

EAST-AFRICA AND RHODESIA

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MATTERS OF MOMENT

THE BATTLE FOR AFRICA, which the whole world expected Italy to begin, has been brilliantly opened by the British under the command of Sir Archibald Wavell. Baffled three months ago in his plans for

The Battle For Africa, Hitler determined upon a winter campaign in Africa, using Graziani's large and well-equipped forces for the eastern thrust against Egypt, the almost equally numerous Italian armies in East Africa for a simultaneous onslaught on the Sudan, and a mixture of bribery and threats to induce General Franco either to join the Axis and share actively in an attack upon Gibraltar, or at any rate to participate passively by permitting the passage of German troops through Spain for that purpose. So cocksure were the braggarts to whom Germany and Italy have entrusted their destinies that when France collapsed the Nazi and Fascist newspapers, which publish only what they are ordered to do, wrote openly of these plans, gleefully emphasising that the one point at issue was *when*, not the date on which it would please the Dictators to occupy Egypt and the Sudan, as a first stage to the establishment of "the New Order" in Africa.

It may now be admitted that no nation by the enemy six months ago would have con-

fronted the British forces in North and East Africa with desperate dangers. It is nothing short of providential that the

The Empire Wars in the Middle East. circumstances of our position were not then exploited, for cir-

cumstances did not permit their immediate repair. Meantime, however, while Hitler's aerial hordes have been swept out of British skies during the hours of daylight, the steady and strong reinforcement of our armies, navy and air forces in the Middle East has continued mainly through the Mediterranean, which Mussolini bemusedly regarded as his own lake. Within half a year the position has been so amazingly transformed that the initiative has passed from the full numerically superior and excellently armed legions under Graziani, the Butcher of Libya and the haughty first Viceroy of Ethiopia, to the Imperial forces which have guarded the Western Desert and the Italians in East Africa, who have still greater advantages in numbers and in armament, have simultaneously been harried on the Sudan borders. The Empire is truly at war in Africa today in all its strength and variety. First-class troops from Great Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India, South Africa, Rhodesia, East Africa, and other parts of the Colonial Empire are engaged in these operations, which are of prime importance from the general African standpoint, and, indeed, from that of the prosecution of the war as a whole.

A letter beginning to the discussion of Italian power in Africa could possibly have been made, and splendid arguments still greater achievements are to be seen in the skillful strategy and tactics

Mussolini Has Been Served by His Commanders in the Procrastination

of senior and junior magnificient co-ordination of the efforts of the services, and in the perfect timing of this master stroke against Libya while the Italians are retreating in Albania and dismayed by the loss of their battle fleet and of their chief military and naval leaders. It is not too much to say that the defeat to Egypt, most serious for months, has disappeared, and that the Italians

in East Africa have likewise finally lost their chance of conducting a real attack offensively. His procrastination has served Mussolini ill and the British Empire correspondingly well. Now, more than ever, the great need of ours is to focus in the enemy as often as hard, and as many places as possible, throughout which his influence is weak, so that our armaments can be brought to suffice him. At no sum in almost the world—except the British Empire—is it regarded that Empire as doomed. Now all free nations, and many that are not free, know that it is the name of Marxism and anti-Christ, led by Hitler, Mussolini and their confederates, which will be broken.

Heavy Raids on Italian East Africa

Increased Activity of Our Aircraft and Mechanised Patrols

WHILE ALL EYES have been focused on the brilliant successes of British and Commonwealth forces in the Desert of Egypt, the Italians in East Africa have also been ceaselessly hammered by the R.A.F., harassed by mechanised patrols, and reminded of the power of the Navy.

The communiques of the past week tell part of the story.

December 10.—Aircraft of a Rhodesian squadron were officially stated to have attacked a defended post on north-east of Kassala and done considerable damage. Other aircraft of the same squadron raided enemy troop and motor transport concentrations near Afitt, on the Chawn-Gondar road, south-east of Massawa. There were many casualties among the enemy troops, and considerable damage was done to motor transport.

The Italian communiqué said: "The enemy made a raid in the Tessenei zone with a small contingent, using mechanised units and motor lorries. The British officer in command lost his life, and other heavy losses were inflicted on the contingent. The Italian force, consisting of half a company, are reported as having 'noticed that the enemy was flying over' and promptly intervening." Their losses were one officer and some *askari* wounded. Enemy air raids on Assab and along the Jibuti railway caused no damage of importance.

Damage to Railway and Port

December 11.—A statement issued in Aden said: "Serious damage is believed to have been done to the Aden-Jibuti railway when the R.A.F. from Aden bombed Difedawa station, near the French Somaliland frontier, on Sunday. The station buildings, as well as the track, were seen to have been hit." Bombs were also dropped on Assab, which, according to photographs, was severely damaged in last night's heavy bombardment.

December 12.—A communiqué from G.H.Q., Cairo, stated that in the afternoon patrols continued successfully to harry the enemy, while a statement disclosed the following day:

British naval units have been bombing the port of Kismayu in the late afternoon, inflicting heavy damage. The enemy's coastal batteries replied ineffectually to our fire.

December 13.—The G.H.Q., Cairo, communiqué said: "All along the Sudan frontier our patrols continue to harass the enemy, and to inflict casualties upon him."

The B.P. reported that rebel activity in Italian East Africa, including Abyssinia, is on the increase.

Enemy Aircraft Destroyed

The R.A.F. command in the Middle East announced on December 11, by summary of the South African Air Force, that three-engined enemy bomber received a direct hit and exploded, and two others were set on fire. Three other Caproni aircraft received extensive damage.

Aircraft of a Rhodesian squadron co-operating with R.A.F. bombers carried out raids on the enemy camp at Gubbe. Many huts were destroyed by direct hits and large fires were started, which were seen 40 miles from the target. One of our aircraft reported that three-quarters of the camp was set on fire, and that the flames were spreading rapidly.

Major transport workshops were attacked at Laggarre, near Dire Dawa, where two large sheds were bombed and set on fire.

Enemy aircraft raided Tura Registan, causing some damage. One enemy aircraft was last seen flying low in flames.

Rome claimed: "There was activity on the part of our patrols on the Sudan border. These patrols, with the aid of the Italian air force, inflicted losses on enemy mechanised units. An enemy aircraft was shot down in flames."

December 14.—Our harassing activities on the Sudan frontier continued unabated, in view of an official statement issued in Cairo.

Caproni Workshops Damaged

According to the Royal Air Force communiqué from Cairo, the aerodrome at Gura, the pumping station at Difedawa, transport of Massawa, and the Caproni workshops at Ma' Adaga, were bombed, the last receiving direct hits.

The Indians announced: Rome:

"On the Sudanese frontier there has been a series of attacks on patrols and artillery. One aircraft has strafed an enemy armoured car putting it out of action. The patrols bombed and strafed a supply column. An Italian bomber in fighter formation carried out an attack from a low altitude on the aerodrome at Goz Beida, setting fire to five aircraft parked out in the open."

During the action that part of the formation was forced to land in enemy territory on account of damage to the machine. One of the Italian aircraft landed by the side of his machine, got out and aborded and miraculously made off without being shot to his base.

Aerodromes and Depots Bombed

December 16.—The R.A.F. communiqué stated that last night, after it was made known that bombs had fallen on an aerodrome, four aircraft and heavy aircraft parked at some distance from the aerodrome, Zula, Gondor, Assab and Bahadur were also found secured were buried among buildings in the barracks area. The aerodrome at Gondor was heavily bombed and large fires were started in the nearby camp, while at Bahadur bombs fell well in the target area. The full extent of the damage was not observed.

Rome admitted "some damage to oil tanks" during the raid on Assab.

G.H.Q., Cairo announced that "so far in the frontier our patrols had another successful day."

December 17.—G.H.Q., Cairo announced: "In the Northern Frontier District of Kenya the cessation of the rainy period has enabled us to restart offensive patrolling on a considerable scale."

The R.A.F. communiqué said: "On 14 and 15th December, we raided during the night of December 14-15. At 0400 hours we registered on a building which was demolished by subsequent explosions, and a fire was started which was seen 5 miles away. Enemy fighters attempted our bombers, one of which was damaged but managed to get back. At Asmara a factory and a transport truck were bombed and a small fire caused among the transport. Enemy bombers raided Port Sudan four times, but no damage was caused to R.A.F. property or personnel."

Last week South African aircraft shot down a German bomber which was singled out as the lead of an Italian flight on its way to Burao. It was attacked from the stern, then from ahead, and then from below the rear. After a couple of bursts of machine gun fire, flames burst over and crashed to earth. The Italian crew baled out. One had died of burns before landing, and the other was seriously injured and taken prisoner. All the remaining bombers of the Italian flight escaped, though clouds, and are believed to have been damaged. British aircraft suffered no damage.

"Gallantry of Africans"

Brigadier S. S. Butler, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Inspector-General of the Royal West African Frontier Force from 1926 to 1930, who recently paid a flying visit to Kenya from the Gold Coast, said in the course of a broadcast talk made from the Accra station on his return:

"One of our aeroplanes crashed and burst into flames. This happened not far from a post occupied by a platoon of the Gold Coast Regiment. Pte. Sgt. E. B. Miles and Cpl. Mumuni Dagarti dashed towards the blazing machine to endeavour to rescue the pilot. Twice they tried to get through the flames to the pilot, and twice they were driven back by the heat, suffering burns in their gallant attempt.

When Lt. Aniah Frafra dashed straight into the flames, and with his bare hands, tore away the burning fabric and pulled out the pilot, who had been trapped beneath the machine, and would certainly have been scalded to death if it had not been for this very gallant act. Not content with saving the life of the pilot, one of these two men went back to the machine and retrieved a light automatic rifle entangled in the wreckage. All three men received burns, and the pilot, who is now back on the way to recovery, is the comrade of Sgt. Aniah Frafra. His gallantry is especially meritorious, for by the time he dashed into the flames the ammunition carried by the blazing machine was exploding in a terrific manner."

The broadcaster added that the Gold Coast Brigadier, the honour of the Empire to initiate a Royal Spitfire Fund, had recently raised the £10,000 mark. The first contribution was Italian money captured on the Kenya-Ethiopian frontier.

Sustained Awards and Promotions

Wentzio Masetti, a well-known Italian colonial commander, who was killed in the first day's fighting in the Western Desert in Egypt last week, commanded a column in Ethiopia during Italy's war of aggression.

Captain D. J. McCrea, R.A.C., a coffee planter, is a prisoner in Italian hands. He was captured during the Somaliland campaign, and had previously been reported missing, believed killed.

Sergeant H. A. D'Avray, R.A.C., was reported missing, believed killed in Somaliland. He was known to be a prisoner in Italian hands, and was serving with the Northern Rhodesia Regiment when captured.

Further awards to members of the South African Air Force have been announced in Nairobi.

The D.F.C. has been awarded to Lieutenant Armstrong, R.A.C., at D.F.M. to Air Corporal Sewell for his gallantry and photography of about 1,000 vehicles at El Obeid, which resulted in a successful raid later. Lieutenant Armstrong had been killed in a raid on Socotramana before his decoration was made known. He and his gunner baled out, but he died before reaching the ground. Corporal Sewell was one of a group of four South African airmen who were lost for eight days in the Northern Frontier desert.

Major Martin, another South African airman, has received the D.F.C. for a series of successful raids on Abyssinia.

Marshal A. W. Tedder, who last week took up his new duties as deputy to the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief in the Middle East, served in Egypt during the last war.

Acting Vice-Admiral H. D. Pridham-Wippell, who has been promoted Second-in-Command of the Mediterranean Fleet, commanded H.M.S. *ENTERPRISE* when in 1928, at the time of the serious illness of King George V, carried the then Prince of Wales from his record speed of 30 m.p.h. to Durban to see him.

Major General Sir Alan Brooke, now C.O.C. in East Africa, formerly commanded anti-aircraft defences in Great Britain, and was largely concerned in arranging the balloon barrage.

Australians Training in Rhodesia

The first draft of Australian airmen to be trained in Southern Rhodesia reached the Colony recently, and they are to be followed by further contingents at regular intervals.

What Better Christmas Gift**"Than 'E.A. & R.'?"**

Anybody residing or serving in East Africa or Rhodesia would immensely appreciate the gift of an annual subscription to the paper at a time when there is a general yearning for up-to-date news from home.

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Lord Lloyd on Livingstone

Memorial Address in Edinburgh

ORD LLOYD, Secretary of State for the Colonies, paid tribute to David Livingstone at a meeting held in Edinburgh last week to commemorate the centenary of the great missionary's departure for Africa in 1841.

"Livingstone is one of the great spirits whose life, work and vision are for all generations," he said. "Like Shakspeare, he was a man of infinite ambition; like Leonardo da Vinci, a man of infinite intellect; like Beethoven, he made a contribution to human rights which will never be forgotten; and his influence will always be increased afresh by each generation, with a sense of the past. His was in truth a universal spirit."

Scenes of the Missionary Life

"Life or death his goal was; no power and energy, livingstone does not know in many categories. For a medical missionary he devoted what appeared to many of his contemporaries a large proportion of his energies to exploration; for an explorer of his outstanding abilities he was guided by religious and humanitarian motives not necessarily prominent in the pure geographer."

"Small wonder that his colleagues sometimes found him extremely difficult to get along with! They did not know that they were dealing with one of the great spirits of the century. Nor, rather, it is the first genius that he was dealing with them, sparing no pains little as himself, seldom seeking counsel, driving on with elemental force towards an end which no sooner seemed to define, and which, indeed, only gradually revealed itself in his own mind. Criticism and misrepresentation wounded him, but they did not deter him from carrying his chosen task. It was an unconquerable spirit in an all but conquered body that refused Stanley's persuasions to leave Africa with him—an epic piece of self-discipline and unselfishness which has few equals, possibly."

Another genius shore of him was the clarity and conviction of his insights into Africa. Never, in his blackest and weariest hours had he the slightest doubt that the dark Africa for which he had so laboured would one day emerge into the light."

What Would Livingstone Say Today?

What would Livingstone say to the conditions and convulsions of today? His own words may afford some clue. In 1854 he writing the mouth of the Zambezi on that historic journey across Africa from West to East. The vision of the missionary is expanding in the widening horizon of the world. He is already thinking in terms of Africa as a whole and of Africa's future, and always the zeal of the geographer is subordinated to the evangelizing purpose of the missionary. Writing to the president of the Royal Geographical Society, he said:

"...I have had in relation to my coming the end of the world, and fear is now the dominating of the world. We are again engaged in much the same old strife—struggles, strengthenings and mechanisms, labouring to make men better acquainted with each other; sanitary reformers, prison reformers, promoters of rugged schools and rugged expeditions, soldiers fighting for right against oppression and slavery, rescuing captives in dead combat as well as missionaries, are all aiding in hastening the glorious consummation to all God's deal-

"...with our race."

...a year later he said to a distinguished audience at the University of Cambridge: "I beg to direct your attention to Africa. I know that in a few years I shall be cut off in that country, which is now open; do not let it be shut again. Let me go back to Africa to try to make

an open path for commerce and Christianity; do you carry out the work I have begun. I leave it with you. The challenge was direct and unmistakable."

Sixty-five years ago, Mr. Gladstone, in a State paper to the Colonies, now ask you to join him in exploring the response that conditions of 1940 require of us and make possible!"

Commerce and Christianity vs Co-operation

"We are looking forward to the time when the East African Dependencies will find themselves equipped with the first born of the Colonial Air and Universities to serve the growing cultural and educational needs. But to ask how such thing as an East African university can be possible, the answer can be given in Livingstone's own words: by the cooperative action of commerce and Christianity."

"Africa is a co-operative unit in a world economy, a system which is giving the Africans a full share of the benefits of enlightened co-operation and enabling Christianity itself to bear a richer fruit. Co-operation in the increase of the world's wealth is becoming more and more that in Africans themselves, and those who know Africa best can testify how powerful is the stimulus to the economic urge to advance in other fields."

"Today we have further testimony of the common citizenship in the valuable help we are receiving towards our war struggle. Often in competition with the slender resources of the donors, the gifts are truly magnificent. It is of a quality that may put some of us to shame."

After referring to the financial assistance which Great Britain is giving towards colonial development, Lord Lloyd said:

"The picture of a world-wide community, including more than just a political system, is taking shape. Many difficulties have to be surmounted, prejudice overcome, and much bad will done away with. Progress cannot be made without sacrifice. The sentimentalities that disuse itself as idealism and is really no better than indifference, and the cynicism that sees itself in realism and its just irresponsibility are not capable with which to face such an enterprise."

The Need for Self Examination

"Livingstone's letters are a constant reminder of a ceaseless self-examination, and that too we have to follow him in the constant cause of the cause of which he was so great a proponent—a field which is so much white and richer as the result of his labours, let us continue his mission with a blend of sense and sanctity, so peculiarly suited which he exercised so well in his direct juxtaposition of commerce and Christianity."

The Archbishop of Canterbury and Lord Cranborne, Secretary of State for the Colonies, spoke of the effect of Livingstone's influence on present-day British Colonial policy at a commemoration meeting held in Livingstone House, London. While the Primate said that Livingstone always insisted that the African was not an inferior race to be exhibited, but a man to be understood, trained and taught in the principle of trusteeship, Lord Cranborne emphasised that Livingstone always preached the doctrine that the white man must be a trustee for the backward races. Livingstone's work in that respect had probably been the greatest single contribution to the progress of Africa; he had laid sure foundations, which had been the basis of our treatment of African problems.

Canteens from The Colonies*Adopted by Her Majesty The Queen*

In the forecourt of Buckingham Palace last week Lord Lloyd, Secretary of State for the Colonies, asked Her Majesty that she would accept, on behalf of the people of Great Britain in a fleet of mobile canteens presented by the Colonial Empire.

Ever since the outbreak of the war, said Lord Lloyd, the people of the Colonial Empire had had but one thought—to throw themselves heart and soul into the struggle. Whatever had been asked of them in military or material service had been rendered with the greatest enthusiasm, and in everything they had abundantly shown their devotion to His Majesty the King, to Her Majesty, and to our common cause. Of their own free will they were subscribing to buy bombers and fighters, and sending gifts to many war charities.

Since the Battle of Britain began, the severe attacks on this island and the sufferings of the civilian population—so defiantly and bravely borne—had inspired the desire to help our people in more personal and direct way. The Colonies had therefore made a gift of these mobile canteens. The people of this country would be heartened and fortified by the knowledge that their fellow-citizens of the Colonial Empire paid this tribute to their courage, their cheerful endurance, and their unconquerable will to victory.

Her Majesty the Queen replied:

'Ever since the beginning of the war the Colonial Empire has been unsparing in its support of the Mother Country. It is not only the material help that has meant so much to us, but the thought that the peoples of these far-distant lands share our ideals and feel for us in the suffering which the struggle brings to the people of these islands.'

'Nothing could be more eloquent of this sympathy than the gift of these canteens, which I am proud and happy to accept on behalf of Great Britain. I ask you to express our heartfelt thanks to the Governments and peoples of the Colonies for this most valuable and welcome gift.'

Tanganyika's Sacrifices*Gift of £200,000 from Reserve*

Yet another gibe of Goebbels has come home to roost. Tanganyika, which, according to his sycophants, writhes under British rule, has decided to give to Great Britain the whole of its special development reserve fund of £200,000. The first half of that sum was sent six months ago. The second half was voted unanimously by the Legislative Council last week.

At the budget session of Council it was stated that the estimates for the next year forecast a revenue of £2,249,000 and an expenditure of £2,319,000. Sir William Lead, leader of the non-official group of members, said: "I am glad to see the last Service goes. The anticipated deficit of £70,000 can be faced without calling on the British Government." An Indian member of Council said: "Our whole existence depends on the safety of Britain. We are ready for hardships and sacrifices to assist the Imperial Government."

Increases to income tax were approved by the Council, non-official members emphasising that the limit of taxable capacity had not yet been reached. The budget also provides that the Territory shall meet the entire cost of maintaining internees, estimated at over £100,000, the cost normally payable by Great Britain.

The deficit on the Tanganyika Railways for the past year has amounted to no more than £21,000 against the £142,000 expected.

Questions in Parliament*Development Men in War*

A speech delivered in the House of Commons last week was an opportunity being taken to implement the terms of the Colonial and Development Act in Africa, and from the cancellation of certain indebtedness by colonial governments.

Mr. G. C. Attlee replied that as large a part of energy and colonial administrations in Africa was now necessarily occupied by work directly related to the prosecution of the war that they had little opportunity to prepare development programmes. Moreover, object of definite war value must now, both here and in Africa, have the best of all the whole of our resources in men, material and money. Those considerations, operative throughout the Colonial Empire, applied with particular force in Africa, the Under-Secretary continued.

It is to have reluctantly had to accept the situation that we are in the war, it is not now possible to take advantage of the provision made by the Act in the manner and to the extent contemplated in the earlier part of this year. Nevertheless, we are anxious that such measures as are possible under war conditions should not be neglected. Grants have already been made under the Act for schemes for the control of rinderpest in Tanganyika and of locusts in Northern Rhodesia, and for the improvement of the approaches to a high-level bridge in Swaziland. I hope that other schemes will be approved from time to time as circumstances warrant.

Replying to Mr. Cary, Mr. Attlee said that the recommendations of the Delhi Conference were under urgent consideration by His Majesty's Government, and no doubt also by the Commonwealth Governments concerned.

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VALUES

Victory in the Desert. — My first impression was after visiting Sidi Barrani of the skill and the fighting qualities which enabled the British force to roll up in a few days a enemy force more than twice as numerous and strongly entrenched. My second impression is of the immense mass of material which the Italians had accumulated, and which has now fallen into our hands mostly undamaged. Near Sidi Barrani the first position carried, covers a bare plateau about a mile square with shallow valley in front, and is surrounded by a double stone wall, 10 feet high and 50 yards from the base. In the rear of the plateau was a strong fortification of anti-tank obstacles, barbed wire and land mines. The place presented an extraordinary sight, filled with vehicles of every sort, from giant lorries to even-ton tanks, to staff cars. Immense quantities of stores, both of food and of mechanical equipment, were stacked in tens of the open. From Tumbar to Sidi Barrani the whole of a belt 10 miles wide between them appeared to be one vast ammunition park. Every few hundred yards were dumps of oil fuel and other munitions. Thousands upon thousands of rounds were taken here. Prisoners declare that an advance on the Nile was expected during the coming weeks. The immense accumulation of stores which our troops found in all these camps and in the distribution centre of Bug Buq fully bears this out. — *T. J. correspondent.*

Venizelos's Dream Warranted. — The Battle of the Western Desert is the most glorious fought in Africa since Sidi Barrani and Hannibal, of 1462, as since Islam swept from BEPI to Spain. The strongest straits of the Mediterranean have been the thoroughness of the plan and the completeness of the surprise. What has caught Graziani napping, with results from which he may find it hard to recover. Yet there may be long, and obscure, and desperate, before the doom of his whole army is sealed. By a deadly manoeuvre that will be long remembered the British Army separated Graziani's advanced positions from his main body. They drove clean through to the sea at Bug Buq. As a sword, they struck at the neck and cut off a head. Whether this is the mortal wound to Mussolini or whether Graziani can make a stubborn rally with his main body another week will show. Since Libya, I am to understand, the centre of total catastrophe they portend are the death warrant of Fascism.

— *L. L. Marvin, in The Observer.*

Background to the War

Tribute from America. — Out-numbered, out-gunned, and backed almost from the start, and not reinforced in the wide world, the British have miraculously cast aside all misgivings, having in the clock less 800 years, and in less than 100 days, laid this lightning-daredevil that they were in the time of Elizabeth when they stopped Philip of Spain just where Hitler seems about to stalk now. Their cause, I think, is just; but whether that makes their fight magnificent. In the beginning the scales seemed hopelessly against them. In the matter of machines and weapons the scales undoubtedly were, and still are, weighted against them; but into the scale of the balances holding their scanty equipment they hung the weight of English manhood, and it turned out to be heavier than thousands of tons of metal. Make no mistake; if the great invasion has not yet rolled across Britain, it is because every man in the air above Britain has been able to take his share of his heavy weight. Weighed Britain fights for the worst cause in the world, instead of for their own land and their fine-sides, still the splendour of their fight would extort tribute even from those who hope they will lose. But the impossible has happened. The modern Granada has come into collision with the forces that cracked the tyranny of Spain 200 years ago—not weight of armament nor numbers of men, nor iron discipline nothing but the valor of men who will die free men. — *Major G. Johnson, in The Baltic Sun.*

Will French Africa React?

Morocco, Algiers, and Tunis should now join the Free French under General de Gaulle, and put it in disarray the large force of French and colonial troops in those countries, together with the units of the French fleet now in certain waters, raising them on the spot and making it within sight of a situation that might have an immediate effect on the whole course of the war. With a combined French and British force striking at Libya from the rear, there would not be unreasonable to hope for a complete capitulation of all Italian forces in the country within a month. This would enable some two-thirds of our army in Egypt to join the Greeks in Albania, while the remaining one-third could deal with occupied British Somaliland and the invasion of Abyssinia. — *Major G. S. Jarvis, in The Observer.*

Pétain's Position Not Wholly Weak. — Marshal Pétain is not in such a weak position as some people imagine. He possesses two very important cards. The first is the continued resistance of the Axis on the Rhine, and the clear determination to carry this war through to a successful conclusion and the second is the presence of General Weygand in French Africa. Despite Hitler's military influence no propaganda about European settlement could carry the slightest weight unless it had the acquiescence of the Vichy Government and was of a liberal character in relation to France. Hitler is not likely to make any sort of case without the French. Marshal Pétain can, if pressed, give General Weygand the word to join the Allies. At present Weygand alone has the power of turning over the French Empire. So, truly, the Vichy's No. 1 card, Pétain, will be forced to persuade Weygand to take the big step. A serious breakdown in the relations between Germany on the one hand and France, Spain, and the Vichy on the other might very well lead to a most grievous situation for Herr Hitler, changing the whole strategical position in the Mediterranean and causing widespread diplomatic and political repercussions throughout the world of a character highly favourable to the Allies. The whole conception of setting up a general European order while hostilities with Britain continue, or of bringing about a quick military checkmate, would collapse overnight. The old French Marshal was well aware of this. — *U. S. occupied France is not, therefore, in such a weak position as some people think. It is true that Germany has some powerful bargaining cards too. She could occupy the whole of France and inflict punitive measures, but if Pétain and Weygand told the French people that they must go through that ordeal because there was no alternative, and brought the French Empire over to the Allies, such a result would profit the Germans nothing. There is a point beyond which Marshal Pétain will not make concessions or collaborate with Germany.* — *Imperial Policy Group memorandum.*

The right cordial for a bond to win is pride. Your reaction to him is your beloved but magnificently described as "a town in the world" are not pride but irritation. — *Mr. Roger Lloyd.*

of the War News

Opinion Epitomised. — The whole combat system has overhauled it. — Lord Strabolgi.

In Lord Crauford the Empire has lost its noblest statesman. — *The National Review*.

There are some 5,000 Germans in the Spanish Zone of Morocco. — Mr. Vernon Bartlett, M.P.

We started this war with 20 millions short of our minimum requirements. — Mr. H. C. Ferryby.

We did not have the creditable degree of mechanisation of your forces. — Italian General Ceric, captured in Egypt.

The Italian army in Libya contains a proportion of three white men to two "Natives." — Lieutenant-Colonel T. A. Dove.

Soldiers learn to trust their commanders if complaints are properly and sympathetically considered. — The Minister for War.

The results of the fighting in the Western Desert will be one of the decisive events of the war. — General Sir Archibald Wavell.

Mussolini has used a pump to blow up the Italian nation, and they are nearly about to burst. — Sir Malcolm Robertson, M.P.

The Press today should be on no unnecessary production; rather than on too much unnecessary spending. — Mr. E. H. Clates.

British prisoners of war in Oflag VII C sleep in a room 16 to 17 ft. square, the same old stools to sit on, and the latrines outside without doors. — Sir G. Fox, M.P.

When once more an armistice is signed, the Italian fleet must be suppressed from the seas. — Major Fielding Ede.

When things become really sticky a disturbing factor on the right side. — The Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia.

Would Italian admirals hand over their fleet to the Germans they hate or to the British whom they never wanted to fight? — Mr. J. Cummings.

We have possibly a dozen top-drawer town-planners in the whole of Great Britain! — Mr. H. Bennett, Deputy Principal, Polytechnic School of Architecture.

Livingstone's tenacity of purpose, his scorn of obstacles, his rugged independence are not dead in the nation which honours him to-day. — H. M. T. Queen.

Concealed water and petrol tanks have been made at various spots in the Libyan desert to supply the requirements of our mechanised forces. — Major C. S. Jarvis.

With news of the beginning due, Argentina remains with some 3,000,000 tons of last season's crops still in the fields or in storage awaiting export. — Sir Follett Holt.

Australia is working up to an air force of 10,000, compared with its contribution of 600 airmen in the last war. — The Minister of Economic Warfare.

"In this country millions of hours and millions of dollars of property have been saved by the introduction of the latter system. Germany has not been able to do that." — The Minister of Labour.

Owing to Lord Lothian's spiritual anti-egoism he occupied minor and intermittent posts in our system of government while he had 20 times the brains of most Cabinet Ministers. — *The Observer*.

The Bishop of Winchester has always been first on the scene after air raids in his diocese; regardless of all danger and inconvenience. Everyone in Hampshire is grateful for his wonderful example and services. — Lord Mottistone.

The events which are now taking place in the Western Desert are a source of pride and satisfaction to the Italian nation. We always thought that the British would not give us a good fight, but would thus give us one of our finest victory of glory. — Rome Radio.

In only one month during the last six has the monthly total of shipping losses exceeded the average figure over the long 12 months 1917-18. The latest figure for June to November this year was 120,000 tons, i.e., than the monthly average in 1917-18. — Lord Temperton.

There are in this country about six men, not more, who understand national and international propaganda. With the exception of Mr. Cliff Cooper, not one of them has been considered for high office in the Ministry of Information. — Critics in *The Sunday Times*.

Could New York spare us its vigorous mayor, Mrs. La Guardia, when his term of office ends? He is the most important Italian politician outside Italy. Italian anti-Fascism would have in him a leader of energy and some political skill. — Military correspondent, *The Tribune*.

The Foreign Office fears that contingencies may, the Dominion and India, as well as the Soviet, interfere. This proves a distinguished part in this supremely successful encounter. The attack was vastly superior in numbers. — The King to Sir Archibald Wavell on the Victory in the Western Desert.

It is our duty to see that when peace comes we have the right people to make the peace, to keep them there and see that no traitors—people who have no knowledge of geography—will allow to frame a peace on inductive terms in capable of fulfilment. — Marshal Sir Philip Habourne.

We British—as being the architects of the most pleasant political instrument ever invented—are hopelessly bad haters, and quite incapable of working ourselves up to the psychological requirements of holding down the Germanmann for a long period of years. — Commander Stephen King-Hall, M.P.

Our aim should be towards a co-operative international system, guaranteed by an international police force. Never again should it be possible for a thing with a bomber force to terrorise a continent, smash homes, crush women and children, and blast the fruits of man's toil and the monuments of his greatness. — Mr. Herbert Morrison, M.P.

I have been in London through out the Blitzkrieg, and have visited almost every industrial centre that has been a target for Germany's concentrated air attacks, and I can truthfully say that I have not seen the slightest sign of faltering on the part of the people who have had the brunt of these attacks. — Mr. Arthur Greenwood, M.P.; Minister without Portfolio.

Heller, with his two massive 100-ton battleships, will try to denude the Black Sea, allow to our communications in 1941, to prevent us from getting the food, raw materials, and aeroplane necessary to continue full strength. We shall help from you in America, as confident that we can win, and win decisively in 1942, if not before. — The Rev. Lord Lothian.

Operations in the Western Desert clearly constitute a victory which in this African theatre of war is the first order and reflects the highest credit upon Archibald Wavell. Sir Alexander Wilson, the staff officer who planned this exceedingly complicated operation and upon the troops who performed the remarkable feats of speed, endurance and accomplishment. — The Prime Minister.

Through Georgia runs the Baku-Batum railway and the pipeline by which the oil of Russia can reach the sea. The oil of such value to the Soviet is particularly vulnerable, and the massing of allied troops in the East constitutes a check upon the activities of Stalin and Molotov in a far greater degree than the man in the street has probably yet realised. — Mr. Basil Francis, in *The Empire Review*.

PERSONALIA

Captain R. H. Bustard has been re-appointed to the Zanzibar Police Force.

A daughter was born in Nyasaland last week to Mrs. Jones, wife of Mr. H. L. Jones, District Officer.

Second Lieutenant J. A. Hill, of the 2nd Northern Rhodesia Regiment, died at N. R. Bay, while recently married in Cape Town.

The Christmas Number of the *Field* contains an article by Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Stockley on the shooting of a leopard in northern Kenya.

The engagement is announced between Mr. R. Wimbush and Miss E. E. W. Metcalfe, daughter of Major C. C. Metcalfe of Zambia, Nyasaland.

Mr. F. S. Gibb, former British Consul in Aden, India, and more recently Consul in Beira, has been appointed to the British Consulate in Rosario, Argentina.

Mr. J. W. Mills has been elected a member of the Livingstone Town Council. There were four candidates for the vacancy, and 80% of the electorate registered their votes.

Lord Cranborne, Secretary for War, for "Farnham Affairs," broadcast a Christmas message to the Empire on Sunday from St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, saying the nation was united, resolute, kind and patriotic determined to get there.

The engagement is announced between Captain H. W. Goode, youngest son of Sir Edward and Lady Goode, territory of Northern and Southern Rhodesia, and Miss Theodore Luck Smith, only daughter of Mr. Justice and Mrs. Little Smith of Nairobi.

Sir Andrew Macaulay, who as a Director of the Anglo-Union Company is closely concerned with the copper industry of Northern Rhodesia, has been appointed a member of the tribunal to consider applications for release from internment made by certain Germans and Afrikaners.

Mr. S. H. Sayer has been elected this year President of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of Eastern Africa with Mr. H. W. Johnson as Vice-President. Mr. George T. Tait was elected honorary Treasurer. Thanks were expressed to Mr. A. B. Gains for his work as secretary.

Several Labour members of Parliament who have especially interested themselves in East Africa and the Rhodesias are members of the new Administrative Committee of the Parliamentary Labour Party. They include Mr. George Hall, Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies; Mr. G. Ammon, Mr. Wedgwood Benn, Mr. A. Dalton, Mr. J. Griffiths, and Mr. P. S. Noland.

Obituary

Mr. W. H. Weston, who died in Mzambeza last month, was a native of the Shire, a District Officer in the Shire, and served in Nyasaland since 1920, and was 45 years of age.

Mr. John Horatio May, who died this week, was a member of the British Trade Mission which visited Kenya and South Africa, and the chairman of the Standard Milk Marketing Board.

Mr. Herbert Edward Smith, who had lectures in Private life, and then followed a musical career, died at the age of 50. He was prominent in the musical and social circles of the city.

Mr. J. W. Mills, a member of the Livingstone Town Council, died on December 12, aged 39, in Cameroun.

Mr. Philip Phillips, a member of the Livingstone Town Council, died on December 13, aged 45, in Trinidad.

Mr. Philip Phillips, a member of the Livingstone Town Council, died on December 13, aged 45, in Trinidad. When he left England he joined the office of Trinidad and Tobago in London, and later went to a similar office in New York, where he served until his retirement in 1928. In the year before his retirement he became a member of the Livingstone Town Council.

Mrs. Mary Smith, widow of Mr. W. H. Weston, died at her home in Wimborne, Dorsetshire, on December 12, aged 75. She was a well-known figure in the missionary world. She joined the editorial staff of the *British and Foreign Missionary Society* in 1894.

She was a member of the Foreign Missions Committee of the *British and Foreign Missionary Society*, of the Standing Committee of Africa, she was a member for many years, and became joint editor with Dr. G. C. Oldham, of the *Annals of the Foreign Missions*. After her retirement in 1928, in her work she wrote a number of books, dealing with the lives of African prominent individuals, all of them written in Africah plain English, and all excellent.

Lieutenant-Colonel H. W. Reynolds, who died in Kelvedon recently, at the age of 60, entered the Army in 1903 and joined the King's African Rifles in 1916. He served with the expedition against the Merenai somalis in Jubaland before the Great War. During the East African Campaign he commanded the 1/2nd K.A.R., was twice wounded and three times mentioned in dispatches, and was awarded the D.S.O. in 1919. In the same year he joined the Egyptian Camel Corps and Sudan Defence Force, being Commandant of the Camel Corps from 1923 to 1927. He commanded the 2nd Battalion York and Lancaster Regiment from 1931 to 1934, when he retired.

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1930

Death of Lord Lothian

LORD LOTHIAN, A.R., British Ambassador to the United States, died suddenly at Washington last week. He had arrived in good time for the first interview in African affairs.

He was born at Oxford, he was educated at Africa, and Lord Milner was the youngest member of his generation to become successively assistant secretary of the International Council of South Transvaal, Director of the Bureau of the secretariat of the Transvaal Commission, and first editor of *The Star*, a newspaper view founded to promote the cause of Boer independence from South Africa. Returning to England in 1910, he was appointed editor of *The Round Table*, the annual Imperial quarterly, of which he continued in control until, in 1915, he was appointed secretary to Mr. Lloyd George, then Home Minister, whose complete confidence he soon won.

After a short interlude in Fleet Street, he became secretary of the Rhodes Trust in 1925, and so remained until his appointment to Washington last year. He was Chairman of the African Research Survey, which, under the auspices of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, undertook a study of the problems of Native South Africa, in 1927, with Lord Milner as its director. Lord Lothian, who was personally close to the Carnegie Corporation of New York, which made a generous grant of funds, and with the Rhodes Trustees, who supplemented such finance, was an excellent choice as chairman, for he had an analytical mind, great capacity for work, and a most friendly disposition.

For a decade or so he was to be numbered amongst those who expressed a readiness to make territorial concessions to Germany in the Colonial sphere, but he came to see the emptiness and dangers of such views, and in the last few months before the outbreak of this war he was a determined and outspoken opponent of any further appeasement.

In 1882 as Punja-Kerr elder son of Major General Lord Ralph Kerr, third son of the seventh Marquess of Lothian, he succeeded to the peerage in 1910 on the death of a cousin. He was unmarried.

Captain Cecil McMahon

The death in Mbeya last week at the age of 40 years of Captain Cecil McMahon, O.B.E., M.C., deprives Tanganyika of a able, active and just administrator who had given 22 years of service to the Territory.

The youngest son of the late Archdeacon and Mrs. McMahon of Madrascar, he was educated in England, and in 1900 joined the Native Department of Southern Rhodesia, which left on the outbreak of the First War to become the Rhodesia Regiment, with which he served during the German South West African campaign. Entering the 8th South African Infantry, he went through the campaigns in East Africa, being promoted S.M. to accompany them to the adjutancy of his battalion, and being awarded the M.C.

Entering the Administrative Service of Tanganyika after that war, he was for some time anabora, and had become District Officer of Mbeya when Mr. Symington began his great task of reclamation, in which the young D.O. enthusiastically assisted. Sent to Musoma, he co-operated readily with the local mining interests, the needs of which had been sadly neglected, and there his wisdom and energy encouraged a can-spirit for the development of the area, first attracting public attention.

As Deputy Provincial Commissioner in Arusha he showed the same accessibility and frankness in his deal-

ings with officials, and with the propertied in the Shambu, the Lake Eyasi and Arusha headwaters in Arusha, he saved his community of lessening mining interests in the Kigura and Masima fields. He was always a good friend to his subordinates and his superiors, which were given ample opportunity by his visits to Mbeya as P.C. for the Southern Province.

The qualities of record lie in his life. His method of getting on well with all he met no fewer than his visits from his headquarters to the Lupa, for he was convinced that much the most important duty of a Provincial Commissioner was to maintain the closest contact with his area, as a result of this policy, which was in striking contrast with that of his predecessors. He immediately strengthened the organism between magistrates and the administration, though far from being a man of narrow roads to view, he turned his persistent efforts to prove the general merit of others. He was a forceful character determined to prove the general merit of others.

Vischiano set about realising his object in co-operation with the Lupa Central Board, an official organisation ready to receive advice, and, indeed, as the Board quickly learned from the digests those Europeans who were envious gave just cause for complaint. While McMahon's own energies soon induced black gold-mining and improved the lot of Native labourers, he also called himself upon and to the provision of better educational facilities for the children of the European diggers, and to mutual understanding and friend.

Sir Ali bin Salim

I had so great an affection and respect for Sir Ali Salim that I welcome your invitation to add a few words to your memoir.

He was the benefactor of us which you have mentioned. When my wife founded her child welfare and maternity centres in Kenya, she was anxious to establish one in Mombasa, as well as in Nairobi. Sir Ali had only to hear of the need to offer his services in the general of the island and also a gift towards the erection and equipment of the building. It stands there. I hope a fitting monument to his kindness and to his love of children.

My first engagement when I landed in Kenya was a garden-party in his picturesquely home at Luton, and I well remember being deeply impressed at once by his charm and courtesy of his bearing. He was a great enthusiast with far-sighted views about the future of the race, living together in a way that amply, deeply, understanding of their own interests as well as of the difference between them. He was often critical in private conversation and in his own way of the methods of British rule, and in had experience of the shortcomings of members of the British race as well as of other virtues. But he was always, in regard of justice and fairness of our intentions, a servant of the Government throughout his long life, which unfortunately ended.

A man lost by his death, a lonely old man and a devoted wife, a servant who did not care to link our life with that of Zanzibar. Once I suggested to him his members, and I trust that he might have some satisfaction in any new growth of our former members in his old background.

For my part, I shall create the picture of our friendship, and shall never forget the benevolence and serenity of his days, nor am I sorry at the creatures of his voice and I will remember him as we saw him when we first met—the robust and burly figure, the dark eyes and soft quiet well-bred face, with the rustling palms raised high and the bise water Killimani at his feet.

Support from the Congo

Many influential Belgians in the Congo have co-operated in forming a "Council of Action Patriotic of Congo," the objects of which are to ensure the rigorous prosecution of the war and to prove to the world that that declaration of loyalty to the Allied cause made by the Belgian Government and the Governor-General of the Congo received the unanimous support of Free Belgians. Among the organisers are the President of the Ex-Servicemen's Association, journalists, lawyers and prominent commercial personalities.

Coffee Exports

The Uganda Shipping Board has announced that, in order to facilitate the working of a quota system for the importation of East African coffee into the United Kingdom, import licences to the U.K. will be issued in grants of one in respect of consignments for which local shipping lines issue bills of lading issued in East Africa, and Uganda coffee exported to the U.K. whether from Kenya or Uganda, now requires an export permit. No licence is, however, required for coffee destined for South Africa.

The 1940 Rhodesian Annual.—The profusely illustrated "Rhodesian Journal" for 1940 reflects the highest credit on the producers from the editorial and printing standpoints. It contains a fine series of pictures of Rhodesian troops in training, and has a number of interesting articles, including a contribution by the Founder of Sir James Melville's Corps, and obtained from Angus South African Newspapers, Ltd., 85 Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4, at 3s. 6d. postage.

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News Items in Brief

The Kampala Printing Co. Ltd., an Indian-owned business, has been voluntarily wound up.

The new electric power plant at the Lusaka, Southern Rhodesia, to Pemba Bridge is nearing completion.

Mr. F. McGrath, a full-blooded Bulawayo has been destroyed by fire. Damage was estimated at £10,000.

The entire proceeds of the first post-African war loan to be floated on December 1st will be lent to the Imperial Government.

In a rumour that the Southern Rhodesian Government might purchase the control of Rhodesia Railways has been denied in London.

The Associated Chambers of Commerce of Eastern Africa have urged that the report of the Mombasa Roads Board Commission should be published.

A sequel is being made in Kenya of the advised decision to close the township of Kisumu under military and police jurisdiction of Mombasa Board, East African Coal Limitations Ltd., confirming that payment of £1,000 and £100 from the company's dues during November were £10 tons, making 100 tons in total for the current financial year.

Appropriately received applications of British Railways for September were £1,919,000, for the 12 months £1,008,000. Approximate figures of the U.S. Central Section for the month were £1,000,000, and for the 12 months £905,900.

The Employment and Production Board of Kenya has established a register of European women who seek employment in agriculture. Farmers who advertise for men or women as assistant managers are invited to inform the Board at P.O. Box 227, Nairobi. Southern Rhodesia's external trade continues to increase. During the first half of this year imports totalled £5,720,000, compared with £4,408,000 for the same period of 1939, while exports reached the high figure of £10,508,000, against £7,948,000.

A map of the Colonial Empire showing the situations and sizes of the colonies in relation to one another and to the British Isles, and including a general map of the world, has been published by the "Crown Colonist," 1s. and 1s. respectively, for unmounted and mounted copies.

New Robin Line Steamer

The s.s. *ROBIN DONCASTER*, the second of the new fleet of six fast steamers built for the Robin Line's services between the United States of America and South and East Africa, has been launched by Mrs. Edgar W. Barbisell, daughter of the late Walter T. Chrysler. Two months ago the first of the new vessels, the *ROBIN YORKLEY*, was launched. These two ships will make their maiden voyages to East Africa early in the New Year.

BRAANCHES IN KENYA
NAIROBI and KILINDI

THE EAST AFRICAN COFFEE CURING CO. LTD.

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LATEST MINING NEWS

Rhodesian Anglo-American

The report of Rhodesian Anglo-American, Ltd., for the year ended June 30 states that the company bears all expenses and maintains an interest, but before providing for taxation amounted to £520,593, compared with £662,000 in the preceding 12 months. The balance of unappropriated profits carried forward was £1,643, making a total of £1,163, which has been all used to reduce income tax, £1,000 written off investments, £1,118, leaving an available sum of £1,177. An interim dividend of 1d. per share dividend and 4d. absorbed in 24s. A final dividend of 5d. per share, making a total distribution of 1d. per share (1d. 9d.) less tax will absorb £172,574, and additional remuneration due to the directors amounts to £11,118, leaving a balance of £30,846 to be carried forward.

The company's shareholding in Rhokana Corporation was increased slightly, and now stands at 30,000 shares of £1.00 fully paid ordinary and 27,120 A shares of 5s. representing 36.1% of the ordinary and A shares capital. The interest in Nchanga Consolidated Copper Mines consists of 1,060,000 fully paid shares of £1, and an interest indirect through the holding of 2,321,150 shares of Rhokana Corporation. Interest in Mutulira Copper Mine is indirect through the holding by Rhokana Corporation of 32.303% of the issued capital of the Mutulira company.

The balance sheet shows issued share capital at £5,756,600, £8 debentures totaling £800,000, general reserve and unappropriated profits at £2,960, and investments at £20,615.78 (market value at June 30, £10,950). Dividend receivable from Rhokana Corporation is £15,000, and cash at bank £1,081,894. Since the date of the balance sheet £800,000 has been subscribed for 21% National War Bonds.

Company Progress Reports**Gabalf Gold**—On November 20, 1940, the gold

Tan Goldfield—Reactor November 10th, tonnage crushed 1,000 tons.

Kite Mine—On November 10th, 1,000 tons were milled. Recovered 89.22 oz. av. 1.68 dwt.

Long Tom—On November 10th, 1,000 tons were crushed in a reactor. Recoverable gold 1.61 dwt.

Kempton Gold Mine—From the 60 ft. mine at Kempton, 1,000 tons were milled from 7,687 tons of ore crushed.

Rostermere—During November 1,400 tons were milled for a recover of 2,000 oz. fine gold, valued at £6,850. Working expenditure £6,290. Development £1,327, estimated surplus £6,290. Capital expenditure £976.

Hope and Phoenix—During November 1,000 tons were milled for a recover of 3,000 oz. fine gold. Profits £17,722.

Development: Phoenix mine, reactor on level 16 ft. average 20 dwt. and 5dwt.; av. 5 dwt. on 13th level 29 ft. driven at 16wt.; on 24th level sunk 100 ft. av. 5 dwt.; and driven at 16wt. on 40th level driven 14ft. av. 10dwt. Second level driven at 16 wt. av. 2 dwt.

Wanderer Consolidated—During the quarter ended September 30, there were developed, excluding the Surprise section, 1,306 ft., of which 5,003 ft. were sampled 1,165 ft. 65.23% proved payable at an average value of 3.2 dwt. At 1,617 ft. were developed, and 210 ft. were the Surprise section. 1,617 ft. were developed, and 210 ft. were sampled; payable, 50 ft., av. 6.6 dwt. over 100 ms. The directors have decided that until further notice quarterly reports will not be posted to shareholders, but copies may be obtained on application to the company.

Gold His Life For An African

Mr. Trevor THOMAS was killed in the Athens Mine, Umtwana, Southern Rhodesia, when bravely trying to rescue a Native underground worker. He was 35 years old.

Fatalities in Goopet Mine

Mr. C. J. Botha and 15 Natives were recently killed in an accident on the Mafikela Mine, Northern Rhodesia, and Mr. E. J. Purdie and 12 Natives were injured. The accident was caused by an explosion resulting from the collapse of two timbering staves on the 66th level.

Transvaal Power

Victoria Falls and Transvaal Power Co. Ltd. has declared a full-year dividend of 10s. and the preference shares 5% for the half-year ended October 31, 1940, and a further dividend of 5%, being their participating rights for the year 1940. On the ordinary shares, an interim dividend of 4% in respect of 1940. Similar payments were made a year ago.

L.A.G.S. Annual Report

The London, Australian and General Exploration Co. Ltd., reports a loss of £1,604 for the year ended July 31, 1940. The annual report states that development of the gold-mining properties in which the company is interested has continued satisfactorily. Colonel G. J. S. Scott has resigned from the board.

The balance sheet shows assets at £217,555, creditors at £1,022, unprovided for at £10,280. Investments at cost £2,665, valuation £2,665 at £221,708. Loans, less reserves, £20,000; debentures at £199; cash at £7,461, and debit balance of draft and loss account at £6,554.

The profit and loss account shows directors' remuneration at £1,000, legal charges, salaries, printing, audit, and cables at £300; consulting engineers fees at £2,000; advertising at £1,000; and loss of trading (Ringside property) £4,306. The net income from investments less loss on realisation of investments was £1,019.

Monday, December 10, is the date of the annual meeting.

Sherwood Star

Sherwood Star Gold Mining Company has declared an interim dividend of 3d.

Can and Motor

Can and Motor Gold Mining Company announces the payment of an interim dividend of 3d. for the current financial year.

London and Rhodesia

Lord Elphinstone has been elected Chairman of the London and Rhodesian Mining and Land Company, and Mr. Roy R. McElroy, who has for many years been closely associated with the company, has been elected a director.

Rezende Mines

The directors of Rezende Mines, Ltd., announce that owing to the large increase in Southern Rhodesian taxes, and in consequence of heavy capital expenditure during the year, and the necessity to reduce the company's loan indebtedness, they consider it inadvisable to make another distribution to shareholders for this financial year. An interim payment of 25% of the capital will be made, and the total distribution for 1939 was 50%.

KELVIN MARINE ENGINES

PETROL**PARAFFIN****DIESEL****HYDRAULIC****STEAM****WATER****COMBUSTION****HYDRO-ELECTRIC****NUCLEAR****GEAR****SHREWD****VALVE****COUPLES****JOINTS****FLANGES****PIPE**

COMPANY MEETINGS

Wankie Colliery Co. Ltd.*Sir John Chancellor's Report*

THE SEVENTEENTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE WANKIE COLLIERY COMPANY LTD., DATED 10TH AT WINCHESTER HOUSE, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2, ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1940.

MR. JOHN R. CHANCELLOR, F.A.C.M.G., G.C.S.O., M.R.I.M.E., Chairman and joint managing director of the company, presided.

The Secretary, Mr. H. J. Lewis, having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman said—

Before dealing with the ordinary business of the meeting, I wish to refer to the retirement of the Rt. Hon. Lord Lloyd of Dolobran, on his appointment to His Majesty's Government as Secretary of State for the Colonies. Lord Lloyd had been a member of the board since 1935. It is, I am sure, unnecessary for me to say how deeply we regret the necessity for his resignation and the loss of his great services to the company, but since his great abilities are now being devoted to the service of the country, we must be glad that it is so.

Comments on the Accounts

In dealing with the accounts, the Chairman said— There was no change in the authorised, paid-up capital. Current liabilities and provisions, which included bank and other debts and accrued charges, were £1,000,000. Provisions for taxation £98,893, the balance of dividends paid previous to alienation £1,153, £73, compared with £189,187, an increase of £1,089. Depreciation reserve in previous accounts was £110,000. To that we have added £55,572, making £165,179.

Under the heading of reserves and profits we have a credit surplus of £20,218 which remains unchanged. General reserve at August 31, 1940, was £1,121,000 from which has been deducted £1,458 advanced to the North Zambezi Gas & Electric Ltd., leaving a total of £120,742.

The assets side of the balance sheet shows coal mining and plant, including prospecting rights for 50 years from 1934 to 1983, in the Wankie district at £1,260,000. At August 31, 1940, at £1,300,000, less permanent works, machinery and plant and buildings £1,670,451, increased by £27,002, £18,000 represents expenditure on additional housing at the Native compound at No. 1 Colliery £15,033 on extensions to the screening plant at No. 2 Colliery, and £2,014 on coke screening and leading arrangements.

Under current assets, stocks of coke, bricks and stores at £103,043 compare with £67,024, an increase of £36,019. This increase is chiefly due to increased stocks of stores having been purchased in advance against delayed deliveries under war conditions. Trade and other debtors less reserve for bad debts and payments in advance stand at £2,471, an increase of £7,385.

Profits and Dividend

Turning to the profit and loss account, the total cost of production and general expenses in Africa amounted to £18,825, compared with £207,950. The increase is due to the additional tonnage of coal and coke produced. General expenses at £7,510 show a reduction of £1,701. The amount payable in respect of National Service contribution is £8,000, compared with £4,250. On the credit side of the profit and loss account the sales of coal, coke, bricks, fireclay, etc. amounted to £39,600, compared with £25,655.

The directors propose to pay a dividend of 5% for the year, absorbing £83,125, which will leave a balance of £22,217 to be carried forward.

The directors, in their abilities and provisions, are crediting us with bringing our accounts further into accord with shareholders' views. We have provided, in addition to our legal liability, an additional £10,000 for taxation. It is our intention to make further additions to this provision, and when the opportunity arises, so that in due course we shall be in the position of having a reserve to meet our taxation liability on the accounts submitted to members each year.

Coal sales during the year amounted to 1,155,000 tons, which was a record production, the increase being about 142,000 tons when compared with the previous year. Coke sales also showed a substantial increase, the total sales amounting to 66,401 tons, compared with 56,795 tons. The tonnage of coke sold was the highest in any year for the last ten years; the increase was due to the Union Minière du Haut Katanga requiring additional coke.

Estimating Coal Reserves

The coal reserves proved by actual development amounted to 1,160,000 tons at No. 1 Colliery, an increase of 519,000 tons over the previous year, and at No. 2 colliery 6,840,000 tons, an increase of 1,081,000 tons, both increases of 1,000,000 tons.

There was no change of any particular importance in mining conditions at No. 1 Colliery; the quality of the seam did not differ appreciably from the last bands of the seam. Faulting remained as in previous years. The thickness of the seam in different parts of that area of the mine being worked varied from about 8 ft. to 12 ft. It has been estimated that about 31 million tons remain to be worked within a radius of 10 miles from the 10th bottom.

At No. 2 Colliery the thickness of the seam worked continues to decrease. In the 10th bottom, however, no significant changes in mining conditions were encountered and the quality of the coal in the upper portion of the seam is good. All the plant, both at No. 1 and No. 2 Collieries is in good condition. At No. 2 Colliery the capacity has been increased by the addition of a third screening unit. Certain mining contracts have remained to be completed, that instruction to the colliery to commence the additional screens. The removal of the existing plant is not necessary. An intensification of the washery plant in its present capacity of 20 tons per hour has also been completed.

In connexion with coke production at No. 1 Colliery, certain construction work has been undertaken, including stamping, screening and the installation of a special screen and conveyor, in order to permit of better sorting of the coke.

Sustained Increase of Business

In conclusion, I am happy to inform shareholders that the business of the company has shown a substantial increase, as is evidenced by the gross profit of £16,737, compared with £179,530 in the preceding year. But view, however, of the effect of the heavy taxation both in London and Rhodesia, the boards cannot recommend the payment of a dividend of more than 5%.

I now beg to move, That the directors' report and statement of accounts to August 31, 1940, submitted to this meeting be and they are hereby approved and adopted, and that a dividend of 5%, less income tax, as recommended by the directors, be declared for the year ended August 31, 1940.

Mr. S. H. Boileau, joint managing director, seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The Chairman then proposed the re-election of Mr. A. R. Thomson, Q.B.E., J.P., M.I.M.E., as a director of the company. The resolution was seconded by Mr. William Rhodes and carried unanimously.

The auditors, Messrs. Cooper Brothers & Co., were re-appointed, and the proceedings terminated.

Kentan Gold Areas, Ltd.

Earl Grey's Address to Shareholders

THE ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE EAST AFRICA AND MADAGASCAR LIMITED, was held in London on Tuesday, the 23rd July, Earl Grey, Chairman of the company, presiding.

Mr. R. V. Hulme-Carey, the secretary, having read the notices concerning the meeting and the auditors' report, Earl Grey then said:

"As the report and accounts have been in your hands for some time, I will, with your permission, take them as read." (Applause.)

With a view to making the account more informative, comparative figures for the year ended September 30, 1934, are shown in full.

The Balance Sheet

Starting first with the balance sheet, the principal changes as compared with the previous year are as follows:

"Our shareholding in the Geita Gold Mining Company has been reduced by 10,000 shares of £1 each, as we have acquired further non-redemvable debenture stock of that company."

"The wood fuel concession in Tanganyika Territory has, at the consent of the Tanganyika Government, been transferred to the Geita Gold Mining Company, as the Kentan Company is no longer carrying on mining operations; that being one of the conditions under which the concession was granted."

"It is expected that the manager of Kimpangiri Gold Mining Company, Ltd., will be in position at an early date to make a further distribution to the shareholders of that company. This will only be made, however, shouldenable East African Expressions, Ltd., to effect settlement of the debt due to us of £11,523."

"Operations for the year resulted in a loss of £1,100, which has been added to the debit of balance carried forward on the profit and loss account."

"As regards the company's interests in Tanganyika Territory, there is little I can add to the information given in the manager's director's report."

"This year owing to the war, and restrictions in travelling, the usual flight Africa by one or more of our directors has been suspended. The board, however, last January had the results of discussions with Mr. Weldon, the general manager of the Geita Company on his way back to Africa from leave. Mr. A. M. MacLellan, of Messrs. Pilkington & Company, building and consulting engineers, who had occasion to visit Africa on other business, had two short visits to Geita during May. He and I understand reported that generally work is proceeding satisfactorily although a shortage of Europeans, due to the war, is beginning to be felt."

Geita Company's Successful Operations

"The results of the Geita Gold Mining Company for the 12 months ending June 30, 1934, show a steady improvement in gold recovery. In spite of metallurgical difficulties which are to be expected when tests from three mines of different characteristics are fed to a central mill, the gold recovery for the period averaged 44.5%. The use of lead salts in the circuit during recent months has resulted in improved extraction of gold. The recovery for the four months July to October last averaged 45.0%. It is hoped that the use of these salts will not only result in improved extraction, but will also reduce the time required for agitation of the solution and moderate capital expenditure on agitation plant."

"The operating profits of the Geita Company for the year ended June 30, amounted to nearly £150,000, and after the payment of debenture and other interest of £11,420, and allowing £10,000 for income tax reserve, £13,660 for depreciation and £1,500 for debenture redemption reserve, there was a net profit of £116,083. Income tax in Tanganyika Territory is payable at the

rate of 15% in the pound, and although the Government has not acceded to a request made by mining companies in the territory that, in view of the tax on profits, the royalty on gold output should be remitted, it has agreed, on favourable consideration to claims for an annual allowance in respect of development expenditure charged to capital account."

"As a result of its successful operations, the Geita Company has been able to finance the extension of the mill to 500 tons per day. Most of the plant and materials are on the site and are in course of erection. Owing to war conditions, deliveries of equipment have been delayed considerably, and it is not expected that the 500 tons will be reached until about March next year, but meantime the management expects to be able gradually to increase the treatment capacity until the full figure is reached. Plans and specifications have been completed for a further extension to bring the capacity to 1,000 tons daily at such time as circumstances permit."

Satisfactory Development Results

"The development work on the mines, mainly in the oxidised zones, has given satisfactory results, and the reserves of ore have been increased. The programme now in hand consists principally of development at depth, with the object of seeing what grade of ore may be expected in the primary sulphide zone, and to enable a decision to be taken as to further mill extensions."

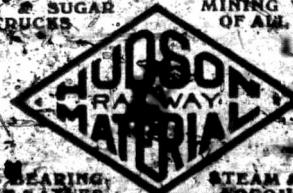
"Last year I drew attention to a new mine, known as Prospect 30, which had recently been discovered. The developments which have since taken place make it clear that, although this deposit will not continue down on the large scale indicated at the surface, there still appears to be a fair likelihood of considerable tonnages of ore being developed."

"As regards the properties of the Saragura Company, it now appears unlikely that they will be of much importance. However, I may include, as you may remember, a substantial holding of shares of the Geita Company."

"Dealing with general matters, the voluntary employment of Native labour has continued to give satisfactory results. The health of the community has been excellent, and stocks of essential supplies have been well maintained, in spite of increasing difficulties. The European personnel has been depleted owing to enlistment in the forces and internment of enemy aliens."

"I am sure you will wish me to express our appreciation of the excellent services which have been rendered by Mr. Weldon, the general manager, and the staff of the Geita Company. While wishing those members who have joined His Majesty's Forces the best of luck, I would assure those who are remaining at Geita that the services which they are rendering are equally important to the Empire. We recognise that the depletion of staff and war conditions involve an added strain on them."

The report and accounts were adopted.

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Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.)

Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.) state in their annual report for the year ended September 30, 1940, that net profits for the 12 months amounted to £123,302, which, with £151,442 brought forward, makes a total of £374,134. Last year the net profits totalled £114,703. After appropriating £200,000 to contingency account and deducting £104,490 in respect of interim dividends paid during the year, the directors recommended a final dividend of 4½% (4½% on the cumulative preference shares less tax, absorbing £37,553), and a final dividend of 3½% (actually on the A £1 shares and 3½% on the B £1 shares £1 paid), less tax, absorbing £61,047, and leaving £171,096 to be carried forward.

The report records with regret the death of Mr. H. L. Tritton, Chairman of the Bank from 1934 to 1937, and of the Hon. J. W. Downie, a Member of the Rhodesian Committee. Mr. H. R. Bradford and Mr. William H. Clark have been elected directors of the bank, and Mr. E. O. Holden has been appointed a general manager in succession to Mr. Bradford. The retirement of Mr. J. D. Race from the secretaryship of the Bank and the appointment of Mr. H. T. Egerton as his successor are also chronicled.

Trans-Zambesia Railway Co.

The report and accounts of the Trans-Zambesia Railway Company, Ltd., for 1940 show that gross receipts totalled £172,877 (against £169,727 in 1938), and the working expenses amounted to £110,511 (against £109,273), making the net receipts £62,036 (£50,454). Interest on bank deposits at £1,038 (£733) gives a total of £63,074. Working expenses represented 63.74% of the gross receipts, compared with 64.38% in 1938. A debt of £62,558 arising out of a contract for sleepers for the construction of the railway in 1921 has had to be written off, the debtor company having gone into liquidation.

The tonnage carried totalled 99,064 tons, of which 22,110 tons were of general merchandise, 10,007 tons sugar, 7,316 tons tobacco, 6,397 tons tea, 1,451 tons cotton, 3,584 tons salt, 5,098 sleepers, and 11,023 tons Tete railway construction materials.

East African Estates, Ltd.

The report of East African Estates, Ltd., for the year ended March 31 last states that the directors are still unable to place a valuation upon the investments, which stand in the balance sheet at £254,440, but from which figure there must on the basis of earning power be a large depreciation.

The accumulated losses of Evans, Bros. (Kenya) Ltd., in which the company owns all the debentures and 50% of the issued capital, now total £114,529, and the accumulated losses of Central Coffee (Nairobi) Estates Ltd., in which East African Estates holds all the debentures and 87% of the capital, now exceed £101,000. The auditors' report in respect of Central Coffee Estates bears the qualification: "Nothing has been written off since June 30, 1924, for depreciated buildings etc. recommended by the East African officials." Central Coffee Estates made a loss of £1,185 for the year, and Evans Bros. a loss of £620.

The British Colonial Provision Co., Ltd., in which East African Estates hold over 80% of the paid-up capital, earned a larger profit and paid a 10% dividend, but P.T. more than counterbalances the increase, so that the carry-forward was reduced.

East African Estates made a loss of £2,437 for the year, making the debit balance £84,639. Reorganisation of the management has resulted in a considerable saving, and it is expected that the charge for the current year will show a further reduction. The company's land near

the coast of Kenya now comprises 55,720 acres of leasehold land and 1,000 acres of freehold, 5,152 acres were effected during the year.

The balance sheet shows the paid-up capital at £200,000, creditors at £111,061, and £38,554 in respect of monies deposited for the debenture-holders of Evans Brothers (Kenya), Ltd. On the credit side property in Kenya stands at £24,214, furniture at £56, investments at £57,149 (British Colonial Provision Company, £34,083; Central Coffee Estates, £65,862; Evans Brothers, £150,502), and miscellaneous shares, £1,000. Loan to Evans Brothers at £12,500; loan to Central Coffee Estates at £27,344; sundry debtors at £8,500; cash at £523; and debit balance of profit and loss £84,639.

The annual meeting was held in London last week.

P. & O. Results

The P. & O. Steam Navigation Company, which controls the British India Steam Navigation Company, reports net profits of £505,000 for the year ended September 30. True comparison with the preceding 12 months is impracticable as in the past the results of voyages were given when they had been closed before the previous June 30. The results are now shown to include certain hire money for ships chartered to the Government down to the end of September, as well as the results of voyages closed before June 30. The fact balance compares with net profits of £446,000 in 1939-40.

Sudan Plantations Syndicate

The directors of the Sudan Plantations Syndicate and its subsidiary, the Kassala Cotton Company, have decided to pay interim dividends of 5% on account of the year ended June 30. The possibility of any further payment in respect of the year must depend on developments in the Sudan. Both companies paid a dividend of 8% for 1939-40.

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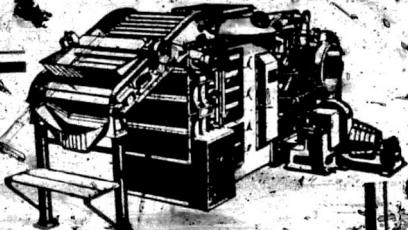
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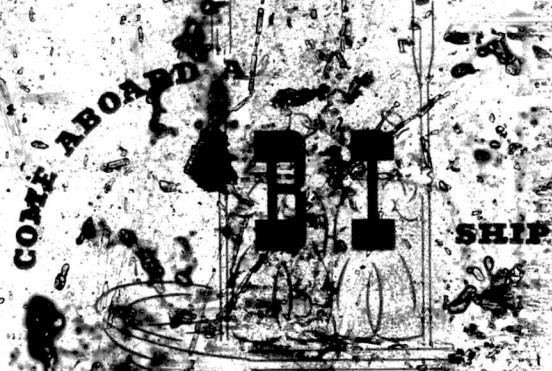
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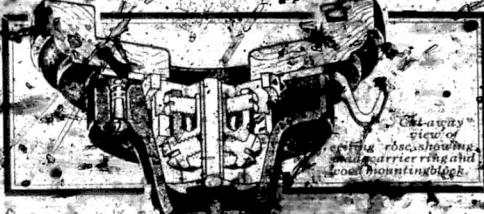
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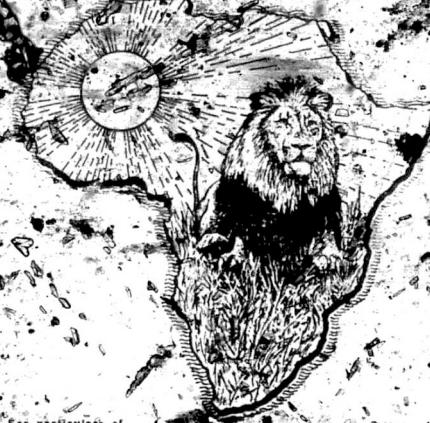
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Endure, O heart!

Raven's wild tocsin still denies
The air's subtler harmonies,
Rattle, unsated, takes his toll,
Scribing the bravest on his roll.
Now Moloch-like, not men sum
Children must swell his sacrifice.

Still, still before us,
Vast deserts of aridity,
Which we must plough with weary feet,
Through Afrie's sands, beneath burning heat,
Irrked by the duties of the day,
And routine's dull monotony.

At journey's end, still far, we know,
Bright-winged Victory waits. Aglow
Our fancy sees her hold on high,
The laurel crown no gold can buy,
Valour alone may wear that prize,
Symbol of favour in her eyes.

Endure, O heart ! Thy present
Herculean burden shall assuage
In the day of battle-break,
With Faith and Freedom as the stake,
The gage is cast, the triumph sure,
Endure, O valiant hearts, endure.

Dodging the Censor

The Literary Touch

Sgt. Strite: The camp of a British patrol in the desert of Kenya's Northern Frontier. Time: evening. James Strite, a Southern Rhodesian settler, now sergeant of the patrol, discovered in the throes of literary composition: To him enters his chum, George Wilkins, also an N.C.O.

GEORGE. (Smiling) Jim! You took all my letters!

J. I am, trying to write a letter to the wife to tell her the news, and get it past the barking censor.

G. Can't be done, laddie; can't be done. This is the hushiest of hush, you know. Con-siderable hush.

J. Must be done. If the little woman doesn't know where I am, she'll worry. Anyway, who is the censor for this packet?

G. A very decent old bird, I believe. But he'll never see it. It's the assistant censors you've got to dodge; keep as far as all of them, and suspicious as leopards.

G. (pondering). Your little woman smart?

J. Smart as the snake 'em.

G. Can't be told between the lines.

J. Rather. Why, when Andy Sommers was getting married and wanted me to attend his farewell bachelorette party—me, an old married man—he wrote me a letter so innocent a child might have written it. Real clever letter it was. But the wife read between the lines, and I had the devil's own job to get away.

G. (brightening up). Good. This is where I come in. Fond of books, I am. Read a lot.

J. Marvellous thing, the army to collect huge blokes and make 'em work.

J. All set. Well, first of all, where are we?

G. Hell.

G. Don't anticipate. No, we're not where South of Suez.

The censor's bound to pass that. Delightfully vague. Includes all Africa from the Canal to Cape Town. But, my lad, it brings to the mind of anyone "really" smart Kipling! Somewhere East of Suez, where a man can raise a thirst. Subtle, what? In fact, very good.

"Now what's your picture of this forsaken place?"

J. Sand, thirsty heat, and rationed water.

G. Quite. (Thoughtfully.) Ever read the Alice books?

J. Sure. At least, the missus reads them to little Jimmy. There's a boy for you. Five years old and speaks Afrikaans and kitchen kaffir better than I do.

G. Remember the verses about the Walrus and the Carpenter? How does it go?

The Walrus and the Carpenter
Were swimming close together, and
They waded like anything—

Such quantities of sand,
If this were Oniver-sar-ay.

They said, it would be grand;
I don't see—

J. You will in a minute, fat head. Work that into your letter, and your missus, who isn't a fat-head, will fumble over it *pronto*. And there's your sand!

Effectually clever, aren't you!

J. Naturally. Now for the water. I've got it. Old Sam Coleridge, of course. What was that poem they made me learn by heart at school?

I know. The Ancient Mariner. There was a quotation in it that has won many a shilling in bets:

The very board did shrink.
Water, water everywhere,

Nor any drop to drink.
Safe bet people always say. And not a drop to drink.

J. Steady on, old man, there's no water, water everywhere here—salt or fresh.

G. Then we must work the Alice stunt again, that's all. No chance of getting oysters here, or words to that effect. She'll savvy you're not near the sea, anyway.

J. Pretty deep, that.

G. You have to be pretty deep to get past the censor. Ever hear of jumping mice?

J. No! Heard of pink rats and green elephants, but not jumping mice.

G. Don't you know anything about the animals of the land you're in? What do you read?

J. Oh, the market prices always, the racing news sometimes, and the political speeches never.

G. Well, these jumping mice are queer little beasts, like a mouse on stilts, and they can jump some! They live in African deserts, but not in all—and that's my stroke of genius, which is going to tell your missus just where you are.

Let's see where we are: Wadi and Carpenter sand; nor any clear drink—thirst and rationed water; shrinking boards heat, and jumping mice—that'll tell Mrs. James Strite, who has the only brains in the family. An' just such desert we are. Finnes.

J. Stout work, George, though I do say it.

(Letter duly composed and packed in the military mail bag)

CENSOR at G.H.Q.: Letter from Sergeant James Strite, on patrol to Mrs. James Strite, Inyanga, Southern Rhodesia. (Reads)

Dearest Minnie,—

I am well and in' as I hope you and little Jimmy are, too. I can see you reading 'Alice Through the Looking-glass' to the boy before he goes to bed. How he loves those verses about the Walrus and the Carpenter; you might get him to learn them off by heart—good for his memory. The very thought of those lines makes me long for oysters, which we cannot get here, of course. George Wilkins is with me, and he says 'The Ancient Mariner' is better poetry, being, by

the way, easier to learn it by heart at school, and he still wins bets by quoting from it. When he can find a suitable jiggins' Great mind to make money. George, "Always was,"

I must not tell you where we are, but it is somewhere South of Suez, which, I am sure, the censor class. Like Kipling's "Somewhere East of Suez," with all its implications. That's George's word, literary man, George, or thinks it.

I heard some of the men talking about jumping mice, and I had hoped to bring one home for little Jimmy as a pet, but George says there aren't any anywhere near our camp, so that scheme has gone West.

With love. Ever yours,

James Strite

Quoth the censor, to himself: "Um! Very runny! Suspicious I think. Might be a code, or something, if I didn't know old Jim Strite, who hasn't the sense of a straight stick, ha, ha—as a gun-barrel, too. But jumping mice. Good lord! Jimmy has had a touch of the sun, I expect. Can't be D.T.'s. Sun can be pretty hot up there on the Northern Frontier."

"Star letter with the censor's stamp and pass it into the Passed basket."

Mrs. Strite (in her bungalow in

Jonah Treguffin

"Passed to You, Please"

The Bazaar

GARETH TREGUFFIN was unlucky. Had been born so. That's something to do with it. But he's paid his dues, like typhoid, cancer, smallpox, typhoid, cancer, smallpox, disease. That is a curse.

He was the last of his family which was very much Compton, with all that that implies—was unwise. Compton is the mother country, and that he had been overlooked, happens in that ancient country older than its granite rocks, where the mere English are still "foreigners." So to have the first removed, she paid many visits to the white witch who lived under the Amazon Tree, taking Gareth with her.

As Gareth grew older misfortune grew worse. There was the terrible case of Lady Treguffin's precious rope of pearls—but that's another story.

When he came down from the varsity—where for the first time in four hundred years his room had been burnt out, scaring the President, Dean, Fellows and Scholars into premature senility—his mother secured him an appointment in Whitehall. "Overlooking" and the evils of the are, of course, unknown in the Metropolis, which is more concerned with traffic jams and road accidents.

It was a small appointment, but pleasant and not without prospects, and Treguffin hoped that his inexperience would be rescued from disaster by the bureaucrat's life-line. "Passed to you, please," which shifts responsibility to other shoulders.

Two years later—when this story opens—Treguffin, departmental chief was a worried man. Said he seemed to have got into the machinery. Influence decimated his staff. Gareth recovered, though barely, from a subsequent bad bout of double pneumonia. Friction over trifles arose with his subordinate for the first time, though he had long prided himself on being a fair and even a genial official. Files were constantly mislaid, and worst of all, Very Confidential Reports found its way into wrong hands. A notoriously cantankerous M.P. managed to get a glimpse at it, and Questions were asked in the House. And of all the desirs of the denizens of Whitehall the deepest is to stifle Parliamentary inquisitiveness, or at any rate to quiet it.

Backing back, the Assistant Under-Secretary of State traced his troubles to the advent of Treguffin,

then just returned to duty after an operation for appendicitis. As he too was bound with the Permanent Commission of State. They were one then his wish was to get rid of Gareth, provided it could be accomplished without offending the Treguffins, who had influence.

"I'm sorry," said his chief, with rather more cordiality than credit—"you have done well in this business on account of the war. I wonder you would like to see more of it?"

"Yes, Sir," said Gareth, who realised that he had not left his house of ill-luck behind him in Comptonwall. That distressed him, for he was a kind-hearted lad.

"Well, Musso has not yet come in with his pal Adolf. He may. Then the Italians in Ethiopia will be belligerents. Already East Africa and the Rhodesias are getting ready, you know, enlisting men and so forth. You are a Territorial, I believe."

"Yes, Sir. 2nd Highsteads. Good! You will be the more welcome out there if you would like to go. I think we could fix you up with a passage as far as Port Said in a troopship, and from there or Suez you can get another steamer to Mombasa. Think it over."

"Thank you, Sir," said Gareth gratefully, seeing another chance to flee from the Black Luck which pursued him. "I don't need to think about it. Nothing could be better."

"Then I'll write you a note of introduction to an old friend of mine," concluded the chief, not less thankful to have the business settled.

And he wrote.

Dear Old Man.—The bearer, Gareth Treguffin, has been two years with me, but wants service in East Africa. He is a good man, but unlucky. So passed to you, please.

Arrived at Port Said, the Captain of the AIREDALE consoled his Chief Engineer on his bad luck during the voyage—hot bearings, choked condensers, and a narrow escape from ending his career in the crank-pit of the great 52-inch low-pressure cylinder.

"Ay," said old Macalister. "It has been a rough trip. Twas a bonny blaw we had in the Bay. There'll be a Jonah on board," and—with the Scottish sense of the supernatural—it'll be that young Treguffin. You lad's no'anny."

Between the ASIES, bound for Bombay, and her sister ship,

the KHMATGAR, the General Manager said there was no difference at all possible between the two ships in their respective skippers and crews would have formed such a judgment? As if two ships must be bound to alike just because they came from the same shipyards.

But Treguffin gloomily and reluctantly accepted the depressing conclusion that he had not saved his Curse. He was about to buy the ASIES by mistake after having sent his baggage to the ARIADNE. He landed in Bombay with the clothes he stood up in, a few odds and ends contributed by sympathisers aboard, and the dispatch case containing his papers and money.

A Transport Officer in Bombay was helpful. "Bad luck," said he.

"But there's a liner sailing for Durban in a couple of days. I'll put you up till then, and give you a chit to a pair of fine there who'll see you on your way."

He, a pattern of hospitality, was glad to see the last of Treguffin, for the KHMATGAR had reported sick, and being taxed with malingering, had pleaded that the stranger Sahib had the evil eye.

At the fall of the Mozambique Channel the liner which bore him to Durban was caught by a hurricane, and the upper works clean. Treguffin, knocked unconscious by falling down a companion-way during the storm, came ashore still suffering from concussion, and handed to the Transport Officer the chit from his opposite number in Bombay. It ran:

Dear Jim.—The bearer, Gareth Treguffin, is bound for Mombasa, but has made the wrong turning. Send him on safely, will you? He is a bit of a Jonah, but otherwise harmless. Passed to you, please."

The Transport Officer, who on a spot of up-country leave had invested more than he could afford in tickets in the Southern Rhodesia State Lottery, winced at the thought of the bad luck which might befall him, and lost no time in passing the chit to the officer in Mombasa.

"You have heard the news?" said the officer in Mombasa, to whom he had been consigned. "Italy has declared war and France has collapsed."

"Dammit!" exploded Treguffin. "You can't blame me for that!"

"What's that?" he asked in surprise.

"Oh, nothing," replied Gareth. "But I seem to carry Bad Luck wherever I go."

"Nonsense," sympathised the other man. "You're a bit under the weather after your round-about journey. I'll get you fixed up all right. The Italians are in strong

borders our northern frontier and we want every man who wears a rifle.

The crisis came in the desert of northern Kenya, when Gareth was with a British patrol which was falling back under the pressure of overwhelming Italian forces. As he sat at night in the dark under the stars the Curse bit into his soul.

He saw himself as a pariah, a leper, owing Bad Luck among his friends as a typhoid-carrier spreads disease. It would not be so bad if, a second Abasuerus, he carried ill luck to the enemies of his country instead of among his friends and countrymen. But what was the use of such speculations? All he could do was to carry on.

Next day, while he was on the lookout from an isolated hillock in a dry stream bed, an enemy patrol crept in behind him, fired, hit him in the leg, and took him prisoner.

Rome radio announced jubilantly that a British colonel, seven subalterns and 98 askari had been captured after the fall of the battalion, which had been then dead with them.

Now the power of the Curse is with the forces of the Duke of Aosta who may imagine that he has cornered enough of Italian tanks. Treadwell will scarcely prove Falstaff.

Here's How

SOUTHERN RHODESIAN Commodity centres, round Bulawayo, were the railway branches off for Africa. The requirements of this market are different from others, for it is the Natives who are the most important customers. Some suppliers cover Southern Rhodesia by means of travellers making the round trip from Cape Town up to Egypt, via Basutoland, Kenya, Uganda, doing the Mediterranean on their way home.

The biggest importers in Bulawayo send out travellers all over the country once a month, carrying a wide range of samples. Salesmanship is comparatively easy since there is no cut-throat competition. Bravery of little consequence in Native trade.

The Rhodesian buyer is very much at the mercy of chance-gamblers catalogues that he may have time to open and study, chance-callers that offer him goods which he might otherwise know nothing about. The gap between supply and demand can easily be filled by a manufacturer, who goes to the trouble of finding out something about Rhodesian conditions and needs, and then adapts his products

Misericordia!

*Bent on a curse, the Curse, that
descends between the two Italian
troops, on this island, where
Graziani, commanding of the Italian
Army, has an antipathy to one
own Secretary, and has translated
by him—still in regard to the
susceptibilities of our men.*

*The remarks of General Graziani
have also been omitted, for he
seemed distinctly annoyed, and had
permitted himself the use of words
not normally employed in polite
society. His opinion of some of his
Divisional Generals must be omitted
as inappropriate to the Christmas
season.*

*Graziani, old chap,
This war's got to stop;
Mistrissimo, think,
The thing's on the blink!
Here am I, all alone,
But I'm sure you will own
That I've done what I could
As a good soldier should
To whip the Inglesi.*

*At first it was aisy
The blighters weren't ready
My progress was steady
Kassala, Gallabat,
Fell to me — pat!
Somaliland too
Was a smart job to do.*

*While you, dear old horse
(As between friends, of course)
Have been sitting tight
"Getting ready" to fight
You have stores and munitions
The best of conditions.
Only Wavell to beat,*

to them. He will reap a rich reward for the same goods will probably be readily in other parts of Africa, and using wages and education among Africans provide an endless vista of expansion.

Except in the European trade, branded goods are rather important in East Africa, as most of the Natives are illiterate and only recognise what they have bought before by pictures. This does not apply so much to Uganda, where the Natives are better educated. Africans are gradually buying quality goods, as their production of coffee, sisal and maize increases and they obtain better prices for them.

No, they're not spurious quotations offered in the Yuletide spirit of fun, but textual extracts from a recent book allegedly designed to assist the British manufacturer to obtain more trade in Southern

*Italy's a great
And I'm a German
Haven't I got swine?*

*Now these blighted British
Are getting too skittish;
I am facing disaster
But daren't tell our Master
Povera me, Grazie,
I'm sitting real nasty:
So bring off a coup,
Or I'll be in the soup,
Misericordia! plunk
To the eyeballs and sunk!*

*GRAZIANI.—
Dio mio, old chap,
Have you taken the rap?
No doubt it's a pity,
You're not sitting pretty,
But what's biting you, man,
I do all I can.*

*If you're on a spot,
Mine is ten times as hot;
I'm not fighting a nation
But the whole of creation
Wavell's brought, if you please
From all over the seas.*

*I'm bombed all to bits,
And shelled into bits;
My tanks and patrols
Are shot into holes,
Not getting no peace
We've got mucked up with Greece,
Oh, I'm free to confess
It's a heluva mess!*

*Your troubles grow worse
And you start to curse,
Fate for not blockin' it,
You bone-headed sap,
Don't open your trap,
TRUE A SOCK IN IT!*

Rhodesia and East Africa. The name of the author shall, in Christ's charity, be withheld.

In Reply to Yours

Owing to the contraction of the earth's surface by wireless, aircraft and what-not, the Near East has gone West and become the Middle East.

But Africa, just to be cussed has contracted out of the general contract. There is still East Africa, Central Africa (Middle Africa to the Huns), and West Africa, to say nothing of North East Africa, East Central Africa, South Central Africa, South East Africa, Southern Africa and South Africa.

Italian Africa appears to be ailing and German Africa is as dead as the GRAVE.

London Under Bombs

High Spirit of Its People

MONTHS OF INTENSE BOMBING have not broken the spirit of damped the native impudence and wit of the London street aristro.

While walking home during one of the many daylight raids to which Londoners have become accustomed, and of which they take scant notice, I passed past one of the "surface" shelters which close the streets. There I encountered a stream of water running over the pavement from a broken stand-pipe. As I hesitated, not wishing to get my feet wet, a small voice piped up: "Carry you across, mister?" I weigh some 15 stone.

The offer came from a perky youngster, of perhaps 10 years of age, one of the hundreds of aristro who hang about waiting to cut down into the Tube stations to reserve places for the nightly shelter of their parents. While waiting they play obscure but noisy games; and they greet the baneful wailings of the sirens with contemptuous "Shut up."

A few days later I met this nice boy's friends of import who had been evacuated to the country, one having been bombed out of house and home, both explained that they had returned because "they couldn't stick it" the quiet of the country. The bombed victim added: "I didn't like what noises there were." You should hav' heard the wind, 'ow," quoth he, as though were far worse than H.E.

London's misfortune, massive bombing began has been exaggerated by rumour and imagined of the extent of the damage done. It has undoubtedly been very heavy, but so huge is the area over which as a competitor's victory has descended, notwithstanding weeks of intensive Nazi efforts in the art of explosive destruction, it is necessary to drive through miles of London streets to find clear evidence of ruins.

Greater as the might said the local citizens can hardly be blamed for speaking of devastation. Broken glass litters the streets, and now and again it is wiped up in pools in the gutters just like mud. This is a place's surest sound truth. Anything looks more desolate than a windowless house. But repairs are done, and the aspect of the streets improves amazingly.

Fantastic stories are spread abroad. A popular one asserts that the blast from one bomb killed 16 people in a public bar, each being found dead in the exact position at

the moment when the blast struck the barman drawing milk from his pump, one customer tendering the money for his drink. Another with his glass raised to his lips, yet another in the act of getting off his stool to leave. Some people believe these yarns.

Kipling maintained that "in Town there is racing but machinery and asphalt are building—all shrouded in the fog. Naturally a man grows to think that the Metropolitan Board of Works made everything."

Is it surprising then that sudden destruction bewilders the Londoner and that he—and more especially she—has a perverted pride in making his or her fellows' flesh creep? One house "demolished" (the popular term becomes an gossip half a dozen and then a whole street). In fact, much of the worst damage has been done to flats which should have been wiped out long ago, houses of which it has been said that no one would dare remove the whole paper lest the whole edifice should collapse.

Travellers who have seen more of the world, and especially of the tropics, where Nature is apt to be violent, have a finer sense of proportion. They remember that, literally at a blow, one hurricane destroyed the whole clove industry of islands; that the Jamaican earthquake of 1907 "flattened out" (such word of today) completely the whole of Kingston, capital, in half an hour; and that in 1902 the blast from erupting Mount Pelee killed the whole population of the capital of Martinique, 20,000 of them, excepting only one man (the wasps) and burned the entire town in the harbour, except one building, RODDAM—and all within minutes.

Death by bombs to the Londoner, as Mulvaney said, "like the judge min' av God hittin' down from the naked sky." The poorer classes expect the regular routine of sickness in bed, the panel doctor in attendance, try to buy their "blacks," an adequate funeral.

Much has already been written of the steady bravery of the citizens of London and of provincial towns,

under their ordeal. Londoners are indeed "whole-hearted." There is only evidence of their calm courage. No praise is too high for the devotion to duty of the fire brigades, the A.R.P., and a hundred other services, many voluntary.

Railways may be damaged, electric and water mains broken, gas pipes put out of action, but the inconvenience is often only temporary, so quick are the repairs. In many districts—including my own, which is within easy walking distance of Hyde Park—there have been no interruptions to the gas, electricity or water services, and—an astounding thing—my daily paper has arrived every day regularly at a.m., a miracle of enterprise and organization. The milk roundsman, the newspaper boy and a dozen other little servants of the public go about their business in the black-out long before our morning "raiders passed" signal, as if no such things as bombs existed.

Shelters and shelterers are another subject for exaggeration. Those who read the writings of some journalists might think that half the population of London queues up, and even fights, to get into shelter. It has been officially pointed out 85% of Londoners remain in their own homes at night, trusting to strong rooms, reinforced basements, comfortable Anderson shelters, where, as a Bishop advised, they can "go to bed hopefully and wake up thankfully." Far from getting hysterical, temperated ladies are heard to remark: "Oh, I go to bed and forget about it."

Bombing, as a famous general has said, is "an unpleasant experience" as I can testify, intense and continuous bombing is weaking to the nerves and the temper. But we soon learn that it is not the universal disaster which appears in print.

Instead of harping on the inevitable casualties, more news might be given of the many escapes. For instance, passing down a well-known street in the West End, I saw a large hotel which had been bombed. Above a starting hole a rubble was half a bedroom, with a mirror still fixed to the wall. A man was actually shaving at that mirror when the bomb struck the building; he came down with the rubble, his razor still in his hand, and arrived safe and uncut in the pavement.

Yes, London still stands. The spirit of its people is unbroken, and its business continues, as usual, as the crowded shops prove.

And stand London will to the final and triumphant end.

Italy's African Strategy

Exclusive and Searching Revelations

By the Master Expert of "The Acme"

Mr. ALEXANDER, the greatest war correspondent on the African campaigns, has travelled all over Africa on behalf of "The Acme"—by foot, by train, by Native canoe, by bullock cart, by rickshaw, and by the oldest motor-car in the continent, a spartan automobile of American parentage hired from Mr. Sandy McGoogly, the well-known rubber farmer of Hooey's Drift, Kenya.

What do the pundits in Whitehall know of Italy's strategy and real aims in Africa?

Nothing.

But for many years I have been in personal contact with the leaders of Fascism, from the *Duce*—so friendly were we that I called him "Ben," and with his jovial laugh, he nicknamed me, "Nozi"—to the editor of *Il Trompeta Brasso*, his mouthpiece.

Why did Italy conquer Abyssinia? or Ethiopia, as we well-informed travellers call it?

He found an Italian East African Empire waiting, but really with long-sighted strategy, as the first step to India.

Italy is a poor country, though the *Duce* looks pompous enough; but a diet of maize does fatten, as any poultry-keeper will confirm. Germany is also poor. Goebbels has advertised that national advantage for years. Hitler, I happen to know, has been advised by his doctors and his chief adviser not to eat dog meat. And look at him! Like a haddock with lung trouble.

So India, that land of fabulous riches ripe for exploitation by those who know how to squeeze, is the real goal of the Axis Powers.

As the pundits in Whitehall could see, if they would only apply their minds.

Italy quickly assembled a vast army in Abyssinia (Ethiopia), well equipped and well-trained. I saw them on one of my many African journeys. It was the end of the then African votes, exclusive of *The Acme*.

When Mussolini shouted the hour had struck for his grand follows to take a hand in an early or of peace-making, what did the Italians do?

By courteous permission of "The Acme" we are enabled to reprint this searching article from its columns. It is, of course, much more trustworthy than most of the contributions in that widely-circulated daily.

They made attacks on the Sudan border, capturing Gedaref, Gallabat and Kassala, as though they intended to march on Khartoum. That was, I perceived, but a *ruse de guerre* to deceive the pundits in Whitehall—it did.

That cleared the way for the capture of the whole of the Crown Colony of British Somaliland, with its fine harbour of Berbera. Now they are in possession of the whole coast of North East Africa, from Ras Kasar to Cape Guardafui, and on Dick's Head in the south, with that magnificent series of harbours from Massawa to Mogadishu, including Kisimayo.

No excuse are those anchorage that they struck Araballows during the monsoon, and are leading ports for *Borsig* (the West equivalent of steel) and for the building of marine motor, the potencies of Arabia (that is, by the way). A hideous harbours in trouble from the elements should have been recognised as good enough for any Italian man-of-war. I make bold to say that that point was missed by our Intelligence.

Now turn to a map, a good one, to follow my revelations of Italian strategy. (*The Acme* publishes an excellent map at Is. 8d. post free.) Look carefully, and you will see that Italian Somaliland reaches like a strong right-hand down the East Coast, almost to Mombasa—three miles away on my left.

I now reveal to you in this magnificent harbour Italy has been collecting a vast fleet of transports (not sailing boats).

Why? To transport a *Luftwaffe* Expeditionary Force, backed by a tremendous armada, when the monsoon (Indian trade wind) is favourable. Zanzibar (The adjacent islands of Pemba and possibly Mafia) is captured (section G 3 in mine), while a fleet emerges from the southern points of Italian Somaliland, crossing the Indian Ocean, the coast, mapping the coastline, Dares Salaam and the villages, a route and joining hands with a stout force of German settlers from Tanganyika Territory who have concealed arms for many years and, having artfully assured the Government of their iron-bellied courage, have been trusted to fight.

Zanzibar is the pivot of the

whole system. It is an immense military centre as is enjoyed by Greece, Spain, Gibraltar, Malta, and the Falklands. Did these last give their name to a sea battle? And did not the Germans make haste to seize the Channel Islands? thus gaining control of the early potato and tomato crops? (They would have done the same with the Scilly Isles if their Intelligence had not apprised them that their only export was flowers.)

Zanzibar, this conquered and fortified, would command Mombasa and Dar es Salaam to say nothing of Bagamoyo, famous gateway into Africa used by Livingstone, Burton, Speke, Cameron, and many other famous explorers—including my colleague, Miss Regula Focit, whose latest masterpiece, "In Burton's Boot-Marks," was charmingly dedicated to me, her devoted admirer.

To the practised war correspondent it is an open secret that Zanzibar is an ideal jumping-off place for India. I know the Island well, with its magnificent playing-field called the *Nazi Modjer* (prophetic name!), perfectly fitted for an aerodrome.

Transport should be easy, for from Zanzibar there runs an excellent line of steamers direct to Bombay, the gateway to India.

Mr. C. J. Wayland in London
Oh, Wayland! When seeking a plot to travel with the Englishmen for a vacation, I said last summer to Gilbertian friends,
For Rocks are few, Name one, what?

Cromer

—A quiet little town, situated on the north coast of Norfolk, about 10 miles from King's Lynn, and 12 miles from Cromer.

Look up the author of "Cromer on the Coast," and you will find that the old and grim old tasks The Empire, from her stricken tasks, A shrinking shadow still must fly over the Yuletide Festival.

Nevertheless, the message of goodwill By Angels borne, inspires us still; And this, with grateful heart, we send To each new reader, each old friend.

The night will pass and sound day Renew the old times, bright and gay; Be this our strength, whate'er befall The fervent pray'r, God speed us all!

Renewed Military Activity from Kenya.

Capture, and Destruction of Enemy Post at El Wak.

Kenya has come prominently to the notice, not only as the result of a skilful and successful raid upon the Italian Somaliland post of El Wak and there has been much activity on the air over the Sudan-Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somaliland.

December 18.—A communiqué issued by Cairo, read—“Kenya. Part of our forces, including South African and East African troops, carried out a successful raid on El Wak on December 16, killing and capturing 100 prisoners, together with a quantity of material.”

Further details were given in a communiqué issued by Nairobi, which stated that our force included South African and Gold Coast rats, with armoured fighting vehicles, artillery. The South African Air Force dropped approximately 2½ tons of bombs. At least 20 Italians, including several officers, and 100 German infantry were stated to have been captured. 12 small guns, four machine-guns, and large quantities of stores and ammunition. Fifty of the enemy were wounded, while our casualties were two killed and one wounded. One Italian aircraft was shot down, and another enemy plane retreating was shot down by our fighters. Early on the morning of December 17, one Caproni bomber was shot down by our fighters.

Several buildings and stores had been captured, which were removed for use, and a large amount of material recovered.

Prisoners said that the Italian commander had a mule cart when he learnt that attack was probable, and that other Italian took to flight as the action continued. The Native irregulars fought well, however. Among the prisoners was a Lieutenant colonel.

While the most important raid so far was staged on the Kenya-Malai-Somaliland frontier, was one of the first places attacked by British forces when they entered the war. A K.A.R. detachment then sent to the barracks, destroyed large quantities of stores and equipment, and brought back an Italian flag.

Port Sudan Raided.

An R.A.F. communiqué stated that Assab was twice raided, once during the night of December 16-17, when attacks were made on a large motor transport yard, all bombs falling well inside the target area. During the second raid Arabic and Italian pamphlets describing the fall of Sollum and Capuzzo were dropped over the town. Port Sudan was raided by enemy bombers and some damage caused. Our fighters intercepted the enemy, and the S. 80 had only engine put out of action by machine gun fire. The remaining S. 79's escaped into the clouds. From all these operations all our aircraft returned safely. The Italians made light of the El Wak engagement, stating that “near El Wak Italian aircraft bombed and strafed enemy mechanised units. One machine has not returned.” The Rome statement added:

“Italian air patrols made an effective night raid on enemy aerodrome at Ercovi and Sabd-el-Sumi, surprising them while in full activity. Shrapnel bombs were dropped on about 10 aircraft on the ground. Harbour installations and oil dumps at Port Sudan were also effectively bombed. One of the Italian machines, owing to bad weather, made a forced landing in enemy territory on the way back, but it took off again and returned intact to its base. Bombing raids were also made on the railway station at Gedaref in the Sudan, and on large oil installations at Otrub and Mount Regan.”

On December 17 successive waves of Italian bombers repeated their raids on the air base, port and oil dump at Port Sudan. Four enemy machines were destroyed on the ground for want of fuel. The port instal-

lations and oil dump were visibly damaged. Our machines saw large columns of smoke rising from great distances. It is estimated that 100 aircraft were shot down by seven enemy fighters and failed to shoot down two of them. One Italian aircraft failed to return.

December 18.—The communiqué from Cairo, read—“From the Sudan front our patrols were again active in the Kassala and Gallabat areas, inflicting numerous casualties on the enemy in Kenya. Following a successful action on December 17, the situation remains unchanged.”

Heavy Activity in the Air.

The R.A.F. communiqué of the same day, reported that a Rhodesian squadron raided enemy aircraft and troops in the Metemma area, while other aircraft attacked Jebel Serapati, 10 miles north of East Rassas, where tanks and fires started. All our aircraft returned safely.

The Italian communiqué claimed that air formations bombed the railway station, aerodrome and entrenched camp at Gedaref, Sudan, causing extensive fires. The Roseires airfield was also bombed, a searchlight battery being destroyed and great fire started. Port Sudan was bombed in stages by Italian aircraft. British Gloster and Gladiator fighters attacked our formations and one of our machines was shot down, all the British aircrew being missing safely. British airmen dropped leaflets from Metemma and Argaziza.

December 19.—P.O. Gairi reported—“Patrolling over the Sudan frontier and Kassala was continue. An enemy plane which tried to bomb a small village in the Kassala frontier district of Yekatit was overtaken by a Party of East African troops.

December 20.—S.E. Gairi reported—“A patrol of British and Sudanese troops was continuing. An enemy plane which tried to bomb a small village in the Kassala frontier district of Yekatit was overtaken by a Party of East African troops.

Gairi said—“Several tanks and equipment were captured without loss to our men.”

The R.A.F. Middle East reported that an enemy aircraft attempted to raid Asab on the night of December 20, but that no damage or casualties were caused.

December 21.—The R.A.F. communiqué of the R.A.F. said—“Gura, Mai Adaga, Metemma, Assab and Tessenei were raided. A team of a Rhodesian Squadron carried out the raid on Metemma and Tessenei, troop concentrations being attacked. The former and enemy aircraft on the ground at the latter. One Caproni was badly damaged. It is not possible to estimate the amount of damage caused at Gura or Mai Adaga, but all bombs fell within the target area. At Asab dive attacks were made on the water works. On December 18 aircraft of the S.A.A.F. carried out raids on Afmara and Moyale. At the former place the garrison buildings and motor-trucks were bombed, and at the latter direct hits were obtained on an enemy camp.”

December 22.—On the Sudan frontier our aggressive patrolling continued.

The R.A.F. Middle East announced that a night raid had been made on Afmara, one large factory being set alight and a violent explosion caused.

December 23.—S.A.A.F. machines heavily raided Yatello, dropping some 300 bombs and destroying three Italian aircraft at least and seriously damaging three more without loss to themselves. There was continuous aggressive patrolling in northern Kenya and anti-aircraft activity in the Gallabat area.

Southern Rhodesia War Effort.

Whereas in the last war Southern Rhodesia as an economic factor was of no importance in the war, its position is very different. Sir Archibald Chisholm, Prime Minister of the Colony, in a recent interview, change is partly due to the development of the tin fields, and partly because of his work in carrying copper from Northern Rhodesia to the coast.

After 11 months of war the Colony has 11% of its total European population in the permanent forces. In the last week after 11 months, at a time when casualties had been very small, the United Kingdom had only 6% in the armed forces. My opinion is that the Empire will be ready to start the war some time next summer, and that it will take a year after that to defeat the enemy. Selected members of the Kenya Legislative Council are discussing the desirability of immediately in Kenya the issuing of ordinances on the basis of the measure recently brought into effect in Southern Rhodesia. The Germans are reported to be using an old U-boat as a raider in the Indian Ocean. The British, following Norwegian lines, said to be sailing and Norwegian colours, left Kenya, Japan, on December 1 under the command of a German prize crew. She is armed and might capture unsuspecting vessels.

Casualties and Awards

Sergeant Ronald Shakes, the well-known British singer, has been killed in an air crash at Cranborne, Southern Rhodesia.

Flying Officer J. L. Allen, D.F.C., whose death in action was recently announced, was the son of Dr. and Mrs. Allen of the C.M.S. Hospital at Kaloleni, Kenya. He attacked single-handed 20 Junkers 88's, and later 12 Messerschmitts, of which three were shot down and three damaged.

Reference to the liability of sea-going members of the staff of the B. & O. Steam Navigation Company and its associated companies (among which is the British India Navigation Company) was made at the annual meeting in London last week by Sir William Gurnett, the Chairman, who said they were inordinately proud of the distinction accorded by the King to their seamen since the outbreak of war. Awards already presented to members of the associated staffs included five D.S.O.'s, 10 D.S.C.'s, two O.B.E.'s, 125 British Empire medals, 10 D.S.M.s and 17 commendations, while in other directions within the group there were a V.C., a D.S.O., two O.B.E.'s, one George Medal, one British Empire Medal, and 40 commendations.

Captain P. W. Finch-Blossom, a former Imperial Airways pilot, who flew many thousands of miles over East and Central Africa before the war, and who is now Flight Lieutenant in the R.A.F., has been awarded the D.F.C. for gallantry in air raids over Germany.

Major M. A. Carthew-Vorster and Major J. G. Sandys recently received the D.S.Q. for gallantry in Belgium, both formerly serving in the Sudan.

Colonel Charles Lupton, Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in Ireland, is visiting East Africa.

Mr. A. C. Mayow, acting as an honorary welfare officer to the forces, is in the Hon. Rajahmundry, Kasmiri, now known as the Kenya Supply Board.

Lady Stanney has flown to Rhodesia to seek 100 recruits for the Women's Transport Service in East Africa, and succeeded in her quest. Among the recruits was Miss Janet Stanney, eldest daughter of Sir Herbert Stanney, Governor of Southern Rhodesia. Lady Stanney, "Volunteers" came from all parts of Southern Rhodesia and do a vital part in morale in Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

As Chief Marshal of the Royal Air Force Mr. Brooke-Popham, the Commandant-in-Chief in the Far East, has telegraphed Sir Arnold Wavell the congratulations of the Royal Army and Air Force in the Far East on the grand victory in the Western Desert. If nothing else, the example of collective cooperation must be an incentive to the spirituation to us all.

Plans for War Decoys

The organization of the County Defence Fund hope to raise a total of £1,000,000 in the first half of the year. When the final figure is reached the County Defence Fund

Northern Rhodesia's Speed the Planes Fund now needs £100,000.

Indian Railways Fund totals nearly £1,25,000. The Royal Military Fund amounted to nearly £1,000,000. All these will help.

The forces of the Services in the Sudan, East Africa, Kenya, Palestine and Trans-Jordan contributed to a gift of £100,000 to General Sir Archibald Wavell to be used for the purchase of fast tracks for London, our rail

and motor vehicles, armoured carriers, presented by the Queen, and £100,000 accepted by Her Majesty the Queen Mother, £100,000 in self-propelling vehicles from Kenya, Uganda and Northern Rhodesia, and four-wheel trailers from Tanganyika, Mozambique and Nyasaland.

Nyasaland has subscribed £1,000 to mobile canteens in this country. Residents of Lilongwe raised no less than £180 by a tele arranged by Mrs. E. J. Bourke, President of the local branch of the Red Cross Society. So pronounced was local generosity that a box of Christmas lates was auctioned for the splendid sum of £1,000.

A special Christmas Box Fund was launched in Uganda for presentation unconditionally to the people of Britain and Greece. Over £700 was collected at first day.

Over £500 was raised in a month in Kenya for the Colony's Flying Ambulance Fund. The organisers adopted the "penny a mile" scheme in seven Highland townships, and donations were made by all nationalities.

Free Frenchmen in Kenya have presented a ambulance to the local Forces in East Africa. Mme. Raymond Hébrard organised the fund for the ambulance, which is named the Croix de Lorraine. The response to the appeal was so general that it also permitted the presentation of a large sum to the No. 2 General Hospital.

Greek residents in Kenya recently sent £500 to General Metaxas to assist the Greek war effort.

Revolt Spreads in Ethiopia

All Possible Help for Rebels

Revolting Col. Mander, who asked whether all steps were being taken to treat Ethiopia and its Emperor as allies in the fullest sense, Mr. A. A. Butler said in the House of Commons last week that the information on conditions in Ethiopia was naturally difficult to obtain, but the movement of revolt against the Italians appeared to be making progress. It was the policy of the British Government to extend to the Emperor Haile Selassie, as well as to all elements within Abyssinia willing to bear arms against the enemy, possible assistance in their fight for freedom.

Mr. Noel Baker asked whether the national anthem of Abyssinia could be included among the other national anthems broadcast each Sunday evening, but Mr. Butler said the list could not be added to. Mr. Noel Baker suggested that this might be a discrimination against a country which the British Government had said but little about so that they were prepared to treat as Allies in the same way as other Allies. Mr. Butler, however, thought we should be doing disservice to the cause of the Emperor and his friends and the cause of freedom if Mr. Noel Baker attached any importance to that particular matter. The policy of the Government was perfectly clear, and was having considerable success.

Mr. Noel Baker: "It is not that I attach importance to the matter—it would not matter if I did—but that the Ethiopians do."

69th Week of the War

Ghana and The Gold Coast Imperial Government's Policy Outlined

LORD LUGARD'S speech at Accra, the capital of Ghana, made a significant contribution of Lord's last week to the policy of the Imperial Government and Allied Colonial territories.

He said that there might be found great scope for advance in Colonial development even during the war, in that the co-operation which had been begun, and which was being extended every day during the war, with the economies would be continued after the war, when the Imperial Government would be free from the fear of Nazi aggression.

Our co-operation with the Belgian and Free French Colonies had been rather different in degree and kind from our co-operation with the Netherlands Empire. Since the French and Belgian Colonies had always been very much more directly dependent on the metropolitan country than the Netherlands Empire, we had had to give the French and Belgians much more direct and definite support.

Economic agreement had just been negotiated with the Free French Colonies in Africa, and with the Belgian Congo. These agreements were now ripe for signature, and the Belgian Colonial Minister had gone to the Belgian Congo to discuss the Belgian draft agreements in final form with the Governor. The British Colonial Office had given valuable assistance in drawing up the agreements, and in organising a Central Colonial section to continue the liaison arrangements with the French Colonial Empire which had already been brought into operation before the collapse of France.

The arrangements proposed with the Free French and the Belgian Colonies tended broadly to give effect to the Government's pledge to maintain the economic structure of those countries by buying as much of their products as we could, and providing in return the imports necessary for their economic life.

Maintaining Colonial Standards of Living

One of the most important problems confronting all the allied Colonial Empires was that of maintaining in war conditions essential supplies to the Colonies and their standards of living. Coconuts in East Africa, cocoa and palm products in West Africa; and bananas in Jamaica came within this category. In all these cases the Imperial Government had found or was finding financial means for saving the Colonies from grave suffering.

The vast majority of the inhabitants in the Colonies grew their own foodstuffs, and it was rather in luxuries and luxuries only that the pinch would be felt. The Colonial Office had been trying hard to get the Colonies to grow more food and better food. Some were taking this advice to heart, but it would be foolish to pretend that the effect of the war had not made it both more expensive and more difficult to obtain a very large proportion of the imports which the Colonies required. It was hoped that all those requirements could be filled as before the war.

It had not been the policy of His Majesty's Government to attempt to maintain supplies at 100% of the pre-war level, but to endeavour to prevent serious distress. Where crops upon which particular Colonies had become unsaleable owing to war conditions the Government had stepped in with special schemes of assistance. Secondly they had endeavoured to see that what was provided could be turned into essential supplies from outside.

In the past the Colonies had concentrated too much on the production of some profitable export crops, and had been content to rely upon imports for their necessary foodstuffs. This had been particularly the case in the West Indies, and the results had been lamentable.

Lord Lugard and his successors had urged upon the Colonial Government the importance of mixed farming, and of the need for soil-enrichment and a balance generally in agriculture. The Colonial Office would do all it could to increase the number of secondary industries in the Crown colonies. It was our duty to try to make the Crown Colonies as healthy entities as possible.

Mr. S. H. SAYER-Elected President of Associated Chambers

MR. S. H. SAYER'S election as President of the Association of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Eastern Africa is an excellent augury for these difficult days, for he is among the most widely-travelled, experienced, well-balanced and popular business men in the territories. He has consistently advocated the union of Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika, has resisted tendencies which might create dissensions between coastal and up-country interests, has been an assuring influence when the Indian community has from time to time given expression to embittered feelings, and has for many years carried a heavy burden of public work and discharged it with marked success. He has filled the office of President of the Mombasa, Dar es Salaam, Zanzibar and Kisumu Chambers of Commerce, and it was his own personal persuasion which secured the presence at the recent annual session of the Associated Chambers of representatives of the three leading public bodies of Uganda, which had all abstained from attendance for several years. It is to be hoped, therefore, before he rejoins the Association of the chairmanhip of Mr. Sayer, he will have performed a most important inter-territorial service. Few men in commerce in Kenya are more busily engaged day and night on committees set up to promote the war effort of East Africa, and few have his powers of assimilation and of quick and sound decisions. Throughout the last year he served with the Royal Marines, mainly with the Naval Division in France, where he was wounded and gassed. In Kenya Mr. Sayer the astute and influential leader, has a energetic, thoughtful and influential leader.



Mr. S. H. SAYER has been consecrated by the Bishop of Nairobi at Moi's Mission, Northern Rhodesia. It has accommodated 1,000 people at one time, and is the largest church in the country. The Rev. Mr. Maynard on his way to consecrate the building when he was taken ill and returned to Chipili where he died.

N. Rhodesia's Large Church

THE Rev. Mr. Maynard has been consecrated by the Bishop of Nairobi at Moi's Mission, Northern Rhodesia. It has accommodated 1,000 people at one time, and is the largest church in the country. The Rev. Mr. Maynard on his way to consecrate the building when he was taken ill and returned to Chipili where he died.

Thanks to Lord Lugard

TO mark the fiftieth anniversary of Lord Lugard's arrival in Uganda, the Governor, Sir Charles Dunbar, has sent him a telegram expressing the Protection's appreciation of the notable services which Sir Lugard rendered to Africa generally, and to Uganda in particular. The telegram read: "We greet you and send you our best wishes, remaining ever thankful to one who took such a prominent part in establishing this Protectorate and in laying the foundations of the peace, prosperity and progress which is enjoyed to this day." Another cable was sent to the Kabaka and people of Buganda, recalling with much appreciation the great service which Lord Lugard had rendered them "by bringing them within the British Empire, of which they are proud to be a part" and referring with gratitude to his efforts in introducing good administration to their country.

PERSONALIA

Mr. J. S. Davis and Mrs. E. V. Branch were recently married in Dar es Salaam.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ewart and Mrs. Grogan recently celebrated the fortieth anniversary of their wedding. Congratulations.

A son was born in Nairobi last week to Mrs. Yvonne Geraldine Barton, wife of Captain Geoffrey Barton, Royal Welch Fusilier.

Sir Geoffrey Northcott, Governor of Hong-Kong, who served in Kenya for many years, was received by the King one day last week.

Major J. S. Bridger, Assistant Commissioner of the B.S.A. Police, with which he has served since 1905, is spending retirement.

Mr. C. P. A. Lourenco has been appointed Town Clerk and Treasurer of Gwelo, Southern Rhodesia. He had been assistant Town Clerk for some time.

Mr. George J. Anthony Cathcart-Walker, Heneage, who had several times visited East Africa on his game expeditions, died suddenly in Girvan last week.

The engagement is announced between Pilot Officer A. R. Singletop and Miss Margaret Brooks, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Brooks, of Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia.

Messrs. H. G. Duncan & A. F. Barron and the Hon. J. D. Stegman have been appointed unofficial members of the Nyasaland Legislative Council for the term of three years.

"Sir Charles Dundas has assumed the Governorship of Uganda. Lady Dundas and he paid a brief visit to Southern Rhodesia en route from the Cape, and re-embarked in Beira for Mombasa."

Mr. Eric Smith, Acting Senior Provincial Commissioner in Nyasaland, has been appointed a provisional member of the Executive and Legislative Councils, vice Mr. A. G. O. Hodgson, who is absent from the country.

Lord Cranborne, who goes to the House of Lords as a result of the Ministerial changes following Lord Halifax's appointment as British Ambassador in Washington, will there answer for both the Dominions and Foreign Offices.

The candidates finally nominated for the Victoria constituency of Southern Rhodesia, rendered vacant by the departure on active service of Mr. W. A. E. Winterton, M.P., are Mr. W. B. Richards (United Party); Mr. H. J. Filmer (Labour Party), and Mr. R. F. Holt (Independent).

Select Committee has been appointed by the Parliament of Southern Rhodesia to examine the Workmen's Compensation Act. Its members are Mr. J. W. Kelle, Minister Without Portfolio, and Messrs. M. Danziger, P. B. Fletcher, T. A. Kirbler, J. M. Leggatt, J. B. Lister, and E. P. Vernal.

At the moment closing for press we learn that Mr. Henry Guy Pilling, who served in Kenya as Deputy Colonial Secretary from 1934 to 1938, has been appointed British Resident in Zanzibar in succession to Mr. J. Hathorn Hall, who was recently appointed Governor of Aden. Mr. Pilling has been Governor of St. Helena since 1938.

Colonel J. A. Sturdy, for some years Chief Veterinary Officer in Kenya, and Mr. F. E. Beck, formerly Provincial Commissioner, recalled memories of early days on the North Frontier Province of Kenya in a B.B.C. broadcast from London last week. Mr. Beck will continue his reminiscences on the Forces programme on Wednesday January 2.

Mr. A. S. Romano, an elected President of the Nairobi District Chamber of Commerce, Mr. G. P. Menier as Vice-President, others who were elected to the committee were Dr. Watson Smith, Messrs. F. S. Roberts, W. M. Christie, W. Ethereton and R. H. McDonald. Mr. John Millar, last year's President, remains a member ex officio.

New Items in Brief

A new session of the Nyasaland Legislative Council was opened in Zomba last week.

Uganda exported 296,178 bales of cotton during the first nine months of this year. Total tax collected amounted to £115,921.

Many East Africans will regret to learn that it has been decided to close the British Empire Club, Nairobi, on December 31st from the end of this year.

South African Commissions, Ltd., announce that payment is being made of nine months dividend on the 10/- cumulative preference shares up to June 30 last.

Rhodesia Land Timber and Railways Company, Ltd., which has large interests in Kenya Colony, is paying an interim dividend of 3% for the current financial year.

The London Committee of the Mozambique Company advises that customs receipts of the port of Beira during September amounted to £140,554, compared with £12,395 in the corresponding period of 1939.

Messrs. Turner & Newall, who have interests in the Rhodesias and East Africa, report a trading profit of £2,136,720 for the year ended September 30, compared with £2,135,410 for the preceding 12 months. Owing to the heavy demands of N.D.C. and D.L.T., however, the dividend remains unchanged at 15%.

Stevens & Lloyds of South Africa, Ltd., who have extensive interests in the Rhodesias, report that, after charging £115,000 for taxation, the net profit for the year to June 30 last amounted to £280,136, compared with £250,303 for 1939. £25,000 has been allocated to special depreciation, £10,000 to stock reserve, and £45,000 to general reserve, £10,000 to contingencies, £5,028 to redundancy reserve, and £20,000 to employees' pension trust reserve. A final dividend of 15% for the year is to be paid, compared with 10% last year.



You'll enjoy cleaning your teeth with KOYNOS — it's such a refreshing powder! wherever it will make them clean and bright. KOYNOS is available in all chemists' stores, druggists' and tobacconists' counters throughout the United Kingdom.



COMPANY MEETINGS

Rhodesian Anglo-American**Enhanced Value of Investments**

MR. S. S. TAYLOR ADDRESSES

THE ELEVENTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF RHODESIAN ANGLO-AMERICAN LIMITED was held last week at 14, Queen's House, Old Broad Street, London, E.C.

Mr. S. S. Taylor, D.S., Deputy Chairman and managing director, presided.

The chairman said:

"Before dealing with the business of the company I have to refer to the loss which the company has suffered from the death of Mr. Walter McDermott and Mr. J. P. L. L.

The directors' report and the audited accounts which were issued with the notice convening this meeting will have acquainted you with the results of our business for the year just ended.

I do not propose to go through the accounts item by item, but to offer some explanation or comment upon certain items that may be of interest. The increase of about £1,400 in the amount of creditors is due to the larger amount of unpaid dividends, especially in respect of coupons believed to be held on the Continent.

Release from Loan Undertaking

There is a note on the balance sheet stating that there were contingent liabilities in respect of loan agreements and other commitments at June 30, 1940, amounting to £90,100 and that since that date the company has been released from its obligations in respect of £892,043 of that sum.

I should mention that in April of this year we joined with other large shareholders in Nchanga Consolidated Copper Mines, Limited, and Rhokana Corporation Limited, in an undertaking to grant credit facilities to Nchanga Consolidated Copper Mines, Limited, for the purpose of financing its large construction programme, and to Rhokana Corporation, Limited, in order to enable it to undertake its own share in the provision of finance for the Nchanga Company.

Subsequently the directors of the Nchanga Company decided not to proceed with the programme which I have mentioned, and therefore our company together with the other participants in the credit, was released from its undertakings.

Market Value of Investments

On the set side of the balance sheet there is a note which shows that at June 30 last the market value of the investments exceeded the value at which they stood in our books by £10,456. You will be interested to know upon the basis of yesterday's market prices this surplus has increased to £3,414.2. There were certain individual investments where the market value was lower than the book value at June 30, but such deficiencies have since almost entirely disappeared.

Under the heading current assets the amount of net dividend receivable from Nchanga Corporation Limited, appears at the figure of £145,758 as compared with £263,171 last year. This is due to the reduction of that corporation's final dividend from 25% to 15% due to the fact that a higher rate of income tax is deductible from it.

Strong Financial Position

You will have noticed from the statement of the directors' report that the company is in a very strong financial position, having a surplus of equity assets of over £1,000,000. When the loan facilities to the Nchanga Company, for which Euroveit had no longer required, the directors used £800,000 of the surplus to subscribe for two-and-a-half percent additional War Bonds.

In the profit and loss account the reduction in the item under the heading "income from dividends, interest and other sources" is £10,000 which is accounted for by the decrease in the total gross dividends received and the reduction on the Rhokana Corporation, Limited, dividend for the year from 40% to 40%.

Taxation

The charge of £30,000 for income tax in the profit and loss account represents in the main tax suffered in connection with our Rhokana Corporation dividends, and the amount deducted from our own profit before tax-free payments. Although the company is not presently liable to excess profits tax, it is subject to this duty by reason of the heavy charge upon Rhokana Corporation resulting in decreased dividends from last year.

The reduction in those dividends was also necessary for your directors to recommend to you the payment of a final dividend at the rate of 4-1-6%, less income tax at 10%, £22d. in the £. A small amount has been appropriated from the undistributed profit brought forward from last year.

Rhokana Corporation: Large Increase in Profits

As I have shown in the directors' report there was a very large increase in the profits made by the Rhokana Corporation during last year, even although that corporation received from Mafupi and Mufulira Company and Rhokana Corporation £1,000,000 to include in the computation of their pre-war dividends for the purpose of excess profits tax. The result of the period when the companies had not completed their programmes of development and equipment, before the required taxation were very large, leading in each case a smaller amount of profit available for distribution.

Nchanga

With regard to the Nchanga Consolidated Copper Mines, Limited, I have already mentioned the decision of the directors of that company not to proceed for the time being with the large development programme which had been prepared and for which financial provision had been made. It was considered that the large amount of material that would have been required could be more usefully employed in other spheres of the Empire war effort.

However, the pilot plant, the operation of which began in August, 1939, and which has earned on with satisfactory results, has been and is being further extended, as the company is been selling and will continue to sell copper from the pilot plant production to the Ministry of Supply.

I now beg to move: — That the directors report the balance sheet, profit and loss account, and appropriation account for the year ended June 30, 1940, as submitted, and the same are hereby received and adopted.

Mr. General D. Malcolm, K.C.M.G., seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The retiring directors were re-elected, and the auditors having been reappointed, the proceedings terminated.

Rhodesia's Great Dyke

After considerable research Mr. Oscar Weiss, a South African, claims to have solved the mystery of the geological structure of the Great Dyke of Southern Rhodesia. Geometrical experiments he has said, proved beyond doubt that beneath the outcrop of the so-called Great Dyke was a deep and heavy limestone, perhaps a peridotite or possibly pyroxenite rock. This, he now says, the exposed rocks had produced no minerals of economic importance, other than chalcocite, and some racks of new platinum content, while traces of nickel had been found. Now the question arises whether these deep horizons should not be explored by drilling. Mr. Weiss was assisted in his research work by the Mines Department of Southern Rhodesia.

Trans-Zambesia Railway Company, Limited

Mr. Vivian Oury's Address

THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE TRANS-ZAMBESIA RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED, was held on Thursday, December 19, at the registered office of the company, "Thames House," Queen Street Place, London, E.C. 4.

The Chairman, Mr. Vivian L. Oury, presided.

After opening with the accounts, which showed that the receipts for the year ended December 31, 1939, were £12,857, compared with £160,725 in the previous year, whilst the working expenses were £110,811, compared with £109,151, and surplus of receipts over expenditure was £62,000, compared with £60,151 for 1938—Mr. Oury said:

"During the current year we had very little trouble from washaways, and although I am afraid that working results will not be so good as for the previous year, tonnages of goods carried have kept up surprisingly well when allowances are made for the difficulties arising from war conditions. But, of course, it is not sufficient for us to keep up on our existing tonnages; our continual struggle is to increase them, and in this connection I am glad to be able to say that sugar exports of Rhodesia, which this year show a large falling-off, are revert next year to their normal of about 10,000 tons."

Future Developments

"With regard to the future development of the territories served by your Railway, Portuguese Mozambique and British Nyasaland, one cannot, whilst the war continues, see very far ahead. They now have, however, ample railway transport facilities to the Port of Beira capable of handling a very large increase of tonnage, and it is a matter for satisfaction that in spite of the difficult conditions created by the war, both our friends the Portuguese and ourselves are looking forward and laying the foundations necessary to enable such development to proceed."

"Portugal has this year been celebrating in a spectacular and inspiring manner the eight hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the nation, and in unravelling the story of her past achievements has made it clear that she intends not to rest content with the glories of the past, but to use them as pointers to a future which will include the development of the resources of her overseas possessions."

"On the other hand, our own Parliament in July of this year passed the Colonial Development and Welfare Act, which provides that during each of the next ten years the Home Government will give to the Colonies financial assistance up to a maximum of £5,000,000."

Bauxite in Nyasaland

"So far it is on agricultural development that the progress of the territories we serve would appear to depend, but recent investigations made by the Anglo-American Corporation of South Africa indicate that conditions are favourable for the establishment of an important aluminium industry in Nyasaland, where it has been ascertained that there is a commercial deposit of bauxite of upwards of 10,000,000 tons. The significance of this possibility for the future of Nyasaland—and of your Railways—is obvious, even if present conditions prevent immediate decision as to its feasibility."

I would like on behalf of my colleagues and myself to express our appreciation of the valuable and friendly assistance which the Companhia de Moçambique continued to give us, and I should also like to publicly record our recognition of the services rendered by our general manager, Mr. Duncan, and our staff in Africa, and by Mr. Carey and his staff in London."

The report and accounts were adopted unanimously. Sir Henry Chapman, C.B.E., the retiring director, was re-elected, and Messrs. Hartono, Hamer and Sons were reappointed auditors of the company.

The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

Rhodesia's Mining Output

Southern Rhodesia's increasing importance as a mineral producer was emphasized in the colonial talk from Salisbury recently by Mr. G. H. Smith, Secretary to the Department of Mines and Public Works.

Mr. Hardy said that in view of difficulties the mineral industry had not fully maintained production but had increased it. This year the gold output was up by 23,000 oz. to the end of September, and it was hoped that the production for the year would be nearly 730,000 oz. Base mineral production had risen in the first nine months by about 60,000 oz.

Increasing coal output had been due largely to the activity of the copper mines; chrome produced in July had more than doubled in September; and though asbestos mines had lost their Continental markets, imperial markets were being sought with a measure of success. Valuable contributions were being made in tungsten and tin, and there was also some activity in mica and corundum.

There was a possibility that the total value of all minerals produced in the Colony this year would be between £9,250,000 and £9,500,000, a very considerable increase on my previous figure.

New Saza Mines.—The quarterly report on this property, which was formerly owned by East African Goldfields, Ltd., states that to the end of September just 4,423 tons of ore were treated for a recovery of 4,112 fine oz. gold and 3,751 oz. silver. Production exceeded the amount authorised by the directors by 863 oz. gold.

Good progress was made with the mill extension. Development Footage: 1,712 ft. Hoist at No. 1 Shaft was electrified and construction of a trackway from No. 2 shaft to the mill completed. No. 1 shaft, the only one body has been attacked by means of a bombing operation on the footwall of the reef, the work will take an open cut 100 ft. deep, 40 ft. high to be mined from the surface. Power troubles hampered operations. Four new heads for the Humboldt engines are now satisfactorily installed. Two more heads are in Durban awaiting transportation to Dar es Salaam, and six further heads have been ordered. Work on the company's order for a new Crossley gas producer engine and auxiliary electrical plant, after having been stopped by the Ministry of Supply, has been restarted, and delivery is expected early in January.

All costs up to September, 1940, worked out at Shillings per ton, cost per oz. was Shs. 129.60 cent. per ton. Tonnage furnished for the nine months from January-September, 1940, was 10,000 tons greater than for the corresponding period of 1939.

Gold Crushing in Town

Following the application of Mr. F. J. Dissen to begin gold-crushing operations on and in the outer boundaries of area of Southern Rhodesia, the Town Council is applying to Government for permission to allow the ground from the municipal area.

Poisons in the Blood

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Africans and The War

Abolish the Word "Paramountcy"

At a recent meeting of the Legislative Council of Nyasaland, Mr. W. Tait Bowie said, according to the verbatim report in *The Nyasaland Times*:

"It must be impressed on the African that with British victory in the war the plight of the African under Nazi domination would be such as to make the horrors they endured under the slave trade of old appear benign."

I desire to emphasise that the British settler, by shouldering the African's burden as well as his own, has acquired the right of citizenship here. On the victorious conclusion of this war, from official pronouncements of policy, the word 'paramountcy' with all its mawkishness, insincerity, and arrogance, must disappear. The last remnant of race is at the root, and is the real cause of the present barbaric tragedy. I consider, therefore, that it is our duty and the duty of the Government, to eliminate the word 'paramountcy' as applied to race or class and to urge that there should be equal benefits irrespective of class, creed or colour."

Sir Donald Mackenzie Kennedy, the Governor, expressed general agreement with Mr. Bowie's remarks, and added:

"During the last fortnight I have been in consultation with the Governments of Northern and Southern Rhodesia regarding the steps which we shall take jointly and separately to make the fullest possible use of labour in the three territories, and I have this morning been looking at the first draft I propose to issue to my officers in the districts to bring to their feet as quickly as possible those sections of the population who know the grim struggle in which we are engaged."

I say without hesitation that the vast majority of the

people in this Protectorate are still without any real understanding of what might at very short notice happen, and my officers are receiving their instructions to bring the realisation to them, and make it perfectly clear to them that I shall not allow any human being who comes within the scope of my Government to sit idly by and let others do the work for him."

Education in Rhodesia

Agents in Northern Rhodesia, while not questioning the justice of the decision of the Southern Rhodesian Government to increase the school fees payable by children from outside that colony, quote their action in support of the demand for co-ordination of the educational services of the two Rhodesias and Nyasaland, as recommended by the Baden-Powell Commission.

After a meeting in Nicola, a cablegram was sent to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, requesting Southern Rhodesia to immediately disseminate against Northern Rhodesian children in education Boarding fees increased 30% primary tuition fees introduced. Urgent immediate implementation relevant Section Royal Commission's recommendation to provide for giving local children reasonable education. Local representations proving availalig."

The reference in the proposal of the Commissioners that educational co-ordination should be effected without awaiting territorial amalgamation. European education ought, they considered, to be administered as a single inter-territorial department.

Hitherto Southern Rhodesia has generally made no charge for tuition to children from neighbouring British territories, and 'fixed boarding' fees at the low figure of £48 a year. Now boarding fees are advanced to £65 a year, the approximate actual cost, and tuition fees vary between £20 in Primary schools and £5 in secondary schools.

Broomie Rubber Plantations

Broomie Rubber Plantations, Ltd., announce that profits for the year to June 30 last amounted to £11,500 (against £10,300 for the preceding 12 months). Dividends totalling 15% have been paid (against 5%), £17,634 is set aside for taxation, £2,105 transferred to general reserve, and £6,485 carried forward, subject to directors' additional reparation. The company has interests in northern Tanganyika.

Bear Roads Needed

The Association of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of East Africa has urged that steps should be taken to co-ordinate the road-making tasks of the civil and military authorities, and that the question of the respective financial implications should be left to subsequent investigation. The importance of maintaining trunk roads was stressed and it was suggested that the following route of strategic and economic importance should be improved: (1) from the southern border of Tanzania via Dodoma to Arusha; (2) from Arusha via Ngorongoro to Nairobi; (3) the Uganda border; and (4) from Nairobi to Nanyuki.

Railway Figures

A new operating record was established by Rhodesian Railways during the first year of the war. In August last, 1,000,000 engine miles were run, totalled 696,110, and in September 885,637 miles. The previous highest figure was in October, 1937, when 805,312 miles were run. The number of engine miles for the year ended September 30, 1940, was the greatest for any complete year in the history of the line. The average number of engine miles in motor traction traffic was 599,548. These figures are the more remarkable when it is borne in mind that operations have been carried out with the depleted fleet, the cars being taken for military service.

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FIG. 678

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FIG. 616
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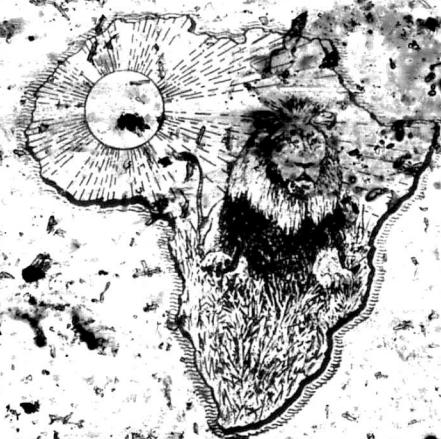
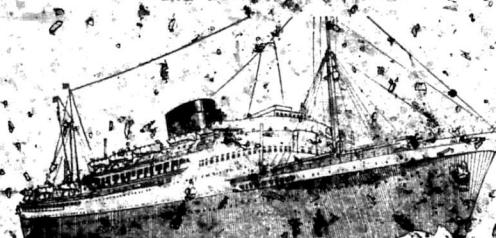
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MATTERS OF MOMENT

ONE RESULT of the splendid victory of the Empire's forces in the Western Desert of Egypt and in eastern Libya has been the capture of great quantities of Italian arms and

ammunition, much of which has been and will be

sent to our Allies in the

front, a good deal of which will be available for prompt dispatch to the Sudan for distribution to the Abyssinians. This possibility coincides with new evidence of the increasing restlessness of the tribes under Italian domination, and of more frequent attacks upon isolated Italian posts, patrols and convoys. In these engagements, in which the Ethiopians are frequently successful, they have often acquired rifles and ammunition, and sometimes machine-guns. Indeed, their standard means of replenishing their scanty store of cartridges and of adding to the number of their rifles has been to surprise the Italian possessors of these coveted accoutrements, and when an uprising becomes general, it will be

from the Italians that the revolting tribesmen must expect to secure ever-growing supplies of these necessities. Meantime the great booty left in the hands by the tens of thousands of Italians who have surrendered on the borders of Egypt constitutes a most important means of accelerating outbreaks in Italian East Africa,

where modern weapons of insurrection have been lacking, even though deepening discontent has been spreading. To have furnished the Abyssinians with rifles would have enabled them to look to their rear for further supplies of ammunition, but to give them Italian rifles, and remind them that immense quantities of ammunition can be had for the taking from their hated Italian task-masters, must have an enhanced psychological and practical value.

Another aspect of recent developments in North Africa, to which no newspaper in this country appears to have called attention, must not be overlooked. When Italy declared war we

suggested that the Suez Canal, almost certainly be spared by Italian bombers for the moment in the hope that enemy submarines and aircraft would master the British fleet in the eastern Mediterranean and that the Canal could then be used for the replenishment of Italian needs in East Africa, but that there would be real danger of concentrated attacks upon the Canal when the Italians at last realised the unsubstantial nature of their dreams. Now that the rough handling of Graziani's forces has destroyed all possibility

of the occupation of Egypt, that Italian warships and aircraft have learnt to show due respect to the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force, and that the harbours, arsenals, and other military objectives of Italy herself are frequent targets for our bombers. Mussolini must recognise that the Canal can be of service to him only if it can be made unserviceable to British vessels. Our success has therefore greatly increased the risk of Italian attempts to bomb that vital maritime highway—which is, however, now far more efficient, protected by anti-aircraft defences in the air and on the ground. It is prudent to bear in mind that those defences may be seriously tested by Italian and German bombers ordered to run great risks in the hope of scoring a which would hinder navigation. British mastery of the skies in North-East Africa is fortunately now unquestionable, and the number of good Italian aircraft has been steadily reduced by the ceaseless raiding of the Royal Air Force and of South African and Rhodesian squadrons, which, by carrying the offensive deep into Italian Africa, have provided the best form of long-range defence. Nevertheless, constant vigilance is essential to defeat the plans of pilots who, selected for their skill and determination, might at any moment be sent to endeavour to sink shipping in the Canal or otherwise dislocate traffic.

THE INFORMATION OFFICES established in the two Rhodesias since the outbreak of war have unquestionably performed far more useful public service than those created at

Opportunities Persistently Neglected.

the same time and for the same purpose in Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika Territory and Nyasaland. Indeed, judging by our own experience which necessitates close and regular study of the outputs of these organs of public relations, we do not hesitate to write that the officer in charge of the work in Northern Rhodesia—a Protectorate with a European population approximately equivalent to that of Tanganyika Territory, and much smaller than that of Kenya—has supplied the British Press with more useful information in useable form in any one of the past six months than his colleagues in Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika and Nyasaland combined over the whole of that period. That is not a sweeping generalisation, but a carefully considered verdict. Indeed, of all the Den-

dencies in East and Central Africa under Colonial Office supervision, the only one which has not failed dismally in this respect is Northern Rhodesia, where the young service officer who had given previous evidence of sound judgment, literary ability and initiative, has allowed himself take the public files into his confidence.

In contrast, Kenya, which should have led the way in East Africa, has been continuing a course of failure that change in personnel was overdue, and we trust that the recently announced appointment of a new **Queer Case** Information Officer will be of Kenya, promptly followed by the abandonment of the inexplicably stupid policy of confining the distribution of news to within the borders of the Colony and Protectorate. Thinking that the British Press, which has received bulletins direct from all the other territories, had been inadvertently overlooked by Kenya, we brought the matter privately to the attention of the Information Officer months ago—only to be told, to our astonishment, that the blunder was not due to any oversight but a decision that none of the material circulated by his department should be made available to the Press outside Kenya! We pointed out that many opportunities were being sacrificed of informing the rest of the Empire of that part of the war effort of the Colony of which news could and should be published, and that this practice was in direct conflict with that of the rest of East Africa and the Rhodesias. But it made no difference.

one East African territory which has for years complained and with justification that it has been frequently misunderstood by opinion in Great Britain insisted on claiming the one and only Dependency in Africa from Southern Rhodesia northwards to which its bullelins of information from British newspapers—and we know it may still restrict their distribution to Kenya itself, even denying them to Uganda or Tanganyika. It was, of course, as perfunctory a piece of parochialism as can be quoted, and for the sake of Kenya we trust that so purblind a practice will have been promptly revoked by Mr. Merwyn Hill, who has a splendid opportunity of rendering services of great value.

Constant Raids on Italian East Africa

Gallantry of Airmen and Soldiers Recognised

AT LEAST THREE MORE ITALIAN AIRCRAFT have been destroyed in East Africa during the week.

December 24.—The R.A.F. Middle East announced that an aircraft of the Rhodesian squadron had made a pathfinder raid on Kassala, where enemy fighters had shot it down in flames. The town was raided by bombs causing an ammunition dump to explode. Buildings were set on fire at Surye. At Heis stores, houses and dumps were set off and considerable damage caused by low dive-bombing. Numerous reconnaissance flights were carried out with success. There was no loss to R.A.F. aircraft or personnel.

December 26.—H.Q. Cairo stated: "One of our fighting patrols carried out a successful raid east of Kassala, inflicting casualties on the enemy and returning with a prisoner and some equipment."

Rebel Activity in Ethiopia

According to the Press from Nairobi, reported in C. Abissinia, its agents had brought across the border to British officials papers of an Italian administration of the Segla district which had been ambushed and killed. The rebels declared that an Italian punitive expedition consisting of a complete battalion had been ambushed in a forest and put to flight after some 50 members had been killed.

December 28.—A communiqué issued by R.A.F. Headquarters, Middle East, said:

"Asab was raided. Bombs straddling military stores and large transport yards. In the Kassala-Sobdet area, a Rhodesian squadron carried out bombing and machine-gun attacks on enemy positions. Bombs fell in the target area. The full extent of damage and casualties is not known. An Australian fighter aircraft of a South African squadron intercepted two CR42s, one of which was shot down in flames. All our aircraft returned safely."

December 29.—British H.Q. Cairo stated: "South east of Kassala, northeast of Gashabat our patrols supported by artillery successfully harassed a column."

December 30.—British H.Q. Cairo stated: "On the Sudan and Kenya fronts active patrolling continues." A communiqué from R.A.F. Headquarters, Middle East, announced that a raid had been made on motor transport repair workshops near Dessie.

On December 30, the R.A.F. communiqué stated that "a number of aeroplanes had been machine-gunned, one bomber being destroyed and others damaged and that intensive reconnaissances over Somaliland, building up a landing ground had been bombed. British land patrols continued their activities on the borders of the Sudan and Kenya."

Awards for Gallantry

Squadron Leader J. R. Gordon-Faulkson, who has been awarded the D.F.C., was D.G.O. in Kenya to Major General Sir Robert Brooke-Popham during 1939. Now commanding Bomber Squadron No. 211, in Middle East, he has led more than 40 raids and reconnaissances over enemy territory. Recently he displayed amazing skill and courage in getting his aircraft back over friendly territory after one engine had been put out of action and the other damaged. He landed on a stretch of sand, only 20 yards wide. The crew of General Sir Robert Gordon-Faulkson, C.O.C. Western Command, to whom he was born in 1884, and joined the R.A.F. in 1936.

Squadron Leader D. G. Stephenson, who has also been awarded the D.F.C., has shown consistent skill and daring in operations from the outbreak of war. Once

he was leading a raid on an enemy target in Eritrea when the machines were intercepted south of Massawa by enemy fighters, which succeeded in putting an engine of one plane out of action. The pilot forced to break formation was followed by enemy fighters and eventually compelled to land in Italian territory. Meanwhile, Squadron Leader Stephenson ordered the remainder of his formation to continue with him and attack their targets. This accomplished, he returned to search for the missing machine, discovered it landed alongside, and rescued the crew after they had burnt their papers and aircraft. Squadron Leader Stephenson, who is 22 years of age, joined the R.A.F. in 1936, has served in the Middle East since 1937, was awarded the A.F.C. in June 1939, and mentioned in dispatches in the following September. He commands No. 14 Squadron.

Stories of great gallantry during the Somaliland campaign, for which awards were announced in November, have just been told in an official account of the deeds for which the honours were conferred.

Captain D. M. Campbell-Rose, The Black Watch, who received the D.S.Q., defied a battle by leading a bayonet charge. His company was pressed by a greatly superior force, and at a critical moment when it appeared likely that the enemy would pierce the front and gain access to an important main road behind, he led the charge, which effectively routed the enemy. Although wounded, he remained to command until the situation was restored.

Second Bar to Military Cross

Captain D. G. Macmillan, The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, received a second bar to the Military Cross for courage during the Argot Pass engagement. When acting as observer he was leading a battery section, but observation post was hit by intense shell fire, but he continued to control the battery for two days, though exposed to heavy machine-gun and rifle fire. Later, when his section was put out of action, he continued for further two days to help the infantry by directing their mortars fire from an exposed position with complete disregard for his own safety.

Second Lieutenant A. V. Molison, Royal Artillery, received the Military Cross for keeping his Native gun detachment perfectly steady under fierce machine-gun and rifle fire. To assist the infantry in the defence of a vital position, he organised sections from his spare gun numbers. When at last the position was finally abandoned, he destroyed his guns and withdrew his men in complete control, covering the withdrawal by Lewis gun and fire. His section's fire was conspicuous by its accuracy, largely as a result of the courage and example he inspired.

Lieutenant J. F. Mountain, Rhodesia Regiment, also received the Military Cross. He was in command of the most isolated little "post" of the Somaliland front, which, by the example of bravery and determination, held on for four days, and was gallantly to the last.

Private D.C.M. was awarded to Lance Sergeant W. McGibbon, The Black Watch, who, when his platoon was heavily engaged by a greatly superior force, and was all but surrounded, noticed an enemy machine-gun section coming into action. He armed himself with grenades and, dashing across 40 yards of bullet-swept ground, killed the entire crew of the machine-gun section and destroyed the gun.

Gordon H. Robertson, The Black Watch, who was awarded the Military Medal, remained at his post although completely surrounded, fighting against overwhelming odds, until ammunition was expended. He then skillfully withdrew his section, although fired on by

both hands, and made his way without food or water to the main body of troops some 40 miles distant. In recognition of gallantry in action in the Sudan the M.C. has been awarded to El Mulazin Fani Abdulla El Fendi Mohammed Mustafa and the S.M. to Amrullah Bakheir El Deif and Shukriya Guba. All three are of the Sudan Defence Force.

Miss Marjorie Juta and Miss P. E. O'Keeffe, who were serving with an ambulance unit in East Africa, have been invested in Kenya with the Croix de Guerre (two palms) for services rendered with the French Army.

Mr. Tredgold's Visit to Kenya

Mr. Tredgold, General Officer Commanding in Southern Rhodesia, arrived back in Salisbury last week from a visit to Kenya, where he discussed defence matters with Lieutenant-General A. G. Cunningham, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief Forces in East Africa. Mr. Tredgold said on his return that he was very satisfied with the gallantry contribution to the campaign in East Africa, and that the troops were highly confident.

Vice-Admiral Geoffrey S. Arbuthnot, C.B., D.S.O., South Sea Lord since October, 1937, has been appointed Commander-in-Chief, East Indies, as from May next, in succession to Vice-Admiral Ralph Chatwin, C.B.

Col. Mervyn K. Hill has succeeded Lieutenant-Colonel G. Turner as Information Officer in Kenya.

The Hon. S. G. V. Ghersic, M.L.C., was recently gazetted Deputy Custodian of Enemy Property in Kenya.

Mr. J. A. Lee has been appointed a member of the Permanent Tribunal set up in Nyasaland under the National Service Ordinance.

Two hospitals for military casualties from East Africa and other ports of the Middle East Command are being established in South Africa, one near Johannesburg and the other at Port Elizabeth. The South African Railways have commissioned two ambulance trains to be staffed by railway employees who are members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

Although the military authorities in Southern Rhodesia have decided not to avail themselves of the services of the two mounted units recently formed in Salisbury and Bulawayo, the services of members will be utilised as a mounted police reserve.

It has been decided, as a result of the Delhi Conference, to establish in India an Eastern Group Supply Council with the object of linking the British countries east and south of Suez self-supporting in war supplies. This permanent Council will be composed of members nominated by the Indian, Australian, New Zealand and South African Governments, with a Chairman from the United Kingdom. Two important consequences will be to achieve a great economy in the use of shipping and an increase in the volume of supplies.

Active steps are being taken to promote closer

co-operation between Rhodesian and South African war manufacturing interests. A survey has been completed by the Colony of workshops, machine tools, and materials, and Air Commodore Merforth, Chairman of the Southern Rhodesian War Supplies Committee, has visited munition-making plants in South Africa to acquaint firms manufacture to the best advantage.

Rhodesians and East Africans on military service in the country were among those present at a Christmas party for the troops given at the headquarters of the Royal Empire Society. Mrs. Banigan O'Keeffe, wife of the High Commissioner for Southern Rhodesia, was among those present.

Gift for War Purposes

The Secretary of State for the Colonies has sent to the Governor of Northern Rhodesia an expression of his warm appreciation of the resolution of the Legislative Council to vote from the 1941 surplus revenues the further sum of £50,000 for the Empire's war effort.

Another gift of £25,000 from free surplus balances has been offered by the Government of Nyasaland and gratefully accepted by His Majesty's Government.

Pete Hay, a soldier in Pemba, Northern Rhodesia, has loaned £2,000 to the Northern Rhodesian Government free of interest for the duration of the war.

The Governor of Kenya has remitted £1,162 to the Imperial Government, £650 from the Kenya War Welfare Fund for the purchase of twelve canteens to be named "Kenya," for use either in London or elsewhere, £257 for a canteen to be named "Magadi, Kenya," for use in the Liverpool area, and £250 for a canteen to be named "Kitale and District," for use anywhere in the United Kingdom. The remaining £6 was sent to the Lord Mayor of London for gifts for homeless families or children.

The Governor of Northern Rhodesia remitted £200 for the Lord Mayor's Air Raid Distress Fund for the purchase of Christmas presents for children suffering from the effects of air raids. £140 represented the cost of Christmas trees and decorations which the children of Nchanga decided to forego for the sake of those in bombed areas.

£8,000 was quickly raised by Greeks in Southern Rhodesia to help the Greek war effort. A Federation of Hellenic bodies has been established in the Colony, with Mr. Antoniadis of Gweru as Chairman, and Mr. L. Comninos, of Salisbury, as honorary secretary.

Asian East Africa Supplies

The Viceroy of Italian East Africa has issued a decree which creates a commission to control the distribution of food, raw materials and supplies of all kinds to the Army and civil population. Signor Gasparini, appointed head of the new department, will be assisted by a council consisting of the Chief of the General Staff in East Africa, the Chief Assistant to the Viceroy, and the Inspector of the Fascist Party in the East African Colonies.

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The Capture of El Wak

An Operation of Importance

THAT THE CAPTURE OF EL WAK, on the Italian

Somaliland frontier, on December 16, was of considerably greater importance than was suggested in the earlier reports (chronicled in our last issue) is indicated by a telegram from the Nairobi correspondent of *The Times*, who says, *inter alia*:

"Divisional Commander, paying tribute to the West, East, and South Africans, declare that he was amazed at the courage and dash of the troops engaging in action for the first time, and the loyal co-operation of all sections of his force in undertaking a most arduous task over 100 miles from their normal locations, and bringing themselves, their vehicles, and their weapons through to the starting point in spite of the almost insuperable difficulties presented by the sandy country and thickest bush."

El Wak might have been a most serious obstacle had it been stoutly defended. The defensive positions were very numerous and well-supplied, but the surprise appearance of the tanks, which the Italians never believed could reach there, also the unexpected direction from which the attack developed, and the determined spirit of the British force overcame their spasmodic resistance. Three hundred thousand rounds of small arms ammunition were brought back, while double that quantity was destroyed. Large quantities of weapons and equipment of every kind were recaptured.

An Important Forward Base

El Wak was well supplied with all necessities, showing the importance that the Italians attached to this forward base, and supporting the reports current two months ago that they contemplated a large-scale offensive, which was apparently later abandoned. Now not a single wall is standing; the positions and supplies have been thoroughly destroyed, and the story of Italian demoralisation is spreading over the country among the frontier tribes.

The attack was carried out by two columns. One, consisting of one Cape battalion with an East African armoured regiment, cleared up positions west of the boundary. Simultaneously a Gold Coast battalion and tanks attacked El Wak. Under covering fire engineers blew up wire defences, and the tanks, followed by the Gold Coast battalion with bayonets fixed, crashed through the gaps and captured guns and rifle positions.

Sapper's Gallant Act

Lieutenant Christopher Ballenden, a British engineer officer, only three weeks out from England, performed a gallant act. A Bangalore torpedo bomb which was being carried forward to destroy wire accidentally fell and started to fuse. With only a minute to go he picked up the torpedo, ran forward, and placed it in position, ran back seawards, and escaped injury when the bomb exploded, thus saving the lives of his platoon. No one would have suffered seriously had the torpedo exploded along the line.

Farther east the Natal battalion, after most effective mortar work, charged the burning village of Buru Hachi across 400 yards of open ground, singing the regimental Zulu war song, and firing Bren guns from the hip. On the extreme right of the flank the Transvaal battalion captured the Italian brigade headquarters and the flag of the 191st Regiment, and stopped the enemy's road of retreat to the east. Armoured cars mopped up parties hiding in the bushes.

The whole action was over in a few hours, and afterwards the sky was shrouded in a pall of smoke from the burning buildings and exploding petrol and ammunition dumps. One tank in a trap was pulled out another, while the crews dug it out under fire.

Next morning enemy bombers ineffectively bombed our front, none causing a single casualty, while thousands of our troops stood on the tops of hills and cheered wildly as Hartbeestpoort army co-operation aircraft turned themselves into fighters and shot down a Caproni.

Valuable Co-operation by Aircraft

Aircraft co-operation, particularly in dropping position maps every half-hour, was one of the features of the action, which was described to me as a textbook operation in bush warfare.

The fighting was so close that two Italian officers were captured by the Divisional Officer's escort. The best comment on the Italian attitude was the action of one officer, whom I saw pick up a stick, break it in two, and with an expressive shrug of the shoulders utter only the single words "Italia." The prisoners were most dejected, and one was so disgusted by his commander's desertion that he actually showed where the supplies were hidden.

After long preparation and inactivity, El Wak was a fine tonic and reminder by its force of a splendid Christmas present. Two men were killed, both South Africans, by a shell that hit our brigade headquarters. The fact that the action was fought on Dingaans Day gratified the South Africans.

Nine light field-guns captured in the British raid on El Wak were off shore near Nairobi over Christmas.

Farmers in Kenya have been officially advised that produce needed in the near future will include green vegetables, potatoes, onions, wheat, eggs, bacon, and garlic. Each of these items will be required in considerable quantities, and even if a surplus were produced, it is anticipated that it could be profitably marketed outside the Colony. Planters who increase their crop area considerably are asked to advise the Director of Agriculture.

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FICTION

HIRAYAMA TAKES A CHANCE

By Walter Buchler

A thrilling romance of Japan, true to life and exciting, I must recommend with some particularity. This story is an exquisite work of art. It is comedy, firmly formed, mature, and well-rooted in natural humour. "Richard Church in John O'London's Weekly."

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Nazi Paganism.—Where the Britons of 1815 taxed themselves to abolish the slave trade, the Nazis have restored slavery in its primitive form, in the shuffling of the caravans which tear human beings in thousands from their homes, to be penned like beasts in a compound to work as helots for their oppressor. In seven years they have outdone the pillage of Bonapartism in savagery; the savage long memories of the Thirty Years War, the heresy hunting of the Inquisitors, the destructiveness of Jenghiz Khan and every passing Oriental horde. They have rolled in the map of Europe—not just the map of its frontier posts, but the *mappa mundi*, the chart of civilization. Wherever they go self-government and free speech and Christian religion perish, the Pope under their shadow, and German Lutheranism is their laughing-stock. Their cruellest war is waged against the mind and the soul of man, decimating the intellect of the peoples whom they subdue, and poisoning even its pure wells. —Mr. Keith Bellamy in *The Observer*.

India's Future.—The Indian deadlock is now chronic because we are attempting the impossible. We are asking the Brahmin and particularly the Kashmir Pandit to relinquish his hold on Hindu India. We are trying to find some particular Muhammadan who can barter India, and we want the Indian ruling chiefs to sign away their birthrights. None of these things will ever happen, and they are not necessary if we will abandon the vain hope of perpetuating the British system of government in Indian India. We get now my indirect rule as a stepping stone to Dominion status. Not exactly on the African model, but one suited to the country. The Indian Provinces and States could then be given real autonomy and would work out their own federation, while the principal ports and certain cantonments could be retained as British enclaves. India is a British creation, and the danger of the sudden departure of the British is not so much internal disorder as disruption. We must therefore be in a position to prevent the possibility of any foreign intervention until an Indian India takes shape. At present, apart from Mr. Gandhi's great personality, Congress only controls certain Provinces because it is anti-British and heavily subsidised. In a free India much more powerful sectional and local interests will arise, in fact they are being considered now, and any threat to the Muhammadan religion or the independence of the chiefs would cause them to materialise at once. —Sir Reginald Clarke.

The True Germany.—I was at a German school at the end of the last century, and learned what it is like to be really hated. It became apparent to me that the Germans in their plural meant to destroy us if they could. There is no question as to the true German departure from that inner political hatred of England, based mainly upon jealousy. We have had the path of the brazen horde to world domination. Hence the sound and fury and sabre-rattling, all ending with sapping and burying and subtler propaganda and more covert preparations for war. The war of 1914 was no more an accident than the war of 1839, or the war of 1870, or the war of 1866, or the war of 1864, or the wars of Frederick the Great, or the wars of Barbarossa, or the wars of Charlemagne, or the wars of Caesar's annual winterizers. In no other country could a head-hunter like Treitschke have perverted an entire generation. And in no other country could you make a Leader of the German Youth Movement out of a noted pervert like Baldur von Shirach, or a Leader of the German Labour Front out of a noted drunkard like Dr. Ley. Bad taste and bad drinking were a veritable passport to success in imperial Germany. When Bismarck committed forgery to ensure the Franco-Prussian war, it did not occur to one German in ten thousand that he was a forger. On the contrary, they all thought him very clever! —Sir Robert Mansfield in a broadcast talk.

Gains for Confidence.—It is not true that during the past 10 years we merely shirked our social problems. On the contrary, we halved the death rate from tuberculosis, halved maternal and infantile mortality, added three pounds to the average weight of elementary school children, and built a thousand houses a day—which was a good deal more than Germany, or for that matter any other country, achieved during the same period. When the time comes we may surely approach our great task with confidence both in ourselves and in our past. It is conceivable that the State will no longer shrink so timidly from teaching religion. After passing through the fire in defence of Christendom we shall surely see in future that our children at least know what Christendom is. —Lord Elton.

Italy Collapses.—Assuming for a moment the arrival of the Germans in strength on the northern shores of the Mediterranean, we can likewise assume that the Italian fleet would be renamed and used more effectively, and we might even conjecture that some of the Italian submarines would be sent to help in the Atlantic. The remnants of the French navy would scarcely be left idle once the passage of German troops across unoccupied France had shattered the last vestige of the idea that any part of France was really free. To what conclusions do these speculations lead us? Surely that the collapse of Italy, now that she has failed to invade Egypt, will actually be to Germany's advantage. Hitler has hundreds of thousands of soldiers under arms, with little to do but to brood on unfulfilled promises of invading England. It would be a positive advantage to send across the more salubrious climate of southern Italy, and consider how far more efficiently the Italian fleet would be manned and disposed. —Lieutenant-General Sir Douglas Haig in *The Sunday Times*.

Britain's Leader.—Before the war we imported nearly 70% of our foodstuffs from overseas, whereas we were under obligation for these percentages to buy out total needs: British Mutton, cheese, 69%; bacon, 71%; eggs, 85%; mutton and lamb, 57%; beet and sugar, 56%. These figures represent the average for the three years 1937-39. In 1939 there were 12,000,000 acres of arable in England and Wales, 3,450,000 acres in Scotland, and towards 1,500,000 acres in Northern Ireland. In 1939, before the first ploughing up campaign, the figures were: England and Wales, 1,360,000 acres; Scotland, 2,940,000 acres; Northern Ireland, 3,030,000 acres. The situation as regards the shipping of feeding stuffs being what it is—albeit it may grow worse—silage may prove the salvation of our dairy farming in the winter of 1941-42. This creates next year at least 180,000 extra Dairies in the United Kingdom contemplated which should bring our total ploughing of this crop to about 1,000,000 acres or more than in 1939. In 1939 the United Kingdom acreage was 74,000. The Agriculture Department's aim at maintaining our sugar-beet acreage at the 1939 figure of nearly 845,000 acres. This should yield us next year at least 500,000 tons of sugar—well over a third of our war-time needs. —Mr. W. G. Wood in *The Daily Telegraph*.

the War News

Opinion Epitomised.—British life grim in Britain than bewildered in a madhouse.—Sir B. Priestley.

My métier is chess.—Colonel J. C. Wellgwood, D.S.O.

The Hurricane is still the miracle aircraft of the R.A.F.—Mr. Noel Monk.

It is no part of Hitler's policy that the Italian fleet should fight.—Admiral H. P. Goloob.

Most of our British Ministers speak like living servants.—Atheneum, in *The Sunday Times*.

The purists are at a standstill from almost every point of view.—The London Chamber of Commerce.

Energy in pursuit of the sun has been considered a strength of will.—General Sir A. Archibald Wavell.

The British Empire was built on successive acts of folly.—Mr. H. S. Amery, M.P., Secretary of State for India.

War and reason must be made to work together.—The German mind.—Commander Stephen King-Hall, M.P.

The character of a State depends as much on the people who lead it as on the institutions.—O. C. Gates.

Kipling has said that "the world is divided into human beings and Germans." Mr. Coulon Kerkhoff.

A successful German raid in Great Britain would require three weeks of unbroken fine weather.—Aftonbladet, Sweden.

There is a newspaper in this country advocating every possible sabotage of the war effort.—Mr. Beverley Baxter, M.P.

During the first year of the war 743 aeroplanes were shipped to Great Britain from the United States.—*The Aeroplane*.

Military man's past sacrifice and self-sacrifice for present use is the foundation of inspiration and the driving of action.—Gen. W. Wright.

I am filled with admiration at the way in which up to now difficulties the Press continues to serve the public.—Sir H. Fisher.

Full-time messenging officers now being demanded for every Army unit where the establishment exceeds 1,000.—Mr. D. P. M.P.s.

The printing trades remain the most readily available source of added man-power for quick training precision machine setting, or tool-room operations.—Shinwell, M.P.

Mussolini declared that nothing would stop the Italian troops in Africa. His word is fulfilled now.—Turkistán.

Why are British Air and Army recruits being sent to British prisoners of war in Germany in view of what happened in Holland?—*News Review*.

It is highly questionable whether men with a prolonged history of organic dyspepsia should be allowed to join the Army.—*British Medical Journal*.

Wrens caused by the war are currently under another name, and the meat's inflation is they are economists and pass in money.—*News Review*.

In many parts of England there is very little suffering from local suffering, apart from enforced subsistence, though raids.

British opinion all over the country shows that any victory has been gained since last July. The Greeks have received good assistance and are in good time.—*Truth*.

The three biggest warning signs all run regular passes westwards to Lisbon. Every day the take off from Berlin and Sicily, and several times a week from England.—Mr. Ernest Pyle.

General Auchincloss, now Commander-in-Chief Southern Command, made sand castles on the beach at Denmark while German bombers dropped their bombs.—Mr. Charles Graves.

There is no opposition between moral and economic independence and national independence founded on common culture and common traditions.—Emile Camus.

Germany is not a nation in arms but an armed doctrine, in fact. This armed doctrine must be destroyed finally, or it will destroy us and everything we hold dear.—Mr. E. H. Bristow.

The distressed of the whole world have learned to look to one: Wedgwood, and through him Parliament, for a patient hearing and the address of their woes.—The Prime Minister.

Such are the regulations of the Paper Control that there remains no room for initiative or any incentive to utilise ingenuity in producing out-of-the-ordinary materials as may be available either greater quantities or more varied qualities of paper products.—Eric V. Bowes, Chairman of Hawtree's Paper Mills, Ltd.

A house should be regarded as permanent for only 30 years, and should then be replaced by an up-to-date one.—Mr. J. E. Gibson, city architect of Coventry.

The day is not far distant when we should say about poverty, unemployment, and all the other things that have ailed us as a part of our economic regime that "it is a much disease as illiteracy has been."—Mr. Ernest Bevin, M.P.

During the whole of the nineteenth century, the Germans were besotted with the wholly fictitious myth of their Nordic descent and that the domination of the world belonged to them.—The Hon. Edward Lyttelton.

Believe it or not, subversives still think more of their flower garden than of bombs. The price of bulbs and plants are very high in result of a steady demand which at this time of year is surprising.—*Baden Allmanna Stockholm*.

Religious feeling, freedom of international economy, and freedom of political action, with mutual respect between men, as long as they do not cause an offence to the community, are the foundations of the might of the British Empire.

Berlin, which has a bad record of the violence and violence, is today a Government which, in number, a single European among its members. Yet in every town and village they have formed a patriotic committee.—Winterthur, U.S.A.

Great Britain, which gallant sons from the Dominions, India, and a microcosm of the Empire, she is a microcosm of the peoples of the world who treasure freedom and honour above life itself. The Duke of Connaught.

The aim of education should be to preserve individual men from the vulgarity of opposing personal opinions to be over them the corporate wisdom of the race, to save men from the vanity and egotism of aeticetic impulse. To foster a capacity for the individual judgement in a fully comprehended relationship to the accumulated experience of mankind.—John Wedgwood in *The Field*.

The brilliant corps of the Australians saved in hammar capturing the railway basis of Jambi is one of the most remarkable strokes that has been made in modern war, and it says much for the organization and can put a cavalry force across 1,000 miles of waterless desert in a position to deliver its decisive charge.—Tanks never routing Sherman, accomplished in the American Civil War.—Major C. S. Jarvis, in *The Observer*.

PERSONALIA

The Duchess of Gloucester celebrated her birthday on Christmas Day.

Colonel B. K. Abdy is now chairman of the Nairobi Sports Club.

Mr. J. M. Ellis is now Provincial Commissioner in Lusongwe, Nyasaland.

Mr. D. K. Patel is now a member of the Council of the Tanganyika Legislative Council.

Mr. R. D. Linton, Agent-General for Tanganyika, has been transferred from Mombasa to Tanga.

Sir Henry J. Delvès-Brough and Miss Diana Cawell were recently married in Durban, and have now arrived in Kenya.

Viscount Fane, who died recently and who had repeatedly visited East Africa, left £3,661/0/0 (net personalty, £2,843/16).

Mr. J. Marshall, general manager of Nyasaland of the African Lakes Corporation, has been spending a brief holiday in South Africa.

Mr. A. L. Morris, Assistant Registrar-General in Tanganyika, is on leave pending retirement after 14 years service in the Territory.

Mr. H. V. D. Frudd, Agent in Mombasa for Uniposa-Casta Company, has been elected Chairman of the Durban Publicity Association.

Sir Bertrand Bowneifon, former Governor of Uganda, and now Governor of Nigeria, makes a weekly broadcast from Lagos on the progress of the war.

A son was born in Shrewsbury last week to the Hon. Mrs. Sylvia Ormsby Gore, wife of the Hon. W. D. Ormsby Gore, Berks Yeomanry, and son of Lord and Lady Helleck.

Percy McElwaine, Crown Counsel in Kenya from 1923 to 1927, and Attorney-General in the Straits Settlements for the past seven years, left England recently to return to Singapore.

We deeply regret we learn of the death in Oxford of Mrs. Alice Mary Hobley, wife of Mr. Charles W. Hobley, to whom the sincere sympathy of his many East African friends will be extended.

The engagement is announced between Captain T. H. Gibbon and Miss E. H. Austin, daughter of the late Brigadier-General Sir H. H. Austin, formerly of East Africa, and Mrs. Austin, of Southorne.

Mr. J. Hathorn Hall, the new Governor of Aden, and successive British Resident in Zanzibar, reached Aden this Christmas Eve to take up his appointment after spending a brief holiday in South Africa.

Mr. J. H. C. Scott, manager of the Blantyre branch of the Standard Bank of South Africa, has been transferred to the Observatory branch, Cape Province. Mr. F. Wisdom from Observatory, has succeeded him in Blantyre.

We much regret to learn of the death after a long illness of Mr. W. Ingram Lyons, editor of the African News, which he had been associated for some 25 years with its past, dead-line editor, and previously as managing editor.

Many of my friends will be glad to learn that the Hon. G. Wilson, M.L.C., has completely recovered from the serious operation which he recently underwent in Bulawayo. He has now returned to a quiet life in South Africa.

The engagement is announced between Flying Officer Leslie Guest, R.A.F., elder son of Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. F. L. Guest, M.P., and Mrs. Katharine Hussey, Southern Rhodesia, and Miss Katharine Hussey, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hussey, of Painswick, Gloucestershire.

Mr. P. A. Pysaught, who has lived in Nyasaland for many years, has arrived home on retirement. First reaching the country as a member of the staff of the old African Trans-Continental Telegraph Company, he later became a planter, and finally joined the staff of Nyasaland Railways.

Mr. R. H. T. P. Harris, who has spent years on anti-tse-tse work in South Africa, and who invented the so-called "Harris fly-trap," will shortly retire and live near Durban. He intends to write a book on tse-tse research work. He recently offered the patent right of his invention to the Imperial Government. Many of his traps have been used in East Africa.

Mrs. H. H. C. Hick, who has died in Salisbury, had been a great worker for good causes. In the last war she organised the making of comforts and the despatch of parcels to Rhodesian soldiers serving outside the Colony, and was awarded the M.B.E. for her services. During the influenza epidemic of 1918 she became matron of the Drill Hall Hospital, and on the death of her husband, Dr. H. E. Hick, she was appointed matron of the Rhodesian Children's Home, from which position she retired in 1929.

Major A. H. du Frayer, an Australian, who recently died in Tabora at the age of 67, was formerly a tobacco planter in Nyasaland. He was one of four British soldiers to receive a scarf knitted by Queen Victoria during the Boer War. Major du Frayer was attached to the personal staff of the late King George V and Queen Mary when they toured Australia as Duke and Duchess of York. During the last war he was awarded the O.B.E. and four times mentioned in despatches. After demobilisation he went to Nyasaland, but a few years ago he sold his estate there and went to Tanganyika Territory.

New Year Honours

At the moment of closing for press we have received the New Year Honours List, which will be fully recorded from the East African and Rhodesian standpoints in our next issue.

Meanwhile we warmly congratulate all recipients of honours, of which the principal are:

G.C.M.G.—Sir Harold MacMichael.

K.C.M.G.—The Hon. G. Martin-Guggins, M.P., Hathorn Hall, and Major Sir William Lead.

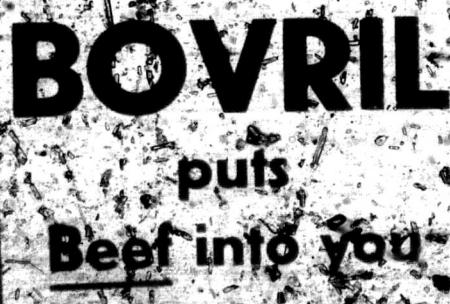
D.B.E.—Lady Keniera Stanley.

R.B.E.—Lieutenant-Colonel Frank Johnson, Knights Bachelor—Mr. Hanns Vischer and Mr. K. Richards.

C.M.G.—Major F. W. Cavendish-Bentinck, M.P., B. Preston, Mr. G. E. J. Gent, Mr. Walter Harragie, and Dr. A. G. H. Smart.

T.B.E.—Mr. J. B. Pandya, and Captain A. C. Willmott.

Southern Rhodesia (£1,000,000) B.E.—1945-1946
Year has been fully subscribed.



Questions in Parliament

Tanganyika £200,000 War Gift

Mr. Creech Jones asked whether the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies was aware that Tanganyika had recently sent a considerable war gift to this country and set up a special Economy Committee to make good the gap thereby created in its budget; that the Colony had proposed cuts in medical, educational and general social services because of the impaired taxable capacity of the Territory; and what steps were being taken to prevent their inadequate services from being crippled in that way.

Mr. George Hall replied that Tanganyika's gift of £200,000 towards the cost of the war had been drawn from the Territory's reserve fund, and not from cash balances. The reserve had been instituted in 1939 to provide the nucleus of a future development programme, and it was never intended that it should be used to supplement ordinary recurrent expenditure.

While the Government of Tanganyika was of necessity restraining from expanding social services in the manner and to the extent that they might have been possible but for the war, it was not the case that they were being crippled. In fact, the provisions of the Territory's 1941 estimates for the three services referred to exceeded the actual expenditure in 1939 by the following amounts: medical, £10,000; educational, £5,000; agricultural, £5,000.

Mr. Jones: In view of the recommendations of the Economic Committee that there should be drastic cuts in the social services, will the Secretary of State watch the position carefully, since already the social services are inadequate in the Colony?



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STEWARTS & LLOYD'S OF SOUTH AFRICA LTD.,
P.O. Box 765, Salisbury, S. Rhodesia, or
P.O. Box 325, Bulawayo, S. Rhodesia.
Advertisement of THE SAUNDERS VALVE CO. LTD. OWNERS
Kingsport, Nottinghamshire.



Mr. Hall: My hon. friend is putting it rather broad. The Colony suggests that the recommendations were too drastic cuts. There were some recommendations for cuts, but in regard to the expenditure is to be increased during the next year.

Kenya's £100,000 Gift

Mr. Creech Jones asked whether the sum of £100,000 on the Kenya budget, instead of being offered as a free gift to the Imperial Government could be held in Kenya as a reserve for developing medical, educational, soil conservation and other necessary services.

Mr. George Hall replied in the negative, adding: Apart from a statement in the Press, the Colonial Secretary has no information that £100,000 is to be offered to the Imperial Government by the Government of Kenya, but a report from the Governor will no doubt be received in the near future. In August last, however, in response to a wide spread demand from all sections of the community in Kenya that the Colony should make a greater contribution to the Empire's war effort than had hitherto been possible, additional taxation was imposed with the express purpose of converting the estimated deficit in the 1941 budget into a surplus which could be given to the Imperial Government as a contribution towards the cost of the war. Medical, educational and special agricultural services have been and will be maintained to the fullest extent possible under war conditions.

Asked if he could make a statement on the recent visit of Lord Haile Selassie to Northern Rhodesia and the West African territories, Mr. Hall said that Lord Haile Selassie, invited by His Majesty's Government, had left for the Belgian Congo on an economic mission before he could bring to an issue his earlier investigations in Africa. He hoped that the interruption would be only temporary, but, meantime, he (Mr. Hall) was not in a position to make a statement.

What does the Minister of Home Affairs Orde-Brownrigg report on labour problems in Northern Rhodesia? asked Mr. Creech Jones.

Mr. Hall replied that since he had replied to a similar question in August, one Labour officer had been appointed for the Copperbelt, and provision for a second appointment had been included in the 1941 estimates. The cost of the Labour Department would be increased by £1,900 in 1941. It had further been decided, within war time limits of man-power and materials, to proceed in 1941 with the full programme envisaged under the Five-Year Plan.

Financial provision would be made for the construction of African housing at a cost of £51,000; African schools in the Copperbelt at a cost of £14,000; African hospitals and dispensaries costing £10,000; and grants to local authorities, principally for African housing, £50,000. It was proposed also to provide in the 1941 estimates the sum of £5,000 for medical welfare work in the Copperbelt, in addition to £9,500 already being expended there by the mining companies, Government and mines canteen fund.

To Fix Wages

A committee set up by the Kenyan Government under the Chairmanship of the Director of Man-Power to consider the non-Native labour positions in the Colony has recommended that legislative action should be taken to provide for the fixing of maximum and minimum wages for various classes of artisans and that a standing Board should be established to adjust rates in accordance with changes in the cost of living. A further recommendation is that the Board should have an official as Chairman and four other members, two of whom should be Indians, and that a military member should be co-opted when desirable.

COMPANY MEETINGS

Barclay's Bank (D.C. & O.)**Sir John Caulcutt's Review**

THE FIFTEENTH ORDER BY GENERAL MEETING OF BARCLAY'S BANK (DOMINION, COLONIAL AND OVERSEAS) was held on December 29 at 20, Gracechurch Street, London, E.C.

SIR JOHN CAULCUTT, K.C.M.G., the Chairman, in the course of his speech, said:

"I have to refer with profound regret to the death loss the Bank has sustained through the death of Mr. H. L. M. Tritton. Mr. Tritton, who was a director of the Colonial Bank, became one of the original directors of Barclay's Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) in 1922. He was Vice-Chairman of this Bank from 1932 to 1934 and Chairman from 1934 to 1937. I feel sure that shareholders will wish to join with me and my colleagues in expressing our sincere sympathy to Mr. Tritton and the family in their bereavement.

I also have to record with deep regret the death of the Hon. J. W. Dobme, C.M.G., which occurred in August last. It is little more than a year since he was appointed a member of our Rhodesian Committee, and we deplore the misfortune which has so soon deprived us of his services.

The directors have elected to the board Sir William Henry Clark, G.C.M.G., K.C.S.I., and Mr. Harry Robert Bradfield. We feel we are indeed fortunate to have in Sir William Clark a colleague so experienced in affairs of the Dominions, to whom he has rendered such distinguished services. Mr. Bradfield, as you are aware, only relinquished his position as general manager during the year. I am glad to declare we shall still retain the benefit of his wide experience and sound knowledge.

Mr. J. D. Race, our secretary, has retired on pension, and has been succeeded by Mr. H. T. Egerton,

The Accounts

Turning to the balance sheet, it will be seen that the current and deposit accounts at £126,500,725 show an increase of nearly £20,000,000 on last year, and easily constitute a record figure for this Bank. Cash in hand, £242,116,904, has increased by nearly £8,000,000, and represents a ratio of approximately 53% to liabilities.

The net profit for the year, after making provision for taxation and for bad and doubtful debts and contingencies, amounted to £123,032, an improvement of approximately £9,000 on the previous year. A sum of £200,000 has been carried to contingency account compared with £175,000 last year, and it is proposed to pay a final dividend of 4% (actual) on the cumulative preference shares, less income tax at 2s. 4d. in the £, and 1% (actual) on the A and B shares, less income tax at 7s. 4d. in the £ payable on December 28, 1940, leaving £11,936 to be carried forward.

In the Union of South Africa the hesitant business outlook which followed the outbreak of war had largely disappeared by the end of 1939, and since then business has continued in quiet and steady lines.

A substantial increase was recorded in preliminary figures of the Union's external trade during the first months of this year, and a healthy undertone is evident. The fall of Continental markets which formerly absorbed a large portion of the Union's wool and maize exports has been made good by the conclusion of an arrangement under which these two commodities, among others, are being sold to Great Britain.

The negotiations with the United Kingdom regarding the disposal of the 1940-41 Wool clip culminated in an agreement in August last whereby the British Government undertook to purchase the whole South African clip for the duration of the war and one year thereafter. The price basis is the same as that agreed upon for the pre-

vious season—nearly 10/- per pound—as an average for the entire clip, and, in addition, farmers will benefit to the extent of 50% of any profits which may accrue as a result of the re-sale of South African wool by Great Britain. The amount of the clip is expected to be in excess of that of the past season. The disposal of the Union's wool for the duration of the war is thus assured, and the Union Government has also taken steps to ensure an economic return to producers of certain other commodities.

An interesting development, affecting both industry and finance, has been the formation in September last of the Industrial Development Corporation of South Africa, Ltd., having a capital of £5,000,000 subscribed by the Union Government. Its objects are to promote and assist in the financing of new industries and the improvement of existing concerns.

Rhodesia, Nyasaland and East Africa

An encouraging feature of the year in Northern and Southern Rhodesia is the increasing trend in the mineral output. The first issue of Southern Rhodesia Currency Board notes was put into circulation in March last, and Nyasaland has since entered into the Currency Board area.

The 1939-40 crop in Nyasaland was very satisfactory, and the British Government has contracted for the purchase of the entire yield at a fraction of a penny over 1s per pound.

In East Africa the past year has naturally been a difficult one for producers and traders, but improvement may be anticipated as a result of measures that have been taken by the Government to cope with the situation. An East African Economic Council has been established under the chairmanship of Sir Philip Mitchell, K.C.M.G., M.C., with a view to the co-ordination of the war efforts of the East African territories. Supply Boards have been formed to control imports and certain of the chief agricultural products such as sisal and coffee. While there may be some falling off in certain crops, coffee in particular, it is probable that this will be offset by increased production in others, and that the export of gold will continue to increase. There are reasonable grounds for hoping that the export trade of the East African territories will be well maintained.

Government Purchases of Crops

This brief review of conditions in some of the territories served by our Bank underlines once again the immense significance from the economic point of view of the measures taken by the British Government to purchase many of the primary products or surpluses which may be offering. While at the outset this policy has resulted in restricting any undue rise in prices, it must in the long run be of great assistance to producers, to whom it gives an assured and stable market for their produce. Moreover, the avoidance of inflated prices during the war should do much to mitigate reaction when normal conditions return.

I will not presume to deal with the splendid contributions to the common cause by the Dominions and Colonies and Egypt and the Sudan, but their scope and nature abundantly inspire us to view the outcome with confidence.

It is gratifying to know that the Bank is uniquely placed to play its part on the economic and financial side and I am glad to be able to give you such a satisfactory report of our past year's working.

The meeting concluded by the voting the adoption of the report and accounts and the payment of the dividends recommended.

Mr. W. M. Goddough, Deputy Chairman, moved the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Deputy Chairman, and the proceedings terminated.

London and Rhodesian Mining and Land Co., Ltd.

Viscount Elibank's Address

THE ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS OF THE LONDON & RHODESIAN MINING AND LAND COMPANY, LTD., WAS HELD AT Winchester House, Old Broad Street, London, on Monday last, the 26th January. Viscount Elibank, Chairman of the company, presided. Mr. A. Nind, representing the Secretaries, the African Investment Trust, Ltd., having read the notices convening the meeting and the report of the auditors, the Chairman first referred with great respect to the death of Sir Abe Bailey, which had been announced by the company for many years. Southern Rhodesia was said to be particularly indebted to his courage, foresight, energy, enterprise and his name and memory would long be respected in that Colony and in South Africa.

Commenting on the profit and loss account, Lord Elibank said: "The decrease in the revenue from interest and dividends of approximately £10,000 is due almost entirely to the absence of the dividend usually declared by June 30 by the Cam and Motor Company. Our administration expenses have increased by about £1,000. Owing to the fact a number of members of our staff were away on active service and this entailed the engagement of temporary staff."

"With regard to the appropriation account, you will observe we have available £143,130 after transferring £50,000 from our general reserve account. Of the stockholders have received a dividend of 5% which absorbed £10,000. We have written off the cost of the mining-option abandoned, referred to in the directors' report, provided for depreciation and doubtful debts, and we have had to make provision for incapacity and N.D.C."

Results of the Year

"We have written up, so to speak, certain of our investments, bringing them down to the prices ruling on June 30. Our investments, other than those in subsidiary companies, now stand on the books at £665,448, compared with £675,075 in the previous year. At the close of business on June 30, there was an appreciation above the figure at which our investments stood on our books, £665,448, of £60,000, and below the appreciation over our book figures aggregates some £100,000."

"As far as the year's operations was concerned, a net profit of £67,894, compared with a profit of £100,000 in the previous year. An interim dividend of 5% was paid in January, 1940, but the directors subsequently decided that was in the best interests of stockholders not to declare a final dividend in the following June, so that the total distribution for the year was 5%. The directors have again agreed an interim dividend of 5% for the current year."

"Results at the Cam and Motor Gold Mining Company were not so good as in the previous year, the net profits being £201,755, compared with £250,000, and dividends distributed amounted to only £5,000 per cent, against £5,80d. The most serious matter was to face in connexion with the Cam and Motor Company is the very heavy increase in taxation. The directors of that company have had to reserve no less than £100,000 out of profits and general reserves in order to cover present taxation and to go to meet a further probable increase. In spite, nevertheless, of the heavy taxation and falling off in average grade of ore reserves, we look forward to a satisfactory return on our investment in this company for a good number of years to come."

"South African Coal Estates Company have had another very satisfactory year and during the year we have received two dividends amounting in all to 19 1/2%. Rhodes Mint had a satisfactory year, but the profits were somewhat disappointing. No dividend was de-

clared for the current half-year owing to the big increase in Southern Rhodesian war taxation, and also in consequence of heavy capital expenditure incurred during the year and the necessity for reducing the company's own indebtedness."

The Eastern Rhodesian Company reported a profit of £120,000, but no dividend was declared as the available takings were used to improve the financial position. The Cam and Motor Investment Fund earned a net profit of £20,000, but no dividend was distributed as the profit, with regard to the valuing of its investments as on June 30, 1940, was nil. The Diamond Service Company still makes steady progress in spite of difficulties due to enemy action."

Summarising the position, I may say we expect (1) that the Cam and Motor Company will continue payments of dividends during the current year, (2) that both the Bechtel and the Storn Transvaal Companies will be able to dividend during 1941, and (3) that our dividends and interest from the land holdings should not be less than £10,000 per annum."

Southern Rhodesian Tobacco Industry

Another institution which I wish to touch is the Rhodesian tobacco industry, which is beginning to gather and greater importance, and the actual sales this year are approximately £1,000,000 worth of Rhodesian tobacco was sold. This compares with £1,000,000 lb. in the previous year, while the average price realised was 1s. 0d. per pound, against 1s. 6d. in the previous year. You can imagine what these large figures must mean to Southern Rhodesia. It is quite obvious, the circulation from this pricing alone of nearly £1,750,000 among the factors must be very beneficial and must draw the attention of prospective settlers to the possibilities of the colony. This should indirectly or even directly materially affect your interest in view of the very large landholding this company possesses, a considerable portion of which can be made available for settlement."

"As to the immediate future, our revenue from investments, mining, etc., will be affected by way of rentals should our Government be compelled to keep us on the dividend paying list. On the other hand, any improvement in conditions which may bring about should materially assist us and enable us to return to the dividend paying basis of past years."

Lord Elibank concluded by expressing thanks to Mr. D. G. Zimmerman, the local station in Southern Rhodesia, and to Cluny Mr. R. R. Meldrum, as a director.

The resolution and accounts were unanimously adopted. The retiring directors recommended was confirmed. The retiring directors (Mr. Rt. Hon. Viscount Elibank, Mr. H. W. Spiller, and Mr. R. R. Meldrum) were re-elected, and Messrs. Miller, Wise, Fisher & Company were re-appointed as auditors.

Tobacco Outlook

A warning that Empire tobacco growers must be prepared for a poor year ahead was given in a broadcast talk from Salisbury recently by Mr. John Parker, secretary of the Rhodesian Tobacco Association. Tremendous stocks of tobacco were held, accumulating in America and Canada, and the Anglo-American Trade Agreement might in 1941 affect the amount of Imperial preference to the detriment of Colonial growers. To offset these disadvantages, R.T.A. was doing its best to get a footing in the Australian market, which bought about 17,000,000 lbs. a year from America. Emphasising the importance of the industry to Southern Rhodesia, Mr. Parker said that of the £1,762,500 realised for the last Virginian tobacco crop, £1,000,380 represented new money entering the Colony from other countries. He estimated the annual value of the tobacco industry in Southern Rhodesia at over £10,000,000, and perhaps over £2,250,000.

Broomé Rubber Plantations, Ltd.

Sir Lionel Smith-Gordon's Address

THE SIXTY-THREE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BROOMÉ RUBBER PLANTATIONS, LTD., was held on Friday last in London. Sir Lionel Smith-Gordon, Bt., Chairman of the company, presided.

The notice concerning the meeting and the report of the auditors having been read, the Chairman referred to the great loss the company had sustained by the death of Mr. W. A. Nutt, who had been a director. He continued:

Profit of £43,583

Profit for the year was £43,583, and after adding the balance brought forward, deducting debenture interest and trustees' fees, and £2,694 for income tax, there is an available sum of £41,548. Three interim dividends of 1½% making a total of 1½% for the year have been paid, absorbing £18,172, and leaving a balance of £23,376. Although the liability for E.P.T. is not yet ascertainable, a sum of £15,000 has been reserved. A general reserve of £50,000 has been created by transferring £1,894 from premium account and £2,005 from profit and loss account. It is proposed to carry forward the balance of £6,480, subject to directors' additional remuneration and staff bonus. The balance sheet calls for little comment, and you will see that £10,000 of 3½% Net Loan has been subscribed for.

You will see from the schedule attached to the report that 7,160 acres are now under cultivation, of which 5,650 acres are mature. The immature areas consists of 100 acres of replanted rubber and 1,085 acres of new plantings, including the 1,000 acres of virgin jungle contiguous to Eldred Estate. Old rubber planted prior to 1918 is now only 2,160 acres, or 30% of the total planted area. While the old rubber on Broomé and Balau continues to give good yields, if circumstances permit a steady replanting programme each year is contemplated as an insurance against inevitable deterioration due to old age. All replantings and new plantings are dealt with on modern lines, and the best known high-yielding materials used. With regard to the 1,000 acres newly planted on Eldred, 900 acres will be budded with first-class clones and the balance of 100 acres planted with colonial seed from 10 different sources.

Arusha Plantations, Ltd.

In past years I have referred at some length to our holding in Arusha Plantations, Ltd., a company engaged in the production of sisal and coffee in Tanganyika Territory. This concern, whose financial year coincides with ours, has fared as well as was to be expected, and the interest of 10% debenture stock has been received, which gives a yield of about 5% on the capital invested.

I do not propose to attempt to predict what the future may hold in store. All I can say is that we have started the new season very well. Approximately 1,000,000 lb. of the 1940-41 crop have been sold at an average price equal to about 1s per pound London terms, while the £2,000 consignment to the end of October showed a slight reduction as compared with 1939-40. It must be borne in mind, however, that E.P.T. will take even a heavier toll in the future, on the basis of 100% as against an average of 50% for the fiscal year now under review.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted, and the existing directors re-elected. A resolution concerning the existing ordinary shares into ordinary stock was unanimously approved, and the proceedings terminated with a cordial vote of thanks to the staff.

Sudan Cotton Growing

A circular to shareholders of the Sudan Plantations indicate states:

It is not possible to give any reliable indication as to what the results of the year's working will be. There are considerably larger stocks of cotton and seed remaining unsold than there were 12 months ago, and unfortunately these stocks are in a danger area where insurance against risk of enemy action cannot be effected. Every effort has been made to remove them to this and other countries where it would be possible to make sales, but lack of shipping facilities has prevented this and, although there has been a slight improvement in this respect in the last two months which may not continue, the valuation to be placed upon these stocks while still at risk is very difficult to assess. For this reason bearing in mind the effect that such a valuation must have upon the balance sheet figures, it would in any event have been desirable to postpone the presentation of the accounts until it is possible at least to reduce the risk at stake. The whole of the 1939 crop has been sold, and under the circumstances fair progress has been made in the disposal of the 1940 crop cotton and seed at satisfactory prices.

A circular in similar terms was sent to shareholders of the Kassala Cotton Company, Ltd.

Lewis & Peat

Lewis & Peat, Ltd., who handle considerable quantities of East African produce, announced payment of the dividend on the 5% cumulative preference shares in respect of the last year to June 30, 1939.

Parry, Leon & Hayhoe

Parry, Leon & Hayhoe, travel and tourist agents, who have specialised in tours to Central and East Africa, announce a net profit of £7,456 for the year ended June 30, compared with a loss of £1,621 for the preceding 12 months.

Postponement of Annual Meetings

Delay in the receipt of accounts from East Africa as a result of the war has necessitated the adjournment of the annual meetings of several important companies operating in the territories. Among them are Messrs. Dalgety & Co., Ltd., Sisal Estates, Ltd., Arusha Plantations, Ltd., and Central Line Sisal Estates, Ltd., all of whom will call further meetings when the full accounts become available.

Beira Town Sites

Beira Town Sites, Ltd., state in their annual Report to June 30, 1940, that during the year approximately seven acres of land were sold to the Companhia de Mozambique for the extension of the Beira aerodrome. The land owned by the company now amounts to 632 acres. The directors have again waived their fees, and no charge has been made for office rent or secretarial services. Loss for the year amounted to £184.

Mitchell Cotts Pays 13%

Messrs. Mitchell Cotts & Co., Ltd., state in a circular to shareholders that, owing to the war and the consequent delay in receiving the accounts of subsidiary companies abroad, it was impossible to complete the audit in time for the accounts of the year to June 30, 1940, to be submitted at the annual meeting convened for December, 1940. Another meeting will be called as soon as the accounts have been audited, probably in February or March. Draft accounts for the year to June 30 last show that the results, subject to audit, have again improved, and the directors have therefore felt justified in recommending a final dividend at the rate of 10%, less tax, making £1.25 for the year.

Colonial Labour Officers

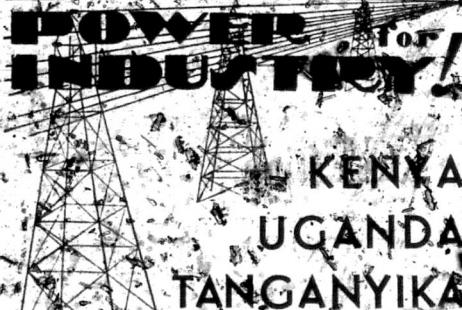
The Colonial Office has announced that some experienced trade unionists, with their intimate knowledge of the movement in this country, might be appointed labour officers in the colonies, and that it is hoped that the two nominations may be accepted. Persons selected for appointment will undergo a few months' training at the Ministry of Labour, after which they will be attached for short periods to one of the existing Colonial Labour Departments. Candidates must be between 25 and 40 years of age.

Geostat Roads Needed

The Association of Chambers of Commerce of Eastern Africa has urged the construction of an all weather road between Dar es Salaam and Tanganyika via Morogoro and Kyowwe, as a factor of commercial and strategical importance, particularly in view of the lack of shipping communications. Regret was also expressed at the delay in the construction of the re-aligned Mombasa-Tanganyika road, which will open up a large Native agricultural area and be greatly beneficial to coast development.

Yellow Fever

Following an outbreak of yellow fever in a remote part of the Sudan in November, representatives of the medical services of Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, the Sudan, South Africa, the Belgian Congo and the military force in East Africa have met in Nairobi. Their chief recommendations concern measures for the extirpation of the yellow fever carrying mosquito from our sea ports in Eastern Africa, from all inland and urban centres and accessories, and all steamships calling at East African coasts or inland waters and along all railway communications. The Sudan outbreak involved some 15,000 cases, of which 10% proved fatal.



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Company Progress Report

Kavirondo.—The progress report for October states that during the month 388 tons were crushed at Kavirondo, producing 366 oz. fine gold, and 614 tons in Chalusu, yielding 234 oz. fine gold, making in total output of 500 oz.

On the 4th level at Kwa-Muhimu, No. 1 rise N. advanced 12 ft. and holed to No. 3 level, of 118 ft. The last 58 ft. was on surface 90 ins. wide, worth 3.5 dwt. gold per ton. No. 2 rise S. adv. 40 ft. to 100 ft. Assays not available. No. 3 rise S. adv. 21 ft. and holed to No. 3 level at 147 ft. From 30 ft. to 100 ft. the quartz is 15 ins. wide worth 20 dwt. gold per ton. Sub-drive from N. advanced northwards 4 ft. to total 10 ft., and southwards 7 ft. to 63 ft. 3rd level N. adv. 41 ft. to 200 ft. on ledge of low value. Stoping continued on 4th and 2nd levels.

At Turnbull West the second level drive N. adv. 37 ft. to 132 ft. Lode 15.2 ins. wide, worth 16.5 dwt. is disturbed by dyke. No. 1 rise N. adv. 30 ft. to 60 ft. on ledge 15.2 ins. wide worth 12.5 dwt. gold per ton. Sub-drive N. adv. 18 ft. to 36 ft. on ledge 15.8 ins. wide worth 37 dwt. gold per ton. At Dudgeon's subsidiary work to facilitate stoping totalled 9 ft., hoisting was suspended for several days whilst the collar of shaft was re-limedbered.

In No. 2 Area on the 2nd level at Chausu No. 3 through zigzag sunk 20 ft. to 210 ft. Blow 1st level. No. 2 rise 19 ft. shaft 16.4 ins. on strong quartz vein fair values 13 rise adv. 24 ft. and holed to 1st level at 57 ft. on narrow quartz of fair value. In No. 3 shaft area the 50 ft. level was resumed and extended 10 ft. to 123 ft. on strong quartz of fair value.

Bellamira

The annual meeting of the Bellamira Development Mining Company was held in Nairobi last week.

Nigel Van Ryn Reefs, Ltd.

Nigel Van Ryn Reefs, Ltd., announced the payment of dividend of 5% for the year ended September 30, compared with a distribution of 2½% for the preceding 12 months.

Workmen's Compensation

The Chamber of Mines of Southern Rhodesia has compiled a memorandum which strongly disagrees with the provisions of the proposed Workmen's Compensation Act in the Colony.

Territorial Outputs

Kenya gold production in July amounted to 6711 oz. making a total output for the year to date, valued at £378,772, for the first seven months of the year. Kakamega produced 3,500 oz. of the July output.

Mining Personalia

Mr. F. C. Wiseman, of the Magomero Mine, Que Que, Southern Rhodesia, has died at the age of 60.

Mr. H. J. Joel has been appointed a Director of Rhodesian Anglo American, Ltd., to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. J. B. Joel.

Smallworkers' Spittle

The Rhodesia Mining Federation is considering the suggestion of the Mazoe Smallworkers' Association that it should organise a scheme in concert with the R.M.F. with a Spittle, the cost to be raised by all smallworkers donating the proceeds of a day's scrapping to the fund.

Ankole Tinfields, Ltd.

Ankole Tinfields, Ltd., state in their annual report to March 31 last that the minute working of the company's mining claims resulted in an output of 191 tons of tin concentrates, from which the company derived a revenue of £37,000. Net profit amounted to £22, making a total of £80 to the credit of profit and loss account.

To Represent Mining

The mining industry of Southern Rhodesia is now represented on the Industrial Council of the Colony by Messrs. G. A. Davison, R. H. V. Burnett, E. G. Hardinge, T. W. Gilbert, G. Musgrave, and A. J. Daby, representing the Rhodesia Chamber of Mines, and Messrs. R. Connolly, F. Milner, G. W. Murdoch, P. J. W. Tink, J. Gaynor and L. I. Deary, representing the Associated Smallworkers of Rhodesia. The Industrial Council was recently established under the Industrial Conciliation Act.

L.M.G.S. and East Africa

Reviewing progress in the East African mining concerns in which the company is interested Mr. W. M. Kirkpatrick said at last week's annual meeting of London, Australian and General Exploration, Ltd., that very gratifying reports had been received from Rosterman Gold Mines, Ltd., and from the Borderland Syndicate. In Rhodesia the company still holds its interest in Lusitani Gold Areas, Ltd., which had for sometime been operating on a limited scale. The prospects of deeper ground warranted the provision of additional plant to extend the scale of operations and steps were being taken by the Lusitani Company to secure the finance necessary for the purpose.

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