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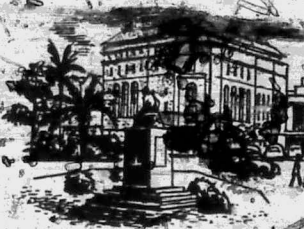
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Matters of Moment 1371
Notes By The Way 1372
High Commission
Answers Norton
Report 1374
Colonial Office
Annual Report 1376

Rev. Michael Scott's
Statement
Mr. Attlee and
Mr. Alton Clash
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THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 1953

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MATTERS OF MOMENT

THE REV. MICHAEL SCOTT'S statement on another page will show readers what the press and public are being told by this misguided cleric. He records that it was on Sundays that the African extremists with whom he is associated held their meetings, which began and ended with prayers and hymns, but as Mr. C. J. Alport, M.P., has commented, few people will consider Mr. Scott's actions to be in line with Christ's teachings. Some of Mr. Scott's recent statements and actions have, indeed, been openly condemned by leaders of his own Church, among them the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Nyasaland, and the Bishop of Mashonaland, in the hope of minimizing the damage done by him here and in Africa. But there has been no visible effect upon this strange zealot, who insists on selecting just those aspects of a case which suit his own purpose, instead of facing all the facts fairly and squarely. Every report which we have received from Nyasaland suggests that his visit has greatly harmed relations in that normally happy country.

The one action which might now check the African organizers of obstruction and discontent would be unequivocal statements by leaders of the Parliamentary Opposition in this country that the duty of everyone in the Rhodesias and Nyasaland will be to co-operate in making federation a success once the Enabling Bill has passed through both Houses of Parliament, as it inevitably will. If Mr. Attlee would seize the first opportunity of saying that again in unambiguous terms, he would earn the gratitude of all responsible men in the three territories. It would be still better if such a statement bore the signatures

of Mr. Attlee, Mr. Morrison, Mr. James Griffiths, Mr. Gordon Walker, Mr. George Jones, Lord Hall, Lord Pakenham, and a few other Socialists whose names no sensible African or responsible adviser of Africans could discount. The one remaining chance of checking extremism among Africans in Nyasaland (some of whom threaten action which might easily develop into rebellion) appears to be offered to the Opposition in this country, for many Africans imagine that their criticisms in Parliament mean that almost half the inhabitants in the United Kingdom disagree with the federal scheme. No greater public service could be rendered at this moment by the Opposition than to declare explicitly that there is no sympathy with any plan of non-co-operation in Nyasaland.

THE SHARP CRITICISM of the Norton Committee report on the East African Railways and Harbours Administration which appeared in a recent leading article in EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA, corroborated by the East Africa High Commission, acting on the advice of its Transport Advisory Council and its Railway and Harbour Committees, by the sixteen members of these three advisory bodies all but two are non-officials. The statement of the High Commission is, therefore, in no sense a defence of one set of officials by another group of civil servants. On the contrary, the High Commission is in this case mainly the mouthpiece of bodies which are almost entirely non-official in composition, and the individual members of which have far more knowledge of railway and port matters than could be claimed by the committee of inquiry.

Only one major proposal accepted of the thirty-three recommendations to the High Commission, apart from that group of sixteen which confirmed or advocated action already taken or decided upon by the

Layman to Become Transport Commissioner

Railways and Harbours Administration. In those sixteen cases, it will be recalled, the facts were supplied to the committee by the management, but since no hint of that was given in the report, it conveyed the false and inexcusable impression that the recommendations were the product of the commission's own investigations and discussions. The one important change which is to be made is the appointment as the Commissioner for Transport not of a railway expert but of a layman of special capabilities, who will, of course, have to be recruited outside the East African Commission of a separate port management for Mombasa or complete separation of the ports and the railways, is repudiated on the ground that "the existing organization of the railway and port services is the most efficacious." But there may be appointments of an assistant general manager to deal with harbours and inland waterways and of a deputy to relieve the overworked general manager.

Brief commentaries put the recommendations of the committee of inquiry in their true light. Following the situation which was paraded without acknowledgment come six which were unacceptable to the authorities except with reservation.

Rebuffed in General And in Detail

The High Commission sides with the Railways and Harbours Administration. The implication that the methods used to forecast future traffics had been inadequate is discomfited by the High Commission, which writes of another recommendation, in regard to the lighting of railway yards that it is "not truly indicative of the position." The charge that the railway authorities had not kept adequate contact with the organs of producers, traders, and finance is contradicted, and suggestions that the transport authorities had not planned wisely for development are dismissed as unfair criticism of the Railways and Harbours Administration, which does not in any case bear the final responsibility, particularly where important matters of financial policy are involved. The committee is thus rebuffed in general and in detail. It is against this background of adverse comment overwhelmingly unofficial, that the report will be debated in the Central Legislative Assembly, if at all.

Notes By The Way

The Queen's Visit to Uganda

THE QUEEN and the Duke of Edinburgh, who are due in Aden on April 27 next on their way back from Australia, New Zealand, and Ceylon, will leave by air on the following day for Uganda from which they will fly to Eilat on April 30. That was announced from Buckingham Palace on Monday. The main purpose of the visit to Uganda is to open the Owen Falls hydro-electric scheme, which will cost the Protectorate something like £20m. It has to be said that the royal visitors, who will stay at Government House, will attend a garden party in Entebbe, visit Kampala, and possibly spend a short while in a national park. There may also be a large official banquet.

First Governor-General

THE FIRST GOVERNOR-GENERAL of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland will take up his duties in August. I have heard much speculation in recent weeks about candidates for this highly important office. I could give his name now, but will content myself with saying that he served with distinction in the first world war and in the House of Commons for more than a decade and a half, that he has held a number of ministerial appointments, that he has a deep interest in the promotion of Imperial trade, and that he is unmarried.

Mr Dalton Retires

TUESDAY NEXT Mr. Dalton, first general manager of the amalgamated East African Railways and Harbours, will retire after 33 years' service in East Africa. For the first half of that period he was with Tanganyika Railways. Then he was transferred to the Kenya and Uganda Railways, becoming deputy general manager in 1942, acting general manager six years later, and general manager of the joint systems when they were amalgamated on May 1, 1948. He has thus carried exceptionally heavy responsibilities in war and peace, somehow enabling his administration to achieve a record year after year with little new equipment. During much of the post-war period port congestion has been the subject of public anxiety and criticism, but it is clear evidence that the Commissioner for Transport and the general manager of the Railways anticipated the inescapable problems, pressed the Governments for large sums for additional capital equipment, and did all in their power to expedite delivery of locomotives and rolling stock. In a time of unparalleled development and unprecedented difficulties, Mr. Dalton showed outstanding professional competence and unflinching drive.

Short Shift for Ditherers

HIS WARMEST ADMIRERS, I have found over the years, have been those including non-officials in the closest touch with railway matters, who have wished most

intimately with him. It is significant, moreover, that it is they who have spoken most understandingly of what the well-informed people have criticized as impatience, intolerance, and hunchiness. No man who was not prepared for all greater achievement, intolerant of any kind of inefficiency, and touchy about the reputation of the public system under his control, could have led his staff as Mr. Dalton has done. That suggests another criterion of his years in high office: that of the railwaymen who are absorbed in their work, the most appropriate tribute. Disheaters had short shrift from Mr. Dalton. He has insisted on clear-cut reports and advice from his subordinates, who knew that he required adherence to recognized principles and hated mere expediency or bids for popularity. In doing what he conceived to be his duty he was unflinching, as Government came to realize no less than commercial concerns and chambers of commerce.

Quick to Retort

HE LIKED CRITICISM, no more than any other public servant, but he did not evade it by evasions which a contractor would have deemed premature, and which developed his faculty as a person with ability to react. I have known no other departmental head so quick to resort to public and not often can the public have had such his case was the less convincing. I have known no other head of his staff, but men in other branches of the Colonial Service often wished that he would suffer in silence. Since the days of Sir Christian Felling the railway headquarters in Nairobi have had a succession of most able general managers, and Mr. Dalton has earned his place among them by his downright devotion to duty. It is characteristic of him that, as I happen to know, he asked that there should be no retiring presentation to him when he discovered that a subscription list was to be opened among the staff for that purpose. With Seneca, he holds that the reward of a thing well done is to have done it.

For African Employees

MUFULIRA COPPER MINES, LTD., have begun publication of a monthly paper for their African employees, who, the first issue suggests, are to be given an attractive and friendly summary of matters of wage and gas, of those concern to them. The editor was fortunate in his main news story for the first issue, an announcement that the company will spend £1.5m. within the next five years on providing better housing for Africans in the mine township. Thousands of burnt-brick dwellings are to be built and provided with electric light, another £0.5m. is to be added to many of the present houses; there is to be a hall in which all children up to the age of seven will be given a free meal daily, and among the other new amenities will be a large cinema, a hall for guides and scouts, a handicraft centre, a women's welfare centre, and a sports field with cycle and running tracks. There is evidently no exaggeration in the claim that by 1958 the mine township will be one of the best in all Africa.

Mufulira's Great Plans

LAST YEAR, when the Mufulira *Star* was started, it was commented that perhaps the chief thing lacking so far in adequate coverage of African affairs within the organization was the monthly paper, called *Mufulira African Star*, makes an excellent beginning in that direction. Mr. Matthew Mugaba, chairman of the local branch of the Northern Rhodesian African Mine Workers' Union, has sent a message expressing the hope that the new paper "will help our social progress and also help to clear up many of our misunderstandings that have crept into this first number an indication that these needs can certainly be achieved if the Africans for whom the paper is produced cooperate effectively.

I do not know the name of the editor, but assume that it is Mr. A. A. Wason, who is responsible for *Mufulira Magazine*. He (or whoever the editor may be) will assuredly work closely with Mr. P. A. Johansson, the African welfare officer at the mine.

Far the Worst Yet

WHEN CONVENIABLE JUSTIFICATION can there be for the publication of an annual report two and a half years after the year in question? In fact, on June 19, 1953, that the annual report for 1950 (repeated 1950-51 of the Coffee Research and Experimental Station at Lyamungu, Tanganyika Territory, reached London! By no means all the blame is attributable to the office in charge of the work, for he completed the report in November 1951; though why he should have taken 11 months is neither explained nor apparent. I should have thought weeks an extravagant delay in the case of so slight a document, most of which is devoted to statistical tables, which ought presumably to be up-to-date at any time.

Public Interest Flagrantly Disregarded

DID THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE and the Secretariat pass the draft to the Government Press for printing without delay or did either hold it up for an unconscionable period? A non-official member of the Legislature might well press for disclosure of the real facts in this shocking case of procrastination, and ask whether the circumstances the excuses were not extended to cover the years 1951 and 1952 also, so comprising within one brochure the data for three years? Surely the absurdity of publishing in the latter part of 1953 or perhaps in 1954 a report for 1951 is not to be committed, and then followed by the leisurely production of the report for 1952? I hope that these points will be emphatically represented in the Legislature at the first opportunity for the representatives of the public might not to tolerate such flagrant disregard of its interests.

Entebbe Hotel

WHEN THE UGANDA GOVERNMENT gave to the Colonial Development Corporation the controlling interest in the hotel which it had built at Entebbe, EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA, it was both seller and buyer. It was suggested that the British taxpayer had not financed the C.D.C. for purposes which could certainly not be regarded as Colonial development in the broad sense of the term, and that if public moneys were needed for the venture they should come from local sources, not the United Kingdom. Now, three years later, the deal has been undone. Perhaps a non-official member of the Legislative Council will ask the price paid by the corporation in the first place and the sum now for the reacquisition of the shares. The Uganda Development Corporation is much more likely than the C.D.C. to manage the hotel efficiently. Indeed, I should imagine that the transaction now announced results from local dissatisfaction and pressure upon the C.D.C. either to acquire all the shares or to sell its own to the U.D.C., an agency of the Uganda Government.

Successful African Farmer

THE AFRICAN farmers of this country of Southern Rhodesia are not every or possibly of propagating the falsehood that the African in the Colony is treated as a serf. It is all doubtful, but I was not surprised that an African who has farmed successfully on his own account in Southern Rhodesia for 20 years, Mr. A. Jack, recently addressed a lunch-hour meeting of the Rhodesian National Affairs Association. He spoke of the work on his 200-acre property on which he employs five labourers, and of the great difficulty of obtaining Africans who will do a day's work for a fair wage. He was the first African to be presented to the Native Land Board of the Colony.

High Commission Vindicates E. A. Railways and Harbours

Seasonal Paper Gives Comments on Norton Committee Recommendations

THE EAST AFRICA HIGH COMMISSION, on the advice of its Transport Advisory Council (whose ten members are non-officials), has reached decisions on the report of the Committee of Inquiry into the Working of the Port of Mombasa (known as the Norton Committee after its chairman, Mr. Roger Norton), which represent a strong vindication of the East African Railways and Harbours Administration and virtual rejection of the report of the committee.

A seasonal paper published in Mombasa on Tuesday states:—

"The High Commission has received the report of the committee of inquiry into various aspects of working of the port and other matters concerning Mombasa Port and has considered the report along with advice from the Transport Advisory Council, has accepted the views of the Transport Advisory Council as summarized hereunder:—

1. Inquiry

"The inquiry committee's recommendations fall into five main groups, namely:—

(I) Seven recommendations which involve no confirmation or advocacy of action already taken or of schemes already under consideration by the East African Railways and Harbours Administration.

(II) Six recommendations which were stated by the East African Railways and Harbours Administration as being not acceptable, except with reservations.

(III) Six recommendations of a general nature.

(IV) Two recommendations regarding principal organization.

(V) Three recommendations which concern customs procedure upon which Transport Advisory Council is not competent to advise.

GROUP I

Group I comprises one-half of the committee's recommendations, and with the exception of a fourth deep-water berth, this group covers all the major practical proposals which arise as recommendations from the inquiry.

The High Commission is advised that for the most part all these proposals were already in hand or under consideration by the East African Railways and Harbours Administration, and from time to time they had already been considered or recommended by the Transport Advisory Council and its committees. The High Commission, while realizing that this group of recommendations introduced no new proposals nevertheless appreciates the committee's underlining of the vital importance of the various works, and the High Commission agrees that the utmost possible should be done within the limits of the financial and physical resources to expedite completion or realization of the various proposals, subject to the practical considerations mentioned in the comments of the Transport Advisory Council.

Investigation of Port

"The Transport Advisory Council's comments on this group of recommendations are as follows:—

"No. 3.—The Administration's plan for the Siting of Berths on the Mainland.—The preliminary site investigations for the construction of berths on the mainland were undertaken almost 10 years ago, and at the time the inquiry committee was pursuing its inquiries plans were being prepared for the construction of a new Berth No. 11 on the mainland.

"No. 4.—Mechanization of the Port.—Investigative experimentation with mechanical appliances for handling cargo will be

pursued, but the Transport Advisory Council advises that a further measure is necessary for that mechanization is to be taken.

"No. 5.—Lighterage.—The Committee of Enquiry is to be satisfied that the port at the Earliest Opportunity.—The lighterage situation at all ports is under annual review by the Harbours Committee, and the members of that committee are entirely satisfied that the management's proposals, including recent proposals for further accretions to the lighter fleet, are now adequate to meet foreseeable requirements.

"(b) Extension of Lighterage Wharf to be Given a High Priority.—The Transport Advisory Council is satisfied that this work is proceeding as rapidly as is practicable in conjunction with other port works.

Costly Proposal

"(c) Mbaraki Wharf.—This proposal has been given active consideration from time to time by the management, which utilizes the wharf using Mbaraki Wharf to advantage, but to make it practicable to bring Mbaraki wharf as an all-purpose wharf would be very costly and would require the provision of many ancillary facilities.

"It is separated from the port by a considerable distance and both rail and road access are awkward. It cannot conveniently be used by other than specialized traffic, such as coal and tiles, as is now being done. Coal imports are likely to increase considerably when the various cement factory projects materialize and could conveniently be handled at this wharf. It is a problem of utilizing financial and physical resources to the best advantage.

"(d) Construction to be Given to an Auxiliary Lighterage Wharf at the Deep End of the Port.—The Council considers this would be unwise to site a lighterage wharf at the place recommended, both for financial and operating reasons. Furthermore, it is the opinion that the lighterage wharf which will become available by the current extension of the existing wharf should be adequate for likely requirements.

"No. 6.—Wagon Turnround.—The Number of Port Railway Trucks and

great numbers of them have been placed for the system generally, and until they begin to arrive it is more possible to increase the number of vehicles at the disposal of the port than it is to increase wagon supply over the system as a whole. The use of motor transport is well recognized by the management and the handling and shipping containers, and the fleet is being increased in relation to practical utilization.

"No. 7.—Works on the Cutting Back of the Cliff Face to be Pressed on as Speedily as Possible.—The importance of this work is well recognized and has been given priority for some time, but it has to be kept in perspective with the construction of the lighterage wharf, the deep-water berths, etc., so as to provide the most economical movement of the soil.

Housing on

"No. 8.—Plans to Build Staff Housing on Mombasa Island.—This question has been the subject of review by the Harbours Management and the possibility of providing housing on the mainland has not been overlooked. Bearing in mind the nature of the terrain, in relation to practical and economic port development, (b) the area zoned for housing is confined to a comparatively narrow strip adjacent to the new highway, (c) that further cutting of the cliff, as necessary, remains possible, and (d) that the housing development will be on the mainland, the council does not consider that the much housing to be in this area is likely to be an impediment to future port development.

"No. 9.—The Movement of Marescaux Yard to the Mainland to be Considered.—Proposals for a scheme have been in existence for several years, and have already reached a stage at which definite planning is being carried out. It is not a project which can be implemented in the immediate future. The acquisition of land at Changanwe will not be easy and will involve lengthy negotiations.

"No. 10.—Construction of an Oil Pipeline from the Island to Changanwe.—This proposal has already been under consideration, and definite plans are now ready for execution in conjunction with the oil companies.

"No. 11.—Warehousing of Export Produce: Quantities to be Kept to a Minimum.—The council accepts that the stock of exports in warehouses should be kept to a minimum, and realizes that this involves the necessity for adequate warehousing capacity, and convenient to the port, to accommodate export cargo which has been accumulated for shipment.

and waiting to be called forward. The question of ways and means of providing such warehousing in all its aspects has been under active consideration by the Transport Advisory Council for some time past, on recommendations submitted by the Harbours Committee, and the High Commission accepts the advice of the Transport Advisory Council that consideration of this matter should await the outcome of the committee and the Harbours Committee's deliberations.

"No. 13.—Transit Sheds to be Used Only for Temporary Storage of Import Cargoes and for Export Cargoes Only When Called Forward for Shipment. The Transport Advisory Council endorses this as a policy. The general use of the back of the port sheds, which has improved since 1946 with the object of easing transit shed utilization, will go a long way towards the possibility of implementing this policy.

"No. 14.—Uncleared Import Cargoes to be Removed to Uncleared Cargo Sheds at Consignee's Expense. This is accepted policy and will be implemented when adequate shed space becomes available.

Cargo Handling

"No. 15.—Building of New Sheds to be Expedited. The Transport Advisory Council agrees, and is satisfied that the management is taking all possible steps to expedite this work. In the meantime there has been some amelioration by improvements in cargo handling operations and documentary work.

"No. 16.—Franchise Period to be Reduced to Five Days. The Transport Advisory Council is aware that the Railways and Harbours Administration has for some time past been examining ways and means of speeding up documentary procedure with a view to introducing a shorter franchise period. The proposal of the committee is in accordance with the Council's aim, and the High Commission accepts the advice of the Transport Advisory Council that the franchise period should be reduced from six to five days as recommended by the inquiry committee.

"No. 19.—Additional Scammels and Trailers to be Provided for Use by the Contractors in the Port Area. This policy is already being pursued, and there already exists a fair-sized fleet of vehicles, which has been built up on the initiation of the management with the advice of the Harbours Committee. In the near future the fleet at Mombasa will comprise 12 tractors and 20 trailers; and more will be acquired to serve the new berths now under construction.

"No. 20.—Number of Delivery Points in the Port Area and Exit Gates to be Increased.—Additional local delivery points are already in course of erection at sheds 3 and 4. They had been planned before the committee began its investigations. In the new port there will be an additional gate at Shimanzi which will become the main entrance and exit point, so that there will be three gates to nine berths, compared with two gates to seven berths as at present.

"No. 25.—Completion of Lighter Quay and Associated Equipment to be Expedited.—This work is being pressed forward as quickly as is practicable in phase with the several constructional works within the port area.

GROUP H

"No. 2.—Construction of a Fourth Deep-water Quay to be Put in Hand Immediately.—The High Commission is advised that this proposal is under consideration by the Harbours Committee of Transport Advisory Council as part of the general port development in relation to assessed traffic trends. While therefore not wishing to indicate acceptance or otherwise of the premises upon which the inquiry committee recommends the immediate construction of a fourth deep-water berth, the High Commission has referred the proposal back to the Transport Advisory Council for the Harbours Committee to continue its considerations and to report thereon to the Transport Advisory Council.

Wagon Turnround

"No. 6.—(b). Wagon Turnround. On-country Storage Facilities to be Enlarged.—The High Commission is advised that this proposal is not a vital factor in wagon utilization, and the Transport Advisory Council is of the opinion that, apart from any question of principles, the financial outlay might well be incommensurate with any advantages to be gained. Furthermore, the council considers that present difficulties are contingent upon wagon deficiencies which will be ameliorated by the arrival of new rolling stock. The High Commission accepts the advice of the Transport Advisory Council that this recommendation should be deferred.

"No. 12.—Export Manifests to be Closed in Advance of Sailing Dates and Penalties for Late Cargoes to be Considered.—The Transport Advisory Council recognizes the importance of manifesting in the loading of ships on a regular basis, and is able as and when required, but it does not consider that revocable closing times for the advance of cargo-fixed advance are practicable in the circumstances at Mombasa. The High Commission accepts the

advice of the Transport Advisory Council that the High Commission should be consulted before any measures of dealing with small parcels are considered. The problem of the most expeditious and economic measures of dealing with small parcels has been the subject of continuing examination by the Railways and Harbours Administration for many years past, and, in fact, no arrangement is in existence for concentrating small parcels for making up into wagon loads. The Transport Advisory Council does not consider that the problem warrants the diversion of resources at the present time to construct a central sorting shed. The High Commission accepts this view.

"No. 17.—Use of Small Cargo Parcels for Stations Beyond Mombasa. The Transport Advisory Council would deprecate the introduction of a measure which would be doubtful in its effect. Transit shed management would (a) involve the need for increased shed space at Mombasa, (b) necessitate double or triple handling, (c) increase the risk of pilferage, (d) lengthen transit time, and (e) give less efficient communication. The High Commission accepts this view.

"No. 25.—Provision of Meals for Labour.—The High Commission is advised by the Transport Advisory Council that while realizing that the provision of meals to labour would be a costly measure, it has to recognize that this recommendation accords with the experience of all in East Africa who have instituted measures for feeding labour in connexion with working shifts. The feeding of labour is suggested by already experienced workers on the Railways and Harbours Administration without success. The High Commission is advised by the Transport Advisory Council that this recommendation cannot be adopted, but it notes with interest that the East African Railways and Harbours Administration intends to provide facilities inside the port area for food to be cooked by the labourers' own women.

"No. 26.—Port Labour Deterioration Denied.—The High Commission is advised that, contrary to the opening statement by the inquiry committee in paragraph 406 of its report, the Transport Advisory Council is authoritatively informing that port labour has not deteriorated since pre-war days, and that, given comparable conditions of operation, it can achieve high performance figures.

(To be concluded.)

Africa Harmed by Emotionalists
Mr. Gussman on Settlement in Kenya

"KENYA'S LAND PROBLEM would not be solved by driving the European, who has made all proportion of it to give up their estates; the land is only a shot in the arm," said Mr. B. A. W. Gussman, a former Berr Research Fellow, when he lectured last week on Kenya at the Imperial Institute's "Queen and Commonwealth" Exhibition.

Those who tried to hasten the pace of development in the Colony were really its greatest adversaries, he said; irreparable harm was done by their emotional arguments. To drive out the Europeans would do nobody any good, least of all the Africans. But for the settlers' hard work and persistence their years of gambling with unknown forces there would not be millions of taxation from Europeans to fund the African social services.

After referring to the Mau Mau, the speaker added: "There must be increasing vigilance in all our relations with Africans if progress is to be achieved." We have been too complacent in these comparatively prosperous years. Although the *Pan Britannica* has brought immense benefits to Africans, its very success has bred immense problems, many of them arising from the very success of our colonial equilibrium."

Mrs. Ascham's Exhibition

MRS. MARIT ASCHAM will be showing some of her African paintings for the next fortnight at 45 Park Lane, London, W.1. More than 20 of the scenes are East African and there are 30 studies of Africa done from the Comet. The principal painting in the exhibition is of Masai in the Sandstone Mountains of the Tanganyika Territory, and the state of Lady Lead. Two paintings done from the tops of the mountains are Mrs. Ascham's fifth and sixth, two having been in London, two in New York, and one in Tanganyika.

British East and Central African Dependencies

Extracts from Colonial Office Report for 1952-53

THE YEAR in KENYA has been overshadowed by the lawless activities of the Mau Mau organisation, a secret society of British subjects. This organisation, racial hatred and is violently anti-European and anti-Christian. For the great majority of the victims have been Africans, men, women and children. It pursues its aims by forging secret oaths, involving a promise to kill and by intimidating witnesses and law-abiding Africans. It resorts to murder and other brutal and inhuman methods, including the burning of huts with the occupants locked inside and the mutilation and burning of people and cattle.

Mau Mau attacks began early in 1952 in the Nyeri district, and then spread to the Embu and Hall districts of the Central Province. Measures to control the Mau Mau proved insufficient because African witnesses were afraid to come forward and give evidence in face of the brutal methods and vast reinforcements of the Mau Mau against them. The situation became progressively worse and a state of emergency was declared.

A number of emergency regulations were made. Persons suspected of close connexion with the organisation were arrested and a large number of independent schools which had been a vehicle of the Mau Mau doctrine were closed, but alternative arrangements were made to accommodate all the children concerned. A battalion of the Lancashire Fusiliers and reinforcements of the King's African Rifles were moved to the Colony and the cruiser KENYA put in at Mombasa.

Mr. Duxton's Tour

On October 29 the Secretary of State flew to Kenya to examine the situation. He made an extensive tour of the Colony and discussed the situation with the Governor and leaders of all communities. In December the Governor paid a short visit to London for further discussions with the Secretary of State. In January, 1953, Major-General W. R. Hinde was appointed as personal staff officer to the Governor to co-ordinate military and police action to suppress Mau Mau. Responsibility for the police was transferred from the Member for Law and Order and Attorney-General to the Chief Secretary.

An emergency Defence Council of all races is met regularly and advise the Governor on emergency measures was also set up. A number of home guard resistance groups led by anti-Mau Mau chiefs were formed, and these, together with the closer policing of the Ukuyu districts, produced an increase of confidence in the Government, but savage attacks by gangs continued. The most serious was the massacre in the Uplands district, 20 miles from Nairobi, on the night of March 26. Further reinforcements consisting of the headquarters 39th Infantry Brigade, the 1st Battalion the Buffs, and the 1st Battalion the Devonshire Regiment, and a flight of Hillwood aircraft were sent to Kenya at the end of March.

Up to April 14, 12 Europeans had been killed and at least 25 Africans had been killed in Mau Mau organisation.

In spite of the present disorders the Government of Kenya has been carrying out a continuing programme of social and economic development. The 10-year development plan provides for expenditure of £41.7m. in addition, nearly £41m., or 25% of the total annual

The Colonial Territories, 1952-53, published by the Stationery Office at 5s.

expenditure of Kenya is devoted to social services, and expenditure on African education rose from £40,000 in 1950 to £100,000 in 1952 and will exceed £1m. in 1953. The Nairobi City Council increased its five-year programme of African housing from £120 to £200. A small but important measure has been the promotion of a number of African civil servants from grade C to grade B and of Indians from grade B to grade A.

Tanganyika and Uganda

In June 1952, the Secretary of State announced in Parliament that H.M. Government had accepted two important recommendations of the Constitutional Development Committee of Tanganyika, which reported in 1951, namely that the non-official members of the Legislative Council should be elected equally between the three main racial groups of the Territory, European, Asian and African; and that the official majority of the council should be retained. In doing so he explained that, although it was hoped that the reconstituted council would be established within five years, it could not be in the interests of the Territory that it should be committed to a rigid timetable. The Secretary of State also approved a recommendation by the Governor that a Speaker should be appointed who will normally preside over the deliberations of the council in place of the Governor and this appointment will be made in the near future.

Professor W. J. M. Mackenzie, of Manchester University, the special commissioner who conducted an inquiry into various matters concerning the development of local government and the introduction of the election of non-official members to the Legislative Council, visited the Territory twice in 1952 and submitted his report for the consideration of the Tanganyika Government.

In African rural local government the most important advance of the year was made in the Central Province, where in all districts new councils were set up, comprising an equal number of nominated and elected councillors. Elsewhere the recently developed local councils functioned successfully, and the gradual extension of elected representation is continuing. In the Uplands, the elected council for the Chaga tribe, consisting of the chief, three divisional chiefs, 16 area chiefs, 22 elected members, and six co-opted members is working satisfactorily.

The holder of the new post of Secretary for Social Services and Local Government in Uganda was appointed a member of the Executive Council, and the number of nominated non-official members was increased by four. There are now six *ex-officio*, two official, and six non-official members, the last comprising two European, two African and two Asian members.

Uganda Governmental System

In a statement issued by Her Majesty in March, the Governor and the Kabaka announced the introduction of a number of alterations in the governmental system of Uganda. Their decisions, taken with the full approval of the Secretary of State, are briefly as follows:

- (i) the responsibilities at the provincial level and below for the operation of certain departmental services will be transferred from the Protectorate Government to the Uganda Government;
- (ii) there will, in consequence, have to be financial adjustments, and a system of graduated taxation is to be introduced;
- (iii) the number of the Kabaka's ministers will be increased from 12 to 15;
- (iv) the number of elected members in the Uganda Kabaka's Council will be increased from 40 to 50;
- (v) the Kabaka will consult with a committee of the *Sukiko* before appointing his ministers;
- (vi) he will put forward to the Legislature proposals for a system of local government to be established at *saza* (county) level to which the Uganda Government will devolve certain of its functions.

The joint statement emphasises that the future of Uganda must be in a unitary form of central government, or parliamentary lines covering the whole country, and that the Kingdom of Buganda will continue to be treated as a province and component part of the Protectorate.

Mr. C. A. G. Wallis, a member of the African Studies Branch of the Colonial Office, visited the Protectorate at the invitation of the Government in order to carry out an inquiry into the organization of local government in rural areas. The Government of Uganda announced their intention to give effect to the great majority of his important recommendations. £350,000 was set aside to cover the cost of building a local government training centre, which will be completed before the end of this year.

Attempts to give vitality to the local councils established in Zanzibar continue to meet with limited success. In Zanzibar, however, there are the encouraging signs of increasing interest and activity in local government. The local councils on this island were able to introduce and collect a small percentage of the proceeds of which they applied to measures beneficial to the local community. A local council is in process of formation in Pemba.

Smallland

Membership of the Legislative Council of the Protectorate Advisory Council, which includes representatives of all sections of the community, has been increased to 48. Hitherto the main purpose of this council has been to stimulate the local people in administration to educate them in the ways of government and to bring Somali views to the attention of the Government. Attention is now being given to extension of the activities of the council in order that it may provide a training centre for its members and act as an electoral college for a future parliament, which it is hoped, may be created in the near future.

During the past year vigorous efforts were made to develop local government in the Protectorate. The central Government made small financial grants to some district councils and town committees to encourage them. An important step forward in 1952 was the election of a council in Berbera and Hargeisa with full financial and executive responsibility. It is proposed that some of the other districts should be elected.

In January, 1953, the discussion concerning possible changes in the constitution of Northern Rhodesia was continued. The Secretary of State received a delegation consisting of the Governor, the Secretary for Native Affairs, Mr. R. Welton, Mr. G. B. Beckett, Mr. P. Sokota, and Mr. D. Yamba. Discussions resulted in agreement in principle that there was a case for some expansion in the non-official membership of the Legislative Council, both European and African. It was not possible, however, to reach a conclusion on the extent and nature of this expansion until it was known whether federation would come about. It was therefore agreed that the discussions should be adjourned but that they should be resumed in time for the beginning of the year which might be decided upon to take effect from the beginning of the next Legislative Council.

The African Representative Council and the Provincial Councils met during the year. The principal subjects discussed were the federal scheme and the proposed constitutional changes. Considerable progress was made in training the Native authorities to assume greater responsibility by means of the course for chiefs and Native authority employees at the African Local Government School. In the provincial administration African clerks who showed ability were encouraged to undertake more responsible work.

In the territories where Native courts continued to function satisfactorily. There were only 384 appeals from 74,116 cases heard by the Native courts and of these only 100 reached the High Court. The Urban Native Appeal Court for the Copperbelt was set up and held its first session in August. (Hitherto appeals from African urban courts have been heard by subordinate courts.)

Nyasaland's Legislature

There was no change in the constitutional structure in the Nyasaland Protectorate during the year. The senior non-official member of the Legislative Council, Mr. M. P. Barrow, was reappointed for a further period of three years, and the recommendation of the African Protectorate Council by E. K. Mposa and Mr. E. A. Muwamba were also reappointed as members representing African interests.

Political activity in the Protectorate during the year has been concentrated mainly on the proposals for Central African Federation.

The African Protectorate Council met twice during the year. The first meeting was convened in order to obtain the comments of the council on the original White Paper on Federation, to choose representatives to attend the London conference in April, and to elect African members for appointment to the Legislative Council. At the second meeting the representatives who went to London reported on their talks with the Secretary of State.

African provincial councils met regularly during 1952. The views of Africans on a wide variety of subjects were brought to the notice of the Government. Districts were considerably reorganized and Native authorities have

tightened control of their affairs. Great interest is now being taken in local councils and committees and increasing features are the spontaneous interest taken, as well as, and community development work and such examples of local initiative as agricultural shows. A new draft District Councils Bill has met generally with the approval of responsible Africans throughout the Protectorate.

A survey of the financial relationships between Native administrations and the central Government, which was conducted by Sir Harold Cartmel-Robinson, aroused considerable interest and encouraged some Native authorities to examine their own position from a new light. In 1952 Native treasuries took over the day-to-day administration, particularly in the field of education.

The Government of the Seychelles announced in July that he had reached a decision with the Secretary of State that there was at present no desire to press for changing the existing constitution and that the life of the present Legislative Council would run its full term of three years until September, 1954, unless circumstances made it necessary to dissolve the Council at an earlier date under the provisions of the constitutional instrument of the Colony.

Sudan Electoral Commission

Members and Committee

MR. KHALAFALLA KHALAF, the National Unity Party member of the electoral commission in the Sudan, who recently withdrew from that body, has told the Press:—

"When I accepted the important appointment I was actuated by a desire to help conduct free and fair elections, but I observed most regretfully that the commission had wandered in many important cases from the right direction. Judging by what takes place during the commission's deliberations and in passing resolutions, I am convinced that the commission is falling under external influence."

Mr. Sukumar Sen, chairman of the commission, replied: "The commission adopts its resolutions by a majority vote. It is an international body which does not receive its instructions from higher authority."

Complaint Against U.A. Member

A N.U.P. executive committee has decided to send a delegation to Egypt, with a letter addressed to Mr. Naimi, asking instructions to call on the American Ambassador. The letter asks for an account of the party's views which had been reported, and what in the party's opinion they had been doing. In addition to making accusations against the delegation, the delegates were to complain about the conduct of a member of the commission for his alleged support of the British view-point against the N.U.P. concerning the interests of the Sudanese people. The delegates were to leave for Egypt on Tuesday.

The delegation reported that so long as all members of the committee had been duly notified of a meeting and at least a quorum of four persons attended, the meeting was perfectly valid and that the other members of the commission had been unable to understand from Mr. Khalaf's statement whether he was proposed to be a member of the commission or had resigned.

The Commission, Mr. Sen said, was entirely independent of any Government in the Sudan and was usually the person with a poor case who resorted to such words against another who might disagree with him. "It is a democracy," he concluded, "is toleration for all. I may not share or appear to share your views, but the Sudanese are to get self-government, I have no doubt. We may have more and more cultivate toleration and goodwill."

On the subject of political rights of citizens, Mr. Sen said: "The Self-Government Statute gives the tribal chiefs the right to stand as candidates. This part of the Statute has not been subject to revision by us according to the agreement we are bound by it."

The secretary general of the Umma Party has said that he was unable to arrive at a favourable conclusion in his talks with General Naimi, adding: "The Umma Party will never be able to understand Egyptian behaviour in the Sudan unless Egypt declares its support for the Sudan's independence."

The eighth conference of Labour Commissioners in East Africa will be held in Dar-es-Salaam next week and Tuesday. The Labour Commissioner of Northern Rhodesia has been invited.

Statement Issued in London by the Rev. Michael Scott

Boycotts Planned with African Congress before Deportation

THE REV. MICHAEL SCOTT, who has recently departed from Nyasaland by the Government of that Protectorate, issued the following statement in London last week:

A meeting of chiefs and Congress of Nyasaland was held in Blantyre on Easter Day. The decision having already been taken to appeal to the United Nations, it was decided at this meeting also to appeal to the African representatives to be given a hearing at the Bar of the Houses of Parliament. These petitions were drawn up and subsequently dispatched. U.N. petition is unlikely to come up for discussion before the next session; the substance of the decision was that federation involved a transfer of power on the part of Britain, and should be delayed until an opinion could be obtained from the International Court of

Withdrawal from Many Bodies Agreed

"It was agreed to set up a Supreme Council, and when this had its first meeting the following instructions were drawn up:

- (a) Withdrawal from the Protectorate Executive Council.
- (b) Withdrawal from Legislative Council.
- (c) Withdrawal from Urban Areas Advisory Committee.
- (d) Withdrawal from Town and Country Planning Committee.
- (e) Withdrawal from Labour Advisory Board.
- (f) Withdrawal from Immigration Board.
- (g) Withdrawal from African Tobacco Board.
- (h) Withdrawal from Coronation Celebration Committee.
- (i) Withdrawal from Cotton Board.
- (j) No chief will serve on any Government Commission for Wenzel, Mthandizi and Ulole in the federation issue is dropped.

In all about 80 chiefs signed the petition at various centres in the presence of several thousand people at each place and the meetings were all perfectly orderly and peaceful. The vast majority of them went to repudiate violence and to call for the most discipline and righteousness against any attempts at provocation. The meetings were not adequately reported in the Press. Their importance, as well as the number of the attendees, was belittled. There was no police supervision and a took some pictures of the meetings. The B.B.C. correspondent's estimate of numbers present in Blantyre was contradicted in the local Press and by Southern Rhodesia Radio. It is often told the same thing happens in Northern Rhodesia. The meetings, which were generally on Sundays, invariably began and ended with prayers and hymns, and were much more religious in tone throughout than any meetings on the same subject held in Britain.

It was soon after the first reading of the Enabling Bill that the public announcement was made by district commissioners that federation had now been decided upon, and to the Supreme Council issued its instructions for launching a campaign of non-co-operation. Some of the chiefs went to go further than the above listed instructions and discontinue all forms of co-operation with the Government whereby the chief act as agents of the Government, carrying out Government decisions and being responsible for collection of taxes, regulations, levies, levies, levies, or other levies, etc. to effect. They were saying that they could no longer act as the agents of a Government which they distrusted, and no longer able to perform the functions of Native authority—the Government must be left to do its own business in its own way, and they to remain chiefs only in the eyes of their own people.

Financial Difficulties

The difficulties facing chiefs and Congress in the organization of this movement are great, the enormous distances involved, the lack of communications, inexperience in organizing the Government, and inadequate technical and organizational resources. In addition their financial resources have already been heavily taxed in sending messengers to the chiefs and Congress to Britain on journeys which now appear to have been fruitless, and people are being intimidated by laws aimed at preventing money from being collected and assemblies from being held.

A law was passed, for example, in less than 40 minutes in the Legislative Council—through all its stages, making it a penal offence for anything to be said at a gathering of three or

more people from which violence might at some subsequent date result. In Northern Rhodesia, where there is some doubt still on the wisdom and advisability of industrial action being taken to prevent the imposition of federation similar to that in Nyasaland, this law will prevail.

These movements in these movements are prevailing, and the power and authority of the chiefs is being eroded, and that no more power is being passed to the representatives of the African peoples. The Legislative Council is in itself an anachronism, and its proceedings have an air of the farce about them. Every African property owner is destined to be harassed by 10 to one, and other matters such as federation are treated the two African members are powerless to resist. Thus we are faced with a breakdown in confidence on the part of Africans in all the institutions open to them for redress of their grievances, consolidating their aims, and expressing their views.

A number of chiefs in Northern Rhodesia were recently suspended without any form of trial or judicial process of any kind. They are being held in the custody of the Government of Northern Rhodesia. Mr. Lytton in his answer to a question on this point on February 4 made no mention of African land being taken for the use of non-Africans.

The chiefs concerned gave me detailed statements regarding the question of land alienation. Their people had reproached them with having sold their land to the Government or to white settlers, whereas they had never given consent. The land was taken over on the pretext of enclosing it as forest or game reserves. The chiefs have asked that an inquiry should be instituted immediately to determine the land rights of the African people, and to investigate reforms needed in the process whereby chiefs can be banished and suspended. This deposition has caused deep resentment among their people and a sense of mistrust and insecurity amongst other chiefs. Since their authority and power is derived from their functions as Native authorities, if they have no objection against arbitrary dismissal, are in a worse position than ordinary employees, and are unwilling to retain the confidence of their people on their successiveness as instruments of government.

African Disillusionment

Many Africans in Nyasaland are of the opinion that the more educated people have come to regard the white population, even many young missionaries, as an alien and hostile people who care for their country with the expression of contempt, in order to deceive, in an attempt to prepare the way for gradually erasing their country, ever to people of their own kind in Rhodesia. This disillusionment is likely to grow with the imposition of federation, and if nothing is done to counteract it, a widening gulf of suspicion and non-co-operation between white and black will be created. Future grievances will inevitably be attributed to the betrayal of the Africans by the white immigrants, the dealings of the white officials, and the changes of Government policy in London.

The boycott of the district, legislative and other councils is an expression of the African feelings of utter frustration in the face of a determined policy to strip their rights and wishes; they are making every effort to be non-violent, but if it is to remain so this presupposes some recognition of the opinions and worth of the too often despised African people and the provision of proper procedures in which the people can have confidence. If the gulf which began with the appeal of the chiefs to the head of the local Government in Britain is not to widen, speedy and drastic steps will have to be taken to reform the people in a method of consultation and representation as far as Africans are concerned, and to reduce the wide area in which arbitrary and inefficient administration can be performed.

Missions of practical aid to the people of the two Protectorates should be organized immediately, and all matters connected with education and promoting African interests in Central Africa, such as co-operative trade union, and political organization, legal aid, publication of a news-paper, housing and village industries, the preparation of factual information on problems of land tenure and use, measures to protect African land rights, and advice to responsible policy-making bodies in Britain.

The case of Chief Gomani is an illustration of the breaking down of confidence in one who has even as far as the service to the British Crown and his own people's Paramount Chief of the Angoni in the Nchew district of Nyasaland. He had had no serious disagreements with the British administration since his father was shot while in custody of a British force when it first occupied his country, having refused to obey an order to proceed to Zomba. Chief Gomani has recruited many

thousands of his people for service in the King's African Rifles both during the last war and more recently in Malaya. Some of his sons will lead on a deputations to England with the Nyasaland chiefs, all of whom express their people's unwillingness to accept federation, and which the Government made known their intention to proceed with the federal scheme he declared in favour of non-co-operation with the Government. He was one of the 80 chiefs who signed the appeal to the British Parliament and the United Nations.

[Continued in Matters of Moment]

Mr. Albert Crane

MR. C. J. ALPORT, M.P., writes in a letter in the current issue of the Spectator:

"If I write frankly in criticism of Michael Scott it is because I believe that he is a man with a capacity to do good in Africa, but that he has chosen methods which can only produce great evils. I do not in the first place believe that the weapons which he is wielding are Christian weapons or that his use of them will further the cause of Christianity. Yet Africa without Christianity has no hope of casting off the chains of poverty and backwardness which cramp its progress towards the dawn. How the doctrine of political non-co-operation or passive resistance can be reconciled with the teachings of Christ."

A few weeks ago Michael Scott was arrested in Portuguese East Africa in company with the Nyasaland Gomani of Ngehu, who had been reported by the Government for leading a campaign of non-payment of taxes. In similar circumstances, when the Pharisees tried to import the Our Lord with the authorities by showing Him the Roman coin and asking whether it was right to pay tribute. He, perceiving their wickedness, answered: "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things which are God's." Here was a point blank refusal to use the weapon of political agitation for the furtherance of the Gospel's cause. This surely has some significance even to-day.

I can find no justification in the New Testament for identifying organized Christian effort with political nationalism, indeed, it was Christ's resolute determination to prevent His Ministry from being exploited by the Hebrew nationalist leaders which led to His ultimate rejection by the Jews. Yet Michael Scott has identified himself with nationalist movements in Central Africa which, so far from seeking to achieve racial partnership and harmony, aspire to bring about the domination of the white community by the black. He surely realizes that as an ordained minister of a Christian church he speaks not

merely as an independent individual, or as a secular politician, but that he carries with him an additional authority, which he cannot divest himself of if he wishes to do so. In the eyes of thousands of Africans, for whom the Christian missions in Africa are still counted as one of the greatest gifts of the Government, Michael Scott is an infidel of the Christian faith of New Africa, as well as an ally of their aspirations. He has a moral obligation not to prostitute his name for political ends. He must ensure that his words and actions do not mislead the African Christians or retard the progress which the long years of devoted work by Christian missionaries in the field have already achieved.

His economic and political backwardness, race relations in Nyasaland were until very recently far happier than in most of the other territories. In particular, confidence between the white and people on the one hand and the Administration on the other was well established. The controversy over federation had not destroyed this confidence which would have stood both races in good stead during the nearly years of the federation experiment. Now Michael Scott's campaign of passive resistance has gravely undermined it. It is the Africans, not the Europeans, who will suffer as a result.

Avoiding Domination

Central African federation is an attempt to provide an answer for the problems of a plural society which has both a dominant community and a subordinate one. A pattern of apartheid or the tyranny of a black majority which could only lead in liquidation of the resident British communities. If the experiment is to succeed, cooperation between the races is vital.

The policy of non-co-operation by the African, just as similar action by the European. There are no doubt certain elements in Central Africa only too anxious to exploit a campaign of African non-co-operation as a means of strengthening the European barriers against a great mass of their African fellow-citizens. Michael Scott's policy is therefore playing into the hands of those who stand for intolerance and race hatred. He is in fact the best ally they have.

If in spite of all the efforts of moderate and liberal minded people here and in Africa to provide through Central African federation an answer to the exponents of race domination, the experiment was to fail—if the sinister pattern of race relations, which has entered in the Union, is reproduced in Central Africa—Michael Scott and those who support him in the United Kingdom will bear a major responsibility for the calamity which this will entail."



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Federation Bill in the Commons Committee Stage Nearing Completion

FOR THE EXTRACTS FROM SPEECHES made in the House of Commons on the Rhodesia and Nyasaland Federation Bill are reproduced below. The committee stage is expected to end this week.

Labour amendments were designed to ensure that the right to develop trade unions and co-operative organizations was safeguarded.

MR. G. BRING (Lab.): Nothing was more important than that Africa's uniqueness be allowed to exist as an outlet for expression of political opinion. Mr. Lytton was already against political representation; how then could Africans represent their views unless through a trade union. Co-operative societies should be safeguarded in the federal constitution. Only through them could the African challenge the economic domination of white settlers and powerful concerns like the United Africa Company.

MR. CHURCHILL had once said that he did not intend to preside over the dissolution of the British Empire; he had dissociated the end of taking Mr. Lytton into his Cabinet. To prevent the Tory folly of Lord North from being repeated in Africa, democratic institutions must be provided and strengthened.

Worsening Situation in Africa

MR. LESLIE HALE spoke from Central Africa indicated a rapidly worsening situation. The organization of trade unions was an act of defiance. He did not believe for a moment that Sir Godfrey Huggins wanted trade unions. Moreover, co-operative organization was the Cinderella of the Civil Service in Africa. It was far more endangered, and there could be seen just a nascent co-operative farming movement.

It was not always the great things which change history; often it was the little, seemingly unimportant things such as the deportation from Nyasaland of the Rev. Michael Scott. That was not the way to win the confidence in the declarations which we had from our hundreds of speeches, charters, declarations of human rights, the Devonshire memo.

MR. A. HOBBS-PARKER (Cons.): When he considered the astonishing progress made in Africa in 50 years, credit must be given to the people who had lived with their facing tremendous problems.

MR. PAGE (Lab.): "It is precisely because we recognize what a fine job the Colonial Office has done that we must see it done down that job."

MR. DODD-PARKER: "That is certainly not the impression I support what he said about the importance of trade unions and co-operatives. Mr. Grimith and Mr. Croxson had try to make an advance, but found how a process it is."

MRS. W. RADLEY (Lab.): The Industrial Conciliation Act in Southern Rhodesia prevented the growth of real free African trade unions. There was a bogus set-up of so-called Whitley Councils, while the Native Association had a cap-in-hand relationship with the Government. Conservatives argued that white trade unionists were responsible for undesirable union features in Central Africa, but they raised their voices against legal perpetuation of the colour bar in Southern Rhodesia through the Industrial Conciliation Act, which excluded natives from the definition of employee. In Northern Rhodesia genuine free trade unions were being built by Natives. Their successful strike last year, leading to a wage award by arbitration, had been conducted with discipline and without unrest, rioting, or bloodshed. This was the effective reply to the Southern Rhodesian viewpoint.

Native Wage Rates Criticized

MR. J. GRIMOND (Lib.): Some of the wage rates being paid to Africans to-day were quite indefensible. The Government should give assurance that wages would be raised and proper working conditions enforced. Secondly, assurance was necessary on the subject of deportation. The deportation of the Rev. Michael Scott was regrettable.

MR. WEDGWOOD BENN (Lab.): It was wrong to treat the African nationalist movement as if it were a sort of crime wave. It should power to do that be put into the hands of the Labour Government. It was all very well for Mr. Lytton to keep claiming that various powers were in the

hands of the territorial Governments, the fact was that the Bill was sending Central Africa out on her own and the Federal Government would be increasing power. The founders of the American Confederation would, if alive today, be horrified to see the power which Washington exercised over the States.

MR. J. RANKIN (Lab.): Co-operative organizations should be encouraged in Central Africa not only as providers, but as instruments of thrift. Until the Labour Government had some to power in 1945 there had been little encouragement for co-operatives; in that year there were only eight registered societies in Northern Rhodesia, although by 1951 the number was 97.

MR. G. BRING FOR THE COLONIES said that the Labour amendments on the constitution of the Assembly would tear up months of careful negotiation. What we were now being underfed was to bring a job for partner into the business; we should not be acting properly unless we did all we could to train him and teach him to deserve a larger share in government.

Realistic men knew that at this stage to give Africans equal representation in the Federal Parliament would dry up the flow of overseas capital, thereby retarding Africans' material advance. There were insufficient Natives of the necessary experience and skill to exercise responsibility. At the same time we must ensure that that state of affairs did not continue. To promote education was the right line. It would be true partnership when an African was elected to Federal Legislature by European voters.

It was necessary to try to push on the co-operative movement, the distribution side, as well as producer societies. There was certainly no legal bar to their formation. The policy regarding co-operative societies in the northern territories was that laid down by the former Labour Colonial Secretary, Mr. George Hall, in 1946—to relax gradually the full Government supervision necessary at the initiation of the co-operative movement.

Godfrey Huggins and Trade Unions

As to trade unionism, the Federal Legislature had no powers other than settling disputes between itself and its own officers. The trade union law in the northern territories was unchallenged by the passage into law of federation. Godfrey Huggins believed in the gradual evolution of trade unions.

"I find it a little difficult to listen to a suggestion about how necessary are trade unions to industries," Mr. Lytton commented. "I have spent many years of my life in one way and another in industry, and I do not require any convincing that no properly constituted industrial system can exist without the bargaining power of trade unions and the employer. One cannot make a healthy trade union movement by legislation any more than one can make a good man by legislation. What we can do is to see that the legislation does not prevent, but rather is inclined to foster, the building up of these trade unions."

It was important that immigration and emigration should be kept in balance, assuming an economic slump in the Union. Large numbers of South Africans might seek to emigrate to the territories. If the latter's Government had no powers to restrict that flow, there might be an employment crisis in the territories.

MR. PAGE (Lab.): The Colonial Secretary's speech was more than others he had made. He (Mr. Page) thought it unwise to introduce federation now, but it was to be done one could only say that it would be done. It was illogical for Conservatives to argue that the opposition Socialists were being anti-British. In fact, the Labour Party was seeking to safeguard the retention of the territories by the Colonial Office, which had such a fine record. It was vitally important to define the Federal Government's powers clearly. If this were not done, as the area became more independent there would be increasing argument about its rights.

Rhodesia Buys British

ALTHOUGH SOUTHERN RHODESIA'S EXPORTS rose by nearly £1m. in the first quarter of this year, imports were down by almost £1.5m. Exports at £9.5m. compared with £8.6m. in the first quarter of 1952 and £7.8m. in the first quarter of 1951, imports, £9m., with £10.3m. and £10.8m. Lower prices for fute and other textile products account for much of the decline in import values, but less timber, cement, and fertilizers were bought. Imports from British Commonwealth territories nevertheless increased to the record level of £17m., 89% of the total (compared with 77% in the corresponding 1952 quarter).

General Erskine on Kenya Operations

Mr. Mathu's Appeal to Kikuyu

GENERAL SIR GEORGE ERSKINE, Commander-in-Chief in East Africa, on his return from a tour of the troubled areas of Kenya, said that he found everywhere enthusiasm to finish "this Mau Mau business." That feeling was particularly evident in the Kikuyu Reserve, where he had been greeted by the robust outlook of some of the loyal Kikuyu chiefs in spite of the unpleasantness of life during the emergency.

He held a Press conference that he had been assured by chiefs that loyalists were daily increasing in numbers and that the Mau Mau influence was declining. Nevertheless, General Erskine continued, the emergency was not nearly over, and the pace remained. Mau Mau must be discredited everywhere, so that it is no longer unfashionable.

His main plan for increasing pressure on the terrorists was to use three striking forces; more might be created if necessary. The first force would chiefly consist of infantry, a mobile brigade in the forest areas, where infantry were most effective. The second would be a mobile force of armoured cars and mobile infantry, and the third an air force to deal with prohibited areas. As areas were cleared, the responsibility would pass to the civil administration.

As deputy director of operations, Major-General Hinde would keep Government departments in touch with the operational situation in order that the necessary support might be assured. He would represent the G.O.C. in C. on Government committees. General Erskine would be free to supervise operations. Lieut-General Sir Alexander Cameron, as Deputy Commander-in-Chief, would be responsible for other military commitments in East Africa.

Criticisms of Security Forces

Referring to criticisms of the security forces, General Erskine said: "In carrying out our duties, the honour and good name of the security forces will be very much in my mind. By good discipline and common sense we shall do our duty, distressed as I may be. My officers know I shall not tolerate breaches of discipline, but also know I shall be solidly behind them as they carry out their duty. Anybody who has any complaints about the conduct of the security forces can bring them to me with their evidence. Otherwise I should be grateful if the public would trust me and my officers to do what as human and responsible people doing a most difficult job."

Mr. F. M. Mathu, Kikuyu leader of the African members of the Kenya Executive Council and a member of Executive Council, said that he wished in the troubled areas that the Kikuyu were now supporting law and order. He appealed to all members of the tribe to denounce Mau Mau, do all they could to discredit the movement, and support Government. Three things necessary to ensure success were denial of food to the terrorists, prompt supply of information, and safeguarding of arms and ammunition. He emphasized the need for Kikuyu guards to be adequately armed and properly trained "to shoot and shoot straight."

Greatly impressed with the courage and determination shown by the chiefs and the Kikuyu Guards, he believed that they knew they were going to win. He had seen the loss of life, property, businesses, and the good name of the Kikuyu, and he had seen the money needed for development used for the eradication of evil in their midst.

It is now stated that 150 terrorists were killed, 30 camps destroyed in Operation Epsom which started on June 7 and ended on June 17.

A fresh drive against the hard core of the terrorists was begun on June 18 with concerted attacks by 1,200 Kikuyu guards on camps in strong points held by the terrorists in the Aberdare Mountains. Support was given by British and African troops and aircraft of the Royal Air Force.

A patrol of the Kenya Regiment has killed seven members of a gang 20 miles west of Fort Hall, and wounded three others. The dead men were carrying strangulation ropes. Another patrol near Ruathia killed six gangsters and wounded three. Five terrorists captured by the Meru Guard were found to be carrying medical equipment and quantities of bhang.

A combined patrol killed 41 terrorists in the Tusu Valley. Private Charles G. O'Connell, 1st Buffs, has been admitted to

hospital with gunshot wounds in the abdomen. His home is in Kettlewell, Surrey. A gang leader, Kasim Gitchamburi, who was wanted by the police for murder, has been killed in the Ndaraga Forest by a forest ranger. Jacob Chel, a terrorist leader, has given himself up at Fort Hall. In another area an entire local committee of Mau Mau, including the chairman, treasurer, and other administrators, surrendered. A Mau Mau leader known as "General China" carried out a raid in the south Nyeri district, killing two Kikuyu Guards and a white man.

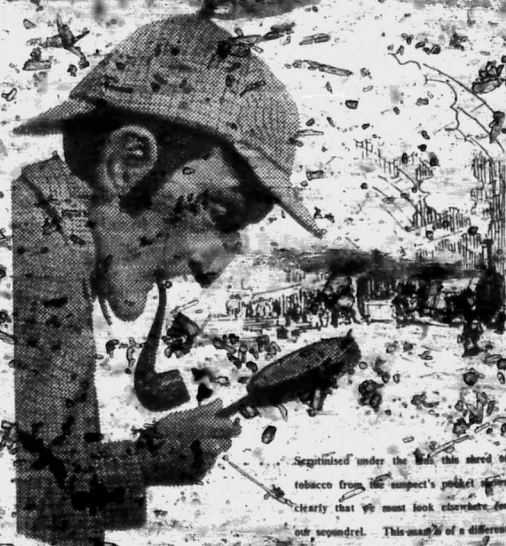
Raid by Terrorists

Three police-guarded posts were attacked in the Fort Hall district. One was burnt, but the occupants escaped. One man, two women, and two children were killed and 20 huts destroyed at the second post. Horses and cattle were taken, but the attack was repulsed. The attack on the third post was also repulsed after one hut had been burnt, four persons abducted, and cattle stolen. This raid showed unusual planning, as road-blocks were destroyed and road-blocks erected to hinder the arrival of reinforcements. Later reports indicate that the casualties were underestimated and that some 80 huts in all were destroyed.

Prisoners have given information of a "front" gang in the area. Prisoners have been taken to the forest areas. The coming of the rains has helped the terrorists. The wounded are taken to a forest hospital where medical attention is very crude. They are promised pensions of 40s. per month but none has been paid. Many of the wounded have died from gangrene and lack of nourishment. Pressures and methods are being used to obtain recruits. It is reported that many prisoners on parole have been deserting from their gangs and drifting back to their reserves. Some gangs have been sending their women and children home owing to food shortage. Prisoners confess to fear of the ruthlessness of Dedan Kimathi, the Mau Mau leader.

Mr. Peter Evans, a British barrister, who has been declared a prohibited immigrant in both Kenya and Tanganyika, was deported from Mombasa last week by the liner KAMPALA, which sailed for India.

A false trail to the hand



Recognised under the law, this brand of tobacco from the suspect's packet shows clearly that we must look elsewhere for our scoundrel. This man is of a different type; rich in wisdom, placid and discerning a most unshifty fellow. We say, after a while: 'Firstly, he is a pipe smoker, secondly, and more important still, he smokes your favourite brand and makes a habit of it.'



FAMOUS FOR MORE THAN SIXTY YEARS

Corona Club Dinner in London Reason of Colonial Service Members

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the Corona Club was held in London last week. Mr. OLIVER LYTTLETON, Secretary of State for the Colonies, and president of the club, was detained in the House of Commons and the EARL OF MUNSTER, Under-Secretary of State, presided.

The club had, he said, telegraphed to The Honourable Members of the Corona Club in London on behalf of the 43rd annual Colonial Service Dinner, beg leave in behalf of Your Majesty's Colonial Service to offer a renewed expression of our loyalty and devotion.

Those of us who have been privileged to share in the rejoicings which have attended Your Majesty's Coronation here in the heart of the Commonwealth, are well aware that these have been matched by equally warm manifestations of loyalty throughout all the territories in which we have the honour to serve.

The example of service which is set for us by Your Majesty and Your Majesty's family is an inspiration to us all, and encourages us in our determination to carry forward both with faith and faithfulness the work with which we have been entrusted.

The Queen's Speeches, and the message which you have sent on behalf of the members of the Corona Club assembled at the 43rd annual Colonial Service Dinner this evening—Please convey to them my gratitude for the assurance of their loyalty, and my desire to take the opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the devotedly give in my Colonial territories.

Lord Munster's Address

Lord Munster said that this was only the second occasion in the club's history in which the Secretary of State had not been able to attend the annual dinner, but that Mr. Lyttleton and Mrs. Hopkinson, the Minister of State, were unfortunately kept in the House of Commons on a highly controversial question. For the same reason Mr. Lyttleton's immediate predecessor, Mr.

Griffiths, could not attend. It was regarded as a controversial matter from the other side (laughter). Following his retirement from the appointment of Secretary of State, Sir Harold Downie had resigned the honorary treasurership of the club, but his successor, Sir George Herbert-Stooke, had agreed to undertake the duties.

Mr. Robertson, who had been seconded from Tanganyika to the Colonial Office, had taken the place of Mr. Winnington-Angram on the committee.

Mr. Stamford, who had been accountant to the club for 36 years, was retiring, and the members had great pleasure in wishing him farewell.

Two serving Governors were present that evening, Sir Edward Twining from Tanganyika and Sir Percy Wyn-Harris from the Gambia, his heart must have been stirred by the recollection of having been a member of two previous expeditions.

The Commonwealth and the Coronations

Representatives of every country in the Empire and Commonwealth had recently gathered in London for the coronation, and the people of these lands had appreciated perhaps for the first time in the lives of many of them, the great responsibilities for which they were trustees. The bearing of the Colonial armed forces at the coronation had made a great impression.

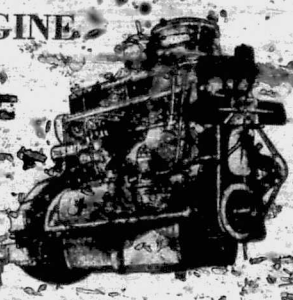
The Colonial Service had made a great contribution during the war and had greatly assisted post-war economic recovery. What had been done by the Colonial Service deserved to be far more widely known.

Last Chance

THE EAST AFRICAN DINNER in London is to be held on Tuesday night, June 30. Those who wish to attend but have not yet obtained tickets must therefore do so immediately if they are not to be disappointed. For members of the Corona Club and their guests the cost of the tickets is 5s. 6d. and for non-members 30s. Tickets may be obtained from Miss Young, c/o the East African Office, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2.

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PERSONALIA

Mrs. GERARD E. SAYERS has an oil painting in this year's Royal Academy.

SIR HERBERT STANLEY is outward-bound for the Cape in the VICTORIA CASTLE.

DR. T. O. ELIAS, Professor of Law at Manchester University is visiting Uganda.

GENERAL SIR FRANCIS WINGATE left personal effects in England and Scotland of £34,339.

THE CROWN PRINCE OF ETHIOPIA has left London for Addis Ababa after attending the Coronation.

Mrs. MAY COLEMAN, COLLETT DALE, M.P. for Epsom, has announced she will not stand again for Parliament.

ALDERMAN J. SPENCER, deputy chairman of the Finance Committee of the City Council of Nairobi, will shortly arrive in London.

Mrs. IS FLEETGER, R. Minister of the R. in W. Africa, will return to Kenya early in August.

MR. C. R. ANDERSON has been elected to the board of the M. Monteale, Ltd., in the place of Mr. B. E. CAMPBELL, who has resigned.

MR. J. R. WARBURG, chairman of the Royal Agricultural Society of Kenya at the Royal Show at Blackpool from July 7 to 10.

COLONEL A. H. DODDS-PARKER, M.P., was among the guests at an official luncheon given at the House of Lords last week for the CROWN PRINCE OF ETHIOPIA.

COLONEL M. ESFELL has been appointed magistrate to the juvenile court which is shortly to be constituted in Nairobi to deal with offenders under 18 years of age.

MR. SELWYN FEW, who has been appointed a resident magistrate in Uganda, served with the K.A.R. in the war. He is a brother of Mr. K. S. FEW, a Crown counsel in Kenya.

THE QUEEN MOTHER has graciously consented to be present at a garden party given by the Women's Corona Club in the grounds of Lambeth Palace.

MR. H. ARROWSMITH has been reappointed an independent member of the Raw Cottons Commission, and Messrs. N. COOPER and F. WOOD part-time members, all for one year.

MR. C. R. WESTLAKE, chairman of the Uganda Electricity Board, will leave London today by air for Kampala. He is likely to be back in this country in about three weeks' time.

MR. G. G. TAYLOR, presently employed by Richardson's, Ltd., in Bulawayo, and MR. BENJAMIN CHANGO MACHYO, of Uganda, have passed the preliminary examination of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

MR. G. A. CHAPMAN, manager-designate of the office at Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, which the Union-Castle Line will open later this year, will represent the company when the QUEEN MOTHER lays the foundation-stone of the Rhodesia University College in Salisbury on July 15.

LIEUT. COLONEL MADRICE W. BATCHELOR, chairman of Messrs. Batchelor Peas, Ltd., who recently moved East Africa, has been elected, president of the Advertising Clubs Conference which is to be held in Harrogate in September. He has been president of the Publicity Club of Sheffield for many years.

Colonial officials on leave from Kenya include MR. JUSTICE P. J. BOON, puisne judge, MR. K. M. COWLEY, Secretary for African Affairs, and SIR NEWHAM A. MORLEY, vice-president, Court of Appeal, from Tanganyika, SIR H. C. F. COX, Chief Justice, MR. C. E. FINEY, Secretary for Finance, and MR. J. H. WEBSTER, Administrator-General.

PROFESSOR W. G. STUBBS CLARK, F.R.S., who visited Kenya some time ago in connexion with the investigations of Dr. L. S. B. LEITCH, is appointed Upper Warden of the Salters' Company.

LIEUT. C. H. HANNAFORD, a C.O. of Rhodesian Sea Cadets who have been visiting England, and his party are on their way back in the Warwick, a motor in which CHIEF KEITH SECHELE also of the inland is accompanying them.

THE GOVERNMENT has made space at a Coronation appeal fund luncheon in Nairobi in support of an appeal by the Kenya Incurable Hospital Association for £20,000 for the completion of the new general hospital and the sister quarters at the Mata Casbury Nursing Home in Nairobi, and to establish a contingencies fund to meet opening expenses.

DR. PARRY JONES, managing director of Pest Control (Central Africa), Ltd., since its incorporation in 1946, has joined the board of the parent company, Pest Control, Ltd., as a full-time director. Four of the part-time directors, Messrs. J. H. BARRON, J. H. SCOTT, and A. V. WELLS, have resigned, and Mr. P. O'NEIL-DEANE has been appointed as general manager.

MR. GRAHAM HYSLOK, who recently joined the staff of the Jeanes School at Kabete, Kenya, has been absent from East Africa for nine years. In 1944 he went to the Middle East with East African troops, and two years later returned to England, where he was for some time warden of an international student club in London. In that and other connexions he was in close touch with overseas students at British universities.

SIR CHRISTOPHER COX is known throughout the British Empire, and in much wider fields, as an outstanding educationist. Now the *Kenya Bulletin* reveals him as the discoverer of a flowering new to Britain, *Artemisia norvegica*, which he found near Ilkley in Western Ross last year and two years previously. It was growing on the spur of a mountain about 2,400 feet high, and more than two miles from the nearest cottage. Previously the plant had been known only in one district of Norway and from the Ural.

DR. J. B. HUTCHINSON, who has been appointed chairman of the council of Makerere College, Uganda, is a fellow of the Royal Society, and in 1949 became director of the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation's research station at Nairulonge, Uganda. Educated at Ackworth and Bootham schools and St. John's College, Cambridge, he gained experience in genetics and botany in India and Trinidad before becoming chief geneticist to the E.C.G.C. in 1938. Dr. Hutchinson, who is 51, has written several papers on genetics.

WHEN SIR GODFREY BROOKS, Minister of Southern Rhodesia, attended a passing-out parade in Salisbury one Monday of the Kenya National Service Company (the third group of young men from Kenya who have completed six months' military training in Salisbury), he said that Rhodesians had great sympathy with Kenya in her present trials, and that "if necessary we are quite prepared to provide something more than sympathy." The Prime Minister added that it was essential for Europeans in Africa to be friends and stand together.

Obituary

LIEUT. COLONEL C. M. BOYS-HINDERER, who has died in Dar es Salaam, was an architect who had lived in East Africa for many years. At one time Director of Public Works in the Somaliland Protectorate, he retired to Eushoto in 1950.

Mrs. MARGARET CICIL FORBER, who has died in Nairobi, was the wife of Mr. Rudolph Francis Forber, and widow of Lionel Stewart Williams.

Political Parties in the Sudan Electoral Commission Criticized

THE PRESENT POSITION of the Sudan political parties is as follows:

National Unionist Party.—An amalgamation of all the parties which stand for some form of link between the Sudan and Egypt. The party comprises both factions of the Ashike (Azhari and Nur Ed Din), the National Front, the Unionists, the Liberal Unionists, and the Nile Valley parties. The policy is for self-government in union with Egypt, the exact form of government and relationship with Egypt to be decided later by the respective governments. The party includes Ismail el Azhari (president), Khidir Hamed (secretary), Mohammed Nur ed Din, Dardeiri Mohamed (a member of the Governor-General's commission), and Khalafalla Khalid (a member of the Electoral Commission).

The Umma Party (the People's Party).—Stands for complete independence. Its leading members include Sayed Siddik, Mahjoub, Sir Sayed Abdel Rahman Khalil (leader of the Legislative Assembly and Minister of Agriculture under the 1948 ordinance), Abdel Rahman Ali Taha (Minister of Education), Ali Bedi (Minister of Health), Ibrahim El Khattab (Minister of Khartoum University College and a member of the Governor-General's Commission), and Abdel El Salam El Khalifa (a member of the Electoral Commission).

Commonwealth Membership

The Sudan Party led by Mohammed Amin, stands for independence on a republican basis, to be followed by application for membership of the British Commonwealth of Nations.

The Socialist Republican Party calls for independence on a socialist republican basis. Its principal persons are Ibrahim Bedri, Zein el Zebdin Salah, Ahmed Ghabra, and Mohammed Ahmed Abu Sinn (a member of the Executive Council).

The National Party demands independence on a republican basis. It is led by El Sherif Abdel Rahman Yousif el Haddi, El Sherif Ibrahim, Yousef el Hindi, Mubia Mohamed Abdel Gadir, Dr. Abdel Ghabr Mishaal, and Salah el Din Mitwalli el Ghani.

It is not yet known whether each of the political parties will contest all the 30 elected seats in the Senate and the 97 seats in the House of Representatives, nor has any agreement been yet made by the four independence parties as to whether or not they will each contest the forthcoming elections, or whether they will agree on the contest in various constituencies being confined to representatives of one of their parties against candidates from the S.U.P.

Khalafalla Khalid has withdrawn from the Electoral Commission after his request for a ruling that tribal chiefs should either refrain from politics or resign their posts in the interest of free elections had been refused. Khalafalla Khalid has also refused the commission of coming under foreign influence.

Dr. Galal, Egyptian Minister of National Guidance, said later that the position of Anglo-Egyptian relations regarding the Sudan remained unchanged.

The Electoral Commission's decision on direct and indirect elections has been criticized by both the Umma Party and the N.U.P., both of which believe that direct elections could be held throughout the Northern Provinces. An S.R.P. representative has said that he could not understand the commission's selection.

A course on "Sociological and Economic Problems of Africa" is being organized by the Department of Extra-Mural Studies of the University of London, to be held from August 22 to September 5 at Wye College, near Ashington, Kent. Mr. G. W. B. Huntington, Lecturer in East African Languages and Culture at the Department of Oriental and African Studies, who was to have lectured in Kenya, and afterwards sociologist to the Government of that Colony, will conduct the course.

Statement by Chief Mwaase Samson Gomani Bound Over

CHIEF MWAASE, president of the Supreme Council which represents both the Nyasaland Council of Chiefs and the Nyasaland African National Congress, issued a statement last Saturday which asserted that "the Government is now creating everlasting hatred between white and black—a thing which was beyond our control and which should not have happened."


Mr. Chinsoga, president of the African National Congress, said on the same day that when the Elections Bill was passed through Parliament to authorize the creation of a Central African Federation, Africans in Nyasaland would cut down trees, cease supplying their cattle, and refuse to pay their taxes. Moreover, there would be a week-long strike, particularly affecting African civil servants.

Samson Gomani, son of Paramount Chief Gomani of Nyasaland, has been bound over for a year on recognisances on the occasion of the trial of his brother, Willard, who has also been convicted of obstructing the police, but has been acquitted of stealing the policeman's revolver. The charge of assault against Willard has not yet been heard. During the hearing a police officer of long experience said he had never seen passive resistance carried to such a limit as what another officer who had served in Nyasaland only two weeks earlier, told the court that African police had refused to make a baton charge when he had ordered them to do so. The suggestion that a film made by the Rev. Michael Scott should be produced as evidence was dropped when the counsel for the defence pointed out that this would involve the recalling of Mr. Scott to Nyasaland as a prosecution witness.

Police Inquiry

MR. S. J. BAKER, Receiver for the Metropolitan Police, has been appointed chairman of a committee appointed by the governor of Kenya to inquire into the organization, management, and expansion of the Kenya police force, together with the scope of its employment and its conditions of service, since January 1, 1945; (ii) to make recommendations for the future organization and administration of the force and its reserves with reference to recruitment, training, legislation covering the establishment and employment of the force, conditions of service, and in respect of these to have close regard to investigations at present being carried out by the East Africa salaries commission. The other members of the commission, which is expected to start work in early August, are Mr. W. A. Muller, inspector of the Colonial Police, and Mr. J. L. F. ... of the Colonial Office, as secretary.

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Parliament

Mr. Hale and Mr. Alport Clash
Slander Against Mr. Blundell Denied

MR. LESLIE HALE (Lab.) and Mrs. C. ALPORT (Cons.) were involved in a heated argument during the committee stage of the Rhodesia and Nyasaland Federation Bill in the House of Commons.

During his speech Mr. HALE referred briefly to native labour agreements at 3s. a week, some of them for workers employed in Kenya by Mr. Michael Blundell. When Mr. Lytton asked whether that reference was in order under the Bill being discussed, the Chairman ruled that Mr. Hale was in order in illustrating his argument about Native Labour.

MR. ALPORT, when he spoke later, said that he had already asked Mr. Hale whether the document affecting Mr. Blundell was a forgery, and now repeated the charge. Mr. Hale had he considered made an extremely slanderous statement about Mr. Blundell.

After the Chairman had suggested that Mr. Alport should change the subject, he was asked by MR. HALE: "Surely, having been stretched back to the Chamber and told that I am being asked to make a personal statement, it would not be unreasonable that I should be told the nature of the charge of slander."

After further discussion on points of order, MR. ALPORT said that the words which Mr. Hale had used, and which in his opinion were slanderous, were the reference to Mr. Blundell as a "slave master" or "slave driver" or "slaver."

Mr. Hale's Personal Statement

MR. HALE, alleging that that was false, then asked permission to make a personal statement, which was granted. His statement was as follows:

"I used in private or in public the words attributed to me in reference to Mr. Blundell. I have never done so in private or in public said a derogatory word about him. My relations with him in Kenya were perfectly friendly."

"During the debate on Kenya I produced a large number of employment agreements. I did not quote the names of the parties. When I had finished giving details of wages rates an interjection came from the other side of the House. An hon. member said in quite a friendly way: 'That must be an African employer—or he may have said, an Indian employer.'"

"I then said that the employer in those agreements was Mr. Michael Blundell, leader of the European members of Kenya. To the best of my recollection that is precisely what I said, and no more. At a later debate I certainly referred to the conditions of employment as 'slave conditions.' I said this was the nearest thing to slavery existing today throughout the world, and that I repeat."

"The documents which have been referred to were in fact produced to Mr. Blundell when he was here. He made no suggestion whatever that there was anything wrong with them. These are legal documents covering four foolscap pages, appended with the thumb-nails of the workers—because they cannot read—and bearing the rubber stamp and the signatures of the employers. Most of them are certified by the official representatives of the Kenya Government, and on the day it is to supersede these agreements."

"These documents have been produced to a number of Conservative members who asked to see them. They were handed out at a meeting which Mr. Blundell addressed, and he was questioned by one of my hon. friends about them. I observed, on the front page of the Daily Worker, a report of an interview in which a representative had questioned Mr. Blundell about these agreements immediately upon his arrival, and my name was given as having produced them. Mr. Blundell made the slightest suggestion that the documents were not authentic. Those are the facts."

THE TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: "The hon. member denies that he has produced another hon. member's name to accept his explanation. I was hoping that Mr. Alport would accept that point of view and withdraw what he had to say. I cannot compel him to do so, but I trust that he will."

MR. ALPORT: "In regard to the misconception which has been the whole way along that I accused Mr. Blundell of being a member of producing forgeries—that has never been true."

What I asked was whether he took steps to see that they were not forgeries before he produced them here. I am perfectly willing to accept his statement that, to the best of his knowledge and belief, the documents he produced were not forgeries. Nobody has denied that, but the Committee will remember that this incident goes back some two weeks or longer."

THE TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: "We cannot continue to argue it is the general wish of the Committee that Mr. Alport should accept the explanation given by Mr. Hale and withdraw his name."

MR. HALE: "Would it not be contrary to the traditions of the House for Mr. Alport to withdraw the charge of slanderous statement which he made against Mr. Alport?"

MR. ALPORT: "To be quite frank, my recollection differs from that of Mr. Hale as to the circumstances of the matter. If my recollection is wrong, I willingly withdraw what I said, and I am sure that if his recollection of this incident is wrong, he, on his side, will withdraw any allegations he has uttered against me or against Mr. Blundell."

MR. DUGDALE: "Has the hon. member withdrawn his charges or not?"

THE TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: "The hon. member said that he had withdrawn his charges."

HON. MEMBER: "No."

THE TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: "Order, I beg of you. The hon. member will accept the explanation that he said, with certain qualifications. The Committee should accept that."

Bushaland Report

At question time Mrs. E. WHITE asked what were the main recommendations of the mission under Mr. Arthur Baskell which has been investigating development in Bushaland, and when it was proposed to publish its report.

MR. JOHN FOSTER: "The mission's recommendations are long and detailed. Broadly, they concluded that prospects of cattle ranching in the Kalahari should be favourable, but that much further information, for example regarding the existence and distribution of adequate water supplies, is needed before any final decision can be reached whether development of the area is likely to be an economic proposition. They have, therefore, recommended a five-year period in which detailed information about all relevant factors could be obtained by practical experiment. It is hoped to publish the report shortly."

Mrs. WHITE: "Will the Government give an assurance that during the five-year period the fullest possible support will be given to experiments, both by way of staff and finance?"

MR. FOSTER: "We shall give what assistance we can. We are most grateful for the report and very enthusiastic about it. We shall have to consider what the conditions are at the time that support has to be given."

Chief Kavinga's Journey

MR. JOHN FOSTER (Lab.) asked why Chief Kavinga of Nyasaland was kept in a police station for a week preceding his departure for the Congo, and was taken direct from there to the aeroplane.

MR. FOSTER: "The hon. member has been misinformed. Chief Kavinga left his village two days before his departure for the Congo. He was unwilling to stay in Blantyre for fear of intimidation, to which many opponents of federation are now resorting, and he gratefully accepted accommodation for two nights in a vacant house at the Police Training School, Zomba. He was naturally provided with a Government car to take him to the airport, but there was no police escort."

MR. JOHNSON: "I have a letter from a European of the highest integrity whom I know personally, and if I show this letter to the Minister will he agree to think again about this matter and to speak to me in quite a different fashion?"

MR. LYTTON: "I am only too glad of any opportunity to talk to the hon. gentleman at any time on any subject, but I am afraid that any letters which he produces will not alter my opinion or what I have said, and I have all the time categorically refused and I can support them with documents if need be."

MR. F. BROCKWAY (Lab.) asked, and Mr. J. RANKIN (Lab.) asked on what grounds Chief Kavinga had been deposed in Nyasaland and the Rev. Mr. ... deported from that territory.

MR. LYTTON: "As regards Chief Kavinga, I have nothing to add to what I have said. The Government of Nyasaland is of the opinion that the Rev. Michael Scott's association with Chief Kavinga, who was engaged in unlawful activities, constituted a threat to security, and he was consequently declared a prohibited immigrant and deported."



FIRTH BROWN

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Steel Brothers' Report

STEEL BROTHERS AND CO. LTD. after providing £300,819 for taxation, earned a consolidated profit of £1,327 in the calendar year 1952, compared with £25,327 in the previous year. To the year's total income added £77,400 transferred from reserve at December 31, 1951, for possible loss on stocks. The benevolent trust fund provides £3,000 and revenue reserves £32,760, and £31,575 is written off properties and preliminary expenses. Interest on the preference shares required £64,577 and a dividend of 8% on the preferred ordinary stock £32,250, leaving £80,261 to be carried forward against £68,594 brought in.

The issued capital of the parent company consists of £1,000,000 in 7% cumulative first preference stock, £2m in 7 1/4% cumulative second preference stock, £750,000 in non-cumulative preferred ordinary stock, and £250,000 in deferred ordinary shares of 10s. each. The company has provided a revenue reserve of £450,000, a capital reserve of £4,285, revenue reserve of £450,000, and a bonus account of £320,277, and current liabilities of £3,514,314. Fixed assets are valued at £674,745, investments in subsidiary and associated companies at £2,792,200, and current assets at £666,440, including

the company has an interest in Messrs. A. Baumans and Co., Ltd. and has a subsidiary company working in Tanganyika.

The directors are Messrs. J. K. Michie (chairman and managing director), T. T. M. McNeil (deputy chairman), Sir John Muir (managing director), A. M. McGilvray (managers), and R. H. L. L. James. The secretary is Mr. E. A. H. John.

Extracts from the chairman's statement appears on another page.

So bad have been the prices obtained for Fort Jameson tobacco at the Salimata auctions that growers have discussed switching to dairy farming. This warning has been given by Mr. W. H. Wroth, president of the Northern Rhodesia Farmers Union, who added that "the thing had been on the air for several years." That Fort Jameson leaf was of poor standard seemed the only possible one.

Of Commercial Concern

A record number of European cattle, 10,000, were slaughtered in Southern Rhodesia last year, and numbered 56,383, nearly 5,000 more than the previous best annual total.

148 loans, excluding 132 flood loans, were made by the Northern Rhodesia Land Board. The net balance on the board's books rose from £192,582 to £342,641.

The annual session of the Association of Chambers of Commerce and Agriculture of Eastern Africa will be held in Nairobi on September 28 and 29.

Hesitation and time have now been placed on the open general licence list by the Imports Controller of Tanganyika.

The 82nd annual general meeting of the Empire Cotton Spinning Corporation will be held in Mwanza to night.

The new mill at Mtwara, Tanganyika, is now expected to be ready for use about the beginning of next year.

Nyasaland has now upwards of 18,500 acres under planting, with rather more than 14,000 acres in bearing.

Arabic gum output of the last year was about 36m. lb. compared with 38m. lb. in the previous year.

A factory for spinning and weaving imported jute is proposed in Kenya.

The National Bank of India has opened a branch in Mtwara, Tanganyika.

Dividends

Steel Brothers and Co., Ltd.—2s. per share on the deferred ordinary shares for 1952, payable out of capital profits and not subject to tax. For the previous year distributions totalling 3s. per share were similarly paid from capital profits.

African Land and Building Ltd.—17 1/2% (the same) on the ordinary shares for the year ended June 30, 1952. There is an additional 2 1/2% as previously.

Sakuzi Fibrelana Ltd.—20% on the ordinary shares for the year-ended February 28 last. Net profit was £76,456 less tax of £11,247. The sisal output was 1,406 (1,514) tons.

The African Manufacture Co., Ltd.—15% (the same) Net profit for 1952 was £50,333 (£85,662 after tax of £81,440 of £57,125).

James Finlay and Company Report

JAMES FINLAY AND COMPANY, LTD., earned a profit of £409,209 in the calendar year 1952, compared with £774,327 in the previous year. Taxation absorbs £285,000, interest on the preference shares amounts to £15,760, and dividends totalling 7% require £113,250, leaving £244,227 to be carried forward, against £49,018 brought in.

The issued capital consists of £500,000 in 7% cumulative preference stock and £3m. in ordinary stock. Capital reserves stand at £1,075,974, revenue reserves at £1,356,929, reserve for future taxation at £297,441, and current liabilities at £3,459,962. Fixed assets are valued at £1,893,445. Trade investments amount to £2,346,231 (market value £2,163,356), quoted investments at £1,397,731 (market value £1,500,387), and unquoted investments of £359,277 (market value £351,151), and current assets at £3,185,277, including £448,422 in cash.

The company's tea estates in Kenya are reported to have had a reasonably good year, but very severe drought has been experienced during the last few months. Though several members of the staff have been called upon to assist in an emergency, there has been no interruption in the work of the estates, which in 1952, the areas affected by Malaria and disturbances.

The directors are Mr. W. M. Muir (chairman), Sir G. Jones (deputy chairman), Messrs. E. Platt (managing director), M. McGilvray, D. D. Gathard, L. M. Muir, and Sir John Muir. The secretary is Mr. E. A. H. John.

The 44th annual general meeting will be held in Nairobi on July 9.

Extracts from the chairman's statement appears on another page.



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THE OX WAGON: It is only fitting that the ox wagon should be displayed on the South African coat of arms. For without this apparently primitive but wonderfully effective method of crossing difficult country the development of the Union might well have been immeasurably handicapped. Service both as beef cattle and draught animals, oxen were the mainstay of the early South African economy — and even in the Union of to-day they play a large part in transport and agriculture. The original trek wagons were surprisingly small when compared with those in use to-day, measuring only some twelve feet in length, but the same size as an English farm wagon which they greatly resemble.

Our branches in the Union of South Africa are particularly well placed to answer enquiries on trading conditions and local markets.

Please address your initial enquiries to our Intelligence Department.

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Mining

Selecting Dividend Report

SELECTION DIVIDEND, after providing £145,000 for taxation, earned a consolidated profit of £75,000 in the year ended March 31 last, compared with £100,000 in the previous year. Revenue reserves receive £152,000, and £200,000 dividends to outside shareholders receive £2,300,000. Dividends totalling £3,000 per unit on the ordinary stock, £5,000 on preference, £300,594 to be carried forward against £330,000 brought forward.

The issued capital of the company is £2,242,390 in blocks of units of 100. Share premium account stands at £3,000,000, revenue reserves at £1,250,594, reserve for future taxation at £202,000, debenture reserve at £99,000, and interest on £2,720,000. Interests on shares stand at £1,614,907, quoted investments at £742,000, unquoted investments at £10,000, interests in subsidiary companies at £21,000, and other assets at £2,228,130, including £2,193,701 in cash.

Beryllium Exploration

The company has large tracts in Northern Rhodesian copper mining. In Southern Rhodesia exploration work has continued on a beryllium-beryllium property held under option by its subsidiary company named B.M. Minerals (Private), Ltd. Good progress has been made with the investigation, but further work is a decision can be made regarding the exercise of the option. The directors are Messrs. A. Chester Beatty, Jnr. (chairman), T. H. Bradford (managing director), alternate directors, J. A. Durr, E. Fraenkel (alternate), V. G. Fradette, D. D. Harwin, L. H. Leach, R. D. Macdonald, R. M. Merton, R. L. Prain, C. F. S. Taylor, R. W. Taylor, and B. S. Taylor. The secretary is Mr. W. A. Radlett. The 20th annual general meeting will be held in London on July 1st.

Wankie Coal

THE ANGLO-AMERICAN CORPORATION, LTD. have been appointed London registrars and transfer agents to Wankie Colliery, Ltd. The transfer office is now at 11 Old Isary London, E.C.4.

Mining Personalia

MR. C. B. PENGILLY, M.A.S.T.M.M., has left the Tokwe mine, Selukwe, to take over the management of Ditsong Chrome Mines, Ltd., Darwendale, Southern Rhodesia. MR. F. GRAVE, M.I.M.S.M., has been appointed general manager of Nchanga Consolidated Copper Mines, Ltd. in Northern Rhodesia on leave in this country.

Diamond

SALES OF INDUSTRIAL DIAMONDS in the first five months of this year are valued at £5.7m. against £11.8m. in the corresponding period of 1952, but sales of gem stones are valued at about the same level as in 1952. Sir Ernest Oppenheimer told the annual general meeting of De Beers Consolidated Mines, Ltd., that some reduction in sales of both classes was to be expected.

Mining Dividends

PHOENIX PRINCE GOLD MINING CO., LTD.—5% (the same) Profit for the year ended March 31 last £15,739 (£8,835) after tax £1,700 (£16,000).
 UNION AND RHODESIAN MINING AND EXPLORATION CO., LTD.—Interim 6 1/2% less tax.
 ANGLO-AMERICAN INVESTMENTS TRUST, LTD.—5s. per share.

Copperbelt Conciliation

MR. N. C. A. FOLEY, chairman of committee to the Northern Rhodesian Government, has been appointed conciliator in the dispute between the copper mining companies and the Northern Rhodesian mine officials and salaried staff association over the association's claim for a general wage increase of 15% for its members.

Roan Antelope

ROAN ANTELOPE COPPER MINES, LTD., at an extraordinary general meeting last week approved a resolution to transfer the company's control to Northern Rhodesian Treasury possession was given in March.

Tanganyika Mineral Exports

MINERAL EXPORTS from Tanganyika in the first four months of this year were valued at £911,295, compared with £617,239 in the corresponding period of 1952. April exports were valued at £189,400.



THE EAST AFRICAN POWER & LIGHTING CO. LTD.
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DAR ES SALAAM & DISTRICT ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO. LTD.

Undertakings operated	1952	1953	Undertakings operated	1952	1953
Number of Consumers	1,904	11,073	Number of Consumers	11,073	47,324
Annual Consumption	14 million units	221 million units	Annual consumption	142 million units	56,951,110
Capital	£70,000	£845,000	Capital	£845,000	£6,951,110

THE EAST AFRICAN POWER AND LIGHTING CO. LTD., Electricity House, Harding Street, Nairobi, P.O. Box 491. Telegrams: "Electric".
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DAR ES SALAAM AND DISTRICT ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO. LTD., Dar es Salaam, P.O. Box 72. Telegrams: "Daresco".
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Company Report

The Forestal Land, Timber and Railway Company, Limited

Group Position Considerably Strengthened

Material Contribution to Prosperity of S. Africa, Rhodesia and Kenya

Mr. Gerald M. Erlanger's Review of Activities

THE FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE FORESTAL LANDS, TIMBER AND RAILWAYS COMPANY, Limited, was held on June 24 at the Chartered Assurance Corporation (Manbury) London, E.C.2, MR. GERALD M. ERLANGER (the chairman), presiding.

The secretary (Mr. M. Merrifield) read the report of the auditors.

The following is the review by Mr. Erlanger which had been circulated with the report and accounts for the year ended December 31, 1952:

"In my review last year I stated that owing to a serious recession in the tanning trade the results for 1951 could not be so successful as the record results for 1951. I am, therefore, gratified that the results of our stock subsidiaries do in fact show an improvement, though admittedly the profits of the Forestal Argentina have declined. The improvement is due to the sustained demand by the tanning trade for our wattle extracts during the latter half of the year.

Accounts

"There has been one material change in the balance sheet of the parent company, namely, the increase of £2,000,000 in the capital general reserve. This increase represents the amount by which holdings in subsidiaries have augmented, namely, the purchase of bonus shares issued by the Natal Tanning Extract Company, Limited, for shadowed in part in my last review.

"The consolidated accounts of the group best reveal the true position, and it is with these that I propose to deal.

"The issued capital of the group remains unaltered at £5,574,689, whereas capital reserves compared with December 31, 1951, are up by £1,085,000, principally accounted for by the aforementioned £2,000,000. Revenue reserves at £5,499,630 show a decrease of £196,000, being in the main that net portion of revenue general reserve which has been transferred to profit and loss account plus the amount transferred to complementary reserve for pensions. Schedule No. 3 to the accounts sets out in more detail the precise movements of reserves.

"The net results show that the total reserves of the group have, in the year under review, been augmented by £888,494 and stand at a total of £6,555,846 after providing for the dividends already paid and those recommended.

Improved Cash Position

"As to the assets of the group, the increase in the fixed assets of £562,000 to £8,351,576, and the increase in the excess of current assets over liabilities of £327,000 to £3,204,372, together account for the augmentation of the group reserves. This augmentation is substantially reflected in the improved cash position, the group cash, excluding debts, having risen by £696,221 to £1,594,626.

"This year we have shown plantations under fixed assets instead of current assets. They are relatively long-term investments and we think it more appropriate to regard them as fixed assets.

"In assessing the overall position, however, it must be borne in mind that your directors, as was the case in previous years, have not seemed to consolidate in the group accounts the balance sheet of the Forestal Argentina, the shares of which were purchased at their cost of £5,012,105.

Argentina

"The consolidated balance sheet of the Argentine group attributes by way of capital and reserves 143,000,000 pesos to this holding—an increase in the year of 8,000,000 pesos. These figures take no account of the present-day values of that company's principal asset, namely, 2,800,000 acres of land. Since the close of the year the board of the Argentine company has decided to capitalize 37,500,000 pesos of reserves by increasing their issued capital to 177,500,000 pesos.

"As regards the consolidated accounts, excluding the Argentine, it will be seen that the profit for the year, after taxation, which is practically unchanged, was £1,140,417, an increase over 1951 of £184,679, attributable principally to the increase in earned profit of £1,492,495 to £1,738,468 and increased profit on sale of investments of £92,865, against which need to be set certain minor increases in outgoings and decreases in securities. I am glad to state the provisions of the Finance Act, 1953, should relieve the company of any liability for excess profits levies.

Completion of Finance Plan

"The finance plan which my predecessor announced to you in 1949 reached its completion this year. We have been very fortunate in its execution. We have succeeded in financing the great bulk of the new capital expenditure in Africa out of the profits earned by the Natal Tanning Extract Company, Limited, during these years and at the same time the liquidity of the group has been much improved.

"The results before you, we believe, justify your board's policy of encouraging and developing the activities of the constituent companies of the group in South Africa, Rhodesia and Kenya, and we are conscious of having contributed materially to the prosperity of those sterling areas.

"In view of the considerably strengthened position of the group as already announced, it is your board's intention at an early date to capitalize reserves by way of a bonus issue of one ordinary stock unit for every four ordinary stock units of bearer shares held in order to bring into closer relationship the value earned and the value of the assets. The new stock units would be for the full dividend to be paid out of the earnings for the financial year 1953. The proposal is subject to

Treasury approval application for which has already been made.

"As to the current year, we must face the fact that the tanning trade is still experiencing a difficult time and only the most strenuous efforts will produce such good results as last year. Nevertheless, your directors feel confident, barring unforeseen circumstances, that the profit for 1952 will be sufficient to maintain the present rate of dividend on the increased ordinary capital.

"Now to deal in more detail with the activities of each constituent member company of the group.

Argentina

"As in past years, I feel that the best possible picture of the present situation and future prospects of our Argentine holdings can be conveyed by transcribing a translation of the pertinent part of the annual report of the chairman of La Forestal Argentina, presented at the annual general meeting of that company held on April 30.

"The substantial reduction in profits is principally due to the smaller tonnage exported and delivered locally, which totalled 41,000 tons, as against the previous year, but also to the fact that the results for 1951 included certain profits arising from the sale of our holding of shares in a subsidiary company. This reduction might have been greater still had it not been for a modification in the rates of exchange ruling for our exports which came into effect on October 14, 1952, together with a reduction in price differences payable to I.A.P.I. General expenses increased by \$4,081,474.07, but this increase was offset by a reduction in Argentine income and sales taxes.

"During the year under review production of quebracho extract amounted to 78,591 tons, as against 127,519 tons manufactured during 1951, or a reduction of 48,928 tons. The lower production was consequent upon our having to close down our Villa Guillermina factory, combined with the stoppage of our Villa Guillermina factory for a few months for general repairs. Our exports of quebracho extract amounted during the year to 83,743 tons, as compared with 124,670 tons exported during 1951, or a reduction of 40,927 tons. Local sales totalled 12,606 tons, or 764 tons less than during 1951.

"Stocks of quebracho extract amounted at the close of the year to 16,409 tons, as against 34,998 tons at the end of the previous year.

"At an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders held on June 23, 1952, it was decided to apply for permission to increase the company's authorized capital from \$75,000,000 to \$125,000,000 in order to have available the means whereby further working capital could be called upon when necessary to finance the carrying out of the company's present and future operations.

Prospects

"It is difficult to express an opinion as to the prospects for the present year. Although it is likely that costs of production of quebracho extract will show an increase as a result of the higher cost of wood and other general expenses, we do not expect, however, that they will be affected by increases in wages and salaries, as in accordance with ruling wage agreements such have been established for a period of two years ending on March 1, 1954.

"We do hope to continue to receive the benefit during the whole of this year, accruing from the higher rates of exchange in force as from October 14, 1952, which have already been referred to, and if during the remainder of the year sales are maintained at the same level as during the first quarter, we have every reason to

believe that the profits for 1952 will compare favourably with those for last year.

Southern Africa

"The price of wattle extract remained unchanged throughout the year, and I am pleased to advise that our South African subsidiary, the Natal Tanning Extract Company, Limited, earned a record profit. The tonnage of extract shipped and brought into the accounts was slightly greater than during the previous year.

"As mentioned in my review of last year, the demand for wattle products in company with that for other tanning materials fell away to some extent towards the beginning of 1952 as a result of adverse conditions in the tanning industry, brought about largely by the fall in the price of hides. Nevertheless, good sales were made, and the decrease in the demand from the regular markets was more than made good by the sale of a substantial tonnage of extract to the U.S.A. for stockpiling. Towards the end of the year conditions in the tanning industry showed an improving tendency, and although some uncertainty as to the future still prevails the outlook for more stable conditions appears to be more promising.

"The price of wattle continues to be competitive with that of the other vegetable tanning materials, and our South African subsidiary is, therefore, in a position to take advantage of any improvement in trade which may develop.

"The Natal Tanning Extract Company, Limited, continues to derive a very substantial proportion of its profit from wattle produced on its own estates, and I am pleased to advise that the revenue from the sale of timber, the improved prospects of which I made reference to last year, was greatly in excess of the previous year.

Southern Rhodesia

"The planting of the Rhodesian Wattle Company's estates was maintained in accordance with the scheduled rate of development up to December 31, 1952, 37,156 acres of the 50,000 acre programme had been established. Good weather conditions prevailed during the period under review and all plantings made excellent growth. Rising costs continue, particularly for food, stuffs, implements and implement parts, and these are reflected in plantation costs. Additionally, African wages have advanced considerably and the company has paid increased attention to the welfare of its employees by the provision of protective clothing and the issue of better balanced food rations.

"The expansion of private cultivation of wattle under the supervision and assistance of the company continued actively during the year. Nearly 1,000 acres of new land was added to acreage owned by farmers and others bringing the total up to 4,000 acres.

"The bulk storage shed portion of the Melsetter factory was completed during the year, and is being utilized for the storage of plant and machinery, three tenders of which have been received from the manufacturers. Materials for the erection of the balance of this factory are already on order and it is expected that erection will be commenced early in 1954. The erection of the Nyanga factory buildings will begin in 1955.

"After a short retirement from active participation in the affairs of the northern companies, we are pleased to welcome back to the board of the Rhodesian company Mr. C. W. Biggs, who brings with him a wealth of experience and knowledge of the wattle industry in Southern Africa.

"We regret to record the premature retirement, due

to "sons of all-India" of Mr. ... after 27 years' service with the African group of companies. Mr. Goble joined the Natal Tanning Extract Company, Limited, in 1926 and later transferred to the East African company, where he served as secretary-accountant for 14 years. He joined the Rhodesian company in 1948 and devoted his energies sparingly to the many problems with which a developing company is faced. We are glad to see that he has done and he carries with him his retirement but that wishes for his future.

The course of political events in Kenya during 1952 has been widely publicized and I am pleased to have the present opportunity of allaying any misgivings which shareholders may have experienced regarding the impact of civil disturbance upon the operations of the company, the East African Tanning Extract Company, Limited.

Approximately four-fifths of all the raw material processed by the company each year hitherto has been purchased in the Central Provinces districts which are the home of the disease. Nineteen hundred and fifty-two brought no change in this overall proportion and the striking fact that supplies of wattle bark were maintained at their previous level and delivered without incident provides adequate evidence of the vital part which this profitable cash crop plays in the tribal economy.

Staff on Active Service

The second half of the year inevitably brought administrative problems and, in particular, the declaration of the state of emergency in October, when a number of company members of the Kenya Regiment proceeded on active service. Further men were later made available for other arms of the Forces, while almost the entire remaining staff has been engaged throughout in part-time security duties. Altogether the company's contribution to the Services in various forms has been most praiseworthy. It is gratifying to record that, notwithstanding these difficulties, efficiency has been maintained, the upward trend in the company's trading profits has continued and the plantation development programme has proceeded as planned.

At December 31, 1952, 39,516 acres of plantations had been established in the Usain Gishu and Sotik districts. All requirements of field labour have been met and the housing and welfare schemes, which were outlined in my review a year ago have, as I say for myself recently, been advanced, a perceptible stage nearer full impemention. This enlightened policy must certainly have been responsible, at least in part, for an almost complete freedom from labour problems. The African retirement fund, designed for the encouragement and suitable recognition of long service among the company's employees, is now in being and is widely appreciated.

The exports of the Kenya wattle industry attained a record value slightly in excess of £1,750,000 for the year, of which almost 44% was earned in 1952 and I can state with conviction that recent and current events here in no way shaken the parent company's confidence in the future of this subsidiary and its increased importance in the economy of the Kenya.

African Visit

In the early part of this year I visited our three African companies and I wish to place on record my admiration for the experience and knowledge which so much was imparted to me by everything I saw and heard as to the loyal and efficient manner in which these enterprises

and staff in each territory are devoting themselves to their respective tasks. The Natal company is, of course, the longest established and fulfils its task with an easy rhythm though new ideas and techniques are constantly being applied and much effort spent on research and development.

The company's activities are the newest of the group and are situated in the eastern section of Southern Rhodesia. In the case of this company pioneering and breaking new ground is the main feature involving land clearance, road making, dwelling and factory building and planting on a considerable scale as well as evolving methods of pest control suitable to the districts. This company expects to produce its first crop of extract in the autumn of 1956.

The Kenya company's activities can best be described as half way between those of the Natal Rhodesia—in part established and running smoothly and in part developing and breaking new ground with its attendant problems. I have already referred to the special difficulties confronting this company due to civil disturbances.

I would not wish to close my comments without a special word of praise and admiration for all members of the staff of the East African Tanning Extract Company, Limited, and their families in the circumstances prevailing.

United Kingdom

Although the year has been one of many difficulties, The Calder and Mersey Extract Company, Limited, results have been satisfactory. Sales and deliveries have shown a decrease, which must be largely attributed to the recession which has unfortunately been experienced in the leather trade generally, but sales has been made with sales to other markets.

Much thought and attention has been given to improved methods of production, with a view to reducing costs wherever possible and some success has been experienced in this direction.

Building licences have been obtained and contracts already placed for the erection of new buildings and installation of new plant, with a view to producing products both of a vegetable and synthetic nature in liquid, solid and powder forms. This new plant is nearing completion. Much credit for this is due to responsible persons both at Ditton and the Central Laboratories, Harpenden.

Research Activities

The year under review has seen the research laboratory working as an organized unit to a much greater extent than was possible in the previous year when staff and equipment were being gradually built up. The newer members of the graduate staff have fitted in well with the general team and have done useful work, while the increase in the number of junior assistants has extended the amount of work done to an appreciable degree. From a long term view point, two very important developments have taken place during the year. Erection of the pilot plant has started and plans have been formulated for the extension of the Harpenden Laboratories as a whole.

It can fairly be claimed, too, since during 1952 the laboratory has acquired a sound reputation generally as a research centre, and this has been assisted by the publication of two further papers on the chemistry of the tannins as well as a lecture on tannin chemistry delivered by invitation at the Long Ashton Research

Station to a group representing a number of agricultural institutions of the United Kingdom from which reports and other documents were obtained. Their applications have been widely noted.

The possibilities of industrial development in tannins outside the leather field have been intensively examined and in conjunction with the sales department attempts have been made to open up new markets for quebracho and mimosa extract. Results of this approach are necessarily slow in arriving, but a large number of contacts have been made with the industry and a fair degree of interest has been expressed. This is especially so in the production of formaldehyde adhesives.

Preventing Corrosion of Iron

Contacts have also been made with individual organizations interested in the use of galvanization, textile impregnation and boiler treatments. At the end of the year the possibility is noted from a Department of Scientific and Industrial Research report of using tannins to prevent corrosion of iron and this is being followed in consultation with that department.

We believe that it is true to say that more solid work is being done with the use of our extracts in tannery practice has been carried out both in the experimental tannery and the analytical laboratory than ever before. This is partly due to normal and gradual expansion, and partly to the fact that the leather industry has been passing through an unusual period of competition has been fiercer and tanners have become more and more vitally interested in improving their plants and reducing the cost of their leather.

In the experimental tannery the application of new techniques employing concentrated liquors to more than 1000 hides has absorbed a great deal of effort and yielded very encouraging results. This new procedure does not only reduce drastically the time taken in tanning heavy leather, but also to simplify the production of reducing handling charges and working capital. Experiments in tanning light and medium weight skins and similar lines have been carried out and works scale trials in tanning sheep skins, cowhide, horse hides, and deer skins, in from two to three hours, have proved successful.

It will take some considerable time for these new developments to be fully explored, but we believe that they will eventually make an increasing contribution to the more economical production of good quality leather and the more effective use of our company's products.

Appreciation of Staffs' Efforts

Our thanks are due once again to the chairman and directors of the subsidiary companies at home and abroad (and also to the staffs in all the countries in which we operate, without whose keenness and efficiency these satisfactory results would not have been possible). I feel sure you would wish me to convey to them our sincere appreciation of their efforts.

The report and accounts were adopted and a final dividend of 9% (making 12% for the Year) was approved.

The retiring directors, the Hon. M. F. P. Lubbock and the Rt. Hon. Lord Glenconner, were re-elected, and the re-appointment of the auditors, Messrs. Deloitte, Plender, Griffiths and Co., having been fixed, the proceedings terminated.



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Dwa Plantations Limited

Results Affected by Fall in Sisal Prices

Terrorist Activities and African Labour Supplies in Kenya

Statement by Mr. S. R. Hogg, Chairman of the Company

THE THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF DWA PLANTATIONS LIMITED, was held at the Grosvenor House, Old Broad Street, London, E.C.2, on Tuesday, June 16, 1953.

Mr. S. R. Hogg, Chairman of the company, presided.

In his report on the operations of the company for the year ended December 31, 1952, the chairman said:

"Before I review the operations of the year 1952, I very much regret the death of our colleague, Mr. C. Holmes Brand. He had been ill for some months, and the board had accepted his nomination of Mr. Collet to act as his alternate, and in October, 1952, Mr. Collet was elected to the board to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Brand's death. A resolution will be put before you in the course of this meeting to confirm Mr. Collet's election."

Price Fluctuations

"When we met a year ago, I informed you that the price of No. 1 grade sisal had fallen by that time to £143 per ton, and that the tendency was for the price to fall further. I do not think anyone in the sisal industry at that time contemplated a serious fall, but by August, 1952, the price had dropped to £99 per ton for No. 1 grade. It did recover by October to £110, but by the end of the year it was down again to £99, and during 1953 the price has fluctuated between £96 and £97."

"The results of your company's operations in 1952 were naturally seriously affected by the severe fall in the price of sisal, and the profit for the year, after writing off £15,758 for maintenance of sisal trees and depreciation, and after paying £4,255 to the Kenya Government for export duty, amounted to £57,684, compared with £57,611 in 1951. Export duty was levied from January 1, 1952, at the rate of 5% on the f.o.b. value of shipments, but no duty was charged where the f.o.b. value was less than £110 per ton."

Dividends

"There is to be added to the year's profit of £33,684 the amount of £6,076 brought forward, and a sum of £7,000 being taxation provisions in respect of carried-over profits. The total available for appropriation is, therefore, £46,760, out of which the provision for taxation on current profits absorbs £17,664. A transfer of £10,000 to general reserve is recommended, the fixed 6% dividend has been paid on the preference shares, and a participating dividend of 10% is now to be paid on the preference shares."

"A dividend of 25%, absorbing £6,105 net, on the ordinary shares is recommended, and £10,054 remains to be carried forward. For the previous two years we have been able to pay 30% on the ordinary capital

and the lower dividend recommended for 1952 reflects the position created by the fall in prices in that year."

"In the balance-sheet general reserve now stands at £55,000 and provision equalization reserve shows a slight increase to £1,705."

"The loan account was increased during the year to its maximum of £50,000, but repayment was begun at the end of the year, and the amount outstanding, with accrued interest added, is shown in the balance-sheet as £36,883. The loan is to be repaid as to £15,000 in 1953 and at the rate of £1,100 per annum thereafter."

Mpira Development

"An additional item in the balance-sheet is that under the heading of deferred liabilities on purchases of land. This arises out of two transactions. Firstly, we applied for a lease of a further 1,016 acres to round off the Mpira area where we have been developing, and the lease was granted subject to the payment of a stand premium of £1,016, payable over 10 years. The first payment of £101 was made, and the balance is shown as a liability."

"Secondly, an estate of 6,000 acres, known by us as Chai Estate, which borders our property at Dwa, had reverted to Government on the expiry of a lease, and the estate was offered to tender, the Government intimating that a bid of less than £26,000 would be considered. About 2,000 acres had been planted with sisal, mostly new, and it was of the utmost importance to your company that the estate should not pass into other hands, mainly because a new owner would become a serious competitor for both labour and water supply. We had certain rights over the estate in 1950 and 1951, in which years we were able to obtain therefrom a substantial part of our total output. Much of the planted areas is nearer to our factory than any some of our own areas."

Lease of Chai Estate

"We tendered £28,000 for the estate, and after a long delay our tender was accepted, and we were granted a lease of the estate to run for 99 years from June, 1952. Of the purchase price £22,600 was paid immediately, and this has been paid. The balance of £5,400, included in the liabilities, is payable by annual instalments of £600."

"You will see that the value of the fixed assets has increased to £52,600 during the year 1952. This increase includes the cost of the purchase of Chai Estate, to which I have just referred, the further clearing and planting of new areas, and clearing of a further portion of the old areas, additions for African housing improvements, staff houses, and purchase of agricultural and other machinery and vehicles."

"A further 636 acres of the Mpira area were ploughed in readiness for planting, of which 111 acres

were planted early in 1952 and 75 acres in November. An additional block of about 1,400 acres of the Dwa old areas were burnt in October, 1952, and 131 acres of this block were cleared in November-December. The clearing of this block is continuing in the current year.

The directors' report sets out in detail the position of our planted areas as at March 31 last, and I need not take up your time in repeating the figures now. You will see that 1,663 acres of the immature areas were planted in 1950, and some of this will mature by the end of this year and the balance next year.

The period of immaturity depends of course on weather conditions, and you will have seen in the directors' report that rainfall in 1952 was very low, the total for the year being less than 12 inches, of which nearly 10 inches fell in October-December. The March-May rainfall was less than four inches, and as a result the growth of the new plants was retarded. Fortunately, the rainfall of nearly 10 inches in October-December was followed by a fall of over three inches in January of this year and by over seven inches in March-April.

Production Hopes

As the acreage of mature sisal rises we naturally expect that our outputs will increase, and it had been hoped that production in the current year would rise by 25% and next year by 50% over the 1952 output. Production, however, is entirely dependent upon the supply of African labour, as every single sisal leaf must be cut by hand, and only a percentage of our workers are capable of doing, or willing to do, this work.

The labour shortage has continued, but every effort is being made to increase the supply. Output for the first five months of this year has amounted to 468 tons, which is at an annual rate of 1,100 over 1,100 tons.

The continuance in Kenya of the activities of the terrorist organization within the Mau Mau tribe has contributed largely to the difficulties of obtaining labour. The removal of large numbers of Mau Mau employees from European farms and estates in the troubled areas has created a demand by employers in the Colony for labour from other tribes, from which we are accustomed to recruit our labour force, and we are therefore finding it much more difficult to recruit the numbers we need.

We have always had to depend very largely on labour recruited from the North of Kenya, and the normal period of engagement is eight months. Inducements are offered to the Africans to stay for a longer period, and this is partially successful, but the majority of the workers prefer to return home at the expiry of their contract.

At the moment the terrorist outrages are confined to that part of Kenya near to and north of Nairobi, whereas our estate lies some 130 miles south-east of Nairobi, in the locality of the Emba tribe, which so far has remained loyal to Government and has taken no part in the Mau Mau movement.

Kenya Call Up

Our European employees are subject to call up either by the military authorities or by the police, but so far the demands on their services have not been heavy. The authorities recognize that it is important for our staff to remain as far as possible on the estate, which is in an isolated area and far from any help should the area of trouble spread.

In the light of the position in the Colony, which is improving but still hazardous, it is impossible to give any estimates of the results of our operations for the

year 1953. At the present stage it is obvious that the profits for the current year must show a steady decline, and if the position is made more difficult by a shortage of labour, with a resulting fall in output, then again our results must be adversely affected.

I am most assured that the Board are watching this position and are taking all possible steps to maintain and increase the labour force on the estate, and to keep production costs down to a minimum.

Before I conclude I want to express the Board's appreciation of the loyal and conscientious services of the general manager, Mr. Bennett, and his staff. The development and construction work which has been undertaken, added to the tremendous task of keeping many thousands of acres of sisal free of weeds, and the many processes comprised in fibre production, has called for a maximum effort by the staff.

Tribute to Staff

All this has been carried out under the shadow of the terrible and revolting happenings which have occurred in the Colony, with the ever-present fear that the troubles might spread. I am sure you would wish me to send to Mr. Bennett an expression of your thanks to him and to the members of his staff.

Mr. Heley, the managing director, will be flying to the estate in a few weeks' time for his annual visit, and he will be able to convey to all concerned personally all that we and you must feel.

The report and accounts were adopted, and the proposed dividends on the preference and the ordinary shares were approved.

The retiring directors were elected, and the remuneration of the auditors was agreed.

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Brothers and Company, Limited

Mr. J. K. Michie Reviews World-Wide Activities

THE SIXTYSECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF STEEL BROTHERS AND COMPANY, LIMITED, was held on June 19 in London. Mr. J. K. Michie, Chairman and managing director, presiding. The following is an extract from his circulated statement:

"The accounts for the year 1952, so far as trading results are concerned, are even more disappointing than I expected when writing my last report, but fortunately other sources of revenue together with the provision for possible losses on stocks made ex 1951 profits to some extent restored the situation and we are left with a profit available for distribution of £139,825, as compared with £238,475 a year ago.

"Due to lack of purchasing power in certain countries, it was more difficult than in dear stocks trading remained very difficult throughout the year until December 31, 1952, in many cases stocks had to be written down to well below replacing costs.

Burma, India, and Pakistan

"Burma continues to prosper in a monetary sense by reason of the very high prices being received for her rice surplus, but there are signs that her policy of doling out supplies on a scarcity basis has its dangers. There is insufficient storage to carry the stocks now being held and the monsoon waits for no man.

"We have every sympathy with Burma's attempt to get the best possible prices for her rice, especially in view of her well-known internal difficulties.

"Nevertheless, I think it would have been in Burma's best interests to have followed the well-known system of selling the bulk of the rice crop in shipment in the early months of the year to ensure the condition of the rice on arrival at destination. Where there is dubiety about quality there is bound to be resistance to price, and this is becoming evident in many rice-consuming countries.

"Timber business in Burma is increasingly being done through the State Marketing Board while supplies of teak are running at about 20% of pre-war level.

"Coffee is another export now being channelled through a Government-sponsored agency and we invariably find this means a restriction of our business.

"In common with other markets Burma was a poor one for imported goods last year, textiles in particular, but this year, probably partly due to a considerable building programme financed by Government, the volume of business has markedly increased. One of our two major rubber estates still remains in the hands of an insurgent group.

"Our subsidiary Strand House, Limited, again had a very successful year and its increased accommodation is being fully used.

"1952 was a very difficult trading period, particularly in the goods which suffered heavy falls in price. Some recovery has since happened, and with a return of confidence in price levels.

"Our managing and selling agencies for the India Burma Petroleum Company, Limited, and Assam Sillimanite, Limited, as well as our food procurement agency for the Indian Tea Association remain our principal activities in India and their turnover was maintained.

"During the year there was a steady decline in purchasing power in India with a consequent fall in prices to levels well below either costs or replacing value and a severe drop in turnover.

"The reduction in turnover continues, and price levels have risen because of a drastic reduction in imports necessitated by the economic situation of the country.

We hope to get our due share of the available import licences based on our past performance.

"Hong Kong.—As expected, the world situation caused a severe drop in the volume of the trade of the Colony, particularly in the export business. At the moment our turnover is much curtailed and prospects are obscure, but Hong Kong has great resilience.

"Japan.—World conditions also affected this part of our business adversely.

"Siam.—Siam is a country which on the basis of its resources should be prosperous and a good market, but it has not been able to do so at this time, and our trading there is a difficult year.

"Ceylon.—Our subsidiary Messrs. C. S. & Co., Limited, had in the circumstances a satisfactory year, but in common with many other countries Ceylon found she had overspent her income and is going through a period of adjustment.

"Middle East.—Our associate company, Messrs. Pinney's (1948), Limited, have extended their activities in the area and generally their operations are yielding good results. We have through the medium of Messrs. Spinney's (1948), Limited, extended our interests in Iraq by acquiring a large part of the capital of Messrs. W. J. Coker and Company, Limited, and by taking a substantial interest in a new company named Rafidin Development, Limited. We expect soon to benefit from these increased activities.

"Canada.—Messrs. A. Baumann and Co., Ltd., had a successful year and our interest in the company has been slightly increased. Our Tanganyika timber company, I am glad to say, is now earning profits and its turnover will soon make a valuable contribution to our revenues.

"British Guiana.—Although still in the development stage British Guiana Timbers, Limited, progresses steadily towards its objective.

"Canada.—Towards the end of 1952 we acquired an 80% interest in the same producing company in Alberta which had not been fully developed, known as Lodge Lime Company, Limited. We are very hopeful that our initial venture into Canada will prove a success.

United Kingdom

"Messrs. Carbutt and Co. (1928), Limited, had a satisfactory year. Recently the rice trade in this country was freed from control as from July 31, by the prospect of taking over at a time when prices are at 'all time high' and out of line with other cereals is not a particularly encouraging one.

"MacIntagart and Evans, Limited, I regret again made a loss, but the volume of work is expanding.

"Oil prospecting in Lancashire.—We are drilling at Croxeth in April last and as I write are approaching a depth of 2,500 feet. The interesting data we expect will be little lower down.

Prospects for 1953

"Prospects for this year are governed by many imponderables largely out of our control, but although trading is going to be difficult and margins small we welcome the slow but steady movement in this country towards freeing trade and commodity markets.

"Unfortunately, there is not yet discernible a complementary tendency in certain countries of origin without which it is going to be very difficult to give the service and standards of quality for which London markets stood in the past. It is to be hoped that even if through force of circumstances things will move that way.

"I look forward to a moderately successful year. The report was adopted.

James Finlay & Company, Limited

Statement by the Chairman, Mr. W. H. Marr

THE FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF JAMES FINLAY AND COMPANY, LTD. will be held in Glasgow on July 9. The following extracts are taken from the statement of the chairman, Mr. W. H. MARR, circulated to shareholders with the report and accounts for the year ended December 31, 1952:

Accounts.—Our expectations a year ago would be less favourable than 1951 have, unfortunately, proved to be correct and, as will be seen from the accounts, the profit at £409,209, is less than that for the year ended December 31, 1951, of £62,112. The fall in our dividend is £88,231 of this reduction, but the chief reason for the drop in profit is the loss made by our cotton works at Catrine and Deanston, and to this I make further reference elsewhere in this statement. In view of the reduced profit I do not propose to declare a further interim dividend of more than 4% making 7% for the year.

Tea Crisis

Tea.—During 1952 the tea producing industry experienced a crisis—more severe in some ways than those which have been suffered in the past but, fortunately, of shorter duration. The root of the trouble probably goes back to 1946-47 when Indonesia was again not to produce and export tea and the maintenance thereby of such growers of the policy of greater production—which was so necessary during the war years when tea was in short supply. To be fair to Indian growers however, it is necessary to state that it was in an effort to meet ever rising costs of production that they deliberately increased output.

The overproduction, or, in some cases, overproduction was aggravated by a glut in the United Kingdom, and looking back, it seems probable that much of the losses sustained during 1952 might have been avoided if control had been removed from tea in the spring rather than in the autumn of last year. Early in 1952 it was obvious that the end of rationing was in sight, and the progressive increase in the United Kingdom domestic ration, and the lifting of the control on purchases by blenders and distributors in the spring enabled customers, stockists and the whole trade to have ample supplies of tea in hand when decontrol took effect on October 5 last.

With the cessation of bulk buying by the Ministry of Food, tea growers were faced with the very serious problem of finding finance, and with no more than pre-war working capital available to them they had to finance crops which were costing fully three times the pre-war figure. Banks who had granted advances against the hypothecation of crops became concerned, and, because of the necessity to arrange finance for season 1953, very large quantities of the 1952 crop had to be sold at almost give-away prices.

Market Improves

Fortunately the market began to improve early this year when the distributing trade realized the true stock position, and the late 1952 production is being sold at satisfactory prices, so that the results for season 1952—although unacceptably poor—are much better than seemed probable a few months ago. It must be appreciated, however, that the present level of prices has to be considered as applying to 1952 teas from North India and early 1953 teas from South India and Ceylon.

The great weight of the North India 1953 crop will not come on to the market until September-October,

and it is the level of prices ruling then and hereafter, which will determine the results for season 1953. It has not been possible to effect material reduction in working costs and some of these which have been made are, unfortunately, at the expense of the full maintenance of the estates' buildings and plant. Part of the reason for the great increase in production costs in India has been the expense of supplying foodstuffs to the estate labour force and it was, therefore, a matter of great satisfaction to all interested in that country to learn from a recent announcement by the Indian Deputy Minister of Food that imports of food grains this year were expected to amount to only 2,500,000 tons. If this proves to be all the foreign food that India needs this year, it will represent a reduction of more than one-third compared with the previous year.

Pakistan Export Duty Cancelled

The districts which were most affected in 1952 were the Dooars, Darjeeling, Cachar and Pakistan—the last being aggravated by the fact that the Pakistan rupee was not devalued in 1949. The Government of Pakistan reduced the export duty on tea by one anna per lb. early in 1952 and later cancelled the duty entirely, and in the Budget statement for the current fiscal year it was intimated that it will not be reimposed during this financial year.

It is too early yet to make a forecast as to the results for 1953, but I think it has been general realization in this country that the price to be paid by consumers falls below the cost of production, that many estates will go out of existence and there may not be adequate supplies. I think also it is realized that the chance of any substantial reduction in production costs is extremely remote. There has been general agreement amongst growers in India to restrict output during the current year by about 22%, and although the International Tea Committee have announced that the export quota is not to be reduced from 135% of standard exports, at least until July when the matter will be reviewed, the Government of India has intimated it will meanwhile only issue export quota on the basis of 100% of standard exports, though this decision is also subject to review.

Nairobi Branch Opened

Kenya.—We opened a branch in Nairobi in December, 1951, and, while the main interest in that office meantime is the management of our tea interests, we have a share in a valuable Kenya business, and we have secured for our office a few agencies and hope others will follow. It will be a few years, however, before the Kenya venture can be said to be yielding any direct return to the company.

Despite the unfavourable results of the Indian and Ceylon tea estates, I am glad to report that the African Highlands Produce Company, Limited, had a reasonably good year, but the board decided again to conserve the profits for the development which is in hand. Kenya, however, has experienced during the past few months a very severe drought and, as a result, it is probable that the tea crop for this year will be considerably less than we had expected. Fortunately, that company's tea properties in Kenya are outwith the area which has been affected by the Mau Mau disturbances and, while several of the company's staff have been called upon for military and police duties, there has been no interruption of work on the estates.

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