

EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA

Thursday, January 1, 1948
Volume 24 (New Series) No. 113

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Immigration of Indians Population Doubled in 16 Years

LIVELY SCENES marked the debate in the Legislative Council of Kenya on the second reading of the Immigration Bill. The measure was approved, only the five Indian members dissenting.

The Member for Law and Order, the chief Government spokesman, said that one of the reasons for the legislation was possible pressure of refugees from Central Europe. He revealed that in 1938-39 no fewer than 60,000 persons from Central Europe had applied for entry to Kenya, 40,000 in a single group application; about 1,800 had been admitted.

The speaker mentioned incidentally that the African population of Kenya had approximately doubled since 1925, and was now nearly 5,000,000. The Indian population had risen from 10,681 in 1911 to 39,644 in 1931, and 78,588 this year, according to the ration book count; thus the Indian population had doubled in 16 years. Europeans, who had numbered 3,175 in 1911, numbered 16,242 in 1931, and 23,284 this year.

The Indian case was led by Mr. Cocker, who, when referring to the visit of the Development and Reconstruction Authority's engineers to South Africa on a recruiting campaign, was unwise enough to ask: "What has South Africa done for Kenya?" The European elected members replied in chorus: "She fought for us."

African Members' View

Mr. Mathu, an African nominated member, thought the Bill did not go far enough. He said the Africans relied upon Government to give them every possible assistance in political, social and economic affairs. The present training schemes for Africans were inadequate.

Non-official/European members frequently interrupted the speeches of Mr. Mathu and Mr. Cocker as irrelevant, and the Speaker, Mr. W. K. Horne, at length said: "If in every debate in this Council every possible thing is to be dragged in, public time will be unduly taken up. I would ask members to remember in general that they should speak to the subject, which in this case is the Immigration Bill."

The Attorney-General, replying to the debate, took Mr. Cocker to task for querying his vacancy when he had said that he honestly believed that some form of restriction along the lines of the Bill was necessary. "If he had queried my statement in any other place I should have been able to deal with him in the manner I would have liked," said Mr. Foster Sutton. Later, in defence of those administering defence regulations, he said: "We are dealing with human beings, and those who are in charge of administration of the defence regulations are so frequently tricked and bamboozled by applications for entry permits made by Indians that I do not honestly blame them for sticking their heels in. I have not come across the same sort of thing from any other race in the Colony."

Lewis and Peat, Ltd., Colonial produce brokers, have declared a dividend of 2½% on the 5½% preference shares for the six months ended June 30, 1947.

Tea Plucking by Machine British Invention

TEA can now be plucked mechanically. A speaker in the Far Eastern Service of the B.B.C. said recently—

"A new British machine, specially designed for cutting the leaves from tea plants, is now being made in London. It works in the same way as the one used for cutting grain in the fields, but is different in being very much smaller and driven by electric power. Because it is made of aluminium and weighs only 6 lb., it is easy to use.

"One person using this new invention, named the 'mechanical tea crotter,' is able to cut as many leaves as five persons working in the normal way. It cuts about 100 lb. of tea in a day, in comparison with the 20 lb. which one person is able to collect by the old method. For this reason it will cause great changes in the industry.

"A surprising point is that, according to experts, tea made from leaves cut by this machine tastes better than that made from leaves cut by hand. The explanation given is that the machine cuts the leaves clean from the stem and they are not crushed as when taken by hand. Thanks to this discovery, there is now a good chance that we may have not only more tea but tea that tastes better."

New Rail Connexions

LOOK FOR NEW RAIL CONNEXIONS to the west from the development of the Kariba Gorge area, the strengthening of the existing lines to carry the traffic which will develop only gradually, and the carriage of this traffic to Beira, pending the completion of a West Coast outlet," said Sir Arthur Griffin recently in Southern Rhodesia, adding:

"Coal from Wankie should supply the Copperbelt and eventually be exported to the West Coast. And is it a dream to think of a hydrogenation plant for Wankie, the export of oils and the use of by-products in the country? Other coal deposits might conceivably supply the Midlands area, leaving Wankie to control the north and west.

"The groundnut areas in Northern Rhodesia should be commanded from the south by the extension of the 3ft. 6in. gauge system northwards, and not by the southwards extension of the metre system of Tanganyika.

That Sense of Proportion

"History was made on Wednesday when Kenya's Governor broadcast from London in Swahili to the African people of Kenya."—Kenya Information Office.

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Letters to the Editor

Fauna Destruction and Tsetse Game Reserves Should Be Fenced

To the Editor of EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA
 SIR,—In his admirable summary of the pros and cons of this subject Professor Shortt has unwittingly left room for certain misconceptions.

The game destruction programme in Southern Rhodesia has been carried out in a limited area only, and though there was extension of settlement while it was in progress, it did not, I believe, take place in the selected area until it was declared safe.

There are, moreover, no grounds for fear that the programme of destruction is irreversible, while there are numerous game reserves, covering tens of thousands of square miles, from the Cape to the Sudan, whence animals continually overflow into the adjoining country.

But to limit the discussion to the connexion of game and tsetse is to ignore the facts that Africa is an agricultural country, and that moving herds of game and farming are incompatible. Indeed, the dissemination of stock diseases, the scattering of disease-conveying ticks, and the damage done to crops by game are perhaps as important aspects of the question in Southern Rhodesia as the tsetse fly.

These items in the charge against game preservation, as practised at present, are incontrovertible, and by themselves constitute more than adequate grounds for the dictum of veterinarians, agriculturalists and many others that the proper place for game is in game reserves, and that these reserves should be securely fenced in.

Yours faithfully,

J. B. DAVEY

Newspaper Mail from U.K.

To the Editor of EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA
 SIR,—It is astonishing that, although our friends the Union-Castle and British India Lines have restored their passenger liner services, newspapers from the United Kingdom continue to be dispatched from Liverpool by cargo vessel, taking as much as two months to arrive. I write on December 3 from Monrovia, and no newspapers have arrived since November 16. Then, according to the postal authorities, 3,111 bags were landed from the U.S. CRAFTSMAN, ex Liverpool. Delivery did not begin until November 19, and continued until the 24 (an heroic performance by an inadequate staff hampered by cramped space in a pre-war building).

Dates of the Home papers carried by the ship ranged from September 18 to October 22. Can it be that the Government wish to discourage Britons overseas from reading the Home Press? Why cannot the restored liner service be so arranged that there will be sailings at approximately 15-day intervals? Is it unreasonable to protest when newspapers from Home take as long to arrive as they ever did during the worst days of the war?

Peri Keith

Yours faithfully,

H. H. AITKEN

African Servant's Long Service

To the Editor of EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA
 SIR,—Though not so long a service as that of Mr. Michael Moses's African cook, I can cite the case of my personal boy, which is also remarkable.

Manwera Bahrino, a Muganda, first came to me in May, 1911, and stayed until I retired in April, 1929. When I returned to Uganda in July, 1939, he left his garden to join me, and remained with me until I left in September, 1946.

Yours faithfully,

ERNEST HADDON

Cambridge

Criticism of African Teachers

Poor Disciplinarians

IN GENERAL, African teachers are poor disciplinarians," says Mr. R. H. W. Wisdom, Director of Education in Nyasaland, in his annual report. "Some central schools are overcrowded and understaffed," he writes, "with their standard H classes full of over-age boys of 16 or 17. This upsets discipline in the schools, especially when the teachers habitually address their boys as 'Mr.' and seem to take a pride in letting them do as they like in school and out."

"They cannot see that boys must be taught to behave themselves and that it is an important part of their duties to see that they do so. Fear of incurring censure or enmity from parents and guardians is the primary cause of this, and many comparatively serious school offences, such as lying and cribbing, too often go unpunished."

The total number of African pupils enrolled in all Nyasaland schools at the end of 1946 showed a small increase at 217,444, compared with 210,209 the year before. Girl pupils increased from 82,921 to 85,034. In Government schools the numbers rose from 73,896 to 75,307.

Disappointment is expressed in the report that the four teacher training institutions between them produced only 13 English grade teachers and 31 vernacular grade teachers. The number of central schools in the Central Province has been doubled.

Local European schools provided for 138 children, of whom 54 were boys, and an average of 24 children took the Southern Rhodesia correspondence course. Educational allowances were paid for 164 children over the age of 10 attending schools in Rhodesia and the Union. Awards of 21 bursaries, 15 to schools outside the Protectorate, were made during the year.

Enrolments at the four assisted schools for Indian children numbered 323. Two boys were admitted to a secondary school in Dar es Salaam and were awarded bursaries.



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Parliament

Crime and Punishment Polish Resettlement

THE EXTENT to which corporal punishment of civil prisoners in East and West African prisons had diminished over the past five years was the subject of a question by MR. SORANSEN in the House of Commons last week.

MR. REES-WILLIAMS: "The latest complete returns of corporal punishment for prison offences are for the period 1941-45 inclusive. I attach the figures at the end of this answer. As my rt. hon. friend has previously informed the House, this form of punishment has been the subject of consideration by his Treatment of Offenders Sub-Committee and of a dispatch to Colonial Governors."

In the tables quoted the figures for the five years 1941 to 1945 were:—Kenya—24, 21, 30, 25, 43. Uganda—12, 11, 10, 4, 10. Tanganyika—9, 6, 8, 4, 1. Zanzibar—1, 0, 2, 0, 1. Nyasaland—1, 1, 0, 2, 1. Northern Rhodesia—118, 215, 385, 230, 128.

Mr. Rees-Williams added: "The period 1940-45 was one of great difficulty in prison administration due to overcrowding in the prisons and shortage of trained prison staff. The high figures for Northern Rhodesia in comparison with the figures for other territories were especially brought to the Governor's notice in 1943 and the measures taken in consequence showed a considerable improvement in 1944 and 1945. The matter is still being pursued."

Demand for Fertilizers

MR. DODDS-PARKER asked the actual tonnage of fertilizers demanded in each of the five East and Central African territories, and the minimum tonnage estimated to be required to maintain soil fertility, exclusive of any groundnut scheme.

MR. REES-WILLIAMS: "Only nitrogenous fertilizers are subject to allocation, and requests are forwarded to me only in respect of fertilizers of this type. The following tonnages for 1947-48 have been asked for: Kenya, 825 tons of sulphate of ammonia and 25 tons of nitrate of ammonia; Tanganyika, 585 tons of sulphate of ammonia; Uganda, 960 tons of nitrogen; Zanzibar, None; Nyasaland, 2,500 tons of sulphate of ammonia and 60 tons of nitrate of soda; Northern

Rhodesia, no separate record, since requirements are included in Southern Rhodesian returns.

"It is not at present possible to estimate minimum requirements for the maintenance of soil fertility in conditions such as those which obtain in Colonial territories. A research team has been established under the aegis of the East African Agricultural and Forestry Research Organization to examine the problem of maintenance of soil fertility under African conditions and to examine the manurial requirements of different soils and different crops."

MR. DODDS-PARKER asked what action was being taken to resettle the Poles at present in Tanganyika Territory in more suitable surroundings.

MR. CREECH JONES: "The majority of these Poles are the dependants of members of the Polish Forces in this country, and will be brought here to join their relatives as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made. A few have already left. The question of the resettlement of the remainder is in the hands of the Preparatory Commission of the International Refugee Organization."

Aerial Surveys

A REVIEW of the work of the Colonial Survey Directorate states, *inter alia*: "In the East and Central Africa some of the problems which have been or are being tackled include the survey of areas for their mineral and oil possibilities, for coal, for growing groundnuts, for determining the extent of soil erosion, and for the resettlement of tribes away from eroded localities into other areas where they can again become agriculturally self-supporting. In one area the possibility of growing tung oil has formed the basis of a survey. A pilot who was once on the Mosquito 'milk run' to Berlin now flies his Lancaster on less spectacular but equally vital work in the preliminary survey tasks which all hope will be the forerunners of years of peace and prosperity."

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pillow cases from 25% to 12½%. In the case of china and porcelain there has been a reduction from 40% to 30% on undecorated, and from 45% to 35% on decorated. Manchester and Wilton carpets are reduced from 40% to 30%. Large as some of these reductions may seem, it does not in the least follow that a tariff which may well have been prohibitive will not still remain prohibitive if cut in half, and only time can show whether these reductions have any substantial effect at all.

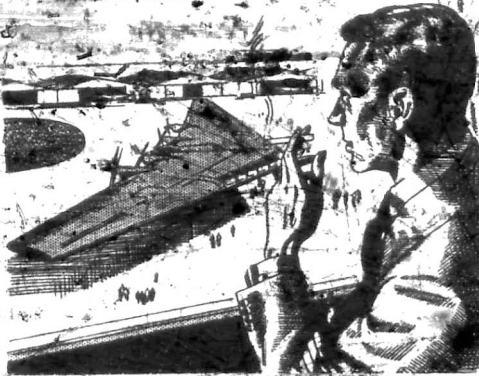
There is, on the other hand, very little question that the Americans are in a position to take full advantage of such reductions as they have secured in British rates of duty and in Empire preferences. Reductions on certain types of textile machinery are from 20% to 15%, as they are on sewing machines. Pig-iron is reduced from 33½% to 25%. Duty on soap is reduced by 5%. Women's cotton outerwear from 20% to 17½%, and on the more expensive qualities of silk clothing and rayon from 43½% to 33½%. Women's shoes from 35% to 10%, and men's from 20% to 15%. Motor cycles from 33½% to 22½%, and pedal cycles from 33½% to 20%. In addition to this we have undertaken not to increase the duty on a large variety of other goods.

Perilous Agreement about Tobacco

The agreement with regard to tobacco is particularly perilous. The original preference was an *ad valorem* one, subsequently changed to specific and frozen in the 1938 Anglo-U.S.A. treaty. The present preference is 1s. 6½d. per lb. and the duties have from about 55s. to 60s. per lb. a penal rate which no Government will keep at its present level a moment longer than is absolutely necessary. The upward rise in the duty steadily reduced the value of the preference owing to the terms of the 1938 treaty, but the preference is not to be frozen in relation to any downward movement in the duty since it has been agreed that any reduction in the rate of duty shall serve to reduce the preference, and that if the general duty is reduced to the present preferential level the preference shall disappear altogether.

Among the goods on which the United Kingdom will lose considerable amounts are certain motor cycles entering Australia, which are imported into New Zealand, anthracite, tinplate and paper cloth into Canada, cranes and mechanical excavators, tractors, wool and cotton socks going to South Africa, and motor cycles entering India.

WHILE MEN DARE to try new methods and harness new giant forces, while we work for better results in every sphere—air, land and sea—there is still the unchanging stubbornness of an "old friend" at our finger tips, helping to solve that intricate problem.



Player's
Please



Two things should be remembered in connexion with all these changes. The first is that at present there is so much bulk buying and selling that the actual rates of preference in many cases are paper preferences only. Against this must be placed the fact that the accepted regulations for Government purchase are that they shall be conducted solely in accordance with commercial considerations, including price, quality, availability, marketability, transportation and other conditions of purchase or sale. In plain English, they shall be governed by price alone.

If Australia has a consignment of some commodity which it is prepared to offer on reasonable terms to the United Kingdom, the latter is debarred from purchasing it if the U.S.A. offer a similar consignment at 4d. per lb. cheaper.

Escape Clauses

The second point to note is that there are so many escape clauses, reservations, and exceptions to which appeal can in certain circumstances be made that many of the provisions will, at any rate by some parties, be rendered nugatory from the start. We meet, for instance, our old friend fundamental or widespread disequilibrium, prevailing in international trade and payments, which is held to be sufficient reason for applying import restrictions and departing from the non-discriminatory principles of quantitative restrictions. How this disequilibrium is to be defined, and who is to decide whether it exists, is not explained, but we foresee disequilibrium appearing whenever any country finds that it would be advantageous to make this way of escape.

While we heartily disapprove of this agreement, there may be some hope that in present conditions and within the period of three years from January 1, 1948, there may be a chance of our maintaining a reasonable trade position, although this hope must be tempered with the fear that the dollar situation may well be rendered progressively more difficult in the immediate future.

If, however, the trade situation is not altered for the worse, this may encourage a general acceptance by the U.K. Government and other countries of the Charter in its entirety and virtual permanency, which laid before them in Havana. This is a consummation which must be fought by every method and without cessation, for if we once enter into an agreement of this nature, which permanently denies us the liberty to adjust our own economic position in the way that seems best to us, and furthermore, denies us the right to make what economic arrangements we deem wise within the Empire to the mutual satisfaction of all its members, they indeed we may look forward to permanent austerity at home, to the dismemberment of the Empire, and our final relegation to the background of the commercial world.

If we are to avoid this, it is imperative that we extract ourselves from this agreement at the earliest possible moment, refuse to put the Havana matter about our necks, and so regain our freedom from an intolerable situation.

Plants of Zanzibar

MR. R. O. WILLIAMS, Director of Agriculture in Zanzibar, has written a book, entitled "Useful and Ornamental Plants of Zanzibar and Pemba." There will be about 400 pages of text, and of the 800 plants listed and described, 180 will be illustrated, thanks to the help of Mr. F. A. Wilson, Major F. A. T. Dutton, and others. The descriptive matter is arranged alphabetically under the botanical names, with cross-references in alphabetical order to the English and Swahili equivalents. Lists of useful plants are grouped under such convenient headings as vegetables, hedges, fibres, medicinal plants, etc., and there are popular keys to the ornamental plants in order to aid identification where no name is known. Printing of the book is to start shortly in this country.

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Two particularly despicable forms of attack upon the game speculator receive special consideration. It will be recalled that a minority of the Kenya Settlement Committee of 1939 suggested that there should be a percentage of the value placed on the land by the owner, which valuation would be a firm offer of the land for one year. This is denounced as a device to avoid the problem of amortization of a large number of land values. It is recommended instead that there should be a demand for a general inquiry into the land taxation on a broader basis. Coupled with land rating (which is admitted to be generally unpopular), this line of action is emphasized, has usually been successful in getting the whole matter biggified.

Another plan was for an additional tax on land transfers imposed to bridge the difference between the buying

and selling prices, a rate which increases with the length of the period during which the land has been held undeveloped. Such an idea is obviously inspired by communism and is a direct attack on the sacred right of property," says this manifesto. "To suggest that because a man's estate has been enhanced in value by other people working in the area over a long period of years it should be subject to any form of tax to help those people is nothing short of monstrous."

No land speculator is to be seen in safety without a copy of this valuable publication.

In a preface Sir Holden Deeds expresses the view that only two influences have opposed the destruction of the soil of East and Central Africa—the long-term and speculator and the 'getse-by'. Now that the former is being rapidly eliminated by bulldozers and D.D.T., it is, he

argues, more than ever important that land speculation should be preserved. Sir Holden debunks the idea that the speculator thinks only about profits. "People generally," he says, do not value the land and its fertility as they should. Speculators are a more serious view. They assess the value of good land or they would not buy it. Can anyone blame them if they do not part with it except to people who value it as they do, i.e. at their valuation?"

Sir Holden is chairman of the newly formed Land Speculators Association, which has membership under various heads. To be a fellow it is necessary to state field land undeveloped for at least 25 years; for membership the period is a minimum of 10 years; but those who have held up development for lesser periods may apply for association. Subscriptions are payable in cash in advance free of bank charges.

A Matter of Principle

"I'M AFRAID you've seen the last of your ten pounds," said Tony Raymond, manager of the club to the aristocratic-looking, middle-aged temporary member who had mentioned that this was his first visit to Africa.

"No, my friend, I have not seen the last of my ten pounds," he replied quietly. "We differ because I have unbounded faith in the fundamental goodness of human nature and tremendous confidence in my own judgment of a man. This little loss means nothing to me other than a matter of principle."

"Billy Jackson," suggested Tony, as a fairly slender strolled into the club. "Billy, this gentleman lent ten pounds last night to me," and turning to the silver-haired stranger he said, "Would you again describe the object of your benevolence for the benefit of my friend?"

"Why, certainly, though I protest at your reference to the borrower as an object. He is tall, very talkative and slim; and has been, I should say, very good-looking though he has a slight cast in one eye."

"Shanks," cut in Billy Jackson. "Exactly," Tony Raymond agreed.

The stranger eyed them critically, if not disdainfully.

"It seems you are cynics," he commented. "I might almost think that you see no good in your fellow humans. Discussing thought in a depressed world, I saw this unfortunate, whom I could distrust out in

the township last night, and we got talking; he was waiting for a friend who had rather let him down. I offered to lend him a tenner."

"At first he refused. I had to press it upon him, and he assured me that he would repay me in this club not one minute later than five o'clock to-day."

He paused, sipped his drink, and added, "And he will."

"I wish I had your optimism," said Billy Jackson. "That fellow owes more money in this country than anyone knows. His creditors must include nearly all the other European in this district. He is an amusing cove, but hopeless over money."

"Ten pounds means nothing much to me, my friends," reported the stranger, sighing, "but my faith in my fellows and in myself, means a great deal."

"I dare to rub it in, sir," Tony persisted, "but I'm afraid your tenner has gone with the wind. Did you tell Shanks when you proposed to leave the district?"

"I did. I said that I should be leaving this club at exactly two o'clock in order to catch my train."

He broke off and glanced at the clock. "He still has eleven minutes; you will observe. And he will come," he said confidently.

A step sounded on the veranda. All three heads swung round expectantly and simultaneously. "It has not Shanks," the new-comer padded, sat down at a nearby table, and began turning the pages of a periodical.

"Five minutes left," announced Jackson, for want of something better to say.

"He'll come," said the stranger challengingly, and Tony thought, a little whimsily, "I'd bet a hundred pounds on it," he added casually.

"And I'll take it," replied Billy with alacrity.

"So will I," laughed Tony. "Very well, I do not normally bet, but I will on this occasion because I know he will come." And the stranger proceeded to count out the money.

Tony hurried to the safe for his stake and for a loan for Jackson, who had only part of the money on him. The money was on the counter in a heap, and the time was one minute to two when Shanks arrived holding out a bunch of notes.

The stranger greeted him, told him to leap the cash, pocketed the money on the table, and was about to leave when the man who had been reading the periodical suddenly blocked his way.

"I'll trouble you to hand that money back to your victims," he said. "They don't know that you left another country for the benefit of your health. Now you'll start leaving this Colony for the benefit of ours."

Signing Off

THIS is the finish of our Christmas. How do you do until this time next year? We go to crops, mines, politics and news which these days it was fun.

devils in hell had been let loose. Never have I heard such a noise as was made by the remainder crashing through the undergrowth and taking trees a foot thick in their stride. Without even waiting to make sure that the animal was dead, and not merely stunned, Rocky walked to it, produced a tape-measure, entered the length of the tusks in a notebook, and then took photographs from every conceivable angle. He then said that he was ready for the next of the "big suckers."

I explained that that sort of thing just wasn't done: he had his elephant, and a good one, at the first attempt, and without a long trek. The etiquette was now to go home. Moreover, to clinch the matter, I said that I wanted to go to the cricket match and that we could talk about it.

Having at long last exhausted the subject of his elephant and the worth of the ivory (which seemed to appreciate considerably in value at each new calculation), he conceded that he'd better let me tell him something about the cricket game. But by then we had almost finished our march back (for this was in the days when motor cars were still rarities). So I foolishly suggested that he should ask any questions he liked as the match proceeded.

We just had time for a bath before going to the Kampala ground, and Rocky took me to his hotel. When he emerged I knew that he would be the object of speculative attention, for now he sported an immaculate, double-breasted white suit, an ounce in double terris, dark glasses, a camera, a telescope, and the inevitable large bag of new money. His most casual remark was uttered as though addressing the whole lounge.

When the last bullock had been chased off the field, and the umpires started their walk to the pitch, Rocky sought information about the guys got up by the milkmen. That brought a laugh from the people in the vicinity; interpreting the term liberally I explained that the game was between Jinja and Kampala and that one or two new players were reputed to be good.

As Kampala's opening pair walked to the wicket I pointed out Lazen, a fine straight bat. Rocky pushed back his terai, gazed quizzically at them both, and said: "I can't see no difference in their bats. Both look straight to me." Just as I had managed to make him understand that it was not the actual bat, but the way in which it was handled that was responsible for the expression of the new straight bat

was bowled. "Looks like he took no long in gettin' it straight," commented Rocky.

I informed him that the bowler was making them go away. Rocky watched intently, no vestige of a smile adorning his rubbery face. Presently he said: "He sure is making 'em go away. That guy don't seem able to get a crack at him nohow" — which I couldn't help but observe was true, especially when the umpire turned and signalled a wide. When he heard somebody say that the bowler at the other end was delivering inswingers, he asked: "Where's he s'posed to swing them into?" which he answered himself when the batsman was hit in the face, by saying: "E gress face."

By this time I had become as uncomfortable as the people around me were amused. I decided my question he might ask. When the injured man was replaced by another batsman, there was a burst of handclapping. Now I should be asked why, so I forestalled Rocky by telling him that the man was a very pretty bat and famous for his late cuts.

Again Rocky watched with all the enthusiasm and inquisitiveness

of a schoolboy. And after the over, "Late cuts, d'yer say," he queried. "Looks like if his cuts are much later they'll have to find a substitute for that guy with the shin pads on." Looking extremely hot under the collar, and anxious to get off as many embarrassing questions as possible, I went into a long rhapsody about the game being an annual event, and mentioned that always after the match there was a mad scramble for the ball and the wickets. He listened attentively. Then, without a word, he rose and walked slowly down the pavilion steps towards the field — the signora of hundreds of pairs of amused eyes.

The umpire had, as it happened, called the last over. Rocky, to my horror, began walking slowly on to the field of play. At the last ball of the most beautifully square day was facing towards us for four, Rocky, hat in hand, raced to meet it. He slipped and fell. But his enormous hat shot out, and the ball went into it. He got up with the ball in his hand and, waving his hat ecstatically, dashed back to the pavilion amidst the howls of the most full throated screech I ever heard. Old-timers don't talk about my pal Rocky.

Saviours of the Land

THE LAND SPECULATORS ANNUAL (U. Vaddit, Ltd., organizers) is, so far as we are aware, the first handbook of the kind.

Dealing with the attractions of land speculation, unswayed by any thought of selling one's lands or risking one's money in attempts to develop the country concerned, the compilers point out (a) that land in a new country almost invariably rises in value over a period of years, (b) that successful development of any area by other people benefits a land speculator just as much as it benefits them, and (c) that those societies and associations which keep a grandmotherly eye on all parts of the Empire invariably attack those who develop the country rather than those who in a more gentlemanly way collect their profit by sitting and speculating; it is therefore deduced, are not spivs or buffer reeds or crayfish.

Part of the volume is devoted to defence of the system in all circumstances. It is noticed, we read, "that from time to time the most energetic and disinterested attacks are made by unscrupulous people, and as circumstances change, some

times rapidly, it is important that relevant and suitable arguments be used in each case. For example, during the slump of 1930, it was perfectly right to urge that as there were no buyers of land, it would be unjust unless it had an undeveloped land tax. But it would be very careless to repeat that argument to-day. It is now quite convincing to point out that because there is a present shortage of every conceivable adjunct to land development, such a tax would be most unfair. It would, of course, not have been tactful to put forward that plea in 1930, when stacks of second-hand farm equipment of all kinds were being sold at auction at give-away prices."

This quotation will serve to show the factual strength of the book; it is a pains to stress how necessary it is to use the right argument at the right time. Indeed, an appendix gives the authors a list of defence and different heads, such as "Prosperous Times," "Slumps," "Benefits of Average Prosperity," etc. Under the heading "Emergent" will be found a number of phrases of universal application, such as "The time is not

hard for scorpions, of which there were a lot in there; and it suddenly dawned on me with new force that I had never really taken the precautions that I should have taken in the past.

And this I kept smiling "not," he went on. "How many people smiles because they want to tell you," he growled, before I could think of anything to say. "None, and none. Nobody had a fool smile, and only idiots laugh."

That made me feel very culpable. I had laughed outright once that very evening.

Keep smiling, indeed, he grunted; another feather-bated saying if ever there was one. Why, smiling is not only rank hypocrisy, it's positively unhygienic. The next time you get down to so-called civilization — if you're foolish enough to let yourself be posted away from this idyllic existence — go into one of the clubs if you feel you can't bear it, and watch manking become happy — and there was a heavy sound about that word "happy."

Watch their flashing smiles, and watch how the smile loses itself as the person's natural self takes command. Have you ever thought of that? Don't you know that trouble and trials and misery spell true happiness?

I had to admit that, obvious as it now was, it had never occurred to me. Yet I could see that he was dead right.

Just as I had made up my mind to be really happy with a little worry, an askari fell over with his box of papers, and the startled look the African gave as he lay on his back seemed an involuntary glimpse from me. For a moment, Sorroton was so concerned with the papers that the incident passed off without comment. His worry may have made him so happy that he did not even hear an unregenerate ejaculation.

Sorroton stayed with me for another week and then moved on, but not before I had realized the significance of our meeting and determined to profit by his instructions.

About six months later I went down to Kitale with six super-barrels on hand. A curious thing about good worries is that they never seem to be where you feel they should be. One day, in the bank I once moved to the brain in flavoured temper, and the digestion, and I generally start about irrationally.

Well, possession of half a dozen worries reminded me of Sorroton's. One day, one would drop to

a club and see for myself. So in I went, sat down, and quickly turned over the pages of an illustrated magazine.

A babel of voices came from the bar, and a good deal of jolly laughter. At length I moved to get a better view of the panorama of human misery. Then I heard a voice say: "Cheer up, it may never happen," and I was suddenly smitten with pity. There seemed something

about the voice which was vaguely familiar. The speaker had his back to me, and was laughing his silly head off and singing. Then he turned, and I saw it was poor old Sorroton.

He had failed to stay the course, happiness was no longer his. I was drenched with pity for him, and consequently deeply worried about him — and therefore delightfully happy about myself.

My Pal Rocky

IF I LIVE to be a hundred I shall never forget John Rocky, Schustermeister of Manhattan, New York City, U.S.A., as he was wont to describe himself at the slightest opportunity.

He descended on us at the K.A.R. camp at Bombo one day, after lunch in response to an invitation which had given him in the Kampala Club some wind previously when in one of my expansive moods. He had an elephant gun, a .375 Mannlicher, and a whole heap of enthusiasm, and at once proclaimed his intention of going out to shoot "garden destroyers" which, for all he or I knew, might be elephants or buffalo.

Before I could correct his assumption that I was thirsting for his company on such a quest, a brother officer, good-natured thinking that he was being helpful, interposed that news had just arrived of a herd of elephants about four miles away, and that the "Sudanese" youth who had brought the intelligence was waiting outside. That was a bad enough contribution from Hoot Ribson. His next was worse, for he, a grand shikari, proceeded to lament that he couldn't come. My hands suddenly became moist, and a slight shudder played around the lower region of my spine. I had been out after big game before, but never without my trusted pal, expert as I, and I had never yet shot a phant, or, to tell the truth, got within sighting distance of one.

So — lying slight emphasis on the fact that it was because I wanted John Rocky to have the best advice — I announced with what I hoped was finality that we should have to put it off for a day or two and go to a cricket match.

But Rocky was adamant: he said he'd come right over to slap down a couple of umbos, and slap the gnyls down he would before

sunset. Hoot looked at me, and rather than appear embarrassed about it, I was stamped into, saying I'd take him out.

The first job was to show Rocky where to shoot at the elephant, according to a number of diagrams which were produced for his instruction. But he scarcely looked at them; he seemed to think that this was no more hazardous or skilled job than bagging a brace of rabbits (which I suppose he'd have called coveys). That didn't increase my confidence noticeably.

At last we set sail through the long elephant grass following a boy who kept tapping his little bag of flour to ensure that we were o.k. for wind.

All six feet of Rocky presented a formidable though ludicrous sight. He was clad in a long blue shirt and white corduroy slacks, with a Mannlicher slung across one shoulder, a borrowed Mauser across the other, and a double-barrel elephant gun in his hands. He had a cine camera in one pocket, an unlighted cigar and a piece of chewing gum in his mouth, a compass slung round his neck, and as big a wrist-watch as I ever remember seeing.

Suddenly the boy shushed us. We were about to step into a clearing with only a tall ant-hill between us and about twenty elephants broadside on.

In a stage whisper so loud that it set icy tentacles clutching at my heart, Rocky said: "Gee!" My throat went dry, and for a moment I was engulfed in a physiological tremor. Not so Rocky.

He slid the Mannlicher from one shoulder to the ground with a thud and the Mauser from the other with equal lack of ceremony. Then he stepped out to the ant-hill, took his aim and fired. As the ant-hill fell, he saw that all the

A Matter of Perspective

any European nation ever achieved this degrading state of affairs.

"With such an organization in London we shall have no difficulty in getting rid of the immigrant races when we want to. It was, however, an unfortunate piece of over-zealousness on the part of Mr. Leonard Barnes when he proposed that the immigrant races should be eliminated now. That we certainly do not support. We have not half finished with them yet. They might, it is true, continue to pour money into this Colony even after the control of the Government had passed out of their hands, but it would not be safe to rely on that. Therefore we must continue meanwhile to develop the minerals and develop agricultural techniques, well knowing that it will be for us to take over eventually.

"All nations of the earth wish for wealth. Except in the case of the African, all nations have had to work hard for it. In most European countries a large proportion of the women work for their living. Even in some native countries women sell sisal and earn money. I trust that no African woman will ever stoop so low.

"In Britain and other European countries men have to seek work away from their homes; they cannot get it locally. But Africans have arranged things that they can still draw income relief and quantity for reduced taxation on the score of poverty, however much work there may be even a short distance away from their homes.

"Africans are determined to reach a high standard of civilization without either earning it themselves or using any of their assets. They seem to be as dissatisfied with their lot as we are. There are still places in British universities which are taken by Europeans and which must be handed over to Africans. Not until African demands are fully satisfied should any vacancies be allotted to the British themselves. It may be a delicate matter to arrange this at a time when we are insisting that all the minerals in the Colonies should be developed for the benefit of the Colonies alone, but no one who really appreciates the African's gift for getting the best of a deal— which, after all, is the most important thing in life—can feel this is beyond him. For it is in this sphere that the African has shown his brilliance.

"No people in history has ever gained so much and given so little; has had so much done for them and done so little for themselves. And that is surely the reason why

"IT'S ALL SO TRANQUIL HERE," said the newly-arrived visitor without much originality to his planter host, who had just shown him the view from the hill behind his house.

"Ah," said the planter with a sigh, "you should have known it in the nice peaceful months before the war."

"You mean that it was quieter in war-time?"

"I should just think I do," answered the planter with emphasis.

Then there was a screaming which I fear we shall never know again. Of course there were numbers of Africans going through the district in blankets to join the Forces and returning months later in enormous hats, tremendous boots, and those sartorial anomalies known as shorts. We entertained soldiers and sailors on leave. We had our Spitfire Fund. Administrative officers looked mildly apprehensive in their uniforms bearing what was curiously described as "protective rank. There was some attempt at rationing, but not such. But things were far more peaceful than they are to-day. It even recalls the Governor saying in a Christmas speech how nice it was to see this territory going on in its normal way when so much of the rest of the world was in turmoil.

But ever since the end of the war the whole country has been seething with commissions of inquiry, surveyors, geologists, piscatorians, mineralogists, industrialists, development devices, welfare workers, cinema operators, bug-hunters, and what have you. All declare that their particular stamp is the most important of all, and they all want priority in everything which is in short supply—that is to say, in everything.

"In those far-off war days many of the district offices were run by deaf old grand-dads who were either on the verge of retirement when the balloon went up or had gone on pension and came back to relieve a fit man. And in the main they did an amazingly fine job in holding their horses against any realization of what was going on in the rest of the world.

When I first came out before the war was one of the mugs to plant rubber on the wrong sort of rubber—but at least he had been the right kind of wood; scarcely have

been economical by the time the trees were ready for tapping. But in those early days rubber was thought to be the complete answer to the planter's prayer, and even a brainy administrative officer, even if conceived the startling plan of producing funds for the maintenance of roads by planting rubber trees along their sides, with magnificent disregard of the problem of the transport of the latex to the factory (which probably still exists even in his imagination), he had hundreds of miles of road lined with rubber trees. But as a source of revenue it was never tapped.

"When Singapore fell the Government urged me to see if I could extract any rubber from my plantation, which has been purely ornamental for so many years. So I promptly collected some 25 young Africans to train as tappers. They seemed to have intelligence, and I took them to be indentured at the District office. All went very well for a time, and I was able to feel that I had displayed great foresight in planting the trees so that I could come to my country's aid in the darkest hour.

But one day a military supply officer came to the district and bought up every groundnut in the place. Now the ration scales in my indenture included groundnuts, so I explained the impossibility of buying groundnuts to my tappers, who were doing their job quite happily. I enlarged upon the country's need of rubber, pointing out that as soon as an African was put into large sized boots it was impossible for him to walk so that he and his friends had to be transported everywhere in trucks, which in turn needed rubber tyres. All this they also knew already, and gravely nodded their heads in agreement. I then said that in lieu of groundnuts I proposed to buy meat in quantities which even the tappers thought generous, so everyone was happy.

"As I knew that the extra meat would be mentioned to passers-by, and that news of it would eventually reach the ears of the court clerk, who would undoubtedly tell the district commissioner, I wrote a note explaining the misfortune which had befallen me and the means I had taken to deal with it.

"Imagine my surprise when I received a letter by messenger from the *domo* to say that I had broken

two say in judgment later that afternoon.

"Abhorring C's scrambled metaphors as I do," said B. "I see his point—though dimly. His minute, even though it be pre-tribunal, does not do justice to me, his mentor. I shall try to label you, Mr. Vaguelet, my lad, if this sort of thing goes on." How often must I rub in that specific result, to be reached by well indicated courses, should be proposed—and, in language which would not repel our masters? I'm not sure sometimes that a dose of Wajir or a spell in the Falklands would not improve your style.

"Cut out this sparring and let's get cracking," said A with a touch of impatience, explaining that he was expecting to be called to see the Permanent Under-Secretary at any moment.

One of these days Fillooke will have to be brought to his senses, but that does not necessarily imply battery and assault, let alone massacre, in public. I needn't have been dragged along for this chinwag if either of you fellows had recalled that Fillooke married a sister of the wife of the Chief Whip, and that he and Old Bowhard were going together on the summer cruise, so that his house comes to like fishing in troubled waters. But what do you think is to be gained by chucking him overboard for the amusement of sensational newspapers?

All things considered, he's the sort of bloke we ought to get pushed on to one of the advisory committees; better still, perhaps, on to a trace of hon. That would keep him quieter. I'll drop a word here and there. If he gets a hint that he will be asked to resign when the next vacancy arises, he's the very man to be on his best behaviour meantime.

Not that his attempts to make a nuisance of himself matter a couple of Shinwells. Personally, far far rather, I expose the under-headed four-fusher for what he is. But you two fellows had better get it into your skulls that we are not here to do what we like. If we could, I'd put paid to a baker's dozen of M.P.'s this afternoon. We are here to see that the C.O. keeps out of avoidable rows—which too often means dealing gently with pest-who-cannot-be-prodded-under-foot, must be off. Tell us that minute you intend to administer the gentlest of rebuffs to the faintest of rays.

And so it happened that the Secretary of State found himself replying in the House of Commons few days later.

"I wish to appreciate the interest

of my honourable friend, whose points will be borne in mind when the survey party shortly visits the Livingstone Range and the Songea District."

FILLOOKE, taken back by this affability, forgot all about his proposed supplementaries, the keywords for which display of spontaneity were written on an envelope in his hand.

And, by a pure coincidence, the Minister's P.P.S., finding himself be-

side Fillooke, in the tea-room that afternoon, congratulated him on the depth of knowledge which evidently lay behind his very pertinent question, and asked whether he would be willing to put that wealth of experience and judgment at the disposal of the Colonial Empire when a place fell vacant on an advisory committee.

So everybody was satisfied—except, of course, the Colonial Empire.

Mental Superiority of Africans

Mr. Oyu Balaita Proves his Case

MR. OYU BALAITA, fresh from his course of studies in the control of European races, addressing a mass meeting of Natives in Nairobi last week, said he was not surprised at the violent exception which had been taken by Europeans to the statement by Mr. Mathu that Africans had the best brains in the world. It was, indeed, only one more proof of European inferiority that the amazing cleverness of Africans had not been appreciated.

Challenged to produce proof of the contention, Mr. Balaita said that he would mention a few of the many examples which came to mind. In over half a century of trade unionism the British worker had managed to reduce his hours of work to between 40 and 45 per week. By the simple expedient of the world's malnutrition, Africans had in a few years reduced theirs to little more than half that figure, and it could be proved by reliable data, the better the standard of feeding of Africans became the less work they performed. Africans had never accepted the cowardly and defeatist doctrine that nobody could have it both ways. Africans were determined that they would.

"What would have happened," Mr. Balaita continued, "to a European race whose diet was deficient in protein if they had had large numbers of staples? Why, the simpletons would certainly have sacrificed their wealth and even the beast. Now the Africans of Kenya, and of other territories also, have had very large numbers of surplus cattle for many years and the Governments have made strenuous but fruitless efforts to reduce them. But have we meekly killed our cattle to provide the necessary food? Perish the thought!"

Not only so, we retained our precious herds, but we have prevailed on the Government (which is becoming completely K.A.L.)

to provide what is humorously termed famine relief for which the immigrant races pay the larger part of the cost. Can anyone give an example of any European race which has prevailed upon another nation to provide it with food merely to save it having to make inroads into its own stores?

Then take our social and welfare services. How did the Europeans get their hospitals, their schools, their universities, and other amenities? Why, they were simple enough to work and work and work to produce wealth—often under conditions far worse than any under which Africans have ever laboured. If you do not believe that, read any history of the beginning of the industrial era in Britain.

Africans have found a far better way. They have prevailed upon the British, even at a time when their people were desperately hard up and suffering from many privations and restrictions unknown in Africa, to spend millions of pounds on our services without even daring to suggest that we should raise a finger to help with labour exacted at full rates of pay. It is no very proud death to grow a little more intelligence than that.

This leads me to the very efficient representation we have in the United Kingdom for which we pay nothing. If, for example, someone had suggested that we Africans should contribute in labour to the development and welfare schemes for which the British taxpayer is finding the money we could rely upon a large body of well-trained European supporters. No African labour—until now—would have been suggested hung their heads. Indeed, we can count on the use of valuable men in the same way at any time when it is suggested that the Africans should do anything for themselves unless they were well paid for it. Has

Secrets of Whitehall and Westminster

House of Commons

London S.W.1

DEAR MR. JONES,

How kind of you to have sent me such cordial Christmas greetings and those four pages of extracts from a letter from your brother in Tanga (which must, of course, be a typing error for Tanganyika). I know that "Perrifory" well, for I flew over it some time ago on my way back from a business visit to South Africa. You know that I have been keenly interested in Imperial affairs for many years, and I have therefore kept in close touch with Tanganyika developments.

Strictly privately, I might add that I agree with your caustic comment that the chief sin of M.P.s of all parties is their absolute ignorance of the Empire. But a few of us are ahead of our time and really do go to great trouble to inform ourselves.

Immediately on my election, for instance, I sent a letter to various organizations, including a number of daily, weekly and monthly journals, suggesting that each should put me on its free list in order that I might have the opportunity of casting the eyes of a very busy man cursorily over such productions. It is a sad commentary on the lethargy of British publishers that the response was negligible. Yet there is this constant complaint of British ignorance of the Dominions and the Colonies. Nor have the publishers of books about the Empire been eager to supply free copies even to a Member of Parliament.

One weekly newspaper called RHODESIA AND EAST AFRICA sent a strange reply acknowledging my circular soliciting free copies, and pointing out that it was produced primarily for those with the greatest interest and best knowledge of East and Central Africa, who had the normal subscription rate because they considered it worth their while. It was added that M.P.s who did not wish to subscribe could see the paper in the library of the House—but one cannot take things from library copies, and clippings are so useful to a politician.

To return to the enclosed extracts from your brother's letter. Again owing to typing errors, I find references to Ngoni, Angonis, Angoni, or Wangoni. The first term is used three times, the second and third four times and the third twice. I am rather a stickler for standardization and accuracy, and I have therefore spoken to a friend who some

years ago went to Tanganyika with a Parliamentary mission. He tells me that Ngoni is best, and I shall consequently give preference to that version.

There is also a trace of ambiguity in your brother's version of the complaint made to him by a friend who met that tourist who heard the story from the Indian driver of the bus which at an earlier stage of the journey had carried the missionary brother of the veterinary officer who had the news from an administrative colleague whose sister is married to that man who knows Goni well. That chain of evidence is impressive, though human nature being what it is, some of the links may be stronger than others.

It will probably not be necessary to assemble evidence beyond that in your possession for the purpose of putting my questions in the House, but in these matters one must be specific and as well informed as possible in order to be able to whip it with a telling supplementary if the Minister's answer provides scope. I may modestly claim to have developed the art of the supplementary to some little degree. Indeed, this again is private—in the smoking room only yesterday I was accosted by an old friend with the words: "How is Speaker's Sam to day?" Not profound, I grant you, and tinged with the levity of public life to-day, but perhaps not without its significance to the constituency no less than to its member.

The ground being cleared—or, as we should say in East Africa, the bush having been cut back, the problem appears simpler. If I understand the documentation right, the initial point for consideration is this: that there are sites of the Livingstone Mountains suitable for white settlement which are not being utilized by the Ngonis.

My local knowledge will enable me to paint in the background, and it will be a pleasure to put down an introductory question to

Reciprocating our Yuletide good wishes, and with kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

B. LEARY FLOOKE

DAY the question was framed and asked as follows:

THE SECRETARY OF STATE for the Colonies, why in view of the present emergency, the war in the colony, the arrangements not been given by the Government of Tanganyika Territory to the establishment by British ex-Servicemen, preferably

those who served in the campaign against the Italians in East Africa, of tea farms in the Livingstone Mountains near the new port of Mpanda in the course of construction in Southern Tanganyika for the shipment of groundnuts from the Mpwapwa area; and, in view of the rapid development of tobacco in Songea, also convenient to the port, to ask what steps have not been taken by the Colonial Development Corporation to establish a tobacco factory *in situ*.

Though these profound inquiries stood in the name of Mr. Flooke—since it is not the custom of the House to recognize committee work in the matter of questions, quite a number of members had had some share in shaping or in vetting this little masterpiece, which Mr. Flooke declared to be packed with Parliamentary dynamite.

In the Colonial Office the question was seen first by a hot very senior official who possessed the advantage—or, from the political standpoint, disadvantage—of an acute mind which is inclined to frivolity on both suitable and unsuitable occasions.

He minuted to his immediate superior and friend:

"Got this pestiferous fellow stone cold this time if we want his scalp or corpse—which only shows how wise we were not to explode a charge prematurely in his path? Are we to treat this bug with seeming serenity (not for his sake, of course, but to lead him further up the garden path) or should the balloon go up? I suppose the S. of A. would not want to read him a little lecture in dictonary economics, geography, or whatever. Pity! I could draft a pretty good one of that kind. If Flooke is to be plain, shall it be prompt and painful, protracted and merciless? Or should he not be wounded, this time a bit more seriously? Or is the bird to escape yet again in the sight of the fowler? If you will prescribe policy, I will draft accordingly."

And these were a P.M., which read:

"12.20, and must rush off to a lunch appointment. Just noticed the mixed metaphors in the above. Sorry! But I'll bung it along nevertheless. Should be back by 3.30, they should come to your room for tea then, but late, so I'll leave message."

THREE HEADS being better than two, three imperturbables, not merely

garment, reach his objective, and took himself in.

The three people behind the projector switched on the radar, but the calcium goggles that were hanging ready, and peered into the night. As the professor slowly turned a handle, a pale beam of green light swept the ground. It made red shadows.

"There he is. Look! He's coming nearer," whispered Mr. Van A.

"Hold him, prof. I'll fetch Anstruther."

When the guide adjusted his calcium glasses he was to behold a scene that was beyond anything he or the author of "No Dragons Included," with all their experience of the Veld, had ever witnessed. About thirty yards away, entirely unconscious that it was being watched, was a magnificent black-maned lion. Crouching low, it was motionless but for the tuft of its tail that twitched nervously.

Instead of reflecting the light upon them, its eyes appeared as two black holes.

A faint mew came from the darkness in front of the lion, and with ears back and belly dragging, it advanced stealthily. Another mew, and on it crept, and the green light went with it. Oh, on one foot, advancing at a time, until its protruding whiskers almost touched the python's nose. And then the python went up or so it seemed, while Mrs. Van A. screamed, "here's sister Alfonsa." The python lifted its head, its swollen neck and its share of Mrs. Van A.'s wardrobe. Mr. Van A. switched on the searchlight and the lion shot straight up into the air.

Now lions are notoriously proficient springers, and this was a particularly large and agile lion. Like all the *Filidae*, lions can spring forward and to a less degree sideways; also, as so remarkably exhibited on this occasion, vertically upwards. But lions cannot spring backwards. I assert this on the evidence of a trained zoologist, an experienced hunter, and two very intelligent members of the public, all of whom are prepared to swear that if ever a lion earnestly endeavoured to jump backwards it was this lion. Indeed, while probably achieving something very near a world's height record at one and the same time it also performed some most remarkable aerobatics.

But the laws of ballistics are immutable. As the lion had left the ground at right angles to the surface of still water, its return journey followed the same route. Thus, despite all efforts it landed exactly

where it had taken off, but with its tail where previously had been its head. As the lion's hind legs bent double to ease the impact with the ground, the python struck. Deep into the lion's hindquarters went the hooklike fangs.

Both were like a Thames tug in a fog, the agonized king of beasts writhed this side and that in fruitless efforts to bring tooth or claw to bear upon the dreadful thing that had held of it, while the python made equally futile endeavours to unfold the lion.

But those little wheels the snake was wearing prevented any lateral movement. Abandoning all idea of fight, the lion, its nerves in tatters, concentrated all its mind and muscle upon freeing its hindquarters from the python, while the python made terrific efforts to swallow more lion.

Thus, the one pulling and the other, pushing, the two creatures, no way unequivocally one, rapidly gathered speed, and, with Mr. Pyg's dressing gown fluttering astern, crashed off across the veld in a bee-line for Tuncote's camp.

Confidence

I HAD JUST ARRIVED in London by air from Kenya on my first visit in ten years. By the time I reached the West End it was night, dense foggy, yellow night.

Out in the suburbs it was worse. I moved slowly forward, groping my way with outstretched hands through opaque surroundings, hoping to make contact with something concrete. But it was in vain.

My instructions had been to take the first turning on the left, the second on the right and go on for about two hundred yards until I came to a taxi-hut where I should find a driver on night-work. He would run me out to my sister's house in the country, some four miles away.

Slowly and uncertainly I felt my way forward. The ground was soft. I had missed the road and was about to stop when my right foot found no solid earth and I fell headlong into a ditch.

To sit on a grassy mound under Kenya stars is pleasant; to sit in a dank, dirty, cold ditch enveloped in a December fog in England is something quite different, and to be lost into the bargain is humiliating.

I sat there for a few minutes wondering where I was and what I should do next. It was about ten o'clock. I couldn't see a yard, and the silence was uncanny. Was I to try to retrace my steps? Useless. I should probably walk round in small circles and get nowhere—unless it was into another ditch.

Suddenly I heard the happy ring of firm footsteps on hard ground. I yelled, "Can you tell me where I am, please?" A man loomed out of the fog and came towards me as I stood on the bank. I explained my predicament and asked for direc-

tions. He told me that I was out in the country, instead of taking the second turning on the right I had taken the third and was heading for a quarry.

"Come with me," he said quietly and confidently. Very soon we were back on the pavement. He certainly seemed to know his whereabouts and to be quite untroubled by the fog. Moreover, he was cheerful and companionable.

Shortly we turned into a street with lights. Here the fog had lifted considerably. In a few minutes he stopped and pointed to the taxi stand on the other side of the road. "There is your man," he said quietly.

I thanked him profusely, and added: "Isn't it grand to see the lights again, especially after having been lost?"

"I really don't know," he laughed. "I'm blind, and I have never been lost."

Regrets

Lost, since leaving Kenya, many golden hours.

Each studded with sixty diamond minutes.

No reward is offered; they are gone for ever.

Brothers of the Wheel

Harry and Geoffrey Cadwell, Rhodesians by birth.

Fulfill their strange ambition

To cycle round the earth.

Though doubtless their endurance

Will greatly be admired,

Fatigue cannot affect them.

They're used to being tired.

Van A. to Anstruther, "was made for me at the Bronx Zoo. Good, isn't it?"

"Yes, but what's the idea, Mrs. Van Astorbilt?"

"Oh, it's lighness, calling all lions. When any unattached—er—lame or gentleman lions hear it they will come along. Mean while, we get an invisible ray on them from the hydrogen radar beam projector outside there."

And so they chatted, or rather shouted to each other, until Mr. Van A. became impatient and again rang up Camp Two.

"What's holding you, boys?" he asked. And when he had listened to the answer he turned to Mr. Pyg and asked him to be good enough to shut off the lion-roaring record. "And perhaps, Mr. Pyg," he continued, "you will also be good enough to sing one of your numbers. It will give them confidence in the other camp."

"Oh, do please, Mr. Pyg," seconded Mrs. Van A.

"Yes, do," dutifully chorused Anstruther.

The crooner brightened up at this. That's O.K. by me ladies and gentlemen. What shall it be, Mrs. Van Astorbilt? How about 'Lousy Lou'? That's one of my buffos.

So the love-love lady lion ceased to roar, and instead a falsetto voice began to bleat.

*Boop-a-woop, Boop-a-doo,
I've gone all slow for you,
Every button on my vest
Whispers that you love me best,
And the holes in both my socks.*

But we have no room here, for more of that celebrated song, which had made women faint all over the U.S.A. Besides, there might be copyright difficulties.

"I wonder if the lady lions are swooning," remarked Mr. Van A. to his one in particular.

"Don't be silly, Zee," snapped his wife. "That's one of his sockeroots. You hired it yourself for one of your radio adverts. Don't you remember?"

Introducing the one and only Glamour Gland Gargle. Stimulates the Sympathetic Vaso Regulators and Soothers the Endocrines.

"Hush, dear. Here comes the serpent."

Brilliant headlights were approaching the camp and quickly a light lorry drew up. Several men jumped down, and carefully slid a heavy box on to the ground.

"FIXED the wheels of before we started," announced Professor Spilmoff, who was in charge of the party. "Gives him a shot of hope to keep him quiet. It'll be working off shortly. Now, boys, open up. Haven't measured him yet, Mrs. Van Astorbilt, but he's a beaut."

Mr. Pyg, abandoning Lousy Lou and the microphone booth, fetched a chair on which he mounted, while he watched the men haul out yards of inert python.

It was, indeed, a "beaut." The reticulated pattern of its glossy grey, brown and green scales was set off by the chromium-plated bands that at short intervals encircled its girth and fastened pairs of rubber-tired wheels to its underside.

"See, Mrs. Van Astorbilt," said the zoologist, "I've left two or three feet clear at head and tail. That will let him take his meals and show his pleasure. And now we'll be getting back. You'll get no animals while that lorry stands out there."

"Thanks a lot," said Mr. Van A., while his wife gazed enraptured at the long life of captured snake; "but I think you'd better stay here awhile, professor. Send the boys off though. We'll fix you a bed here if necessary."

Mr. Van A. walked to the microphone, and restarted the lion's roar as the lorry's clutch engaged. The lorry jumped into top gear, and the speed of its departure was phenomenal.

After the lion record had run itself down, Mr. Pyg (who, feeling a bit cold, had attired himself in a gorgeous silk dressing gown) was asked to return to the booth and oblige. Strange throaty sobs poured into the velvet night, and Mrs. Van A. returned to a chair by the mess tent the better to enjoy them.

Mr. Van A. filled a saucer with milk and set it before the python. "Come in and have a drink, professor. Snakes like milk, don't they?" he said.

"Some of them," replied the zoologist, as, with Anstruther, he followed his host; "but I don't expect that one'll fancy milk when he wakes up—which should be soon now. He'll have a head. Here's luck, Mr. Van Astorbilt."

As Mr. Pyg's synthetic love dirge ended there came, apparently from the python, a series of agonized yowls.

"Wassat?" exclaimed Mrs. Van A. jumping from her chair. Indeed, everyone was startled and ran to the tent opening. That is, everyone except Mr. Van A. who casually remarked: "Mr. Pyg lying but a new song, dear, I expect."

"No! Look!" cried Mrs. Van A. "Look! The serpent's swallowing Alfons. Save him! Save him!"

The lady, the zoologist, Anstruther, and, not quite so quickly, Mr. Van A., dashed to the rescue. But the great, disarticulated jaws of the python had already engulfed three-quarters of the one. "It's no good,"

said the zoologist, as he examined the situation by the aid of his electric torch. "Hopeless. A python's teeth are hooked backwards sharp as knives; once they get a hold they can never let go, even if they want to. If we try to pull that cat out it will be cut to pieces—torn in half."

"Don't let him go, my poor darling," cried Mrs. Van A., as she ran to her bed tent. "Wait! I'll show you. You men are so helpless."

Brief as was the period before her return with an armful of brightly coloured garments, it was sufficient for Alfons to have disappeared from direct vision; but he could still be perceived, and heard, in the bulge just below the python's mouth.

"Owick," said Mrs. Van A. "Tie these round, just below Alfons. Tigher. Thank you, Mr. Anstruther. Now you take this end and I'll take this. Now pull again. Right. Now give it to me and I'll tie it. Now grab that this. So! Harder; it's the best nylon. There, Alfons can't go any further."

Mr. Pyg, all ignorant of these tragic happenings, began another song:

*I'll hug you till you're busted
An' your corsets get busted
wailed the loud-speaker.*

"Stop him Zee. Stop him, Mr. Anstruther," cried Mrs. Van A. "Heartless wretch! It's too dreadful!"

As Anstruther left the crooner from the microphone, he explained what had happened.

Immediately they reached the python's tail Mr. Pyg halted—and in so doing he was in error, for the pale stumpy tails of the *Boidae* are remarkably prehensile.

Before the astonished crooner could steady his nerves with a cigarette they began from the outer darkness beyond the camp a sequence of deep, rumbling grunts or moans that began high in the tenor register and slurred painfully down to the basso profundo.

"LION!" hissed Anstruther. "Lion! A real one this time, and he's looking for trouble."

The effect of that word was electric. It was like the cry of "Action stations" on a man-o'-war.

Mr. and Mrs. Van A. and the professor darted to the hydrogen beam projector and disappeared behind the heavy black curtains that hung behind it. Anstruther ran for his rifle, while Mr. Pyg tried to dash to the microphone booth but was brought up with a jerk, for the python had a firm grip at the foot of his dressing gown. "It took that eminent crooner no time, however, to divest himself of that pyrrhantic

with the Van Astorbills. She is large and comely, of the Juno type; he is small, with a trim little Naval beard flecked with grey. Both are Americans and rich.

Mrs. Van A. is given to sudden enthusiasms for queer cults, crazes and sometimes people; but however much Mr. Van A. may disapprove, he never openly interferes. Yet, under the casual scrutiny of his large rosy spectacles, they somehow seemed to wilt and disappear.

It had happened that while Mrs. Van Astorbill was studying under Professor Wethen of Boston, my famous work on Bushman hieroglyphics, she also read, for home work, a copy of Lewis Hastings' dramatic biography.

Though somewhat disappointed that Major Hastings said nothing about penguins, as the cover suggested, she became fired with the resolve to spend the next summer vacation in Rhodesia.

As was her wont, Mrs. Van A. had several objects in view. The Rhodesian legislative set-up, being unicameral, was, she had decided, contrary to the fundamentals of democracy in general and the Anglo-Saxon tradition in particular. If the Colony was too young for a House of Lords, it was at least ripe for a House of Sires. She would go out and see about this, and at the same time test the latest ideas for televising on some of those wild animals Lewis Hastings writes about so charmingly. Furthermore, she would do this with the aid of a quail recipe, described in one of the Bushman paintings, for attracting the creatures.

Busy man though he was, Mr. Van Astorbill, president or vice-president of a score of industrial and financial corporations, agreed to accompany his wife and the numerous technicians engaged for the expedition.

Owing to Mr. Van A.'s influence, exerted during the journey out, Mrs. Van A. decided to tackle the other creatures before the politicians.

It was on the recommendation of Professor Wethen that my Rhodesian friend, Anstruther, elephant-hunter and ex-Native Commissioner, had been engaged by cable as agent and guide for the party. Poor Anstruther was delighted with the job, as he was at that time under a bit of a cloud. Since I last mentioned him in EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA he had been to Kenya, but had had to run for it after having been seen by members of the executive of the Fly Fishers' Association baiting with a worm.

Among the American members of the expedition were Professor Squirmoff, the zoologist, and Mr. Poisonality Pyg, the well-known

crooner, saxophonist and hot-band leader, whose function, according to Mrs. Van A., was to prepare musical background for the animal pictures, and possibly at the interviews with the Rhodesian politicians.

Under Anstruther's able management the whole party, with its mass of scientific and other impedimenta, quickly left Salisbury in a long column of cars and lorries.

TWO CAMPS were set up about a mile apart near a tributary of the Zambezi, not far from the Portuguese border. In the advance camp were established Mr. and Mrs. Van A., Mr. P. Pyg, Anstruther and Mrs. Van A.'s enormous cat, Alfons. In camp No. 2 were the technicians and the most bulky pieces of their apparatus. In both camps there was a bewildering collection of tents and prefabs. Wires for telephones, light and the radar beams (of which more later) joined the two.

"Good," said Mr. Van A. on the evening of their arrival. "Good, just in time, Mr. Anstruther. Come right into the mess tent. Dinner is ready. These chairs look flimsy but they'll stand even your weight. Help yourself to a sundowner—if that is the right word."

"Thanks. You're picking up the language famously," replied Anstruther, as he helped himself to a Scotch and iced soda.

Mrs. Van A. and Mr. Pyg came in carrying dishes, and all four sat down to an excellent meal. When coffee was reached Mrs. Van A., turning to Anstruther, remarked: "I did not like to mention the subject while there was food on the table, but we had olfactory evidence this morning that the Bushman's bait was being laid."

"Yes, indeed," replied Anstruther. "I'm glad that job is finished. I've sent the boys who prepared and pulled that drag back to their kraals, where I expect they will be put in quarantine. We laid three lines from this camp, each three or four miles long. And, by the way, one line leads to near the camp of that ex-M.P. I was telling you about. He's been a member of all our political parties but is rather a poor

"Tch!" Mr. Van A. held up an admonitory finger and glanced at his wife, but that lady was feeding Alfons with a plate of tinned trout.

"Yes, Mr. Anstruther," continued Mr. Van A. "It's difficult to understand how animals can be attracted by that revolting mixture."

"Oh, Mrs. Van Astorbill, I had almost forgotten," said Anstruther to that lady as she resettled herself in her chair. "While laying the Bushman bait this morning the boys came across an unusually large python asleep on a log. They sent

for me, so I got a box from Camp Two and we banded him into it before he had time to wake up. I don't know if snakes are in your line?"

"That's fine. Oh, thanks a lot," she exclaimed excitedly. "Where is it now?"

"In Camp Two. Your zoologist took charge."

"Zee, dear," said Mrs. Van A., clapping her hands (as all the business world knows, Mr. Van Astorbill's front name is Zaccarius). "Zee, dear, ring Professor Squirmoff and ask him to bring the python along right away. It's just what we wanted. The professor will be able to demonstrate his theory of serpentine locomotion. And, Zee, tell him to fetch those little wheel fixings, too."

"Is the box strong?" asked Mr. Pyg, as he instinctively drew his feet, shod in black and white kid, up on to his chair. Mr. Van A. walked over to the telephone, and in so doing dropped cigar ash on Alfons.

Anstruther had already come to suspect that Mr. Van A. did not like either that enormous cat or little Mr. Pyg.

"Mr. Anstruther," continued Mrs. Van A., while we are waiting, I'll explain the professor's idea about serpents. You see, they propel themselves along the ground by means of the purchase obtained with ridges of free scale that face backwards along their stomachs.

"Bellies, dear," corrected Mr. Van A. as he resettled himself. "Their stomachs are inside."

"Mr. Anstruther understands, dear. They don't wiggle themselves forward like eels," continued the lady, "so if a snake is lifted just off the ground on free-running wheels, it is rendered immobile, and so harmless, but is not otherwise inconvenienced. One could have the lovely creatures all over the house without

"Just a moment, dear," interposed Mr. Van A. "Say, Mr. Pyg, while we're waiting would you please go on that roaring lion record for us." It's dark outside, but the moon will be up in a few minutes."

Without much alacrity Mr. Pyg went out to the booth that contained a gramophone and microphone, and shortly a series of ear-rendering roars were emitted by loud-speakers that had been set up in trees from fifty to a hundred yards from the perimeter of the camp.

No sooner had the somewhat breathless crooner returned to the mess tent than the phone buzzed. Mr. Van A. went to answer it and was heard to say: "O.K., boys. Come right along. It's only a record."

"That record," explained Mrs.

EAST AFRICA

A RHODESIA

Thursday, December 25, 1947

Volume 24 (New Series) No. 1242

6d. weekly; 30s. yearly post free

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Founder and Editor:

F. S. Joelson

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Christmas Fare



A Lion Story, with a Dragon Included

THE DOCTOR looked distastefully round the grass hut, drew an empty box towards the camp bed, and sat down.

"This is not playing the game, Turncote," he continued. "When some of us at the Club agreed to grubstake you on a prospecting trip, it was on the understanding that you kept off the drink." But

"And so I did," said the dishevelled figure on the bed, as he tried to raise himself on his elbow. "I tell you I did not touch a drop until after . . ."

"Just you lie quiet and give that sedative a chance. I'll do the talking. Lord, man, when did you shave last? You were bad enough before you left Salisbury—petitioning the Governor to be made Queen of the May and all that rot."

Turncote rolled his head from side to side and made a feeble pass at a fly that was pegging a claim on his nose.

"There," said the doctor as he took a bottle from his bag and shook a few drops on his patient's face. "The stuff will keep the flies off."

Wiping his own brow with a



handkerchief, the doctor continued his remonstrance.

"Why deny you've been drinking when, having driven a hundred miles through the bush, I find you in this state? Bah! You send your cook-boy into Salisbury with a note reporting that a sea serpent wearing a chemise roared through your camp on roller skates . . ."

"I did not say it was a 'she serpent,'" protested Turncote. "I said it had a mane and a tail yards long, with the flag of the United Nations. . ."

"Preposterous! Just D.T.'s. Be quiet, man. Why, you're not even on the gold belt. . ."

"I was looking for atomium-er-uranium—you know—and I tell you I didn't touch a drop until after I saw . . . see—saw—Margery Daw. . ."

But the doctor had administered "look control," and his patient's explanation tumbled off into stertorous snores.

Turncote being thus unable to defend himself, it is my business, having knowledge of the facts, to speak for him. It is a duty I am pleased to render, as several readers considered that just a year ago I treated him with undue harshness in these columns.

What follows is a complete vindication of Turncote's letter.

MR. and MRS. VAN ASTORRE remind me at the first meeting of those strange, deep-sea fish, the Gnirreh-Dereppik. Zoologists believed that the species consisted only of females until it was discovered that the male is a mere minnow that adheres limpet-like to its formidable wife. If by chance the male lets go and swims off alone, it is at imminent risk of being swallowed by its spouse. But when the zoologists dub the male Gnirreh a mere parasite, they seem to me to go beyond the realm of ascertained fact. Who knows what passes between these strange denizens of the deep? Perhaps the male is the pilot, the counsellor without whose tactful advice and gentle influence the female, with all her size and energy, could not find food or avoid danger. It is something similar, I suspect,

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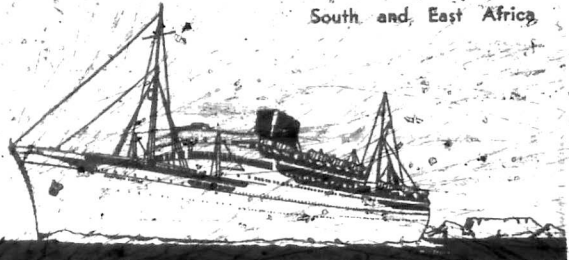
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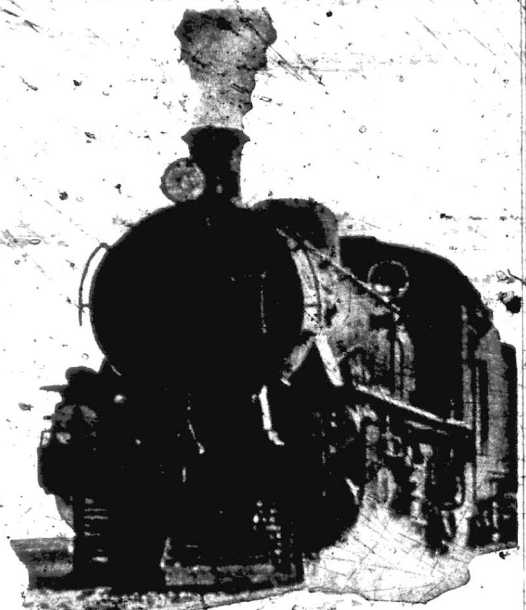
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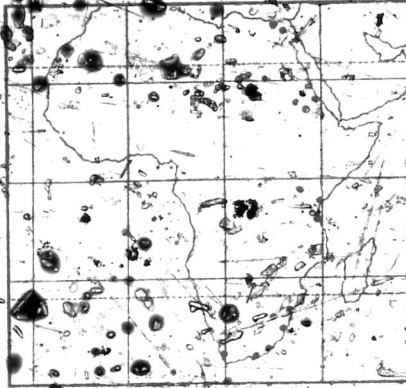


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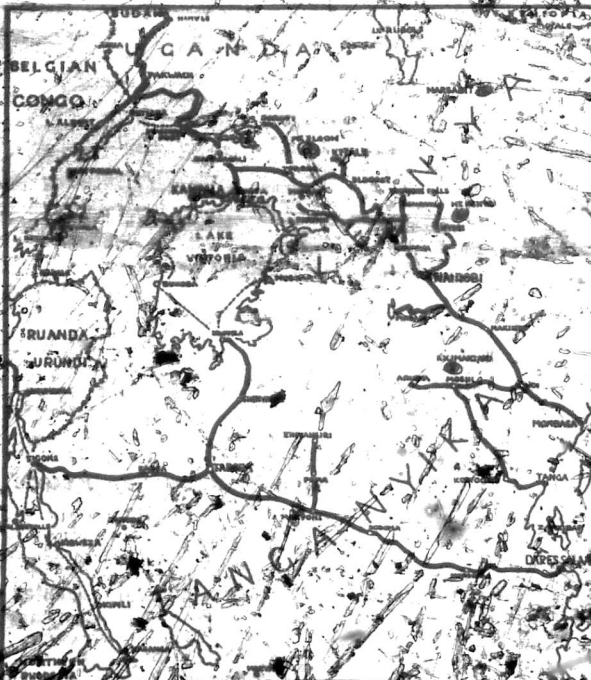
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from the tree that weaves the tinkling ornaments of a
long ago, are yours in England in December and a
little of the good old English
flaps in the time of the year,
the winter look of the country that he
will always call home. One day
he hopes to return. Mean-
while, he keeps in touch with
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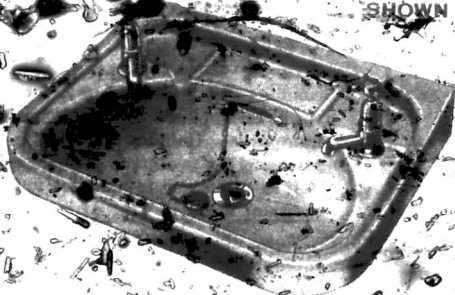
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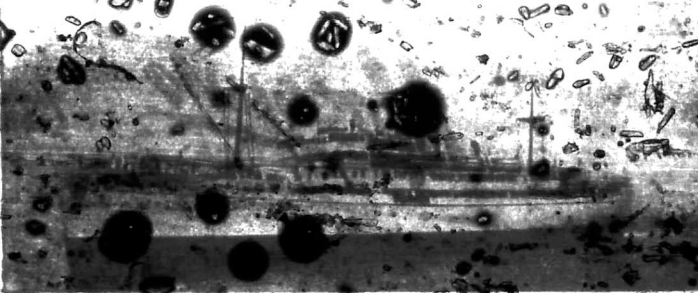
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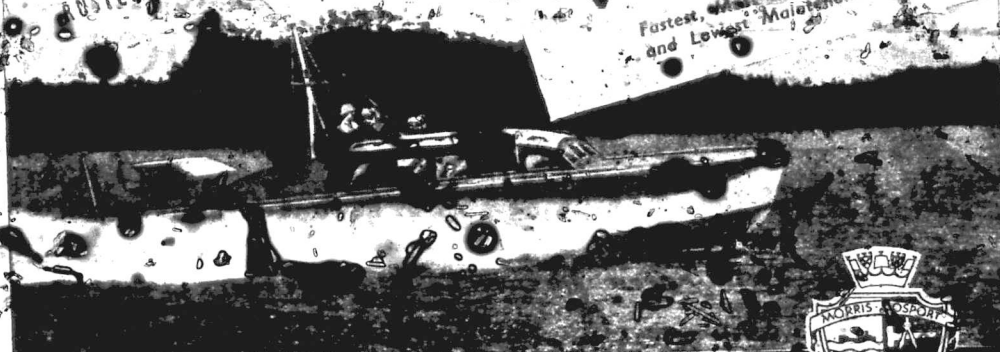
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Mufulira Copper Mines

MUFULIRA COPPER MINES, LTD., report a profit of £1,392,922 for the year ended June 30, 1947, compared with £537,549 in the previous year. Taxation absorbed £927,000, loan stock redemption reserve reserves £35,700, and a dividend of 5s. per share, less tax, requires £672,220, leaving £193,458 to be carried forward, against £130,456 brought in.

The issued capital consists of £4,888,874 in shares of £1, general reserve stands at £1,501,752, loan stock redemption reserve (including above contributions) at £101,150, provision for taxation at £1,396,462, replacements at £1,447,750, mine pensions fund at £20,000, 4% loan stock at £700,000, and creditors at £502,207. Fixed assets are valued at £5,645,818, copper stocks at £371,614, and reserves at £735,734. Debtors are shown at £511,709, tax certificates at £12,500, and cash at £3,700,040.

Production for the year was 47,498 (50,040) long tons of blister copper at a total average cost (including provision for replacements but not of taxation or loan stock interest) of 54.16s. 7d. per ton (£47 17s. 3d.); the average sale price was 52.7s. 7d. (55 7 1/2). Shortage of coal caused about 1000 loss of production and high losses. Ore reserves on June 30 last were estimated at 71,000 tons containing 84% total copper.

The directors are Mr. A. Chester Beatty (Chairman, alternate), Brigadier R. Micklethorp, Mr. R. L. Prain (managing director), Mr. A. Chester Beatty, jr., Mr. C. W. Boise, Mr. W. N. Buchanan, Mr. S. B. Dennison, Mr. D. D. Irwin (alternate), Mr. S. T. Annett, Sir Douglas Malcolm (alternate), Mr. C. D. Hely-Hutchinson, Mr. D. P. C. Neave, Mr. A. D. Stokes, Mr. C. F. S. Taylor, and Mr. S. S. Taylor.

The general manager in Northern Rhodesia is Mr. L. Tucker, and the manager Mr. F. R. Brooks. The consulting engineer is Mr. R. M. Peterson.

The 18th annual general meeting was held in London on Tuesday.

Rhodesian Selection Trust

RHODESIAN SELECTION TRUST, LTD., which holds 64.07% of the issued capital of Mufulira Copper Mines Ltd., announces a net profit of £309,460 for the year ended September 30, 1947, compared with £309,871 in the previous year. The dividend is 6s. per share, less tax, will require £436,742, leaving £207,718 to be carried forward, against £35,635 brought in.

The issued capital consists of 48,646,923 in shares of 5s. each. General reserve stands at £1,270,059, capital reserve at £49,794, and creditors at £3,728. Share holdings of Mufulira Copper Mines Ltd., are valued at £4,331,019. War Bonds at £100,000, cash at £346,016, and holdings of Mufulira loan stock £1,400,000.

The directors are Mr. A. Chester Beatty (Chairman, alternate), Brigadier R. Micklethorp, Mr. A. Chester Beatty, jr., Mr. C. W. Boise, Mr. H. H. Hoolechid (alternate), Mr. S. T. Annett, Sir Douglas Malcolm (alternate), Mr. C. D. Hely-Hutchinson, Mr. D. P. C. Neave, Mr. A. D. Stokes, Mr. D. C. F. Taylor, and Mr. H. S. Taylor.

The 19th annual general meeting will be held in London on December 29.

Dividends

- REZENDE MINES, LTD., have declared an interim dividend of 64% (nil).
- SPURWOOD STARK GOLD MINING CO., LTD., announce an interim dividend of 64% (nil).
- CAM AND MOTOR GOLD MINING CO., LTD., have declared an interim dividend of 55% (10%).
- RHODESIAN SOUTH AMERICAN CO., LTD. report a profit of £1,167,000 compared with £823,115 in the previous year. A final dividend of 13s. (10s. 6d.) is to be paid, making a total of 19s. (14s. 6d.).
- DE BEERS CONSOLIDATED MINES, LTD., have declared a dividend of 10s. per share (8s. 6d.) on 144s. pref. shares for the six months ending December 31, 1947, payable to shareholders registered on that date.

Tanzania and Nawili

TANZANIA NEWELL, LTD., the great asbestos combine with large Rhodesian interests, have announced a final dividend of 17s. for the year ended September 30, 1947, compared with 12s. 4d. each of the previous years. Consolidated trading profit (including subsidiaries) of £2,549,062 (£2,309,918). Taxation in the U.K. and overseas requires £3,164,750.

Rhodesia Copper Refineries

RHODESIA COPPER REFINING LTD. are paying a dividend on the 5% redeemable cumulative preference shares for the six months ending December 31.

Company Progress Reports

- Bushick.**—12,700 tons of ore were treated in November for 1,838 oz. gold and an estimated working profit of £760.
- Wankie Colliery.**—122,227 tons of coal and 7,338 tons of coke were sold in November. In the year ended August 31 last, 1,709,283 tons of coal were mined. A dividend of 5% is recommended and £11,981 is carried forward.
- Globe and Phoenix.**—6,100 tons of ore were treated in November for 3,048 oz. gold and a working profit of £12,375. Phoenix mine: 1st level driven 16 ft., averaging 15 dwt.; 15th level, sunk 67 ft., av. 5 dwt.; 16th level, driven 28 ft., av. 10 dwt.; 22 ft., av. 7 dwt.; and 38 ft., av. 5 dwt.; 20th level, raised 34 ft., av. 5 dwt.; 22nd level, driven 34 ft., 7 dwt.; 43rd level, driven 35 ft., 1 dwt. Globe mine: 5th level, 65 ft., 1 dwt.; 6th level sunk 45 ft., 20 dwt.

L.A.G.S.

THE LONDON, AUSTRIAN AND GENERAL EXPLORATION CO. LTD. a concern with interests in Borderland Syndicate, Ltd., incurred a loss of £9,346 in the year ended July 31, 1947, compared with a profit of £2,772 in the previous year. The issued capital consists of £217,750 in shares of 2s. 6d.; creditors stand at £8,440 and loans at £2,000. Investments amount to £93,695, loans at £2,750, cash at £1,191, and the debit balance at £38,032. The directors are Mr. W. M. Kirkpatrick (Chairman), Captain A. H. Moreing, Mr. E. A. Loring and Mr. H. A. A. Mack. The 38th annual general meeting will be held in London to-morrow.

Consolidated African Selection Trust

CONSOLIDATED AFRICAN SELECTION TRUST, LTD., earned a profit for the year ended June 30 last of £1,165,675, compared with £876,065 in the previous year, to which must be added £200,000 over-provided for taxation. Taxation requires £648,127, replacements £100,000, prospecting and development £50,000, reserves and provision £28,566, and dividends £583,874, leaving £163,288 to be carried forward, against £208,071 brought in. The parent company's trading profit amounted to £14,448 (£216,716).

Tafi Goldfields

An extraordinary general meeting of TAFI GOLDFIELDS LTD. will be held shortly to consider a special resolution to liquidate the company.

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The Dar-es-Salaam & Dist. Electric Supply Co. Ltd.
Dodoma, Tanga, Morogoro, Moshi, Mwanza

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forced to concede. We are watching the position very closely and I regret to say that unless this improves it may be necessary in the near future temporarily to cease production and to confine on a developing basis only until conditions get better.

"Milling will shortly begin on a modest scale at another tributary mine, known as Coniflught, which it is hoped will contribute to our mining revenue."

"Our fattening business has again given satisfactory results this year. The cattle have increased in number and the policy of improving the strains by importation of pedigree British bulls has been continued. Shortage of water, always a potential source of danger to the herds, has been guarded against as far as possible by the sinking of further boreholes, one on each of our ranches."

Southern Rhodesia's Resources

Southern Rhodesia is to-day going through a degree of publicity which must have tremendous repercussions on the Colony's future. If, however, its economy is not carefully guided—and guarded—and if the inflationary tendency of rising costs and wages is not restrained, it may lead to a situation similar to that in which we are placed in this country today, a vicious spiral. The gold mining industry is especially affected by these conditions.

"We have recently read of the immense resources of Southern Rhodesia in the reports made by Sir Miles Thomas, one of our leading industrialists, and of his appointment as Adviser in priorities for the development of the Colony. Any recommendations he may make will, I am sure, receive the closest consideration of whatever Government is in power in Southern Rhodesia. The development of the Colony has come with such rapid strides that any outside expert advice of this nature should be particularly valuable."

Our deputy chairman, Mr. Joseph Ball, made a visit to Southern Rhodesia early this year. In the course of this he consulted with our General manager regarding our various interests there and visited our properties. The board considers that visits of this nature, which maintain personal contact between London and Salisbury, are of considerable benefit to the company.

Tribute to Management and Staff

In conclusion, stockholders will feel sure, I think we are expressing cordial appreciation of the loyal service rendered to the company's affairs by the general manager and staff in Rhodesia and by the staff in London.

Among the latter a special word of thanks is due to Mr. A. Nind, who has been associated with this company for over 40 years, and who has recently retired from the position of senior joint manager of our secretarial organization, the African Investment Trust Ltd., in London. Our best wishes go with him for the long and happy enjoyment of his retirement.

The reports and accounts were unanimously adopted, the dividend was approved, the retiring directors, Sir Digby V. Burnett and Mr. Bailey Southwell, were re-elected, and the auditors, Messrs. Fuller, Wise, Fisher and Co., were re-appointed.

Beira Port Facilities

Mr. G. A. DAVENPORT, Minister for Mines, Public Works, Commerce and Industries in Southern Rhodesia, is due in London to air this week the head of a delegation which will have discussions with the British and Portuguese Governments in regard to port and railway facilities at Beira. Sir Godfrey Huggins, the Prime Minister, and several of his colleagues, and Sir Miles Thomas, Sir Dennistoun Burney and other speakers have recently emphasized in public the urgent need for improved facilities at Beira.

Mining

Rhokana Corporation

RHOKANA CORPORATION, LTD., earned a net profit of £321,880 for the year ended June 30, 1947, compared with £209,401 in the previous year. Taxation absorbs £137,833 (68,008 paid) and £600,000 (£300,000) is placed to reserve. Dividends, less tax, on the preference shares will require £43,954, a total distribution of 85% on the ordinary and A stock £1,168,751 (£250,010), and after an additional £25,000 has been paid to the directors, a balance of £498,226 will be carried forward, against £490,484 brought-in.

The issued capital consists of £2,450,524 in ordinary stock and £49,678 in A stock units, and £1,499,864 in redeemable cumulative preference shares, all of £1 denomination. Reserves stand at £283,582 and creditors at £4,155,640. Fixed assets are valued at £6,072,846 (£6,128,872), stores at £28,306, and current assets at £6,522,967, including British Government securities at £247,395 (market value on June 30, 1947, at £256,480), tax receivables at £242,700, and cash at £4,629,974. Capital expenditure during the year amounted to £2,177,737, and the cost of plant and buildings to Rhodesia Copper Refineries Ltd. realized £665,331. Investments were increased by the purchase of 2,000 ordinary shares of £1 each in Rhodesia Copper Refineries Ltd. and 1,250 shares of the same denomination at par in the Northern Rhodesia Chamber of Mines Ltd.

Output of Copper

Production was 66,231.69 tons of copper—54,892 (59,686) tons electrolytic and 11,339 (9,480) blister. In addition the smelter treated 66,431 (59,495) short tons of concentrates from Nchanga Consolidated Copper Mines, Ltd., which produced 21,514 (19,450) long tons of blister copper. Output was seriously affected by a strike of artisans which completely stopped production from July 26 to August 21, causing an estimated loss of 6,000 long tons. Operations had to be suspended from time to time owing to the inability of the railway to deliver sufficient coal, but bringing coal from South Africa and the U.S.A. for shipment via Lobito Bay and accepting certain losses of plant for wood-burning losses which had to be reduced to 2,000 long tons. Production of cobalt amounted to 1,275 short tons of alloy and 83 tons of metal.

Mr. J. W. Smith, Chairman of the board since 1931, Mr. J. W. Smith, Managing Director in South Africa, and Dr. J. G. Gwynne, Secretary since 1931, resigned during the year. The Chairman is Sir Eric Oppenheimer (alternate) the Hon. Virginia Smith, the Deputy Chairman, and managing director Mr. J. S. Taylor, and the Assistant managing director Mr. G. E. S. Taylor. The other directors are Mr. L. S. Amery, the Earl of Beaconsfield, Sir J. N. Buchanan, Mr. Carl S. Davis, Mr. F. J. Demaison, Mr. C. D. Holy-Hutchinson, Sir Douglas MacLellan, Mr. J. C. Greenfield, and Mr. R. M. Preston.

The 25th annual ordinary general meeting is being held in London to-day.

London and Rhodesian

THE LONDON AND RHODESIAN MINING AND LAND CO., LTD., reports a net profit of £97,321 for the year ended June 30, 1947, compared with £80,028 in the previous year. Taxation absorbs £50,000 in relation to the write-down of investment to £10,750, and to depreciation £27. A dividend of 10% less tax, requires £27,500, leaving £37,437 to be carried forward against £3,053 brought-in.

The issued capital consists of £1,000,000 in 50 units, provision for future taxation is shown at £13,815 and current liabilities at £64,072. Land buildings, etc. are valued at £32,450, live stock at £7,250, mining properties at £2,316, machinery and plant at £90,250, investments £448,800, and current assets at £107,969, including £71,710 in cash.

Land holdings at the close of the year consists of 1,232,721 acres. During the year 62,253 acres were sold at average price of 11s. 9d. per acre. Profit from the company's ranching activities was £1,638 against £15,941 in the previous year. The company has interests in the Cam and Mafico Mining Co. Ltd., Rezembe Mining Ltd. and other modifications. The directors are the present, E. J. A. (Chairman), Sir Joseph Ball (Deputy Chairman), Sir Digby Burnett, Mr. H. G. Gault, Mr. B. V. Southwell, and Mr. Harold Miller.

The ordinary general meeting was held in London on Friday, 9.

From Argentine to Rhodesia

AN ARGENTINE COMPANY has recently acquired asbestos claims near Mafikeng, Southern Rhodesia.

has existed hitherto. We must not shrink from this task, nor must we underestimate the difficulties. The need was never more urgent than to-day, but the work will be long and difficult and will give rise to many problems, social as well as economic. It is essential, moreover, that we should get first things first.

While there may be few among us to-day who would question the wisdom of providing social services in primitive territories, or even of the more distant aims of political emancipation, it should never be forgotten that these things are meaningless unless accompanied by production built upon a firm economic foundation. Without this to support them they can be no more than a mirage, and the attempt to realize them can only cause disillusionment and despair. For those who have not seen for themselves the poverty of a great part of the African community cannot easily be imagined. It is mainly composed of agricultural peoples living by the most primitive methods of husbandry. Their ingrained traditions cannot quickly be changed.

Much foresight and patience will be needed if the true aims of Colonial Development are to be realized. Your Bank is, I believe, exceptionally fortunate in being so well placed to implement this policy. It is in the process of carrying it through, something that can be done to redress the economic balance of the Old World, if not in the long run benefit the New World also, for the Old, and the New are one.

The 22nd ordinary general meeting of shareholders of the Bank is to be held at 29 Gracechurch Street, London, E.C.4, at 12.30 p.m. to-morrow, Friday, December 19.

Union Minière Du Haut-Katanga Increase of Capital

AT AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE UNION MINIERE DU HAUT-KATANGA, held in Brussels on December 4, 1947, proposals for a revaluation of the fixed assets, for an increase of the nominal capital, and for modification of two of the statutes were unanimously adopted.

M. E. SENEZ, managing director of the company, Chairman of the Board of Directors, explained that the rise in value of the Belgian franc during the period over which most of the fixed assets had been acquired or formed meant that the total of the sums credited to the important section of the balance sheet, in francs of widely differing values, bore little relation to the value of the fixed assets expressed in francs of present-day value. Thus the company's real financial position could not be clearly appreciated. The same was true of the present nominal capital, which bore little relation to the importance of the company's business.

Revaluation of Fixed Assets

Revaluation of the fixed assets by the method generally accepted as the most accurate gave a total of Frs. 2,521,544,667 as at the end of 1946, whereas the figure appearing in the balance sheet drawn up at the same date was Frs. 585,400,484. It was proposed to incorporate the resulting Frs. 1,935,944,183 plus-value in the capital and to increase the latter to Frs. 5,000,000,000 by the additional incorporation of Frs. 64,055,817 from the special renewal fund.

The meeting approved these proposals, together with those for modification of two of the statutes to cover the above increase of capital and to exempt directors from certain formalities regarding their shares used for voting at general meetings.

Anganyika Concessions, Limited, holds 179,754 out of a total share capital of 1,227,000 shares of the Union, and is liable for obligations of 700 francs each, while owing right out of a debenture loan capital of 200,000 obligations.

London and Rhodesian Mining and Land Co., Ltd. Viscount Elibank's Review

THE ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE LONDON AND RHODESIAN MINING AND LAND COMPANY, Limited, was held on Tuesday, December 16, 1947, at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, London, E.C.2.

The RT. HON. VISCOUNT ELIBANK, D.L., the Chairman of the company, presided.

Mr. R. J. G. News, representing the secretaries, the African Investment Trust, Ltd., read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors.

THE CHAIRMAN'S statement circulated to the shareholders with the report and accounts was in the following terms:

"As the directors' report and accounts for the year ended June 30, 1947, deal very fully with the company's various operations and interests, I propose to confine myself in this statement to more general matters.

"In a period when expenses on all sides show a persistent tendency to rise, it is particularly satisfactory to record an appreciable reduction during the year under review of our administration costs, while at the same time revenue has markedly improved, due to the larger profit obtained on realization of investments. Such a position, however, is not likely to be repeated during the current year.

"As a result of a profit of £92,091 earned this year, in excess of that in the preceding period by £17,573, the dividend was maintained at 5% and after making the substantial provisions of £50,000 for taxation, £8,757 for depreciation, and £10,750 to write down the book value of certain investments, we are enabled to carry forward £87,457 or £384 more than was brought in.

Dividend Decision

Stockholders will recollect that when announcing the interim dividend of 5% mentioned above, I indicated the possibility of paying a small final dividend if conditions remained favourable when the year's full accounts were available.

In view, however, of the introduction and the consequent doubling of the profits tax and the increased provision for income tax, about which I shall have more to say later on, and having regard also to the uncertainty of prevailing conditions, your directors have, I think, and with a disappointment which stockholders will no doubt share, reached the decision that a further distribution would not be prudent.

In regard to the subject of taxation, one point impelled to record with regret that the taxation changes recently announced by the Chancellor not only impose an additional burden for the current and future period, but are to some extent of retroactive effect. This aspect has rightly been regarded in many quarters as a particularly unfortunate departure from sound principles which have in the past often considered sacrosanct.

It is reassuring in these circumstances to note that the provision in this company's balance sheet now corresponds as far as can be estimated to the liability on all profits earned up to that date, part of which will not, however, be payable until January 1949. To arrive at this position has necessitated a charge to appropriation account in the year under review of more than the usual dimensions.

The revenue from our own mining operations during the year has been curtailed by several causes, not all of which are peculiar to this company's interests. The Vubachikwe, particularly hard nature of the ore has not yet been completely counteracted, in spite of continuing experiments with various types of drilling material. The Southern Rhodesian Government have recently granted a small subsidy to this mine, but this assistance, although most welcome, is not sufficient to offset the high wages and other costs which the mining industry has been

Our figures do not by any means reflect the full increase in the activity of the Bank's business during the past year. This has been noticeable in all sections, but has been perhaps most marked in South Africa.

All our territories seem to have many problems in common, amongst which that of housing seems to be one of the most intractable at the moment. This applies not only to those who work in the Bank, in certain places the Bank's own premises are quite inadequate to our growing needs. Heavy expenditure is likely to be needed for this purpose as soon as building restrictions are relaxed. The housing problem in fact is not one of those shortages which afflict our staff in this country alone. During my recent visit to South Africa, when I had the opportunity of meeting a very large number of our staff, I found that this was also a serious problem for many of them in that country.

Although our numbers have increased, this expansion has not been commensurate with the increase in work. The fact that they have carried on the business so successfully, in spite of the uncomfortable conditions in which many of them are working, is in keeping with the tradition which they have established. A proposal will be submitted at the general meeting which will give you an opportunity to place on record your former appreciation.

A Bank in Battledress

An account of your Bank's war-time activities entitled "A Bank in Battledress" has been completed after inevitable delays due to the need for references to distant points. The story has been put together at head office with the help of material supplied from time to time by branches overseas. It is entirely the work of the Bank's staff, much of it actually having been written during the war. At the present time the relations unfortunately curtail the number of copies which we can supply. The book is now in the printers' hands, and we hope to have a small number of copies of the first limited edition available in a few months time. As some of us, however, feel that this publication may be of interest for a wider public, we hope when conditions are so favourable to make arrangements for the supply of further copies to satisfy any demand that may arise from stockholders and customers. We shall do our best to procure these as fairly as possible on applications received.

I have already referred to our policy of writing £250,000 of the book into our investment in the Development Corporation. This means that we have written off the value of the premium paid for the shares, which now stand at par in our books. Since last year the corporation has begun to function actively, and we look forward to a useful and expanding field for its activities.

Colonial Development Corporation

You have heard recently of the proposed new Government Corporation which is to be formed under the title of the Colonial Development Corporation with resources of £10,000,000. A feature of particular interest to us is that Lord Trefgarne, one of the original directors of Barclays Overseas Development Corporation, has been selected by the Government to be Chairman of the new company. We have greatly valued his help and advice, and in wishing him well with his new and highly responsible duties, I should like to take the opportunity not only to congratulate him sincerely upon his appointment, but also to say how much all of us here regret the loss of his resignation from the board of our corporation.

This does not, of course, mean we vainly hope that there will be a conflict of interests between the new corporation and our own. On the contrary, we believe that our work will be complementary rather than competitive. At the same time, the large increase in the potential resources which are now available for this type of work will add further meaning and purpose to what we

ourselves have set out to do. The field to be covered, in any case, is so great that for many years to come there is likely to be room in it for all. It seems likely, too, that the new Government corporation will concern itself in the main with a somewhat different type of business, and often no doubt on a larger scale than anything which we ourselves might wish to undertake. Moreover, it may be expected to act in many cases as a principal, whereas our corporation is intended merely to supply financial assistance in various forms. We look forward confidently to much fruitful co-operation with the new corporation.

Importance of the Profit Motive

It is reassuring to learn that the Government Corporation is to be operated on a commercial basis and, accordingly, that considerations of profit will not be overlooked. This question of profitability is not a trivial matter to be lightly dismissed, because if the great work of Colonial development is to be carried through it is likely eventually to need capital resources on a scale far in excess of that available from a Government corporation. The motive of profit or gain has ever been one of the main springs of human activity, and if conditions are not such as to offer a fair prospective return, it may be difficult to attract new capital into this field.

While high profits may attract envy and sometimes critical comment, the ventures which in total failure are often quickly forgotten except by those whose money is irretrievably lost, investors are, however, obliged to accept this risk of loss, frequently a very real one in newly developing countries, and they can hardly be expected to do so unless they also have the prospect of earning a good return on such undertakings as are soundly based and prove successful. A multiplicity of development corporations, whether Government-sponsored or otherwise, can never be an effective substitute for the self-reliant individual who is prepared to risk his money and devote his skill to increasing enterprise.

Greatest Scope in Africa

When some two years ago we first consulted the authorities in respect of the formation of our Development Corporation we could hardly have foreseen that this new enterprise would so quickly find itself so much in vogue as it is to-day. If there were any who at that time doubted the wisdom of this move, we hope they will now feel reassured. The fact is that more than many things have happened to demonstrate the need for such a departure, not only in the interests of the overseas territories, which we had primarily in mind, but also in the interests of this country: the benefit should be mutual.

In the constantly changing world of to-day, when so many countries, obsessed with the problem sometimes sophistically described as dollar shortage, are turning or being forced to turn more and more in the direction of self-sufficiency, it is refreshing to have in view a clear object for a constructive policy, and one which aims at an expansion rather than a contraction in economic activity.

Such is the cause of Colonial development. Some headway has already been made in many fields, although it is in Africa that the greatest scope appears to exist, and as it is here that our Bank carries on the major part of its business, the fact has a special significance for us, which must be my excuse for reverting to the subject in this annual statement.

It would be misleading to raise expectations of the rapid production of great wealth, but if this work can be carried through with foresight and resolution it cannot fail to confer great benefits on the people concerned. Who can doubt that the resources of tropical Africa are susceptible in time of such development?

It has fallen to this Bank to initiate great enterprises in every continent of the world, but the potentialities of Africa may be found to rival anything that

Company Meetings

Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas)

Mr. Julian Cressley's First Statement as Chairman

Development Corporations of Bank and Government

MR. JULIAN CRESSLEY, Chairman of Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), has circulated to the shareholders with the annual report and accounts for the year ended September 30, 1947, a statement in the following terms:—

Before turning to the Bank's affairs I am sure you will wish me to express on your behalf our deep sorrow at the sudden death of Mr. Edwin Fisher early in the year. Mr. Fisher was a director of this Bank for five years before he became Chairman of Barclays Bank Limited, in 1936. He never lost his interest in—I might almost say affection for—the 'D.C. and O.', and his kindly advice and help were a source of strength to us on many occasions.

On Mr. Fisher's death our own Chairman, as you know, was elected Chairman of Barclays Bank Limited, and relinquished the chairmanship of this Bank and his seat on our Board. It is difficult for me to express to you adequately what he has meant to us and the value of his services to the Bank. We shall always be indebted to him for the work he has done since he was first appointed a director in 1933, and we can draw comfort from the fact that his exceptional experience and understanding of our affairs will still be available to us.

As for myself, you will realize what a formidable and only distinguished predecessors have set for anyone who attempts to maintain their high standard.

Other Changes in Boards

This year has also seen a change in the chairmanship of our board in South Africa. The unique position that Mr. Leisk holds, and has long held in South Africa is well known. After a distinguished career in other fields he became the first Chairman of the South African Board of this Bank, a position which he has held ever since. We profoundly regret that ill-health has compelled him recently to curtail his business activities and to resign this post and his membership of the central Board, but I am glad to say that he still remains a member of our South African Board. His services have been of incalculable value to the Bank, not least in the early days prior to the amalgamation, when he was Chairman and managing director of the National Bank of South Africa.

His place as Chairman of the South African Board and also as a Vice-Chairman of the Central Board has been taken by Mr. E. L. Jackson, formerly a general manager in South Africa and lately Vice-Chairman of our South African Board. His experience and ability, together with his almost encyclopaedic knowledge of the affairs of our Bank in Africa, qualify him in an exceptional degree for this position. We are indeed fortunate to have a man of such calibre at the disposal of the Bank.

In view of the many business commitments, Mr. W. O. Stevenson has felt it necessary to relinquish his position as Deputy Chairman of the Bank, but I am glad to be able to tell you that he will remain on the board and on the London Committee. Mr. A. C. Barnes, formerly a Vice-Chairman, has been elected Deputy Chairman in his place.

You will have seen in the report of the directors that Sir Harold Snagge retired in accordance with the articles, but for reasons of health he is not submitting his name for re-election. He has been a member of the board since the Bank was formed in 1925. We shall greatly miss him here, and I would like to take this opportunity of expressing our deep appreciation of his services over so long a period.

Captain Derek Fitzgerald and Mr. A. W. Tuke have been appointed directors during the year. Captain Fitzgerald, who is now in South Africa, and Mr. Tuke, whose name will be familiar to many of you as a Deputy Chairman of Barclays Bank, will be of exceptional value to us.

Mr. Arthur Aiken, a member of our South African Board, has been appointed Vice-Chairman in South Africa. We have been particularly glad to have the opportunity of seeing him over here recently on a business visit.

Sir Francis Newton and Mr. A. W. Patterson

Sir Francis Newton has retired from our Rhodesian Committee owing to advancing years. He has been a member of that committee since 1930, and we are grateful to him for his long and valuable service.

Mr. Donaldt Carter, formerly local director in New York, has been appointed general manager (staff). It will be his particular duty to look after the many complex problems which inevitably arise with a staff so large as ours, consisting of so many different nationalities and spread so far and wide over the globe.

Mr. H. P. Sheldon, on his retirement from the position of an assistant general manager, has been appointed a member of the London Committee.

Mr. C. C. George, formerly manager of our Trinidad branch, has been appointed local director in the West Indies. Mr. A. W. Patterson has retired from the East African Board, and Mr. J. Rodway has been appointed to that board in his place.

I greatly regret to have to record the recent sudden death of Sir Henry Chapman, of our London Committee, and of Mr. E. E. Bevis, a member of our South African Board, who had previously been one of the general managers of the Bank in South Africa. They will both be sadly missed in their many friends amongst us.

I do not attempt to deal with conditions in the different territories served by the Bank or to record their events, but I cannot turn from the subject without referring to this year's Royal Visit to South Africa. It was fortunate enough to have the opportunity of making a business visit to South Africa during February and March. This gave me the special privilege of being present at the time of Their Majesties' visit and of witnessing the spontaneous enthusiasm and warmth of their reception throughout the whole country.

Review of Past Year

Turning now to the figures, you will recollect that in the chairman's statement last year a new issue of shares was foreshadowed and also the conversion of the preference into a stock. Both these operations were satisfactorily concluded, and you will see from the balance sheet the Bank's capital now comprises A stock and B shares only, and the premium received on the new issue has been added to the reserve fund. While deposits have remained at substantially the same figure as last year, our advances to customers have shown further marked expansion.

The year's dividend cost an additional £47,000, the final dividend being payable on the increased Capital for the full year, and at present rates of dividend and income tax, the additional cost would be double that figure. We are proposing to make the same appropriation of the surplus as last year, by setting over £50,000 from the investment in the Development Corporation and paying £20,000 to the directors in return for preparing

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NEWS ITEMS IN BRIEF

Zanzibar Legislative Council will meet on December 28.

Double taxation arrangements have been concluded between the United Kingdom and Nyasaland.

Nairobi is to be the half-way halt of the Scandinavian Air Line services to and from South Africa.

A new week-end service has been established between Nairobi and Mombasa, giving visitors 46 hours at the seaside.

Beira Railways report gross receipts for the year ended September 30 last at £1,167,899, compared with £950,694 for the previous year.

The establishment of 16 new forest reserves in Nyasaland has been recommended by the Game and Forest Reserves Commission under the chairmanship of Mr. M. P. Barrow.

Out of 28% in the acreage of flue-cured tobacco in the United States has been ordered by the Department of Agriculture owing to Great Britain's ban on the purchase of American leaf.

A Christmas party has been arranged for the children of its members by the United Kenya Club, an inter-racial association. Lord Hailey recently spent an evening at the club talking to members.

That an authority of international repute should be engaged to undertake an agricultural survey of Southern Rhodesia has been advocated by Mr. A. M. Caldwell, President of the Rhodesia National Farmers' Union.

About 450,000 cigarettes also to be sent from Southern Rhodesia as the Christmas gift of the Rhodesia Tobacco Association to servicemen in hospitals, convalescent homes and mental institutions in the United Kingdom.

East African Sisal Plantations, Ltd., produced 145 tons of sisal and tow in November, making 855 tons for the first five months of the financial year. The Plantations, Ltd., report that the output of sisal and tow for November amounted to 60 tons, making 708 tons for the first 11 months of the company's financial year.

The tobacco company of Rhodesia and South Africa, Ltd., will be unable to present accounts for the year ended June 30 last before the close of the present year owing to late arrival of accounts from Rhodesia. It is hoped that a meeting will be held fairly early in the New Year and that it will be possible to recommend payment of a dividend.

A plaque commemorating the war services of the Union-Castle liner WESTERLY and the Royal Mail liner ASCANTARA was unveiled at the Royal Hampshire Hospital, Winchester, recently, by Vice-Admiral Sir Thomas Troubridge. Captain C. Brown, R.N.R., commodore of the Union-Castle Line, represented his company at the ceremony.

Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.)

BARCLAYS BANK (DOMINION, COLONIAL AND OVERSEAS) reports that after making provision for taxation and bad and doubtful debts of £572,172 in the year ended September 30, 1947. Provision for deferred repairs to premises required £30,000, and £230,000 is allocated to writing down the investment in Barclays Overseas Development Corporation, Ltd. An interim dividend of 4% (actual) on £4,700,000 A stock and B shares paid in June last absorbed £109,461, and the proposed final dividend of 4% on £4,700,000 A stock and B shares, both less tax, will require £176,673, leaving £176,452 to be carried forward, against £176,452 brought in.

During the year Sir William Goodenough, having been elected Chairman of Barclays Bank, Ltd., resigned his seat on the board and his Chairmanship, and Mr. J. S. Crossley, formerly Deputy Chairman, has been elected in his place. Mr. W. O. Stevenson relinquished the deputy chairmanship but retained his seat on the board, and Mr. A. C. Barnes, formerly Vice-Chairman, has been elected Deputy Chairman. Captain Derek Fitzgerald and Mr. A. W. Duke have been appointed directors. The other members of the board are Sir Bernard Bonardillon, Mr. H. R. Bradfields, the Earl of Clarendon, Sir W. H. Clark, Mr. C. P. Dalzell, the Hon. G. B. Gibbs, Mr. W. B. Gillett, Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, Viscount Portal, and Sir Harold St. George.

The 22nd ordinary general meeting will be held in London to-morrow, December 18. In this issue we publish the full text of Mr. Crossley's statement.

Lewa Rubber Estates, Ltd.

THE LEWA RUBBER ESTATES, Ltd., a company holding 275 shares in Nairobi Estates, Ltd., earned a net profit of £3956 for the year ended June 30, 1947, which, added to a balance brought forward of £10,938, made a total of £14,895 for a distribution. Dividends of 24% on the preferred stock and 12% on the deferred stock require £3474, leaving £11,421 to be carried forward. The issued capital consists of 11,165 10% participating preferred stock and £10,937 in ordinary stock, all of £100 each. Fixed assets are valued at £81,385, investments at £28,813, debentures £81, and cash at £12,439. The directors are Messrs H. Edgington (Chairman) and Mr. A. L. Miller. The 36th annual general meeting is being held in London at day.

Mitchell Gatts & Co., Ltd.

MITCHELL GATTS & CO., LTD., in announcing a second interim dividend of 20% of the ordinary shares (against 17% last year), a total distribution of 25% less tax for the year ended June 30 against 22% less tax in the previous year, state that profits are provisionally calculated at £55,702, a very sharp rise on the previous year's figure of £23,342, after deducting £25,000 for income tax (£8,500), £150,000 for excess profits (£24,000), and £11,000 for profits tax. The (full) net profit of £52,702 compares with £47,192. The profit before deduction of taxation is thus 50% higher and the net profit about 63% higher. The 55 ordinary shares are now quoted at 30s. 7½d. The annual meeting will not be held earlier than the end of January.

Arusha Plantations, Ltd.

The interim dividend declared by Arusha Plantations, Ltd., was, of course, in respect of the year ended June 30 last, not June 30, 1947, as reported in our issue of December 11 owing to a typographical error.

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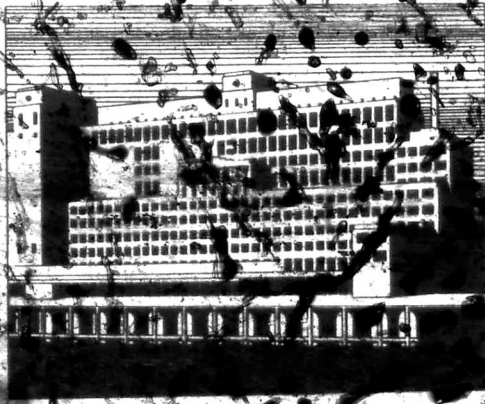
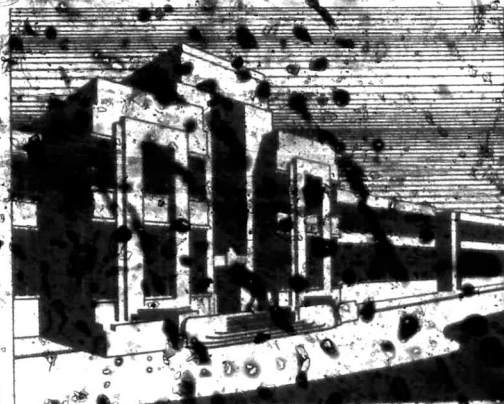


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Parliament (Continued from page 384)

Government have examined these proposals. The Egyptian Government has informed the Governor-General of certain amendments which they consider should be made, and the Governor-General now has these amendments under consideration. In these circumstances, it would be premature to consider the immediate resumption of Anglo-Egyptian negotiations on the Sudan.

MR. DODD STAKER: Can the right hon. gentleman give an assurance that there will be no selling out of the right of self-determination of the Sudanese people?

MR. McNEIL: The assurance given by the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs will not be departed from in any substance.

MR. BARTLETT asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether he would give an assurance that it was, how the established custom to appoint no junior officers in the Colonial Office who have not had personal experience of service for at least one of the Colonies.

MR. CREECH-JONES: Nearly all the senior administrative and advisory officers in my department have served in Colonial appointments or have visited Colonial territories in some official capacity. As the staff becomes available, the system of seconding administrative officers overseas will be extended, so that in time all senior posts will be held by officers with personal experience in a Colonial appointment. But I cannot give an assurance that in no circumstances would a senior appointment be filled by an officer who has not had that experience.

Trusteeship and Trade

SIR P. HARRISON asked whether, having regard to Article 10 of the Trustee Agreement for Tanganyika, the Minister would promote the interests of British export-trade in the organization of essential public services and jobs which might be undertaken in the Territory.

MR. REES-WILLIAMS: In so far as the promotion of the British export-trade to Tanganyika is concerned, the provisions of Article 9 and 10 of the Trusteeship Agreement, the emphasis is in the affirmative. Article 10 requires that any steps taken thereunder shall be designed to promote the interests of the people of the Territory.

COLONEL PONSOMBY asked what was the capacity of the port of Dar es Salaam, and to what extent this had been reached in the last few months.

MR. REES-WILLIAMS: The present capacity of the Port of Dar es Salaam is estimated at 20,000 freight tons of imports (excluding coal and wheeled vehicles) and 13,000 freight tons of exports per month. This capacity was reached in July and October this year.

MR. SOULENSEN asked the Minister whether he was aware that existing direct taxation in Northern Rhodesia discriminated unfairly against Africans as compared with Europeans; that he would give details of the allowances and income tax limits under which tax was paid by Africans and Europeans; and whether he would ensure that Africans living in urban areas (earning less than £20 a month) would be exempt from direct taxation.

Direct Taxation in N. Rhodesia

MR. REES-WILLIAMS: There are two forms of direct taxation in Northern Rhodesia; Native tax and income tax, details of which are as follows—

Native Tax.—The Governor is empowered to prescribe the rate of tax payable in any particular area up to a limit of 20s. per annum. In practice the rates of tax vary from 6s. in the remotest rural districts to 15s. in the mining districts. The rate is based on the estimated average earnings capacity of adult males in each area, and on an individual basis. An African may be exempted from the payment of the tax if he is unable to find the means of payment by reason of age, disease or physical disability, or of economic conditions.

Income Tax.—Africans who are liable for income tax are exempt from the payment of income tax. Income tax therefore is paid by Europeans only. Deductions are allowed at the rate of £250. net for married persons, £200 for married persons, and £120 for each child. Deductions are also allowed for other dependants, and for insurance up to a maximum of £120.

On the chargeable income, as assessed, income tax is payable as follows: Unmarried persons: on an income which varies from 2s. in the £1 on the first £500 to 6s. for every £1 in excess of £1,750. Married persons: a scale which varies from 1s. in the £1 on the first £250 to 6s. for every £1 in excess of £2,500.

With regard to the first and third parts of the question, I can assure that the arrangements outlined above have been criticised on the grounds that, while Europeans in income tax are allowed a certain level are exempt from the payment of income tax, a similar exemption from the payment of Native tax is provided for in the case of Africans.

These matters were considered by the Northern Rhodesia Taxation Review Committee in 1946. In the majority report submitted by this committee it was suggested that the committee should be appointed to consider the question of automatic exemption from Native tax of Africans whose incomes do not exceed a certain limit. I will ask the Governor, what action has been taken on this recommendation and communicate with myself the result of the due enquiry. But I cannot accept the contention that there is unfair discrimination against Africans.

Storage of Cattle

MR. DENNISON asked what action was being taken to alleviate the shortage of bullock hessian and nails in Masailand, which, as in other African territories, threatened to reduce the export of cattle and meat products.

MR. REES-WILLIAMS: With regard to jute goods, representations have been made to the Government of India to increase Nyasaland's allocation for the year ending June, 1948, from 200 to 373 tons. It is understood that India is unable at present to effect this increase, but will review the position at the end of this month. A shortage of wire nails was recently brought to my notice by the Governor, and steps were at once taken to procure some supplies in hand from the United Kingdom. The needs of the Protectorate will receive full consideration when allocations of nails are made in the next quarter.

MR. SKENNARD asked what funds had so far been allocated to the Seychelles from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund, what was the size of the interest-free loan offered to Britain by the Seychelles, and why this offer had been accepted.

MR. REES-WILLIAMS: £250,000 was allocated to the Seychelles under the 1945 Colonial Development and Welfare Act. Grants totalling £132,500 have been made out of this allocation in respect of special development and welfare schemes. The Seychelles Government have recently offered H.M. Government an interest-free loan of £25,000 as a measure of assistance and to be taken on a parity with the country in the present emergency. This loan was offered out of funds transferred in surplus to the Seychelles' requirements, and it is gratefully accepted. H.M. Government are at the present time in discussion of the offer with the people of the Seychelles, on the understanding that it will be repayable only in the event of successful development of other parts of the island.

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Higher Pensions for Governors Amendment Accepted

WHEN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS considered its Committee the Pensions (Governors of Dominions) Bill, the Government accepted an Opposition amendment moved by Mr. Oliver Stanley, to abolish the proposed differentiation between Governors in classes 1 and 2 and those in classes 3 and 4.

Mr. Oliver Stanley said:—

"This amendment means that all Governors of all four classes would be treated alike, and each would receive £1 a year extra for every completed month of service as a Governor. Very often in the class 3 and 4 Governors, who never get to the best territories with big salaries and expenses, who on retirement are the best off, and are most in need of this extra help. It is also very often in regard to Governors of that class that the Secretary of State has the hardest decision to make between another appointment and putting them on a retired list."

Additional Cost Outweighed

Mr. REES-WILLIAMS, Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, said in reply: "My right hon. friend and I have considered this amendment, and we think it is a good one. The charge will mean an addition from the Exchequer of £500 a year, but the reasons the right hon. gentleman has given far outweigh this small additional cost."

"A Governor who serves the normal period of five years in class 3 receives £240. Our original proposal would have raised it to £270, and the present proposal would raise it to £300 a year. A Governor who serves five years in class 4 now receives £180; the original proposal would bring it up to £210, and this proposal would bring it to £240 a year. A Governor

appointed at 50 to a class 4 post, having already earned pension of £850 a year in a Civil Service post, will now qualify for a pension of £1,090."

The Under-Secretary moved the second reading of a new clause to increase certain pensions. His explanation he said:—

"The ceiling which is the subject of this clause has always been calculated on two-thirds of the salary which a Permanent Under-Secretary of State in this country would get after some 40 years in the service. The original ceiling when that calculation gave was £1,300, and at a later stage when the salary of the Permanent Under-Secretary was increased to £2,000, the new ceiling on the two-thirds basis became £2,000. To pay the salary of the Permanent Under-Secretary is £2,000, which gives a percentage on a two-thirds basis of £2,333. So the Governor-to-day is on a lower plane of the same basis, if the Committee accept the proposal, as a Permanent Under-Secretary, except for £33, and an ambassador. They are all equated together. This increase will obviate any case of a Governor serving perhaps three or four years towards the end of his period of service and getting no greater result as to pension than if he had not served at all."

Assistant Medical Adviser

Dr. R. S. F. HENNESSY, M.D., M.R.C.P., has been appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to be an Assistant Medical Adviser at the Colonial Office. Dr. Hennessy, who served in the Colonial Medical Service in Uganda for 10 years, was born in Northern Ireland in 1905, graduated at Dublin University in 1927, and then studied at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He went to East Africa in 1929 and soon after arrival in Uganda joined the laboratory as a pathologist. He lectured in pathology at Makerere College Medical School, was an associate editor of the *East African Medical Journal*, and was President of the Uganda Branch of the British Medical Association in 1940. Four years later he was transferred to Palestine to take charge of the Government medical laboratories, and later became Deputy Director of the Department of Health.

Negro Director of Trusteeship

Dr. J. B. BUNCHE, Director of the United Nations Trusteeship Division, has been appointed head of the United Nations Secretariat staff on the Palestine Commission. Dr. Bunche, who is 43, and a grandson of an American Negro slave, was Professor of Political Science at Howard University, U.S.A., in 1938, co-director of the Institute of Race Relations, Swarthmore College, in 1936, and Chief of the Strategic Service in the U.S.A. from 1941 to 1944. He was assistant secretary of the U.S.A. delegation at Dumbarton Oaks in 1944, adviser to the U.S.A. delegations at the International Labour Conferences in Philadelphia and Paris in 1944 and 1945, and a member of the executive committee of the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations Organization in London in 1945.

Sir Thomas Creed

Sir T. CREED, who has retired after 25 years in the Sudan Service, was appointed to the Administration in 1923, joined the Legal Department four years later, and was appointed a district judge in 1928. For four years he was seconded to the Sudan in 1935, became a judge of the High Court, and in the following year Chief Justice. Appointed Legal Secretary in 1941, he was awarded the C.B.E. in 1943 and made a Knight Bachelor. Sir Thomas was for a time Acting Governor-General and recently served with the Sudan delegation to the United Nations. Lady Creed was with her husband throughout his service in the Sudan and had worked with the Red Cross both during and after the war.

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Mrs. **BILL RHODES**, daughter of Sir Godfrey Rhodes, has started a junior branch of the East Africa Women's League in Nairobi for members between the ages of 18 to 30.

LIBURU COLLEGE, **ALFRENS VAN DE POSSA**, who has received the C.B.E. from The King, served in Ethiopia in 1940-41, was afterwards on intelligence duties in the Middle East, and then went to the Far East, where he was captured by the Japanese in 1942.

MR. ROBERT HUDSON, M.P., a former Minister of Agriculture, left London by air a few days ago to visit the Union of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia. He owns one of the finest herds of cattle in this country, especially Friesians and Ayrshires, and he is anxious to investigate the possibilities of export.

MR. ARTHUR J. WHITEHEAD, Chairman of Whitehead Industrial Trust, Ltd., **MRS. WHITEHEAD**, and **SIR HAROLD MOORE**, Chairman of Aurochs Investment Company (which is under the management of the Trust), are outward-bound in the **CAPTOWN CASTLE** for a visit to South Africa and Rhodesia. They expect to return to London in March.

DR. V. E. FUCHS, the geologist, who in 1935 led an expedition to Lake Rudolf, Kenya, is leading a research expedition to the Falkland Islands Dependencies. The party's 1,000 ton timber vessel, driven by diesel-electric motor and capable of a speed of 14 knots, was named **JOHN BISCOE** at Deptford on Monday by **Mrs. Creel Jones**, wife of the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

LORD WINTERTON, who visited Northern Rhodesia as a young man and has ever since owned property in that country, claimed in the House of Commons a few days ago to be the oldest journalist in the assembly. The reference was to the fact that 38 years ago he was controlling editor of the now defunct **World**.

LORD WINTERTON, who has been Conservative member for Monmouth since 1904, is Father of the House.

Obituary.

Sir Hugo Cunliffe-Owen

SIR HUGO CUNLIFFE-OWEN, B.T., President of the British American Tobacco Company, who has died from a heart attack at the age of 77, had given much assistance to the development of tobacco growing in the Rhodesias and Nyasaland, and many of the leaders of that industry could testify to his consistent desire to see increased production of good quality leaf suitable for the British market. He began life as a civil engineer, but in 1902, with the British American Tobacco Co. was formed, he was appointed a director and secretary; he became Chairman in 1923, and held that post until 1945, when he was elected to the new office of President. He was a director of United Tobacco Companies (South) Ltd., Tobacco Securities Trust, Ltd., Tobacco Insurance Company, Ltd., Midland Bank, Ltd., Eagle Star Insurance Co., Ltd., and other enterprises.

MR. G. A. CHILB, a 44-year-old former Army officer, was found murdered in Nairobi National Park a few days ago after he had been missing for five days.

MRS. ANN ROWE WARD, whose death in Chingwa, Southern Rhodesia, after 45 years' illness, is reported, was the mother of **Mrs. Ward**, chief clerk at Rhodesia House, London, with whom deep sympathy will be felt.

REGINALD EDWARD STUBBS, G.E.M.C., who died on Monday at the age of 71, was Deputy Chairman of the British Empire Producers' Organisation throughout its life and had been a Vice-President since a month. He had been Governor of East London, Jamaica, Cyprus and Ceylon, and joint editor of the Colonial Office List.

MR. ALFRED WILLIAM HENRY HALL, who has died at the age of 61, had been British Trade Commissioner in Rhodesia and Nyasaland since the post was created in 1937. He had taken a special interest in promoting suitable agency arrangements between British manufacturers and Rhodesian business houses. He was a lover of music and a keen amateur photographer.

MR. MANSIELD DYE WHITE, a member of the 1890 and 1891 Boer War occupation columns, and, as far as can be ascertained, the last holder of the Matabele Medal with all four clasps, died in Salisbury recently at the age of 76. At one time transporter to Major Alan Wilson, he missed the ill-fated Shangani Patrol because his horse was lame. Born in Bedford, he studied painting in Paris, went to South Africa in 1888, and joined the B.S.A. Police a year later.

WE DEEPLY REGRET to report the sudden death in Gwelo, of **MRS. VIOLET FRIMMER**, wife of Mr. G. L. Filmer, one of the most active public women in the Midlands of Southern Rhodesia. She is President of Rhodesia Holiday Association, Acting Chairwoman of the Gwelo and District Publicity Association, a member of the Southern Rhodesia Public Relations Advisory Board, and active in other movements, including the British Empire Service League.

THE REV. DR. D. A. BROWN, whose death in Northern Rhodesia we briefly reported recently, was born in Scotland in 1880, went to Canada as a youth, qualified in medicine there, and then returned to Scotland to take a divinity degree. He was on active service in France and Italy throughout the 1914-17 war, and in 1921 went to Tanganyika as a missionary, transferring six years later to the Lebwa mission, near Chinsali, Northern Rhodesia. He has been an ardent worker for unity among the churches serving African communities. He is survived by Mrs. Brown, two sons and two daughters.

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PERSONALIA

Mr. and Mrs. WARREN S. WRIGHT are outward bound for Kenya.

Mr. C. PONSONBY has been elected a director of British Overseas Stores.

CAPTAIN S. EVIS has been elected Chairman of the Nanyuki District Association.

LORD QUEENBOROUGH, who is now in South Africa, intends to visit the Rhodesias.

The Archbishop of Manitoba, the MOST REV. GEORGE GIBSON, has visited Uganda.

SIR JOHN AND LADY STRAMSBURY left London by air for Kenya at the beginning of the week. They expect to return in April.

SIR WILLIAM CLARK, a director of the Union-Castle Mail Steamship Co., Ltd., has returned from his visit to South Africa.

MR. MAURICE GHEASIE is now acting as Director of Produce Disposal under the East African Production and Supply Councils.

A daughter has been born in Kisumu, Kenya, to Mr. and Mrs. H. M. GIFFARD. Mr. Giffard is in the Kenya Administrative Service.

LORD PORTAL, who has been appointed Lord Lieutenant of the County of Southampton, is Chairman of the Colonial Economic Development Council.

COLONEL C. E. PONSONBY, M.P., of the House of Commons, and his wife, Mrs. Ponsonby, are on their way by sea to the Cape for a visit to the Union, the Rhodesias, and Nyasaland.

LIEUT. GENERAL SIR ADRIAN CARTON DE WOOD, V.C., who served in British Somaliland, and who has received the honorary degree of M.A. from Oxford University last year.

Mr. A. H. FIKI, Deputy District Commissioner in Tanganyika, and Lieutenant-Colonel W. WALLACE of Tanganyika Railways and Port Services, are now on leave in this country.

SISTER DOROTHY, who for many years Principal of St. Mary's School, Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, will resign at the end of the year and return to a Petes Home, Grahamstown, South Africa.

Mr. THOMAS RANDALL SADDLER, of the Tanganyika Administration, and Miss S. JACKSON, third daughter of Major-General and Mrs. Gerald Richardson, are to be married in this country on December 27.

Lady PINNEY has left by air for New Zealand, where she will remain until the middle of March. On her way back to England she will visit her son in Kenya where he is now district commissioner in Isiolo.

When FIELD-MARSHAL VISCOUNT MONTGOMERY, Chief of the Imperial General Staff, was the guest of the Emperor of Ethiopia last week for three days, he was awarded the Cordon of Solomon, the highest Ethiopian honour.

Mr. STANLEY W. JARVIS, managing director of Conway Stewart & Co. Ltd. of London, will sail to-day in the W. WICK CASTLE for South Africa and Southern Rhodesia. He expects to spend several weeks in the Colony.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL B. T. SCOTT, a well-known authority on entomology and ornithology, has recently been exploring Kenya's mountains with his camera. It is thought that the mountain may soon become part of the Kenya National Park.

DR. H. OLDHAM, who is a member of the Advisory Committee on Education in the Colonies and a member of the Christian Frontier Council, is resigning the office at the end of the year. Thirteen years ago he resigned the editorship of the *Christian Newsletter*.

The engagement is announced between Mr. CHARLES DALEK SOMERVILLE HOGGE, third son of Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Hogge, of Kordofan, South Africa, and Miss STELL KATHARINE TALBOT, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Talbot of Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia.

The new Chairman of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organization, which has shown such deep interest in African labour matters, is SENOR LUIS VARARDO, of Spain. He follows Sir GUILDFORD MANNING, deputy secretary in the British Ministry of Labour.

SIR GEORGE GATEL, Chairman of the Building Apprenticeship and Training Council, and formerly Chairman Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, has been appointed Vice-Chairman of the newly created Advisory Council on Building and Civil Engineering Research and Development.

VISCOUNT PORTER, who was Chairman of the Rhodesia-Nyasaland Royal Commission of 1938, will sail in the ATHLONE CASTLE on Christmas Eve for Southern Africa and Rhodesia on a goodwill mission on behalf of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, of which he was President last year.

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ENGAGEMENT
Dr. A. G. HERMAN and Dr. M. J. McHARDY - The engagement is announced between Anthony George Freeman, son of Mr. K. Freeman, Littlehscot, Watford, Herts., and of the late Major G. H. Freeman, and Margaret Jean, only daughter of Mrs. McHardy and of the late William McHardy, O.B.E., of Littlehscot, Dulwich.

TO THE NEWS

Each marked. "You cannot have an Imperial policy unless you give preference to Empire goods." — The Rt. Hon. L. S. Amery.

"The Government's plan for the evacuation of Palestine has been submitted to the United Nations but not to the House of Commons." — Mr. Oliver Stanley, M.P.

"Thirteen B.O.A.C. pilots have been between them flown an estimated aircraft mileage of 1,000,000 for the 100,000 tons have carried in over 1,000,000 miles." — *Air News*.

"Great Britain has received little gratitude and has been shamefully traduced for the great part she has played in Palestine." — Mr. Creech Jones, Secretary of State for the Colonies.

"If we could export 200,000 tons of coal it would change the whole economic situation, not only of Britain, but of Europe." — The Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Fuel and Power.

"More than 2,000 nurses were killed during the war, through their bearing and their men were given to think that they were secure, unless else was insecure." — The Archbishop of Canterbury.

"Instruction is a very fine thing but a greater is a right question, instructor." — Mr. St. John.

"The British motor industry has obtained few concessions and suffered serious setbacks in many directions as a result of the Geneva Tariff Conference." — Mr. L. P. Lord, Chairman of Austin Motors, Ltd.

"It is the peculiar genius of the British Commonwealth to adjust apparently incompatible thoughts and maintain unity in diversity. The Commonwealth has been founded and fostered in the soil of contradiction." — The Earl of Halifax.

"At 10 o'clock on Wednesday night I shall meet the Yugoslav trade delegation and by 6 a.m. next day we shall have reached an agreement of established that such a thing is not possible." — Mr. Harold Wilson, President of the Board of Trade.

"Our instinct tells us that our friends have been displaced from this world of trouble experienced is to picture them as misplaced persons in whatever lies beyond. They fitted in so suspiciously well with the pattern of mortality. Can the imagination easily devise a future world in which they will find themselves at home?" — *Observer*, Ronald A. Knox.

"Prominent people close to the Government are by their speculation in foreign markets sticking knives into the hungry people of the world. It will be stocking some of the names are revealed." — Senator Styles Bridges, Chairman, Republican Party, U.S.A.

"There is no limit to the number of gift parcels which any person might receive from abroad, to the frequency of receipt, provided each parcel is a bona fide unsolicited gift and does not exceed 22lb." — Lord Chomley, Lord of Waiting, replying in the House of Lords.

"If British people are not to be allowed to spend their holidays abroad, how will they be found in the overcrowded hotels of Great Britain for the influx of American and Canadian visitors who are expected to come here next summer for the Olympic Games and the other attractions we can offer." — Commander R. G. Studd.

"The Empire has been sold down the river at Geneva. But she cannot be given this slice of Christmas to discuss it in Parliament. Only Mr. Robert Bopunn and Mr. Christopher Hollis complain. Where is the vigorous protest from the Opposition benches? Where do the angry growl from the back benches? All is silence." — *Cross-Bench*, in the *Sunday Express*.

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BACKGROUND

Dangers of the Treasury. The Treasury is being legally put in charge of economic functions, in addition to its traditional financial functions. It is now admitted by implication that henceforth the Treasury will act not only as a guardian of spending, but will itself be one of the principal spending departments. Treasury Officials will wish to continue to make hard bargains in face of excessive demands by other departments. But their political chief is committed to safeguard the interests of a number of those departments, and may use his influence to override the resistance of his subordinates to pressure for the allocation of funds. Altogether, creation of the post of Economic Secretary is somewhat alarming. It appears to indicate that the dual role of the Treasury is now meant to be confined to Sir Stafford's term of office, but is to be perpetuated. — *Financial Times*.

Ocean Defence. It has always been a weakness in the Commonwealth's structure that intercourse among the Dominions is much less than that between one and the Mother Country. Canada and Australia may be interested in Great Britain, but they do not appear greatly interested in one another. The force of the geographical commercial and political separations involved is increased, not diminished, by the addition to the Commonwealth of new Dominions — India, Pakistan and Ceylon. For all the present, the Dominions except Canada, which now have a large air force, are geographically and strategically South Africa, Pakistan, India, Ceylon and Australia lie (with Malaya) in a great circle round the Indian Ocean and it is the "outward" approach to the New Zealand. For the safety and peaceful development of these countries it is most important that they should be in the defence and what is the Commonwealth. If it does not provide a basis for their doing so, the Commonwealth badly needs a conference, but cannot have one because Canada has not wanted it. For Eastern Hemisphere Defence Conference is too necessary to let wait much longer. Even in coming with the other Dominions we must be aware of trying in any way to force the pace. It is a caution which applies particularly to talk about realism. It cannot avoid respecting the feasibility of intellectual argument, but equally one must not overlook the Dominions' unspoken aversion to it. The talk of deracializing the Commonwealth merely makes more feasible kinds of union recede. "Scrutator" in the *Day Times*.

Lord Baldwin. The death of Lord Baldwin ends a remarkable career. For most of the epoch between the wars he was either Prime Minister or the ruling influence in the Cabinet. Year after year the British people trusted and followed him with a confidence that has given to few others. There seemed to exist between him and the mass of his fellow countrymen an understanding shaped by none of his colleagues or opponents. In quieter times he might have been set down as one of the most successful of English statesmen. Such, however, was the course of world events that well after his retirement he was to be indicted for failure in the most essential of all his duties. He had serious defeats. Only too often a decisive intervention was followed by long inaction. He could be exasperatingly undetermined. At times he allowed his Ministers to choose their own pace and even their separate directions. When international affairs were all important, he was often led to foreign policy or left it to "pup". Even the faintest uncertainty about the defence of the Empire and of peace should have been enough to impose a permanent and inexorable duty on a statesman's leadership, requires that he should go to the country with a frank acknowledgment of the danger of adopting its illusions with an inconvenient oath, and risking defeat. But he hesitated to take a course that might place the centre of national policy in the hands of men who in his view were unlikely to accede to any terms that would have made the war of two worlds. What he hesitated to political expediency obscured the real issue, delayed the education of public opinion, and impeded effectiveness of argument on the speed of which the success of any conceivable foreign policy then depended. For the dissolution of the Hoover agreement his own were sealed, presumably, since he dared not expose the weakness of Great Britain. Such indeed was the pass to which she had come, that Hitler and Hitler could risk their chances. He was however, to retrieve his shaken reputation by his handling of the Abdication crisis. Lord Baldwin died in the knowledge that great numbers of his fellow countrymen, many of whom he had followed him devotedly, still held him to blame for the miscalculations of British policy since 1931, for the nation's impudency in the war itself.

Our Main Tasks. For the Security Council to find a voice for enforcement of the League's foreign policy in Palestine, and the force of the force, but I believe that organized force can be used at present, security force is not yet organized. When the details of the force have been worked out, what's it to be, what its command is, and what its obligations are, not only Palestine, but for the whole international sphere — then we shall take our corner. But we are isolated instance putting British troops under another command is a thing which the government will not be allowed to do. — Mr. Ernest Bevin, *Foreign Office*.

Growing Dissatisfaction. The Cabinet, prised of its own supporters, dare not have a weak policy, and because it has no other policy, it has not dared touch the food industries. At the mass of the international purchasing power is in the hands of big people, but of hundreds of thousands of little people. The disastrous expansion of the accumulation of the mass is the spectacular growth of the black market in all its ramifications. The country is now well infected in the best of times. I came across a man who had been offered £50 a week for 10 days a week. Another instance of the same is a report in the *Observer*. The average wage is £10 a week, the quantity of the electrical goods that are being the unofficially sold, but who are bringing up, is being sold in a direct action. For instance, in the building trade, some of workers are being fined by the union for breaking union regulations as to clothes, and their fines are being paid by the employers who are then commanded by the area organization and it again next week. The workers' satisfaction with the National Coal Board is considerable. They find that when something goes wrong in a mine, the local Coal Board man comes, and more often than has to refer the question to regional office, and from the regional office goes to London. In the old days the man on the spot would give a decision. Now the control of the mines will, I believe, be successful, the Coal Board learns how to be successful. — *Commons*, *London Mail*, in *National News-Letter*.

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London Discussions with Rhodesian Ministers

SQUADRON LEADER KINGLSEY asked the Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations if he could make a statement about the recent consultations in London between H.M. Government and representatives of the Government of Southern Rhodesia.

MR. GORDON WALKER: "A full series of discussions was held with the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance of Southern Rhodesia during their recent visit to this country. The talks covered a wide field but were mainly exploratory. The main subjects were the prospective balance of payments of Southern Rhodesia, the general economic position of the Colony, port and transport facilities, and long-term industrial and agricultural development schemes."

SQUADRON LEADER KINGLSEY: "Have any practical steps been taken towards giving access to the land-locked Colony, owing to the Atlantic from Welsh Bay?"

MR. GORDON WALKER: "No practical immediate steps have been taken towards solving that very important problem because certain prior steps have to be taken, concerned with the fact that such a route would run through non-Rhodesian territory, and that a detailed survey is necessary. I have discussed this matter very carefully with the Southern Rhodesian Ministers at a meeting at which I was in the chair. We have offered to send experts out to them, if we are invited to do so, directly they have concluded the preliminary steps."

Effects of Geneva Agreement

SIR PETER MACDONALD asked the Secretary for the Colonies if he would give a list of the products of the African Colonies which are liable to be affected by changes in the United States tariff resulting from the Geneva agreement.

MR. ROBERT WOODS: "I do not expect that any African Colony product will be materially affected."

SIR PETER MACDONALD asked what was the estimated net gain to the British Empire in trade as a result of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade reached at Geneva, and what was the estimated net gain or loss in respect of each Colony.

MR. REES WILLIAMS: "Although Colonial exports are adversely affected by reduction of duties in the various previously tariffed Commonwealth Governments, the net result is small, while Colonies will benefit on the other hand by a large number of commodities granted by nearly every country represented at Geneva."

"The very wide range of Colonial products affected, together with uncertainties about the actual proportions of trade in individual countries, makes it impossible to work out estimates of gain or loss for each individual Colony, but I am confident that on balance the Colonies stand to gain more than they lose."

MR. H. HUGHES asked the maximum percentage of tobacco from non-dollar sources now blended in well-known brands of English cigarettes.

MR. BELCHER: "I cannot say what proportions of tobacco from non-dollar sources is used in any particular brand of cigarettes, but I understood that some well-known brands are made entirely from such tobacco. I am satisfied that manufacturers are well aware of the tobacco supply prospects and will make all possible use of non-dollar tobacco, subject to the limitations imposed by the amounts available, which are suitable in quality and price."

MR. MARPLES asked the President of the Board of Trade at what price per ton his department sold their stocks of tung oil to paint manufacturers in October and November, and at what price it was available on the free market, and what price is obligatory on manufacturers buying the free market to purchase an equivalent quantity from the Government at a higher price, and by what authority it compelled citizens to buy Government stocks at a higher price than ruling market prices.

MR. BELCHER: "Tung oil was sold by the Board of Trade during October and November at a price of 100 tons ex store. Market prices varied considerably, but a fair average price was about £200 per ton cost and freight. The acquisition of stock of tung oil is subject to control under the Control of Drying Oils (No. 1) Order, 1942. In view of the improved supply position it was decided to discontinue import on Government account as from October 1, 1947, and to secure a sufficient quantity of Government stocks of tung oil to meet the full requirements of the trade after consultation with representatives of importers, firms, to allow them to import quantities equal to their purchases from Government stocks."

Grain Storage

MR. LEWIS PARKER asked whether, in view of the large sums of money being spent owing to the recent drought by Northern Rhodesia in purchasing grain from overseas at inflated prices, the Ministry would now stimulate action in constructing modern storage facilities for grain in those African Colonies liable to re-occurrences of drought of famine.

MR. REES WILLIAMS: "The assumption of storage is not a complete remedy when a climate problem is that of producing enough for consumption in a particular area in periods of adverse weather conditions. The construction of new stores is more expensive than other methods, such as better buildings, etc. Nonetheless, various Governments in Africa have in hand measures for improving local storage facilities."

MR. HUGHES asked the Government whether professional approval for the erection of two grain stores, each with a capacity of 2,000 tons, in the Central and Southern Provinces. Since the maize needed for employment of labour is of the order of 12,000 tons annually, the storage to be provided is considered a reasonable contribution towards an emergency reserve. One of the larger employers of labour has already made storage provisions for maize in communal grain stores. A small scale store is to be started in Northern Rhodesia.

SIR P. MACDONALD asked the Parliamentary Secretary to the Admiralty what steps are proposed to implement the recent decision to form an African Naval Defence Force, how it would be recruited and trained, and what it would be provided for.

MR. DODDLE: "The formation of a full-time Colonial Naval Force in East Africa is still the subject of negotiations with the local authorities, and no definite answer can be given at the latter part of the question."

MR. TYGONAS REID asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs if negotiations would be resumed to secure a treaty needed early settlement of Anglo-Egyptian differences about the Sudan in the common interests of all three parties concerned, now that the war has ended, and the British and Egyptian administrations are developing in the Sudan.

MR. BELCHER: "This question is not before my hon. friend's table. The Sudan Government, which have endorsed proposals for constitutional development in the Sudan, which resulted from a conference attended by representatives of the Sudanese people, are members of the Sudan Administration. The subject is discussed on page 392."

Colonial Office Information Department

Broadway Talk by Mr. K. W. Blackburne, the Director

EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES in the British Commonwealth as a power for good in the world will agree that it is especially important to break through barriers of ignorance and build up greater understanding between the people of Britain and the people of the Colonies. This has never been more vital than it is to-day, when the hard-pressed people of Britain are being asked to find large sums of money for Colonial development.

For one thing, we have to get away from the idea that we are exploiting the Colonies; and to do so we have to make the British public know more about the Colonies—that they don't think of them only as possible providers of tobacco for their cigarettes, petrol for their cars, and eggs and bacon for their breakfasts. If the drive for Colonial development is to be successful we must get across to the British public that the Colonies have their troubles and problems too, that Colonial development is needed for the people of the Colonies, and that Africa is not just Britain's larder. This means that we must do all out to make the people of Britain know more about the Colonies—and we have to do it quickly.

We start with a tremendous asset in that there is good will in abundance. The British public do want to know more about the Colonies. Then a great deal is already being done by many societies and organisations, like the Royal Empire Society and the East African Office, to mention only two. A lot is being done by articles and pictures in the British Press, and by a short shortage, as well as by specialist papers like the *Crown Colony* and *EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA*. And there are the

Filming the Colonies

The Rank Film Organisation in particular is making a lot of films about the Colonies in the series called "This Modern Age". They have made films on Palestine and Jamaica, and one on Ceylon is nearly ready. A filming unit has been set up for West Africa, and next month we shall send a unit to East Africa. So we are covering the Colonies in a big way. This Modern Age is the British counterpart of the American "March of Time". These Rank films are shown at most of the cinemas in this country and will do more than almost anything else to show the Colonies to the British public.

We have, too, in the Central Office of Information fine illustrated government surveys which produce all kinds of publicity material for us.

The Information Department of the Colonial Office has just been reorganised to enable it to do more than it has done in the past to build up greater knowledge of the Colonies in this country and greater knowledge of Britain in the Colonies. I would like to mention one or two of the ways in which we hope to set about our job.

First, we want to step up the supply of information to schools, and also to trade and other big organisations in this country, like Rotary Clubs and the Women's Institutes, to make more interest in the Colonies. That means more films, more photographs, more productions, which can be sent to schools, towns and villages all over Britain. It means that we must have more people from the Colonies willing to go to school and to other audiences all over Britain, not to lecture on

Being extracts from a talk given in the African General Overseas and Pacific Services of the B.P.C. The speaker has been Director of Information Services in the Colonial Office for the past few months.

matters of high policy, but just to tell quite simply about life and conditions in the Colonies.

Above all, it means that we must build up some machinery to organize these lectures and to distribute this material in a really big way. We are doing that now, and we have formed a group representing the leading Empire societies, the Colonial Government office in London, and Government departments in the Ministry of Education, and the Central Office of Information. This group is trying to work out a joint plan of campaign. When we have the machinery for this combined drive started, we shall be asking for a lot of help from the Colonies. We shall want more photographs and news, and on the lecture, the help of the people coming to England—students, officials, anyone who has a story to tell and can tell it.

Regional Organisation

Public relations officers and information officers in the Colonies have their hands pretty full with work inside their own Colonies, and certainly give us much time as we are they would like. That is why we have set up regional information offices in Nairobi and Accra. Those offices are paid for by the British Treasury, and some of their main jobs is to obtain photographs and pictures of their areas which we can use in this country. Mr. William Richardson in Nairobi and Mrs. Eileen Costello in Accra have had a difficult time because we have not yet been able to get them all the staff they need, but we shall overcome that soon, and we shall then have a regular flow of material from East and West Africa.

What about the projection of films—in other words, telling the people of the Colonies what the British people are doing, what Britain stands for, and explaining British Colonial policy to them? One of the main ways in which we try to do it is by sending out periodicals, films, posters, and other material.

My introduction to the projection of Britain was not altogether happy. When I was in the Gambia during the war I found a harassed information officer's room filled with sacks and heard him say, "I don't know what to do with all this stuff in the Ministry of Information. There is so much of it and no earthly use to us here. He showed me a film of a hardy sea-going thing to interest Gambiais about their fish."

Orally Distributed Material

There has been much improvement since then, and there is still room for more. We in the Colonial Office are responsible for organising and sending out material for use in reading rooms in the Colonies. In the Colonies, in this we are very closely linked with the British Council, and we are at present engaged in overhauling the whole distribution system, so that all the books shall contain more carefully selected films, photographs, and so on. It is not an easy job.

One informant once writes that he does not find it nothing and send out. Another says that for too little sent, and that some of his reading rooms have nothing but a single fly-blown copy of an illustrated weekly issued during the war. From others I have heard nothing else, sitting at my desk in London, cannot be expected to know what sort of pictures go down best in the different conditions of each Colony, and we cannot operate without advising help from information officers in the Colonies. One thing we do hope that the "brown white" continues to supply of material so that the people in the Colonies will at least have a chance of seeing the idea of what Britain is like.

There are many other lines of approach in the projection of Britain. The most valuable is probably by encouraging and helping people in the Colonies to visit England, and to see the things for themselves. We cannot do as much as we should like at present owing to the shortage of shipping, but we have plans for stepping up this line as soon as we can.

I have not touched on the work of public relations officers in the Colonies, but because it is not just as important but because it is a subject of my own, I have simply tried to give you a bit of the feeling of the matter in the Department in the Colonial Office. It is really common sense that we must do all we can to bring the people of the Colonies much closer together on a basis of understanding and friendship. It is not so easy, and we shall not see results for a long, long time. But I believe we are very well worth waiting for.

It is significant that the very first appointment made by the managing agency was that of Dr. Bunting as chief scientific officer. Other scientific appointments already made are: plant pathologist, entomologist, and statistician from Rothamsted; a chemist from the Veterinary Research Laboratory in South Africa; an agronomist from Southern Rhodesia; a soil chemist from I.C.I.; a soil conservation expert from Witwatersrand University; five soil surveyors, two from Holland; a meteorologist and a geologist from East Africa; and an analyst. A plant-breeder from Burma or Australia will shortly be appointed, and an agricultural engineer from this country.

This is regarded as a start. We shall not decide on the full scientific staff until these research workers have studied the problems on the spot and indicated their needs, and the advisory panels have expressed their views.

Dr. Keen, Director of the new East African Research Organization, Dr. Bunting and myself are seeing to it that there will be close co-operation between that body and the groundnut scientific workers.

The three and a quarter million acres involved will be laid out in units of 30,000 acres each on a soil and water conservation basis. Contour cultivation and strip cropping will be followed. In the first instance a simple rotation of half groundnuts and half grass will be followed; whether this will be on a basis of two years or only one of groundnuts has yet to be decided. On Dr. Crowther's suggestion we hope to replace grass with dwarf sorghum which can be combined, or, as Professor Blackman's suggestion, with sunflower.

Fertilizer Experiments

To start with, we are applying four hundredweights of lime where tests indicate this to be necessary, and one hundredweight of superphosphate and half of sulphate of ammonia directly to the groundnuts. A large number of fertilizer experiments are now being laid down. It is hoped that smaller dressings will be effective.

Also we are planning for the utilization of local phosphate deposits and the local manufacture of calcined phosphate. If successful, this should provide a considerable saving in our fertilizer bill which for next year is planned at about a million and will be over £1,000,000.

The question of pests and disease has received special attention. Last March, for instance, I paid a visit to South Africa to discuss the problem with the Union authorities, particularly Professor Phillips of Witwatersrand University, Dr. Rose of the Union's Conservation Department, and Mr. Sellschop of Potchefstroom Experimental Station.

Considerable quantities of groundnuts are planted in the Springbok flat fields of up to 300 or 400 acres, sometimes for several years in succession. Neither the disease transmitted by an aphid, nor the pest *scirpophaga* or wilt disease are now the danger they were a few years ago. The latter is controlled by close planting within the row, to enable the predator ladybird to move freely from plant to plant in search of the aphid. Wide spacing is then permissible between the rows, and is necessary for mechanical cultivation.

Previously in East Africa we had thought that close planting, both within and between the rows, and the absence of clean weeding were necessary to produce a humid micro-climate, which was considered to be inimical to the aphid vector.

We are negotiating with a commercial concern already operating in the Sudan and Southern Rhodesia to provide us with what we regard as a "fire-brand" service to deal with sporadic outbreaks.

This very sketchy picture of the groundnut scheme will leave a doubt that we want to secure

interest and assistance of British scientists, and that it will draw your criticisms and constructive warnings. We welcome criticisms and warnings because we are most anxious to rectify anything which might be our error. We shall always welcome suggestions, however critical they may be.

Kenya's Boom Will Continue Governor Chides Pessimists

SIR PHILIP MITCHELL attacked Kenya's pessimists when speaking in Nyeri.

"It beats me," he said, "how these extraordinary ideas of gloom get about, and why otherwise normal people give vent to them. In fact, the country is enjoying a boom of unprecedented dimensions, which there is no reason to suppose will continue. I do not see any reason to suppose that the present prosperity will not continue for a long time, for there are all the necessary conditions for its continuance."

"Everything we produce and can spare for export will have a ready market, as will our timber. Many of our minerals for a long time. Moreover, both Tanganyika and Uganda are embarked upon a period of substantial development, particularly in roads, and this Colony as the financial, commercial and transport centre of East Africa, cannot but be favourably affected by that. We are becoming a really important centre for air travel about the world; 14 to 16 four-engined passenger aircraft pass through the Colony every week, and that traffic is likely to increase."

"The tourist traffic which we must begin upon soon will bring very large sums into the country. A distinguished American tourist man told me that he expected that from the United States alone something like 20,000,000 dollars worth of tourist traffic might be looked for annually, and he is not a man given to making wild guesses."

"What the full possibilities of the middle and lower reaches of Tana River may be, we can only guess to-day. My guess is that that area alone, fully developed, will one day hold as many people as the whole of Kikuyu."

Moral Deterioration of Younger Africans

"The really worrying part of the situation is the moral deterioration of a large part of the younger Africans who have adopted an urban or semi-urban way of living and are unfortunately carrying their living largely by original methods. We may have to devise some entirely new means of coping with some of this kind of social problem, special service labour corps on lines which in other countries have given excellent results in coping with young urban Africa. I am turning my attention to that idea at present."

Farmer concludes

"There is a land of comfort and plenty, opportunity and accomplishment, beautiful scenery, abundant sunshine and a agreeable occupation. Surely the proper attitude for us all is pride in past achievement, confidence in the future, and a determination that there will be no lack of effort, imagination or enterprise on our part."

The Country Comps to Town

A TRAFFIC EXHIBITION sponsored by the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society of Kenya, and styled "The Country Comps to Town" will be held in Nairobi on the last three days of January to portray the countryman's life and work for the instruction of the Kenya townsman. There will be a selection display and suggested remedies; and the European Settlement Board will demonstrate what is going to happen in the new settler.

Saving East Africa from Famine

Mr. A. J. Wakefield on the Groundnut Scheme

EAST AFRICA WAS ON THE VERGE of complete economic and social breakdown until Dr. Samuel, managing director of the United Africa Company, evolved his great groundnut scheme for East Africa.

Even now it is only the production of the European farms in Kenya that is staying off famine. The Native population of East Africa are not in a position to make any substantial contribution to world food supplies. They are to be found mostly where water supplies, lakes, rivers and a shallow water-table are present. Soils are impoverished by the primitive methods of peasant agriculture. Erosion and land ruination are inevitable as such areas of population increase. The position is made worse as the incidence of disease and the death toll are increased by the health services. Political unrest develops as education proceeds without improvement in the standard of living.

In Tanganyika, for example, we have 550,000 people in the Lake Province, which until 1946 produced appreciable quantities of cotton, groundnuts and cereals of export interest. Now they can barely feed themselves, and the Tanganyika Government are embarking on a resettlement scheme costing £750,000. This touches only the fringe of the problem. In Kenya the Kavirondo Province was previously a great maize-growing area. The soil is now heggled-out. An appreciable part of the Ukamba Reserve is already ruined.

Resettling a Million Peasants. The East African Governments are faced with the problem of the resettlement of more than a million people. They must also set about the rehabilitation of a million acres and more of impoverished and ruined land. But resettlement on an individual basis is unlikely to result in a rehabilitation of the process of land ruin. Let us recall the fact that East Africa is approaching a condition of chronic famine.

Maize farming on the basis of animal husbandry has been held by itself among others, to be the cure of the East African peasant agriculture. Only three or four years ago and it dawned on me that as long as the cow had to stand for its food on the produce from the land on which it is kept, its manure could not add to the fertility of that land. Animals are, of course, a good medium for getting nutrients to return to the soil, but the fertility of heavily populated land is to be increased to feed the people and provide a surplus for sale at the farm.

It seems to me that the selling or consuming of meat and milk off the farm, without bringing on to it at least an equivalent amount of plant and animal nutrients in the form of fertilizers or feeding-stuffs from outside the farm, must finally impoverish the soil. The end can be only a little different from that of continuous cropping with maize, or even with such leguminous crops as groundnuts and pulses.

It is said that one of the principal aims of Colonial Departments of Agriculture is to determine a rotation of crops which will not only maintain but improve soil fertility. Is this possible of itself? Can we merely rotate the changes, and export from the farm or consume locally a succession of different crops, whether legumes or not, without replenishing the soil?

In one densely populated maize-producing province maize is regarded as a soil-destroying crop and an alter-

native food crop is being sought which will not have this effect. Can they ever find a crop which will provide a satisfactory number of calories per acre without paying back the minerals which are removed by the crop? I do not under-emphasize the rôle of nitmus or the great importance of soil structure. As for the latter point, a crumb structure cannot be produced with the light soils of a great part of Tanganyika.

Five-Sixths of Tanganyika Infested by Tsetse

In addition to the so far insoluble problem of soil impoverishment under conditions of primitive peasant agriculture, we have the difficulty of providing more land for the overflow of the people from the over-populated areas adjoining Lake Victoria. You may find this difficult to understand when the density of population in Tanganyika is only 14 per square mile: It is true that there are thousands of square miles of unused yet cultivable land, with reasonable rainfall having no population at all. But it is covered with heavy bush and trees. The African, with his home-made hand-hoe and fire, cannot clear more than an acre or so of it in any one year. He crops till the soil is exhausted and then moves on. Such land is mostly water-logged, and in many areas the womenfolk have to wait several hours each day to fetch a gallon of water for drinking purposes; they cannot afford to put down boreholes or build reservoirs.

Also here tsetse cover five-sixths of Tanganyika so that the African cannot use ox-drawn implements. Under such conditions it is either the hoe or the tractor. But the African cannot afford a tractor, and the Tanganyika Government have said that the sale of the bulldozer, but that this is uneconomic.

In short, we still have African agriculture as it was a thousand years ago except that we now have the payment of tax, the purchase of clothes, and the provision of administrative, technical and social services from abroad have been added to the old tribal subsistence economy. The condition has been one of stagnation because the line has been taken that the necessary ameliorative measures of implements, fertilizers and water, cannot be afforded.

Harvesting Science

Now we see that the soil of Africa can no longer carry the burden by itself. Even if the economy of East Africa only is concerned and production for the world market ignored, the point has been reached where it is not what Africa cannot afford to have, but what she cannot afford to do without. On the economy of East Africa alone the cost of solving the problem would be an impossible burden to place on the British taxpayer.

The groundnut scheme entirely alters the position and strongly appealed to me as providing the opportunity for the economic application of scientific principles on a regional basis. Three and a quarter million acres of virgin land, one two-thirds the size of Wales, are to be developed.

The objects of the project are in no doubt that science must be fully harnessed to the scheme to ensure its success. In the near future advisory panels of eminent authorities in this country on agriculture, education and sociology and medicine will be established to advise them. The agricultural panel will cover soil chemistry, agronomy, nutrition, plant pathology, entomology, economics, statistics and mechanization.

Being an abbreviated report on a address to the British Society of Soil Science by Mr. A. J. Wakefield, technical adviser to the main advisory agents for the groundnut scheme, and former Director of Agriculture in Tanganyika Territory.

Whittling Away Imperial Preferences

Government's Surrender to American Hostility

COORDINATION of the General Preferences of Customs and Trade which was recently negotiated in Ottawa and the draft charter of the International Trade Organization appears in the December issue of the journal of the British Empire Economic Organization which says of the multilateralism which is its dominating inspiration: "It is as aachronous as a dodo walking along the station platform at Curragh."

The journal says: "The present Government of the United Kingdom inherited from its two Coalition forerunners a policy which made it very difficult to take up any attitude of determination to maintain unimpaired the policy of Empire Preference adopted by the earlier Coalition Government at Ottawa."

First Breach

The first breach was made by the Anglo-American Trade Agreement of 1938, when the duty on tin which was jettisoned, the preference on canned fruit reduced and an undertaking given to review the preference on tobacco when the 40 years' stabilization period expired at Ottawa, expired, this led in 1943 to a reduction of 50 per cent in the preference on tobacco.

Then came the promise in the Mutual Aid Agreement of 1942 to discuss the elimination of preferences and freeze existing preferences at the level at which they stood. This undertaking was confirmed by the Anglo American Loan Agreement, exacted under the heavy pressure caused by the sudden termination of lend-lease and the imminent threat to our food supplies which resulted.

American hostility to preferences — which does not extend to preferences given by the United States to Cuba, the Philippines and the Insular Possessions which form the American Colonial Empire — has taken advantage of every opportunity presented to it by the needs of a Britain engaged in a life-and-death struggle for human liberty to exert pressure in this direction.

But for the united opposition of all parts of the Commonwealth and Empire the entire structure might have been swept away. The remaining preferences will have to be vigilantly defended against future assaults.

Substance Sacrificed for Shadow

Our regret is the weakening of the preferential system consolidated by the Ottawa agreements and the restriction on our freedom to increase remaining preferences or introduce new preferences, is enhanced by the deep-rooted conviction that we have surrendered and assistance for a flitting will o' the wisp quite beyond our power to grasp.

Article 15 of the draft International Trade Organization Charter, which requires any proposals for new preferences to run the gauntlet of the Organization, is hardly likely to have any practical value. Even if we had the goods to sell, our prospects of disposing of such quantities in the United States, to make an appreciable difference in the balance of payments, while we continue to draw such a large proportion of our imports of food and materials from that country, are so remote as to be no more than a mirage. If we were able to get such a volume of our goods into the United States, for how long should we be allowed to do so? The economic causes could be invoked and restored to high levels of employment. The flow of goods would soon be empty.

In the last century our goods and property were built up by the export of manufactures, goods to underdeveloped countries, often paid for with lend-lease, or reduced the balance of their indebtedness to us in the form of capital investments in railways, harbours, power sta-

tions, paying us the least interest in products from the lands which were developed. We have now provided communication that these loans should be repaid.

By the end of the century German and American competition was beginning to make itself felt and threaten to which we were subjected in the two world wars has eaten up the gains that we accumulated during Victorian and Edwardian times. Our goods should be burned rather than the direction of destroying markets in the less industrialized countries and of buying our food and materials from the less developed countries, which are either more efficient producers of manufactured goods than we are, by reason of a larger home market, or so situated geographically that they are within the orbit of the United States rather than that of the United Kingdom. Outside our own Commonwealth and Empire, to which our first efforts should be directed, it is in Eastern Europe that we are most likely to strike a balance between imports and exports.

We are being pushed in what seems likely to be the wrong direction by a combination of political causes which only an enormous effort of the nation can win and a complete change of policy on the part of our Government actual or prospective can overcome. Yet unless we do this and instead of a long unadvisedly spent short-term loan to control our currency, we fix our eyes on the role of the dollar which offers at least a prospect of leading us to financial solvency, it is to be expected that our efforts, when we speak of a 'descent' into a period of depression, may prove to have been water under the bridge when the future may be dark for us.

Our situation is precarious. But the road must inevitably be long and hard. Above all, we must march in the right direction. AS EAST AFRICA AND RHODISIA has pointed out, in making its own criticisms of the General agreements the Press of the United Kingdom, with very few exceptions has not employed to the public the grave disapprobation of the concessions made by the Empire under American pressure.

Principles Which Cannot Be Ignoranted

MR. DAVID ECCLES, M.P., has written in *The Times*: "The discrimination between America and the rest of the world has proved to be too great to deal with by tariff concessions combined with short delays in pulling the imperial rules into practice. The Americans recognize this fact in the Marshall Plan, where a customs union between the participating nations is considered a proper step towards European solvency. The principle of such a union is determination by European countries in favour of themselves and against the hard currency countries. Thus the escape clauses in the Geneva Agreement become the rule and the multilateral principles of the discipline." "Of all the Maritime countries Great Britain will have to face the severest discrimination in the future and the next few years will be the worst period. Our own neighbours, with the exception of Germany, should be able to square their international accounts at a tolerable standard of living, but the damage to their agriculture has been made good. But the predominantly urban population requires vast quantities of imported food and raw materials, which are increasingly difficult to earn now that we have lost most of the pecuniary advantages won by the enterprise of our merchants. If we cling to the old pattern of our economy we cannot again make both ends meet. We must change the pattern and to do this we need an interim period in which to adjust the direction and methods of overseas trade. In the process we shall have to do some very odd things. These are the further steps that Great Britain must discriminate against hard currency countries not only in trade with Europe but also in trade with the Empire. Here, again, the Americans are changing their view. The United States has a horror of Russia and is convincing them that the economic strength of the sterling is of more importance than pushing their own exports. The Tory Party would not do in 50 years Mr. Amoy and Mr. Wahinsky will have accomplished in less than three.

Obviously the steps which our assistance must take to earn our accustomed standard of living would be the abolition of American tariffs and the convertibility of balances with soft currency countries into dollars. These things are not yet possible realities, and therefore the escape clauses of the General agreements will have to form the basis of our policy during a period of adjustment. For this adjustment should be done before our firm adherence to the principles which we cannot carry out.

Great Opportunity for Rhodesian Tobacco

Agreement Reached for Long-Term Marketing

THE FAITH IN THE FUTURE of Rhodesian tobacco was expressed in broadcast talks in the African Science of the B.I.C. last Friday by Mr. Ralph Palmer and Mrs. Edward Harben, two of the four members of the delegation now in England representing the Southern Rhodesia Tobacco Marketing Board and the Rhodesia Tobacco Association.

The two other members are Mr. Richard Harland and Mr. John Perkins. The object of the visit is to discuss matters of mutual interest with the buying side of the tobacco industry in this country, the prime purpose of bringing stability to marketing in the future.

Mr. R. D. Palmer, leader of the delegation, said later:

"Our job hasn't been made any easier by publication of a rumour on our arrival that the bulk purchase of next year's Rhodesian crop was a certainty. The buyers naturally imagined that the statement had originated from Rhodesia, while we feared that it might have been an inspired announcement from this side. We managed to clear the matter up satisfactorily, but the atmosphere was unnecessarily vitiated by a rumour of this nature."

Putting the Industry on the Map

Anyhow the rumour cleared away. In fact I am glad to say that after lengthy talks with the representatives of the tobacco manufacturers we have reached an agreement on a scheme for the long-term marketing of our tobacco. It is impossible to give you details until it has been confirmed by the industry and the growers, but I am convinced that the scheme will go a long way towards putting our industry permanently on the map in the British market.

In interviews and conferences covering all sections of the industry have given us a good insight into the standing of Rhodesian tobacco among the manufacturers, and I can safely say that everyone is pleased with the advance made in the quality of our leaf during the last 20 years. All, however, point to the discrepancy in price between Rhodesian leaf and any other, and complain that even allowing for the preference and the landed cost of Rhodesian tobacco is the highest in the world.

The main reason is that a high standard of leaf or better quality than Rhodesian has perhaps this century in influence by the price factor, and on the fact that Canadian is perhaps nearer the standard in flavor. It is generally conceded that the process and selection of Rhodesian is hard to beat, and on all sides we were complimented on the handling of our crop.

Need for Intensive Research

I am quite convinced that the difference in colour and quality between Rhodesian and American can be overcome by intensive research. This is proved by the strides made in Canadian leaf in recent years. I have found that the Canadian Government spends 1,000,000 each year on tobacco research. In comparison the expenditure in Rhodesia is negligible. In fact during the past year our research has been almost nil. We have only a few years in which to establish our quality and it is imperative that research should be stepped up at once.

We saw selections of tobacco both in the City and in Bristol, and it is our opinion that graded or grade Rhodesian tobacco compares nothing to other growth in appearance, but it does seem that in other parts of the world the proportion of the higher grades is greater than it is for the Rhodesian crop.

In Bristol we saw our tobacco being blended and manufactured, and we made a tour of a woman's

Docks and saw hogsheads of Rhodesian tobacco being delivered into bond. We were most impressed with the dock facilities and the efficiency with which tobacco, wheat, cocoa, petrol, meat and bananas are handled at the same time in large quantities and with such precision.

Importance of Personal Contact

"Personal contact between Rhodesia and our major market, Great Britain, is invaluable. During the war this contact was lost, and we got rather out of touch with one another. I welcome this chance of getting together again, and I am glad that during the coming season we shall have in Rhodesia many visitors from this country who will be making their first visit for a number of years. It will give them an opportunity of seeing the advance made in the industry in recent years. We have invited them to come over to the farms and see what the growers are doing."

Mrs. EDWARD HARBEN expressed the opinion that so much interest had been shown in Rhodesian tobacco.

"No one does so far as to believe that Rhodesia is an ever completely replica America," he said, "but what is quite obvious is that we have now got an opportunity to introduce our tobacco into all the brands of cigarettes and pipe mixtures during the next few years. If only we play our cards properly we ought to win a place in this market such as we have never had before."

This opportunity came at us because of the dollar position, and if we are short-sighted enough to cash in on Britain's unfortunate circumstance and just produce any old thing then when the situation gets back to normal we shall find that we have lost all the ground gained. If, on the other hand, we take the long view and continue to improve our quality at the same rate as we have done in the past few years, we can be pretty certain that we shall find we have won a permanent place in the British market.

Good Will of Manufacturers

It is really remarkable how much we enjoy the good will of manufacturers, merchants and smokers alike to-day, and the tobacco delegation have received a most cordial reception from all sections of the trade. They have endeavored us loyally.

Each member of the delegation has been an important factor. It would not have been possible in the short time available for one man or two to have contacted so many people, and to have had such frank and free discussions as we have been able to do. As a result the delegation has been able to get such a very close view of the rather complicated tobacco set-up in this country that, as world conditions change, it should be possible for the Rhodesian end of the industry to gauge the situation much more clearly in the future.

If only we can produce a higher percentage of our crop in the top grades, we will not have such a vicious battle to fight when the time comes for Rhodesia to compete in the world's market. Consumption of tobacco was dropped a good deal after the increased duties were announced in April, 1947, and is around the 200 million mark, which does not represent the fall that was expected. What the future will reveal nobody can guess, but it would be most unfortunate if the cost of cigarettes to the consumer were to rise to any extent. Especially would it be unfortunate, not to say disastrous, if the cause of such a rise were to be pinned on the grower. Let us hope that none of these things will happen.

principle—industrialists and others ought at least to be protected by making it incumbent on the Board to provide power at stated maximum prices. If present and future enterprises are to be compelled to take power from a single source, it is but equitable to safeguard them against unduly high charges, which in the absence of competition might be viewed with complacency by some future management. This Bill contains no stipulation as to the maximum prices which may be charged, and consumers are therefore completely unprotected. Yet when private companies have in the past been granted licences by the East African Governments to generate and supply electricity to the public, the prices at which they might sell have been scheduled. If that were justifiable and practicable in the case of ordinary commercial concerns, why should it not be equally so now that the State is to assume a new function? The public should, we hold, be safeguarded against imposition by the State no less than against possible vagaries by commerce. Indeed, history suggests that the State, though starting, no doubt, with unimpeachable intentions in most cases, frequently imposes far more hardship on the individual citizens than any business organization could care or dare to do. It is, therefore, prudent to require all public utilities companies to operate within well-defined boundaries from the start.

We are also opposed to the principle of legislation by rules and orders—an undesirable modern development of which the severest critic has been a former Chief Justice of England. It is a bad approach, examples of the practice are, we trust, that the non-official members of the Legislative Council will press for amendments which will leave as little as possible to regulations under the ordinance and under the incorporation of all foreseeable provisions in the Bill itself. Since this year's Act in the United Kingdom contained schedules prescribing all types of modification in electricity development, which can not be contemplated there can be no excuse for amendments in Uganda, where primary powers appear to be conferred upon the Governor in Council—which means in Executive Council, a secret body; and in Legislative Council, a public body. We do not pretend to expert knowledge of the electrical industry; and we judge simply from the standpoint of wisdom to see the legislation as explicit and laid as it can be made to the public interest. Our impression is that

the law officers in Uganda have been primarily concerned to make everything as safe as possible for the new Electricity Board. That, we submit, is quite the wrong line of approach, for the State was made for the convenience of man, not man for the convenience of the State. There should be to make Uganda safe from any undue encroachments by the Electricity Board, and to leave the citizens of the country free to embark on any activity which would not be manifestly unfair to that service. The case for more clarity and less monopoly at this first stage is strengthened by the fact that the Board will start its career with a large fund of goodwill and a general hope that results will justify the calculations of the optimist.

A MINOR MYSTERY about Kenya's Information Office is suggested by the Draft Estimates of the Government for 1948. That document, which provides for a total expenditure by the Information Office of more than \$20 a year for 'Postage', twenty-eight thousand pounds next year, shows that no more than twenty pounds has been allowed for postages in the twelve months, and that nothing whatever is provided for telegrams. Moreover, twenty pounds a year as the 1947 expenditure on postage, we have often had to complain of the failure of this department to issue, or to issue in sufficient quantity, information which the public has a right to receive. Quite recently, for instance, we complained that no copy of the Lewin Report had been air-mailed to the Information Office in London, and that a fortnight after we had received a copy from a War source the Colonial Office had still received none, which could be made available to any inquirer, however pressing his need. The Information Office with so strange an outlook on the distribution side of its work that it could estimate its necessary expenditure on postages at little more than a shilling a day would presumably be shocked at the thought of sending even the simplest document to London by air, for that talent entail the extravagance of consuming the whole week's postage allocation at one fell swoop. How his twenty pound budget has been passed to the hands of the many officials outside the Information Office who are supposed to examine the departmental estimates passes our comprehension. Whatever the explanation, the fantastic proof of the ineffectiveness of the Information Office in order even to disseminate a part of its own affairs is incorporated in Kenya's draft budget for the coming year.