maintenance services for the tractors, agricultural machines, and motor transport of all kinds;
- (2) the absence in East Africa of a proper system for the receipt, pricing, and physical custody of all the various stores required;
- (3) the inadequate organization for controlling expenditure in East Africa;
- (4) the inadequacy of control of contractors' work.

"The purpose of this memorandum is to set out the more serious problems with which the corporation was faced at the time it assumed control of the scheme, without attempting to set out the underlying factors which had caused them. It does not imply criticism of the management of the scheme by the managing agents during the period of their responsibility.

"Further measures beyond those already taken to rectify the present position are in hand, but the Minister should understand that a considerable time must elapse before these measures can become fully effective.

Having referred to that letter, the report proceeds:—

"Measured against the estimates of the White Paper, progress in the first year was small. Reasons have been given to show why it is doubtful that these earlier estimates could have been achieved. They were the vision—a splendid vision for Africa, but a vision beyond attainment by the new organization in the difficult post-war years, with its shortages and delays of all kinds.

"Measured against intractable Africa, the progress was, in fact, considerable. Men and materials had been assembled and experience had been gained, weaknesses had been revealed, but the scheme in its future development was already and inevitably shaped.

Managing Agency's Report

"The managing agency, in submitting its report to the Minister of Food on its first year's work, said:—

"If this year's achievement were to be measured solely by the acreage planted, the results would not only be disappointing, but even discouraging. Such an inference would, however, be ill-founded, since it would ignore the major accomplishments of this period. The decision to proceed immediately and in headlong manner on an improvised basis has been amply justified by the valuable experience gained, by the acquisition of heavy clearing equipment and other materials which would no longer have been available in later years, and most of all by the establishment during this year of an organization with the requisite specialist branches and with a knowledge of the type and scope of the problems to be encountered.

"We believe that on this basis it will be possible to develop the whole plan within the broad framework indicated by Command 7030, and to achieve the results anticipated by the end of the six-year period. To sum up, the foundations of the scheme have now been surely laid, and no problems have arisen to disturb our confidence in its final success. The

difficulties which have been encountered form, in fact, the experience which is the essential prerequisite for carrying out an undertaking of this magnitude, and should not be considered without reference to their context and to the substantial body of achievement recorded in this report.

"In setting out the targets for the first year's operations below the target, the corporation would be the last body to underestimate the work which had been done by the managing agency. Equipment for the job had been assembled in East Africa from all over the world. There were, on February 29, 1948 (to name but a few of the principal items): 571 heavy tractors, 119 rotozers, 214 agricultural tractors, 1,023 ploughs, harrows, discs, cultivators, and other pieces of agricultural machinery, 995 lorries, and even 10 landing-craft engaged on transport of supplies along the coast and up the Lindi creek. Not all of this equipment was in operating condition, but all had been obtained and shipped to East Africa. Roads and airstrips had been made. Men had gained experience. Buildings were going up fast. And, small though the acreage planted had been, a crop of groundnuts was grown."

That, then, was the financial and operational position as the corporation saw it at the time.

There were then 294 Europeans at Kongwa employed by the O.P.C. and 204 employed by contractors. African employees numbered 3,527 and 2,794 respectively.

Land-clearing operations had flattened 13,746 acres of bush, windrowed 10,442, and rooted 4,503, of which 3,200 acres had been planted with groundnuts.

The targets which the corporation found that the managing agents had decided upon for the year 1948-9 were to clear sufficient land in the Kongwa region to plant 45,000 acres of groundnuts and 31,000 to 37,000 acres of sunflower. Sunflower was one of the rotational crops suggested by the Wakefield Mission, and experience had already shown that it was especially suitable and economic for production on first-year land. Experience had also shown how difficult and uneconomic it was to plant, cultivate, and harvest an under-ground crop such as groundnuts on newly cleared land, full of roots and stumps, and left in a rough and uneven state."

Agricultural Lessons

By the end of March last 25,105 acres of groundnuts, 19,429 acres of sunflowers, and 1,733 acres of maize had been planted at Kongwa. The rains were so late that planting could not start before January 1, several weeks late. Drought in March, the critical growing month, ruined the crop, the earliest sowings ripening prematurely and the latest being almost completely lost. This part of the tragedy is but briefly recorded.

The agricultural lessons learnt during the year are thus summarized:—

(1) Much information regarding the potential of the Kongwa, Urambo, and Southern regions;

(2) The policy of limiting Kongwa to these units at present. A decision (a) to progress north of the railway at Urambo instead of south as was originally thought best, and (b) to work steadily in the eastern section of the area chosen in the Southern Province before attempting any land-clearing in the western section.

(3) The chief contributions resulting from reconnaissance work that were made to land-clearing and subsequent operations were: (a) The decision to limit flattening to the moist season of the year, thus reducing the proportion of roots and stumps left in the soil; (b) the improved chain-cable method; (c) the use of the heavy one-man plough as a root-cutting implement, in the Urambo region particularly, and to a lesser degree in the Kongwa region; (d) an improved method of piling or windrowing as practised at Urambo, and an improved method of piling thick debris at Kongwa.

(4) There were, of course, also the gains in knowledge and technique affecting many other kinds of work, and of future co-ordination of efforts and utilization of labour."

Administratively the most important change had been the vesting of authority in the regional general managers.

Their technical staffs—engineering (both civil and mechanical), agricultural, transportation, labour, and personnel—for the first time became answerable to the regional general managers and departmental heads in Kongwa, whose functions were also altered so as to make them advisory

to the regional general managers. All members of the regional general managers' staffs were encouraged by the board to take decisions for themselves; the central management in East Africa, which consists of the general manager (agriculture), the general manager (engineering), and the controller of finance, welcomed this policy.

"The corporation cannot claim that decentralization was working perfectly by the end of the financial year. It was clearly going to take time for men who had been accustomed to exercise their authority for executive action to have confidence in the ability of their men, working hundreds of miles away, to exercise that authority without their direct supervision. It was also going to take time to train men who had hitherto been accustomed to look elsewhere for direction to take full responsibility for their actions instead of always referring to Kongwa. Nevertheless, the policy of decentralization was welcomed by the majority of the staff and shows every sign of producing a more efficient organization."

Relations with Staff

"Relations with staff must be viewed in the light of the conditions under which they live and work. The European staff, including contractors' staff, at March 31, 1949, comprised 1,982 men and women. Together with their wives and children, they formed a total community of 2,721. Only a small minority had ever been in Africa before, and for the most part they were living in totally unfamiliar surroundings in small townships and camps which this report discloses, on sites which two years earlier were uninhabited and waterless African bush.

"It was not only the conditions of life which were unfamiliar; so were, and perhaps more importantly, the conditions of work. While the staff as a whole had previous training and experience in their diverse avocations, few, if any, had ever been called upon to apply themselves in the conditions which they necessarily had to face. Moreover, few had worked together before and there were not the customs and traditions which, in an established undertaking, guide the new-comer and help him to settle down. The whole staff were new-comers.

"Beyond the exacting conditions of living and of work, including for many prolonged separation from their families, the staff had to face the additional strain imposed by the unexpected set-backs and the disappointing progress of the project to which they had devoted themselves. They had to do so, moreover, without the opportunities for recreation and diversion of interest which established communities provide and to which most had been accustomed.

"The experiment of creating self-contained living and working communities on such a scale in so short a time and in such exacting and alien conditions in a tropical country might well have failed on the human side. That the majority stood up as they did to the discomforts and disappointments of these first two years and maintained their loyalty to this new enterprise to which they had set themselves is a tribute to the spirit in which they responded to its inspiration.

"The test will come when it is seen how many choose to return when their first term of engagement is completed. This test can already be applied to the contractors' staff with their shorter periods of engagement. The proportion applying to return is encouraging for the future.

African Labour

"The number of Africans in employment on March 31, 1949, was 27,636. It was manifestly impossible at the outset to provide for these men anything but the most temporary accommodation without room for their families, nor was it possible to improve conditions rapidly, and although the pace of improvement had been greatly accelerated by the end of the year, the corporation was still unable to offer, except to a small minority, the living conditions provided by long-established industries, and certainly not the standards which it is a policy of the corporation to provide for all as time allows.

"The ration scale is adequate and even generous by African standards, but the corporation has not offered special inducements not provided by other good employers. It has, however, an elaborate trade-testing system, designed to encourage and reward the man who wishes to better himself by his own efforts.

"News travels fast in Africa, and the African is not much attracted by the prospects of future benefits when present conditions are hard and only slowly improving. Nevertheless, the corporation has had no difficulty in attracting African labour in the numbers which it requires. That this should be so in a country where there is competition for labour, and where labour shortage is regarded by many as a bar to rapid development, is convincing evidence of the relations built up by the corporation's European staff with the African labour. As the corporation's long-term labour policy matures it should be possible to consolidate these good relations permanently."

[Editorial comment appears under 'Matters of Moment.' Further extracts from the report will appear next week.]

Sixty Years of Pioneering in the Rhodesias

Sir Dougal Malcolm on the Future with Germany for Central Africa

THE SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY of the granting of the Royal charter of incorporation of the British South Africa Company was celebrated in London last week by a dinner given by the president and directors to a distinguished gathering in the hall of the Wholesale Company of Grocers.

SIR DOUGAL MALCOLM, president of the company, was in the chair. At the top table were the Portuguese Ambassador, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Major-General the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Athlone, the Duke of Abercorn, the High Commissioners in London for the Union of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia, the Governor of the Bank of England, Viscount Addison, the Rt. Hon. L/S. Amery, the Earl of Bessborough, Sir John Chancellor, Lord Hailey, Lord Harlech, Lord Kindersley, Sir Cecil Rodwell, Viscount Simon, Viscount Swinton, Viscount Trenchard, and Sir John Waddington. On another page will be found the full list of those present.

Magnificent Pioneer Work

THE RT. HON. ARTHUR CREECH JONES, Secretary of State for the Colonies, proposed the toast of the British South Africa Company, which had, he said, made a "very distinguished contribution to the life of the Commonwealth."

"My own record," Mr. Creech Jones continued, "is perhaps one of criticism in regard to much Imperial enterprise in the past, but I acknowledge the spirit of enterprise, the magnificent pioneer work, and the great contribution made by the company. We have many political, economic, and other problems to face in Central Africa, but the pioneering zeal which has been shown offers to Europeans and Africans opportunities in partnership which will provide new standards of living and better conditions of civilization."

"I cannot conceive that progress would be possible in Central Africa except by partnership and full co-operation between Europeans and Africans, and great opportunities are to be found in the immediate future in this field. The European is absolutely indispensable in the general scheme of things, and the contribution which he can make is essential if we are to bring greater responsibilities to Africa, and if there is to be economic progress and general development."

New Opportunities for Europeans and Africans

"The Chartered Company co-operated in a very generous spirit in our recent negotiations regarding mineral rights in Northern Rhodesia, and the discussions and results augur well for the future. They were very difficult negotiations, and when I met our chairman in Southern Rhodesia, I was somewhat afraid that agreement should not prove possible or acceptable to those who were pressing us so hard in Northern Rhodesia. The increased revenues which that country will now receive will provide for greater social services for all the inhabitants, and development will offer greater opportunities for Africans and Europeans."

"The service rendered over the years by the officers of the company have been of very high quality, and it is very gratifying that now, at the age of 60, the company should still be strong and enterprising and helping to bring better opportunities to the inhabitants of the territories with which it is concerned."

SIR DOUGAL MALCOLM, having read cables of congratulation and good wishes from the Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia and Sir Ernest Oppenheimer and Sir Ellis Robins, said in the course of his reply:

"The negotiations to which the Secretary of State has referred were not easy, but they were skilfully conducted under his genial chairmanship, which contributed

much to the result which has, I think, been regarded as reasonably satisfactory by the generally critical judgment of the House of Commons and the City of London."

"The British Empire—British Empire—I prefer that old name, because it implies the efforts of the merchant adventurers, including the chartered companies, of the City of London."

From Chartered Companies

"The British Empire in India, now the Dominion of India and Pakistan, sprang from John Company, born in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The Dominion of Canada owes its prairie provinces to what is now the Dominion of Manitoba companies, the Hudson's Bay Company incorporated in the reign of Charles II. In Africa there were the Royal Niger Company, the Imperial British East Africa Company, the British South Africa Company, and others. The last of the chartered companies to administer the government of a British possession, the British North Borneo Company, has only recently handed over its administrative responsibilities to the Colonial Office."

"Our Elizabethan forebears started on their enterprises in India, the Far East, and the Spanish Main in the spirit of adventurous romance, which has not even yet quite deserted the City of London. It was reinforced by the invaluable spirit of private enterprise and of profit-making, one of the most respectable motives in the world. Well could they say that they sailed wherever ship could sail and found a mighty State, and they had no craven fears of being great. Doctrines of limited responsibility were to follow in later centuries."

"In the last two decades of the 17th century the Elizabethan spirit was to show itself again in South Africa, which had been circumnavigated by the great maritime nations of Europe, the Portuguese, the Dutch, and then our own people, all of whom, however, had valued the Cape only as a place of rest and refreshment for their ships and crews. With the diamond discoveries of the seventies and of gold on the Rand in 1886 the picture changed."

German Ambitions

"Already in the early eighties the scramble for Africa had begun among the Powers of Europe, notably among them a rising Germany, whose interest caused a race for that unknown part of Africa under savage chiefs which lay to the north of the two British Colonies and two Dutch Republics. It was primarily a race between Germany and Britain. Germany wanted possession of land which would join her new territory of German South-West Africa to her other new territory of German East Africa, now Tanganyika Territory. If that had been achieved, Germany would have become the dominant power throughout the whole of Southern Africa, and the campaign in North Africa of the last war and the battle of Alamein could never have been fought."

"His Majesty's Government in this country and Cape Colony held all the cards, but they were satisfied Powers, not much interested in Imperial expansion. If the Germans were anxious to assume the trouble and expense of dealing with savages in the heart of tropical Africa, they were not disposed to be obstructive, or, at any rate, they were content to leave matters to one man, Cecil Rhodes. What this country and the Empire might have been expected to do for itself was left to him."

"Rhodes, already a person of importance in Cape politics, and the possessor of great wealth through diamond and gold mining amalgamations, took care that the articles of association of the De Beers and Consolidated Gold Fields companies should provide that their resources might be devoted to founding empires! He was prepared to do what the Government would not. For that purpose he had recourse to the merchant adventurers of this city."

"He sent his emissaries to Matabeleland, obtained concessions from Lobengula over the mineral rights, and on October 29, 1889, received a charter from Queen Victoria for the incorporation of this company. The charter gave Rhodes the blessing of H.M. Government in the exercise of the rights already

(Continued on page 282).

Mr. Negley Earson on Race Relations

Comments on His New Book on Kenya

UNTIL WE FIND some real faith for ourselves, the African will never have faith in us. When we believe, then he will believe, and not before.

In those words Mr. Negley Earson summarizes in his new book, "Last Chance in Africa" (Gollancz, 15s.), the conviction with which he has returned from his recent visit to Kenya. The question of race relations is prominent in his consideration of public affairs, and although he describes himself as "not professedly a religious man," the author makes it quite clear that the solution of this greatest of all problems can in his view be found only in the spiritual realm. He has been driven to the view that the whole future of East Africa depends upon a "cleansing of the blood stream."

"The Native must be persuaded to believe in the white man's good intentions; and the white man must have them. The African has lost his faith in the white man's interpretation of God; he has lost faith in the white man; he has even lost his faith in life; but he still wants to find his way to God."

African's Yearning for Faith

"It is because we don't believe in God ourselves—not really (I am speaking here, of course, not of the missionaries, but of the European administration officers and especially of European business men)—that we do not attach enough importance to the African's yearning to have faith. It is the greatest harm we have done him. Nothing less than a wide-spread and proper education would, it seems, be able to restore the black man's faith in the white man and his good intentions."

If the rest of that quotation be true, as the reviewer believes, surely the last sentence is a *non sequitur*. Education, whatever its content, will not fill the void, and the finest service the Governments and the populations as a whole could do the territories and their African inhabitants is to recognize and acknowledge that no materialistic offerings, however good in themselves, will meet the need. As the Governor of Kenya has repeatedly declared, and as Mr. Earson now writes, the only solution is to be found in firm faith in the highest conceptions known to man, which, in plain English, means belief in the omnipotence of God.

If Mr. Earson had done no more than state this truth in his own way, he would have done East Africa very good service; but he has done much more.

Suspicion of European Intentions

One of the people who most impressed him in Kenya was Chief Waruhiu, a Kikuyu, who shyly confessed that the Christian faith had been everything to him; he is described as representative of those Africans who are the best hope for the creation of understanding between white and black. His son, now executive officer of the local Native council of Kiambu, hopes in due course to succeed his father and "lead by example."

Kenya, says the author of this candid, graphic, and arresting book, which is bound to have a large circulation in many countries, is a happy Colony for the Europeans and Indians, and could be the same for the Africans "if they could ever overcome their engrained, almost cancerous suspicion of the white man and his every intention." Mr. Earson furnishes evidence of the interest taken by the average settler in the welfare of his African employees, but does not believe that nearly enough is being done to understand what Africans are thinking. The trouble, he says again and again, is a woefully inadequate policy for education, in which opinion he found himself confirmed by practically every

administrative official with whom he discussed the matter. But he appears to mean education in "understanding" rather than education in the normal sense of the term.

"The key is the Native mind: how to get at that; and in this the white man is making no progress, is even going backward. The most dangerous element in all this situation is that the mind of the white man itself also needs a drastic overhaul; it must refuse to accept explanations of Native problems which always place the blame on the Native, and, as a direct consequence, lead to projects to solve them which have themselves taken none of the really dangerous facts into consideration."

Because he is so sure that education in understanding is the supreme need, Mr. Earson set himself to study the European population of Kenya. He writes of—

"The unbearable rudeness with which you will see the average white man (and the women are far worse) treating the average African to-day. We all know (read the stories of Somerset Maugham) the white man who has gone to the Colonies and who, with a dozen servants keeping to obey his command, has risen to a position he could not have dreamed of attaining had he remained at home. He is one of the most odious little snobs you will meet in all your travels. He has his business and his club; and that is usually about all."

"He makes no effort whatever to learn the local language, nor is he interested in the customs or history of the people among whom he spends his life. The Natives are aware of it. This man has done more to lose the Empire than is generally realized; and the best type of Victoria Governor, Indian Civil or Colonial Service official cannot make up for him. Compton Mackenzie has quoted General Graeco as saying: 'We lost India because we never learned to say "Please" and "Thank you" at the right moment.'

"Watch the face of the house-boy as he serves at table on a certain plateau in Kenya, and you will see a resolutely controlled mask of hate. But Kenya has no class of 'poor white.' And until they get that there will be nothing like the bad feelings between the two colours that you see every day in South Africa or in the southern United States."

Is Rudeness General?

"Most of the old Kenyans have a genuine affection for their house or farm-boys; a queer mixture, alternating between something close to real love and furious exasperation. For you can start with the supposition, and be 100% right, that having to handle Africans is almost enough to break a man's heart. Even the man who comes out to Africa as an idealist will almost certainly tell you in the long run. There is no such thing as an honest African—and believe it."

"They do such stupid things; very often deliberately. African farm boys will often hide tools, modern implements, which would cause any effort, physical or mental, to get the hang of. They will tell the *bwana* that they have been lost. The African clerks in a D.C.'s office will, more often than not, it seems, try to cheat their own people. It is small wonder that European employers put up such signs (and there was one in a newspaper office in Nairobi when I was there) 'NO AFRICAN CLERKS NEED APPLY.'

"All this seems censorious, as if I could find no good to say for anybody; but this is very much what the state of affairs is between the white and black man in Kenya, particularly in the townships, where we have debilitated the African, broken up his old way of life, and not yet been able to put our way of life in its place. Both the black man and the white man (at least the intelligent ones) could be said to be in a state of transition; the coming together of them should be the chief thing worked for in Africa from now on.

"Any realist will tell you that if the £25,000,000 that the British Labour Government allocated to that very dubious groundnut scheme had been put at once into a wide-spread educational campaign for the native East Africans, an epoch-making betterment of black and white relations would have been the result; the foremost thing that is needed, even for the development schemes themselves."

There is, of course, much truth in that characteristic passage, but Mr. Earson must have been unfortunate in more than a few of his contacts to be able to write that the "average European" in Kenya normally treats the African with "unbearable rudeness." If that were the case, the outlook would be indeed bad, and it would certainly not warrant the optimism which still inspires

many of the best men in the country, among them politicians, officials, and old settlers, who would be prompt to notice and condemn such behaviour.

Rudeness does occur, of course, and too frequently (as it does in this country, where the social effects are less serious), but nothing like the reviewer has ever seen in Kenya himself or heard from the many independent and often critical visitors he has met, including many who were specially interested in race relations. Had previously suggested that gross discourtesy had become normal. Mr. Farson evidently had some most unfortunate experiences and judged thereby, which may perhaps make the offenders aware of the damage which their conduct has done to the Colony. What Mr. Farson regards as the average European in Kenya and what I still believe to be a small but most powerful minority, ought clearly to be brought to their senses by the condemnation of their neighbours.

There is, of course, also the other side of the case. Nairobi, but not elsewhere, is suffering from a plague of black terrorism.

Many of these, during black burglars and spies have been given the equivalent of a good Commando training in stealth, etc., which strategy was asked in the last war. The ground-floor windows of nearly every private house and hotel in Nairobi are wired with steel gratings; they make you feel like white rabbits in the black man's zoo. These astounding robbers can take the doors out of your motor-car almost while you are sitting in it. Many motor-cars in Kenya have padlocks on their bonnets. Europeans pay special watchmen to sleep in their cars at night. The frightened-Indians have asked permission to carry arms.

British Colonization

If Mr. Farson's criticism is free and frequent, his acknowledgment of much good work is generous. Per head of the European population, he asserts, more money is being spent in Kenya on soil conservation, agricultural instruction, and veterinary services than in any other country in the world, not excepting the United States. He considers that the British in the Colony are working practically to get the African interested in becoming a skilled artisan, not just a white-collared clerk, and he emphasizes that the African is barred neither by colour nor prejudice from any skilled trade.

But the African is often suspicious, unco-operative, almost always exceedingly slow to learn—though quick to accept ideas from agitators with glib tongues, inordinate ambitions, no experience, and almost no inhibitions. Mr. Farson believes it to be "madness to encourage what is already the male African's almost orgiastic passion for windy speeches and his love of prolonged litigation by giving him local Native tribunals in which to waste time." It only adds to his cynical suspicions of the white man.

Need to Explain Europeans to Africans

"British colonization in Kenya is the least unjust in Africa, and the present plans of the Government for Native benefit are probably the most promising on the continent. The Information Departments of the three territories that make up East Africa should spend their time in explaining the European to the African, and bother less about trying to attract British and American tourists to their countries. Then they would get somewhere."

"That sounds very dogmatic. It is so obviously true that I almost hate to state it." But the African does not have to do all the learning. The Englishman has to learn how to say "we" to the African, to know the urgent reasons why he should soon begin saying it—in political life as well as on the farms.

Those Africans whom the author met who had surmounted many obstacles in order to get real education and had not allowed learning to turn their heads, were some of the "most charming, refreshing, and encouraging people you will meet in all Kenya." He considers them "the real leaders of their race." If that is in fact the case, the prospect is a great deal more encouraging than it might seem to be from other sections of this challenging survey.

Is Mr. Farson right in the assertion that the pomp and ceremony with which Colonial Governors are invested "invariably gives the leading members of any Native community a soul-burning inferiority complex which nothing less than the complete evacuation of the white man remove (whereupon the local liberators begin to get assassinated)?" The African, himself a lover of pomp and ceremony, does not in the experience of the reviewer believe so. Indeed, the African, who is in so many respects like the Englishman, in his sense of humour and keenness on sport, for instance, has an almost English attitude towards public occasions.

Dedicated to Men with Vision

From what has been written it will be evident that there are passages in the book which will be heavily disliked by the settler community and by officials, but the author's affection for the country is genuine and many pages will greatly please Kenyans. He dedicates the book "To Kenya and the people there who have the vision of a new country, where white man, black man, Indian, and Arab can live together on terms of peace, co-operation, and something like equality of opportunity," and his final paragraph reads: "In Kenya and Tanganyika lies the last chance in Africa for the working out of a truly representative civilization in which the black man and the white man can live on terms of peace, co-operation, and something like equality of opportunity." So the book begins and ends in almost identical words.

There are a few regrettable errors of fact: the statement about income tax rates in Kenya is incorrect; Sir Alfred Vincent is not chairman of the Central Legislative Assembly; and there is the astonishing assertion that the British taxpayer bears the cost of all official salaries and pensions in the Colonies. But inexactitudes of this nature are trivial beside the statement, as of fact, about the "average" white man's attitude to the African.

Reviewer's Summary

The writer, while welcoming the book, must make the candid comment that in his opinion there is too much in it about a few outstanding settlers and too little about the European settlers as a class; too much about the failings of white settler leadership (which has been criticized often enough in these columns) and too little about white settler achievements; too marked a tendency to raise fundamental issues and not pursue them until his own solution stands revealed; and too evident a relief to turn from the problems of the Highlands to the delights of safari in the Northern Frontier Province! There he was happy as the days and nights were long.

One final regret must be expressed—that the ordinary reader will not put away the book with the conviction that the European settlers have an excellent title to the lands they have occupied with such benefit to the African lands which no tribes dared use because they were subject to periodic incursions from the nomadic and warlike Masai. It was the white man's arrival that ended that state of affairs, and as many authorities have averred, the Englishman in Kenya has a right as good as that of the Canadian, Australian, or American in the country which is now his.

This is a book which ought to be read. It is written with great gusto; it contains a great mass of information, and its whole intention is to serve the best interests of East Africa, and especially of Kenya, as a community. Those in the Colony who are seeking to frame future policy would be better advised to make up their minds on Mr. Farson's main points, and particularly the fundamental of faith, than to worry about errors of fact or of emphasis (which, after all, is a matter of opinion). His criticisms are those of a friend.

Building on Spiritual Foundations

Sir Philip Mitchell's Call to Kenya

SIR PHILIP MITCHELL, the Governor of Kenya, said in a broadcast from the Nairobi station when appealing for funds with which to complete the Cathedral of the Highlands in Nairobi.

"On March 29, 1946, I broadcast from this station a call to all Christians in the Colony to support the appeal for the Cathedral Building Fund which was about to be launched.

"The appeal had the approval of The King and Queen, and on Cathedral Sunday, before reading the first lesson, I announced that they had graciously presented to the Cathedral a Bible in two magnificently bound volumes, in token of their interest in it. They are the first Friends of the Cathedral, a position which they were happy to accept when they were here as Duke and Duchess of York shortly after their marriage 25 years ago. It is from those Bibles that the lessons are now read in the cathedral, but unhappily in an unfinished cathedral.

Misconceptions of the Age

"In 1946 I made my appeal to listeners in my personal capacity as a member of the congregation. It is still primarily in that capacity that I appeal to you, because this matter of the building of the cathedral is first and foremost a personal question for all of us: 'Do we, or do we not, believe that it is worth while?'

"If we do—and there can only be one answer to that—we must do it, admitting no failure and stalling before no obstacles and difficulties. We shall, I hope, gain strength for the task from the realization that the cathedral has become the general headquarters of the Christian Church in the Colony, and to some extent even in a wider sphere than that in East Africa.

"If I may speak for a little while as the Governor of the Colony and the personal representative of His Majesty in it, the matter presents itself to my way of thinking thus.

"We live in a world where much that has existed for centuries has been destroyed; in which we have seen dynasties collapse, nations overthrown, and Christians persecuted; in which the horrors of war have been turned loose upon the lives of innocent and helpless people over a large part of the once civilized world; we live in a world where many people appear to think that old standards of personal conduct no longer need to be observed; a world in which the revelations in the Lynskey Tribunal and many other examples have shown how easily extensive the evils of corruption and untruthfulness have become even in our own land, of whose standards we are all so proud.

Steadfast Hearts in the Fear of the Lord

"We live in a world in which there are many teachings that only material things matter, that there is no God, or rather that man is God, and that all that is needed and required of him is to fill his belly and titillate his senses, so that he may live here on earth a life in which his own material requirements are all that matters—the sort of life that a well-cared-for cow lives, I suppose. Even that is woefully far from what is in fact achieved by those countries which have fallen into such grievous and lamentable errors.

"In all this selfishness, instability, moral deterioration and destruction, our native land, in spite of grave difficulties of an economic kind recently aggravated, in spite of many human failures and weaknesses, still stands firm and steadfast, as do the Empire and Commonwealth, unshaken in loyalty to The King and the

Throne, adhering firmly to our ancient institutions, and determined to rebuild all that the years of violence have destroyed and to build a better, more truly Christian Kenya.

"Can we doubt that among the most important of those institutions is our Church? Can we doubt that Canterbury Cathedral, St. Paul's, Westminster Abbey, St. Giles' Cathedral, and many other noble churches have a vital part to play in the future maintenance and revival of that faith, stability, courage, and steadfastness which in the past have enabled our people in Britain and in the Dominions and Colonies to stand firm against every blast?

Need for Cathedral

"Would we wish, any of us, even if we are not members of the Church primarily concerned with the building of our cathedral, would we wish Nairobi to develop into the great city which is certain to develop here, ungraced by a noble and beautiful and completed cathedral?"

"From the spiritual point of view, we should surely all agree that it is of the highest importance that there should be that general headquarters of the Church of which I have spoken; that there should be a great and beautiful building here as the centre of the Christian faith in the Colony, as the centre of what may well be something far greater than the Colony one day, to bear witness before all men to the great truths of our faith, and to the fact that however many the differences between us in these countries, vast numbers of us can meet on the common ground that we are Christians, to bear witness that we have carried into this land, in Brett Young's words, 'steadfast hearts in the fear of the Lord' and have 'established here, in the Grace of God, the rights whereby we stand'.

Token of Faith

"You may say that £30,000 is a very large sum, more than we can expect to raise. I do not believe that. A few generous and wealthy people will no doubt come forward and give substantial amounts, but we cannot expect that they will amount to more than a small part of what is needed. But if everyone who feels that the Cathedral Church of the Highlands stands as a symbol of the colonization of this beautiful country and its redemption from barbarism and ignorance will give according to his or her means, there can be no doubt that the sum will be collected.

"Others of other faiths have erected here in Nairobi, and in other towns of the Colony, outstanding buildings for their purposes. Surely we are not going to be left behind in a matter of this kind. Surely we can see and feel that what the cathedral stands for is essential and vital in the life of the Colony and in our own lives; that it means to us what the great cathedrals of other lands mean to those who are privileged to build them; that it is an obligation of honour on the British people in this country to complete it."

"There have been many appeals for deserving purposes in the last year or two, and a great many people are feeling the pinch of the heavily increased cost of living. Nevertheless, I hope I may not be misunderstood if I say that I know too that expenditure on amusements is still high in the Colony, and if we can afford to spend for amusement, surely we can afford to spend for a cause like the completion of the Cathedral of the Highlands, to the glory of God and as a token of our faith and belief in the greatness of our Empire, the permanence of our institutions, and the spiritual foundations upon which all that we are has been constructed, and all that we are to be must rest if we are to be anything that matters in the centuries to come.

GENERAL CONDEMNATION

The Government have missed their opportunity."—*Scotsman*.

"These are the half-measures of a small man."—*Newcastle Journal*.

The steps proposed are ludicrously inadequate."—*Daily Graphic*.

"This is surely the final proof that the Government are not fit for their job."—*Glasgow Herald*.

"Mr. Attlee scatters a handful of grit and tinklers over the path we ought not to be on."—*Nottingham Journal*.

"This is the abdication of 'planning' and even of ordinary financial government."—*Manchester Guardian*.

"The nation has now been warned that the Government are either too feeble or too unimaginative to master the crisis."—*Yorkshire Post*.

"The cuts are too small and almost wholly restrictive. They should have been balanced by measures to encourage the export trade drive."—*Liverpool Daily Post*.

"Once more the Government mistake the mood of the people. They were braced for painful news. But they expected also a challenging and constructive lead. They got neither."—*Daily Express*.

"The nation was keyed up for drastic treatment. Instead it received a Fabian prescription. We bring away no awakened sense of urgency from Mr. Attlee's speech or from his broadcast."—*News Chronicle*.

"It is impossible to say that the Government's economy cuts have done more than deal with the negative side of the problem. The less said about Mr. Attlee's broadcast the better. It rattled nobody."—*Daily Mirror*.

"The Cabinet programme is hardly more than a set of chapter headings, most of them rightly phrased, but with no substance under them. It is scarcely conceivable that the galloping consumption of the nation's wealth and strength can be more than momentarily checked by the Government's proposals. If the necessary sacrifices are not made now, so that the stimulus to efficient output at competitive costs can work free of inflation, the sequel will hurt vastly more. The decisions have been so whittled down for fear of party or popular disfavour that they nearly all become hardly more than pious motions."—*The Times*.

BACKGROUND T

Four years ago Socialists were proudly proclaiming that under Socialism the old inefficiencies and the waste of a free market would be eliminated. Control from the centre, co-ordination, planning, would enable the country to be run more efficiently and more intelligently. The opposite has proved to be the case. The economy has been made so rigid that it could not adapt itself to changes in world conditions, and now that it is admitted that some change should be made—long after it has been clear to most people that a combination of high taxation and high Government expenditure has been at the root of our troubles—the machine shows itself too cumbersome to swing into reverse. The Government fears the political consequences of the mental readjustments that are required to shake off the habits which high Government expenditure has engendered. It is a revealing commentary on the decline in the credit and prestige of this Socialist Government that within three years the interest rate on 'undated' British Funds should have risen from 2½% to 4%."—*Financial Times*.

"It is impossible to conceive a more terrible and terrifying contrast than that between the peroration and the substance of Sir Stafford Cripps's elaboration of the Government's crisis programme. In his closing passages the Chancellor painted a picture of our conditions in the blackest colours, and unhappily they were not too black to be true. From time to time he also enunciated economic principles all the more sound because they were the very negation of Socialism— notably the principle that a Government can only create conditions which will enable a nation to save itself by individual efforts. But when he came to the actions proposed by the Government the impression of their inadequacy was pitiful and painful. They are too little and too late. The whole sum of the economies planned in current expenditure does not effect more than the cancellation of supplementary expenditure. When we have made all these cuts—and we cannot make half of them this year—we shall still have spent as much as we said we were going to spend last April. In capital expenditure the economy boils down to a mere £40 million on a total of £2,100 million. Socialism has failed."—*Daily Telegraph*.

"It was left to the *Manchester Guardian*, on the whole more loyal to the Cabinet than any other paper, to pour out column after scathing column of condemnation as damaging to Mr. Attlee and his colleagues as anything the *Guardian* has ever written. Never has this Government failed the country so utterly as it has now."—*Spectator*.

"All the Prime Minister could announce were the vestigia of a policy, the sweepings that remained after his colleagues had cut and hacked at it. We have had a dollar crisis, a production crisis, a fuel crisis, a convertibility crisis, and a balance of payments crisis, each merely another facet of the same continuing and chronic crisis of government."—*Time and Tide*.

"All that emerges is a catalogue of fleabites. The public surprise shows how incorrigible is the ordinary Englishman in his belief that His Majesty's Government must be capable of governing. The nation is living on an overdraft of time, and the limit is very near. But we apparently still have six months more to drag out, drifting as the hurricane rises without a captain on the bridge or a hand on the wheel. The only solace is that the issues at the coming general election are more certainly being narrowed down to the one basic question of where men can be found with the skill to steer a course and the courage to stick to it."

"If a radical solvent of the creeping paralysis that now frustrates the British economy is not quickly found, full employment and social justice will go to the wall in a mad scramble to secure enough efficiency to survive. The last four years have proved that neither ministerial exhortation nor bureaucratic planning schemes provide sufficient pressure. Self-interest is not the only motive that stirs the human breast; but the attempt to get along without it has been a miserable failure. The only way to get capital and labour to move to where they are wanted is to make it worth their while to do so. The path to efficiency lies through destruction of as many price controls as can be contrived without infringing the basic requirements of social security. There can be no liberation of the economy without substantial reduction of taxation."—*The Economist*.

TO THE NEWS

E.A.R.-marked.—Sir Cripps's sneer at incentives perhaps suggests the root cause of our present troubles."—Mr. F. Byers, M.P.

"Ministers and M.P.s should take a voluntary cut in their salaries."—Mr. Walter Fletcher, M.P.

"For every £4 which Britain spends to-day on food, she spends £3 5s. on alcohol and tobacco."—Mr. S. N. Evans, M.P.

"The bog constrictor of nationalization has been fed with a series of heavy meals, one after another, until it is full of undigested food."—Lord Reading.

"Devaluation will bring only temporary relief. The only answer is lower production costs."—Senator George, chairman, U.S. Senate Finance Committee.

"The ambition to attain by hard work the legitimate rewards of success is one of the most powerful motives in the formation of character."—Lord Macmillan.

"If Conservatism is not based on a spiritual faith, it is nothing. If we do not oppose all the materialist tendencies of the age, we are not fulfilling our destiny."—Mr. R. A. Butler, M.P.

"We have restored the strength of the British merchant navy to 16,250,000 tons."—Mr. A. Barnes, Minister for Transport.

"There is no point in offering the country the clogged cream of economic sapience, if Parliament and the electorate will refuse it."—Sir Alexander Gray.

"British cement prices are only 53% above the pre-war figure, although it takes 8 cwt. of coal to make one ton of cement and the price of nationalized coal is now up by 145%."—The Earl of Selborne.

"Devaluation is the best proof that the underlying assumption of the Cripps-Aitlee school (according to which 'economic man' has been replaced by 'social man') is altogether out of this world."—Mr. J. H. Huizinga.

"Would it be impossible for the Brussels Pact Governments to form a long-service, volunteer, international force in which Germans could enlist? Indeed, can they implement the defence plans of the Atlantic Pact at all unless they have such a nucleus of integrated forces?"—*Economist*.

"Under Socialist planning we pay 65s. for glucose against a world price of 27s. and 54s. 6d. for sugar against a world price of 34s."—Mr. A. E. Alinatt, chairman of Callard and Bowser, Ltd.

"Unless all engaged in industry, agriculturists and labour make a concerted effort to produce more for the same return and wage, devaluation will not achieve its object."—Mr. Leif Egeland, High Commissioner in London for the Union of South Africa.

"It is ironic that the Government which preached and legislated the planned economy should be obliged to confess in the end that to all the really vital problems of the day it has in fact been forced to adopt an empirical approach, 'a series of temporary expedients.' It has proved that the rigid economy of the planners never averts a crisis."—*Time and Tide*.

"Japanese textile prices in West Africa are 30% to 40% below those for equivalent Lancashire cloths. In Lancashire it still takes four to five months for delivery of grey cloth and a further six months for printing—virtually 12 months from placing the order. Japanese grey or bleached cloth can be delivered in three months, and printed cloth in six months from the placing of the order."—*Financial Times*.



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PERSONALIA

SIR EDWARD WILSHAM will shortly revisit the Rhodesias.

MR. D. G. TOMBLINGS will leave in a few days to return to Uganda.

MR. E. F. HITCHCOCK is due to leave London to-day by air for Tanganyika.

DR. J. T. WILLIAMSON left England by air on Saturday to return to Tanganyika.

MR. A. LE MAITRE is due to leave England this week for Tanga at the expiry of his furlough.

MR. HARRY ST. L. GRENFELL left by air on Monday to return to Lusaka after a holiday in this country.

A new book by MR. W. D. M. BELL, entitled "Karamoja Safari," will be published the week after next.

MR. BRIAN JAMES ROBB, of Blantyre, Nyasaland, and MISS BERYL JOYCE HOLLINS will shortly be married in this country.

THE RT. HON. ARTHUR CREECH JONES, M.P., Secretary of State for the Colonies, had audience with The King one day last week.

MR. JOHN R. GUNNISON, of the staff of the National Bank of India, and MISS HAZEL JOAN DU PRE were recently married in Nairobi.

MR. OLIVER STANLEY, M.P., was the guest of honour at a luncheon of the Foreign Press Association at the Dorchester Hotel in London last week.

SIR GEOFFREY HEYWORTH, since 1942 chairman of Lever Brothers and Unilever, has been appointed a part-time member of the National Coal Board.

MR. ABDULLA KARIMJEE, president of the Tanganyika Sisal Growers' Association, has left London for a short stay in Switzerland on his way back to Tanga.

SIR GEORGE USHER, who is interested in industries in the Union of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia as well as in this country, is outward-bound with LADY USHER in the ATHLONE CASTLE.

THE REV. N. E. CORNWALL, of the Universities' Mission to Central Africa, was consecrated Bishop of Borneo by the Archbishop of Canterbury on Tuesday. The service was held in Westminster Abbey.

MR. RAY SHOHEI, editor of the *Sudan Herald* since 1946, who returns to Khartoum this week after three months' leave in this country, contributes an article to the current issue of *World's Press News* on newspaper work in the Sudan.

PRINCESS ALICE, Countess of Athlone, and MAJOR-GENERAL THE EARL OF ATHLONE will attend a special performance of "A Street Car Named Desire" at the Aldwych Theatre to-day in aid of the Rhodesia Fairbridge Memorial College appeal.

MR. C. G. EASTWOOD, the Assistant Under-Secretary of State at the Colonial Office in charge of the production, marketing, and research divisions, must have been surprised to find himself described in the Press during his recent visit to Northern Rhodesia as a Member of Parliament.

MR. G. SEYMOUR FORT, now in his 93rd year, was the oldest guest at last week's dinner in London in celebration of the 60th anniversary of the grant of the Royal Charter to the British South Africa Company. He is the author of a biography of Cecil Rhodes, and first visited Southern Rhodesia in 1891.

The name of the HON. JOHN GRIGG, son of Lord Altrincham, was on the short list from which the Conservative Association in Dudley was to choose a candidate last Tuesday, but as the invitation to be in Dudley on that date clashed with an old engagement to be in Nottingham on the same day, Mr. Grigg withdrew his name.

LORD ALTRINCHAM, a former Governor of Kenya, unveiled a bust of Lord Milner on Saturday at Milner Court, Sturry, which Lady Milner gave on her husband's death to King's School, Canterbury, as a junior school. Lord Altrincham is now editor of the *National Review*, which Lady Milner edited for many years.

The marriage took place in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, recently between MR. TORRANCE JOHN ALEXANDER, eldest son of the late Colonel Harry McMicking, formerly of Witley, Surrey, and the late Mrs. G. McMicking, and MISS SOPHIE GEORGINA MCKRAE, younger daughter of Mr. D. Figg, of Durban, and the late Mrs. Figg.

MR. R. F. HALSTED, Minister of Trade and Industrial Development in Southern Rhodesia, will leave the Colony next week for London at the head of a mission which will discuss Rhodesian development projects with official, financial, commercial and industrial quarters in this country. SIR DIGBY BURNETT, chairman of the Iron and Steel Commission, and MR. N. R. BERTRAM, secretary of the Department of Trade and Industrial Development, will be members of the party.

AIR VICE-MARSHAL CHARLES RONALD STEELE, who has been appointed Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Coastal Command, as from January 1, 1950, with the acting rank of Air Marshal, was Senior Air Staff Officer at the headquarters of the Rhodesian Air Training Group for two years during the recent war. He then commanded No. 85 Group, 2nd Tactical Air Force, during the liberation of Europe, and is now A.O.C., Malta.

MR. FRANCIS WILLIAM RICKETT, the financier, who in 1935 obtained from the Emperor of Ethiopia an oil concession described at the time as worth £10,000,000, told the official receiver at a public examination in the London Bankruptcy Court on Monday that his debts would be paid in full if certain bonds, which were the subject of litigation, could be realized for the £47,000 at which he valued them. Mr. Rickett denied that he was insolvent.

MAJOR ROY FARRAN, who arrived in this country by air last week from Southern Rhodesia to be interviewed by the Dudley Conservative Association with a view to adoption as their candidate for the general election, found himself the immediate object of police protection, for when he was serving in Palestine in 1947 the Stern Gang publicly threatened to kill him, and a parcel bomb intended for him killed his younger brother 18 months ago. He has since withdrawn his candidature.

Obituary

Brigadier-General E. H. Gorges

BRIGADIER-GENERAL E. H. GORGES, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., who has died at his home at Petersfield, Hampshire, at the age of 80, served for some years with the King's African Rifles, and was awarded the D.S.O. in connexion with operations in Turkana. Later, after commanding camel corps and mounted infantry units in Somaliland, he took charge of the 1st K.A.R. in the Nandi Field Force. Appointed commandant of the West African Regiment in 1912, he led a column which, with the co-operation of French troops, took the German Colonies of Togoland and Cameroon in 1914-18.

MR. SYDNEY COUPER, whose death in this country is announced, joined the Uganda Railway in 1897. Except for the years 1913-1918, when he was general manager of the Jamaica Government Railway, he spent all his service in East Africa, becoming general manager in 1918 and retiring to Uganda in 1922.

B.S.A. Company's Dinner in London Celebration of Grant of Royal Charter

SIR DOUGAL MALCOLM, president of the British South Africa Company, presided at a dinner held in London on Wednesday of last week on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the grant of the Royal charter of incorporation. Those present were—

Major-General the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Athlone, the Duke of Abercorn, Viscount Addison, the Rt. Hon. L. S. Amery, Mr. Robert Annan, the Earl of Besborough, Rear-Admiral Sir Arthur Bromley, the Hon. Rupert Beckett, Air Commodore C. E. Benson, Colonel C. F. Birney, Mr. S. H. Boileau, Mr. John B. Braithwaite, Mr. Percy J. Baird, Mr. John Brunyate, K.C., Mr. Michael F. Berry, the Hon. Thomas H. Brand, Sir John Chancellor, Mr. Cameron F. Cobbold, Sir William Clark, Mr. A. B. Cohen, Mr. A. G. Cole, Mr. Horace D. Clive, Mr. Julian Crossley.

Earl De La Warr, Colonel A. D. Dodds-Parker, M.P., Viscount Davidson, Mr. J. B. Dennison, Mr. Carl Davis, Mr. Terence Donovan, M.P., Lord Elton, Mr. Lef Egeland, Mr. P. V. Emrys-Evans, Mr. Leo F. d'Erlanger, Mr. J. H. Ellis, Professor S. H. Frankel, Mr. G. Seymour Fort, Mr. R. E. Fitzgerald, Brigadier J. G. Foster, M.P., Sir Ralph Freeman, Mr. K. M. Goodenough, Mr. H. St. L. Grenfell, Sir William Goodenough, Mr. P. S. Gordon-Walker, M.P., Dr. Alfonso Patrio Gouveia, Mr. James A. Gray, Lord Harlech, Lord Hailey, Mr. C. Hely-Hutchinson, Mr. H. Wilson Harris, M.P., Mr. H. V. Hodson, Mr. S. Pascoe Hayward, Mr. W. J. Hall, Mr. Eric D. Hawksley, Mr. R. V. Hart-Davis, Mr. J. N. Hogg, Mr. Arthur E. Hadley, the Rt. Hon. Robert S. Hudson, M.P., Mr. Christopher G. Hoare, Mr. Maurice Hely-Hutchinson, Mr. Kenneth O. Hunter, Mr. P. Horsfall.

The Rt. Hon. A. Creech Jones, M.P., Sir Roderick Jones, Mr. F. S. Joelson, Lord Kinderley, Mr. H. H. Küchen, Mr. J. N. Kiek, Mr. Louis H. Kiek, Sir Percivale Liesching, Mr. J. E. W. Lomas, Sir Harry Lindsay, Sir Eric Machtig, Major-General Sir Neill Malcolm, Major H. K. McKee, Major T. J. May, Mr. H. E. Morrell, Mr. Dermo Morrah, Mr. Charles Micklem, Mr. C. A. G. McLaglan, Sir Walter Monckton, Lord McGowan, Mr. O. S. Naylor.

Sir Hugh O'Neill, M.P., Mr. Vivian Oury, Sir Cosmo Parkinson, Colonel Charles Ponsonby, the Portuguese Ambassador, Mr. R. L. Prain, Sir Cecil Rodwell, Sir Jasper Ridley, Mr. L. G. Ray, Viscount Simon, Viscount Swinton, Mr. J. Francis Shearer, Mr. R. E. Shott, Mr. P. K. Stephenson, Viscount Trenchard, Sir Vernon Thomson, Mr. H. M. Tait, Mr. Granville Tyser, Sir Miles Thomas, Mr. S. S. Taylor, Mr. C. F. S. Taylor, Mr. Louis P. Tylor, Sir John Waddington, Sir Edward Wilshear, Mr. Frank Worthington, Mr. A. C. Wilson, Mr. W. H. White, and Mr. W. F. Yaxley.

Nairobi

NAIROBI, which, as we reported last week, is to become a city on March 30 next by direction of The King, will be the first town in the Colonial Empire to receive a Royal charter raising it to that status. It was also the first town in the Colonial Empire to be empowered to raise loans on its own assets, the initial loan (for £1,500,000) having been issued in London and Kenya some months ago. The Municipal Council had an expenditure last year of rather more than £500,000, and its estimated net expenditure for this year is £629,000. That body is composed of seven elected aldermen, nine elected European members, seven elected Indian members, one member of the Nairobi District Council, two African members nominated by the Governor in Nairobi, the administrative officer of the Nairobi District, and two members nominated by the Governor to represent the Government of Kenya.

B.B.C. Christmas Programme

THE DOMINIONS AND COLONIES will be featured in this year's Christmas Day "round-the-world" programme of the B.B.C., and three special correspondents have already left this country to make plans and collect recordings. Mr. Colin Wills, an Australian, has gone to Cyprus on the first stage of a journey to Africa. From Egypt he will fly to Nairobi. He has been invited to join a lion-hunt in Kenya with Masai tribesmen.

The Legislative Council of Northern Rhodesia will reassemble on November 12.

Future of Eritrean People Judgment on Italian Rule

BRIGADIER S. H. LONGRIGG, a former Chief Administrator in Eritrea, has written to *The Times*:

"One can no longer hope that Eritrean affairs will be settled on the question whether, whatever happens to Eritrea, religious strife between Muslims and Christians is likely to become serious. There is not much fanaticism on either side, though ugly episodes are not unknown. There is little fear of large-scale attacks upon the Italian minority; they will be not unpopular when once there is no further danger of a return of Italian government.

"It is misleading, however, to speak of 'splitting up' and 'encumbering' a small country with factitious boundaries. The splitting up has, in fact, been the completely achieved work of centuries of history. The suggested boundaries are not factitious: the Coptic-Christian and the Muslim areas are entirely distinct. They would never have coalesced into one political unit except by the will and force of a European occupying power. If the Coptic plateau is ceded, with safeguards, to Ethiopia and the Muslim areas to the Sudan, the settlement will thus far accord with the unquestionable facts of the case.

"The view that the Italians—in spite of the almost completely unanimous wishes of the inhabitants—ought now to be given a chance to show that they can again, as in the past, administer their oldest Colony wisely, humanely, and well, and in future lead its Native races to stable self-government, is one held by 1 suppose, 4% or 5% of non-Italian Europeans familiar with Eritrea: a view based upon the persuasiveness and social charm of Italians and the desire to help European relations.

Shop-Window Administration

The facts are that the spirit and policy of the pre-Fascist administration differed but little from the Fascist, and in both the interests of the Native peoples took last place. The remarkable roads and public works were inspired by shop-window considerations and by the advantage of having valuable contracts to give. The public services, often expensive and elaborate, were designed primarily for the benefit of Italian residents.

"The Italians did not in Eritrea dispossess the Natives of the best lands in the territory, but only because, after persistent experiments, it was found that few even of the best lands would yield a living to Italians. Their industrial and commercial policy was conceived solely in Italian interests: never in any circumstances were Eritreans to be allowed to compete with immigrant Italian labour. Finally, on the political side, nobody can pretend that the Eritreans were allowed any hope of political advancement or any serious part in the conduct of their affairs.

"The truth is that the Italians during 60 years in Eritrea performed remarkable feats of engineering, founded some creditable technical institutions, and pursued some scholarly studies, but as rulers or guardians of Native races they conspicuously failed."

Seretse Khama Case

THE INQUIRY into the suitability of Seretse Khama as chief of the Bamaangwato tribe of Bechuanaland opened in Serowe on Tuesday under the presidency of Sir Walter Harragin; and is expected to last about three weeks. The case arises from the marriage of the chief-designate with a European woman, as a result of which Chekedi, the uncle of Seretse and for many years regent, and many other leaders, decided to quit the tribal area. The correspondent in Serowe of the *Daily Mail* cabled early this week that the Nationalist Government in South Africa was exerting great pressure upon the Imperial Government to outlaw Seretse and his wife, and that this was rallying to the side of Seretse thousands of tribesmen who would otherwise have supported Chekedi. On Monday night the South African Government pronounced Seretse and his wife to be prohibited immigrants, which means that they may not visit the seat of government of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, which is in Mafeking, just over the border in the Cape Province.

S. Rhodesia Removes Many Controls

Higher Living Costs Inevitable

THE GOVERNMENT HAS decided to free our economy, said Mr. E. C. F. WHITEHEAD, Southern Rhodesia's Finance Minister, when he outlined proposals for dealing with the situation created by sterling devaluation.

The time had come when the Colony must choose between a permanently controlled economy and a free economy. The Government had decided upon the latter, and had rejected the Socialist method of pegging the cost of living through heavy subsidies, financed by direct taxation.

Price control would be lifted from commodities no longer in short supply. The price paid to maize producers would be increased by 12s. to 35s. per bag, and that paid to milk producers by a further 41d. per gallon. The consumer would have to meet the full increase for maize, but the higher cost of milk would be covered by Government subsidy.

Permit control of building would be entirely removed in the near future, from all areas except Salisbury and Bulawayo and their immediate environs. Restrictions on the size of houses would also be removed. Rent control must, however, be retained.

No Cut-Throat Competition

The Government did not intend to permit a return of cut-throat competition in local foodstuffs, and price control there must therefore also stay.

Other controls would be removed gradually, but for the present the following commodities would continue to be subject to price control: bags, bread, bricks, butter and butter-fat, cement, cheese, cigarettes, eggs, flour, iron and steel, margarine, fresh meat, mutton, meat-oils, sheets, sugar, and unmanufactured timber for building.

"So far as this Colony is concerned," the Minister declared, "the cost of living will never again be so low as it is at the moment. We have not yet felt the effects of devaluation."

As early as last June, added Mr. Whitehead, the majority had been convinced that devaluation was inevitable, though the subject had not been on the agenda of the Commonwealth Finance Ministers' conference in London. The 25% rise in dollar imports had then been agreed, and it was fortunate for Rhodesia that such drastic import restrictions had been imposed as early as they were, and that a further cut had been made before devaluation.

On his return from London he had appointed an inter-departmental committee to investigate the question of devaluation, and to consider measures to mitigate its ill-effects on the Colony or to take advantage of its favourable effects. After discussions with the Rhodesia Tobacco Association he had agreed to do nothing that would prejudice the industry, while they had agreed to take no action without consulting the Government.

Import Control Would Be Disastrous

So much of the Colony's budgetary expenditure was represented by imports, said Mr. Whitehead, that a very high percentage of the increase in expenditure was inevitably outside Government control. Import control would be disastrous, and he believed that competition would tend to prevent price wars. Many cases of dearer imports were serious: medical stores, for instance, included essential drugs obtainable only from dollar sources.

The inevitable sharp rise in interest rates was unfortunate for a borrowing country. If £15,000,000 were required this year to cover Government and municipal services, £17,000,000 or £18,000,000 would be needed next year to cover the same services. Nothing the Colony might do could alter that fact.

Devaluation had brought four or five simultaneous booms to the Colony's export industries—namely tobacco, asbestos, and chrome ore—and rapid action must be taken to improve the competitive position of the food producer. A general fall in world food prices in terms of sterling could no longer be expected; probably there would be a sharp rise followed by a period of stabilization and some decline.

The Colony faced a very great increase in expenditure without any increase in services as a direct result of devaluation. It would be impossible to meet that by an increase in taxation without causing a major slump in the country. It was therefore necessary to make a very severe cut in Government expenditure, and that must undoubtedly be done.

Emphasizing the need for achieving a balance between production and consumption, Mr. Whitehead said that it was essential that the Colony should be master in its own house.

It was likely that a banking expert from England would reach the Colony within a few weeks to shoulder part of the burden placed on the shoulders of the Minister.

It was likely, he concluded, that Africans would be compensated for the increase in food prices and that the Minister of Native Affairs would be in touch with employers of Natives to work out a new basis of compensation.

The leader of the Opposition, Mr. R. O. STOCKS, criticized the Ministers of Finance and Agriculture for having curbed their more responsible statements on the subject of devaluation, but he speculated that the Minister on publicly admitting that the effects were obscure. He could see little merit in the proposals that the Government intended to take.

Stronghold of Free Enterprise

Mr. I. M. H. PROSEY (United Party) said that Southern Rhodesia should be boldly advertised as one of the strongholds of free enterprise.

Mr. W. H. EASTON (Rhodesia Labour Party), the newly elected member for the Bulawayo District, urged the continuation of subsidies for maize, but the increased cost of other commodities, which was paid in kind, should be reflected in the prices of other goods. The Colony's secondary industries would be unable to withstand competition when it eventually came from all over the world.

Mr. D. MACINTYRE (United Party) urged that profits should be cut to the lowest possible level to carry on the economy of the country, and that artificial restrictions on output, whether by trade unions or employers' cartels, should cease. Control had not kept prices low, but he believed that competition would bring them down.

Mr. J. B. DENDY YOUNG (United Party) said that some lowering of the standard of living would do no harm. The only way to solve the financial problem was to "take off our coats and work."

Mr. R. A. BALLANTYNE (United Party) asked for prohibitive import tariffs on luxury goods.

Industrialist's Visit to Rhodesia

THERE IS EVERY PROBABILITY of the investment in this Colony of considerable private capital from the United Kingdom," said Sir Archibald Forbes, former chairman of the United Kingdom Iron and Steel Board, in a recent interview in Bulawayo, adding: "There is much confidence in the future of the Rhodesias in British industrial and financial circles." Sir Archibald, a director of Spillers, Ltd., revealed that he was visiting the Colony in company with Mr. W. D. Vernon, of the same company, on matters connected with the Rhodesian Milling and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., whose new mill in Lusaka, Northern Rhodesia, he afterward visited.

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Parliament

**Sordid and Squalid Administration
Seychelles Government Again Criticized**

THE POLITICAL SITUATION in the Seychelles has again been the subject of questions in the House of Commons.

MR. L. D. GAMMANS asked whether the Secretary of State for the Colonies was aware that by the judgment of the Supreme Court of Mauritius the proceedings of the Legislative Council of the Seychelles on November 16, 1948, including legislation passed thereat, had been declared invalid owing to the failure of the Governor to nominate a second non-official member; what action he now proposed to take; what costs had been incurred to date over the legal actions in the courts; and on whom those costs would fall.

MR. A. CREECH JONES: "It is proposed to introduce a Bill into the Seychelles Legislative Council to validate the proceedings of the meeting held on November 16, 1948, and the legislation passed thereat. The costs payable by the Government of the Seychelles are estimated not to exceed £135. The costs payable by the private parties to the proceedings are not known."

MR. GAMMANS: "How much longer is this sordid and squalid administration to be tolerated in the Seychelles; and why does not the Secretary of State do something to restore the good name and the dignity of the Colonial Office?"

MR. W. WYATT: "Is it in order for the hon. gentleman to make constant attacks on the integrity and efficiency of a Governor?"

Governor Open to Criticism

MR. SPEAKER: "A Governor is open to criticism, I am afraid."

MR. GAMMANS: "Cannot I have an answer?"

MR. GEOFFREY COOPER asked the Colonial Secretary, in view of the developments now being sponsored in many Colonies, what steps he proposed to take to ensure that the increase in development values accrued to Colonial Governments and not to private interests.

MR. CREECH JONES: "The principal way in which the Colonial Governments benefit from the increased values due to development activity is through the taxation system, and there has been a substantial increase in the incidence of the principal taxes in recent years."

MR. COOPER: "If my rt. hon. friend accepts the principle that any increase in land values resulting from private enterprise does not benefit the public or the community, will he consider using his influence to get the Colonial Governments to introduce legislation where necessary so that this can occur?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "That is, of course, a matter for the Colonial Government, but obviously the system of land tenure in the territories is very complex, and one cannot easily apply a system which is suitable here to conditions of land-holdings in the Colonies."

Agricultural Students at Makerere

COLONEL R. S. CLARKE asked how many students there were in Makerere College, East Africa, at present; and how many of them were studying agriculture.

MR. CREECH JONES: "There are 220 students at Makerere at present, of whom 16 are taking the agricultural course."

COLONEL CLARKE: "Does not the rt. hon. gentleman consider that in view of the fact that this part of Africa is almost entirely an agricultural area, and that under-nutrition is one of the great problems of Africa, a higher proportion of agricultural students would be advisable; and does he not feel that by his present policy he is encouraging a large number of young persons for whom there is little likelihood of employment and almost certain frustration?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "We are trying to get more balance so far as the studies of university college students are concerned, so that the students may return to the economic conditions available to them. We are also giving special attention to students who take up agriculture and veterinary work, etc. by holding out new incentives. The Inter-University Council has recently sent a delegation to Makerere for the purpose of tackling this problem."

MR. J. HYND: "Can the Minister say whether the new incentives have resulted in a greater number of agricultural students going into industry when they have completed their subject?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "It is much too early to say."

MR. BALDWIN: "Can the rt. hon. gentleman take more active steps with regard to this matter? This has been going on for three or four years and it is essential that the Africans should be taught to do it."

MR. CREECH JONES: "I fully agree, and the authorities in East Africa are fully alive to this aspect of the matter."

Trusteeship Committee's "Unrealistic Resolution"

MR. A. EDWARD DAVIES asked the Secretary of State if, in view of the resolution recently adopted by the Trusteeship Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations calling on countries administering trust territories to submit within one year detailed plans for self-government of the people concerned, he would make a statement on the policy of H.M. Government in this matter.

MR. CREECH JONES: "The annual reports of the British Trust Territories give a clear picture of their political development, and of the road along which we are advancing, while many pronouncements on behalf of H.M. Government make clear the objectives of British policy which are, of course, in accord with the Charter. Plans of the kind called for in the resolution would be so general as to be valueless and unrealistic."

MR. J. PLATTIS-MILLS asked the Secretary of State if he had considered the resolution adopted by the East African Trades Union Congress, a copy of which had been forwarded to him, setting out the reasons for their opposition to the Bill requiring the re-registration of trade unions registered before April 20, 1948; and if he would recommend the Kenya Government to withdraw the Bill and the Trade Unions and Trades Disputes Ordinance, 1943, as amended, on which it was based.

MR. CREECH JONES: "The answer to the first part of the question is 'Yes,' and to the second part 'No.'"

MR. J. RANKIN asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether he was aware that there was continuing dissatisfaction by Kenya Africans at the possession of land by the Governor of Kenya; and whether he was now prepared to take action in the matter.

MR. CREECH JONES: "No, sir. I am not aware of any measure of dissatisfaction, and I see no reason to take any action in the matter."

MR. KEELING asked the Secretary of State why he asked for unclothed stone figures to be eliminated from the design of the new Colonial Office.

Two Male Recumbent Figures

MR. CREECH JONES: "I trust that the hon. member is not taking too seriously a jesting reference by the Under-Secretary of State. The first sketches of the building included some rough indications of possible sculpture, which it was suggested might convey the impression that the Colonial Office took things lying down. I can assure the hon. member that this is not the case."

MR. KEELING: "Do I understand the Secretary of State to repudiate the statement made by the Under-Secretary at an official luncheon, from which I quote these few words:—"

"Drawings were sent to us for approval. Over the door the architect had drawn two large nude male recumbent figures. The Secretary of State and I looked at the figures closely and we looked at each other closely, and then we gave an order to the architect that either the figures were to be put in an alert posture or removed."

"Would it not be better for the Secretary of State not to meddle in such matters, but to leave it to the Royal Fine Art Commission?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "It should be appreciated that the Under-Secretary was making a joke at a conference. There has been no meddling with anybody by the Secretary of State in regard to any of these features on the proposed new building."

MR. WILSON HARRIS: "If, as I understand it is the case, these figures were intended to represent the rt. hon. gentleman and the Under-Secretary, would it not be generally agreed that the more we see of both Ministers the better?"

MR. S. SILVERMAN: "Does my rt. hon. friend think it fair that his Under-Secretary should make jokes at a conference where Conservatives may be present without giving two days notice?"

MR. J. HYND asked the Secretary of State when he expected to publish the report of the inquiry into the Uganda riots.

MR. CREECH JONES: "The committee expects to furnish his report at the end of November, and the Uganda Government intend to publish it as soon as possible thereafter."

Last year there were only eight insolvencies in Southern Rhodesia, compared with 26 in 1947 and 45 10 years earlier.

Letter to the Editor

**Racial Inter-Marriage
— Rina Hinden's Protest**

TO THE EDITOR OF EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA
 I wish to congratulate your reporter for his accurate reproduction of my remarks on racial inter-marriage and for his interesting of the Fabian Colonial Bureau to reproduce in its report of this section of my speech which appeared in your journal of October 20.

They have done so in South America, and indeed a new race is being formed in that continent. In East Africa, where the cultures, attitudes, and traditions are too different, Africans are not keen on inter-marriage with Europeans either. It is not practical politics at this stage.

But can you explain how you deduce from this your own heading "Racial Inter-Marriage Favoured by Fabians"?

And what exactly are the "reckless proposals" to which you refer in your article? Yours faithfully,

London, S.W. 1 RINA HINDEN

Will your readers and I do Dr. Hinden an unintentional injustice when we apologize, but we do not see any ground for her contention. Her views, which she admits to have been accurately reported, indicate that she favours racial inter-marriage in principle, but recognizes that it is not at present practicable in East Africa. Surely that justifies the heading which we gave to the report of her meeting at the Fabian Colonial Bureau at which she spoke and at which Lord Farnham, the chairman, described inter-breeding as "the historical answer" to the problems of a mixed society. As to the "reckless proposals," they were fully recorded in the report in our issue of October 20.—Ed. E.A. & R.

Points from Letters

Disclosure Welcomed

CONGRATULATIONS on your leading article criticizing the decision of the Tanganyika Sisal Growers' Association to pay an honorarium to a senior official who will shortly retire. I have been boiling with rage over this monstrous intention since I first heard of it. Your courageous disclosure is most valuable.

Explanation Needed

YOUR DISCLOSURE of the intention of the Tanganyika Sisal Growers' Association to pay a substantial honorarium to a senior official who is about to retire should make all people who are concerned for the good name of British administration very grateful to EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA. The case which you have put against such payments appears to me unanswerable, and I join with you in the hope that the Secretary of State for the Colonies will not only take the steps you have suggested to prevent this departure from normal practice, but that he will give wide publicity to his ruling for the sake of the Colonial Service everywhere. The proposal is astonishing, as you say, and it will be interesting to see what justification the executive committee of the association can put before the public. They will be very unwise if they do not issue a full statement of the reasons for their strange action, and explain themselves not merely to their members, but to the general public. This is certainly not a matter which should fade out in silence.

Put the Empire First

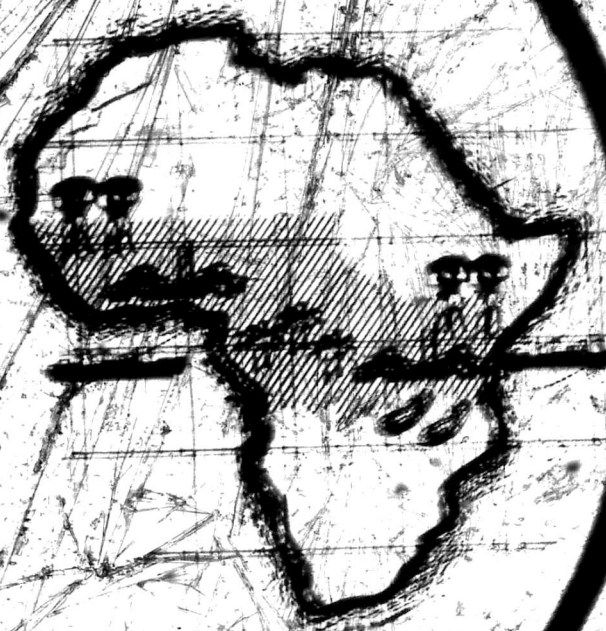
"THE SUGGESTION of your correspondent, Mr. F. O. Edwards, that in order to attract new capital into development in the Overseas Empire, the profits of such enterprise earned by companies domiciled in the United Kingdom should be subject to a distributed profits tax of only 10% instead of the present rate of 30%, would merely mean the application to Imperial purposes of a principle which other countries have been using for some years as an incentive to their exporters to earn dollars and other hard currencies. Several countries in Western Europe allow their exporters to the United States, for instance, to retain 10% of the dollars earned by their transactions. That, of course, is an important incentive, particularly as it is not subject to tax."

Communism in Africa

"EVERYONE WHO IS CONCERNED about the spread of Communism and extreme nationalism in Africa ought to read the quotations in your issue of October 13 from that most interesting article by Mr. Harold Ingrams, who tells many a pointed truth. It is to be feared that many people in public life in Africa, officials no less than non-officials, will be reluctant to take the course he convincingly presents as essential if Communism is not to be defeated, but there can be no doubt that he has set out the logic of the situation. If some bold actions be taken by extremists and agitators will find their tasks much easier than if some calculated risks are faced by the Governments with the full support of informed non-official opinion. We have had too much loose talk about Communism, some of it from Governors and some from local politicians, but practically no action. The only actions which can be safely taken must be based on faith in ourselves and the righteousness of our cause."



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Learning from West Africa

Mr. Kenneth Bradley's Address

MR. KENNETH BRADLEY told the Royal Empire Society last week that to travel from Northern Rhodesia to West Africa was not merely to fly over thousands of miles but to journey through two or three generations.

All concerned with the progress of Central and East Africa ought, he said emphatically, to keep themselves informed of what is happening in West Africa, especially in regard to the development of civilization among Africans. East and Central Africa could learn much from the experience and difficulties of West Africa—which in its turn could learn something from Eastern Africa—from the development teams at work in the districts, for instance.

Problems of the impact of industrialization on primitive peoples and of an industrial colour-bar in such areas as the Copperbelt and the settled areas of Northern Rhodesia, highly important as they were, were not representative of the territory as a whole. In the bush country which constituted the great bulk of the land the life of the African had still not changed much.

The Good Old Days

He first went to Northern Rhodesia only two years after the British Government, with its usual reluctance, had taken over the administration from the British South Africa Company, and only 30 years after Rhodes and his young men had won the race with the Germans and King Leopold of Belgium. It was too seldom remembered that the last slave caravan had been intercepted in that country as recently as 1903.

In his day the administrative officer on an outstation could still make reasonably good earth roads for £5 a mile, keep them in condition for £1 a mile, and build dispensaries for 5,000 people for less than £100; and they got much more fun out of such modest realizations of their dreams than did the heads of departments who spent their tens and hundreds of thousands.

There were then no politics, very little red tape which could not be cut with impunity, no isms and noologies. Optimistic visions were the inspiration of their work, and it was good to find that most of the officials whom he had known well in Northern Rhodesia were still singularly untroubled in mind, and tackled their difficulties in the confidence of past achievements.

Starting Differences

In the Gold Coast he found startling differences. The customs and immigration officers were all Africans, and the most courteous he had met anywhere in the world. At the first sherry party he attended an African chief, dressed in his traditional robes, talked of the possibilities of hydro-electric developments, an African barrister who had been a Cambridge boxer, discussed the great merits of Oxford and Cambridge, and an African lady spoke of her daughter at a school in England.

At Achimota was, he thought, one of the most successful colleges in the whole of Africa, and in Accra the largest hospital in tropical Africa was almost entirely staffed by Africans, one of whom was sometimes in complete charge. The proportion of Europeans to Africans on the railways was striking in comparison with South Africa, and he knew Africans who had made fortunes by their business integrity and acumen, and who now employed Europeans. The chiefly aristocracy still produced men more than able to hold their own with the educated young men of the middle classes.

Development was, of course, uneven, but the experience of Russia and India showed that a small percentage of enlightened people could become the creative and driving minority.

The Bantu of Northern Rhodesia were as different from the Negroes of West Africa as were Anglo-Saxons and Latins. That ought always to be remembered, and there ought to be much less talk about "Africans," a term that encouraged loose speaking and dangerous generalizations. Mr. Bradley thought that the political destination of the Negroes would be different from that of the Bantu.

In East and Central Africa missionaries had almost everywhere come first, followed by administrators, and then by business men. It could be briefly said that the white men

had come to deliver, that the relationship was therefore on a very high level, and that a tradition of mutual respect had developed.

West Africans in the past had done only the scum of Europe, who were not to be despised, but despite that unhappy fact the Africans had made progress, for which the Africans themselves had been largely responsible. They were deservedly proud, and perhaps almost too confident in their capacity. If they were given some help, something for which to work, they would, he believed, rise to their opportunities.

Two excellent films were shown, one in colour, of game control work in Northern Rhodesia, and the other of Achimota College.

Mr. Justice Gubbay proposed the vote of thanks to Mr. Bradley. Lord Milner presided.

Matopos National Park

ONLY 500 AFRICAN FAMILIES will be allowed to remain in the Matopos National Park. This has been announced by Southern Rhodesia's new Minister of Native Affairs, Mr. W. A. E. Winterston.

The families permitted to remain will be among the oldest-established in the district, and will be allowed eight arable acres and a maximum of 10 live-stock each. The remainder, some 800 families, must move within five years to various areas provided by the Government.

Claiming that they were given the Matopos land by Cecil Rhodes, many of the Africans have received the news with obvious dissatisfaction, though the local Native Commissioner, Mr. E. O. Lewis, has described the territory to which they will be moved as very desirable farming land.

The Commission established by the Government to consider the dispute found that the park could carry only 500 families, with a maximum live-stock capacity of 4,000. Since so many rivers had their source in the area, over-population and over-stocking would mean ruinous of wide areas.

To those who would be leaving for other areas, Mr. Winterston said: "You will be given security of tenure, but you must look after your land. The position of your children and your children's children depends upon you."

B.O.A.C.

FURTHER REORGANIZATION of the British Overseas Airways Corporation, involving the dismissal of 14 senior officials with salaries ranging up to £3,500 per year and more than 1,000 other employees, representing about one in eight of the total administrative staff, took effect from November 1. The adjustments are expected to save at least £50,000 a year. Mr. J. W. S. Brancker, who was for many years in Kenya, is now general manager in charge of commercial activities. Sir Miles Thomas, the chairman, said at the beginning of the week that devaluation, which would cost the corporation £600,000 a year, had made pruning more than ever important.

Belated Information Report

THE ANNUAL REPORT for 1948 of the Kenya Information Office, which has only just reached London, records that during the year the office was reconstituted in two main sections, a Press liaison section and an African information service, largely as a result of the appointment by the Legislature of a committee to investigate the desirability of publishing a Government newspaper, a proposal which was rejected. The chief successes of the year are stated to be the good record of the mobile information units (which gave 750 shows to about a million Africans), increased publicity overseas about Kenya, higher demands from all parts of the world for photographs, and the arrival of an American broadcaster. Broadcasting services for Africans remained unchanged, with regular services of 5½ hours per week being given from Nairobi in seven vernaculars.

Chiefs of the Marakwet district in Kenya have decided to collect 2s. per head from all able-bodied men in the area to provide part of the cost of a water supply for the mission hospital in Kapgwar.



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- 1 Jones KE15 Mobile Crane; Coburn petrol engine; 16ft. 0in. Channel Jib; solid rubber tyres. Price £575.
- Crawford Crane Tipping Skips; 4 cu. yd., 1 cu. yd., 1 cu. yd. Price £17,100, £12,100, £8,000.
- 1 12 x 8 Marsden Portable Crusher and Screen; 14 h.p. Diesel engine. Price £1,000.
- 3 12 x 7 Pegson Portable Stone Crushers; Ruston Diesel engine. Underdrum screens. 475 tons per hour. Price each £983.

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Of Commercial Concern

Building permits granted in Northern Rhodesia recently include: Nchanga Consolidated Copper Mines, Ltd., £100,000 (residences, nurses' quarters and African housing); Roan Antelope Copper Mines, Ltd., £25,000 (African housing); Mufuhira Copper Mines, Ltd., £23,750 (residences); Rhodesia Broken Hills Development Co., Ltd., £18,000 (residences); C. Elletson, £17,000 (offices); Nchanga Co-operative Society, Ltd., £15,000 (store); Standard Trading Company, Kitwe, £11,000 (shop premises); W. W. Frank, Glasser's Stores, Lusaka, £8,000 (shops); British South Africa Company, Lusaka, £7,000 (extensions to offices); Northern News, Ltd., Ndola, £6,000 (extensions to printing works); Pelletier, Ltd., Ndola, £6,000 (staff flats).

Owners of cotton mills in this country may now buy raw cotton on spot and forward delivery terms. Cover quotations for all American-type cotton have been advanced by 4d. per lb. East African is now 31.15d., East African B.P. 32d., and Sudan L types X4 and below and Lodab are respectively 39.55d. and 37.50d. Prices for delivery during January, February, and March are unchanged for East African, but East African B.P. 32d. is at 30 cents of a shilling premium. In Sudan cottons, G.S. types are 20 points below the spot cover quotation, while Tokar is 40 points down and L types 40 and 35 points cheaper.

Messrs. E. A. Gibson and Co., Ltd., report that air parcel freight movement has again been good for East Africa, a number of small consignments having been accepted by aircraft chartered for the territories. "If at any time a half Dakota load becomes available for this direction, it would be fairly easy to fill the remainder of the space. A cargo of two tons of moulding powder for the manufacture of plastics has been offered Dakota space to Southern Rhodesia at lower than liner rates. A cargo of pineapples will probably arrive from Nairobi on an aircraft making a half-empty run home."

Nairobi Hotel Site

A hotel site of 1.23 acres opposite the premises of the National Bank of India and fronting Queensway, Government Road, and Lugard Avenue in Nairobi is being offered by the Kenya Government. The lessee will pay no rent for the first five years, but a deposit equivalent to five years' rent at £500 per annum, which will be repaid when the hotel is completed. Thereafter the rent will be £500 per annum, rising to £1,000 in the 16th year, at which figure it will remain until the end of the lease. The hotel must be completed in five years and have seven storeys.

The Kenya Bamboo Development Co., Ltd., 2 Queen Anne's Gate, London, S.W.1, is being wound up voluntarily. Mr. J. P. Dick has been appointed liquidator.

representing 16 co-operative societies with a total membership of more than 10,000, the European-managed Ngomoni Katengo Co-operative Marketing Union, which is the second largest concern of its kind in Tanganyika, handled 590 tons of tobacco last year, and has already received 600 tons this season. Major F. C. Stephens, executive officer of the statutory Songea Native Tobacco Board, is the manager, and the factory manager is Mr. G. A. Wood.

During his recent visit to Portuguese East Africa, Sir Godfrey Huggins, Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia, expressed the belief that the port of Beira would fulfil its purpose, so far as Rhodesia was concerned, until 1952, when an alternative port would probably be necessary. Because of its geographical position, however, Beira would always remain Rhodesia's main port.

A public utility company owned jointly by the Kenya Government and Unga, Ltd., a subsidiary of the Kenya Farmer's Association, Ltd., has been proposed for the construction of silos to hold the Colony's growing output of cereals. Mr. F. T. Holden, managing director of Unga, Ltd., is visiting this country to discuss plans with experts.

Rhodesian Secondary Industries

Some secondary industries in Southern Rhodesia are exporting as much as 90% of their output and others from 70% upwards, said the Minister of Trade and Industrial Development recently. Mr. Halsted argued that if the products were in so much demand by other countries they ought to be good enough for Rhodesia.

Petrol now costs 3d. a gallon more in the main centres of Southern Rhodesia. The landed cost has increased by 4d. a gallon, but it has been agreed that the retailer and the wholesaler should each sacrifice one halfpenny a gallon.

Lewa Rubber Estates, Ltd., a concern with interests in sisal growing in Tanganyika, announce a dividend of 16½% on the 10% participating preferred shares and 6½% (5%) on the deferred shares, both less tax.

A sub-branch of the National Bank of India, Ltd., was established at Sotik, Kenya, at the end of last month. It will be open for business on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Uplands Bacon Factory, a co-operative concern in the Highlands of Kenya, earned a surplus of £15,271 in the year ended June 30 last.

The market price of Empire sisal has been raised by a further £5 per ton in addition to the increase of £11 which followed devaluation.

The Meat Marketing Board in Kenya had a turnover of £590,000 in 1948, with a gross profit of £57,000, and net profit of £15,700.

Hire-purchase agreements in Southern Rhodesia numbered 3,712 (£967,298) in 1948, compared with 1,718 (£413,439) in 1947.

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and branches.

NYASALAND—The London & Blantyre Supply Co., Ltd.—Blantyre,
Liwongo and branches.

New Ship for Lake Nyasa "Hala II" to Replace "Vipya"

SEVENTY-FOUR YEARS ago the first steamship to ply on Lake Nyasa was built for the pioneer party of Scottish missionaries by the firm of Yarrow. In their little ship that sturdy band sailed up the Zambezi River, and entered the lake on October 12, 1875, at which time the only vessels operating in those waters were five slave dhows. Not until two gunboats, the PIONEER and ADVENTURER, had been sent out in pieces by the Admiralty, assembled on the lakeside, and commissioned for their duty were the slave traffickers exterminated.

Now the builders of those three vessels—who have moved meantime from the Thames to the Clyde—have constructed a second HALA to the order of Nyasaland Railways, in replacement of the VIPYA, which sank in a severe storm with heavy loss of life.

The new passenger and cargo vessel is deemed capable of weathering the most severe gales, the main hull having been sub-divided into eight watertight compartments by seven transverse bulkheads, this being nearly double the number normally required for a vessel of her size.

The overall length is 172 ft., the breadth moulded 30 ft. 6 in., and the depth moulded 11 ft. She is of 600 tons displacement and 620 tons gross, and is built to carry 100 tons deadweight, 368 passengers, and a crew of 38. When fully loaded the speed will be 12 knots.

On the promenade deck there is accommodation for the captain, two officers, 12 first-class passengers in 10 well-appointed cabins, a large dining saloon, and the first-class galley. There are two cabins on the main deck forward for the accommodation of six second-class passengers, and the after end of the deck has space for 350 passengers. Under the main deck are roomy quarters for the African crew.

The cargo-handling equipment consists of one eight-ton derrick and two 10-cwt. electric cranes. The main machinery comprises two sets of Crossley marine propulsion oil engines, and two 50 kW. diesel generators are installed in the engine room to supply the power for the electrically driven motors.

A representative of the builders has arrived in Nyasaland to supervise the assembly of the ship.

East African Power and Lighting

DEALINGS in the new issue of shares of the East African Power and Lighting Co., Ltd. opened on the London Stock Exchange on Friday, the ordinary starting at a premium of 2s. 6d. over the issue price of 30s., and rising to 2s. 9d.-3s. premium by the close of the first day. By Tuesday the price was 33s. 3d. The preference opened at par and closed at 44d. discount. For the issue of 1,000,000 ordinary shares at 30s. there were applications from shareholders for more than double the total. Applications up to 100 shares were allotted in full; for 300, the allotment was 200; for 500, 300; for 1,000, 360; for 2,000, 600; for 3,000, 900; and for 5,000, 1,500. Applications from the general public exceeded 4,000,000 shares; up to 2,000 there was a 10% allotment, and beyond that figure the applications were very heavily scaled down. Preference issue applications about totalled the number of shares available.

Geology and Mineral Resources Advisory Committee for Colonies

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES has appointed an advisory Committee on Colonial Geology and Mineral Resources to advise him on matters relating to the geological survey of the Colonial Empire and the investigation of its mineral resources.

The first forecast that such a body would be constituted was published some months ago by EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA.

The members are:—

MR. C. G. EASTWOOD (chairman), Assistant Under-Secretary of State, Colonial Office, who has recently paid brief visits to East and Central Africa;

MR. R. ANNAN, chairman of Gold Fields Rhodesian Development Co., Ltd., and other African gold mining companies.

MR. S. H. BOILEAU, chairman of the Chrome Co., Ltd., and the African Manganese Co., Ltd.;

DR. C. H. DESCH, Director of the Iron and Steel Institute, and formerly president of the Institute of Metals;

DR. F. DIXEY, Geological Adviser to the Secretary of State, and formerly Director of Geological Surveys, Nyasaland, and Director of Water Development, Northern Rhodesia, who has reported on water supply problems for the Governments of the Sudan, Kenya, and Tanganyika;

SIR LEWIS FERMOR, formerly Director of the Geological Survey of India, who has visited Southern Rhodesia for Sir Alexander Gibb and Partners on the Sabi Valley survey;

MR. L. C. HILL, consulting engineer of the Rio Tinto Co., Ltd., who has recently visited Uganda;

MR. G. B. HOWLING, principal of the mineral resources division of the Colonial Geological Surveys;

DR. J. G. KING, Director of the Gas Research Board;

DR. G. M. LEES, chief geologist of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co., Ltd.;

MR. B. LIGHTFOOT, former Director of the Geological Survey of Southern Rhodesia;

MR. N. L. MAYLE, head of the Production and Marketing Department B at the Colonial Office;

SIR ANDREW MCCANCE, president of the Iron and Steel Institute;

DR. P. P. McLEINROCK, Director of the Geological Survey of Great Britain;

SIR WILLIAM OGD, Director of Rothamsted Experimental Station;

PROFESSOR H. H. READ, professor of geology at the Imperial College of Science and Technology;

PROFESSOR J. S. RITSON, professor of mining at the Royal School of Mines;

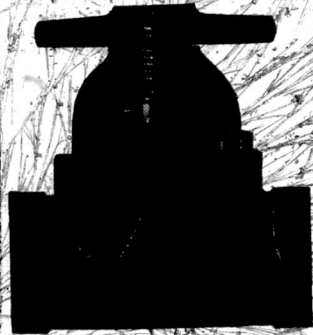
SIR EDMUND TRALE, formerly Mining Consultant to the Tanganyika Government, and Director of the Geological Survey of Tanganyika, and now a member of the executive council of the Joint East and Central African Board;

PROFESSOR A. E. TRUMER, chairman of the University Grants Committee;

MR. F. H. HOWARD WHITTE, Mond Nickel Co., Ltd.; and

MR. E. S. WILKINSON, of the Directorate of Colonial Geological Surveys.

The joint secretaries will be MR. E. H. BEARD, of the mineral resources division of the Colonial Geological Surveys, and MR. R. H. HOBDEN, of Production and Marketing Department B at the Colonial Office.



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STEWART & LLOYDS OF SOUTH AFRICA, LTD., P.O. Box 778, Bulawayo; P.O. Box 784, Salisbury.

Smallworkers and State Boards Claim for Representation

THE SMALLWORKERS IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA should be represented on all official boards connected with the mining industry, such as the Electricity Control Board, was urged at the recent congress in Gwelo of the Rhodesia Mining Federation.

Complaints were made that the Electricity Supply Commission has fixed prices only to the larger mining producers, and that the Board of Trade and Industrial Development was not to institute an inquiry into the working of the Commission.

Mr. G. A. Davenport, Minister of Mines, replied that the Electricity Supply Commission had approached the British Electricity Authority, who had recommended a consulting engineer to investigate the commission's workings. His report had been very favourable, but the commission had for some time refused to make it public, and he (Mr. Davenport) had been unable to release it for publication.

The relevant Act would be amended to enable the Minister to appoint a consulting engineer if he thought it necessary. It was resolved that the secretary of the Electricity Control Board should be a person other than the secretary of the Electricity Supply Commission.

Gold Fields Rhodesian

THE GOLDFIELDS RHODESIAN DEVELOPMENT CO., LTD., earned a profit of £83,579 in the year ended May 31, compared with £125,049 in the previous year. Taxation absorbs £30,016, depreciation reserves receives £20,000, and a dividend of 5% net, subject to confirmation, will require £34,571, leaving a balance of £22,700 to be carried forward, against £26,804 brought in.

The issued capital is £1,257,110 in shares of 10s. each, reserves standing £110,255 and current liabilities at £164,163. Fixed assets are valued at £2,346, quoted investments at £72,856, unquoted investments at £40,891, mining properties, farms and vehicles at £68,326, and current assets at £447,109, including British Government securities at £49,500, tax reserve certificates at £35,500 and £7,418 in cash.

The company's principal interests include holdings in Mopwa Gold Mining Co. Ltd. and Wanderer Consolidated Gold Mines Ltd.

The directors are Mr. Robert Allan (chairman), Sir Joseph Ball, Mr. H. Gibson Fleming, Mr. H. Galkie and Sir G. S. Harvie Watt, M.P.

The 27th annual general meeting will be held in London on November 23rd at noon.

Zinc Prices

LAST WEEK'S rise in the price of zinc in the United States to \$9.50 per lb. caused surprise in London, for until the balancing trade in America almost at a standstill owing to the continuance of the steel strike, the rest of the export business, and the comparative lack of interest in zinc for stockpiling purposes, reaction would have been expected. The rise is attributed to an optimistic attitude to the strike position by manufacturers. The price of good ordinary brand zinc in this country has been increased by £2 from £81 10s. to £83 10s. per ton delivered.

Rhodesian Mining Federation

MR. W. H. ELLIOTT has been re-elected chairman of the Rhodesian Mining Federation, with MESSRS. F. R. G. OWEN and LEWELLYN DAVIES as vice-chairmen. Members' representatives on the executive council are: MESSRS. C. G. WOODLEY, J. C. MASEFIELD, J. W. HOPKINS, and A. M. BENSUSAN. MR. R. L. HARDY, a former Secretary of the Department of Mines, is a new honorary vice-president.

Minerals Separation

MINERALS SEPARATION LTD., a company with large interests in the Copperbelt of Northern Rhodesia, report that their subsidiary, Howard Pottery Co. Ltd., have purchased the whole of the issued share capital of Messrs. Gibson and Sons, an old-established pottery business in Stoke-on-Treat.

Wanderer Consolidated

OCTOBER OPERATIONS of Wanderer Consolidated Gold Mines, Ltd., have been seriously affected by a breakdown in the power plant. Repairs are being effected and it is hoped to resume full-scale mining from the beginning of this year. The estimated loss caused by the stoppage is £5,700.

Gold Industry Contribution

THE GOLD INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTION in Southern Rhodesia is to expire at the end of the present financial year. This was announced in the Colony's Parliament recently by the Minister of Finance.

Mufulira's Increased Profits £1,723,362 Available after Taxation

MUFULIRA COPPER MINES, LTD., in a preliminary statement announce an operating surplus of £4,785,366 for the year ended June 30 last, compared with £3,227,581 in the previous year. Profit was £4,193,086 (£2,745,166), of which taxation absorbs £2,469,734, leaving a net profit of £1,723,362 (£1,132,908). Loan stock reserve receives £35,700, and £550,000 is transferred to general reserves. An interim dividend of 3s. 6d. per share, less tax, required £470,354, and a final dividend of 5s. per share recommended by the directors, less tax, will require £672,220 (a total distribution of 8s. 6d. against 7s. 6d.), leaving a balance of £205,318, against £210,430 brought in.

The output of blister copper amounted to 70,966 tons, a sharp increase on the 53,360 tons of the previous year.

The report and accounts will be dispatched on November 19 and dividends, if approved at the annual general meeting on December 15, will be payable the same day to shareholders registered on December 14.

Rhodesian Selection Trust

RHODESIAN SELECTION TRUST, LTD., report a total income of £734,754 for the year ended June 30 last, compared with £648,648 in the previous year. After deducting administration and sundry expenses, the net profit was £727,962 (£643,189). An interim dividend of 1s. per share, less tax, required £291,162, and a final dividend of 1s. 6d. per share, less tax, and subject to confirmation, will require £436,742 (a total of £727,904, against £643,189), leaving a balance to be carried forward of £16,407, against £16,349 brought in. These figures are given in a preliminary statement. The report and accounts will be forwarded to shareholders on November 19, and the annual general meeting will be held on December 15. The dividend, if approved, will be paid on December 19 to shareholders registered on November 15.

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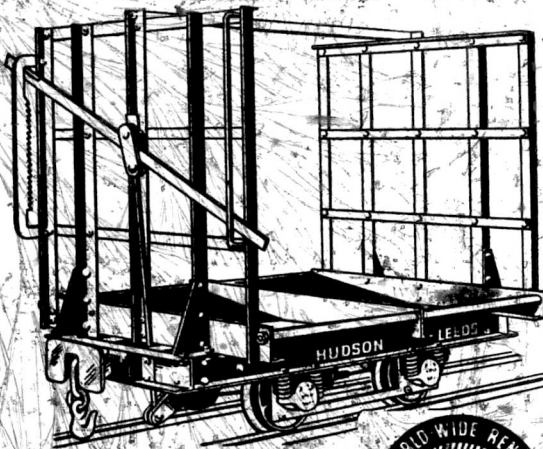
Although gold, which attracted the early European merchants, is still an important source of wealth to the Colony, its predominance has been strongly challenged by the growth of the cocoa industry which now provides about half the world's total production. Full and up-to-date information from our branches in the Gold Coast covering the cocoa industry and other commercial activities of importance is readily obtainable on request.



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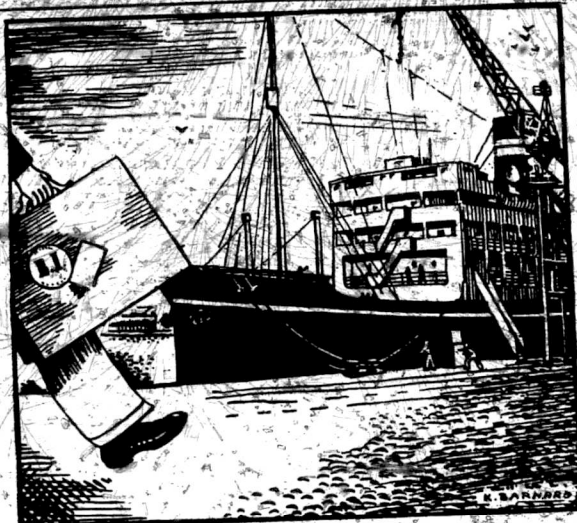
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Thursday, November 10, 1949

Vol. 26 (New Series) No. 1310

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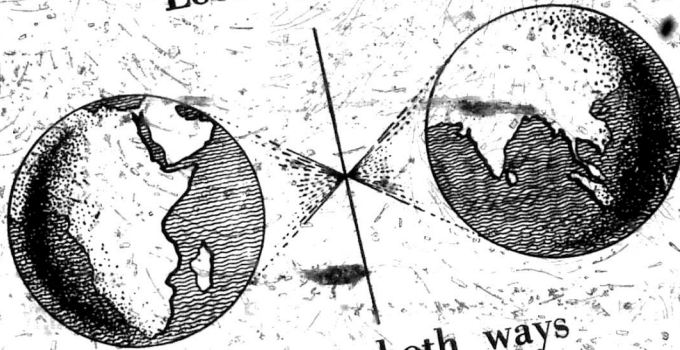
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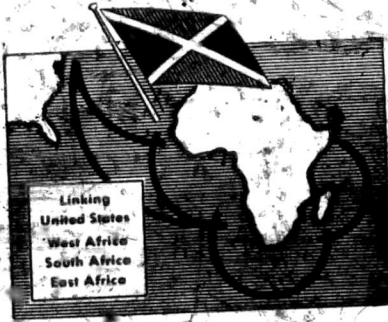
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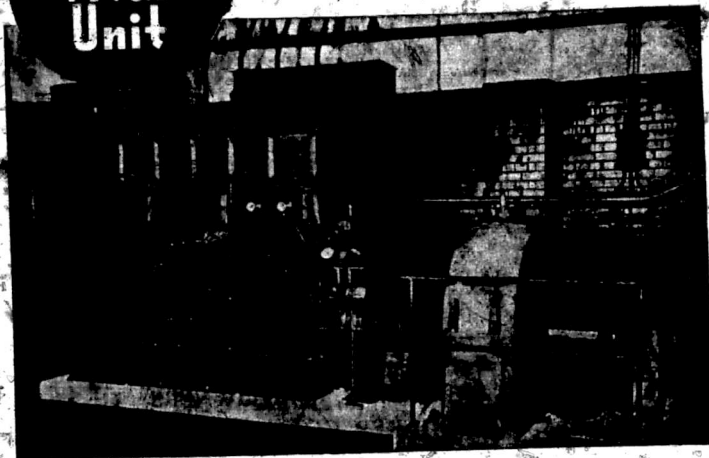
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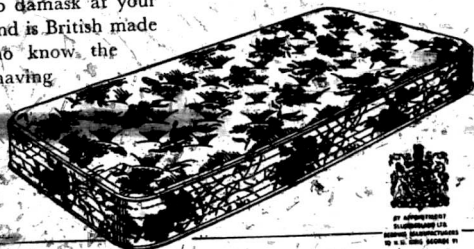
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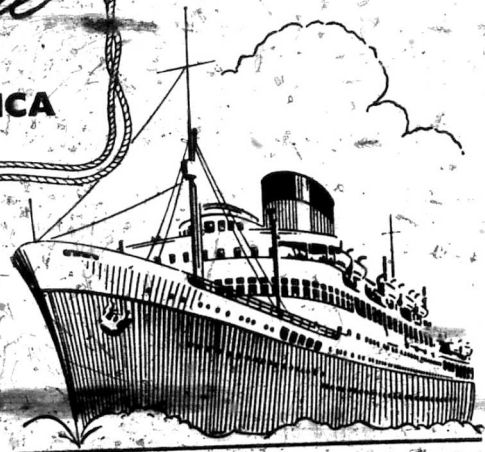
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EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA

Thursday, November 10, 1949

Vol. 26 (New Series) No. 1210

6d. weekly; 30s. yearly post free

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper

Founder and Editor:

F. S. Jealson

REGISTERED OFFICES:

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MATTERS OF MOMENT

RESPONSIBILITY for the mismanagement of the East African groundnut scheme needs to be fixed firmly in the right place, and from that main duty Parliament and Press should refuse to be diverted by any manoeuvres from any quarter. The constitutional responsibility rests wholly upon the Minister of Food, Mr. Strachey, to whom—very much to his own satisfaction—Parliament entrusted control of the Overseas Food Corporation, for the chairmanship of which new body he promptly selected his old and close friend Mr. (now Sir Leslie) Plummer. The two visits paid to Tanganyika Territory last year and this at the expense of the taxpayers were presumably made in order to give Mr. Strachey the opportunity of examining the position on the spot, and of demanding any major changes in the organization or senior staff which he may have thought necessary. Those visits prove that he recognized his accountability to be much more than constitutional and moral; he considered it to be wide and active, and to require personal acquaintance with the operations in the field. Under him, of course, responsibility rests next with the board, and especially with the chairman. There is, however, a continuing and most unfair tendency to blame the original Wakefield Mission, for

the catastrophic discrepancies between the estimates which it submitted and the results so far attained. That shabby subterfuge, which is manifestly not to be reconciled with the known facts, must be exposed in some detail in the hope that it will not be used again for the purpose of obscuring the real points at issue.

Messrs. Wakefield, Martin and Rosa are still accused of having set their sights too high—by people who find it convenient to disregard the instructions which were given them by the Government; namely, to prepare a plan for the annual production of at least half a million tons of groundnuts within five years. It was not they who fixed the target (which, large as it may seem, represented only about one-third of the requirements of the United Kingdom). Their task was to indicate whether and how the groundnuts could be obtained. That they did with remarkable celerity; for they left England for East Africa on June 30, 1946, returned to London on September 3 after covering ten thousand miles by air and three thousand by road and rail, and presented their report to the Secretary of State for the Colonies seven-teen days later. Their estimates were not guesses, as is now so frequently suggested, but

were based on the actual costings of clearing work on major undertakings in East Africa and on facts obtained in the United States by Mr. Martin and an expert of the Ministry of Agriculture when they visited American groundnut growing areas which are cultivated and harvested by mechanical means. The Wakefield report, moreover, is emphatic that the tasks which they set for different periods could not be achieved unless the whole scheme were treated with the determination and priorities given to major operations during war, and that concentration of effort has certainly not been shown, though war-time disregard of money and men has been plentifully in evidence.

What happened after the presentation of the Wakefield report needs to be recalled. That document was at once submitted to the criticisms of a dozen or more experts chosen

Inconvenient Facts Recalled.

by the Ministry of Food, no doubt in consultation with other authorities, and the Government's first White Paper on the project stated that those investigations "had confirmed the view of the mission that the scheme is a practical plan for alleviating the world shortage of fats; that it is agriculturally sound; and that, subject to reasonable assumptions, it involves no unjustifiable financial risk." That was the verdict of the Ministry of Food and the Government after making every inquiry which was thought to be necessary. From that moment responsibility passed completely from Mr. Wakefield and his two colleagues to the Minister, a cardinal fact which must be held in mind in judging everything that has since occurred. A second line of escape for those who are anxious to blame anybody but the Minister is to suggest that the real culprits are the United Africa Company, who acted as managing agents for the Ministry until the Overseas Food Corporation was created by statute. The answer to that contention is that a principal, in this case the Minister of Food, is responsible for the acts of his agents. Moreover, Mr. Strachey has himself paid warm public tribute to the work of the agency—which he himself selected.

On November 6, 1947, two days after his return from Tanganyika, where he had had "the benefit of long discussions" with the chairman designate and general manager designate of the corporation, he told the House of Commons that "criticism of the agents would be ill founded," referred to their "great enterprise," and testified that "they

deserve well of the people of Great Britain." Four months later he expressed in the House his "great admiration" for the work of the managing agents (who were on the point of withdrawing in favour of the corporation), and in White Paper 7314, which he presented to Parliament at the beginning of February of last year, the Minister of Food concluded with the words: "There is no more reason now than there was a year ago to doubt that the whole scheme—modified here and there as to details in the light of the experience continually being gained—can be carried out on the broad lines and within the time schedule set out in Cmd. 7,030."

Despite this reaffirmation of firm faith more than sixteen months after the Wakefield Mission had reported, there are politicians and others who still seek to condemn, not

Where the Blame Lies.

those who should be answerable for the gross mismanagement which has at long last been disclosed, but those who presented a plan of campaign which, having withstood every examination, was publicly and joyfully accepted by the Government, and especially by the Minister of Food, and which, as the above quotations show, continued to carry his complete confidence even up to the beginning of last year. In the light of these facts, and in equity, he and everyone else must be stopped from blaming either the Wakefield Mission or the managing agency. Whatever their errors, they have been endorsed and ratified by the Minister. In June of last year on his return from a visit to Tanganyika, Mr. Strachey told the Press that he was "satisfied that the scheme is now well under way," and shortly afterwards he informed the House of Commons that a review of the financial implications showed that the scheme "far from being less sound economically or less profitable than the original estimate, was substantially more sound and profitable"—because the price of groundnuts had risen meantime!

Mr. Strachey has alternated between unwarrantable optimism and stubborn silence. Indeed, public misunderstanding has been due largely to his persistent determination not to tell the country the facts fully

Lack of Candour.

and promptly. The one and only progress report issued by his Ministry, that of February last year, catalogued facts which could and should have been made known months earlier, when they would have been accepted as reasonable explanations of unfavourable and incalcul-

able factors. By steadfastly refusing to listen to proposals—made repeatedly by EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA—for quick and candid disclosure, despite the rumours which he must have known to be in general circulation, Mr. Strachey made certain that his statement, when at last issued, would seem to be nothing better than excuses. The only wise and candid course would have been to take the country into his confidence as soon as it was evident that all hope of adhering to the timetable had disappeared, and that was during the hard winter of 1947, when transport delays in this country upset all hopes of getting machinery to East Africa in time for that season's planting. It is calculated lack of candour, obviously dictated by political considerations, with which Mr. Strachey stands charged. Even when he has spoken he has shown carelessness: for instance, whereas the corporation's report published last week states that it is still impossible to lay down the final rotational policy on any scientific basis, Mr. Strachey said seven months ago that the corporation's experts had recommended a ten-year rotation. Whom is one to believe?

Is the truth that Mr. Strachey is still obsessed with the strange views to which he gave utterance in his book entitled "Theory and Practice of Socialism"? There he wrote:

Achieving the Impossible.

"It is impossible to believe that even in the very first year, and even if the planning authority is composed of the most fallible of human beings, it can fail to provide for human needs to so gross an extent as does the capitalist principle of regulating production by profitability." Well, Mr. Strachey has had his public corporation under his own direction, backed by nearly thirty million pounds of public money, with which to test his theory. The results show that he has achieved what he himself declared to be impossible. The magic wand of public administration, even when waved by such a fairy, has not brought even the normal prudence of commercial practice, as the auditors have made clear by their scathing comments on the balance-sheet (with which we dealt in a leading article last week).

It is incredible but nevertheless true that, in reply to a Parliamentary question on Monday of this week, Mr. Strachey said that he would not institute an inquiry into the finances of the corporation, airily dismissing the matter with the remark that the corporation had taken steps to overcome the accountancy

"shortcomings," and that there had been "changes in the personnel of the executive." Is the country to understand from that off-hand and provocative reply that the Minister is still determined to bluff and brazen his way out of the predicament to which his recklessness has brought him? It would appear so. Surely now, however, Parliament has had its fill of his over-optimism and lack of candour, faults which he has shared with the Overseas Food Corporation. There ought to be the most searching independent inquiry into a scheme which was justified in principle but has been scandalously mismanaged.

SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES of the East and West African Dependencies are meeting at the Colonial Office this week and next to discuss various aspects of defence, particularly from the financial and administrative points of view, and there is little risk in assuming that the main subject for consideration is that of higher contributions by the local Governments to the expenditure on defence in East, Central, and West Africa. Whereas the cost of those services has risen immensely since pre-war days, the Colonial Governments are still paying merely twenty-five per cent. above their 1938 quotas, the whole of the heavy balance falling upon the harassed British taxpayer. At least some redistribution of the burden is necessary in equity, and it would be surprising if that principle were not freely accepted by public opinion in each of the territories and by those whom they have sent to London for these talks.

Military Expenditure.

But even if the principle be agreed, there is room for wide divergence of view in regard to a new basis of dividing the cost, especially as officials and non-officials in at any rate some parts of Africa are convinced that local military expenditure is unnecessarily extravagant, partly as a result of the constant arrival and departure of National Service men from this country, who are often due to be sent back to the United Kingdom for discharge a few weeks or months after being sent to Africa. That, of course, is a most wasteful and inefficient misuse of men and money, on which the representatives of the War Office at the conference must expect to hear some very plain speaking. To-day East, Central and West Africa have a much greater strategic importance than ever before, and that fact is as clearly recognized in London (and Washington) as it is in Africa itself.

Charge of Extravagance.

Miscalculations of the Groundnut Scheme

Candid Admissions of Overseas Food Corporation

MISCALCULATIONS in regard to the groundnut scheme in Tanganyika are frankly admitted in the first annual report of the Overseas Food Corporation (H.M. Stationery Office, 3s. 6d.), first extracts from which appeared in our last issue.

It is stated, for instance:—

"The original plan envisaged the clearing and planting of 150,000 acres in 1947-48 provided that the necessary machinery was available on the site in February-March, 1947. Experience has shown that this target could not have been achieved in the first year of the scheme even if the equipment had been available.

"It may have been a possible target for the first year's clearing operations, on the assumption that before the clearing was started all the necessary engineering facilities for the maintenance and supply of the mechanized equipment had been provided, and that all the constructional work to provide homes, stores, and all the other provisions of a base for such a mechanized agricultural operation had been completed. Without any of these facilities, and with only inadequate supplies of second-hand equipment, it soon became apparent that the targets could not be reached. There were also technical obstacles which could not have been foreseen.

Why Kongwa Was Chosen

"The Kongwa area of the Central Province was selected by the managing agents as the scene for the most intensive effort in preference to the Southern Province of Urambo, since:—

"(a) the supply problems involved in the development of the Southern Province rendered the large-scale development of that area impracticable until adequate port and rail facilities were established.

"(b) railway facilities were already available in the Central Province and Kongwa could be linked to the Central Railway by constructing a short spur railway joining the main line at Msagali, which lies 16 miles south of Kongwa and 240 miles up the line from the port of Dar es Salaam;

"(c) although Urambo in the Western Province lies on the Central Railway line, the Government of Tanganyika advised the Wakefield Mission in 1946 that it would not be advisable to begin operations in the Urambo region for a year or 18 months, because the development of the Mpanda Lead Mine was planned, and it was thought that all available labour would be absorbed in extending the Central Railway to the mine;

"(d) it was expected that most of the land in the Central Province would be easier to clear than the land in the other two provinces, where the number of trees per acre was greater.

Root Problems

"It had been expected that after the bush at Kongwa had been flattened by bulldozers and the larger trees felled, heavy rooting machines towed behind the tractors could pull out the roots which were left in the ground to a sufficient depth for the planting of groundnuts. Unfortunately, the roots of the Kongwa thorn proved unduly obstinate, and presented a much more serious problem than was anticipated, and it was found that heavy duty ploughs were required to cut the roots, at the time such ploughs were obtainable only from the U.S.A. and were in short supply.

"New machines and other appliances also had to be designed, tested, and then redesigned in the light of experience. The technique of root-ripping had to be reconsidered. And instead of the original cycle of bush flattening, windrowing, and ripping, it became necessary to introduce these additional operations in order to get the ground ready for agricultural work:—

- (1) root-cutting with heavy disc ploughs which replaced ripping except at the height of the dry season, when it was found necessary, because of extreme soil compaction, to rip first as well;
- (2) root-raking, and

(3) levelling, which was necessitated by the uneven condition of the ground after this sequence of operations.

All the original estimates were based on the assumption that one acre of ground could be cleared for agricultural operations in under two tractor hours. Because conditions in Kongwa were more difficult than had been anticipated, and because it took time to train the machine operators in actual fact during the first year it took eight hours to clear an acre. A new technique had to be found and new experience had to be gained.

Target Unattainable

"In the light of all the difficulties and experience, it has indeed been possible to find new ways to make this work more efficient. But there is no doubt that for the early pioneering year of the scheme the clearing problem at Kongwa proved far more serious than was anticipated. Africa had presented the pioneers with a problem which would only be solved in the hard school of experience.

"The Wakefield Mission, in calculating that 150,000 acres could be cleared and planted in the first year, had assumed that there would be an effective tractor force of 200 tractors, efficiently driven by skilled operators working 10 hours per day for a six-day week. On their calculations, therefore, from March, 1947, it was assumed that there would be deployed sufficient machines on clearing and cultivating operations to procure 12,000 operational hours per week.

"This target was unattainable because of the inevitable difficulties in securing enough machines and skilled personnel, and building up the necessary base facilities to ensure their effective deployment in the midst of virgin bush in East Africa, about 8,000 miles by sea from the United Kingdom, with all supplies coming through the small congested port of Dar es Salaam, then 256 miles up the metre-gauge single-track railway of the Tanganyika Central Railway, and then 35 miles north over inadequate roads.

One-Sixth of Estimate

"Faced with all the formidable difficulties on the spot, the average number of operational tractor hours achieved in any week in the first six months was only 1,740, less than one-sixth of the mission's estimate. And not all the operational hours could be devoted to clearing the bush. The tractors which were available had to meet many demands. New roads and railways had to be built; sites had to be cleared for buildings, and a number of tractors had to be reserved for the vital task of training African drivers.

"Thus, up to the end of November, 1947, the average number of tractors per week engaged on land clearing was only 57—less than one-third of the number specified by the mission.

"Because it had been impossible to obtain new tractors, the managing agency had to search the war-time disposal dumps of the world to find suitable second-hand tractors. In numbers alone it succeeded in finding all that it required, but their condition, after war-time use, was not satisfactory. Some tractors were reconditioned in the United Kingdom and then shipped out, but many more were consigned direct to Dar es Salaam. Unserviceable tractors dogged the managing agents from the beginning.

"By July 1, 1947, there were 97 heavy tractors delivered in Kongwa, but only 44% of these were operational, and as more and more tractors arrived the problem of maintaining the 'runners' in operation and reconditioning the 'non-runners' became more and more serious. In August, 1947, there were 285 tractors in Kongwa, but only 95 were serviceable, and by November the number had fallen to 65.

"It was not possible to maintain this total fleet of reconditioned tractors without heavy maintenance shops, a full range of spare parts, and all the other essentials which in war were needed to keep an armoured division of 250 fighting vehicles

in full operation. The scale of this maintenance problem had been greatly underestimated, and a corresponding increase of European personnel became necessary.

Above all, it took time to recruit and fly out skilled mechanics, time to organize the flow of spare parts largely from U.S.A., time to erect workshops, and time to secure the necessary machine tools to equip the workshops.

The difficulties of clearing and the problem of tractor maintenance would have been serious enough to make impossible the realization of the original targets, but, in addition, the managing agents had to face the formidable task of building up the extensive administrative base needed to support the land-clearing and agricultural operations. It was necessary to recruit a new staff for the control of this project.

Experienced men could not be obtained for all the appointments and new men had to be given a chance to prove themselves. The individuals assembled had to be welded into a team to take on a job in which there were few with previous experience to guide them. Moreover, they had to deal with bottle-necks in supplies, transport, organization, and accommodation.

The acquisition of all the various machines, parts, materials, tools, furniture, equipment, food merchandise and other stores which were necessary, and their shipment from all over the world to the port of Dar es Salaam, with no deep-water berths and limited storage accommodation, was no light task. The port was strained to capacity with the normal increase in post-war traffic, and the additional burden of the groundnut traffic became an insistent problem to the port authorities.

Nightmare of Handling Stores

Partly as a consequence of the shipping difficulty, and partly as a result of beginning operations before the administrative services were built up, the problem of handling all the stores became a nightmare. Mobility was particularly vital in the case of spare parts for the reconditioned tractors and motor vehicles. Construction of accommodation for workshops, staffs, and offices presented another problem which also had apparently been underestimated.

As a result of all these difficulties the acreage actually under crop at March 31, 1948, was only 7,500 acres. Only 12,746 acres of bush had been flattened in that year, and not all of it had been windrowed, rooted, and made fit for agricultural operations.

The most serious transportation problem in 1948-49 resulted from the inability of the port of Dar es Salaam to cope with the rush of post-war traffic and the requirements of the groundnut scheme. There are no deep-water berths in the port and all ocean-going vessels have to discharge their cargoes into lighters. The port area itself was congested and insufficient space was available for the discharge and storage of goods.

The average tonnage of imported goods handled each month in the last year before the war was 7,150. In March 1948, the imports were 28,000 tons. This increase in traffic had overwhelmed the port facilities. The quays and storage sheds were choked with goods. Ships were sometimes held for weeks before they could be discharged. The daily rate of discharge had fallen from 450 tons per working day to 300 tons.

These delays in handling cargoes urgently required for operations in East Africa were a constant menace to the smooth build-up of the essential supplies and equipment. Regular meetings were held in Dar es Salaam between the corporation, the Port Authority, and representatives of the East African Conference Lines. Representatives of the Ministry of Transport also visited the port. Immediate attention was given to short-term measures which would reduce congestion in the port and enable it to be worked efficiently at the optimum rate for its existing facilities.

There was no immediate alternative but to limit the loadings which the East African Conference Lines would accept each month for Dar es Salaam. In April 1948, this monthly total was 11,000 tons general cargo and 3,500 tons vehicles, of which 2,750 and 875 tons respectively were allocated to the Overseas Food Corporation.

Technique of Bush Clearing

Much has had to be learned about the technique of bush clearing, and the corporation has concentrated the work of its operational research unit on this problem.

The original White Paper estimate of the cost of clearing per acre was £3 17s. 4d.; in the first year the comparable cost of clearing an acre was calculated as being 10 times this figure. Much of the difference was due to the tasks proving more difficult than was expected. Other reasons for the disparity were the lack of experience in African bush clearing, the unserviceable condition of the heavy tractors, the lack of proper equipment to deal with the peculiar root system at Kongwa, the rowing flattened bush when green and so bulldozing an excessive quantity of soil into the windrows, and root ripping in the height of the dry season, with resultant wear and tear on moving parts.

One great economy has been effected by the introduction of chain cable clearing. This system had originally been tested

by the managing agents and the corporation and it was again tried experimentally at Urambo in January, 1949. This time it was adopted for use in all areas, and the technique was improved at Kongwa.

A heavy three-inch chain cable is attached to two heavy tractors which move through the bush 20 to 30 feet apart. A third tractor (the scum half) as it has been named, follows to deal with particularly stout trees which the chain cable cannot pull out of the ground. The use of the chain cable greatly increases the area of bush which can be flattened in a day.

The degree of improvement in efficiency and rate of pulling the vegetation out by the roots was so encouraging at Urambo—under suitable conditions of soil moisture to a depth of two to four feet—that an early trial was considerable success. Owing to the differences in soil, in soil moisture, and in growth-form of aerial and root portions of the thicket vegetation, the results at Kongwa were shown to be less satisfactory than those at Urambo. Towards the end of the period under report preliminary trials of the method were made at Nachingwea, Southern Province, with promising indications for the future.

Year's Outstanding Achievement

This improved method of flattening undoubtedly was the outstanding achievement of the past year and holds great promise for future work in the clearing of vegetation.

The chain-cable clearing method of bush flattening has in Kongwa increased the wastage of tractors. The bush at Kongwa is dense. The tractors travelling through it are constantly having their radiators and engines covered with falling leaves and light brush. The result is that the engines boil, with consequent damage.

As the ground to be cleared at Urambo and in the Southern Province is covered with trees and the growth is far less than at Kongwa, it is not expected that the chain-cable clearing method will of itself necessitate similar increased repairs. Already it has been found at Urambo that the break-down of tractors used in this operation is less than it was when more traditional methods of clearing were being used.

At the end of March 1949, there was a total of 429 serviceable heavy tractors in all areas. At the beginning of the year there were 91.

Plant, equipment, and stores had been received in East Africa without proper documentation; this applied particularly to stores purchased from Disposal Boards. It was not until October, 1948, that final prices were available for many of the items received before February 29, 1948, and even then in many cases no detailed break-down of the agreed aggregate sum for a number of items was provided. A considerable volume of stores still remained to be sorted, housed, binned, and recorded.

No Proper Documentation

Stores records were fragmentary and were not kept on a uniform basis. There was no proper documentation of stores issued, nor were all issues priced. The absence of a comprehensive priced vocabulary created not only difficulties of identification but also discrepancies in values. It was consequently impossible to have a financial record of, or to exercise any financial control over, the utilization of stores.

A stock-taking as at February 29, 1948, was undertaken some time after that date, but in the conditions described above, and in view of the short time which could be devoted to it, it was impossible to make it either comprehensive or accurate.

It took time to recruit and train the staff, and to provide them with the buildings needed to make the stores organization efficient. At the end of the year the position was not entirely satisfactory, nevertheless substantial progress had been made.

An experienced chief supplies officer was recruited. His staff was organized under three managers—general, technical and petrol, oils and lubricants. A chief buyer in Nairobi directed the purchase of goods in East Africa.

To avoid unnecessary duplication and to escape the danger of creating a bottle-neck, it is the policy of the corporation to decentralize provisioning and stockkeeping to the areas of operations, retaining in the ports little more than a forwarding organization. This change in policy, and the proper integration of supplies, transportation and accounts, were introduced by stages.

During the year all stores were sorted and either binned or stacked, and a system was devised for the recording of all stores received, issued and for pricing them. Consequently, at March 31, 1949, a complete and detailed stock-taking and valuation of all stores was made. Pricing, for the purposes of accounting and financial control, necessitated the preparation of a priced vocabulary. This was undertaken by the London office as a task of high priority, and in six months a detailed priced vocabulary covering at least 50,000 items was prepared. The values in the vocabulary served as the basis for the stock-taking at March 31, 1949, and are currently in use for pricing all receipts and issues.

[Editorial comment appears under Matters of Moment.]

Mail Services with East Africa

P.M.G.'s Statement to "East Africa and Rhodesia"

THE UNSATISFACTORY NATURE of the ocean mail services with East Africa has been the subject of comment in these pages on a number of occasions.

In consequence of a suggestion which EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA made to the General Post Office that a detailed examination should be conducted into ocean mail dispatches from London during the first half of this year, we have now been informed by the Postmaster-General that from January to June inclusive the number of dispatches per month varied between two and five, and averaged three; that the intervals between dispatches varied from two to 19 days; that the duration of the voyage from this country to Mombasa ranged from 22 to 31 days, with 25 days as the average; and that the mail transmission times between post-offices in London and Mombasa averaged 28½ days, with 24 days as the minimum and 35 days as the maximum.

In the case of Zanzibar the average from post office to post office was 35 days, with 29 days as the minimum and 45 days as the maximum.

The Postmaster-General's statement continues:

The mail transmission times include the transit times between the post offices and the ports at each end of the voyage, and the time between the final U.K. embarkation date and the sailing date.

Effect of Strikes

This latter period is usually one or two days, but in the first six months of this year there were unfortunately longer intervals due to a strike by Thames tugmen, a machinery defect in one ship, a last-minute postponement of sailing dates, etc.

There have been similar cases since the end of June, including the very unfortunate case of the *EMPIRE VICEROY*, which, after being delayed about a week by the London dock strike, was further delayed many weeks by boiler and condenser repairs on the voyage, and it did not reach East Africa (Dar-es-Salaam) until October 12.

The wide range of the intervals between dispatches (two to 19 days) is due to the incidence of the sailings, and is the reason why on some occasions two or more of the weekly issues of your journal were conveyed on the same ship.

As regards the mails for Zanzibar, these are transhipped at Mombasa if this course is likely to be advantageous. It is understood that the arrangements with regard to such trans-shipment are in the hands of the postal authorities in Mombasa. The arrival dates ascertained indicate that most of the mails for Zanzibar were in fact transhipped, usually with evident advantage; but the intervals between mail arrivals at Mombasa and at Zanzibar respectively were in some instances long.

Postal Authorities in East Africa Consulted

The Kenya Postal Administration is being requested to examine the whole service, and to consider whether it can take or suggest any steps to improve the surface mail service between the United Kingdom and East Africa destinations, including Zanzibar.

In view of the above details, the Postmaster-General cannot agree with the opinion apparently expressed by a shipping representative at the meeting of the East African Section of the London Chamber of Commerce that the present poor quality of the surface mail service is in no way due to the running of the ships. He much regrets that the mail service is not more satisfactory, but the Post Office is entirely dependent upon the available sailings for the conveyance of surface mails to East Africa, and, so far as the Postmaster-General is aware, full use has been made of all advantageous opportunities offered by ships sailing direct from the United Kingdom.

The use for East African mails of the overland route *via* France has not been resumed because there are no calls at Marseilles, or at any other south European port, by the fast mailships of the P. & O. Steam Navigation Company, by which the previous mails were carried once a week from Marseilles to Aden. The Union-Castle ships concerned do not offer the same speed, frequency or regularity.

Marseilles Route Being Considered

Nevertheless, the question is being examined of dispatching mails across France for embarkation on those ships at Marseilles if they can be relied upon to call there on the due dates. Certain other possibilities are also being examined, as the Postmaster-General is anxious to provide as good a surface mail service as existing transport facilities will allow.

These facts and assurances from the Postmaster-General will be welcomed in East Africa, where there is general dissatisfaction with the present mail services.

One error is obvious in the early part of the above statement. If there was on one occasion an interval of 49 days between mail despatches from London, and if that voyage was the quickest of the six months, taking 22 days, the mail transmission time in that case would have been at least 41 days. The postal authorities, however, give 35 days as the maximum.—ED., E.A. & R.]

African Colonial Forces

Discussion of New Status

FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS in connexion with the Colonial Forces in Africa are being discussed at a conference opened at the Colonial Office on Tuesday.

In addition to officials of the British Government and representatives of West Africa, the following East and Central African officials are taking part: *Kenya*.—Mr. J. D. Rankine, Chief Secretary; Mr. V. G. Mathews, Financial Secretary. *Uganda*.—Sir Douglas Harris, Development Commissioner, and Mr. H. S. Potter, Chief Secretary. *Tanganyika*.—Mr. E. R. E. Surridge, Chief Secretary, Mr. C. Mathew, Attorney-General, and Mr. F. A. S. Leslie, Financial Secretary. *Northern Rhodesia*.—Mr. G. E. Thornton, Financial Secretary. *Nyasaland*.—Mr. J. V. Lewis, Acting Financial Secretary. *Somaland Protectorate*.—Mr. H. Heyes, Chief Accountant. *East African High Commission*.—Major-General Ballentine, Defence Secretary.

Since the recent war the African Colonial Forces have been under the control of the War Office and not under the Colonial Governments as previously, when contact with the War Office was maintained only through an inspector-general. These units are no longer regarded as being primarily concerned with internal security but as part of a force available for Commonwealth defence in any theatre of operations. Division of financial responsibilities between the British and Colonial Governments raises complicated issues.

Three Africans have been sentenced to 10 years' hard labour and a fine of £500, with a further six months in default, for arson in the Trans-Nzoia district of Kenya. An additional sentence of one year for burglary will run concurrently. Thirty-eight pigs were burnt to death and six others injured when the Natives set fire to a pigsty, the property of Captain L. Hambridge.

there will have to be in the House of Commons, with which the final responsibility in this unfortunate business lies.

Experience has been acquired at a high price, and some of it ought not to have had to be acquired at all, for more could certainly have been discovered about soil conditions and rainfall and Native labour before any work was started, and commitments ought always to have been limited by the notorious inadequacy of communications. None of this can be brushed aside with airy references to initial difficulties. There have been inexcusable mistakes and personal failings which ought never to have happened. The project must go forward, but it will take long to recover from a shocking start.

Neither Democracy nor Socialism

Even the Socialist *New Statesman and Nation* is critical, charging the corporation with failing to give a clear picture of its intentions, and the Government with having launched the scheme without adequate research into the soil and climate.

The bleak tenor of the report leaves unanswered many questions. Should the entire scheme be remodelled on much more modest lines, or are limitless millions to be sunk in clearing at £30 an acre ground whose yield has so far barely equalled the seed put in? Is it right that the board of the corporation should still include three members who committed themselves to initial estimates whose inaccuracy has been proved by experience to be so grave? Is there substance in current reports that the general situation has continued to deteriorate since the period covered by this report?

Mr. Alan Wood, until recently information officer to the corporation, emphasizes in an article which we publish this week how indefensible it is that the administration of public funds on this scale should be in the hands of a corporation whose operations are effectively screened by its charter from Parliamentary or Press scrutiny.

In an endeavour to take the conduct of nationalized enterprises out of politics, a democratically minded Labour Government has delegated their administration to bodies over whose doings the public has little or no control. In so far as they frame policies affecting the national interest, they may be responsive to general directives issued by the Minister who appoints them; but neither Parliament (which may not have the time, or the competence) nor any other tribunal has the power to probe their efficiency, their relations with their employees, or the adequacy of the services they render to the community.

The trouble is not merely that the Government has to bend over backwards to avoid the accusation of 'jobs for the boys,' and so permitted public corporations to be largely controlled by opponents of public ownership; it has so far failed to find a way to make the public corporation public. One missing element is participation by the workers and technical staff in management. The other is accountability to Parliament and the nation. Without these, there is neither democracy nor Socialism.

Cavalier Treatment of Public

Mr. Alan Wood wrote *inter alia*:

"I had always assumed that one advantage of public as opposed to private enterprise was that if things went wrong the full circumstances would automatically come under public scrutiny, debate, and decision, whereas many faults and failings of big business escape attention. I had always hoped that under Socialism those working in a particular concern would feel that it was their concern, with a greater share in shaping its policy than if

they were working for a capitalist board of directors. Neither of these conditions was fulfilled by the Overseas Food Corporation.

It is hard to imagine any private company treating its shareholders as cavalierly as the public shareholders of the groundnut scheme have been treated with regard to information about what is being done with their money.

There was published in February, 1947, a White Paper (Cmd. 7030) which was the equivalent of a prospectus. In January, 1948, came the first 'Review of Progress' (Cmd. 7314), which told the story up to the end of November, 1947. Since then no White Paper of any description until the first annual report of the corporation, now published. It is already over six months out of date, since it deals with the year ended last March, and, in fact, devotes much space to mistakes and miscalculations made before the corporation took over a year earlier. Meanwhile £25,000,000—the whole of the originally estimated cost—has been spent.

As for Parliamentary scrutiny, there have been two debates this year, on March 14 and July 27, both on Opposition supply days. Mr. Strachey refused to provide a White Paper as a basis of discussion before the first debate, explaining on February 7 that he did not want to 'anticipate' the corporation's annual report. His speech on March 14 was long and cloudy, omitting several important facts, and nobody in the following debate succeeded in penetrating the fog to expose the obvious weakness of his argument or provide a clear picture of the position. The debate on July 27 was even more unsatisfactory. Mr. Strachey did not speak till the end of it; and discussion had to proceed on the basis of some facts and figures obligingly provided by Sir John Barlow from the Opposition benches.

Minister Misled Parliament

Nothing could have been more misleading than the whole presentation of Mr. Strachey's case on March 14 with this statements that 'the revenues from the scheme may well add up to anything up to twice the original estimate,' and that 'it will be far more profitable than was estimated originally.'

It is his job, as Minister, to scrutinize the corporation's activities on behalf of the public, exposing every mistake which has been made; but, as a party politician, his future career may depend on mistakes being hushed up, and on the best possible presentation of the corporation's record being put before Parliament.

Mr. Wood concluded with references to 'the aloof failure at different times to take into consultation the middle and lower ranks,' to 'two joint protests made by heads of departments in East Africa to the effect that full use was not being made of the technical knowledge of men on the spot,' and to 'parallel demands on the executive level both in East Africa and the London office for more workers' participation in control.'

The conclusion of the *Observer* is that African development is no answer to the present problems of Great Britain, since it demands capital expenditure of which this country can now not even dream, as no substantial return ought to be expected for something like two generations. That newspaper is seemingly alone in suggesting that "both politically and economically, it is far wiser to complete the development of half-developed areas, such as the lands of South-East Asia, than to start from scratch in Africa."

O.F.C. Criticizes C.D.C.

IT IS NO CONCERN OF OURS that a sister organization should expose itself to ridicule from more enlightened sections of the Press," says a leading article in the current issue of the monthly journal of the Overseas Food Corporation—which then proceeds to castigate the Colonial Development Corporation for its now notorious story of the so-called "Lindi Convoy."

The adverse comments of EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA are quoted at some length and with approval, and the editor proceeds:

It is with some confidence that we side against a corporation whose aims and objects are not dissimilar to our own, but such hysterical statements (to quote EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA) can do no conceivable good. When a great deal is being talked and written about the need for opening up the potential of East and Central Africa, it behoves responsible people to be judiciously guarded in their public utterances.

Let us keep a reasonable sense of perspective. Some of the journeys undertaken by members of the O.F.C. as a matter of normal routine—and never publicized—were probably a good deal more hair-raising than this 60-man, 30-vehicle journey."

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Dilemma in the Colonies

Address by the Rev. H. M. Grace

ONE POLITICAL DILEMMA in our Colonies, said the Rev. H. M. Grace to the Federal Colonial Bureau a few days ago is the result of our educational system on the one hand and our political policy of indirect rule on the other, for while growing numbers of highly educated Africans have drunk in much of our democratic spirit, the chief system has remained static or even reactionary under a too rigid application of indirect rule even though some of the chiefs may be educated men.

Some people believed that the right kind of education would solve all difficulties, and that heaven could be built on earth by the right techniques of education based on a materialistic philosophy and consistently applied. Others objected that this materialistic conception disregarded man's inherent wickedness, and the fact that he could not pull himself up by his own boot-straps.

Mr. Grace continued (in part):—

"Under our system of indirect rule we have raised up a chief system which seems to have lost many of the checks and counter-checks which controlled the chief's power in the past. Leave it to the chiefs has been our easy way of fulfilling our policy of indirect rule. That, of course, is not all the truth, but it is a very large part of it, I think.

Dwindling Democratic Spirit

"We have also educated a growing number of young men who have high academic learning, have imbibed a great deal of our democracy, and are discovering that what they once possessed of this democratic spirit in their own culture is dwindling, not developing under present leadership of the chiefs, even though there are in some territories an increasing proportion of highly educated chiefs.

"This is serious. It is not an out-and-out dilemma, but it is a tension that may bring great trouble to the races under our charge, while the British Government performs its gradually to stand more and more in the background. It is an acute problem in Buganda now. I am sure it is possible to bring the two sides much closer together, but it will not be easy. If the Africans have to fight it out themselves with the British Government keeping the ring, we cannot be certain that there will be an agreed solution which it will be possible to keep. This tension or dilemma will be the main testing ground of African hopes.

"The Trusteeship Council of the United Nations blares out demands for more education at once, and young Africa takes up the cry, and the impression is made that the Colonial Powers are failing in their duty. So hasty schemes of dilution and sometimes questionable plans of mass education are evolved, and history alone will prove whether they are a curse or a cure.

"I am adamantly against poor education. I agree with the chief who said: 'If you can give my people only a smattering of your education, I would rather they remained illiterate until you can give them a good education at all levels.'

Rules of Church and State

"In all our Colonies the State now controls and directs education. Up to the present the Government has co-operated with the forces of religion by processes of co-ordination of State and religious activities. Now, with the strong, unrelenting current of scientific humanism in our own country, and within the countries of the other Colonial Powers, and with the impact of education and the modern world on peoples of animistic religion, there is a growing tendency to regard education as an end in itself, without religion of any sort.

"It is quite instructive to hear educated Africans, a few at present, who have moved right over from the primitive taboos of their parents to the world of scientific achievement, and who have a materialism even less impregnated with the Christian ethic than their counterparts in Great Britain. One does not know if this tendency will grow.

"The spirit of tolerance, which has inspired our educational policy in England as between Christianity and secularism, is possible only because the forces allied under the banner of materialism have imbibed with their mother's milk, perhaps without knowing it, the Christian ethic, which though they may not always follow it themselves, they can tolerate in Christians, and the Church has learned that secularism and materialism are not overcome by a head-on battle, but by a process of gradualism striving to leave the limits.

"But is it certain that these attitudes adopted in this country by the churches and by the followers of a materialistic ideology, preserving up to the present an uneasy balance, will be reached

by peoples who are socially pushed to a genuine, open transition into the materialistic society of the modern world? If there were a need on social grounds for such a transition, between the churches and such a system of education as sponsored in the Gold Coast by the building up of a number of national and anti-Christian schools, it is not difficult to see that this would be devastating. It is not surprising that the best countries find their more basic in Africa than in a more temperate climate.

"It is of the utmost importance that the possibility of this tension leading to grave consequences should be faced now, and that the common cause there is seen between the materialist or secularist who accepts the Christian ethic, and the Christian who believes in a revealed religion. The betterment of mankind should be fostered amongst all our African friends in this country and the leaders of African thought and progress in Africa itself."

Rhodesian Delegation for London

A DELEGATION of Ministers and officials from Southern Rhodesia is due to arrive in London next Monday. Among the topics they will discuss are the expansion of the Southern Rhodesian steel industry and the extraction of oil from Wankie coal. The Minister of Trade and Industrial Development, Mr. R. F. Haldred, is heading the party, and is accompanied by Sir Digby Burnett, chairman of the Rhodesian Iron and Steel Commission, the Minister of Internal Affairs, the Attorney-General, the Secretary of the Department of Trade, and the Steel Controller. Devaluation and the consequent rise in import prices has brought to the fore the question of producing oil from the Wankie coal-fields, and financial assistance will be sought in Britain. The Minister of Internal Affairs and the Attorney-General will discuss certain constitutional aspects of Central African federation. They may also approach the British Government for consent to be given to the fission of the northern part of Bechuanaland to Southern Rhodesia in the event of any alteration in the status of that Protectorate.

ELSPETH HUXLEY

Red Strangers

Her famous novel of East African life was called "the finest book on Native life ever to be written" by the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, in a recent debate in the Commons. (Es. 6d. net.)

In the same debate, her latest report on the East African scene,

The Sorcerer's Apprentice

was quoted as an informed and authoritative work. (Illustrated, 18s.)

Both books are now available.

Chatto and Windes

BACKGROUND TO

The German Wars.—When the French in the revolutionary period and, under Napoleon, overran Europe, they carried a message to the world. Wherever they went it is possible to this day to discern the great constructive, civilizing work they performed. But there was not one redeeming feature to the German invasions and occupation in the two German wars to compensate for the immense destruction and untold sufferings which they deliberately inflicted. Pro-Germans would be well advised to refrain from commiserating the bids for dominion made by the French and the Germans, for nothing could better bring home the difference in spiritual values than a juxtaposition of the great humanizing influence of post-revolutionary France with the inhuman and dehumanizing régime of Nazi Germany. To what extent is the average German responsible for the misdeeds of his rulers? Attempts to absolve the German people of responsibility even for the Second Reich, the creation of the Hohenzollern kings and the Junkers, are unconvincing in view of the wide and genuine popularity it enjoyed and the devotion it commanded. As for Hitler and his Third Reich, these arose from the people, and the unmeasured adulation of which he became the object was as spontaneous as the man was self-created. Friends of the Germans, most appreciative of them as individuals, must ask themselves why individual Germans, in non-German surroundings become useful, decent citizens, but in groups, both at home and abroad, are apt to develop tendencies that make them a menace to their fellow men? The Third Reich, which was to last a thousand years, has lost them the conquests of seven centuries. To regain the territories in the East is the natural desire of the Germans. For that purpose they are keen to join hands with Western Europe and become its 'vanguard'; but almost in the same breath they threaten that, if this or that is not conceded to them by the Western Powers, they may become 'the torch-bearers of the Asian hordes.' Which gives the game away. If the Germans cherish the ideals and way of life of the Western democracies, which alone can make them fit to be integrated into Western Europe, they must evince patience and a modesty which would become them after all they have done to others, and must appreciate the moderation and forbearance shown to them by the Western Allies. But their threats to put themselves up to auction between West and East are a timely warning.—Professor L. B. Namier, in the *National Review*.

Inefficiency in Industry.—“In many industries progress is disastrously slow. Take the cotton textile industry. In the weaving section the Moelwyn Hughes Commission (appointed in 1946 on the recommendation of the cotton working party) has worked out plans for a new wage system and rearrangement of work which would greatly increase both productivity and weavers' earnings with a reduction in costs and without putting an undue work-load on the operatives! The commission was unanimous, and the plans have been pushed with great courage and energy by the trade union leader. Yet to-day, three years after the commission's appointment, only the merest fraction of the industry has introduced the new system. Why is it that, while so much good work is being done at many points, total progress suffers under a slow-moving complacency? Is not the essential truth that conditions in the last years have been such that the slacker and the inefficient have been able to get away with it? It has often been too easy for the inefficient firms to make money. There have been too many cases of protected positions which have given opportunities for large profits without any corresponding contribution to national production. There has been no effective pressure on slackers among the workers; and the slackers, although only a small percentage, have been a serious demoralizing factor. Easy and artificial conditions have obscured the realities of the national emergency and the need to abandon wasteful practices.”—Sir George Schuster, in *The Times*.

Britain and Europe.—“Our objective is to restore a world-wide system of multilateral trade with convertible currencies, and we have consistently supported international measures to bring that about. Our task is to combine our responsibilities and interest as a leading member of the Commonwealth and of the sterling area with support for the development of unity in Europe, and we could therefore not integrate our economy into that of Europe in any manner that would prejudice the full discharge of these other responsibilities. Yet we regard ourselves as bound up with Western Europe in economic terms, in political and strategic interests, in our culture, and indeed in our participation in the heritage of Christian civilization.”—Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer, at the Council of the Organization for European Economic Co-operation.

Effort and Reward.—“Those who want more than a minimum standard of life—and it is a fine and praiseworthy ambition—must contribute more than a minimum day's effort of work. It would be better if our methods of reward in industry could do more to reflect this principle. The man or team who do a better day's work than the next man or team should be entitled to correspondingly better earnings. They should be looked up to as people who are helping to earn the nation's right to full employment and social and military security. It is wrong that such men—who should be the pride and strength of our country and of the Labour movement—should ever have to feel that they were being regarded as setting too fast a pace for their less efficient workmates. The workers who work harder and earn more than the minimum are not only not injuring their fellows but are helping and supporting them. In the 8,000 million pounds spent on personal consumption last year, thanks to the subsidies only just over a quarter went on food, and not far short of a quarter went on alcoholic drinks, tobacco, cinemas, racing and other private fun and games, without counting the very large stake in gambling through football pools and in other ways. We must ask ourselves whether the present rate of spending on comparative inessentials is consistent with all the more important things which the nation wants to have, or must have in order to restore economic independence, and to safeguard everybody's jobs in the future. Everyone should put the nation first.”—Mr. Herbert Morrison, Lord President of the Council.

Incentives.—“What this country needs is not more heat or hate, but more hope. The Government is taking 8s. in the £ of all our earnings. Let it promise that whatever happens it will not go higher. Next, let it promise that for every increase in production there shall be tax relief at all levels in proportion. The Government want farmers to grow more food. Then assure them that, however much more they produce than last year, they will only be taxed on last year's production. The Government want more hours put in by the workers in overtime and Saturday work. Tell them that on extra money so earned they will be exempt from P.A.Y.E. The Government want more energy and enterprise from business men. Then allow them to retain some proportion of the fruits of increased effort.”—Mr. W. J. Brown, M.P., in the *Evening Standard*.

TO THE NEWS

L.A.R. marked. "George Malenkoy is likely to be Stalin's successor."—Mr. A. J. Cummings.
 "Our pre-war national debt amounted to £8,165 millions. Last year it had reached £25,734 millions."—Mr. Angus Watson.

"Unless we can save and rebuild our capital and invest it in productive industry, the nation is lost."—The Marquess of Salisbury.

"Britain has the finest journalists and reporters in the world. Yet you allow Communists to capture the market."—Dr. Frank Laubach.

"Conservatives hold 80% of the seats on the urban district councils, 81% of the boroughs and 87% of the county councils."—Mr. Walter Elliot, M.P.

"I quote from Ecclesiasticus: 'Be not made a beggar by banqueting upon borrowing.' Is that not a precise description of what the Government has been doing?"—The Marquess of Reading.

"If the Labour Party be defeated at the election it will be by the disappointment caused by its failure to implement its promises of greatly reduced domestic prices by nationalization."—Mr. George Bernard Shaw.

"I see no signs whatsoever of an urgent and inspired drive to sell British goods in U.S.A."—Mr. Don Iddon, New York correspondent of the Daily Mail.

"The food subsidies amount to 3s. 2d per head of the population per week. Expenditure on alcohol and tobacco comes to 11s. 6d. per head per week."—Mr. A. Eden, M.P.

"Unless we greatly increase our exports to America, we shall all very soon be bankrupt—all of us, workers, employers, Government."—Major E. Reddington-Behrend.

The passport queue at Tilbury was the only really muddled and inefficiently managed queue that we met in all our travels, and the only one in which the officials treated us with true bureaucratic discourtesy."—Lady Rhonda.

"Because people like the Foreign Secretary, even when they work themselves to death, cannot keep abreast of more than 10% of the flood of information offered to them; the most important decisions are made with an *insouciance* that would shock a second-rate board of directors of a provincial emporium."—National News-Letter.

"If Government control is to be beneficial to the people, it must be exercised by the Ministries."—Dr. Geoffrey Marshall, consulting physician to Guy's Hospital, London.

"If the trade unions were free from political entanglement, as in America, their authority with all parties and their influence on the nation as a whole might well increase."—Mr. Philip Fothergill, chairman of the Liberal Party.

"Industry is like a clock with its mainspring full extended. By picking it up and shaking it you may make it tick for a while (and by sticking a pin in the wrong place you can make it tick like mad), but soon the effort dies away, and each shake produces diminishing returns. The Government holds the key. Only it can recoil the mainspring."—Mr. W. F. Deedes.

The English in absence of mind acquired one-third of the world. In a state of similar mental abstraction, they produced a literature second to none, but we disregard our great men of letters, while France considers them more important persons than dukes, generals, or Cabinet Ministers. A régime can be better tested by the books that are written than by all the laws that are passed."—Sir Duff Cooper.



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PERSONALIA

LADY CORYNDON is outward-bound for East Africa in the MATIANA.

MR. A. J. AINSLEY, a puisne judge in Uganda, is on leave in England.

LORD and LADY CRANWORTH expect to leave for Kenya in February.

Twins have been born in Nairobi to the wife of COLONEL JOHN CUSACK.

MR. SIDNEY DOWNEY has been appointed an honorary game warden in Kenya.

MR. H. D. LEWIS, president of the Nyasaland Tobacco Association, has arrived in England.

PROFESSOR GIGOU, of Basle, has recently visited Tanganyika to study tsetse and other flies.

MR. J. D. M. JACK has been appointed Assistant Director of Veterinary Services in the Sudan.

GENERAL W. R. REVELL-SMITH and COLONEL P. J. S. WATSON have recently arrived in Kenya by air.

MR. A. S. VALENTINE has been appointed an associate director of Power Securities Corporation, Ltd.

MR. J. B. CLARKE, deputy director of the overseas section of the B.B.C., has been visiting East Africa.

LORD INCHEAPE, who is now visiting East Africa, has just been appointed a director of the National Provincial Bank.

MR. T. H. W. GOULD, Financial Secretary in the Somaliland Protectorate, has arrived in this country on leave.

SIR HENRY MOORE, former Governor of Kenya, is outward-bound for South Africa in the ATHLONE CASTLE.

THE BISHOP OF CENTRAL TANGANYIKA has been honoured with a doctorate by the Australian College of Theology.

MR. E. W. BOVILL will leave in the QUEEN ELIZABETH on her next voyage for New York and Washington.

LADY TWINING, wife of the Governor of Tanganyika, has become patroness of the Women's Service League in the Territory.

MR. R. W. MASON, political adviser in Mogadishu, has been appointed head of chancery in the British Legation in Amman.

SIR PHILIP MITCHELL, Governor of Kenya, yesterday opened the second annual conference of the Kenya National Farmers' Union.

SIR BERNARD GLANCY has been appointed to undertake an inquiry into the working of the Registration of Persons Ordinance in Kenya.

MR. J. BRADBURY, manager of Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.) in Beira, and MRS. BRADBURY have returned after a holiday in this country.

PROFESSOR DOROTHY GARROD has been appointed head of the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology at Cambridge University.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL and MRS. COLIN KIRKPATRICK and MISS DEIRDRE KIRKPATRICK leave England to-day to take up residence in Southern Rhodesia.

MR. A. ATKINSON, Colonial Office liaison officer at the Building Research Station at Garston, is touring Africa, and arrives in Northern Rhodesia this week.

MR. C. W. BAXTER has been appointed town clerk of Dar es Salaam, in which capacity he has been acting since the retirement of MR. B. H. J. RENSHAW.

MR. H. B. PELHAM-MATHER has been awarded £1,450 damages with costs against the Kenya Farmers' Association, Ltd., in a claim for £2,490 for wrongful dismissal.

MR. J. S. McNEILLIE broadcast in last Friday's "Calling Southern Rhodesia" programme of the B.B.C. on his impressions of this country after an int-

Mr. N. M. INNES, Assistant Civil Secretary in the Sudan, attended the conference in Zomba, Nyasaland, of prison commissioners of the East and Central African territories.

A son has been born to MR. and MRS. DENIS HEXALL. Mr. Hexall, who is now serving in the Somaliland Protectorate, was a former D.C. in Mogadishu.

MR. W. N. DOLTON, chairman of the Central Commodity Distribution Board of Kenya, is due to return to the Colony at the end of this month after leave in this country.

THE REV. A. L. ROBINS, organising secretary of the Universities' Mission to Central Africa for the north-eastern area, has been appointed vicar of North Newbald, Yorkshire.

MR. H. FLEURY, who has designed many Colonial issues of stamps, has been responsible for the 6d. Colonial stamp in the special issue for the 75th anniversary of the Universal Postal Union.

MR. H. HAYGARTH JACKSON, a director of the Bleachers' Association, and long interested in the textile export trade to Eastern Africa, has been appointed a member of the Cotton Board.

MR. P. WYN HARRIS, Governor-designate of the Gambia, and for the past three years Chief Native Commissioner in Kenya, will leave for West Africa on November 20 to take up his new appointment.

MRS. MELLY, mother of the late Dr. John Melly, has been presented by the Ethiopian Minister in London with the Ethiopian decoration of the Order of Trinity, posthumously awarded to her son by the Emperor.

MR. F. ROBERTS, who retired from the Uganda police after 30 years' service and became a resident magistrate in Nairobi, has now retired from the judiciary and accepted an appointment under the Rent Control Board.

SIR ANDERSON MONTAGUE-BARLOW, who has represented the Convention of Associations of Nyasaland on the executive council of the Joint East and Central African Board for the past 13 years, has resigned on account of age.

THE DUKE OF PALMELLA, who has been Portuguese Ambassador at the Court of St. James for the past six years, is believed to be contemplating retirement for family reasons. The Duke was at Cambridge University as a young man.

MR. B. M. CAIRNS, chairman of Cairns, Ltd., of Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, and MR. A. E. HOUGH, sales director of General Motors, Ltd., Port-Elizabeth, have been making a tour of the Rhodesias, Portuguese East Africa, and the Belgian Congo.

MR. J. C. MAY, executive secretary of the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation, who has been a member of the staff since the establishment of the corporation in 1921, has been appointed director. MR. D. F. RUSTON follows him as secretary, and MR. M. H. WHITE becomes assistant secretary.

MR. S. R. PAWLEY, foreign news editor of the *Daily Telegraph*, left London by air on Saturday for a quick glance at West, South, Central, and East Africa, all of which he will cover in about three weeks. From the Gold Coast he will go to Johannesburg, Cape Town, and Durban, fly to Bulawayo and Salisbury, and spend a few hours each in Nairobi, Dar es Salaam, Entebbe, and Khartoum.

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Obituary

Mr. J. M. Harris

MR. JAMES MICHAEL ("MILMO") HARRIS, a colourful figure in Southern Rhodesia's pioneer days, has died in that Colony.

Born in Limerick in 1877, he went to Africa on completion of his education with letters of introduction from Rochford McGuire, and arrived in Bulawayo in 1895.

During the Matabele Rebellion he served in Colonel Lang's column, and took part in the action which became known as "Lang's graveyard." In the Matopos the column was almost annihilated by the Matabele, and Mr. Harris was one of the few survivors.

He served the B.S.A. Police and the Veterinary Department for a few years, then joined Willoughby's Consolidated Company, and was manager of the Lancashire Exploration-Development Company until 1910, when he discovered and pegged the Que Que lime deposits. The Rhodesian Iron and Steel Commission now operate on the hematite deposit which he pegged. For the last 16 years he had been a smallworker in the Bellingwe area.

Mr. C. H. Baskerville

MR. CHARLES HENRY VINCENT BASKERVILLE, who was a member of the Salisbury City Council for six years before the war, has died in Southern Rhodesia at the age of 76 as the result of an accident.

The son of a sea captain of West Country stock, he completed his education in Liverpool and Belfast before starting work at the Harland and Wolff shipbuilding yards at Belfast. He spent six years at sea as a marine engineer and then served in the South African War, being commissioned in the field. On going to Rhodesia he served first in the old Southern Rhodesian Volunteers and later in the Rhodesia Regiment. He was for many years chairman of the Salisbury branch of the Navy League.

From 1912 until 1930 Mr. Baskerville was town electrical engineer of Salisbury, and installed the first municipal plant. After retirement from that post he went into business as a mechanical and electrical consulting engineer, and it was while inspecting the installations in a Gatooma school that he fell through a trapdoor and received fatal injuries.

Sir Henry St. John Mildmay, Bt.

SIR HENRY ST. JOHN MILDMAI, Bt., who was a member of the staff in Kampala of Messrs. Bovill Matheson & Co., Ltd., was killed in a road accident in Uganda last week-end. Mr. Bovill writes: "His tragic death at the age of 23 will bring sorrow to many hearts. He was a boy of singular charm, which had won him a host of friends at Eton, in the Grenadier Guards, and subsequently in Uganda. Those of us who were watching his sterling qualities develop, both in work and sport, to which he seemed equally devoted, could not doubt but that he would go far. Few die at so early an age with so many to mourn them."

MAJOR WILLIAM MORSE CROWDY, who died last week at his home at Upshire, Waltham Abbey, had been interested in Kenya since the end of the 1914-18 war, and was a past chairman of the old Associated Producers of East Africa. He was for a number of years a member of the committee set up by the Secretary of State for the Colonies in connexion with the East African Office in London.

COLONEL SIR JOHN CORBET GORE, C.B., C.V.O., who served with the Camel Corps in the Sudan expedition of 1884, has died at his home in Huntingdon at the age of 90.

**Sailed for East Africa
S.S. "Matiana" Passenger List**

THE S.S. MATIANA sailed from London last week for East Africa carrying the following passengers:

To Mombasa—Miss R. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. A. Anderson, Commander and Mrs. F. Armitage, Miss D. A. Armitage, Mrs. S. W. Assael, Mr. B. H. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Berrie, Mrs. C. C. Booth, Mr. V. E. M. Burke, Sir Richard and Lady Butler, Mrs. C. Bwy, Mr. and Mrs. Chapman, Miss A. E. Chase, Miss A. Collins, Mrs. E. Cox, Mr. F. Craig, Mr. J. S. Darroch, Miss S. E. A. Davis, Mrs. D. B. Brown-Douglas, E. E. Dobbs, Mrs. V. M. Dodds, Mrs. D. B. Brown-Douglas, the Misses E. V. and E. J. Brown-Douglas, Mr. C. G. B. Du Bois, Miss E. Eastwood, Major and Mrs. E. P. Edyvean, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Elliott.

Mr. A. D. C. M. Faithful, Mrs. A. M. V. Favcus, Mrs. W. A. Ferguson, Mr. M. S. Fletcher, Mrs. I. Flucker, Mr. W. E. Galvin, the Rev. and Mrs. J. P. S. R. Gilson, Mrs. M. E. Gingham, Mr. A. Goodwin, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. W. Green, Miss S. E. Hailstone, Miss M. Hangley, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Hankin, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Hardy, Captain and Mrs. A. I. R. Harries, Mr. D. R. H. Hempill, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Hilton, Mrs. B. H. Hobson, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Horne, Mrs. C. E. Humphris, Mr. R. J. Kempton, Mrs. E. King.

Mr. K. R. Lansdowne, Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Lawson, Miss K. A. Loughnan, Mrs. A. E. M. Lowe, Mrs. J. Lowry, Miss H. M. Lyons, Mrs. D. MacPherson, Mrs. E. S. Matthews, Miss B. May, Mr. J. W. Milligan, Mrs. P. Mitchell, Miss P. F. Moens, Mr. I. A. Morson, Dr. and Mrs. R. A. Murphy, Miss E. M. Musgrove, Mr. M. A. O. Ndisi, Mr. and Mrs. G. O. Newing, Mr. E. P. Nowrojee, Mr. J. Nutter, Mrs. I. D. S. Ogilvie.

Miss A. M. L. Pank, Mrs. E. M. Parkyn, Mr. and Mrs. Channing-Pearce, Miss E. M. Peat, Miss B. H. Peters, Miss E. Pickering, Mrs. O. Pontoppidan, Miss H. Price, Miss M. M. Rennie, Mrs. V. F. Rhodes, the Rev. D. A. Ridley, Mr. E. F. Saggerson, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. N. Sarre, Miss L. F. Sills, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Southern, Mrs. E. D. St. Clair, Mr. J. G. Sullivan, Miss T. Thomson, Mrs. B. J. Tomlinson, Mrs. J. R. Topps, Mrs. M. Trowsdale, Mr. J. G. Wanyoto, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. G. Wathen, Lieut.-Colonel K. C. Craddock-Watson, Miss G. H. de Burgh West, Mrs. M. Whipp, and Mr. and Mrs. A. E. C. Worley.

To Tanga—Archdeacon H. R. Sydenham and Mr. B. Vardcourt.

To Dar es Salaam—Mr. J. M. Bryce, Mr. D. Clarkon, Mr. J. Graham, Mr. E. F. Haidar, Mr. T. S. Jerms, Mr. R. Rhodes-Jones, Mrs. B. C. Marsh, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Massie, Mr. H. K. B. Mwapachu, Miss J. I. Pedley, Mr. T. E. Pepper, Miss M. S. Pollard, Miss J. W. Sugar, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. White.

To Lindi—Dr. L. Stirling and Lieut.-Colonel E. C. T. Wilson, v.c.

Examinations for Africans

DISAPPOINTING RESULTS are revealed in the examinations for entry into and promotion in the African Civil Service in Tanganyika. Out of 343 would-be entrants only 11 passed, and of 66 candidates for promotion only five were successful. The Government's declared policy is to provide rapid promotion for the well-educated and efficient man, to ensure that the indifferent worker does not rise above the lower salary scales, and to get rid of the inefficient and lazy.

FOR SALE, together or separately, TWO GOOD UP-COUNTRY HOTELS attractively situated amidst lovely scenery in the most healthy part of Uganda. The hotels, which are in good repair and comfortably furnished, consist of six double and 10 single rooms, and 10 bedrooms respectively, and the usual public rooms. One has 13 acres and the other 3 acres of land, with well laid out gardens. Would provide ideal investment for married couple. For further particulars apply to:

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Financial Policy in S. Rhodesia Minister Answers Liberal Criticism

STRONG CRITICISM of the failure of the Southern Rhodesian Government to curb expenditure has been made in the Colony's Parliament by the leader of the Liberal Opposition, Mr. R. O. Stockil.

"The extent of the Minister of Finance's Supplementary estimates has come as a shock and surprise to the whole country," he said. "The main budget introduced six months ago was the largest in the history of the Colony, and although devaluation has necessitated increased expenditure in certain directions, I feel that savings rather than increases might have been announced by the Minister.

"The High Commissioner in London recently made a statement on the effects of devaluation which was an entire contradiction of the Minister's statement to the House.

"The Government has thrown all caution to the winds. The money we borrow will cost us more, and the reduction in imports will mean an added loss of revenue. Generally, the Government has done everything possible to attenuate the upward trend in the cost of living.

Mr. Stockil complained that no appeal had been made to the people of the Colony to make sacrifices and save money. The Government had displayed no courage, and their poor example would lead to more extravagant living.

Need for Transport Improvements

He called on the Minister of Transport to hasten improvements in the railway system, and said that the railway had taken three or four months to carry consignments of cement and timber from Beira to Fort Victoria; coal had taken between 12 to 14 days to reach Fort Victoria from Wankie; and a plough allocated to a farmer in his constituency four months ago had not yet reached its destination from Salisbury.

"By their present attitude," asserted Mr. Stockil, "the Government are setting skids under the financial and economic structure of the Colony, and this will lead to an inevitable crash."

Earlier, Mr. E. C. F. WHITEHEAD, the Minister of Finance, had described his supplementary estimates of expenditure as "the first fruits of devaluation."

Additional expenditures included £91,000 to cover operating losses on Central African Airways for the current year and for reconstruction at Salisbury and Bulawayo airports; £480,000 to the Land and Agricultural Bank for increase of capital, necessary to meet the heavier demands for loans in recent months; £3,070 for proposed increases in the salaries and allowances of M.P.s; £1,500 to make good the exchange loss in respect of the Rhodesian staff in Beira, arising out of the fact that Portugal had not devalued her currency to the same extent as sterling; and £4,450 for the additional rail charge on petrol imported from the Union at the time of the Pungwe washaway.

Mr. W. H. EASTWOOD (Rhodesia Labour Party) complained that Government expenditure always seemed to rise *pro rata* with population, whereas in a business increased turnover did not necessarily result in increased costs.

Unrealistic Speech

The Prime Minister, Sir GODFREY HUGGINS, said that never in 25 years in the House had he listened to so unrealistic a speech as that made by Mr. Stockil.

The Government were budgeting for a surplus, which was essential if the Colony was to face realities in the next financial year. Referring to Mr. Eastwood's criticisms, Sir Godfrey said that a larger population meant a greater demand for public services.

Mr. L. J. W. KELLER (Rhodesia Labour Party) said that the supplementary estimates represented a state of unwarranted spending.

Mr. I. D. SMITH (Liberal) considered increased imports of capital goods the only means of increasing exports.

Mr. D. MACINTYRE (United Party) suggested a commission to investigate possible staff economies in the Civil Service, and expressed concern at the proposed loan of £500,000 to the Que Que Steel Works, which would mean that the works would be paying £3 7s. per ton on interest alone.

Replying to the debate, the MINISTER OF FINANCE accused Mr. Stockil of a lack of constructive criticism,

and said that the Liberal leader's opinions were not shared by London.

Substantial cuts had been made in Government expenditure. Gold and food subsidies were being abolished, and the abolition of price controls would be a "very serious and indiscriminate" axing of Civil Service staff would be an ineffective panic measure.

The four-year plan, said Mr. Whitehead, had been drawn up on a conservative basis, and would not be seriously upset by devaluation. He was pleased that the Opposition recognized the need to improve transport facilities. It would be a major tragedy if the £28,000,000 plan for rail improvements was upset.

He disagreed with Mr. Stockil that Rhodesians were enjoying too much luxury. The post-war spending spree was over, and the majority of the population was finding it an uphill struggle to make ends meet.

Rent control would, he thought, not be lifted for many years, but he hoped that the necessity for obtaining building permits would end by about December, 1951.

Church Work in S. Rhodesia Deficit May Mean Retrenchment

THE ANGLICAN CHURCH in Southern Rhodesia faces a deficit of £6,000 at the end of this year, and appeals are being made throughout the diocese, which covers 200,000 square miles, to wipe out this serious deficit. Unless a satisfactory solution can be reached, the Rt. Rev. E. P. Paget may summon a special synod to consider measures of retrenchment. The Bishop, however, is confident that his appeal will be successful.

"I believe that the people of this country want the Church, and I believe that they have the money," he said. "But the position needs to be brought home to them. There has been an enormous influx of settlers in recent years, and we are trying to get in touch with them and minister to them. They come from England, where the Church is established and endowed. In this Colony we have no endowment and we are not established; we must depend entirely on offerings. Many of the new-comers do not realize that."

The Bishop added that priests and lay workers who wanted to work in the Colony were being refused because there was no money to pay their salaries or passages. The diocesan finance board had felt compelled to urge upon him that only unmarried priests should be accepted. Accommodation problems were becoming increasingly acute.

Attracting American Tourists

"YOU HAVE HERE A MECCA for American tourists, but you must cater for them," said Mrs. Nellie S. McGuire, president of the T. J. McGuire Travel Company, of Chicago, when she visited Southern Rhodesia recently. "Americans want their comforts and will demand them, but they will be willing to pay for them," she added. "Your natural attractions are equal to the best in the world, and I know the Americans will come." If the Colony could provide, not necessarily elaborate hotels, but establishments in which the guest would be the first consideration, there was no limit to Rhodesia's tourist potentialities.

Sir Godfrey Huggins on P.E.A.

"MY VISIT to Portuguese East Africa was certainly an eye-opener to me," said Sir Godfrey Huggins, Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia, when he returned from his recent visit to the territory. "Great progress is being made all over the country, the work is being very efficiently carried out, and the Portuguese are undoubtedly showing themselves excellent and enterprising colonists." The port works at Beira, said Sir Godfrey, were a hive of industry, and there was no doubt that the authorities there had done a very fine job of work since they took over in very difficult circumstances.

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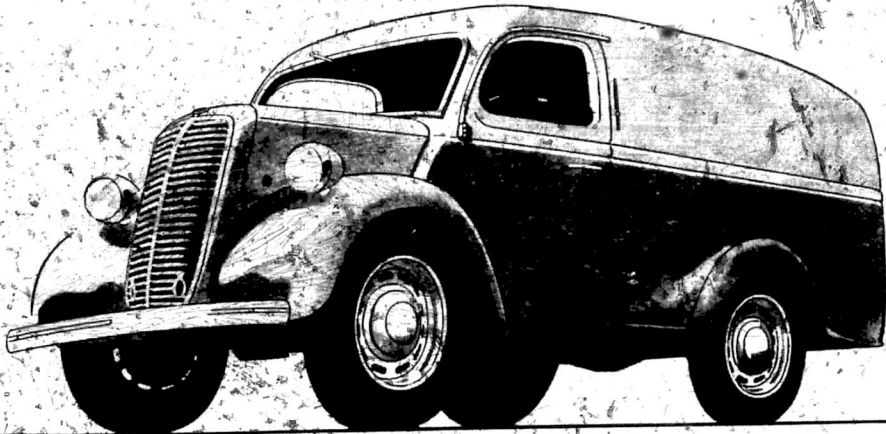
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Polytechnics As Well As Universities

Inter-University Council Urges Action

DEVELOPMENT OF COLONIAL UNIVERSITIES is so critically important, its results so rewarding and permanent, and the beginnings so promising, that it offers historic opportunities for the imaginative and constructive philanthropy of another Carnegie, Nuffield, or Rockefeller, says the second annual report of the Inter-University Council for Higher Education in Colonies (Cmd. 7801, H.M. Stationery Office, 6d.).

This body, under the chairmanship of Sir James Irvine, with Sir Alexander Carr-Saunders as vice-chairman, includes representatives of 17 universities in the United Kingdom and two in the Colonies, and the Educational Adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. C. W. M. Cox.

Colonial Students in Britain

While not directly concerned with Colonial students in the United Kingdom, the report notes that there are at present 3,493 such students in this country, 1,669 in university and 1,824 in non-university institutions. As local universities develop in the Colonies at which students can study for their first degrees, it is not expected that the number studying overseas will decrease, but that most will come to this country for post-graduate and other specialist facilities, not for undergraduate courses, as at present.

Gordon Memorial College, Khartoum, was recognized as having achieved university college status in November, 1949, and its objective of becoming a university within 10 years has been announced. It provides courses leading to general degrees in arts and science, and includes professional schools in agriculture, veterinary science, engineering, and administration. In the 1948 session there were 229 students in residence.

Makerere College, Kampala, though not yet of university college status, is negotiating with the University of London with the object of arranging that its students may read for the degrees of that university. After completing a two-year course in science, medicine, veterinary science, agriculture, or education. This year 220 students are reported to be in residence.

During last year and this Sir James Irvine, Professor Penson, Miss Perham and Professor Eastham attended council meetings of the Gordon Memorial College, and Sir Alexander Carr-Saunders, Professor H. A. D. Neville, Miss Perham, Professor Bruce Pattison, Mr. John Waterman, and the secretary of the Inter-University Council, Mr. Walter Adams, visited Makerere.

That institution received a gift of £50,000 from Dr. J. T. Williamson, of Tanganyika, for the building of a new physics laboratory, and £40,000 from the Government of Kenya for the endowment of a chair of veterinary science.

The report is emphatic that the establishment of regional colleges similar to polytechnics is as important as the development of university colleges. On this subject it states:—

"Two and a half years ago the Council, on the basis of the report from its delegation to West Africa, proposed that a new type of post-secondary institution, which for simplicity will be referred to as a 'regional college,' should be introduced, and stressed the urgency of the need. It is disappointing that not one of these colleges has yet been established, because the need for some such provision has grown increasingly urgent, with the speeding up of Africanization of the public services and the vast commitments made on development schemes, which require large numbers of technically skilled men and women.

Embarrassing Delay

The delay is embarrassing to the university colleges, for some of their longer-term plans depend on agreement with these complementary institutions about their respective fields of specialization. The council hopes that the plans, which it understands have been prepared for these regional colleges, will be put into practice without further loss of time.

"The regional colleges would be somewhat similar to polytechnics, parallel with the university colleges, and providing the variety of forms of training for which degree courses are not appropriate. They would place as much emphasis on general education as on vocational training, and would be essentially experimental and flexible, adapting their scope, standards, and methods to the rapidly changing demands in the Colonial societies for various forms of professional and technical skill.

"The council believes that the educational structure of the Colonies will be mis-shapened if the chief form of post-secondary education available locally is that provided by universities. It regards the establishment of regional colleges, or something like them, as having the same importance and urgency as that of the university colleges."

The report also says:—

"Now that the Colonial universities and colleges have made such rapid progress and are in process of developing their sites, the council suggests that this would be an appropriate time for a review of the general strategy of the research programmes and plans of the Colonial Office and Colonial Governments to ensure that the opportunities are not overlooked for the concentration of some research activities in a closer association with the university institutions.

"The council welcomes the opportunities afforded under the 'Fulbright Scheme' by which American professors, research workers, and other specialists will be enabled to accept academic hospitality at the Colonial universities and colleges. The scheme also provides travel grants whereby members of the staffs of the Colonial institutions can visit the United States. Arrangements for both types of visit have been completed for the session 1949-50, and it is hoped that the number will increase in future years."

An advisory board for students' studies outside the Sudan has been authorized by the Governor-General to make recommendations on the courses to be undergone abroad, on the officials and students to be selected for the courses, and on the allowances, facilities for, and obligations of, individuals selected.



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Rhodesian Pioneer Reunion Tribute to the Founders

SURVIVORS of all ranks, of the Matabeleland and Mashonaland campaigns of 1890, 1893, 1896, and 1897 met again last week at a reunion luncheon under the chairmanship of Major-General the Rt. Hon the Earl of Athlone. The gathering, held at the headquarters of the Royal Empire Society, was in commemoration of the 56th anniversary of the capture of Bulawayo; the occupation of Matabeleland, and the Shangani Patrol.

Mr. K. M. Goodenough, High Commissioner in London for Southern Rhodesia, who proposed the toast of "The Founders of Rhodesia," said that the pioneers who went up to Rhodesia under Frank Johnson undertook the last great epic trek of Empire building. It was difficult for the present generation to realize the risks and hardships they faced in their march into the unknown, where, if Lobengula had not kept his word, the Matabele impis might have scattered the column.

In remembering all the men of the Pioneer column, the lovable mercurial Dr. Jim, the little Hamburg Jew, Alfred Beit, who showed such genius in translating the ideals of Rhodes in terms of finance, Milton, Gray and the others, they must not forget Mother Patrick and her gallant little band, for the sweethearts and wives who went into the country in the early days and tamed it, for it was the women who brought civilization.

A great debt was also owed to the Chartered Company for administering the country so long, so selflessly, and so successfully.

One characteristic of all the founders was high courage and the will to win. Their shining example ought not to be forgotten, for without the will to win the problems of progress to-day could not be satisfactorily solved.

General Sir Alexander Godley proposed the toast of absent comrades, and Sir Dougal Malcolm that of the chairman, who replied very briefly, paying tribute to Major T. J. May for organizing their gathering.

At the top table were seated the Earl of Athlone, Mr. Goodenough, General Sir Alexander Godley, General John Vaughan, Major-General Sir John Ponsonby, Lieut.-Colonel R. S. Godley, Lieut.-Colonel E. Hodgson, Lieut.-Colonel W. B. Davidson-Houston, Major A. C. Davidson-Houston, Sir Dougal Malcolm, Sir Guy Marshall, Mr. G. Seymour Fort, Mr. A. D. Chataway, and Mr. C. Hely-Hutchinson.

Others present included Wing Commander Lionel Cohen, Colonel R. Stapleton Cotton, Captain T. H. Brook Ascough, Major R. H. Lidderdale, Major T. J. May, Colonel G. A. L. Pepsy, Captain S. H. De La Mare, Captain H. A. Glen, Captain Cyril C. Pyke, Captain W. J. Todd, Captain H. Collier Gates, Captain F. E. Little, Lieut.-Colonel C. C. Fayer Hoskin, and Messrs. Frank Worthington, L. Ludlow, R. E. Wilbraham, E. H. Miller, Leslie Elliot, F. L. Lucy, E. E. Constable, A. E. Wood, Montague Brooke, G. R. Tapp, E. Gelding, J. T. Stewart, A. L. Hind, R. G. Atkinson, J. A. Moffatt, W. Tait, S. Brand, E. A. Andrews, W. Kenyon, W. H. Robinson, C. Mott, H. Stratton, J. Wales, J. Lennox, F. E. Hutley, T. W. Franklin, U. R. Turner, F. Axcell, and E. J. Ellice.

S. Rhodesian Sugar Growing Triangle Estates Scheme

THE INDEBTEDNESS of the Triangle Sugar Estates Board to the Southern Rhodesia Government was £282,890 at the end of March this year, said Mr. C. L. Robertson, the chairman, recently.

The total cost of the full development of the Triangle sugar estates scheme had been originally estimated at £250,000, he added, with the expectation that from 1948 onwards it would be on a profit-earning basis. In addition to the board's indebtedness, a further loan provision of £18,500 was required for full completion by the end of 1950.

"When account is taken of the serious set-backs experienced during the four years of the board's operation," he said, "this is not a bad record, and, compared with similar propositions in Natal, the venture cannot be regarded as over-capitalized."

Some 1,500 acres of land had been cleared and 506 acres of cane were being cut this season, compared with 489 acres out of 791 acres cleared last year, which had yielded 12,837 tons of cane. It was confidently expected that sugar production in excess of 1,600 tons annually would be reached in the 1950 season, or at the latest in 1951.

Overall costs of production, on the basis of three tons of sugar an acre, should not exceed £20 per ton, and the venture could be regarded as economically justified provided the price of raw sugar delivered in Bulawayo did not fall below £23 per ton.

There seems every justification for the Triangle project to be expanded to render the Colony self-supporting in sugar production," Mr. Robertson commented. "Our sugar consumption is already in excess of 25,000 tons per annum and is on the increase, so that development to ensure at least 30,000 tons a year would be justified."

Lux in Tenebris

"SPIRITUAL PROGRESS in our Colonies must keep pace with, or even precede, material development; to concentrate on the latter and neglect the former will lead to chaos," write Lord Altrincham and Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, former Governors of Kenya, in supporting the appeal of Sir Philip Mitchell for £30,000 for the completion of Nairobi Cathedral. They add: "No building can be sufficient in itself, but the completion of the cathedral will be an outward and visible sign to all, and especially the African, that Christianity is the foundation of British ethics and the light by which the British people will always seek to regulate their relations with men and women of other creeds and races."

Experiments to ascertain the value of paludrin in cases of malaria are being conducted by the medical officers of the Nairobi. Europeans from the R.A.F. have agreed to be inoculated with malaria and treated. Some 60 African volunteers have been obtained from a prison; they will receive a monthly credit of 7s. 6d. and a further 2s. 6d. if they complete the course.

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Parliament

Makerere and University Status
Groundnut Scheme Report

IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS a few days ago Mr. T. DRIBERG asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies how soon he expected that it would be possible to fulfil the promise that Makerere College was to be a university college for all the peoples of East Africa.

THE RT. HON. A. CREECH JONES: "I cannot state exactly when Makerere will achieve university college status. Negotiations with the University of London are proceeding, and with the valuable help of the Colonial Inter-University Council I am hopeful that the college will soon take a considerable step forward towards full status."

MR. DRIBERG: "Is my rt. hon. friend aware of the anxiety and eagerness which exists about this matter, and can we take it that he will not, like the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, attribute every humanitarian impulse of this or any other kind to Communist propaganda?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "We are all very anxious that the college should acquire university status as quickly as possible, and all efforts to that end are being made."

MR. K. PICKTHORN: "Does not the rt. hon. gentleman agree that it is much more important that the standards should be university standards before the status is granted than that the status should be granted in the minimum period of time?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "I thoroughly agree. That explains the somewhat slow progress that is being made."

BRIGADIER PRIOR-PALMER: "Is the rt. hon. gentleman aware that one of the reasons for the standard not being achieved is because dons, or whatever they are called, are not being given a sufficient attraction in the way of salaries to take them out there?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "No, I do not think that that is the explanation of it at all."

£29,000,000 for O.F.C.

MR. WILSON HARRIS asked the Minister of Food what advances he had made to the Overseas Food Corporation since March 31, 1949.

MR. STRACHEY: "£8,000,000 has been advanced to the Overseas Food Corporation since that date."

MR. WILSON HARRIS: "Does that make it £29,000,000?"

MR. STRACHEY: "That is so."

MR. PIRATIN asked the Minister of Food whether, in view of the unsatisfactory nature of the financial report of the Overseas Food Corporation, and that it failed to observe the terms of the Companies Act, 1948, he would institute an inquiry into the finances of this body.

MR. STRACHEY: "No, sir. The Overseas Food Corporation have stated in their report why it was not found possible to maintain during their financial year 1948-49 accounts and records which for all aspects of their operations conformed to the best commercial standards. I understand from the corporation that they are confident that the measures which they are taking will correct these shortcomings, which have been discussed fully by them with their auditors. The Overseas Food Corporation are not bound by the terms of the Companies Act, 1948. Their responsibilities, duties and obligations are defined by the Overseas Resources Development Act."

MR. PIRATIN: "Does the Minister's reply mean that when this correction of the account takes place it will be done retrospectively in order to include the past period, so that it will be possible to break down the account submitted in the report?"

MR. STRACHEY: "No, sir. I think it will be possible to say that the accounts of the next year can cover satisfactorily the period of transfer from the managing agency to the Overseas Food Corporation, which is really the period mostly at issue."

MR. GALLACHER: "Can the Minister tell us whether, in view of the failure to keep proper accounts, anybody is to get the sack, or is it just when workers do bad work that they are sacked?"

MR. STRACHEY: "There have been changes, of which hon. members have complained, in the personnel of the executive of the Corporation."

MR. ERROLL asked the Secretary of State, in view of the importance of increasing gold production in the Colonies, what steps he was taking to help the industry to recruit the necessary labour required for expansion.

MR. CREECH JONES: "The Governments concerned are fully aware of the importance of gold production, and will, I am sure, be ready to consider any requests for assistance, having regard to the labour needs of other industries."

MR. ERROLL: "Are the Governments understand the importance of the gold mining industry as a dollar earner?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "Yes, sir. This matter has been discussed on two or three occasions both with finance committees and legislative councils."

MR. HARRISON: "Will my rt. hon. friend take steps to see that no local coercion is used to drive the local population into the gold mines?"

DR. SEGAL asked which territories officially sponsored beer clubs had been instituted.

MR. CREECH JONES: "I am not clear what my hon. friend has in mind. If he will let me know, I will make any necessary inquiries."

MR. SKINNARD asked how many senior administrative and technical posts in the Colonial Service were now vacant, and whether the Minister would consider creating a pool of specialist senior officers which could be drawn on for short periods of service by Colonial Governments.

MR. CREECH JONES: "The number of vacancies of all kinds for expatriate staff in higher grade posts stood at 1,198 on September 30, as against 1,395 at the end of June. The system of creating central pools of specialist officers which can be drawn on by Colonial Governments to carry out particular undertakings has already been adopted in various fields of research, notably in medicine and agriculture. There are also central organizations for dealing with land and geological surveys. This pooling system may well be extended in the future to other specialized services."

MR. SRINNARD: "While thanking my rt. hon. friend for that reply, may I ask him whether his answer does not tend to discount his denial that there was centralized Colonial Service recruitment in this country?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "I am not aware that I have ever denied that there is such a thing."

Voters' Roll in N. Rhodesia

MR. J. HYND asked what income or other qualifications were required for Africans, Europeans and Indians, male and female, in Northern Rhodesia for registration on a common voters roll.

MR. CREECH JONES: "The qualifications are the same for all the races, and for men and women. Full details are given in sections 9 to 15 of the Northern Rhodesian Legislative Council Ordinance, of which I am sending a copy to my hon. friend."

MR. HYND: "Is the income qualification of £250 applicable to all the races? If so, is it not inequitable in relation to African incomes?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "I think my hon. friend is under a misapprehension. My answer does not cover British protected subjects, who are the majority of the inhabitants."

MR. J. HYND asked why it was necessary for the two African members of the Northern Rhodesian Legislative Council to be nominated by the Governor in view of the fact that they were chosen by secret ballot by the African Representative Council, and whether he was aware that this final nomination was regarded by Africans as throwing doubt on the validity of their choice.

MR. CREECH JONES: "The two African members are not nominated by the Governor. They are selected for appointment by the African Representative Council in secret ballot and appointed by the Governor by instrument under the Public Seal. Under existing constitutional arrangements the Governor must accept the selections made by the African Representative Council, and the two present members were in fact selected by that council. I am not aware that any doubts about the procedure exist among Africans."

MR. HYND: "Can we have a categorical assurance that there is no power of veto on the part of the Governor once these representatives have been elected?"

MR. CREECH JONES: "No; these are selected by the African Council themselves."



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NEWS ITEMS IN BRIEF

The silver jubilee dinner of the Men of the Trees was held in London last week.

A selection mission has been sent to screen refugees in East Africa who wish to emigrate to Australia.

A Sudanese student at Fouad El Awal University, Cairo, has been deported from Egypt for alleged Communist activities.

Immigrants to Southern Rhodesia classed as undesirable are to be given the right of appeal to the Governor-in-Council before a deportation order is carried out.

A memorial in the form of a sterling silver cross and candlesticks is to be presented to the Cathedral of the Highlands, Nairobi, by past and present members of the R.A.F. in Kenya.

A fleet of 10 Italian diesel lorries, recently acquired from Mogadishu by a Tanganyika firm of transport contractors, completed the journey to Dar es Salaam via Garissa, Nairobi, Arusha, and Morogoro in 19 days.

Cost of Living Allowances

Stating that cost-of-living allowances would be incorporated in salaries in all Government departments in Southern Rhodesia, the Minister of Finance, Mr. E. C. F. Whitehead, has urged private employers to follow suit.

Following observations of the effect of helicopters when flown in close proximity to game, the Kenya Game Department have stated that provisions of the Game Ordinance in this regard will in future be strictly enforced.

The second reunion dinner of the K.A.R. and East African Forces Officers' Dinner Club will be held in London on Friday, December 9. Particulars may be obtained from Captain R. S. N. Mans, 2 Jamaica Road, London, S.E.16.

Air Chief Marshal Sir John Slessor, Chief designate of the Air Staff, who is touring R.A.F. commands overseas, said in Southern Rhodesia that he knew of no suggestion that the R.A.F. training scheme in that Colony might be abandoned.

A preliminary allocation of land in the Kasungu area of the Central Province of Nyasaland for flue-cured tobacco production is expected to be made shortly by the Government of the Protectorate. The number of applications already received is much in excess of the number of plots.

Increases in the prices of petroleum products in East Africa have been authorized. They are: Aviation spirit, an increase of 29 cents of a shilling per gallon; motor spirit and illuminating kerosene, 25 cents; power kerosene, 28 cents; gas oil, 26 cents; diesel oil, 20 cents; furnace oil 16 cents.

Sudanese Dispute Settled

Five Sudanese house sergeants, who resigned their posts on August 28 as a protest against the refusal by the authorities to reinstate Mustapha El Sayed, president of the Gordon Memorial College Students' Union, who was dismissed last May following a strike of students, have resumed their duties at Khartoum Civil Hospital. Mustapha has left for Cairo to join the Faculty of Medicine of Fouad El Awal University.

The National Farmers' Union in Southern Rhodesia have asked the Government to increase the interest rate on tax reserve certificates to 2½% per annum free of income tax; to allow all farmers to plough back one-third of their profits tax free; to exempt genuine dispersal sales of cattle from income tax (as in Britain); and to include in the term "farm improvements" all buildings erected for occupation by non-Europeans. A reduction of death duties on farming land is also urged.

Under Leisurely Consideration High Commission and Met. Department

ALTHOUGH the East African Meteorological Department was scheduled to be administered by the East Africa High Commission from the beginning of 1948, no agreement was reached in the discussions, which continued throughout the year, on the financing of the work according to the annual report just issued. The report is published by the department's own printing section, which is also responsible for producing all forms and instructions and its two weekly, eight monthly, and 10 annual publications.

During the year the central forecast office at Nairobi, Airport, Eastleigh, continued responsible for weather forecasts for all trunk and other routes, for East African international meteorological broadcasts, and for full meteorological briefing of aircrews at Eastleigh. The number of forecasts issued increased from 900 in January to 1,200 in December. New reporting stations were opened in Biharamulo, Malindi, and Namasagali.

The staff of the department at the end of the year under review consisted of 16 Europeans, 39 Asians, and 124 Africans, against a total proposed establishment of 217.

In his concluding remarks, in which he pays tribute to the "continued and increasing assistance of a large number of voluntary observers," Mr. W. A. Grinstead, the Acting Director, writes:—

"The year was a disappointing one for the staff, in that not only could development work not be undertaken, but the position at the end of the year was such that the staff available could not discharge efficiently and adequately the extensive commitments which the department had inevitably to assume."

Olunguruone Evictions

AFRICANS of the Kikuyu tribe whose occupation permits for the Native settlement in Olunguruone, Kenya, have been cancelled are being evicted, together with others who have settled there without permits. Deliberate refusal to comply with the rules of good husbandry, which were accepted by the occupants at the time of their settlement, has left the Government no alternative. Permission has been given for these Africans to settle in the North Yatta Reserve if they are prepared to obey the rules of good farming practice, and free transport for the families and their stock is being provided by Government.

Local Government

A COMMITTEE to prepare the framework for legislation which would enable district councils to expand their activities and increase their powers has been set up in Kenya, following a meeting between representatives of district councils and the European elected members of the Legislature. The committee, which will meet in Nakuru on October 31, will consist of the chairmen of district councils and three co-opted European elected members. The Electors' Union, in pursuance of its declared policy of expanding local government responsibilities, is providing secretarial assistance.

SISAL GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

THE SISAL GROWERS' ASSOCIATION LIMITED has been incorporated to represent in the United Kingdom the interests of sisal growers in East Africa. The Registered Office is at Room 101, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2 (adjacent to the offices of The Commissioner for East Africa).

Mr. A. L. Le Maitre, the General Secretary of The Tanganyika Sisal Growers' Association, will act as Secretary of the new company.

Bamangwato Dispute

A PETITION by Chekedi Khama, regent of the Bamangwato tribe in Bechuanaland, has been presented to the judicial inquiry being conducted by Sir Walter Harragin in Serowe. It claims that there was a plot against the lives of Chekedi and his followers should they go to Serowe to give evidence. It was therefore agreed that his evidence should be heard in Lobatsi.

Chekedi further alleged that false rumours had been spread to the effect that he wanted the chieftainship for himself and to oust his nephew, Seretse Khama, the chief-designate.

No Desire for Chieftainship

Chekedi said he had no desire for the chieftainship. Seretse was undeniably heir-apparent, but had disqualified himself by his marriage, which was contrary to Native law and custom. He maintained that Seretse had married Ruth Williams without the consent of the tribe, and therefore she could never become queen or mother of the future chief under Native law. The fact that she was a European was irrelevant to the main issue, but provided additional grounds for objection. Mr. Fraehkel attended the court in Lobatsi, but Seretse, at the wish of the tribe, remained in Serowe.

It is reported that Chekedi has resigned all official connexion with the Bamangwato tribe, and has informed the High Commissioner that he would not be available for the post of chief even if the inquiry invalidated Seretse's claim.

A number of African children born in the Southern Province of the Sudan since the antyeyde inoculation campaign have been named *Magath*, the Native name for the drug.

Ex-Italian Colonies

THE DESIRABILITY of the Trusteeship Council being informed beforehand when certain Italian colonies were proposed, and supervision by the Council in certain circumstances, was approved by the trusteeship committee of the United Nations last week at Lake Success by a majority of 38 votes to nine, with one abstention.

After three weeks' discussion the drafting committee has completed its proposals for (a) an independent Libya by 1952, (b) 10-year Italian trusteeship of Somalia, and (c) an inquiry commission for Eritrea.

Ethiopian Claim Repeated

Ethiopia's demand for Eritrea has been repeated in Addis Ababa by the Emperor, who declared that Italy's return to Somalia would be a blow to the hopes of regional and world security.

The political sub-committee of the Trusteeship Council recently approved Italian trusteeship for Somalia by 12 votes to eight, India abstaining.

Ugly Town Development

AN APPEAL for a more aesthetic approach in town planning has been made in the Northern Rhodesian Legislative Council by Captain F. B. Robertson, elected member for the North-Eastern area. Urging the development of latent beauties in and around the towns, he described King-George Avenue in Lusaka as an example of a main artery and avenue which could have been one of the finest boulevards in Central Africa. Instead, it had been vandalized by the erection of rows of "chilly, uniform, unesthetic pieces of suburban architecture at the rate of three or four an acre." A woman's touch was needed in town planning, he added, men seemed to be too bothered with industrial areas.

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Standard Bank Commercial Report

Further Inflation Expected

THE STANDARD BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA write in a report on commercial and economic conditions in East Africa:

"The effects of devaluation on East African trade and commerce have yet to be fully realized, but up to the present they include heavy price increases on such exports as sisal, coffee, pyrethrum, etc., and such increases are likely to be followed by upward movements in the prices of other locally grown products. In the case of sisal, North Atlantic buyers had been holding off for several months in expectation of a change in the sterling-dollar rate.

"From dollar sources East Africa is an important importer of such essential items as agricultural implements and machinery, tractors, earth-moving equipment, mining plant, automobiles, trucks and spare parts, and the new cost of all of these will become almost prohibitive in the present production economy. It remains to be seen how petrol, fuel, and lubricating oils are affected. This may also mean an upward trend in shipping freights.

"In East Africa we have endured a long spell of post-war inflation and spiralling costs, and it looks as if a fresh inflation era is about to be inaugurated.

"The position with regard to imports from Japan has yet to be clarified as to whether these can be dealt with on a sterling basis.

Brisk Business in Cotton Piece-Goods

"Kenya Colony.—During the first part of September the movement of business was sluggish, with some evidence of overstocking. Money continued to be tight, but, in general, commitments were met, although with difficulty. After devaluation the prices of cotton piece-goods, and particularly goods of Japanese origin, were raised locally, and a brisk business was conducted at the higher levels.

"Building activity is evident in Mombasa and Nairobi without any change in prices.

"East of the Rift Valley the drought continues, adversely affecting the coffee-crop, the dairying industry, and Native food production in several heavily populated areas. West of the Rift Valley cereal crops are well up to expectations.

"Tanganyika Territory.—During September the general trend of business was slack, but revived in certain imported lines upon the announcement of devaluation of sterling. In the port of Dar es Salaam there was considerable shipping activity and some unavoidable delay in clearing.

"The food position in Tanganyika continues to be difficult as a result of the failure of the long rains, and measures have had to be undertaken by the Government to provide relief. Water supplies in some areas have also been causing anxiety.

"Possibly, as a result of food shortage in many districts, the labour position on estates has improved. Some activity in the production of tobacco in the Songea area is reported, and steps are being taken to improve the output from this old-established tobacco district. Elsewhere in the Southern Province development by the Overseas Food Corporation is extending.

"Uganda Protectorate.—Trade continued steady during the month, with an upward trend of prices following devaluation of sterling. A Uganda syndicate of 25 piece-goods dealers recently tendered for and secured a bulk purchase of 2,451 bales of amerikani from the Tanganyika Government at favourable prices.

"Up to the end of August the estimated acreage planted with cotton was given as 1,538,800, as against 1,529,600 in August, 1948. In most districts the rains have been fairly general, and, provided the weather continues satisfactory, another heavy crop to cotton can be expected. A ginney near Lugazi has been purchased by the Buganda Government to be run upon co-operative lines for African growers.

"Zanzibar.—The British Ministry of Food has made substantial purchases of copra and coconut oil. Clove stocks are low.

The Uganda Government is considering the replacement of the existing 150 small-cotton ginneries to 25 modern plants.

Record Prices for Kenya Coffee

Eight Tons Sold at £841 a Ton

AT LAST FRIDAY'S AUCTION, the highest price for Kenya coffee realized the extraordinary price of £841 a ton, and the average for the whole sale exceeded £700. Only a fortnight previously a bid of £400 a ton was an all-time record.

The Government of Kenya, in agreement with the Coffee Marketing Board, has decided that auctions shall continue throughout this month without restriction as to price, though subject to total sales not exceeding 500 tons.

How devaluation has affected coffee prices is discussed in the current market circular of Messrs. Edm. Schlöter & Co., which mentions that the f.o.b. price per cwt. of Kenya Br. which was 195s. on October 20, 1948, was 410s. on the same date this year, and 420s. six days later. The corresponding prices of Uganda Native f.a.q. were 93s. 220s., and 260s.

The circular states: "It has been hard to keep pace with the advance of sterling area coffee. The latest news we hear is of a temporary suspension of export licences for British East African coffees in soft currencies.

"Crop prospects in Africa are nearly all disappointing. In Kenya the present crop is now likely to be the lowest on record owing to a prolonged drought. In Angola the rather optimistic official forecasts are discounted in view of adverse weather conditions. The Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi arabica crops are also likely to be as much as 40% below original estimates. From Ethiopia, however, we hear that the crop may total 500,000 bags, which would be a record."

The third increase in the prices of cotton in four weeks was announced on Monday. All Sudan varieties rose by 1d. per lb., G.S. types being quoted at 43.75d., Tokar at 42.75d., L types 3 and above at 43.25d., and L types X4 and below at 40.55d. Zeidab is unchanged for spot, but forward quotations are 115 points up, or slightly more than the 1d. per lb. East African B.P. 52 is 2d. per lb. higher at 34d., and East African has risen by 1½d.

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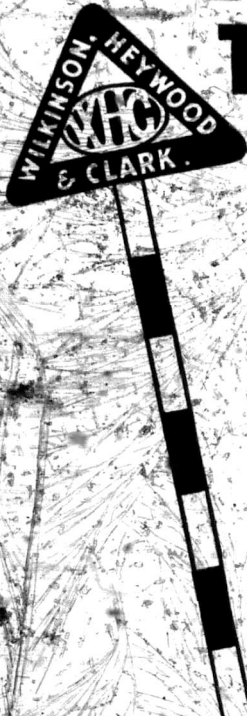
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Company Meeting

British Overseas Stores, Limited

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BRITISH OVERSEAS STORES, LIMITED, WAS HELD ON November 8 in London. Mr. R. J. BLAKAARDER, C.A., the chairman of the company presiding.

The following is extracted from the circulated statement:—

The business of Allen, Wack and Shepherd Ltd., Beira, has not given us the same return as last year, although there has been greater activity. A good deal of expenditure has been incurred on our premises in Beira, which was perfectly neglected to some extent during the war through lack of materials. Social legislation in Portuguese East Africa has had its effect on the net earnings of the company but we are hopeful that these increasing costs have now reached their limit.

The prospects in this territory are very encouraging and encouraging to the management, especially now that the problem of congestion at the port of Beira seems to have been satisfactorily solved for the present.

The port has, during the period covered by the accounts, come under the direct management of the Portuguese authorities, and they have been extremely active in improving its facilities. The re-equipment of the railway from Beira into Southern Rhodesia has also made some progress, and we are hoping that the movement of goods from the Rhodesias and the other territories covered by the railways will proceed more smoothly.

The expansion in the Rhodesias and in the other Central African territories resident in the Portuguese authorities, who own most of the ports concerned in the movement of goods originating in these territories, calling meetings of the various authorities to study railway and port development to meet the growing requirements of Central Africa.

Our general manager in Beira has recently made a tour of the whole of the territory, and we have in mind the necessity for developments on any route which may be selected, so as to ensure that Allen, Wack and Shepherd secures its share of the growing trade which is to be expected. I am glad to say, that in all these matters we are having the cordial help and co-operation of the Portuguese authorities, with whom we have enjoyed a very happy relationship for many years past.

The report and accounts were adopted.

"The millets are specially important as Native food in the semi-arid regions of Africa and India. We have done less work on these than we should, but this is to be rectified in the East African research scheme."—Sir John Russell.

Heavy Demand For Sisal Price Increases Since Devaluation

DEMAND FOR SISAL SINCE the devaluation of the pound has exceeded all expectations, writes Messrs. Wigglesworth and Co., Ltd., in their current market bulletin. Available supplies in early and forward positions have been cleared from the markets, and many producers report sales for shipments up to June next.

The exclusive reports in EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA of bulk contracts having been concluded in the United States and Japan are confirmed, and the latter continue to be.

Although sisal is a commodity in world-wide demand, it is interesting to note that prices have not advanced to the full extent of the 30% devaluation of the £. The first reaction was a rise in value of approximately 11%, but it was soon obvious that the heavy demand called for a further increase, and prices have settled down at 14% above the pre-devaluation level.

Reducing Forward Estimates

The fear that the shortage of rains in some areas of East Africa might affect production in the near future has not shown itself in the figures. There is, however, some indication that the producers are reducing their forward estimates in expectation of a lower yield. British East African sisal production during the first eight months of this year has totalled 93,574 tons, compared with 98,754 tons in the corresponding period of 1948.

The present market values for East African sisal and tow are: No. 1, £113 per ton; A and No. 2, £114; No. 3L, £110; No. 3, £108; No. 1 tow, £70 10s.; No. 2 tow, £68 10s., all c.i.f. Antwerp, November-January shipment.

Devaluation having sharply increased sterling freight rates to U.S.A. ports, No. 1 B.E.A. sisal is now quoted 14¢ cent per lb. landed New York, equivalent to £117 per long ton.

There has been fair buying of Portuguese African sisal, No. B.E.A. being quoted £110 per metric-ton c.i.f. Antwerp.

Top grade Brazilian stands at £103 per ton c.i.f. New York; grade Mexican at £88 per ton c.i.f. New Orleans; Haiti £117 c.i.f. New York; and Netherlands East Indies A grade £140 c.i.f. Antwerp for shipment to the end of the year.

Trade With Belgian Congo

MERCHANTS IN THE BELGIAN CONGO are anxious to increase their trade with Southern Rhodesia, because manufacturers there can cater for Native needs and promise early delivery. This opinion was expressed by Mr. F. Gordon Harper, secretary of the Rhodesian Federation of Industries, after a recent tour of the Belgian Congo. Metal buckles, leather shoes, matches, mirrors, mattresses, paper bags, suitcases, towels, wire hoes and rakes, canned fruits and jams, asbestos-cement building material, men's hats, and wood furniture should all sell well. The bulletin of the Federation has stated: "If we could deliver just one penny worth of Rhodesian goods each week to everyone living in the Belgian Congo, this would be the equivalent of £2,500,000 in exports each year." Last year Southern Rhodesia's exports to the Congo totalled £163,000.

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Booth (North) Ltd., Kasema, Abercorn.
Kawambwa, Fort Rosebery.
Ken's Ltd., Lusaka.
Kitwe Stores (Mutalira) Ltd., Mutalira.
The London and Blantyre Supply Co., Ltd., Blantyre and branches.

Beckers Limited, Chingola.
Carters Ltd., Fort Jameson and branches.
Kitwe Stores Ltd., Kitwe.
Livingstone, Mopani, Chama, and branches.

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Of Commercial Concern

New Arusha Abattoir

Tanganyika Packers, Ltd., are increasing their capital from £500,000 to £700,000, primarily in order to finance the new cold store and abattoir in Arusha (news of which development was given exclusively in EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA some weeks ago). The Dar es Salaam factory is expected to be in production in about four months. The Government of Tanganyika holds 51% of the capital, and Liebig's Extract of Meat Company, Ltd., 49%.

Messrs. Dalgety and Co., Ltd., merchants with large East African interests, announce a final dividend of 5% and bonus of 1%, making a total of 9½% for the year ended June 30 last, the same as for the previous year. Net profit amounted to £250,832 (£246,267). Contingencies reserve receives £125,000 and supplementary reserve £25,000, leaving £190,682 to be carried forward, against £181,975 brought in.

Building of the great Hunyani Poort Dam near Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, may begin early next year. The dam, to be constructed of earth and rockfill at a cost of some £900,000, will hold 55,000 million gallons. Thirty contractors in various parts of the world have already shown an interest in the dam, and many tenders are expected by the Irrigation Department.

Comparisons between the seasons 1947-48 and 1937-38 for Colonial and Sudan cotton production, reckoned in bales of 400 lb., were as follows: Sudan, 276,925 (331,639); Uganda, 166,600 (417,179); Kenya, 4,860 (19,610); Tanganyika, 53,833 (44,636); Nyasaland, 12,852 (17,358); Southern Rhodesia, 710 (338); Northern Rhodesia, nil (43); Nigeria, 21,735 (31,636).

Cotton Twine Production

Full-scale cotton twine production is being carried on in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, in an effort to alleviate the shortage which occurs every tobacco season. The local product is cheaper than imported twine, and its elasticity is reported to be an added advantage, since it does not cut the leaf so easily as other types of string.

The East African Co-operative Trading Society, the only purely consumers' society in Kenya with European membership, incurred a loss of £7,527 in the year ended March, 1947, and a further loss of £5,500 in the following year. Since then reorganization has resulted in profits being shown by all branches.

An official of the Department of Civil Supplies in Northern Rhodesia said recently that some German goods were being offered in that territory at prices ranging from 25% to 40% below the prices of comparable British articles.

A dried fish industry is being started at Lake Baringo, Kenya. A basket of 200 fish sells at 40s.

Messrs. Ind. Coope and Allsopp, Ltd., who recently acquired substantial East African interests, report a fall in group trading profits of about 22½% in the year to August 31 last—from £2,567,822 to £1,982,000.

Messrs. E. W. Tanny, Ltd., engineers and merchants trading in the Rhodesias, earned a profit for the year ended March 31 last of £78,992 (£61,035). The dividend is maintained at 15%.

A £200,000 hotel in Salisbury with 200 bedrooms, and five new hotels in Bulawayo with a total of 545 rooms, are among the new projects to be undertaken in Southern Rhodesia next year.

Diatomite as Insulator

Diatomite produced in the Gilgil district of Kenya is being used to replace cork as an insulator for local buildings and in the construction of freezing rooms and refrigerating plant.

Imperial Chemical Industries (Sudan), Ltd., have taken over the Sudan branch of Imperial Chemical Industries (Egypt), Ltd.

East African Sisal Plantations, Ltd., produced 180 tons of sisal and tow in October, making 730 tons for four months.

Lewa Rubber Estates

LEWA RUBBER ESTATES, LTD., earned a profit of £22,752 for the year ended June 30 last, compared with £16,788 in the previous year. Taxation absorbs £19,787 (including £1,587 under-provided in previous years), and dividends of 16½% on the preferred stock and 6½% on the deferred stock require £7,995, leaving a balance of £5,219 to be carried forward, against £3,249 brought in.

The issued capital consists of £17,165 in 10% participating preferred stock and £187,957 in deferred stock, both in units of 1s. 8d. each. Revenue reserves stand at £8,274 and current liabilities appear at £27,916. Fixed assets are valued at £175,093, quoted investments at £16,859 (market value, £14,209), unquoted investments at £27,438, and current assets at £24,253, including £15,000 in tax certificates and £9,096 in cash.

The main source of the company's income is derived from a holding of 37,275 shares in Amboni Estates, Ltd., which this year provided £22,365 gross for inclusion in the present accounts, and have since paid an increased interim dividend. Among other sisal interests in Tanganyika are shares in Kikwetu Sisal Estate, Ltd., and Ruvu Estates, Ltd.

During the year the company disposed of its Kwafungo division of 660 hectares at £10 per hectare. The negotiations, mentioned in the last report, regarding the Lewa division, had not been completed at the end of the financial year, but recently progress has been made and the balance of the first instalment has been received.

The directors are Mr. A. L. Miller (chairman) and Mr. C. W. S. Temple.

The 38th annual general meeting will be held at 4 Lloyds Avenue, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3, on November 23, at noon.

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Mining

Roan Antelope Copper Mines

ROAN ANTELOPE COPPER MINES, LTD., after providing £402,000 for taxation, earned a net profit of £636,543 for the year ended June 30 last, compared with £969,314 in the previous year. General reserve receives £100,000 (£600,000) and dividends totalling 1s. 14d. per share (the same) will require £617,904, leaving a balance of £160,557 to be carried forward, against £243,918 brought-in.

The issued capital is £4,993,160 in shares of 5s. each. Share premium account stands at £790,735, revenue reserves at £3,813,761, provision for replacements and obsolescence at £1,435,444, 44% loan stock at £1,000,000, and current liabilities at £3,836,062. Fixed assets are valued at £6,917,158, and current assets at £8,991,404, including British Government securities at £346,151 (market value £338,743), tax reserve certificates at £568,400, and £4,582,173 in cash.

Production for the year amounted to 56,162 long tons of blister copper, compared with 51,757 in the previous year. Revenue from copper sales was £120 7s. 9d. (£115 10s. 7d.) per ton; production; selling and administration costs, £72 14s. 11d. (66s. 4s. 10d.); replacements and obsolescence, £12 9s. 3d. (£8 13s. 10d.); and total cost £85 4s. 2d. (£74 18s. 8d.) per ton. Ore reserves are estimated at 92,706,087 short tons of ore containing 3.25% copper.

The directors are Mr. A. Chester Beatty (chairman; alternate, Brigadier R. Mickle), Mr. R. L. Prain (managing director), Mr. A. Chester Beatty, jr. (alternate, Mr. T. H. Bradford), Mr. C. W. Boise, Mr. D. C. D'Eath, Mr. Norman Hickman, Mr. H. K. Hochschild, Mr. D. D. Irwin (alternate, Mr. S. T. Amner), Mr. J. E. W. Lomas, Sir Dougal Malcolm (alternate, Mr. C. D. Hely-Hutchinson), Mr. R. M. Peterson, and Mr. Heath Steele. The general manager and manager in Northern Rhodesia are respectively Mr. A. B. MacLaren and Mr. J. Thomson.

The 22nd annual general meeting will be held in London on November 29.

Copper Prices

ELECTROLYTIC COPPER has increased in price from £140 to £153 per ton, following a rise from 17.62 cents to 17.62-18.50 cents in New York. The Ministry of Supply's buying price for rough copper slabs of from two to three hundredweight is up from £110 to £120 per ton.

Company Progress Reports

Falcon.—A working profit of £10,591 was earned in the quarter ended September 30. Ore reserves at the Sunnace mine and 432 oz. gold from 2,211 tons of ore at the Bay Horse mine. Ore reserves on September 30 were estimated at 49,500 tons of an average value of 6 dwt. over an average width of 48 in. at Sunnace and 20,600 tons av. 5.2 dwt. over 43 in. at Bay Horse. Diamond drilling on the Delyn and Turkio sections amounted to 2,030 ft. Ore reserves were estimated at 341,000 tons av. 4.2 dwt. over 112 in.

Roan Antelope.—Production of blister copper in the third quarter of this year was 14,119 long tons, of which sales amounted to 13,369 tons, realizing £1,243,000 for an operating expenditure of £1,014,000. The difference in the value, at cost, of blister copper stocks is £58,500, making an estimated operating surplus of £567,500, of which £367,500 is estimated profit before providing for taxation.

Mufufira.—Blister copper produced during the quarter ended September 30 last is estimated at 17,833 long tons. Revenue from sales amounted to £2,131,500, with an operating surplus of £1,098,000. Estimated profit before taxation is £954,500.

Wanderer.—6,305 oz. gold were recovered in the quarter ended September 30 from 82,750 tons of ore for a working profit of £2,894. Development totalled 1,195 ft., of which 310 ft., or 31% of the footage sampled, averaged 3.6 dwt.

Cam & Motor.—13,687 oz. gold were recovered during the quarter ended September 30 from the crushing of 62,500 tons of ore for a working profit of £58,512.

Rosende.—A working profit of £3,150 was earned in the third quarter of the year from the recovery of 3,511 oz. gold from 24,100 tons of ore milled.

Rhodesia Broken Hill.—Output in October consisted of 1,900 tons of zinc, 1,200 tons of lead, and 18 tons of fused vanadium.

Bushick.—A working profit of £1,737 was earned in October from the milling of 12,900 tons of ore for 1,363 oz. gold.

Motapa.—2,369 oz. gold were recovered from 19,500 tons of ore milled in October. The working profit was £11,125.

Wankie Colliery.—September sales amounted to 151,693 tons of coal and 9,363 tons of coke.

Kentani.—14,060 tons of ore were treated at the Geita mine in October for 2,852 oz. gold.

Rosterman Gold Mines

ROSTERMAN GOLD MINES, LTD., incurred a loss of £11,444 in the year ended December 31 last, compared with £35,233 in the previous year. The accumulated loss carried to the balance-sheet amounts to £42,586.

The issued capital is £512,635 in shares of 5s. each, and current liabilities stand at £9,868. Fixed assets are valued at £289,214, mine development at £85,000, and current assets at £105,703, including British Government securities at £1,500, gold in hand at £25,132, and £22,050 in cash.

During the year 30,156 tons of ore were treated for 14,116 oz. gold, compared with 30,593 tons and 11,232 oz. in 1947. Ore reserves at the end of the period were estimated at 62,170 tons and an average value of 9.32 dwt., compared with 66,490 tons and 10.46 dwt. in 1947. The average working cost, including development, was 7s. 9d. per ton milled, against 7s. 4d. There were no labour troubles during the year. Development totalled 6,429 ft., mainly on the western extension of No. 1 footwall reef on the 12th level.

The directors are Mr. A. H. Moreing (chairman; alternate, Mr. E. A. Loring), Mr. E. C. Bailey, Mr. J. J. Lean, and Mr. H. W. Foster (alternate, Mr. D. L. Döwie).

The 14th annual general meeting will be held in London on November 29.

Dividend

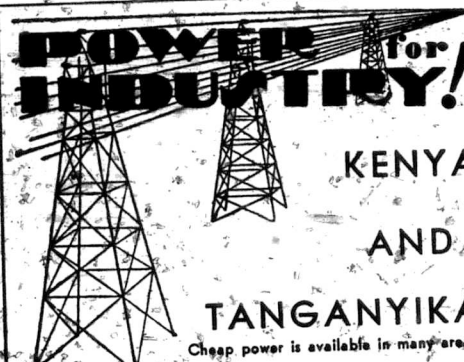
CONSOLIDATED GOLD FIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA, LTD., has declared a dividend of 12% (the same) for the year ended June 30 last. Profits of the wholly owned subsidiary, New Consolidated Gold Fields, Ltd., subject to audit, amounted to £1,028,811, against £1,374,322 in the previous year. Taxation absorbed £533,130.

American Copper

PURCHASES of copper in America by the Ministry of Supply in 1950 are to be on a competitive basis, according to trade reports from New York. Previously buying has been on the basis of negotiated contracts.

Captain Roy Farran

TWO COAL AREAS near Gokwe, Southern Rhodesia, have been pegged in the name of Captain Roy Farran, managing director of two stone-quarrying companies with plant in Salisbury and Bulawayo.



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Dar es Salaam and Tanga

The Dar-es-Salaam & Dist. Electric Supply Co. Ltd.
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Telephone: Whitehall 8781/2/3
Telegrams: Eamatters, Rand, London. Cables: Eamatters, London

The beautiful Temple of Philae rises from the waters of the Aswan reservoir for a few months in the summer and autumn. For the rest of the year it lies submerged below the surface—a sacrifice to the vital need for irrigation in the Nile Valley.

To meet this ever-present demand for water the rulers of Egypt, from the earliest kings, tried to harness and control the seasonal rise of the great river. Their efforts met with varying success until the nineteenth century, when modern engineers began the construction of the



great system of dams and barrages which now extends from the Delta to the upper reaches of the Nile. With the establishment of a reliable irrigation system the cultivation of cotton became the most important industry in Egypt, and it is still a leading factor in the economy of the country. Full and up-to-date information from our branches in Egypt covering the cotton industry and other commercial activities is readily obtainable on request.

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