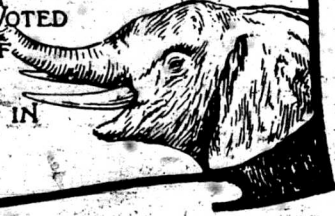


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A WEEKLY JOURNAL



Vol. 6, No. 288.

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 1930.
Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

Annual Subscription
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FOUNDED AND EDITED BY F. S. JOELSON.

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PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

	PAGE		PAGE
The Anti-Slavery Demonstration	905	Personalia	916
Matters of Moment	906	London Chamber of Commerce: East Africa Section	918
Impressions of Khartoum and Omdurman	908	Slavery in Ethiopia	919
African Bearers: A Poem	910	East Africa in the Press	920
From Tanga to Mombasa	911	Camp Fire Comments	923
Africa's Only Elephant	911	Sheep Farming	926
£ Farm	912	Tanganyika Veterinary Report	926
East Africa's Bookshelf	914	Mining, Men, and Matters	927
Bill on Leave	915		

THE ANTI-SLAVERY DEMONSTRATION.

IN spite of the temperate and practical attitude taken up by the Chairman, Viscount Cecil, and by the Archbishop of Canterbury at the "Anti-Slavery Demonstration" held last week at the Central Hall, Westminster, the voice of what may justly be called the anti-slavery fanatic was raised in characteristic fashion. His Grace, as one would expect, struck the moderate note; he pointed out that the United States of America had taken a hundred years to abolish slavery within its borders; though he might have gone further and said that in the Southern States to-day the Negro suffers from conditions which, in the eyes of certain East African missionary informants at least, are far worse than those of even the most backward parts of East Africa—a fact which is consistently ignored by the more vocal enthusiasts of the Aborigines Protection Society. The Archbishop recognises that in some Eastern countries slavery is a national institution, countenanced by religion, and that that fact makes its abolition a matter of extreme difficulty.

The attitude of the Primate is, we believe, that of all men of reason and goodwill. It is certainly that of *East Africa*. We, like him, hold all forms of slavery in abhorrence, but we cannot see that frantic statements, failure to make allowance for local conditions, and venomous attacks on foreign Governments are likely to aid the cause of abolition. Lady Simon, it will be seen from our report, declared dogmatically that "Abyssinia has two million slaves, two million bundles of human merchandise living in misery," and Mr. J. H. Harris added that those figures were not mere conjecture, but were the testimony of Governments or of people of over

twenty years' residence in the country. Yet a moment's consideration proves their unreliability. It can be stated with confidence that the Ethiopian Government does not know the number of its own people; statistics of even approximate value are not to be obtained in the country, and for an outsider to give a figure must be the merest guessing. We doubt if anything more than a conjecture could be made of the number of slaves in Addis Ababa itself, and from all we have heard from experienced travellers and read in the books of such men as Mr. C. F. Rey and Mr. A. W. Hodson, we know that the great provincial governors in Abyssinia are just mediæval barons whose fealty to the Negus varies inversely with their distance from the capital. No fair-minded person questions the good-faith of King Tāffari or his intention to see slavery abolished, and no one who has any notion of what Ethiopia is really like fails to recognise the immense difficulties with which he is faced. His considered attacks on the Negus and his Government, can only defeat their object.

Why are meetings such as that of last week always disfigured by slanderous assaults on Kenya? In spite of the categorical statement of Viscount Cecil that forced labour is non-existent in Kenya and is not permitted by the Kenya Government, Mr. Roden Buxton could not forbear his usual fling at his compatriots in East Africa; in a "subtle and insidious" speech he accused the Colony of crimes "equal to slavery," and assured his audience, most of whom did not know better, that an iniquitous tax was imposed on Natives to force them to come out and work. The charitable view of such statements on the part of an M.P. is to suppose him to suffer from a mental defect or hallucination which inhibits him from seeing clearly the great good wrought in the British East African Dependencies. Has he ever adequately emphasised their immense works of beneficence?

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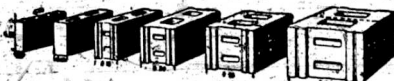
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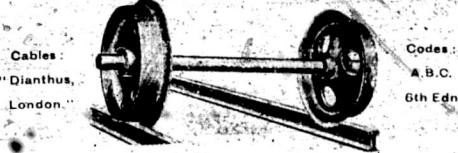
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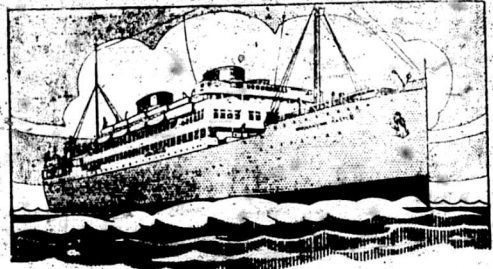
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MATTERS OF MOMENT

Major A. G. Church, Socialist Member for Central Wandsworth, is a member of the Colonial Office

**MAJOR CHURCH
CALLED
EAST AFRICAN
EDUCATION.**

Advisory Committee on Native Education in Tropical Africa and was a member of the East Africa Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry which in 1924 visited the East African Dependencies; he is therefore a man of education, and of some experience of East Africa and of education. It is consequently surprising to find him, in a leading article in *Nature*, giving vent to a diatribe against white parents in East Africa and denouncing them for allowing their children to become "poor whites." "In striking contrast to the thirst for instruction exhibited by the Africans," he writes, "is the comparative indifference of the adult members of the white-settled communities in tropical and sub-tropical Africa to the educational needs of white children. In Kenya, Tanganyika, Nyasaland, Northern Rhodesia, and Southern Rhodesia, there are many white children who are receiving practically no formal instruction at all, with the inevitable result that in each of these territories there is growing up a class of illiterate whites. If this state of affairs is not soon ended, each of these territories will have its own 'poor white' problem.

For the 'poor white' is an unemployable, too ignorant and incompetent to be worth employing in a skilled capacity, but cursed with a superiority complex which prevents him from seeking employment in occupations regarded as only fit for blacks."

It will be noted that Major Church includes the whole of the East African Dependencies, with the exception of Uganda, in a common

**SWEEPING AND
UNSCIENTIFIC
CONDEMNATION:**

condemnation, and puts in a common pillory the white parents of Dar es Salaam of Northern Rhodesia. He goes further: "Even those white parents in these territories who do send their children to the schools provided are almost without exception uncritical of the instruction given. They are apparently pathetically content. The majority of these white children will probably never leave Africa. . . only a few will proceed to a university, but their school studies are almost exclusively literary. As Major Church holds the B.Sc. degree of London University, and as *Nature*, is the leading scientific journal in England, it is amazing that one should write and the other should publish so unscientific a criticism as is contained in the passages quoted.

Climatic and social conditions vary so enormously between the different Dependencies named, and even between different parts of each Depend-

**EXAGGERATED
ACCUSATIONS.**

ency, that the statements made cannot possibly hold good. To say of Nyasaland that the majority of white children will probably never leave Africa is mere nonsense; to postulate of Kenya that white parents are breeding a generation of "poor whites" is silly; to declare that the white settlers of the Rhodesias are indifferent to the educational needs of their offspring is contradicted by all the information we receive from those progressive and promising Dependencies. We have had occasion more than once to comment on the lack of opportunity afforded for the education of white children in Tanganyika,

but that lack is not the fault of the parents, who have repeatedly asked for facilities. We agree that the education of white children in East Africa tends to be too literary, but that is a feature common to all British communities, and the blame is to be laid at the door of the classical tradition which still rules our Universities and which practically compels the schools to follow a mainly literary curriculum. Major Church's exaggerated accusations will surprise many East Africans, who will also be astonished at the bias which leads him to declaim that "The exploitation of the Africans by the immigrant races is no longer condoned by most of the Governments in Africa: the prosperity of the whites has to be based on something other than the misery of the blacks." There speaks the Socialist mob-orator whose place is rather at Hyde Park Corner than in the pages of our scientific contemporary. Major Church has hitherto been a frank and hard-hitting but unbiased critic of East Africa; we trust that this article does not mark a departure from the standards which East Africans have been able to respect when they have been unable to accept them.

A very interesting and important question is raised in a leading article in *The Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*: what is the effect of climate *per se* on white colonising

**WHITE
SETTLEMENT
IN THE
TROPICS.**

racess in the tropics? Eliminating the factors of bad sanitation, a co-resident Native population and parasites, does a tropical climate in itself offer an insuperable obstacle to permanent settlement? Does the fertility of the white races gradually decline, their energy decrease, their vitality become low, and their mentality depressed until extinction supervenes? True climatic diseases—extremely few—sunstroke, frost-bite, and snow blindness may be mentioned—and human beings can, and do, live in the very extremes of climate. Whereas in Northern Siberia the inhabitants of certain districts survive a midwinter temperature of 92 degrees of frost, the good people of Jacobabad, in India, manage to live fairly comfortably at an average record of 66° on the Fahrenheit thermometer. Canadians live in houses heated, in winter, to 75° or 80° F. and pass suddenly from their warm rooms to the street, where the temperature may be zero or thereabouts; and, if pneumonia is not unknown there, the people compare favourably with any race in the world.

The best observations seem to have been made in Queensland, where a white race of British descent engages in hard agricultural work. **THE EXPERIENCE OF QUEENSLAND.** such as sugar cane growing, in tropical conditions, and seems to thrive on it. It is the third generation which is doing so, yet the death-rate and the mortality among infants are both lower in Queensland than in the rest of the Commonwealth, and even than in Great Britain. At the meeting of the Australian Medical Congress in 1920 the conclusion was reached that no inherent or insuperable obstacle could be found in the way of permanent occupation of tropical Australia by a healthy indigenous white race. That is very encouraging to those who contend that the highlands of East Africa can and will prove suitable for permanent settlement by Britons.

In East Africa, however, there are two factors of great importance which do not operate in Queensland, namely, altitude and humidity. The effect of the latter is of particular importance, for while the human organism can support great heat and cold when the atmosphere is dry, the limits are greatly restricted when the air is damp.

The new Bankruptcy Ordinance recently laid before the Legislative Council of Tanganyika, and soon to be introduced in Kenya and Uganda also, represents a great and much needed improvement on the old and lax laws previously in force in East Africa, with their limited penalties for fraudulent bankruptcies. Each of the three Dependencies has had its plethora of semi-fraudulent bankruptcies under the old régime, and the tightening of the law will be welcomed by all except those who utilised the inadequacy of the old regulations for the purpose of dishonest trading. A great and most satisfactory feature is the provision that a man bankrupt in one of the three neighbouring States becomes automatically bankrupt in the others, with the consequence that any assets within the group of territories are seized for the benefit of his creditors; that is as it should be and represents no hardship. Could the Bill be extended to provide for the deportation of fraudulent bankrupts? The question was asked from the unofficial benches in the Tanganyika Legislature, the Attorney-General replying that the suggestion would have to be referred to the Secretary of State. We hope that the idea will receive serious consideration, for the existence of such a provision would exercise a most salutary influence in certain circles. The deportation laws of East Africa are advisedly wide in scope, and have rid the territories of many undesirable in the past; power to banish and exclude fraudulent bankrupts appears to have everything to recommend it.

An interesting light is thrown on the Native attitude towards segregation by a letter sent to us by the Rev. Hans Nilson, of Gwanda, Southern Rhodesia, who has been a missionary in South and Central Africa for thirty-eight years. "Segregation," he writes, "may have to come, but the Natives have never asked for it. When the Land Commission went round Rhodesia to take evidence from Europeans and Natives, I was a delegate asked by my district to give evidence before the Commission. A number of Natives from all over the district were there, the matter was thoroughly explained to them, and they were told to express themselves freely on the matter. This is what the Natives said: 'We are very glad indeed that the Government is pleased to give us more land, and especially that we are to be allowed to buy and become the owners of our own land; but we ask not to be sent too far away from our white Besses. We want to buy land adjoining theirs. We do not understand how to farm on our own, but will have to learn from the white man; further, we cannot farm on our own and make money, we have to work for the white man to get some money there for we like to be near our white man so that we can work for him during the day and sleep in our own homes at night.' The Natives shun the segregation idea; they even dislike their large locations if too far away

they will sooner pay rent to the white owner of land than go and live in the Reserves. The present Reserves are miniature pictures of what the larger will be if we get segregation; they are hotbeds of evil, laziness, and crime."

In the course of a conversation the other day with the Rt. Hon. Neville Chamberlain, P.C., M.P., *East Africa* asked whether he would support its suggestion that British Government purchases of East African sisal should be restricted to the marks of estates using British machinery, and was very glad to receive an emphatic affirmative. "As an old sisal planter myself," said Mr. Chamberlain, "I naturally made all the inquiries I could about the industry, and I certainly gained the impression that, whatever may have been the case in the past, there is to-day no excuse for British concerns to use non-British machinery, for no foreign makes can surpass the best British decorticators. It is entirely reasonable to suggest that the British taxpayers' money should be spent with estates that give the maximum of employment to British labour by buying British machinery, and for that reason I entirely endorse *East Africa's* proposal." That statement will certainly encourage those who have thought with us on this subject, and we trust that it will help to keep it before public notice.

In this issue we publish a most interesting article on Khartoum and Omdurman written by the Rev. Edwin Smith, a writer of great experience of Africa and its peoples, and a traveller with a trained gift of observation. That he should have seen, during his recent visit to the twin towns of the Sudan, the evidences of beneficent change, of peace and prosperity in place of the former tyranny, all due to British administration, was to be expected—he, at least, is no jaundiced slanderer of his fellow-countrymen—but that he noted signs of "underground fires, banked, not extinct" says much for his perception. It is perhaps not surprising that Native Sudanese women still find comfort in praying at the Mahdi's tomb; even its dilapidated ruins are evidently sacrosanct, but that notables of the Muhammadan community should at this late day still ascribe to the influence of the dead Khalifa the peace and prosperity they enjoy comes as a revelation. Only a man with a real insight into the Native mind would have noticed the tendency, which many people of long experience in Africa will regard as confirmation of their belief that, while the surface of the stream reflects all the features of our western civilisation, beneath it runs ever strongly the current of Native life, with all its faith and thought and tradition unchanged, or but very slightly affected. Our people in the Sudan, as in other parts of East and Central Africa, are doing their duty to the Natives with single-minded devotion, and need have no fear of the verdict of posterity; but even they cannot transform human nature within a generation.

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IMPRESSIONS OF KHARTOUM AND OMDURMAN.

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By Edwin W. Smith.

Author of "The Golden Stool," etc.

KHARTOUM lies, as everybody knows, in the angle formed by the junction of the Blue Nile with the White Nile. A fine steel bridge, over which the tramway runs, now connects the city with Omdurman, which stretches for several miles on the further bank of the White Nile. Many of the principal buildings of Khartoum face the river, and between them and it there is a magnificent avenue providing ever-welcome shade. Further on towards the Omdurman bridge is the busy river-port, where one sees the steamers that ply on the Upper Nile.

Khartoum is laid out on a curious plan reminiscent of Bulawayo, and as in Bulawayo the statue of Rhodes faces north, so here Gordon's statue faces south; that is to say, in the direction towards which their affections and purposes were aimed. Every Sunday night strong lights are turned upon the noble figure of Gordon seated upon his camel, and then it shines like silver against the dark background of the sky. The effect is wonderful.

This is still Gordon's city. His spirit, I am glad to think, animates the Administration of the Sudan. The Governor-General's palace stands on the site of Gordon's, and, like every visitor, I entered there to look upon the tablet which marks the approximate position where Gordon was killed after the Mahdists forced their way into the city on January 26, 1885. I met a man who was gathering material for a new biography, and the prospect pleased me, for Gordon is almost an unknown person to the present generation.

The Most Popular Man in the Sudan.

I spent a week in Khartoum as the guest of Bishop Gwynne—the most popular man in the Sudan, I was told. By the advice of solicitous friends I donned a pith helmet, for even at the beginning of January the sun is strong. It was the best season of the year, and, of course, my experience tells little of the gen-

eral climatical conditions; all I can say is that I found the climate perfect. Each morning I watched cars full of white children coming to school at the Bishop's house, and they seemed as healthy as they were certainly merry. I understand that conditions worsen later. The ladies have to leave the country every year for several months. Fresh fruit appeared to be scarce and most of the foodstuffs to be imported: we ate English sausages out of cold storage. I wondered why there were not more orchards; citrus fruits ought to do well.

One day I went to see the Sudanese town, where, it is said, 20,000 people live. In South Africa it would be called the "location." It is a paradise compared with the "locations" I have known. The mud houses are of the usual flat-roofed type and are built in continuous lines. The streets are broad and clean.

Omdurman.

Much of my time I spent in Omdurman, an astonishing place, totally unlike anything to be seen in South Africa. From an insignificant cluster of huts it rose rapidly under the Mahdist régime till it was probably the largest town in Africa. Estimates vary; some assert that it contained a million inhabitants, others half that figure; but certainly it was at one time very much larger than it is now; far out in the desert one sees traces of former mud houses. At present the inhabitants number about 80,000.

During the Mahdia people were gathered here from every part of the Sudan, and even now, I am told, representatives of most of the tribes may be found in the town. Such numerous varieties of the African countenance can hardly be found anywhere else. The markets provide a busy and animated scene. Arab dress prevails. In little dingy workshops you see beautiful ivory and leather goods being made, as well as baskets and articles of silver. There is an appearance of peace and contentment.

Sufficient of the old features of the town remain to excite a comparison with the past. A considerable part of the Mahdists' work stands, I hope some at least of it will be preserved inviolate as a reminder of past days. I walked across the large enclosure which on Slatin Pasha's plan of the city is marked "The Mosque." The remains of the platform are still to be seen from which the Khalifa used to deliver his fiery discourses to the great assembly of his followers. What scenes these brick



A VIEW OF THE FORESHORE, OMDURMAN.

walls have witnessed! Now the enclosure is a football ground for the youth of Omdurman.

Memories of the Sudan.

Hard by stands the Khalifa's house, with its warren of courts and dwellings that once sheltered his numerous wives. Here Slatin Pasha and other captives covered before the tyrant. Here the Khalifa hatched his devilries. Now the house is a Museum upon which Major Bramble, the sub-governor, has lavished much care and skill. The custodian is an old Mahdist warrior, who still wears the patched *jellab* that was the Mahdist uniform. From the roof of the second story we looked out over the great expanse of mud houses, the horizon being broken here and there by large modern buildings—the hospital, schools and warehouses.

Below us were the ruins of the Mahdi's Tomb within its locked enclosure. It recalled to mind that great day in the history of the Sudan when Kitchener's army defeated the Khalifa and destroyed this building. We thought of it again when we motored over the battlefield and viewed the *Khor* where the Lancers charged into a mass of concealed warriors. Near that famous spot stands the Lancers' monument.

More than once I was warned that Khartoum and Omdurman are not the Sudan. I wished heartily that I could spend six months in the country and see the real Sudan. I know perfectly well that a sojourn of a week in those towns gives me no right to express any opinion upon the general administration. Everybody was exceedingly kind: officials, missionaries, and traders told me lots of things that I wanted to know. I also discussed matters with some leading Sudanese. I might put down here much that I was able to learn, but I prefer to limit myself to what I actually saw. And familiar as I am with the history of the Sudan, I can only say that the evidences of beneficent change, of peace and prosperity in place of the former tyranny, filled me with amazement.

Underground Fires.

Of course I know the possibility of reactionary movements springing up. I was conscious at times of underground fires, banked, not extinct.

The day I visited the Mahdi's Tomb I found a woman lying in the gateway, speaking in an undertone and evidently suffering. I suggested to my companion that he should advise her to go to hospital. Her reply was, "My *hakim* (doctor) is here." She was praying to the Mahdi; it was to him that she looked for help in her distress. Evidently, I thought, the Mahdi is still a power in the land.

Another day I went with a friend who had been invited to the laying of the foundation stone of a new mosque. We were received as guests of honour and sat down to a feast with other white men and the notables of the Muhammadan community. The beautiful tent was filled with guests. The refreshments served were European in character. I was deeply interested, and, I confess, surprised at the tolerance and friendliness shown towards the Christians. What the Khalifa or the Mahdi—opposite to one of whose sons I sat—would have said about it I can easily guess.

At the close of the feast speeches were made. I could not understand a word of them, but friends who know Arabic well told me that very largely they consisted in eulogies of the Mahdi; it was even said. I am informed, that to him were ascribed the peace and progress the country now enjoys. The Moslems were evidently pleased to have us in their midst and I enjoyed the whole affair. Not for a moment



SHOOTING AT OMDURMAN.

the British Government. The speeches were evidently inspired by the exuberance of the occasion—the initiation of a new centre of Islamic worship. But they brought home the fact that there is evidently a good deal of inflammable material about.

Fine Education and Medical Work.

I was particularly interested to see what was being done for the Sudanese in the way of education and medical care. There are large civil hospitals in Khartoum and Omdurman, and in the latter place there is also an efficient hospital run by the Church Missionary Society. This is so much appreciated by Moslems that some time ago, when a rumour reached them that the C.M.S. would have to close it because of lack of funds, the leading Moslems asked for it to be kept open and said: "If it's a matter of money, we will subscribe." They collected over £400.

In connexion with this hospital there is an Almshouse for the Blind and Indigent, built by the Government out of the Lee Stack Indemnity Fund and managed by the Church Missionary Society. I found there about thirty poor old things. It was great to see the Bishop among them; he had a kindly word and a joke for each one. "You have beds and food and clothes, all you need," he said to them, "you are as happy as wives of the Mahdi!" And the old dames laughed aloud. The Government also provides funds for a Leper Home which the C.M.S. manages; there were about fifty inmates the day I was there.



Illustrations by courtesy of Sudan Government.

GORDON COLLEGE, KHARTOUM.

Simplest and most numerous of all the schools in the Sudan are the *khalwas*. The one I saw in Omdurman consists of about a score of children in charge of a white-bearded old Sudani. The building was an open shed, built of mud; the pupils sat on the ground, memorising the Koran or learning to write on "slates" of wood. The Government has adopted a large number of these little schools and is improving them, adding hygiene and arithmetic to the curriculum.

I also visited the excellent technical school in Omdurman which for over twenty-three years has been in charge of Mr. Stirke. Some of the buildings were once the Mahdi's storehouses. Boys enter from the primary schools and stay for four years. The instructors are Natives trained by Mr. Stirke. The work seemed to me to be excellent in quality. One drawback is the lack of local timber; in the carpenter's shop the wood used is all imported deal.

Training the Women of the Sudan.

I went over the training school for girls which is in charge of Miss Evans, a tribute to whose work I was delighted to read in *East Africa* some weeks ago. She deserves everything good that can be said of her. It was deeply interesting to see with what wisdom and efficiency she is tackling the difficult problem of education for African girls. Here they are being trained as teachers. One difficulty is that because girls marry so early they have to begin their training very young; a girl may be only sixteen when she has begun to teach. They are in great demand as wives of educated men, and special arrangements have to be made to keep them at work for a reasonable period after training. I was glad to find that religion is not ignored in this school; instruction in the Koran is regularly given by a sheikh. Miss Evans is a pioneer in this field, and is one of the hardest worked persons I know, for not only does she, with her sister, run this institution, but she also superintends the other girls' schools under the Government.

The Church Missionary Society is also doing good work among the girls—they have a school of 150 pupils in Omdurman and it appears to be much appreciated by the Moslems, although they know that the Christian religion is taught there.

In Khartoum I spent an interesting morning at the Kitchener School of Medicine and the adjacent Stack Medical Research Laboratories. These attractive buildings stand on opposite sides of the road near the station. In the Medical School about thirty young men, ex-students of Gordon College, are being trained, the course lasting four years. After serving twelve months as house-surgeons in hospital they are sent out into the districts. This interesting experiment will be watched attentively by all who have the welfare of Africans at heart.

Gordon College.

Of course I saw Gordon College, the chief educational institution in the Sudan. It provides Government with the Native employes needed in the Departments. I have no space to describe what is being done in this famous institution; nor is it necessary for everybody knows something about it. I admired the work; only, to be candid, I was sorry to find that there is no religious instruction except that given by a clergyman to the few Christian students.

AFRICAN BEARERS.

EIGHT strong men on a path new hoed,
And a hammock swinging a lonely load—
The twisted cords give a creaking beat
To the soughing sound of the bearers' feet.

Oh! what poor thing am I who lie,
With a body sick and a soul avry,
Between calling stars and sweet-smelling loam,
With eight strong men to carry me home?

The palm-leaves flapping in the wind
Are neatly to their branches pinned—
Too strong for Nature's dragging comb;
While eight strong men must carry me home.

Thou art foul of the fever's bite;
Hot poisonous streams within thee fight.
Till strength returns how shalt thou roam?
My eight strong men shall carry thee home.

C. BEVERLY DAVIES.

FROM TANGA TO MOMBASA.

Incidents on the way.

By "East Africa's" Editorial Secretary,
Captain H. C. Druett.

CROCODILES are not pleasant animals to meet "in the blue." In fact, to one who is not used to the many surprises Africa offers, their unexpected appearance is apt to be somewhat disconcerting.

My first acquaintance with them occurred on my journey from Tanga to Mombasa. I had left the former port in brilliant sunshine, and with the roads perfectly dry; rain fell heavily when I was about twenty miles out. I determined to push on, splashing through stretches fully five hundred yards long and deep in water, with only the far end of the track as a guide to its direction. I crossed one fast-flowing stream, already swollen to ten times its normal width, and though the car practically stopped in mid-stream, a quick change down into bottom gear sent her forward slowly, and I managed to reach the far bank just before a miniature tidal wave increased its width still further. So things went on until I suddenly came to a bridgeless river at least one hundred feet wide.

The road on the far side was visible slightly to the left, and I stood at the water's edge contemplating the position for a few moments. It was rapidly growing dark, and a quick decision was necessary. Suddenly two dark forms slid out from the bank, almost from beneath my feet. Quickly they were in the water and swimming away; with equal speed I moved in the opposite direction. Their presence deterred me from proceeding onward!

Though there had been no building of any description for over forty miles, I recollected passing a few Native huts two miles back, and, on arriving there, I found a Government dispensary. The Native orderly in charge promptly produced a bed and blankets, while my boy obtained some food in the form of sardines, a tin of biscuits, and some tea; for *pudding*, the orderly plucked a pineapple from an adjacent *shamba*. Even quinine was made available—in a huge bottle containing hundreds of doses. At daybreak next morning I found the river had subsided, and, whereas I had presumed the road to run straight across to the far bank, I found that it curved round a big mound, which, the previous evening, had been completely immersed.

This road is, on the whole, monotonous. For miles one jogs along a rough track, on which stones and boulders are far too numerous for comfort. Motorists using the road would be well advised to take a plentiful supply of petrol, for it can be obtained only at a place called Manza, a Native village tucked away about a mile off the main road and some twenty miles from Tanga.

Manza—an Interesting Village.

This village, I found, has an interesting history, for it is reputed to be the oldest Native village in Tanganyika Territory. Its thick stone wall still surrounds the huts, as a grim reminder of the days when neighbouring tribes were wont to attack the villagers. During the war the Germans beached one of their boats, laden with ammunition, in Manza Bay, and, under cover of night, the ammunition was carried ashore by Native *askaris* through the mangrove swamp, and sometimes shoulder high in

mud. In fact, the ammunition and provisions thus obtained by the Germans is thought by many East Africans to have prolonged the campaign for at least a year.

After passing through the Customs post—which, incidentally, is some twenty miles on the Tanganyika side of the border, the road runs through Colonel Boscawen's vast estate, after which it passes through closely wooded areas and plains alternately, the only relief from the monotony being numerous stone drifts, where considerable care has to be exercised.

Picturesque Kwale.

Beyond Kinango the road begins to climb up to Kwale, thought by many to be one of the most picturesque Government stations in Kenya. Flowers of all kinds flourish on the roadside, and the neat and tidy appearance is in striking contrast to the dirty and untidy scenes in the Native villages. Altogether the station is the one bright spot on the whole road, and the officer concerned may well be proud of his efforts. The town is perched at the top of a hill some 1,200 feet above sea level, and from the District Commissioner's house one can view miles of surrounding country, with the Indian Ocean in the background.

From Kwale the road goes down to Likoni, on the mainland opposite Mombasa, passing on the way numerous coconut groves, some of which were planted in the old slave trade days. Gradually the number of villages increases, as does the frequency of chickens flying at the approach of a motor-car; unfortunately, they all wait until the driver puts his foot on the brake before they move. Five miles from Likoni the road surface is appalling, and the whole distance has to be covered at a crawl owing to the number of small rocks protruding from the ground. Eventually one reaches the ferry, on which car and passengers are carried across to the island of Mombasa.

Though the 120 miles between these two posts may not seem a great distance, it is a track which many East African motorists even now hesitate to traverse, the majority preferring the railway journey up to Voi, and thence on the Tanganyika system back to the coast.

A Resthouse Suggested.

One suggestion which might be helpful is that the Government erect some kind of resthouse on the way, so that stranded motorists might be saved the inconvenience of spending a night in the car—that is, of course, unless they come to grief near Kinango!

NORTHERN RHODESIAN AERIAL SURVEY.

THE departure from Heston Aerodrome last week of Mr. Alan Butler, the Chairman of the de Havilland Aircraft Company, and the Aircraft Operating Company, and Mrs. Butler, on their flight to Cape Town, marks yet another advance in African civil aviation, for the machine used is the special twin-engined "Gloster" designed for the aerial survey of 63,000 square miles to be undertaken in Northern Rhodesia by the Aircraft Operating Company. The machine has a cruising speed of 100 m.p.h. at 20,000 feet, and can at that height cover ground photographically at a far greater speed than previously possible. The route to be flown is—*via* Vienna, Athens, the Nile Valley, Victoria Nyanza, Tabora, and on to Cape Town; thence the aeroplane will be flown back to Northern Rhodesia. The contract in connexion with which the flight is being undertaken is the largest aerial survey yet undertaken.

AFRICA'S ONLY ELEPHANT FARM.

What the Prince will see at Api

Special to "East Africa."

Should the Prince of Wales arrive at Api on the Welé river in the Belgian Congo he will see in actual operation the domestication of the African elephant—a problem which has remained insoluble for 1,200 years.

There is an inscription of Ptomeley Evergetus which states that he made an expedition into Asia with a force of African elephants which he and his father were the first to capture, bring to Egypt and train for military use. The Carthaginians, we know, employed African elephants in war, for coins of that people show elephants with the characteristic points of the African species.

Hannibal had a number of elephants with him when he invaded Italy by way of the Alps. It is on record that he halted his army for three days in those terrible mountains while a road was made to carry the great beasts; but how he managed to feed his elephants on the march still remains a mystery. An elephant requires 500 lb. of green food a day. Carthage had stables for six hundred elephants, a number which certainly could not be fed in one town on the Mediterranean coast of Africa to-day. The Romans knew African elephants in their gladiatorial games, and reckoned them inferior to the Asiatic breed, though that might have been due to insufficient training.

Domesticating the African Elephant.

After the fall of Carthage and Rome the domestication of the African elephant was abandoned, and the secret of it was lost until, by the enterprise of Leopold II, King of Belgium and founder of the Congo Free State, and the skill and devotion of Commandants Laplume and Magnette and their assistants, MM. Vermeesch and Henrotin, success was once more achieved.

Api is a pretty little place, built on a broad red rock running beside a slow river, with neat bungalows gay with flowers, round Native huts, and an elephant kraal, two and a half acres in extent, surrounded by a strong palisade made of posts fifteen inches thick bound together by interlaced bush-ropes. Laplume began his attempt to domesticate the elephant in 1895 at Kira-Vungu, also on the Welé, and by 1899 he had succeeded in taming twelve. After a lapse of five years he returned to the Congo to find only eight of his herd left, and these he removed to Api, which he rebuilt as an elephant training station. Commandant Laplume retired recently and some of the older elephants have been removed to Wando, a few days' journey up the Welé, so by the time the Prince gets to the Congo he may find the latter place more instructive than Api from the elephant point of view.

Kindness and Silence the Secrets of Success.

The secret of the taming of the African elephant, as rediscovered by Laplume and Magnette, is kindness. No one in the camp is allowed to strike, tease, or in any way annoy an elephant. Unremitting kindness and silence are the rules enforced, for

the animals are easily upset by noise. Even the click of a visitor's camera is enough to set the young captives screaming and pulling at their chains, and motor cars in their neighbourhood are unthinkable.

The capture of the elephants presented many and great difficulties. Pits were tried at first, but proved useless; the *keddah* method, as practised in Ceylon, failed owing to the impossibility of handling the mob of captives of all ages, and they had eventually to be released. Finally it was decided to cut out a cow and her calf from the herd, kill the mother and heel-roped the young one. Thanks to the Azandi tribe, a fearless race of hunters and warriors, this method has proved successful, though care has to be exercised as to the age of the captive. It was found impossible to rear suckling calves, as nothing could replace the milk of the elephant, which is extremely rich in fats, so only weaned calves are now caught; they are strong little beasts and full of fight.

Easily Wounded.

Even when caught, much remains to be done, and there are many difficulties to be surmounted. Although the elephant has a thick hide, it is easily cut by ropes, and special soft but strong ones are used. Wounds of any sort, even superficial, and especially in the limbs, often prove fatal in spite of antiseptic dressings. Some captives just lie down and die as if broken-hearted; others thrash themselves to death in their struggles when caught. For weeks after capture there is danger that the animals will refuse food, pine away, and die. The tame elephants may even attack the newly caught, and in nine cases out of ten the result is fatal. Then there are diseases—worms, diarrhoea, prostration, fever, and, above all, sun-stroke, for the African elephant is a forest animal which must have shade during the heat of the day. In spite of all these pitfalls, the tame herd at Api numbered twenty-five in 1921, of these fifteen were females, forty in 1925, and (if one reads the graph aright) the number had risen to about seventy in 1927.

These elephants are trained to certain definite kinds of work: (i) draught, *i.e.*, pulling trucks mostly loaded with cotton, and ploughs, (ii) carrying light pieces of wood in the trunk, (iii) shifting logs of timber, and (iv) uprooting trees, bush and stumps. When qualified, each elephant receives a diploma, as it were; but some never take to certain kinds of work, so that in the Api list we see that "Boma," a female, 7 ft. 1 in., is fully qualified for all four kinds of work; "Faro," a male, height 6 ft. 4 in., can do everything but carry logs; while Moganga and Albert, little things of 5 ft. 8 in., can do only light work with small timber. This shows the minute care with which the elephants are treated and the attention paid to their idiosyncrasies. It must be added that careful measurements are regularly made, so that the rate of growth of each animal is known.

The Day's Work.

The day at Api begins at five o'clock in the morning for elephants not working; these go to the feeding grounds, each accompanied by its mahout; they return at 6 p.m. and are given a ration of cassava and sweet potatoes or a few bananas. Working beasts commence at 4 a.m., or even at 1 a.m. or a little later if they have far to go. In every case they knock off at 11 a.m. for rest, a bath, and a noon meal. Sometimes they resume work at 4 p.m. when the sun is getting low, and work until sunset, when they have another feed and return to the station.

* The writer wishes especially to acknowledge his indebtedness to Dr. J. M. Bichel's fine book, "Etudes d'Economie Coloniale sur la Grande Faune et sur les Animaux du Congo Belge," from which much of the

Each has its own stable, but these are used only in the rainy season. In dry weather and on moonlight nights the animals sleep where they like in the kraal and may feed on and off instead of sleeping. Plenty of water for drinking and bathing is absolutely essential to their health. Unfortunately, they do not, if left to themselves, keep clean long, for they love to roll in dust or mud after their bath, and get incredibly dirty. This rolling is forbidden at Api.

The trained elephants at Api are perfectly obedient to the word of command, are intelligent and docile, but they never forget an unjust reprimand or punishment. Several men have been intentionally killed at Api by tame elephants, but as there was always proof that it was the fault of the men, nothing was done nor did an elephant kill any other person.

Profit and Loss.

As to the financial side of the undertaking, full details are lacking. Up to 1913 the ivory obtained in the hunts fully paid all the costs of the station; in 1925 the Api budget amounted to 142,000 francs, which, compared to the value of the elephants and other by-products of the station, was considered in no way excessive. According to Mrs. Grace Flandrau, who visited Api recently when an Api elephant is sufficiently grown up—and this may take ten years—he is sold or rented to planters, and quoting Commandant Magnette, she adds: "The overhead costs to the man who buys him are very low. Elephants don't consume gasoline, and they find their own food in the bush. A pair of elephants can haul a four- or five-ton truck thirty kilometres a day, or plough three acres in a morning. They are particularly good at clearing land and hauling logs. The wear and tear is small if they are well treated, and they outlive many masters. In fact, they become stronger and stronger during the first hundred years, which is more than you can say of a Ford car."

On the whole, then, it can be said with confidence that the capture and training of the African elephant has succeeded completely at Api; and the Prince of Wales, always keen to see and learn from new schemes which promote the welfare of humanity, will have much of interest to note in these elephant stations in the Belgian Congo.

"What should be the characteristic of the settler, is his native qualities as an Englishman—his ingenuity, his inventiveness, his determination, but he will be all the better for a little more knowledge of farming. We have to strike the happy medium. There is too little knowledge of farming in Kenya—far too little. Some of the men who want to go out there are men who have got a technical acquaintance with the knowledge of crops, and are not simply amateurs. We want men out there in the main who can also be handy men, able to deal with horses and cattle, and do a bit of rough carpentry, and who are not afraid of turning to any job that presents itself. The worst of our public schoolboys is that they have never been up against things. In brief we want young settlers, not case-hardened in English routine, but who know how to cultivate the land and how to handle stock."—Sir Daniel Hall, speaking at the Royal Society of Arts on Kenya settlers.

"The Kenya Government has called the proposed new agricultural board the 'Board of Agriculture and Development.' The Commission meant it to be called the 'Board of Agricultural Development.'"

MAN-MADE AFRICAN TABUS.

An instance from Kivu.

To the Editor of "East Africa."

Sir,

The scientific anthropologist investigating Native tabus is rather apt to look for magical or superstitious reasons for the restrictions observed. But is he always right? Men made the African tribal laws—usually the old men, who had had much experience of tribal life, and had, like most old men, a keen eye to their own prestige and comfort.

A Belgian Socialist who paid a visit to Kivu notes that the Natives there have a very strict tabu that no woman in any circumstances may touch a spear or knife; he also notes that the men of the local tribes are much addicted to the drinking of banana wine, to such an extent, indeed, that it is a common occurrence for them to arrive home having had considerably more than "one over the eight." The wisdom of the tabu is fairly obvious and needs no magical explanation. The makers of the tabu were taking no risks from the wives of their bosom. There being no rolling pins in the equipment of Native huts, a knife or spear would be far too handy an argument for a disgruntled matron.

Yours faithfully,

London, W. 1.

A. L.

PERSONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Private—not trade—advertisements are now accepted by "East Africa" for publication in this column at the PREPAID rate of 3d. per word per insertion, with a minimum of 5s. per insertion; three consecutive insertions for the price of two. For Box No. advertisements there is an additional charge of 1s. per insertion towards cost of forwarding replies. Advertisements reaching "East Africa," 91, Great Titchfield Street, London, W. 1, after Tuesday morning will not appear until the following week. In Memoriam announcements can be inserted for five or ten years at special rates.

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MRS. ASHTON coaches personally, on by correspondence. Preparation for Government examinations. Up-to-date methods. Bruce Road, South Norwood, S.E. 25.

HOUSE TO LET.

DEKHILL-ON-SEA. Furnished house, four bedrooms, dining room, lounge hall, garage, and tennis court, to be let. Moderate terms to good tenant. Apply Box No. 195, East Africa, 91, Great Titchfield Street, London, W. 1.

FOR SALE.

1,000 ACRE Freehold Agricultural and Dairy FARM. 500 acres cultivated. Excellent dairy business. Situated near the largest mining and commercial centres of N. Rhodesia, Bwana Mkubwa and Ndola. Full particulars Box 13, Bwana Mkubwa, N. Rhodesia.

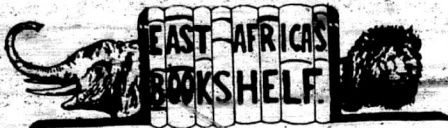
AGENCIES AND FINANCIAL CONNEXIONS.

RETIRED BANK MANAGER, now in Land, Estate, and General Agency business in Kenya Colony, at present in England, wishes to get in touch with Financial Houses interested in Mortgages and Finance in connection with Sisal, Coffee, Maize, Wheat and Stock Farming propositions. Has over 25 years' experience of conditions in the Colony and could influence sound business. Is also anxious to secure good farming agencies, particularly for fertilizers. Write "BREMOR," Box No. 203, East Africa, 91, Great Titchfield Street, London, W. 1.

ESTATES MANAGEMENT POSITION WANTED.

SCOTSMAN seeks CHANGE. Abstainer. Experienced in CATTLE RANCHING, FIBRE GROWING (themp and flax), OIL SEEDS, including TUNG OIL, COFFEE, CEREALS and SORGHUMS. Thorough knowledge of Company work, including ACCOUNTANCY. Languages, Portuguese and Spanish. Married. Responsible position sought, and open to consider a proposition which includes salary and share in results.

Write Box M.557, c/o DAWSON'S ADVERTISING SERVICE,



LIFE AMONG N. RHODESIAN NATIVES.

Captain von Hoffman's Ideas.

CAPTAIN CARL VON HOFFMAN, the author of "Jungle Gods" (Constable, 10s.), was born in Riga in 1889, fought for Russia against Japan and in the Great War, and in 1925-26 travelled from Cairo to the Cape, lingering for months on the way to study Native life and customs. The scene of "Jungle Gods" is laid in Northern Rhodesia, in a region roughly defined by the southern shore of Lake Tanganyika, with Lake Mweru as its western border and Lake Nyasa to the east:—

"Here, in the Irumi Mountains, dwells a people scattered through many villages of grass-thatched *shambas*, along the river banks, on the plateaus or in the valleys. It is with this tribe, the Lala, a people once formidable in war, but broken up since the white man's invasion and the running through of boundaries, that 'Jungle Gods' deals."

The area defined is fairly extensive—a good deal more extensive than the apparent African knowledge of our author—who, it will be seen, refers to "grass-thatched *shambas*"; nor is that a slip, for the author uses "*shamba*" consistently for "hut": "the projecting eaves of Mundalira's *shamba*," (p. 121); *kiboko* as being rhinoceros hide (p. 169); and commits himself to the erroneous statement: "As in the case of the Arab, the left hand is known as the eating hand. For the right hand is reserved all uncleanly work, and this rule is fixed and unalterably followed in many parts of Africa."

Such elementary errors destroy interest in a book which purports to give authentic details of Native life. When, in addition, the spelling is American—though it is difficult to understand why a book published by an English firm and printed in England should inflict on its readers such eyesores as "luster," "veldt," and "offenses"—the effect is disastrous. One can say definitely that "*m'shenzi* porters" is wrong; "*m'wufuti*," given as meaning "bewitched," may be related to the Chinyanja *mfuti*, a witch, *ufuti*, witchcraft, though the author's spelling looks clumsy; and it is difficult to believe that "*Mana Yoya Wokatamba*" is a true rendering of "Goodness gracious, what a woman!"

Reliable and first-hand information about Native African tribes is always welcome, but this book is a disappointment. A. L.

THE RACES OF AFRICA.

Natives in a Nutshell.

THE little books of the Home University Library deal with many and various subjects, but each is written by a recognised authority and each subject is of living and permanent interest. "Races of Africa" (Thornton Butterworth, 2s. 6d.) has been assigned to Professor C. G. Seligman, F.R.S., who holds the Chair of Ethnology in the University of London, and he has dealt with the topic with all his well-known insight and erudition.

An amazing amount of detailed information is contained within the book's 250 small pages, and some readers may find that this compression is attained at the cost of composition. Especially towards the latter end of the book, when he comes to consider the Bantu races, does the author sacrifice style to subject matter. He is much more readable when discussing West Africa and the Bushmen, but on the

whole he has accomplished his difficult task with discretion and success.

He divides the "primary" African races into five classes: the Hamites, the Semites (very recent intruders), the true Negroes of the West Coast, the Bushmen and Hottentots, and the Negritos, Negrillos or Pygmies—which seems a sound classification. The Bantu are a blend of Negro and Hamite delimited on linguistic criteria—i.e., "blacks" using some form of the root *ntu* for "human being." The map on pages 20 and 21, which gives the "Bantu Line," is welcome, if only because it exposes the error recently made by a writer in the African Press of saying that the Bantu extend from the Cape to Cairo. On the other hand, this same map represents a strip of tropical rain forest as extending along the East Coast from Lourenço Marques to Cape Guardafui. The residents of Italian Somaliland will appreciate this news!

East African readers will not find anything very new or very startling in the booklet, but at any rate the information given forms a reliable basis for discussing tribal questions. The author has wisely relied on sound authorities—whose help he generously acknowledges—and has drawn on the works of Sir Claud Hollis, the Rev. E. W. Smith, Sir H. H. Johnston (which he spells "Johnson"), Mr. C. W. Hobley, and the Rev. G. Roscoe for his account of the East African Natives. The result is a distinctly useful addition to the Home University Library. A. L.

Any East African dog-lover will enjoy Mr. E. V. Lucas's "If Dogs Could Write" (Methuen, 3s. 6d.), a collection of some of his contributions to *Punch*. They show him to know and love man's greatest animal friend.

STAMPEDE

AN EPIC OF
THE JUNGLE
AND
LIFE IN
THE SUDAN

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TWO
WEEKS

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No. 5. Company Proposers.

"Gentleman commanding large financial resources desires SOUND PROPOSITION abroad. Must be capable of producing big profits. Principals only; no agents.—Write Box XYZ, 'The Daily Trumpet.'"

I READ and re-read the advertisement, wondering why it was necessary for so rich a man to advertise for an investment. I pictured a sound, honest business man fed up with conditions in England, and the colossal income tax he must have to pay. No wonder he wanted to transfer his interests abroad.

I thought of my mining claims in Tanganyika, held for five years now, paying claim licences all the time. This seemed a Heaven-sent opportunity. Mind you, I know for certain that they are worth a mint of money, but these mining companies are all the same, and will buy you out only when they can't squeeze you out. So I wrote a short note giving a few details of the capital required to place the claims on a workable basis; the notepaper I headed with the address of a City friend who would, I knew, lend me an office.

Next day I received an answer intimating that the advertiser would call upon me at 11 a.m. the day after. To circumvent the law of libel we will name him "Smith." His name was not Smith, but that of a great and noble family, and I was duly impressed by the magnificence of his notepaper, the crested envelope, and the aristocratic flourish of his signature.

At ten-thirty, then, the following day, I proceeded to the City. My office had been cleared of files and dusty papers for the event, and I had with me the details of my scheme. There were my claim licence receipts, the plans of the ground, the work done by myself, and a report by a mining engineer whom I had once engaged for the task.

Soon there came a knock at my door, and a typist entered.

"A Mr. Smith to see you," she announced. "Shall I show him in?"

"Wait a minute," I said, hurriedly. "What's he like?"

"Ooh! a real gentleman!" she exclaimed excitedly. "He's got a top hat and everything!"

"Well, listen," I said. "Keep him waiting five minutes, and then bring him in. In the meantime intimate to him, as tactfully as possible, that I am a very busy man, and can't spare long."

The girl grinned and departed.

In five minutes she returned. Behind her walked "Mr. Smith."

"Good-day to you, sir. A pleasure, I'm sure." He gripped my hand with friendly ferocity.

His being exuded geniality, but it was his outer covering that attracted my attention, for he was attired as though attending a wedding—a shiny silk hat, polished to perfection, a morning coat, a white waistcoat, requisite shoes, a pair of spotless wash-leather gloves, and a gold-mounted Malacca cane.

I bid him be seated.

"Now, sir," I said, in my most businesslike tone "I have outlined the proposition in brief already. Are there any questions you would like to ask?"

We talked for over an hour, and I told him that I thought a £100,000 company would be large

enough. £30,000 was to be my purchase consideration, half in cash and half in shares; £10,000 was needed for plant and machinery; and £10,000 for development underground and working capital. The balance could be issued in shares as and when required. He seemed delighted, and pored over my documents with obvious interest. Presently he looked up.

"Well," he said, "I think I have found just what I want. I must first explain that I am acting on behalf of my cousin, Sir Algernon Whatnot, whom, of course, you know. Lord Broke is also a great pal of mine, and there are several other well-known men I shall interest in the scheme. I lost most of my money during the War, and now I do this sort of thing for a living. I first of all satisfy myself that the proposition is good—as I know yours is—and then I go and see people like Billy Fauncewaters—you know Lord Fauncewaters; of course—charming chap—and then if I recommend it to them they take it up."

This was not quite what I had expected, and his flattery of myself in taking for granted the exalted rank of my friends did not quite cut the desired ice. I caught, though, the gist of his line of thought.

"But where do you come in?" I asked.

"I? Oh! I was just going to talk to you about that." He spoke in the deprecatory manner of one who touches upon a delicate subject. "You say you want about £40,000 in cash all told. If I get it for you what commission will you pay me?"

I had expected a snag of some sort. This had looked too easy, but I was prepared to talk. Eventually, however, we reached a figure, and I agreed to give him five per cent. on any cash he raised up to the necessary amount.

Negotiations being concluded, he asked me to lunch the following day. He would have time, he said, to see one or two people first.

Accordingly I entered the portals of a famous London club at one o'clock next day. It was raining hard, and "Mr. Smith" met me in the hall and handed my coat and hat to an attendant.

"Charming of you to have come," he beamed. "This is a bit of a pothouse, but then things are so dreadfully difficult since the War, and one really can't afford to keep a better club."

I accepted a large whisky and soda, and came to the point.

"Any luck?" I inquired. "Have you seen anybody?"

He frowned. "Yes," he vouchsafed. "I have seen Algy Whatnot, and he says he'll put up £5,000, but I find all the others are out of Town—huntin'; you know."

I noticed the correct dropping of the "g." "It comes to this," he continued. "I shall have to go into the country and dig them out, and that is going to be expensive. One has to do these things pretty well, you know—Rolls Royce and that sort of thing."

I was slightly at sea, and I scented danger. "I suggest," he said, "that I have your permission to spend; say, four or five weeks in the Shires seeing people. It will cost me about one hundred pounds a week; say, five hundred in all. Unfortunately I can't afford it myself, and I wonder if you could see your way to help me?"

He stole a glance at me, but I moved not an eyelid. "Suppose we consider the matter of travelling expenses after you have raised the cash?" I ventured. "It could probably be arranged then."

"No," he said, firmly. "I'm afraid not. You see, there is a chance in everything, and one can't always be certain of doing everything at once."

"But I thought you said you were certain," I objected.

"Oh, yes, I'm as certain as possible, but still . . . you know."

We argued for a minute or two, and I made it clear that I would not part with a halfpenny in advance.

He rose from his seat. "I'm sorry to have wasted your time," he said, coldly, "but the business is impossible. Waiter! bring my guest's coat and hat. He is not lunching with me after all."

PERSONALIA.

The Duke of Verdura is visiting Kenya Colony.

Mr. D'Arbela has been appointed Italian Consul in Uganda.

Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Fisher are recent arrivals from Uganda.

The Acting Chief Secretary of Zanzibar, Mr. J. T. Gilbert, is now on leave.

Captain R. L. G. Poole and Miss Ella Mayne were recently married in Nairobi.

Viscount and Viscountess Furness have returned to London from East Africa.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop of Lebombo has arrived from Portuguese East Africa.

Mr. W. C. Simmonds, of the Uganda Geological Department, is Home on leave.

Mr. H. R. E. E. Welby has been appointed District Commissioner for Nairobi.

Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Miller are proceeding to England from Uganda via Palestine.

Viscountess Powerscourt and Lady De L'Isle and Dudley were recently in Khartoum.

Mr. E. J. Hardy, Chairman of Messrs. Hardy, Spicer and Co., has recently visited Uganda.

Mr. C. T. Studd, the famous veteran cricketer and missionary, was recently staying in Nairobi.

Mr. Thackrah has resigned from the Nakuru Municipal Board prior to leaving for England.

The death is announced of Mr. R. Gilmour, engineer of the s.s. "Winifred," of the Lake Victoria Marine.

Sir Percy Loraine, Bt., High Commissioner for Egypt and the Sudan, had audience of the King on Monday.

Mr. R. F. O. Peet, of the Public Works Department, Tanganyika, has been appointed Executive Engineer.

Mr. H. S. Gill, of the Tanganyika Administration, left England a few days ago to return to the Territory.

The Prince de Ligne was staying with Sir William Gowers, at Government House, Entebbe, during mail week.

Mr. M. A. Wetherall is now in Tanganyika continuing the production of a film portraying the life of Stanley.

A daughter has been born at Nanyuki to the Hon Mrs. Gallagher, wife of John Francis Patrick Gallagher, F.R.C.P.

Dr. Alexander and Mr. Hunt, of the Colonial Office, have been investigating possible sites for the new capital of Northern Rhodesia.

Mr. D. Selkirk, assistant manager of the African Lakes Corporation in Nyasaland, has resigned his position whilst on leave in Scotland.

Mr. Hugh Ryan, Resident Magistrate of Blantyre, acted as Attorney-General of Nyasaland during the illness of Mr. L. I. N. Lloyd-Blood.

Mr. W. D. C. L. Purves, Deputy Governor of the Darfur Province of the Sudan, has been appointed Acting Governor of the Dongola Province.

The 2nd Battalion of the Lincolnshire Regiment, which has been on foreign service for nineteen years, has arrived in Dover from Khartoum.

Count Zoppi, until recently Italian Consul in Nairobi, has been transferred to Ethiopia as First Secretary of the Italian Legation in Addis Ababa.

The Bishop of Central Tanganyika stated in a recent address that he hoped to build nine churches and a cathedral in Tanganyika at a total cost of £5,000.

Bishop Taylor Smith recently delivered a lecture, entitled "Africa Revisited," under the auspices of the Africa Inland Mission, at the Central Hall, Westminster.

Flight-Lieutenant Swoffer, of Wilson Airways, Ltd., has been engaged on an aerial survey of the damage done by floods to the Tanganyika Central Railway.

Among Tanganyika officials on leave are Captain W. J. Lloyd, Assistant District Officer at Tabora, and Mr. A. J. Wakefield, Agricultural Officer at Mpanganya.

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Biscuits, Butter
Wave Crust, Cheese
Assorted



Major-General H. Stracey, who served with the Nile and Suakin Expeditions of 1885, and was for some time in command of the Scots Guards, has passed away.

Lord Howard de Walden is, says a Nairobi correspondent, heading a large *safari* into the Belgian Congo to collect specimens of small reptiles, insects, and mammals.

The first prize of the Sudan Rifle Association, for the highest aggregate score, was recently won by Captain M. C. Stephenson, and the Wingate Medal, for the best shot, by Captain R. T. Williams.

A French aeroplane, containing the dead bodies of Messrs. Roux, Caillot, and Dodemont, who were returning from a flight to Madagascar, has been found between Mangui and Lubua in the Belgian Congo.

The following members of the Blantyre Sports Club have been elected as Directors for 1930: Messrs. Hutchinson, Wright, Price, J. A. Brown, McGuinness, Bishop, Mackenzie, Gillam, Bithrey, Alexander, and Kirkaldy.

The following officers have been elected for 1930 by the Uganda Chamber of Commerce: President, the Hon. A. D. Jones; Vice-President, Mr. I. V. Patel; Committee, Messrs. M. Moses, Hill, Legg, C. P. Dalal, and Johnson Davies.

The wedding recently took place in Nairobi of Mr. R. P. Armitage and Miss Lyona Meyler. The bridegroom is a nephew of Sir Edward Grigg, and the reception was held at Government House. Mr. John Coryndon acted as best man.

Mr. G. H. Boulderson and Commander F. M. Jenkins has been elected President and Vice-President respectively of the Nyanza Tennis Club, Kisumu. The Nyanza Golf Club's new captain is Commander A. Marsh; with Mr. G. Lester as vice.

Nakuru Chamber of Commerce has elected the following office-bearers: President, Mr. F. J. Coudrey; Vice-President, Mr. W. Jenkins; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. J. T. Simpson; Committee, Messrs. A. J. Doyle, W. M. Nicol, J. J. Hughes, and I. Karimbux.

The Uganda Golf Club has elected the following officers: President, Mr. J. R. P. Postlethwaite; Vice-President, Mr. C. H. Marshall; Captain, Mr. D. Macgregor; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. Adam; Hon. Secretary, Mr. F. J. Firmin; Committee, Messrs. Duckworth, Ogilvie, and Robertson.

The Ngare Nairobi Planters' Association has elected the following officers for 1930: President, Mr. F. J. Miller; Vice-President, Mr. Ekman; Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. Thomson; Committee, Messrs. Maurer, Mauran, Menge, Hueter, and Landgrebe. The Association has another unusual officer—an interpreter.

"Sir Harry Johnston's 'Devil'" is to be the title of the new volume of reminiscences by Mr. J. F. Cunningham, formerly of the Uganda and Nyasaland services. In addition to general matters, there are to be summarised biographies of some thirty prominent gentlemen connected with the Administration, commerce, or sport of the territories.

We regret to announce the death of Admiral Sir Paul Bush, Commander-in-Chief of the Cape Naval Station from 1910 to 1912, who was well known to many East Africans in pre-War days. He had commanded the gunboat "Sandfly" at Suakin, and was awarded the Khedive's bronze star and appointed to the Order of Osmanieh "in recognition of his distinguished services at the battle of Tokar."

Count W. G. Serra, who served with the Belgian Forces in East Africa from 1916 until the end of the Campaign, and who has been a settler in the Territory since 1919, is at present on leave. His headquarters are in Paris, but he spent last week in London. Count Serra has been President of the Tabora District Committee and the European Association of Tanganyika and a delegate to the two last Congresses of Associations of the Territory.

The following officials have been elected by the Kampala Sports Club: President, Mr. Dauncey Tongue; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. A. D. Jones and B. T. Duckworth; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. R. Tompkins; Hon. Secretary, Mr. R. G. Forbes; Soccer Captain, Mr. W. E. Coleman; Rugby Captain, Mr. J. T. Templer; Hockey Captain, Mr. G. W. Peskett; Tennis Captain, Mr. D. O. Swane; Committee, Messrs. G. A. Read, G. E. Jackman, and A. M. Foley.

During his two short *safaris* in Kenya the Prince had bad luck with elephant, but his brief stay at Rhino Camp, Uganda, within the last few days provided him with all the desired excitement, including a *pukka* charge; it says much for His Royal Highness's courage that he continued to film a charging bull elephant until it approached so near that a timely bullet from one of the white hunters brought it down at close range. The Prince was also fortunate enough to obtain photographs of a herd of seven white rhino feeding in the bush. Now H.R.H. is on a short visit to the Belgian Congo. The effects of the bout of malaria with which the Royal traveller was laid low some weeks ago are reported to have completely disappeared.



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SIR HUMPHREY LEGGETT RE-ELECTED

Chairman of London East African Chamber.

Specially reported for "East Africa."

At last week's annual meeting of the East African Section of the London Chamber of Commerce Sir Humphrey Leggett was re-elected Chairman. He had, said Mr. A. Wigglesworth, always discharged his office in an admirable way and with a whole-hearted devotion which everyone recognised. It was due to him that the Section had won such prestige and power that its views were listened to by the Colonial Office, the East African Governments, and the business world generally. No man could do more work than Sir Humphrey Leggett, who read more East African matter in a week than most of the members in a month, and who had access to sources of information closed to almost everyone else. Mr. Vialou having expressed similar sentiments, the re-election of the Chairman was carried unanimously and with acclamation.

Nothing, said Sir Humphrey Leggett on resuming the chair, was nearer his heart than the work of the Section, which was doing valuable work for the East African territories as a whole. Governments and high commercial and banking quarters did pay attention to its deliberations, and its resolutions were nearly always made operative, though not invariably, as speedily as they wished.

The election of a Vice-Chairman was deferred until the next meeting.

Antwerp Colonial Exhibition.

Commenting on the decision that East Africa should be adequately represented at the Belgian Colonial Exhibition at Antwerp, the Chairman reported that the Secretary of State for the Colonies, having come to the conclusion that it would be a grievous thing for the territories to be unrepresented, had cabled to the various Governments, and that, as a consequence of that exchange of views, it had been decided to do what the Section wished—though whether the Section's views had had any influence in the matter he could not say. The London correspondent of the *Standard* group of papers had, he knew, telegraphed to East Africa emphasising the desirability of participation, so that the East African public had had placed before it the arguments for such a step.

"It will be within the knowledge of the members of this Section," continued Sir Humphrey Leggett, "that the London newspaper *East Africa* opposed the views expressed by this Section. It is in accordance with the best traditions of British journalism, and with what we would have expected from our friend the editor of that newspaper, that as soon as the decision to participate was reached, and though that decision was contrary to their own views, *East Africa* stated that it would do everything in its power to contribute to the success of the Exhibition. (Hear, hear.) That, I say, is a credit to *East Africa* and to British journalism."

Selling Tanganyika Coffee in Canada.

Recent correspondence had made it clear, said the Chairman, that the Canadian Government was not giving the benefit of Imperial preference to coffee from Tanganyika imported into the Dominion, on the ground that the Territory was merely Mandated and not a Crown possession.

The same point had come up in 1923 in connexion with the importation of Tanganyika coffee into Great Britain, the Customs authorities not then being empowered to regard a Mandated Territory as entitled to Imperial Preference. He (the Chairman)

had brought the question to the notice of Lord Lugard, the British member of the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations, who had raised it before that Commission, which had recommended the Council of the League to recognise Mandatory Powers as entitled to regard a Mandated Territory as coming under its own flag for the purpose of any preference extended to countries under that flag. A communication in that sense had reached the British Government, which then instructed its Customs Department to accord full Imperial preference to Tanganyika produce.

Other self-governing countries within the Empire, particularly Australia and New Zealand, extend preference to other Dominions only by arrangement, but they have given the benefit of Imperial preference to Tanganyika. Canada had not yet done so, owing, he believed, to a misunderstanding, which would surely be swept away when brought to the knowledge of the responsible authorities in the right way. It was decided to ask the Secretary of State for the Dominions to exercise his good offices with the Canadian authorities.

The New East African Bankruptcy Law.

Satisfaction was expressed at the new Bankruptcy Ordinance recently introduced into the Tanganyika Legislative Council, which legislation, it is understood, is to be followed by Kenya and Uganda, with the object of securing one unified bankruptcy law for the three territories, so that a man bankrupt in one becomes automatically so in the others, and is thereby precluded from resort to the sharp practice by which hitherto assets have been sometimes transferred from one Dependency to another. Book debts, said the Chairman, had sometimes been sold to parties who were thereby almost established in a position of preference. It would be a great thing to make a bankrupt in one territory *de jure* bankrupt in the others, thus securing for creditors any assets within the East African group.

The Nairobi Chamber of Commerce had urged that assets in the territory in which a man actually had his petition should be considered as preferential to the creditors of that territory, a proposal which cut at the whole foundation of the new law. There would therefore be general satisfaction that the Association of Chambers of Commerce of Eastern Africa had rejected the Nairobi resolution, which does not appear in the draft Bill.

Zanzibar, said Sir Humphrey, had its own peculiar bankruptcy law, but as many firms with headquarters or branches in Zanzibar had establishments on the mainland, it was to be hoped that Zanzibar would adopt a similar law and come into the reciprocal arrangements with the mainland countries.

Unification of Commercial Laws.

The proposals made by the Associated Chambers of Commerce of Eastern Africa to the local Governments for the unification of commercial laws and the regulations affecting patents, trade marks, designs, etc., were welcomed, it being pointed out that they followed the lines advocated by the Section for years past, the only omission being on the subject of arbitration.

After Colonel Franklin had remarked that the present measure of agreement had been reached in East Africa only after tremendous struggles, and that the business communities would certainly appreciate the support of the London Chamber in the matter, the Chairman added that it was largely as a result of the unremitting influence of Colonel Franklin himself during the past four years that the present progress had been realised.

Closer Union in East Africa.

The Chairman stated that Lord Passfield, Secretary of State for the Colonies, had told him that he hoped within the next three weeks to make a declaration on the subject of closer union.

Poor Postal Services with East Africa.

Mr. Lehmann suggested that the Chamber should make representations regarding the present poor mail service between London and East Africa. The P. & O. Company appeared, he said, to have a monopoly of the carriage of mails from Marseilles to Aden or Port Said, where the bags were unloaded and sometimes placed on tramp steamers, with the result that letters had taken as much as two months to get to Dar es Salaam. All mails ought to be carried by passenger ships, not tramps. It was decided to obtain certain information from the postal authorities before the next meeting and then to reconsider the matter.

The next meeting of the Section is to be held at 2.30 p.m. on April 30.

TWO MILLION SLAVES IN ETHIOPIA

Declares Lady Simon.

Specially reported for "East Africa."

At a meeting held last week at the Central Hall, Westminster, Viscount Cecil, who was in the chair, said that there was still a large slave population in Abyssinia. The majority of the slaves were said to be happy, and only the minority lived in misery. Only by public opinion could Governments be moved, and if only sufficient people would interest themselves in the horrors of slavery as it existed today, a real move could be made for its abolition.

The Archbishop of Canterbury said that though all forms of slavery were abhorrent to him, he recognised that the United States had taken one hundred years to abolish slavery within their borders, and he could not expect to accomplish everything at once. The problem in our case was also more difficult, for we were dealing with peoples to whom slavery was a national institution, and often countenanced by religion.

Lady Simon regarded the meeting as the beginning of an international crusade, led by Great Britain, for the total abolition of slavery in all its forms. Slavery still existed in nineteen areas. She hoped by this crusade not only to free all slaves, but also to raise the status of non-European women of all races. "Abyssinia," she declared, "has two million slaves, two million bundles of human merchandise living in misery under conditions repugnant to all Christian peoples." There was on the Ethiopian border an area of seventy-five miles of desert, which, if crossed, led to safety; slaves in Abyssinia knew of this, and they all looked forward to the day when they could escape from their masters, and cross this strip of seventy-five miles, there to be received by the few men and women waiting to liberate them. No slave thus taken in had ever been handed back to his or her master in Abyssinia.

Mr. John H. Harris emphasised that the figures given by Lady Simon were not mere conjecture, but were the testimony of Governments or of people of over twenty years' residence in the countries. £500 was now needed to make public the evils and horrors of slavery, so that all thinking men and women would insist that it be abolished in all its forms throughout

the whole world. £100 had already been given, and the meeting was asked to donate another £400.

A Danger "Equal to Slavery."

A voice: "Is not forced labour in Kenya a form of slavery?"

Lord Cecil: "Forced labour is non-existent in Kenya, and is not permitted by the Kenya Government."

Another voice: "I would like to inform Lady Simon that slavery in Arabia is not the evil she thinks it is. Slaves there are treated as members of the family, and live under the happiest of conditions. In China if these children were not sold into slavery they would starve."

Mr. Charles Roden Buxton, M.P., said that a member of the audience had asked whether forced labour in Kenya was not a form of slavery. There was a more subtle and insidious danger creeping into our administration of our Colonies, one that was equal to slavery, and tended to make the more advanced races mere parasites of the backward races. Advantage was being taken of their uncivilised state to make them work for inadequate wages on roads and other constructions that were unnecessary to Native development. More roads were being constructed in certain countries than are necessary for Native use. If reasonable wages were paid the need for forced labour would automatically cease. An iniquitous tax was imposed on Natives so that they were forced to come out and work. The money thus earned had immediately to be paid back into the coffers of the Governments in the form of taxes. We were utilising the weakness of backward races for our own purposes, and were not helping them as we should.

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East Africa in the Press.

KIKUYU CENTRAL ASSOCIATION'S AIMS.

We recently quoted a vitriolic tirade against the white man contributed to a Communist newspaper by Johnstone Kenyatta, general secretary of the Kikuyu Central Association. A much saner tone characterises his latest letter to the Press. Writing to *The Manchester Guardian* he says:—

"May I be permitted to throw some light on the so-called 'unrest among Kenya Natives'? I am a Kikuyu and, with all public-spirited men of my tribe, regard with considerable uneasiness the policy that is being advocated by certain influential people both in Kenya and in this country of further alienating our land from us for the use of non-Natives in conjunction with attempts to abolish wholesale our tribal customs.

"The Kikuyu Central Association is not a subversive organisation. Its object is to help the Kikuyu to improve himself as a better Mu-Kikuyu, not to 'ape' the foreigner. Our aims and objects may be summarised briefly under the following five headings:—

(1) Land.—To obtain legal rights recognised by the local Government, to the tenure of the lands held by our tribe before the advent of the foreigner, and to prevent further encroachment by non-Natives on the Native Reserves.

(2) Education.—To obtain educational facilities of a practical nature to be financed from a portion of the taxes paid by us to the Government.

(3) Women's Hut Tax.—To obtain the abolition of the hut tax on women, which leads to their being forced into work outside the Native Reserves or into prostitution for the purpose of obtaining money to pay this tax.

(4) Representation in the Legislature.—To obtain the representation of Native interest on the Legislative Council by Native representatives elected by the Natives themselves.

(5) Tribal Customs.—To be permitted to retain our many good tribal customs, and by means of education to elevate the minds of our people to the willing rejection of the bad customs.

"Evolving from these five points we hope to remove all lack of understanding between the various peoples who formed the population of East Africa, so that they may all march together as loyal subjects of His Britannic Majesty, along the road of Empire prosperity. I would like to ask if any fair-minded Briton considers the policy of the Kikuyu Central Association outlined above to savour in any way of sedition?"

"The repression of Native views on subjects of such vital interest to my people by means of legislative measures can only be described as a short-sighted tightening up of the safety valve of free speech, which must inevitably result in a dangerous explosion—the one thing all sane men wish to avoid."

"The fair-minded Briton" may agree that the five points do not savour of sedition without endorsing them. For instance, he, like *East Africa*, might feel that the Kikuyu are at present quite incapable of electing one or more of their own tribesmen to sit in the Legislative Council. He might go further and ask this Kikuyu correspondent (a) to name one "good tribal custom" of which it is sought to deprive the tribe, and (b) whether the Kikuyu Central Association and its officers have definitely thrown their influence into the scale in favour of the abolition of the brutal mutilation of women by initiatory rites.

The test of the Kikuyu Association will be deeds, not words. Be it also remembered that the words of the Association's general secretary were of quite a different character only a few short weeks ago. Which voice speaks from the heart?

A new film, "Awakening Africa," has been shown in Scotland by Mr. L. F. Armitage. It deals with Native emancipation in Nyasaland.

PROF. HUXLEY ON NATIVE EDUCATION.

PROFESSOR JULIAN HUXLEY has written a few further articles for *The Times*, by whose courtesy we quote the following extracts:—

"The black man's home is a windowless hut; he has never invented written record, nor ploughing, nor stone architecture; and he is confronted with the thought of the world crystallised in books, with mechanical inventions so far above his comprehension as to seem mere magic, with dazzling new possibilities of health, enjoyment, and economic success. Until what he learns in and out of school, has been absorbed into some common stock of ideas, until his home upbringing comes to stand in some relation with his formal education, it will be impossible to judge of what the African is capable.

"We often forget that the man is the animal without instincts, whose achievements spring chiefly from imbibing a social and intellectual tradition. In the past we have done our best to make the African despise his own tradition, while proffering him only a fragmentary part of our own, and proffering it too late in life for proper assimilation. Education here at home grows naturally out of the general tradition and background. In Africa education has to produce a new tradition and a new background. In fact, as one Director of Education said to me, his Department ought not to exist; it ought to be the Department of Native Development.

"Never shall I forget my visit to one of the two newly established Masai schools in Kenya, where Masai boys, besides an elementary general education, are taught dairying and agriculture. If this experiment succeeds it may save the Masai, that fine warrior tribe, from degenerating into a sort of a human zoo. At the moment, deprived by the *Pax Britannica* of any outlet for their warlike habits, still clinging to their haughty belief that all work save the tending of cattle is beneath their dignity, and yet so obsessed with the idea of cattle as wealth that they are reluctant to sell or improve their stock, they are in danger of becoming mere anthropological specimens, like the Red Indians in some of the United States Reserves. Only education of some sort can change their background. I saw some of the elders critically watching the scions of their tribe playing soccer.

"Afterwards the sixty boys queued up before me and placed their bowed heads in the pit of my stomach. This is the method of salutation with respect; my correct response, as I hastily discovered from the master, was to lay my hand on each woolly head in Biblical benediction. It is a charming gesture, but during its sixty-fold repetition I had leisure to reflect that perhaps it would be inconvenient to substitute it for the present methods of saluting in vogue at Eton or Harrow.

"Another extremely interesting place is Makerere College, in Uganda. This is the only institution in East Africa where anything approaching higher education is given to Natives. All the young men receive the same general teaching for half their time, and then diverge to prepare themselves for various kinds of posts—clerks, schoolmasters, agricultural and veterinary inspectors, survey workers, and so forth. The medical course is worth special attention. After Makerere the medical students go on to the hospital for two more years; the aim is to turn them out senior medical assistants, capable of doing the same work as the sub-assistant surgeons, who are now all Indians. It was very striking to see boys whose parents have lived the immemorial tribal life dissecting a cadaver, to hear them give quite intelligent answers, in good English, to my questions about the functions of the liver or the nature of a reflex action. Makerere will one day become the University of East Africa.

"I feel confident that, if only undue economic pressure from outside can be avoided, East Africa could develop, side by side with its white civilisation in the highlands, a distinctive Native civilisation of its own.

"Of the methods by which this could be achieved I have little space to speak. I am sure that the cinema has a huge field of usefulness before it, even more in adult education than in school. The delegation of responsibility to tribal authorities and Native Councils will help; only so will local patriotism and pride in achievement be stimulated. Improved health will probably have more to say in the result than any other single factor; but it seems clear that mere health propaganda will not be effective unless combined with a raising of the Native's economic level. The same is true even of pure anti-disease measures. For instance, the report of the League of Nations Commission on Malaria in Europe makes it clear that social and economic "bonification" are more important in reducing malaria than direct anti-mosquito measures.

"In the schools the great aims should be to get children young, in the formative period, and to lay a good foundation of general education before embarking on vocational training. At all costs, 'babuism' must be avoided. Agriculture and handiwork must be in every curriculum. The various subjects are now often very disconnected; if they were linked on to a central core of biology and local geography and history, the young African could get a new and connected view of himself and his destiny in relation to his environment. And wherever possible, pride of race, interest in tribal traditions, the practice of indigenous handicrafts and games and music should be encouraged. We cannot keep African Natives as herds of robot labour; I do not think we want them to develop into a mere imitation of our own unstable and unsatisfactory culture. No; we want them to make their own distinctive contribution to the world."

CANON ERNEST F. SPANTON, of the Universities Mission to Central Africa, has replied:—

"Speaking of 'The Academic Fallacy,' Professor Huxley says, 'The same tendency has been at work in Africa, largely as the result of missionary education.' Most modern educationists are convinced that much education has been too academic not only in Africa and China, but in Europe. That the early teachers in Africa were only too apt to perpetuate the weaknesses of their own educational upbringing is certainly true, and it is also true that most of the pioneers in African education were missionaries; but it is only fair to remember that these educational missionaries were among the very first discoverers of the need for a less academic and a more technical education in African schools. More than thirty years ago—long before the days of Phelps Stokes Commissions, when there were neither Directors of Education nor Government Education Committees—it was the rule of the Zanzibar Diocese, at any rate, that in every mission boarding-school each day's time-table should include at least two hours' manual work. The 'academic fallacy' can hardly be said to be the result of missionary education as such.

"But I would venture to suggest that Professor Huxley does missionary education a much more serious injustice when he goes on to assert that 'too often he (the missionary) has encouraged the Native to believe that all his old customs and beliefs were wrong,' and the injustice is none the less serious because the words, taken quite literally, may be held to be true. Europeans generally—whether missionaries or administrators or settlers—have often tended to assume that Native customs and beliefs are wrong; but for a good many years past missionaries have taken the lead in urging that these beliefs and customs should be studied sympathetically by all whose work brings them into close contact with the Native. This should be used in every possible way by those who would teach him the way to a fuller life. The Bishop of Masasi, in his contribution to 'Essays Catholic and Missionary,' shows convincingly how this may be done, especially in connexion with the tribal initiation rites, and describes how successfully it has been done in his own diocese.

"Professor Huxley's parenthesis 'One of the difficulties the Governments are now encountering in their attempt to introduce Native games, songs, and handicrafts into schools is that most teachers are Christian and have been taught to regard these things as heathen and therefore both wicked and undesirable' is an astonishing statement. In Tanganyika Territory, at any rate, Native games, songs, and handicrafts have been introduced into mission schools for the last twenty-five years at least to my own knowledge, and have played an important part in the school life. I have written thus because seventeen years' experience of actual work in and superintendence of mission schools has familiarised me with the facts; though perhaps as a missionary educator I may be regarded as a prejudiced witness."

The diarist of the Dar es Salaam, *Times* has recently referred on several occasions to our leading articles on the subject of ex-Sultan Saidi, and in a recent issue he wrote: "I take off my hat to *East Africa* for bringing the thing (the subsistence allowance of £30 monthly) to light and for fighting it so staunchly, and I hope that the European Association and other bodies will demand that the whole affair of Sultan Saidi, and all the documents in connection with it, should be laid open to the public through the Legislative Council." That is exactly what we consider desirable.

BRITISH SETTLEMENT IN AFRICA.

We have repeatedly emphasised the importance of securing the establishment on the land in Tanganyika Territory of an adequate number of British settlers of the right type. The Government of that Territory has not yet encouraged white settlers, and we therefore commend to public attention the following passage from a leading article in the current issue of *The 1820*, the official publication of The 1820 Memorial Settlers' Association. The editor writes:—

"South Africa, of all countries in the world, cannot, and dare not for long, leave immigration in the hands of Providence and a few public-spirited and far-seeing men and women who have formed themselves into an Association to assist, without any help from the State, the finest type of immigrants if it is possible to obtain anywhere in the world. Because of the lack of financial resources, private enterprise in emigration to South Africa must be limited; it cannot fulfil the country's requirements for long. The State must step in unless it wants to see the Union sink into a position of obscurity among the nations of the world."

Tanganyika is worse off than South Africa, for it has not even an Association determined to stimulate and assist British settlement.

COFFEE PLANTERS, PLEASE NOTE!

In its "Books Received" column our contemporary, *The African World*, says of Mr. J. H. McDonald's "Coffee Growing: with special reference to East Africa":—

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Camp Fire Comments.

Hyenas and Rabies.

An outbreak of rabies in the Mazabuka district of Northern Rhodesia has been causing much anxiety, for it shows little signs of abating in spite of stringent muzzling orders. It is more than suspected that hyenas are responsible for the continuation of the trouble, and if that is so, the hyena is in for a bad time. He is not a very popular beast at best, and if hydrophobia is to be added to his other unpleasant traits his shrift will be short.

Professional Hunters in Tanganyika.

The motion in the Tanganyika Legco. that professional big game hunters should be prohibited in the Territory, being substituted by Government hunters, has apparently found little favour with the general public, and certainly not with the Dar es Salaam Chamber of Commerce, which has opposed the idea, doubtless on the principle that the cost will be higher and the service poorer if officialdom is allowed to replace private enterprise. The discussion has disclosed some strange anomalies: Professional hunters in Tanganyika, who pay an annual licence of one pound, have to take out a full visitor's licence costing £100 on entering Kenya, which has no professional hunter's licence; conversely, a Kenya hunter entering Tanganyika is let off with twenty shillings.

Not Backward in Coming Forward.

Those who have had personal experience of the "educated" Negro will admit that diffidence and a tendency to be backward in coming forward are not among his failings. From down South comes the news that a gentleman of colour hailing from Liberia, and claiming a doctor's degree from Chicago, has held a congress in Queenstown, appointed himself Governor-General, and formed a Cabinet comprising a Prime Minister and a Minister of European Affairs. The report concludes its startling information with the quaint remark, "He has done nothing more." For a start, he seems to have done pretty well. Short of proclaiming himself Emperor of Africa—perhaps he and Marcus Garvey would squabble about that title—there seems little more for him to do.

Wild Animals and the Motor Car.

Our frequent reference to the ease with which wild animals in Africa can be approached in a motor car has evidently given a "tip" to motorists at home, for we find a contributor to a London paper declaring that he has now noticed that when his engine has been stopped and he has sat quietly for a few minutes in his car in a road running through a copse, birds, which would not come within fifty

yards of a person on-foot, will come up to within four or five yards of a motor car. From inside the car he has seen pheasants and field mice, and even weasels, moving about as if entirely unaware of the presence of human beings. All of which is no doubt true, and increases in most interesting fashion the problem, Why do they do it? The psychology of the matter offers a fascinating field for investigation.

The Speed of Big Game.

The speed of wild animals in East Africa has long been a bone of contention, and many and varied are the tales of almost incredible speed obtained by the rhinoceros, lion, and other animals. "With the advent of the motor car, however," writes an old settler, "more accurate tests have been possible, and it is now established that such animals as Tommies and Grant's gazelle can keep up a running 35 m.p.h. for some distance. Kongoni, in a test, have managed 32-34 m.p.h. for a short distance, while zebra, being plumper than most of their fellows, are rated at a maximum of 25 m.p.h. As many people know, the wart hog can scuttle along at a pretty good pace, probably about that of the zebra. The giraffe and ostrich are enigmas in velocity, for the one appears almost to amble along, yet attains considerable speed, while the other, having both leg and wing power to help him, is capable of terrific bursts of speed. The accurate testing of these is not yet complete, owing to the objection of either of these animals to going in a straight line for any distance."

Colour Changes of the Spotted Hyena.

From the recent paper published in the *Natural History Magazine* by Mr. R. I. Pocock, it appears that East African sportsmen and game wardens—some at least—are quite ignorant of the remarkable changes in colour undergone by the spotted hyena during growth and with the individual variety often exhibited after reaching maturity. The newly-born cub, says Mr. Pocock, is uniformly coloured black or brown, and the coat is short and sleek. The half-grown animal has a shaggy coat, and the pale tone of the adult begins to appear on the head and neck and as irregular blotches on the body, the legs and underside retaining the dark hue of puppyhood. Sometimes these are quite dark in tolerably large individuals in which the extension of the bleaching has so far affected the body and flanks that the blackish-brown tint of the young is represented merely by the spots. Finally, in some adult or old individuals, though possibly not in all, the belly and legs become the same brownish or tawny tint as the body and even paler. Adult hyenas from the same locality may differ considerably from one another.

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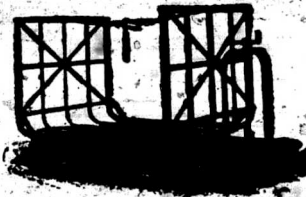
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A PRE-WAR KENYA SETTLER RETURNING.

Career of Major Clement Hirtzel.

MOST men who were in Kenya before the War will remember Mr. Clement Hirtzel, who first went up to East Africa in 1903 from South Africa, having gone out there towards the end of the Boer War.

An engineer by profession, he obtained from Sir Charles Elliot a concession for the sole right to supply electricity to the town and fifteen mile radius of Nairobi for twenty-five years; took the concession to England and floated the Nairobi Electric Power & Lighting Company, Ltd., which was absorbed by The East African Power & Lighting Co., Ltd.

In addition to acting as a consulting and contracting engineer, Mr. Hirtzel planted at Limuru and acted as a white hunter. Maktau was his favourite district, and many notable visitors were conducted to the Serengeti Desert, where hunting by car was first introduced by him.

The Road to Maktau.

When War broke out Mr. Hirtzel was given command of the first section of the East African Pioneers at Voi, and was responsible for the building of the road from the Uganda Railway at Voi to Maktau. A notable feat was performed by the Pioneers in laying a pipe line from the Bura Hills to Maktau (twelve miles) and supplying water in fourteen days, just before the Tanga attack.

When these operations came to a standstill he returned to England with a letter of recommendation from General Tighe and was gazetted to the Royal Flying Corps, and after spending a few months as a technical officer in France, was sent back to the War Office on special technical duties under General MacLaine. After a few months he was promoted to Staff Captain and was put in charge of aircraft production development throughout England.

These duties being taken over by the Ministry of Munitions, he was given the choice of remaining in charge of this department or returning to the Service, elected the latter, and was promoted to park commander and was sent to command the mechanical transport park at Leeds and afterwards at Farnborough. When the lack of aero engines became acute he was sent to the Air Ministry to organise aero engine repair in civilian workshops throughout England.

Towards the end of the War he was sent out to Salonika to reorganise the engineering equipment of the R.A.F. in the Balkans, and commanded the Salonika aircraft park and base depot, was mentioned in dispatches, and awarded the O.B.E. with the permanent rank of Major for services rendered in the Balkans.

We now hear that Major Hirtzel will in the near future probably be returning to East Africa as a planter.

POPPY WREATHS FOR SOLDIERS' GRAVES.

EAST AFRICANS who desire wreaths to be placed on war graves in France and Flanders will be glad to know that the British Legion Poppy Factory is employing disabled ex-Service men in making such wreaths at moderate prices. For an additional half-crown the wreath will be placed on the grave nominated, and for an all-in extra charge of five shillings a photograph of the wreath resting on the grave will be sent to any part of the world. Orders and inquiries should be sent to The British Legion (Wreath Department), 26, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

A LINK WITH LIVINGSTONE.

A Fund for Matthew Wellington.

THE following letter has been published by *The Times* :—

"On two previous occasions in your columns you have published information about the last remaining African servant of David Livingstone—Matthew Wellington, who was one of that little faithful band who embalmed their master's body and carried it, often through hostile tribes, to the coast of Africa, so that it might lie among his people. This aged servant is now living in poverty in Mombasa, and the Government of Kenya Colony, in spite of appeals from both unofficial and official quarters, does not see its way to award him a pension. He was for some years a foreman in the Public Works Department of that Colony.

There may be some of your readers who, admiring the life and work of David Livingstone, and grateful to those Africans who, against their inherited customs, embalmed and carried a dead body, would like to contribute to a fund for Matthew Wellington. £52 a year will keep the old man now eighty-five years of age, in comfort. Are there fifty-two of your readers who could subscribe £1 a year for Matthew's life-time? Contributions will be gratefully received by W. McGregor Ross, 24, Middleway, N.W.11.

Yours faithfully,

R. J. CAMPBELL,
DONALD FRASER,
A. RUTH FRAY,
ROBERT LAWS,
W. J. RAMPLEY,
WILLIAM ROBINSON,
ISABEL ROSS,
KATHLEEN SIMON."

Colonel H. I. Crosthwait, C.I.E., R.E. (retired), is to address the African Society in the hall of the Royal Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, W.C.2, at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 2, on "Aerial Survey of East and Central African Territories." Earl Buxton, the President of the African Society, will take the chair.



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FOR EAST AFRICAN SHEEP FARMERS.

An Important Pamphlet on Blow-Flies.

SOUTH AFRICA, with 32,000,000, according to the latest returns (1925 census), ranks fifth amongst the countries of the world in the matter of sheep. The export of wool was 174,595,153 lb. in 1924, valued at £15,763,953; and the industry is the second largest in the Union, being exceeded only by gold mining. Sheep blow-flies are by far the worst pest the sheep farmer has to contend with, and the damage is increasing year by year. It is estimated that the direct loss by these flies amounts to £78,000 annually, and at certain times of the year infested sheep are killed by the flies within forty-eight hours, unless treated.

In an important pamphlet, "The Sheep Blow-flies of South Africa" (Government Printer, Pretoria, 3d.), which should be of great assistance to sheep-farmers in East Africa, Mr. B. Smit, the Entomologist of the Grootfontein School of Agriculture, gives a full account of his researches into these flies. His full-page coloured plates of the three species of blow-fly concerned—the green and blue blow-fly (*Chrysomya chloropyga*), the English sheep-fly (*Lucilia sericata*), and the banded blow-fly (*Chrysomya albiceps*)—should make identification easy, and he takes pains to describe other blow-flies which do not "strike" sheep, but with which the dangerous species may be confused. One or two of these latter—the locust fly, for example, the maggots of which eat locust eggs—are even beneficial, though the author points out that it is quite probable that flies closely related to the three pests may later be found attacking sheep, for the habit is an acquired one. For the present, careful research has shown that only the three flies mentioned are implicated.

The life-histories of the three flies, and other points, are fully dealt with, and special stress is laid on the importance of disposing of sheep-carcases on the farm. Burying, besides being hard work, is practically useless, as the flies, after escaping from the puparium, are able to push their way through four feet of earth, and have been known to get through six feet, where the soil has been loose and dry. He suggests six methods—(1) burning, (2) boiling to make meat meal for poultry, (3) the use of the trough-destroyer, (4) spraying with poison, (5) by the use of the tank method, and (6) by the big-pit method—all of which are detailed in the pamphlet.

Trapping is a very effective means of destroying the flies that cannot be prevented from developing, and an efficient and very cheap trap is described; it costs only 4s. 8d., will last three or four years, and will catch ten and a half gallons of flies in three months. One caught 252,070 flies in that period, of which 160,540 were sheep blow-flies.

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VETERINARY WORK IN TANGANYIKA.

Report of the Department for 1928.

THE Report for 1928 of the Tanganyika Department of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry (Government Printer, Dar es Salaam, 3s.) is a much shorter document than usual. Rinderpest seems to have been the great trouble during the year under review, and it was a thoroughly tired staff which was at last able to congratulate itself that the danger was practically over. The factors influencing the spread of the disease were illicit stock movements, the nomadic tendencies of some of the tribes in the southern area, the unprotected Kenya border to the north, the failure by Natives of certain tribes to report cattle sickness or their deliberate concealment of sickness, and to a lesser extent the shortage of grazing and water in certain places, rendering almost impossible the maintenance of an effective system of quarantine or segregation of the sick. In all the Department issued 131,500 doses (of 30 c.c., the average dose for a Native ox) of rinderpest serum during the year.

Research Work in Progress.

A reading of the report brings home the great amount of research which is in progress and the many and serious diseases in stock of all kinds which the Department has to combat. The sound work which is being done must bring its reward in time, but the task is not an easy one. An experiment in crossing the Indian with the African buffalo with the object of combining the Native animals' immunity to "fly" with the docility of the Indian species was rendered nugatory by the death of the two African buffalo heifers. To what terrible persecution cattle may be subjected by flies is instanced by the fact that soon after the first heavy rain of the season *Hamatopota* were so numerous in parts of the laboratory farm that they tormented one weak beast to death and another was rescued just in time to save its life.

Research into fodder grasses and poisonous plants is being carried out with the assistance of the Amami Institute. Native pastures are heavily overstocked, but it seems at present impossible to induce the tribesmen to reduce their herds. No individual member of a pastoral tribe to-day, says the report, regards the possession of the money equivalent of cattle as conferring on him the same degree of *heshima*, or dignity, as the cattle themselves.

High Quality Milk.

Regular milk records are being taken from the cows at the Government dairy, Dar es Salaam, and analyses show a remarkably high fat content—sometimes as high as 7% or 8%—in the milk of the indigenous animal. A second zebra-donkey foal was born, and the first one—a male, now four years old—is regularly worked in harness, and is a well-built, strong and active animal, tractable and good-tempered. It remains to be seen whether such cross-breeds are mules, in the correct sense, or not.

The 250 Native quarantine guards proved useful, and the Director, Colonel F. J. McCall, M.C., defends them gallantly against criticism. A number of them are now able to carry out microscopical examinations of blood slides and to teach others the technique. He points out that their duties often take them into strange and distant parts of the country where their "interference" is resented; their hours are sometimes very long; and they are apt to contrast their work with the regular hours and higher pay of the Native clerical staff. Who can blame them?

DISEASE IN
NORTHERN
RHODESIA.
A PROTEST

MINING, MEN, AND MATTERS

RHODESIA—
KATANGA REPORT
THE SPRING
FEELING

MR. FRANK H. MELLAND has written the following letter in reply to a paragraph which appeared on this page on March 13:—

"Most emphatically do I protest against the exaggerated impression conveyed by the writer of your mining page about ill-health in Northern Rhodesia, which is as healthy as anywhere in the Tropics. There is malaria, but that is a preventable disease, and Ndola has not got a particularly virulent form. Blackwater is the result of saturation of malaria and is also preventable. The risk of sleeping sickness exists, but that has now been shorn of its terrors, as it is now curable, with no ill-effects, as can be proved by seeing those who have had it (for instance, Mr. James, well known in mining work out there).

"If reasonable precautions are taken, the country is healthy enough—and free from many risks to health that we have here in England. I lived there for twenty-six years, and under as hard and rough conditions, for many of those years as any prospector: many of them to-day can have no idea of what the conditions were like twenty-nine years ago. My wife was out there for ten years, and my four children, and the eldest was ten years old and the youngest two, and not one of them ever had malaria. They all travelled about two thousand miles a year with me round Kasempa, Solwezi, Mwinilungu, Ndoia, MKushi, Broken Hill, Feira, etc.

"Because some people will not take precautions—such as the daily dose of quinine, boiling drinking water in certain areas, adequate protection from the sun, etc.—it is unfair to write a paragraph such as the second one in particular, which conveys, and presumably was meant to convey, a totally wrong impression. Isolated sentences in the page can doubtless be substantiated by the writer; but the tone of those paragraphs is a libel on Northern Rhodesia."

Champions can always be found even for the most unhealthy of districts. "I have lived there for twenty years," they say, "and I am alright; that proves it healthy." It does not prove it. The only criteria from which to judge are the experiences of the majority, and it cannot be said that the specific places mentioned in the paragraph of Mr. Melland's complaint are anything else but unhealthy. What I wrote did not mean that the whole of Northern Rhodesia is unhealthy; it was meant to refer to specific districts only.

As Mr. Melland suggests, many newcomers do not take adequate precautions against malaria, and many, having no previous experience of tropical Africa and "the simple life," suffer severely from malarial fever. It must be admitted that excessive quantities of alcohol are conducive to speedy ill-health, and that ailments caused by this are often erroneously attributed to malaria. There is no reason why alcohol should not be taken in moderation in tropical countries, but excessive use has probably been the cause for many more deaths than has straightforward malaria without this complication.

To get back to the newcomer and his initial doses of fever, however. So often it happens that he "goes down" with a short but sharp spell almost on arrival, and, after a recurrence or two, he is taken to hospital, there to swallow, or otherwise absorb, as much quinine as his doctor thinks fit—the dose prescribed by different doctors incidentally varying so much as to make it a matter for perpetual argument. After the bout has passed the patient appears a mere shadow of his former self, and has to spend the next week or two in an endeavour to regain his lost strength. Later comes the next dose, and perhaps the next and the next; with one of them the young mining engineer spends a lengthy sojourn in hospital, and, on being discharged, is

given his passage back home. That is the last he sees, or wants to see, of Northern Rhodesia. The clearing of scrub, the drainage of swamp land near settlements, and the practice of modern tropical hygiene are rapidly eradicating malaria, and, as it happens, Sir Malcolm Watson, the director of malaria control at the Ross Institute, is now on his way to Northern Rhodesia to investigate these very conditions.

Let Mr. Melland and other readers retain a false impression, I add that I have spent years in East and Central Africa, have lived in some of the best and some of the worst districts, and have visited many settlement areas in Northern Rhodesia in which the residents were conspicuous for their healthy appearance and the bonhiness of their children. Because I regard certain districts as definitely unhealthy, I must not be assumed to apply such criticisms to the whole country. That was far from my idea.

At last there are signs of a general revival in financial circles, which, it is to be hoped, will reflect itself in further mineral development within the Empire. There is a general feeling that "things are getting better," due, perhaps, in part, to the spring air, and the mental brightness that a modicum of sun brings to our frozen minds. Nevertheless, there is a definite and long overdue move in the right direction; and it is about time that British investors shook themselves from their lethargy and began once more to take an interest in outside affairs. I hear of two or three new companies being floated for various enterprises in Kenya, and more than usual interest is being taken in Abyssinia.

The recently issued report by Sir Robert Williams & Co., the company's consulting engineers, of the Rhodesia-Katanga Company, gives a good indication of the value of their Kanshanshi mine. The values encountered in boreholes are high in copper content, and, in some cases, carry as much as 15% copper. The report provides no confirmation of the high gold content recently broadcast to the Press: "copper samples continue to show variable gold values" is the only reference to the subject.

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"East Africa's" Information Bureau exists for the free service of subscribers and advertisers desiring the Editor's aid on any matter. One of its principal objects is to contribute to the development of British trade throughout East and Central Africa, and any information which readers are willing to give for that purpose will be cordially welcomed.

Manufacturers wishing to appoint agents, and agents seeking further representations, are invited to communicate with the Editor. No charge is made for the service rendered by this Journal in such matters.

A new Coffee Grading Ordinance is expected in Uganda.

A new dispensary, the gift of the Aga Khan, has been opened in Dar es Salaam.

Beira Customs receipts for January amounted to £33,150, compared with £17,650 for December.

The town of Elizabethville is reported to have had a European population of 3,121 at the end of 1929.

Messrs. Folkes and Company have been appointed chief agents in Uganda for the Sun Insurance Office, Ltd.

The 1930 crop of arabica coffee from Bugishu is estimated to be less than the 130 tons produced last year.

Mr. R. S. Doyly John, of the Texas Oil Company, has been transferred from Dar es Salaam to the Far East.

A new photographic studio has been opened in Dar es Salaam under the name of R. Drossopulos-Stranzki.

The leading Nakuru firms are now employing daylight saving, closing their establishments at 4.30 p.m.

An hotel is at present under construction at Abercorn, and is expected to be completed about the middle of the year.

The s.s. "Robert Coryndon," which was recently launched at Butiaba, Lake Albert, has a cargo capacity of 200 tons.

No decision regarding the removal of the capital of Northern Rhodesia from Livingstone is anticipated before the end of this year.

Of 3,878 immigrants into Southern Rhodesia in 1929, 2,804 came from other African States, principally the Union of South Africa.

The management of the Mombasa branch of the Messageries Maritimes has been taken over by M. Ruinat, in succession to M. Lagreze.

Kenya Colony is the only British Colony, as distinct from the Dominions and India, with direct wireless communication with England.

The decline in Tanganyika ivory exports from £66,170 in 1926 to £21,148 in 1929 is officially attributed to the increased licences now payable.

In addition to an annual grant of £10,000 towards the Cairo-Cape air service, Southern Rhodesia is setting aside £1,500 a year to encourage local civil aviation.

Messrs. G. North & Son have occupied a new building in Boma Street, Arusha, and Messrs. C. C. Monckton's new building in the same street is nearing completion.

The Tanganyika Government steamer "Liemba," after being redecorated and painted, has resumed her usual fortnightly service on Lake Tanganyika. She now calls at Mpulungu every other Saturday.

Immigration figures for Tanganyika for November show that of eighty-four immigrants, forty-one were British, twenty-two German, and twelve Belgians. Of twenty-three visitors, fourteen were British and six German.

Arusha planters report that the coffee prospects of the district are excellent, the splendid rains of January and the beginning of February, which are usually very dry months, having placed the crop beyond doubt. Arusha has not experienced so good a year since 1923, and everything points to a bumper output.

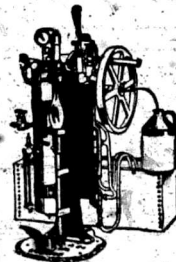
LAST WEEK'S RAINFALL IN KENYA.

HIS MAJESTY'S EASTERN AFRICAN DEPENDENCIES TRADE AND INFORMATION OFFICE in London has received cabled news that rainfall in Kenya for the week ending March 29 was as follows: Kiambu, 3.4 inches; Nairobi, 2.7; Kisumu, 2.2; Limuru, 1.8; Songhor, 1.3; Meru, 1.1; Thika, .75; Kericho and Kori, .4; and Kitale, 2 inches.

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EAST AFRICAN PRODUCE REPORTS.

COFFEE.

FULLY steady prices have been paid recently for good to fine qualities of East African coffee, but lower grades are slow of sale and some parcels have been withdrawn. At last week's auctions the following prices were realised:—

Kenya:—	
"A" sizes	100s. od. to 145s. 6d.
"B" " "	65s. od. to 110s. od.
"C" " "	52s. od. to 82s. od.
Peaberry	80s. od. to 145s. 6d.
London graded:—	
First sizes	70s. od. to 99s. od.
Second sizes	50s. 6d. to 66s. od.
Third sizes	51s. od. to 52s. od.
Peaberry	70s. od. to 101s. od.
Ungraded	62s. od. to 64s. 6d.
Uganda:—	
First sizes	65s. od. to 77s. od.
Second sizes	60s. od. to 69s. od.
Peaberry	70s. 6d. to 78s. 6d.
Toro:—	
London cleaned:—	
Palish	64s. 6d.
Medium	46s. od.
Peaberry	61s. od.
Tanganyika:—	
Arusha:—	
London cleaned:—	
First sizes	95s. od.
Second sizes	72s. od.
Third sizes	50s. 6d.
Peaberry	98s. 6d.
Kilimanjaro:—	
London cleaned:—	
Third size	39s. 6d.
Belgian Congo:—	
London graded:—	
Third size	43s. od.
Ituri:—	
London graded:—	
First size palish green	65s. od.
Second sizes	55s. od.
Third sizes	30s. od.
Peaberry	55s. od.
Dull brownish green	63s. 6d.
Mixed	35s. od.
Brownish <i>robusta</i>	33s. 6d.

London stocks of East African coffees on March 10 totalled 60,293 bags, compared with 45,630 bags on the corresponding date of last year.

OTHER PRODUCE.

Castor Seed.—The market is firmer, and for April shipment the price is slightly higher at £15 7s. 6d. per ton.
Chillies.—Mombasas are quoted at 55s. on a dull market.

Cloves.—The market is firmer with Zanzibar spot quoted at 11d. per lb.

Cotton. East African continues in moderate demand with quotations ranging from 6 5/6d. to 6 9/6d. per lb.

Cotton Seed. The market is very difficult, but prices remain round about £5 15s. to £5 17s. 6d.

Groundnuts.—Prices are slightly higher at £15 10s. for April/May shipment. The market is much stronger.

Hides and Skins.—East Africans are dull and neglected. Mombasas, 30/40/30% are quoted at 63d. per lb. for both mediums and heavies.

Maize.—On a very quiet market East African No. 2 white flat is quoted at 26s. 6d. for spot.

Simsim.—The market is very quiet. The price for April/May shipment is about £16 5s.

Sisal.—Quiet and rather weaker, with £34 5s. quoted for good marks No. 1 Tanganyika and Kenya for March-May shipment, and 10s. less for f.a.q.

Tea.—675 packages of Nyasaland tea were sold last week at an average price of 9 3/8d. per lb.

TO ENCOURAGE COFFEE DRINKING.

THE inaugural banquet of the Coffee Board of Great Britain, formed to encourage coffee drinking in this country, is to be held at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, on Thursday, April 3. Mr. A. J. Parnell, Chairman of the Board, will preside, and Lord Cunliffe will be the guest of honour. Any of our readers interested may obtain tickets by remitting 15s. to Mr. Ranald Small, the Hon. Secretary of the Board, at Drury House, Russell Street, W.C.2. As the accommodation is strictly limited, immediate application is essential.

COFFEE GROWING IN THE CONGO.

THE Government experimental stations at Yangambi-Gazi, Barumbu, Luala, and Nioka, in the Belgian Congo, established for promoting European agricultural enterprise, are doing well. Attention is being devoted to *Hevea*, cacao, palms, coffee, and stock raising, but it is towards the cultivation of coffee that development is tending—*Coffea robusta* at Stanleyville, in the Manyema district, and Uele; *arabica* in Ituri and Kivu. It is estimated that within from three to five years the export of coffee will reach 5,000 (short) tons; Belgium's consumption is 40,000 tons.

NEW MOTOR VESSEL FOR EAST AFRICA.

A new motor vessel for service on the East African-Madagascar route is being placed in commission by the Messageries Maritimes. She is to be named the "Marechal Joffre."

The Union-Castle Company has issued a new illustrated pamphlet advertising its reduced fare summer tours to South Africa. Copies are obtainable from any of the Company's offices.

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The latest telegrams received in London from Dar es Salaam state that further floods have occurred on the Central Tanganyika Railway near Lake Combo, but the interruption of traffic is not expected to be of long duration.



EAST AFRICAN STEAMSHIP MOVEMENTS.

BRITISH-INDIA

- "Madura" passed Perim homewards, March 22.
 "Malda" left Marseilles for East Africa, March 22.
 "Matiana" left Dar es Salaam for South Africa, March 21.
 "Karoa" left Seychelles for Bombay, March 22.
 "Karapara" left Bombay for Durban, March 26.
 "Khandalla" left Dar es Salaam for Durban, Mar. 24.
 "Karagola" left Durban for Bombay, March 24.
 "Ellora" arrived Mombasa from Bombay, March 24.

CLAN-ELLERMAN-HARRISON.

- "City of Dunkirk" left Perim for East Africa, March 23.
 "Harmonides" left Birkenhead for East Africa, March 16.
 "Collegian" left Newport outwards, March 22.

HOLLAND-AFRICA.

- "Randfontein" arrived Rotterdam, March 18.
 "Rietfontein" left Beira for South Africa, March 18.
 "Klipfontein" left Hamburg, March 18.
 "Aidabi" left Durban for East Africa, March 18.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

- "Chambord" arrived Marseilles, March 22.
 "Ville de Strasbourg" left Diego Suarez, homewards, March 23.
 "Aviateur Roland Garros" arrived Réunion for Mauritius, March 22.

UNION-CASTLE.

- "Bracon Castle" arrived Natal for London, Mar. 21.
 "Durham Castle" left St. Helena for Beira, March 21.
 "Garth Castle" left Las Palmas for London, March 20.
 "Gloucester Castle" left Natal for Lourenço Marques, March 23.
 "Granully Castle" arrived Cape Town for Beira, March 21.
 "Kildonan Castle" left Plymouth for Lourenço Marques, March 21.
 "Llandaff Castle" left Cape Town for London, March 20.
 "Llandoverly Castle" left Mombasa for London, March 22.
 "Llangibby Castle" arrived Mombasa for Natal, March 24.

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FOYLES 121, CHARING CROSS ROAD LONDON, ENGLAND.

A note almost reminiscent of O. Henry's newspaper in "Options," which appeared, or did not appear, on its regular dates according to his private daily exchequer, is taken from a Kenya daily. It reads: "The indulgence of our readers is asked for any shortcomings in this issue owing to the indisposition of the Editor, who is suffering from a sharp bout of malaria."

A long list of outfit requirements by the traveller in Tanganyika Territory has been published by a London weekly, which, in an editorial paragraph, advises the uninitiated to "shake out all boots and shoes before they are put on. They may contain snakes." The outfit, it says, is also applicable to Nigeria, though "dress clothes are necessary" in this latter country. So much for the barbaric life of Tanganyika!

A London paper resurrects the story that on the day Germany declared war against England von Lettow, then a peaceful settler, was in Cape Town preparing to embark on the steamer for German East Africa. There is, of course, no sort of foundation for the allegation, for the officer in question had assumed command of the German East African regular forces earlier in 1914 and was on a tour of inspection in the Iringa Province when war began.

EAST AFRICAN MAILS.

MAILS for Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, and Zanzibar close at the G.P.O., London, at 6 p.m. on:—

March 27 per s.s. "Razmak."

31 "s.s. "Chambord."

April 3 "s.s. "Viceroy of India."

10 "s.s. "Maloja."

Mails for Nyasaland, the Rhodesias, and Portuguese East Africa close at the G.P.O., London, at 11.30 a.m. every Friday.

Inward mails from East Africa are expected in London on April 6 by the s.s. "Bernardin de St. Pierre," and on April 11 by the s.s. "Llandoverly Castle."

"East Africa" is the most interesting publication of its kind I know, and contains a fund of information on all topics for those living in the tropics."

—A Medical Officer in Malaya.

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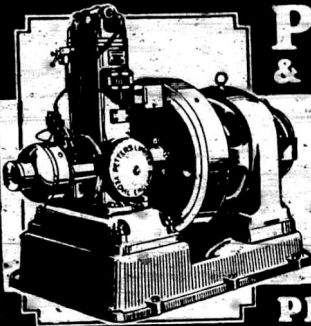
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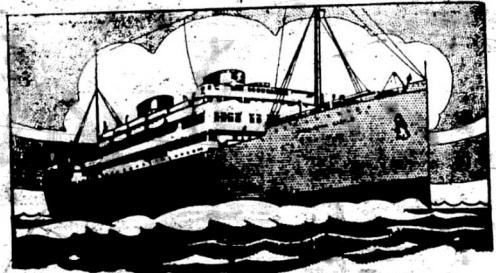
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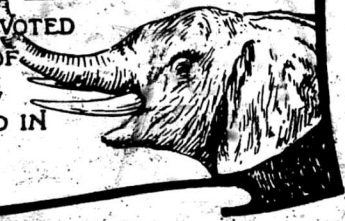
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Vol. 6, No. 289.

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 1930.

Annual Subscription
20/- post free.

Sixpence

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

FOUNDED AND EDITED BY F. S. JOELSON.

EDITORIAL AND PUBLISHING OFFICES,
91, Great Titchfield Street, Oxford Street, London, W. 1.
Telephone: Museum 7370. Telegrams: "Limitable, London."

Official Organ in Great Britain

of
Convention of Associations of Kenya.
Convention of Associations of Nyasaland.
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PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

	PAGE		PAGE
A Curious Tanganyika Document	937	Camp Fire Comments	947
Matters of Moment	938	Personalia	948
Pen Pictures of East Africa	940	East Africa's Bookshelf	950
Bill on Leave	943	Continued Progress of the R.E.A.A.	952
Letters to the Editor	944	East Africa in the Press	953
Somaliand Agricultural Report	946	The Prince in East Africa	955
		Mining, Men, and Matters	959

A CURIOUS TANGANYIKA DOCUMENT.

THE annual general meeting of the European Association of Tanganyika was attended by one non-official member of the Legislature for the express purpose of stating the views of his non-official colleagues on the case of ex-Sultan Saidi, and, in order that there might be no ambiguity, their unanimous opinion was set forth in a document drafted by one of their number who is a barrister. That communication stated, *inter alia*: "The non-official members of the Legislative Council consider that enough publicity has been given to the matter to ensure for all practical purposes that Government would take proper steps to stop such defalcations in future, and that continually stressing the matter would enhance an idea that the policy of Native administration as introduced by the Government was being impugned, whereas the non-official members heartily support the policy." So does *East Africa*, but we fail to follow the reasoning of the above passage. Frank facing of the facts months ago by the Government, and the non-official members would have obviated any need of "continual stressing"—which has been voiced by us, not with the object of impugning a policy which we believe to be sound in itself, but because we fear that its present overhasty application may weaken it. Persistent silence in the face of legitimate public requests for information had nothing to commend it: it was obvious that it would have to be broken at last, and it might far better

Pending his trial and appeal he suffered an appreciable term of imprisonment. He has also been banished from his tribe and home, and is living on a pittance from the Native Treasury, having been deprived of emoluments amounting to some £8,000 a year, which was his tribute as a chief some five years ago." The recent denial of the Tanganyika Government that the ex-Sultan had been granted a pension is thus revealed as the quibble we suspected; he has been granted, not a pension from public funds, but a mere pittance from the Native Treasury—a distinction without a difference. Confidence is not encouraged by such word-play. Would the truth have remained hidden but for *East Africa's* disclosures? It almost looks as if it would. "The pittance" is £30 a month, a sum which many a European in East Africa would be glad to receive. The previous emoluments of the deposed Paramount Chief scarcely appear germane to the issue; many a man, at one time rich and regarded as honest, has later been sentenced for embezzlement; but we have yet to hear an English barrister plead that the just sentence of the Court shall be waived because his client was once affluent, and because, since the charges were brought, he has dwelt among strangers. That is the plea of the non-official members—who, fortunately for themselves, have no constituency committees to consult or election meetings to face. If they had, so naive a self-defence could scarcely have been put forward.

Though the point has never yet been even hinted at from the Government or the non-official members of the Council, the real view of Tanganyika's legislators may be that Saidi requires £360 a year for the support of his numerous wives and relatives; if that be the underlying trend of thought, why is it

MATTERS OF MOMENT

Last week we quoted Professor Julian Huxley, who has just returned from East Africa, as having written: "The report of the League of Nations Commission on Malaria in Europe makes it clear that social and economic 'bonification' are more important in reducing malaria than direct anti-mosquito measures." "Bonification," it may be explained, is a system of improving the diet, housing, economic status, and general sanitation of a population, and was recently recommended for East Africa by Colonel Dr. S. P. James in his report on anti-malarial measures in Kenya and Uganda. As a mere lay journal we do not rely on our own knowledge or experience of malaria, but base these comments on a letter recently published over the signature of Sir Malcolm Watson, the Principal of Malarial Control of the Ross Institute, an authority of vast experience and with a great record of success in eliminating malaria in Malaya.

Shortly put, "bonification" treats malaria as a social disease," and Sir Malcolm is emphatic in his insistence that in tropical malarious countries malaria attacks the best-educated and the best-fed people living under the best sanitary conditions, if their houses are close to the breeding places of the species of *anopheles* which carry the disease. This will, we think, coincide with the experience of most East African readers. We, at least, have never noticed Governors, the members of their Councils, and other leading residents to be immune to malaria if they are exposed to the bites of *anopheles*. Professor Huxley, it will be noted, cautiously mentions that the League report deals with malaria in Europe, while Sir Malcolm Watson refers to tropical malarious countries, but Colonel James would apply to Kenya and Uganda—both of which must, we fear, be included in the tropical malarious list—this system of bonification, and relies on it to the extent of declaring that it is no longer thought necessary always and in all circumstances to base anti-malarial measures on knowledge of the malaria-mosquito cycle.

With Sir Malcolm Watson we believe that that is a very dangerous suggestion for East Africa; he points out that ignorant, poorly housed, and poorly fed Natives entirely escape malaria in Malaya if they live only half a mile from *anopheles* breeding places.

We had occasion not long ago to comment on Colonel James's dictum on the screening of houses in Kenya and Uganda: "Judging from a recent communication by Colonel James to the Royal Society of Medicine," writes Sir Malcolm Watson, "the best advice he can offer to the people of the great malaria-stricken tracts of the earth is to improve their houses and economic position and to wait patiently until they have acquired . . . a racial immunity. . . . I venture to suggest that, if malaria is regarded as a social disease depending largely on diet, housing, economic status and general sanitation, there is little hope for the malarious regions of

knowledge of the malaria-mosquito cycle, we will control the disease, and my experience is that automatically the economic status, diet, housing and social conditions will rapidly be improved. To me it seems that Colonel James's way of regarding malaria control is to put the cart before the horse. With all of which—if a lay journal may say so—entirely agree.

During the recent session of the Tanganyika Legislative Council strong criticism was voiced of the Credit to Natives Ordinance, which now absolves Natives from repaying any debt obtained from Europeans or Indians. It was argued—rightly, we consider—that if Natives are sufficiently sophisticated to take out trading licences and to become middlemen on their own initiative, they must be regarded as quite able to look after their own interests in the matter of credit. Apart from the injustice to European, Asiatic, and Arab traders, who have no legal hold on any Native who may have obtained credit from them, the law is a definite check on Native trading, since its provisions naturally mean that credit is usually withheld from Natives, who have consequently to purchase all stock for cash. That is desirable in the case of the uninitiated and ignorant, but Native traders and artisans, and other educated or skilled men, might well be made exceptions to the present regulations, which were designed to protect the innocent from knaves who might seek to take advantage of their simplicity. Native chiefs with large revenues and wide powers are known to exact credit from non-Native traders, who, though practically powerless to refuse such accommodation, have no legal redress if the chief chooses to default—as some have done. It is idle for the local Administration to argue that a chief who can be trusted with thousands of pounds of public money should not be held accountable in law for a debt to a merchant who has supplied him with food, clothing, or other articles, and the sooner such an anomaly be abolished the better from every standpoint.

Tanganyika Territory, according to Captain Gethin, the Director of Surveys, is to have its own Government air fleet towards the end

of this year. As we have repeatedly emphasised, Tanganyika and the other East and Central African Dependencies, offer great scope for the development

of aviation, but we believe that sound progress will be achieved only by private air services, assisted financially perhaps from public funds, but managed on commercial, not official lines. Past experience has shown that State-owned industries are almost invariably costly luxuries, and often failures, and an air service, whether for survey only or for general purposes, owned and administered by the Tanganyika Government is likely to be no exception. The prime object of that Government is to secure aerial surveys of various parts of its great area, probably in particular those districts through which a railway to the south-western highlands might be built. But such work is of a highly

There are now several British air survey companies which are able to give competitive estimates for Colonial surveys; two are at this moment engaged on large contracts in East Africa, one in Northern Rhodesia and the other in the Sudan, and in the long run it would assuredly be much more economical and efficacious to enlist their wide experience, permanent personnel, and specially constructed aircraft than to leave the work to enthusiastic amateurs, however devoted. Tanganyika's Director of Surveys has hinted, however, that the machines which that Government has ordered will be employed partly in the transport of officials and, when not so engaged, might occasionally be hired by merchants or planters. If the transport of officials by air is considered necessary, why should arrangements not be made with a local private air service? That would help the development of civil aviation, lead to increased public flying facilities, and economy in Government expenditure. Curiously enough, this interesting subject does not appear to have been debated at the last session of the Legislative Council of Tanganyika, where the pros and the cons might have been advanced. For our part, we have yet to hear a sound argument in favour of the Government proposal.

Since its establishment five and a half years ago *East Africa* has repeatedly urged East African coffee planters to co-operate in a properly planned collective advertising campaign, but despite the well intentioned efforts of the Coffee Planters' Union of

**DRINK MORE
COFFEE.**

Kenya and East Africa, nothing has yet been done. Now, with the prospect of the early formation of the Kenya Coffee Board proposed by the recent Agricultural Commission under the chairmanship of Sir Daniel Hall, and for publicity on behalf of East African coffee appears more likely than at any time in the past; moreover, efforts have been begun in London for the institution of a "Drink More Coffee" campaign under a recently constituted body known as The Coffee Board of Great Britain. So with the object of encouraging the optimists and heartening the pessimists, we think it opportune to give some brief details of the great success achieved in Great Britain by the "Eat More Fish" campaign. The majority of British trawler owners voluntarily submitted during 1929 to a levy of one penny per £ on the value of the fish landed, £40,000 being thus realised and expended on advertising; the result, it is now officially stated, was an increase in their revenue by £1,100,000—a twenty-seven fold return on the advertising investment! Prices were not increased to the public, but there was an increase of one-twentieth of a penny per pound in the average wholesale price paid to the trawler owners; that small increase did not, of course, affect the price paid by the housewife, but, in conjunction with increased sales of 37,000 tons of fish during the twelve months, provided the trawler owners with well over one million sterling of much needed new capital. Now, when success has been prompt and undeniable, it is interesting to recall that it took years of persuasion before a sufficient percentage of the trawler owners would agree to a cess; in other words, the outlook in the initial stages was no more promising than in the case of the East African coffee growing industry. We trust that this campaign will be an incentive to East African coffee planters. At present, while coffee prices are low, and tend still lower, the

A word of advice to our planter readers may not be out of place on this page. In such a book as Mr.

J. H. McDonald's "Coffee Growing; with Special Reference to East Africa," they find certain artificial manures and sprays recommended; they should see to it that such manures are guaranteed up to sample and that the sprays are made of pure materials, for such pre-

cautions are only fair to the author, and if omitted are apt to cause disappointment to the user who has built great hopes of success. There is, we believe, as yet no general law in East Africa which controls the quality of artificial manures and insists on their being sold on a guaranteed analysis; the sooner such a law is introduced, as in South Africa, the better it will be for the planter. As for sprays, take the case of Bordeaux mixture, one of the most popular and most effectual remedies for fungus disease. It is essential that it should be made of pure bluestone (copper sulphate) and good, freshly-burnt lime. Tests for both are not difficult. Bluestone is generally adulterated with iron in the form of "green vitriol" (iron sulphate); but bluestone should be in the form of dark blue crystals, and the lighter and greener they are in colour the more adulterated they must be. A simple course is to dissolve a crystal in water and add gradually a solution of ammonia; a pale-blue precipitate forms at first, which dissolves in excess of ammonia, forming a beautiful, intensely blue solution which should remain perfectly clear; if a red sediment settles, it is due to the presence of iron. Freshly burnt lime on being sprinkled with water crumbles into a fine powder, giving off great heat; if the lime does not so act even on being tested with hot water, reject it; it is unsuitable for making Bordeaux. We know the difficulties of transport in East Africa and the deteriorating effects of the climate, but we must emphasise that the compounds recommended by the textbooks are in many cases delicately balanced and selected for their efficiency on the purity of the materials used and on the care with which they are compounded.

April is the month which sees the arrival from East Africa of those lucky Britons who can command, or "wangle," their leave according to their desires, and of all the months in the year, it gives perhaps the greatest joy to the returned exile,

**ON LEAVE
IN APRIL.**

for it marks the opening of the earliest spring flowers. To be in England when April is here has inspired poets, and with justice and reason. May we draw the attention of our home-returning readers to a sight which they should not miss? On some railway lines, especially those running north out of London, can now be seen along the lines, on embankments and in cuttings, a perfect blaze of dandelions—common flowers enough, but in mass one of Nature's marvels. For miles the wealth of pure gold delights the eye, and the very name of the little plant—*Dent du Lion*—has its appeal to the East African. In a week or two the brilliant blossoms will be replaced by the quaint white "pom-pom" heads of parachute fruits and the display will be over. The great Linnaeus, when on his first visit to England, fell on his knees and thanked God for the sight of a common of gorse in full flower. More humble, if less temperamental, East Africans will be equally grateful for the splendour of English dandelions and primroses in April. It is typical of the English countryside that its beauty is attained by the simplest and most homely of means and never

PEN PICTURES OF EAST AFRICA.

THE OFFICER'S TOOTHBRUSH.

A True Tale of the East African Campaign.

Specially written for "East Africa."

By "Bellalson."

AMONG the German prisoners brought into Liwale after the action at Abdallah-kwa-Nanga in November, 1917, was one named Bauer, wounded in the thigh. Blond, tall, thin, and a bit of a dandy, Lieutenant Bauer bore a strong resemblance to the Crown Prince, which resemblance he assiduously cultivated.

When the British Liaison Officer with the Belgian Column which had taken part in the action began to interrogate Lieutenant Bauer he found the latter, despite his plebeian name, somewhat stand-offish and difficult. It was not long, however, before Bauer admitted that he had the Iron Cross and was Staff Officer to Major Tafel, of Mahenge fame.

"Can you tell me anything about Tafel's present whereabouts and dispositions?" asked the Liaison Officer, not in so many words, of course, though usually he could be fairly direct with prisoners, for he had found from experience that captured Germans were often garrulous on matters of military intelligence.

Lieutenant Bauer drew himself up.

"I am a Prussian regular officer," he stated stiffly. "I decline to tell you anything whatsoever!"

"Oh, very well," replied the L.O., turning to the next prisoner.

Bauer called after him. "I have a request to make," he snapped.

"Yes! What?"

"As a prisoner of war I am entitled to half pay from the nation that takes me. When can I have some money?"

"I believe that was a pious hope of the old women of both sexes who formed the First Hague Convention," agreed the British officer.

"By the rules of war I demand—"

"Oh, well, put it up when you get down to the base. We can't pay anyone here. I've had no pay myself for five months."

The Liaison Officer looked again at Herr Lieutenant Bauer.

"You seem well up in the jolly old rules of war," he remarked. "What did you say you were? A lawyer?"

"No. I was Chief of Staff to Major von Tafel."

"Have you any papers on you? You will have to give them up, you know."

A sneer came over the prisoner's face.

"I destroyed all my papers before the Belgians took me," he announced triumphantly.

Later in the day the Liaison Officer was handed a suitcase.

"What's this?"

"Papers in German found on a Native. Thought you'd like to have a look."

Within the attaché case the papers were neatly

arranged. The case itself was one of those leather affairs that City folk carry daily. The L.O. jumped. On top was the ration strength of Tafel's column with nominal rolls, dated a few days previously; underneath was the ammunition return for the same; and finally there was a sheet of paper on which stood Tafel's plans, the itinerary of his march from Mahenge, and his rendezvous with von Lettow. There was nothing to show to whom the suitcase belonged. The L.O. took it off to his tent to draw up a précis of the contents.

Presently the Belgian Wireless Officer strolled past. "How's transmission to-day?" asked the Anglo-Saxon.

"Excellent! Conditions really good. We were getting British G.H.Q. this morning quite clearly," was the information given.

"Well, then, please get on to them again. Priority with this," and he thrust a wad of telegraphic scribbles at the Belgian. "There'll be more," added the L.O. cheerfully. "Lots more in the next hour or so. This is the first instalment. Haven't time to put it in code. Doesn't matter. *En clair* is just as good."

The attaché case proved interesting. Throughout the afternoon the L.O. had one or two callers, whom he turned away with the minimum of courtesy, so that he might continue feverishly to translate the important information that had fallen into his hands. Just then he did not realise how valuable the find was to prove.

When he had finished he wandered over to the Belgian Column Headquarters with a copy and the attaché case. The Belgian Commandant almost leapt from his seat.

"What? The Headquarters box of von Tafel? Let me see!" he exclaimed.

He turned the sheets of translation over quickly, comparing them with a map spread out on the floor.

"*Mon ami*, don't you—can't you see what this means?" he asked. "Tafel bumped the 1/4th K.A.R. two days ago at Abdallah-kwa-Nanga. We Belgians barged along and into Tafel's tail. He lost a few feathers."

"Thirty-nine killed and fifty-seven wounded," murmured the L.O.

"Yes. And we got a whole lot of white prisoners," went on the Commandant. "And now we've got Tafel's confidential box of papers. *Nom de Dieu!* Here are his plans. He is to join von Lettow's main force at Sasawara on the Ruvuma."

"I've wirelessed British G.H.Q.," said the other. "If they've any sense they'll send a flying column to cut Tafel off."

"You juggins," said the Commandant, who was nothing if not slangy. "Columns miss each other in the bush. It has happened before. Look how Tafel dodged us when he came south from Mahenge. That's not what I mean. Can't you put yourself in Tafel's place at the present moment? What is he thinking and doing?"

"I suppose he's cursing the blighter who dropped his attaché case."

"No, he isn't. He is saying to himself: 'It's no use my sticking to these plans now. They may be known to the enemy. I'll go off in a different direction.'"

"And mislead the enemy? M-yes!" agreed the L.O. "I can see you've not read 'The Green Curve' for nothing."

* In forwarding this manuscript "Bellalson," who is known to many of our readers, wrote: "I certify that the incidents described in this article are entirely true to fact and came within my own experience. With the exception of the names of British and Belgian officers are, for

Major Tafel was on his way with a considerable force to rejoin von Lettow, who at this period was making a final-desperate stand to the west and south of Lindi on the sole remaining portion of German East Africa unoccupied by Allied forces. Tafel had been hanging round the south of Mahenge for weeks past, doing little but worry occasional British patrols—in which he was possibly emboldened by the information his scouts had brought him that the only opposition between him and von Lettow was two companies of the 1/4th King's African Rifles.

Unfortunately for him his scouts gave Tafel no inkling in good time that a hefty Belgian column had made a very rapid march from Kilwa and had reached Liwale. This column had, indeed, effected a junction with Major Hawkins of the 1/4th K.A.R., who then prepared a defensive position at Abdallah-kwa-Nanga, while the Belgians patrolled north of Liwale "according to plan." When Tafel did at last learn that there were two K.A.R. companies and a couple of full strength battalions of Belgian troops between him and von Lettow, he stood not on the order of his going.

He had not gone far south before he bumped the K.A.R. at Abdallah-kwa-Nanga. Action was engaged about noon. The 1/4th put up a very stout resistance, but were hopelessly outnumbered. It took Tafel several hours to turn the position at Abdallah-kwa-Nanga, but so heavy was the firing that it was audible to the Belgians ten miles away, who immediately set off hot foot and fell on Tafel as the K.A.R. were about to retire.

Tafel, finding himself attacked in the rear by the Belgians, collected his troops as best he could and made the quickest get-away possible in the circumstances. One of the curious results of the engagement was that a hospital unit of the 1/4th captured by Tafel was recaptured by the Belgians. Indeed, several British prisoners in German hands managed to escape in the confusion. Tafel himself was nearly captured, and his Staff Officer Bauer certainly was. With Bauer there fell into the hands of the Liaison Officer the little attaché case that meant so much.

A couple of days later the Liaison Officer had occasion to visit the hospital at Liwale, no better and certainly no worse than the usual field hospital—just several grass *bandas* (huts), that was all. At that moment it was very full of British, Belgian, and German wounded from Abdallah-kwa-Nanga.

The Belgian doctor was working like a Trojan. At the moment of the British officer's arrival the doctor happened to be examining Bauer. He signed to the dresser to replace the bandages before he moved on to the next bed. Bauer recognised the L.O. and scowled.

"I haf one complaint to make," he said peremptorily.

"Yes?"

"In this hospital," began Bauer in broken English; then with a glance at the doctor he turned to his mother tongue. "In this hospital I have received very indifferent treatment."

The patience of the Liaison Officer snapped. "You are receiving exactly the same treatment as the British and Belgian wounded," he retorted.

"But there is an entire lack of comfort."

"Well, damn it, you're in a field hospital. What do you expect?"

"I expect the usual necessities of life."

"What necessities, the doctor? What ratios

"As far as I know he is getting exactly the same ratios as the rest of us," he replied, wiping his hands. "Nothing to write home about, for, as usual in this war of movement, we have once again outdistanced our supply train."

Lieutenant Bauer waved a deprecating hand on which a ruby ring glistened. "When I said necessities," he explained, "I did not imply food only. Perhaps I should have said decencies. There is not even a toothbrush supplied."

The L.O. nearly choked. "Toothbrush?" he sputtered. "Why, bless my soul! I lost my own toothbrush months ago. Get a boy to make you an *mswaki*." Most of us use nothing else."

Bauer's condition did not improve. When next the L.O. saw him a few days later the doctor had had to amputate.

"Seems to have a curious obsession," said the M.O. "I have told him dozens of times I have no toothbrush to give him, but he keeps pestering me to know if any such thing was found in his kit."

"Why did you have to take his leg off?" asked the Liaison Officer.

"That's another curious thing. It was a clean wound—machine gun bullet in the thigh. But his mental state is not good. I am sure it reacts, is constantly reacting on his bodily state. Sepsis set in for no reason at all. I am sure he is worrying about something, haunted by some dread. The other Germans loathe him. Excuse me," broke off the doctor, "I must go."

The L.O. wandered over to Bauer's bed, and was instantly struck by the change in the man. It may have been the pain of the amputation, of course. Whatever it was, the bluster had evaporated; Lieutenant Bauer's tail was well down.

"I am sorry about your leg," said the British officer. "If you care to give parole while you are as sick as you are now, what can be done to make things easier for you?"

There was a flash of the old Prussian mettle. "I am not aware," replied Bauer, "that it is customary between officers and gentlemen to give or offer parole when one of them is a prisoner."

"You're a nice genial sort of sportsman to have about the house, I must say," observed the L.O. But the sarcasm was wasted on Bauer. "I have a complaint to make," he started again.

"Indeed?"

"Yes. About my treatment in this hospital. When the war is ended, I shall report the whole matter."

"Don't forget to send a copy to the Pope and to Harry Linder, will you?" suggested the other, sitting down on the side of the wounded German's bed. "Too bad, isn't it?" he went on. "Here! Have a gasper and tell me all about it."

There was something like moisture in the martial eye of Bauer. His instincts were not proof against the offer. He smoked a few puffs and then reiterated his demand for some of the elementary decencies of life, as he expressed it.

"If it's a manicure set you want, I can't oblige you," interrupted the L.O.

And, before the other could speak again, he went on: "No, not even a toothbrush. Sorry, but I'll show you how to make a *mswaki*."

Bauer groaned and shut his eyes.

Other German white prisoners in the same plight as Bauer did not scruple to give parole. Their lot

as prisoners was correspondingly alleviated. Some of them spoke freely to the L.O. about Bauer.

"He lost the case with the major's private papers in it," explained one of these. "He's got wind up properly about it. We tell him he will be court-martialled at the end of the war. 'Serve him right, the *Schwein*.'"

Whistling, the L.O. returned to his tent, got out the dispatch case, and looked through it again. "Of course, I remember now," he told himself. "I thought I had seen it here."

He called an orderly. "Here," he said. "Take this down to the hospital and give it to the doctor."

He took a brand new toothbrush out of the dispatch case containing Tafel's military papers, and put it in an envelope. On the envelope he wrote:—
"Leutnant Bauer. Is this yours?"

Next day the Belgian commandant came to the Liaison Officer's tent.

"Have you heard that we move on to Masasi to-morrow? The O.C. wants to see you."

"Well," remarked the O.C. at Headquarters, "I suppose they think we've had time to lick our wounds. We leave to-morrow for Masasi."

He looked among the papers on his table and handed the L.O. a radiogram. It was from British G.H.Q.

"Tafel surrendered with over two thousand ranks and all arms."

"You see," commented the commandant pointing to the map, "I told you what would happen. Tafel got confused. He turned eastward and ran into the Nigerians, who gave him a rough handling. After that he was completely encircled by a K.A.R. column and gave up the ghost."

"It was bound to happen, of course," added the O.C. "Who wants a little exercise with me? Let's walk towards the hospital and tell *le bon docteur* the good news. I am getting flabby sitting here so long."

As they walked the Commandant joked about his foresight. The loss of Tafel's box had been a disaster. The result was the biggest single haul of German prisoners that fell into British hands in East Africa in the whole campaign.

On entering the hospital the Liaison Officer nearly trod on a man. It was a European, lying half out of his bed, with one hand nearly touching the ground.

"Look!" he cried, turning to a hospital orderly. "This man's bandage has come off his wrist."

The white man in question seemed to be asleep but very pale, and from his wrist a thin trickle of blood was slowly drying on the ground. The puzzled orderly lifted the man on to his bed.

"But this *meungu* was wounded in the leg," he kept muttering to himself.

"See that?" asked the Belgian commandant, pointing to a rope dangling from the grass partition.

The doctor came forward. "What's the matter?" he asked.

"He's dead," replied the orderly.

"It's Bauer!" exclaimed the L.O.

It was not difficult to make out how it had happened. Leutnant Bauer had attempted to hitch a rope over the doorway near his bed. He had failed. Then he had opened a vein in his wrist and had bled to death.

"Yes," admitted one of the other German

knew about Tafel's surrender last evening. A Native runner brought the news."

The O.C. and the Allied officers exchanged glances. Their own wireless was only an hour old! "Unbalanced nation, the Germans," observed the doctor. "This is the second suicide here among their prisoners. No reason at all as far as I can see. But then schoolboys in Germany commit suicide even if they are ploughed in an exam."

"I wonder if Bauer ever got that toothbrush," mused the Liaison Officer. "That was his *attache* case all right. I wonder—"

He is still wondering.

A PLANTER AND BUFFALO.

I HAD purchased, yes, and paid for, a helmet from one of the Nairobi stores. The price was just double what Post Said would have charged, plus postage and *bakshish* in the way of Customs duty on the Nairobi price and the postage.

As I was unpacking the box I saw a Native actually hurrying up to my house, so I knew he must want to borrow or get something from me.

"*Jambo, bwana.*"

"*Jambo.* What do you want?"

"*Bwana,* the buffaloes have come and eaten my maize. Twice have I planted it, and watched it grow, and twice have they eaten it. Will you come and shoot them?"

"I've already shot two for you. Did you not go to the *boma* last week?"

"Yes."

"Well, what did the *bwana* say?"

"I've forgotten!"

"Nonsense! He told you 'He was your father, and mother, your doctor and schoolmaster, and also your landlord.' Is that not so?"

"Truly, *bwana.*"

Then if he is all these things, go and ask him to shoot the buffalo, and not a *bwana* who owns a plantation and is too busy at the moment to be able to come all the way to your place."

"But, *bwana,* those words of his are like smoke; they vanish in a few moments. And you have shot buffalo before. Will you not come?"

"I cannot at present."

"Well, can I dig a trap?"

"Alright, but on this occasion only."

"Thank you, *bwana.*" and the Native left.

A day or so afterwards I was strolling through the plantation when I noticed the fresh spoor of buffalo, and thought I would follow it a short distance. It ran close to a well-worn Native path, with the grass at the side well clipped by game.

My interest aroused I followed the trail much further than I had intended, until suddenly, without any warning, the path under my feet gave way. My gun flew in one direction, my hat in another. Feeling myself falling, my hands clawed at the earth to try and stop my descent, but all in vain. I had found the Native's buffalo trap!

It was only with the utmost difficulty that I managed to climb out. I could just touch the sides with my hands, and, by using my legs and shoulders, at last emerged, feeling very much shaken and angry.

Where was my new hat? Nowhere could I see it. Then I looked down in the pit. At the bottom lay something—my helmet, plus Kenya duty, plus postage, plus Tanganyika duty, plus my eleven stone. I had fallen on it and smashed it to pieces. And I, as a taxpayer, pay for Cultivation Protectors

Bill on Leave.

No. 6.—On Seeing a Great Man.

"You must look up my brother," said my partner as I was leaving East Africa. "He is a big noise in the City—chairman of many companies and all that. He is very rich; you know, but not a bad fellow at heart really."

So I determined to meet this man, because he was Jack's brother, because I wanted some first-hand knowledge, and because of an impish desire to see in the flesh a real Captain of Industry.

I rang up his office, gave the girl my name, and asked for the Great Man.

"What is it in connexion with, please?" she queried.

"Oh! private business," I answered.

"Are you a personal friend of his?" she asked.

"Well, I hope to be when you put me through," I replied as graciously as possible.

"I'm sorry I can't put you through unless I know in what connexion it is that you wish to speak to him," she said. "Perhaps you would like to speak to his secretary?"

Patiently I awaited the voice of the secretary. Presently it came. "In what connexion did you want to speak to Mr. Blank?" she asked officially.

"I want to speak to him on private business," I said, "I have just come from East Africa and I have a letter of introduction to him. If you let me speak to him I can then make an appointment."

"I'm sorry," she replied, "but I can't put you through unless I know in what connexion you wish to see him. He is a very busy man. If you could write to him, enclosing your letter of introduction, and requesting an appointment, I shall see that this is given to him. Good morning!"

Determined to see the Great Man, I jumped into a taxi and gave the address of his office. The commissionaire looked at me doubtfully, and glanced alternately at my letter of introduction and my card. "I'll take it up, sir," he conceded, "but I don't think he will see you without an appointment."

Soon he returned, and beckoned me to follow him. A smartly dressed lift-boy wafted us up two floors and we proceeded along a softly carpeted corridor. A knock on a heavy oaken door and I was admitted.

"Come in, Bill," was the cheery invitation. "You won't mind my calling you Bill, will you? My brother has written such a lot about you that I feel you're an old friend."

I sat down, accepted his proffered cigar, and surveyed my host. He was a rotund man, exuding cheerfulness and confidence. His office was the essence of rich simplicity. His desk was large, but not too large, and I knew by the flavour of his cigar that it had cost not less than half a crown.

"Forgive me for a few moments," he said, "I want to sign these letters and then we'll go and have some lunch."

Soon he rose, fetched his coat and hat from an ante-room, and presently we found ourselves in his club. I had not known that the City boasts clubs just as spacious and as exclusive as the West End, and I was surprised at the luxuriance of our luncheon place.

"But now, tell me," he began, "how is Jack getting

I don't know why he didn't stay at home. He could be making his couple of thousand a year here, and from all accounts he doesn't seem to be doing it there."

As I told him of our partnership and our safaris together I noticed a sparkle of excitement come into his eyes.

"Jove! that's a great life," he said. "I must take a trip out there some day, but I am so deuced busy. Never have time for anything somehow. Business is confined to four days a week. I don't come up Saturday or Monday. Then there is a week or two at Nice in the spring. Then come the summer holidays. Then a bit of grouse shooting in Scotland, and then Switzerland in the winter. The time just seems to fly along. Nothing but business, business all the time."

Two hours later I managed to turn the conversation round to the state of British industry. In the interim we had consumed an enormous meal, sealed by an excellent glass of port and a cigar. It was now nearly three o'clock, and he seemed in no hurry to go.

"Tell me," I asked, "I suppose business is pretty slack here—unemployment and that sort of thing?"

"Oh! no, it's not really. It's the wretched income tax that kills us. If you only knew what I have to pay you would understand. Politicians march up and down the country mouthing a lot of hot air about the depressed state of things, but they're not so bad as that. What is wrong is the lack of initiative in finance. Stacks of people won't look at anything that has a chance of going wrong. After all, the so-called wild cat schemes have made us what we are. Look at Rhodes's ventures, and Johannesburg and the outcry from the "die-hards" when the '96 boom was on, and then Malayan rubber; the timid ones fought shy, and the adventurous ones have reaped a benefit in the form of huge dividends. But they won't do it to-day; they haven't got the pluck, somehow."

I nodded. He seemed to have hit the nail on the head. They hadn't the pluck to look away from their own country.

"Well, I must be getting back to work," he announced at last. "I've got a board meeting in half-an-hour."

We walked slowly back to his office. At the entrance he turned and held out his hand.

"Come in and see me any time," he said, "I am up from Tuesday to Friday. I generally arrive about 10.30 and leave at 4.30, and am at my office all the time, except for an hour or two for lunch. Business keeps me tied down to it, you know. Just give me a ring and tell me you are coming along, and if I'm busy I'll tell you."

"Phone you?" I replied, "I should say not! Do you realise the barrier you have set up around yourself by your retinue of clerks, secretaries, and what not?"

He laughed. "Well, you see, one must impress people a bit. Nothing hurts a man's vanity more than being treated like a prospective criminal. I'll tell 'em to put you on the O.K. list, and they'll put you through at once."

MOMBASA HOTELS REFUSE "CHITS."

The four hotels in Mombasa which have stopped the "chit" system of credit are to be congratulated on following the lead given by the Union of South Africa where chit signing by casual visitors to

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

NATIVE POLICY IN N. RHODESIA.

A Settler's Plea for "The Safe Middle Course."

To the Editor of "East Africa."

SIR,

As a direct result of General Smuts's lectures at Oxford, attention is again being turned towards Native policy in British Central Africa. Generally speaking, these lectures have been received with mixed feelings, with officials and missionaries of the one opinion, and settlers and business men of the other, many of the latter holding that the Rhodes Lectures are the first real world presentation of the settlers' point of view.

It is noteworthy that the difference in opinion regarding Native policy is invariably divided by occupation, for what suits the settler, who has to earn a living in the country of his adoption, as well as live there permanently, does not always suit officials and missionaries. The latter has been said, work in Africa for the emancipation of the Native, and for the betterment of mankind generally, whilst the settler works for his own gain, to a certain extent, but, looked at in the broader sense, for the betterment of the country, the opening up of waste spaces, and the reclaiming of derelict land.

In any case personal motives converge on the broader points, the chief difference being that in one case living is assured, and carries with it the privilege of furlough, while in the other existence is precarious and permanent.

In this connection, however, it is interesting to consider the motives of David Livingstone, the pioneer of all officials, missionaries, farmers, and traders alike. It may be said that his motive was the spreading of the Gospel, the suppression of the slave trade, and the tracing of the source of the Nile; but let us look at the words he wrote in his journal on December 30, 1866, after he had crossed the Loangwa Valley:—

"We are uncertain when we shall come to a village, as the Babisa will not tell us where they are situated. In the evening we encamped beside a hill, and made our shelters, but we had so little to eat that I dreamed the night long of dinners I had eaten, and might have been eating. I shall make this beautiful land better known, which is an essential part of the process by which it will become the 'pleasant haunts of men.' It is impossible to describe its rich luxuriance, but most of it is running to waste through the slave trade and internal wars."

His motive, then, was to make that part of Africa "the pleasant haunts of men." Sixty-four years have passed since this was written. The slave trade and the internal wars have ceased, and the country shows the same "rich luxuriance," but it is only a little better known, and is still far from being a pleasant haunt of men! Livingstone's words indicate a hope that there would be some emigrant people who would colonise this part of the world, and it is for them that he wrote his diary. That hope has been fulfilled to a very small degree, as it cannot be said that the policy of those who followed him has been to encourage emigration.

A safe middle course is necessary—something between the extreme views of some settlers who would like a Bill passed to the effect that the Government should prohibit any Native from selling any produce whatsoever, and the other extreme view that intensive agricultural education of the Native will, within five years, force every white settler to abandon any hope of ever making a living in the country. General Smuts has shown the way, and if only settlers, officials, and missionaries alike will follow his lead and formulate a policy based on the

middle course" could soon be brought to working order.

On the other hand, if no such amalgamation of interests were possible, there is yet another way of assuring the future of the prosperity of Northern Rhodesia, and that is by taking a leaf from the book of the many geologists now in the country. These men are here to-day and gone to-morrow, but the thoroughness with which they conduct their investigations is a lesson to all settlers, and if they would all "get down to it" in the same manner as these men, the Native problem might, very easily, solve itself.

Yours faithfully,

R. E. L.

Serenje,
Northern Rhodesia

THE NATIVE AND MATHEMATICS.

Strong Points of the African's Mentality.

To the Editor of "East Africa."

SIR,

The Rev. H. M. Grace, Principal of King's College, Budo, was surely rather severe in his strictures on the progress of his scholars in mathematics. Of all the subjects which Europeans are attempting to teach African Natives, mathematics is clearly the most alien to the Native. Ability to grasp its principles and really to master it is not so common among white folk that the unfortunate Baganda youth should be accused of "carelessness, lack of thoroughness, and scamping of difficulties" because they make "poor progress" in a subject which requires abstract thought, concentration, and the exercise of pure reason.

The strong points of the African mentality are an excellent verbal memory, fluency of speech, and a genius for imitation—none of which is of the slightest assistance in mathematics, though of eminent value on the literary side. It is well to remember, too, that the stage attained by British boys in mathematics is of very recent growth, and that when the great Charles Darwin took his "gentleman's degree" at Cambridge University the standard of algebra (to take only one branch) required of him was that now set for a *pass* in the Preliminary Cambridge Local examination—i.e., up to quadratic equations. And while in the old days a candidate could do well by memorising his Euclid, even if he did not really understand that ancient philosopher's method, nowadays the examiner counts the mere memoriser by setting most of the questions in the form of "riders" or problems which require thought for their solution.

Personally I have every sympathy with the King's College students; *non cuius contingit adire Corinthum*. It will be a very long time, I believe, before a second Newton or Einstein hails from Uganda or any other part of East Africa—and small blame to Africa. Perhaps if the Rev. H. M. Grace had to compete with his Baganda students in acquiring some local vernaculars, he might realise his limitations, for that is the line in which the Native takes a lot of beating.

Yours faithfully,

"A SCHOOLMASTER."

London, S.W.1.

"The Public Works Department ought to be a supervisory, and not an executive body, exercising a close scrutiny of work done by private enterprise."

—The Hon. Major E. S. Grogan, speaking at the

WATER STORAGE IN BAOBAB TREES.

Native Practice in Kordofan.

To the Editor of "East Africa."

SIR,

In your issue of February 20 a writer referred to the storage of water in baobab trees and is apparently under the misapprehension that it is a natural secretion or storage. In reality the trunks of large (*Adansonia digitata*) baobab trees are often hollowed out by the Natives and water is artificially inserted during the rains. It is strange that these incongruous and deformed vegetable monsters continue to thrive after the trunks have been hollowed, and without drawing to any appreciable extent, upon the contained water. The baobabs are found over a wide belt of semi-arid country across tropical Africa, and remarkable examples are to be seen at Mombasa and Senegal.

In part of Khordofan and Darfur, in the Sudan, water stored in baobab trees constituted the sole source of dry season supply until recent years, when wells have been drilled. When carried water is exhausted, travellers, officials, and troops still have to rely upon these supplies when traversing parts of the country, and so much importance is attached to this source of supply that all water trees are registered for official guidance. Many thousands of trees have been so registered in Khordofan alone.

The age of the baobab is unknown, and, curiously, young trees are rarely, if ever, seen in the last named region. This seems to indicate that the climate which favoured their growth has changed, and that these are surviving relics of past ages. In the plain around Kilimanjaro, where the rainfall is still moderate, many healthy young trees may be seen. Most of the water-holding trees have the appearance of antiquity although still showing signs of great vitality in a belt of country where all vegetation assumes a winter aspect in the dry season.

During the rains arrangements are made for water to collect in an excavated depression at the base of the tree, and the hollowed out trunk is reached by an orifice of sufficient size to admit a man where the lowest branches fork from the main trunk; at this point a Native stations himself and lifts the water in a skin which he empties into the trunk. A second Native fills the skin at the base and in this way some 300 to 1,000 gallons of water are introduced and stored for the dry season. Once filled, the orifice is covered with a mud cap to keep out insect and animal life. The trees are under tribal control and a charge is made to travellers. Water is drawn by using a skin or gourd and after withdrawal it is lowered to the ground on a rope. The water drawer reaches the orifice some ten to fifteen feet from the ground by means of a notched tree branch.

The large baobabs are valuable trees, for the fibre of the bark stripped from the trunk is twisted into cordage of great strength, which is used for all purposes. The bark renews its growth and the tree seems to suffer no injury.

The baobab flowers freely at certain seasons and is followed by a fruit (monkey bread) largely used as food by the Senegambian Natives. The trunk often reaches twenty to twenty-five feet in diameter and may reach over thirty feet.

Yours faithfully,

A. BEERY THOMPSON.

London, E.C.4.



A BAOBAB TREE.

IS A BLOOD DIET ESSENTIAL TO TSETSE?

To the Editor of "East Africa."

SIR,

Dr. Davey finds it "very interesting" to be wrong about the feeding habits of the carnivora, though why he introduced them is best known to himself. He says he agrees with "Entomologist" that the fly will feed on "a freshly-killed warthog." Presumably the "freshly" denotes that the fly do not go for dead meat; just what I thought.

"Tsetse Entomologist" infers that I deny tsetse being blood-feeders. What I denied was that they are solely blood-feeders, and none of your correspondents can convince me that they are not at times vegetable-feeders.

I think "Tsetse Entomologist" wrong in saying that there is no known adult dipterous flies eating plant juices (vegetable matter). I believe the common house fly and bluebottle, which belong to the order of metabolous hexapod insects, are classified as diptera, and they both suck vegetable and fruit juices with avidity!

Because no plant juices have been found in the alimentary canals of tsetse is not definite proof that they are not there, for I notice that both these correspondents decline to answer my query as to whether blood is not easier to identify than vegetable matter. There is still much to be learnt of the life history and habits of *Glossina morsitans*, and they are difficult flies to watch, as they are easily scared.

If I am correct in writing that the house fly and bluebottle are dipterous flies, will "Tsetse Entomologist" and Dr. Davey deny that they eat vegetable and fruit juices?

Yours faithfully,

Moffat, N.B.

DENIS D. LYELL.

[This correspondence, which has brought out a number of interesting and valuable points, has been sufficiently prolonged to have afforded ample opportunity for correspondents in this country to set forth their views. If Dr. Davey and "Tsetse entomologist" desire to reply to Mr. Lyell's questions, we will publish their letters, but otherwise we must close this correspondence to readers at home. Communications from East Africa during the next few weeks will, however, be considered for publication if they raise any new points.—ED.—"E.A."]

Messrs. Windsor T. White and A. D. Fuller are at present in Kenya with the object of collecting specimens of the larger and smaller mammals of the Colony for the Cleveland Museum of Natural His-

"I learnt to value 'East Africa' highly during my stay in Addis Ababa," writes a reader.

TAXING THE AFRICAN WOMAN.

Lessons of the Nigerian Riots.

To the Editor of "East Africa."

SIR,

A poll tax, i.e., a flat rate per head, such as is levied on the Native populations of our African Colonies, South, West, and East, is, in its essence, mediæval and unscientific.

If it were only confined to male Natives, it would not be so bad, perhaps. When it is extended to Europeans, as in Kenya, it meets with fierce hostility, but when the wives of a Native are taxed equally with himself, trouble is bound to ensue. The belief that a direct tax on Native women was about to be enforced has recently led in Nigeria to serious riotings and most regrettable bloodshed.

Is it not time for the whole question of taxation in our African Colonies to be revised? Something more or less in the nature of a graduated income tax, proportionate to the circumstances of different individuals, is needed. I commend the subject for discussion at the next Colonial Conference.

It is true that variations in the rate of tax exist in the different Colonies, based on the economic conditions of the payers. It is admitted that exemptions can be, and are freely, given for reasons such as drought, locust invasions, and failure of crops, as also to the individual for old age, infirmity, or poverty. Nevertheless, the tax that falls on the payer is almost irrespective of his personal circumstances. Where the tax is collected through chiefs, favouritism on the one hand, and bullying oppression on the other, are inevitable. In the main the tax cannot be considered a heavy one. In its application, however, all sorts of anomalies occur.

In East Africa the tax on extra wives was, I believe, introduced in the first instance to discourage polygamy. It has had little, or no, effect on the practice. Plural wives are to a Native a token of wealth. It must be remembered also that, apart from the wives a Native buys from his father-in-law, many wives are inherited. By tribal custom a Native falls heir to, and becomes responsible for, the widows of his deceased father, brothers, etc. In these cases these widows have the right to choose whether they will live with their late husband's brother or marry some other man; in practice the woman, especially if elderly, has no option.

To attempt to curb polygamy by taxation is the height of folly. In Tanganyika the Governor himself has admitted that the only serious trouble encountered there of recent years arose through a too precipitate enforcement of the tax on women. It is a tax which is unpopular in its origin, unsound in its object, and notoriously difficult to collect.

It has been said that Government cannot afford to forgo this tax, otherwise a loss occurs of approximately one-seventh of the main source of revenue in the country. The Treasury *wallahs* who talk like this should look round for some means of replacing this lost revenue. We have been obliged to accept a Native policy based on Nigerian lines in this Territory. What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander surely. The lessons of the recent riots in Nigeria are clear enough in all conscience.

Yours faithfully,

Tanganyika Territory.

"VOX HUMANA."

GOOD WORK IN SOMALILAND.

Building up an Agricultural Department.

BEGINNINGS are always interesting, and the first Report of the Somaliland Agricultural and Geological Department for the years 1927 and 1928 (Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, S.W.1, 5s.), which describes the first attempts to establish two new Departments in that small but interesting Dependency, deserves special mention.

The initial steps have been in the hands of Mr. R. A. Farquharson, M.A. (Oxon), M.Sc., F.G.S., whose versatility and enterprise in his difficult task demand admiration. His serious work began in 1927, and that and the following year form one period, for the preparatory work began to be put on trial during the growing season (the middle months) of 1928. The Director was on leave from May, 1928, until September, and considerable portions of this, as of previous periods of leave, were spent in England and Australia consulting authorities and gaining experience.

The conditions in which the first Director had to work were not palatial; many an East African settler has paralleled them.

Sound and Comprehensive Beginnings.

"Owing to the dearth of buildings at headquarters at Hargeisa, a tent had to be used as an office for some months in 1927. Later a small mud-bricked hut was placed at the disposal of the Department, and an *arish* was built as a temporary store. Both were, of course, unsatisfactory, being infested with white ants and with rats, and being, as well, not rain-proof. Imported seeds suffered to some extent from lack of a proper store, sorghum, groundnuts and cow-peas being partly destroyed by weevils and grain bugs and parts of plough equipment such as straps and reims being eaten by rats."

But the Director was not perturbed. He procured rainfall figures from five stations; he sent samples of soil for analysis to the Imperial Institute and prints three representative results; he investigated a "fly" pest of the Native sorghum (*lowari*) crop; he established a central experimental plot about 1600 ft. in extent; he started an orchard plot and tree nursery in which special attention was paid to vine varieties he himself brought from Australia; he tried out potatoes; sent home samples of gum for confectionery purposes; tested marram grass for binding sand dunes; reported on the doum palm; combated a serious plague of locusts; surveyed, mapped and sub-divided blocks of land for Native vegetable and fruit gardens; acted as secretary to a Commission on the water supply of the Protectorate; helped to frame licences for mica mining; made seven hand-drawn maps showing stations and the chief places of interest in British Somaliland; and conducted an interesting research into gold occurrence in the Protectorate.

Correspondence with similar Departments and representative institutions outside Somaliland entailed in many cases the writing of articles and reports, and inquiries from outside on the botany of Somaliland involved such questions as the types of grasses Native to the Protectorate; the occurrence of particular species of acacia; the distribution of frankincense and myrrh trees, and the possibility of obtaining flowers and fruit of these; the collection of genera of succulent Asclepiads; and the indigenous occurrence and distribution of the date palm.

To use an agricultural metaphor, Mr. Farquharson has indeed had a hard row to hoe; but his application, enterprise, and pluck in difficult and often heart-breaking circumstances (such as the locust infestation) have enabled him to produce a report of sound work done which must be most encouraging to him and to his Government.

"East Africa" goes from strength to strength. I like the new features. More power to your elbow!" writes one of the best known East African authors. A subscription form appears on the

The sentence on twenty-three Lumbwa tribesmen, who were convicted in October last of raiding the Masai, has been quashed by the Kenya High Court, on the ground of inadequate identification at the

Camp Fire Comments.

"I have just read," writes A. N. G., "of another way of subduing an enraged elephant which appears to me quite as feasible as the method of getting a camel to bite its ear! An elephant in a circus attacked a man against whom it had a grudge, and got him down; the trainer's action—immediately effective—was to beat the bottom of one of its hind feet. Has any reader of *East Africa* had experience of this remedy? From Kipling I gather that Indian mahouts rap their charges' toe-nails on occasion, but this is done, I believe, just in playful domination."

A Witch Doctor's Association.

It is quite in keeping with the spirit of the age that the African witch doctors down South should have formed an Association for mutual assistance and protection. They claim recognition on the grounds that they merely practise the art of healing; they have a President, a badge with the motto in the vernacular "Arise and Help Thyself," a song of which the words are known only to the initiated, and a very definite notion of their value to the community. It is stated that a scale of fees is being drawn up by the Association, and as £1 is charged "for loosening the knot of the medicine bag," and the fee for a complete cure may run as high as £5. Harley Street may have to look to its laurels—and its charges.

The Hyena as Man-Killer.

A correspondent writes: "I see by your Comment that the hyena is more than suspected of carrying hydrophobia in parts of Northern Rhodesia. May I add another charge to his dossier? Evidence is accumulating that in certain areas he is becoming a man-killer. It is well known that some tribes in East Africa put out their dying folk to be finished off by wild beasts, chiefly hyenas, and this custom may be at the bottom of the animal's developing habit; for finding easy victims in the moribund, the hyena has gone on to attack children, then women, and, in several cases, men; with fatal results.

"The animal appears to be growing out of the cowardice which has hitherto characterised him, and that is a most disturbing phenomenon, for he is provided with the strongest jaws of any carnivore and has at least the incipient instinct of hunting in packs. If he develops this new trait definitely, he will become a serious menace. Incidentally, I may mention that there is also evidence that there are two varieties of the hyena, a small and a large, and it may be the latter which is responsible for the Nandi bear stories. Evidently we have still a good

deal to learn about this unpleasant but nevertheless interesting member of the African fauna."

Collectors and Observers.

A nice point arises in the study of Natural History. How far should students be collectors—involves the killing of specimens and the taking of birds' nests and eggs—or mere observers? In a foreword to a beautiful book on the birds of Southern Rhodesia, Major A. L. Cooper, D.S.O., F.Z.S., quotes a case where a master in one of the large Government schools in South Africa set as the subject of an essay "A Day on the Veld." Of the thirty boys in the class only one, a keen botanist, did other than describe what they had killed—bird, beast, or fish, the latter probably with dynamite or a rifle. He adds that in Australia the collection of birds' eggs is vigorously discouraged. Yet Captain C. D. Priest, the author of the book, declares in his introduction that his private collection of bird skins and eggs has helped him considerably, and particularly thanks his wife who has spent many tedious hours preparing bird skins, some of which were not of the freshest. How is the observer, who may be desirous of becoming an authority on his subject, to reach that desirable status if he does not collect?

The African Gold Trade in Ancient Times.

A correspondent writes:—

"A contributor to a contemporary is of opinion that the immense amount of gold acquired by India, the ancient Egyptians, Phoenicians, Hebrews, Assyrians, Chaldeans, to say nothing of lesser known but important civilisations such as that of the Hittites, sets one wondering where this vast stock of the precious metal must have come from. A few small mines in the Egyptian Sudan could not possibly have been the source of supply, and although there were mines in India, it is most probable that the local rajahs, *moribus suis*, laid predatory hands upon the entire output."

That last sentence really contains the solution of the difficulty. The amount of gold in the ancient world has been much exaggerated. Gold had a sacred, rather than a monetary, value in the old days; it was a monopoly of the chief, in the earliest phase of culture, as representing the soul of the tribe; later it was the perquisite of the ruling monarch, and later still the priesthood—when sacred functions were separated from regal—claimed its share. The mass of the people had no gold; there was no gold currency; but our modern notions so influence our conclusions that when archaeologists find numbers of gold vessels in temples or wonderful collections of gold ornaments in royal tombs, the idea gets about that 'immense amounts of gold' were in the country generally. Cortez in Mexico and Pizarro in Peru made the same mistake. Actually the amount, if distributed in coinage, or among private houses, as was the case in modern pre-War times, would make but a poor show."

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PERSONALIA

The Countess of Seafield was a recent visitor to Tabora.

Mr. P. A. H. Pettman has returned to Zanzibar from leave.

Mr. R. G. Millar, of the Uganda Survey Department, is on leave.

Dr. Sterry, of Thika, is shortly expected in England on leave.

General von Lettow-Vorbeck recently celebrated his sixtieth birthday.

A son has been born in Paris to Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Dyer, of Zanzibar.

Mr. J. H. Bennett recently left Zanzibar *en route* for England, *via* South Africa.

Mr. J. I. Roberts has arrived in Kenya on first appointment as an Entomologist.

Colonel H. Page-Croft is on his way home from his recent visit to Kenya Colony.

Mr. Campbell B. Hausburg has arrived back in England from his visit to Kenya.

The Government Plant Breeder at Nakuru, Mr. Gerald Burton, is at present on leave.

H.H. the Maha Bahadur Ramanuj Saran Singh and suite were recent arrivals in Nairobi.

Mr. J. H. Honey, a director of the Liverpool Uganda Co., Ltd., has been visiting Uganda.

The death is announced of Mr. E. J. Titman, of the Public Works Department, Kenya Colony.

The wedding of Mr. Thomas Peet and Miss Irma Kerslake-Thomas recently took place in Nairobi.

Viscount and Viscountess Brentford have just returned from their visit to Egypt and the Sudan.

Mr. Stanley Ghersi, of Eldoret, recently motored from that township to Lagos, on the West Coast.

Mr. A. F. Wingate, of the Tanganyika Government Railways, has gone on leave pending retirement.

Captain E. C. Pilley has been appointed Commandant of Police in the Darfur Province of the Sudan.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. Stephenson, Commanding Officer of the Northern Rhodesia Police, is retiring shortly.

Lord and Lady Cranworth and the Hon. Camilla Gordon have left London for Grundisburgh Hall, Suffolk.

Dr. D. V. Latham was entertained by the Indian community of Kitosa prior to his recent departure on leave.

His Excellency Nagradas Makonnen, Ethiopian Minister in London, was received by the King on Thursday last.

Mr. G. P. Ellis, of the Kenya and Uganda Railways, has been appointed Acting Chief Marine Engineer at Kisumu.

The Hon. Conway Harvey has been elected Chairman of the Koru Club, of which the Hon. Secretary is Mr. R. Pearce.

Councillor Tully, of the Livingstone Municipal Council, is at present in England on leave from Northern Rhodesia.

Sir Francis Newton, High Commissioner for Southern Rhodesia in England, arrived back in London on Monday.

The wedding recently took place in Nairobi of Captain Armstrong, of Kyambu, and Miss Kathleen Napier, of Killmani.

The marriage was recently solemnised at All Saints' Cathedral, Nairobi, of Mr. Stanley Schwartzel and Miss Irene Blomfield.

We learn with great regret of the death while hunting in Tanganyika of Mr. Patrick S. Hoseason, of the Administrative Service.

Sir Jacob Barth, Chief Justice of Kenya, whose term of office as Acting Governor was so successful, is shortly due to arrive on leave.

Sir Delves and Lady Broughton were staying with Sir William Gowers at Government House, Entebbe, when the last mail left.

Sir Pierre van Ryneveld, Director of Air Services in the Union of South Africa, recently flew from Bulawayo to Tabora in one hop.

The marriage of Mr. Hugh Barclay, of Rongai, and Miss Kilkelly was recently solemnised at the Roman Catholic Church, Nakuru.

The Hon. Mrs. Henry Mond, who has recently been revisiting Northern Rhodesia, is returning to England by the R.M.S. "Saxon."

Miss Charlotte Bush, daughter of Mr. R. E. Bush, of Messrs. Dalgety & Co., has been on *safari* in the Trans-Nzoia district of Kenya.

Mr. A. C. Weatherhead, Provincial Commissioner of the Eastern Province of Uganda, is to leave Mombasa in a few days for home leave.

Professor Ellsworth Huntington, of Yale University, U.S.A., is at present in Uganda studying Native life and health in relation to climate.

The Duchess of Bedford is planning a flight to East Africa, and thence on to Cape Town. Her pilot, Captain Barnard, will accompany her.

Messrs. W. H. Butcher, Chief Inspector of Police, and M. R. Stewart, Assistant Treasurer, recently returned to Tanganyika from leave.

Captain C. J. Soames has been nominated to represent the Molo Ward on the Nakuru District Council, in place of Captain Sayer, resigned.

Messrs. A. R. Holliday and C. Mansel Reece, of Zanzibar, have been appointed Administrator-General and Crown Counsel respectively in Uganda.

Mr. C. Cosmo Monkhouse, general manager of the South African Mutual Assurance Society, has been visiting Kenya Colony with his daughter.

Mr. A. A. Legat, O.B.E., the popular superintendent in East Africa of the National Bank of India, has arrived home from Kenya *via* the Nile route.

On the eve of his leaving for Zanzibar to take up his duties as British Resident, a dinner was given at the Imperial Hotel, Kampala, to Mr. R. S. D. Rankine.

Archdeacon Shenow Jeva, of the Greek Orthodox Church, is in East Africa collecting on behalf of the churches destroyed by the Turkish armies in Persia during the War.

Captain the Hon. F. E. Guest, M.P., who was recently in East Africa with a National Flying Services party, has resigned from the Liberal Party and joined the Unionist Party.

The engagement is announced of Mr. Cyril W. Beer, of the Sudan Political Service, and Miss Alison Gilroy, a granddaughter of Sir Theophilus Shepstone, one time Governor of Natal.

Mr. E. A. Mirans, the town planning engineer who has been reporting on Jinja and Kampala, recently left Uganda for South Africa, where he is to advise on town planning and rating.

Sir Claud Hollis, who recently took up his duties as Governor of Trinidad, and who will always be gratefully remembered in East Africa, has just flown round the island to inspect the damage done by bush fires.

His many East African friends will deeply sympathise with Major J. F. Walseley-Bourne on the death on Monday of his wife, who is to be buried this afternoon at Highgate Cemetery at 2.30 o'clock.

His many friends in Tanganyika will be interested to learn that Mr. G. C. Butler, who was for some time manager of the Tanganyika branch of the National Bank of India, is now in charge of the Eldoret branch of the Bank.

The death has occurred at Budapest, in poverty-stricken circumstances, of Count Louis Konigsseg, a well-known big game hunter, and personal friend of the late King Menelik of Abyssinia, whose cousin he married.

We regret to announce the death of Major-General Sir Francis Howard, Colonel Commandant of the Gloucestershire Regiment, who commanded the 2nd Battalion of the Rifle Brigade at the battle of Khartoum in 1898.

Mr. Pellew Wright, Labour Commissioner in Uganda, is retiring on May 17 after twenty-two years in Government service. He intends to settle in Kenya on his farm at Limuru. Mrs. Pellew Wright left England last week to return to East Africa.

The Sports Association of Zanzibar has elected the following office-bearers for 1930: President, Mr. J. Parnell; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. A. A. Albuquerque; Members of Board, Messrs. W. R. D. Dinshaw, B. H. Wiggins, A. C. Bartlett, R. S. Wheatley, Hussein A. Rahim, and T. Cardozo.

A marriage has been arranged, and will take place shortly at The Hague, between Captain David Logan Gray, M.C., late of the Camerons, and now of the Sudan Political Service, and Elske, only daughter of Major A. P. M. A. Storm de Grave and Jonkvrouw S. E. C. Sandberg tot Essepburg, of Bannink, Colmschate, Holland.

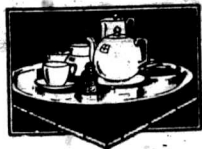
The Ruiru Farmers' Association has re-elected Mr. C. Kenneth Archer as President, with Mr. J. F. H. Harper as Vice-President and Captain Walter Kirtan as Hon. Secretary. The Executive Committee consists of Colonel Hollowes, Major Canley, Messrs. J. D. Harcombe, W. J. Webb, G. Glassford, J. Nordinger, and J. Robson.

On Thursday last Mr. R. W. Taylor, C.B.E., Treasurer of Tanganyika Territory, was married in Dar es Salaam to Miss Irene Macmillan, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allister Macmillan, of Muswell Hill, and Thorpeness, Suffolk. Miss Macmillan accompanied her father as his secretary during a recent business trip to East Africa, and during that visit met and became engaged to Mr. Taylor.

The St. George's Society of Kenya has elected Major J. D. Leonard as President, Major C. E. Browne and Captain H. E. Schwartz as Vice-Presidents, Mr. A. C. Tannahill as Hon. Secretary, and Mr. L. Gilbert as Hon. Treasurer. The Executive Committee consists of Mr. W. C. Mitchell, Major Stratton and Mr. S. J. Moore, and the Balloting Committee of Messrs. W. Ridout, J. A. Gilbert, and C. Rand-Overy.

Mr. P. H. Clarke, O.B.E., a member of the Inter-Colonial Railway Council and one of East Africa's leading public workers—who was, we believe, the first non-official in Kenya to be appointed a member of the Legislative and Executive Councils—left England last week on his way to Genoa, whence he sails for Mombasa on April 5. His stay in London was of the briefest duration, and was unfortunately marred by a severe bout of malaria, the first, he told us, in the past twenty-four years. His many friends in the territories will, however, be glad to know that

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"EAST AFRICA'S" BOOKSHELF.**"BEYOND THE NIGHT."**

A Real Story of East African Life.

FOR real insight into the life of East African Natives the members of the Church Missionary Society can always be relied upon. They live so close to the people and study their ways so intimately that any book they care to write is instinct with local colour. True, there is what some will call the missionary bias; the tales "come out right" from the evangelical point of view; but anyone who wishes to understand the Native cannot neglect these publications. In "Beyond the Night" (Highway Press, 2s. 6d.), Mrs. M. C. Hooper traces with fidelity and charm the life history of a Native girl from her childhood to her marriage. The sidelights thrown on witchcraft and Native customs are informing, and the influence—usually bad—of European town life on the African is well brought out. There are lessons to be learned and much to be noted in this little book, which can be recommended to all who live amongst Africans and would really understand them.

A. L.

"THE SECRET PEOPLE."

A Book for Boys between Nine and Ninety.

WHEN a traveller and sportsman like Mr. E. Ratchiffe Holmes sets out to write a story of adventure for boys—in this case particularly for his own little boy, John Derick—it may be taken for granted that the episodes will be founded on fact and the thrills be within the bounds of possibility—points which cannot be postulated about some boys' books. "The Secret People" (Stanley Martin, 3s. 6d.) is a good yarn of the type which appeals to youth, and in it Mr. Holmes has embodied much of the hunting lore which he has acquired in years of roughing it in East, West, and Central Africa. He even uses the water-conserving property of the baobab tree to save his heroes from perishing by thirst, a property which does not seem so widely known as it should be. Fighting Masai, a mysterious leopard woman, an elephant cemetery, and witch doctors come into the story, which, as the author correctly states, is "for boys between nine and ninety."

A. L.

"MEN ON A VOYAGE."

Mrs. S. C. Millin's Philosophy.

IN her latest little book, "Men on a Voyage" (Constable, 5s.), Mrs. Sarah Gertrude Millin, after the style of a Mahatma or Guru, indulges in the propounding of aphorisms, dropped, as it were, like pearls of wisdom, for the delectation of disciples. Of East Africa she has little to say, but what she does say is typical:—

"Speaking of dreams, did I tell you my own experience of East Africa? I had a brother, you know, in India. And one night I woke up with his voice in my ears, and it said, 'Harry, I'm dying.'"

"But he wasn't dying. He didn't die."

"No. The extraordinary thing is I sent a cable next day and he was quite well. Still, I've never forgotten that dream. I was in East Africa, you must remember, and he was in India. And I heard his voice as distinctly as I hear my own at this moment."

"But if there was nothing in it?"

"Quite so. Quite so. What I mean is—I was in East Africa, and he was in India, and I woke up suddenly like that—But haven't I told you this story before?"

I don't think so; but one is glad to hear it now. It is the only mention of East Africa in the book.

A. I.

AFRICA'S LAST EMPIRE.

Yet Another Book on Abyssinia.

ALMOST everyone who travels in Abyssinia feels compelled to write a book about it, and Mr. Herman Norden, an American, is no exception to what has now become a fixed rule. So far as his experience of the railway and Addis Ababa is concerned, he has nothing particularly new to relate; but he retraced his steps, and, passing through Eritrea, re-entered Abyssinia at its very north-east corner and worked his way up to Lake Tana.

There, at Jenda, just to the north-east of the lake, he was right in the centre of the country of the Falasha, the "black Jews" of Abyssinia; and at this point his book takes on a new interest. How, why and whence these Jews came to inhabit their present location are most interesting questions:—

"The most logical explanation," writes Mr. Norden, "of the enclave of Falasha is that when the major part of Abyssinia became converted to Christianity in the fourth century, they remained staunch to their ancient faith. And, remaining staunch, they withdrew to a district of their own for the double purpose of escaping contamination and persecution by the Christians. So that, by this seclusion by intermarrying, by the tenacious holding to habits of life and thought fixed by their rituals, they have preserved their faith and their type throughout the centuries. However it came about, the fact remains that now, sixteen centuries after Abyssinia became Christianised, there exists this isolated population proclaiming itself to be of the chosen people, and living by the laws of Moses."

The Falasha have been so long severed from their co-religionists in other parts of the world that their tradition does not include the Babylonian captivity. They know nothing of the Talmud. Not even their priests have a knowledge of Hebrew. Estimates of their number vary from 250,000 to 7,000; the most probable figure is near 75,000. Curiously enough, they are not traders, but chiefly artisans. Many of their villages have a synagogue with its Book of the Law and a *kahen* (Cohen) in attendance, and their holy days are almost identical with those of the Jews of the outer world.

The book is pleasantly written and entertaining. Especially delightful is the frontispiece by Ato Belatchehou, "Abyssinia's only artist." It depicts the legend of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba as known to the Abyssinians; and those who have read that legend as told by Sir Wallis Budge will enjoy Ato's charming rendering. Unfortunately, Mr. Norden's version in the text is a long way behind Sir Wallis's, as his history is poor compared with that of Mr. C. F. Rey. His account, and tentative defence, of slavery as it exists to-day in Abyssinia should interest Lady Simon.

A. L.

A VIVID AFRICAN STORY.

IT is not easy to manufacture an original fantasy of African life, but Robert Tarnacek, the author of "Beyond the Swamps" (The Bodley Head, 7s. 6d. net), has chosen a theme for his first novel that has given him scope in plenty for his very vivid imagination. He does this in the finding of a lost Roman Colony, sheltered from outside influence for two thousand years by an almost impenetrable swamp. This colony is found by a Naval sloop driven off her course by tropical storms, and the tale of their adventures is amusingly and graphically told. In which portion of Africa all this is supposed to happen is not stated, but it does not matter in the least—for it might just as well have been located in South America or the North Pole.

R. T.

THE BIRDS OF SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

A Book for the Bird Lover.

The Government of Southern Rhodesia is to be congratulated on fathering this beautiful little book, which will be welcomed by all who take an interest in the life of those lovely creatures, the birds of Africa. Captain Cecil D. Priest, a trained ornithologist, is responsible for the text and for the 112 black and white etchings which adorn the pages, while Mrs. I. Mount, of Salisbury, has contributed the fourteen fine coloured plates which give a real idea of the brilliant colouring of some of the specimens described. The book, entitled "The Birds of Southern Rhodesia," is handsomely printed and bound, and is issued from Crown House, Aldwych, at the reasonable price of 15s.

A great feature is the attention paid to the food of the birds, so that the planter may distinguish friends from foes. The unreliability of Native information is once more proved in the case of the skimmer or scissor-billed tern, which flies just above the water of rivers, ploughing the surface with its lower mandible. Natives assert that the bird stabs fish in the back with its sharp, paper-knife-like bill, but dissection proves that it does not eat fish at all, but lives on the freshwater algae it scoops up.

The text is full of items of accurate observation, as when the "voice" of the red bishop bird is described as "Prr-prr-prr," made by beating of the wings when in flight during the breeding season. The back feathers are also fluffed up, giving the male red bishop birds the appearance of little balls of fire.

Each bird is treated under the separate headings of local names, chief features, haunts, nesting period, site of nest, materials used, eggs, food, and voice, if any, and a full description follows. A systematic list of birds that have been recorded in Southern Rhodesia is given, and an alphabetical list of the birds of Southern Rhodesia and the migrants to that Colony. Great pains have evidently been taken with the scientific names, and the author shows no hesitation in outlining the very difficult classification of the class *Aves*.

Rhodesians on the look-out for a handsome and useful present are recommended to buy this book for their friends first and for themselves thereafter.

A. I.

THE LAWLESS FRONTIER.

A Tale of Modern Abyssinia.

ABYSSINIA is very much in the limelight now, and with her *flair* for the opportune and appropriate, Miss Mary Gaunt, a real traveller, in "The Lawless Frontier" (Benn, 7s. 6d.) has placed the scene of her novel in that romantic and mediæval country. Granted that two beautiful European women should be allowed to mix themselves up with such problems as the harnessing of Abyssinian lakes for the irrigation of the Sudan, with all the political and commercial interests involved, the story is a good one, well-told; but the reader will probably agree, before he closes the book—which he will find difficult to do—that there are certain risks inherent in the wilder parts of Abyssinia which such ladies should not be allowed to take.

A. I.

Colonel E. H. Richardson's "Forty Years with Dogs" (Hutchinson, 21s.) will appeal to all East African dog-lovers, who will find in the volume much useful advice and many interesting stories of the loyalty and intelligence of man's best animal

ARTHROPODA OF MEDICAL IMPORTANCE.

A Book Essential for Every Medical Man.

It is difficult to know what to say of the latest publication of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. *Kolossal* seems the only appropriate word, if, for once, one may be forgiven for using a German expression. It is a quarto volume of 786 pages, strongly bound in green cloth, and it deals with "Insects, Ticks, Mites, and Venomous Animals of Medical and Veterinary Importance." That much abused expression "profusely illustrated" is in this case no hyperbole, for in addition to the sixty art-paper plates, almost every other page bears one or more of the 374 line or brush drawings of dissections, of insects and their parts, or of other points illustrative of the text—and the majority of these drawings are original, the work of Mrs. Patton and Dr. A. M. Evans. Mr. A. J. Engel Terzi has pictured the mosquitoes with his well-known skill, and Miss M. Brown is responsible for the often wonderful photographs. At the end is a large folding sheet giving the classification of the *Arthropoda*, with pictures of a typical member of each group, and there are three maps.

The whole work is magnificent in conception, in scale, and in execution, but the price is the greatest marvel. On that point the authors, Professor W. S. Patton and Dr. A. W. Evans, must be allowed to speak for themselves:—

"The present volume has been published privately in order that it may be sold at a very reasonable price. As it is the only practical book on the subject... its price should be within the reach of all to whom it may be of use. Had it been published in the ordinary way its price would have been prohibitive to most medical officers and nearly all students of entomology. Under the circumstances it can only be obtained from the Entomological Department, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, and would-be purchasers will therefore only waste time by applying to booksellers, who will themselves have to obtain it from the above source. Any number of copies can be sent, and it will be just as easy, if not easier, to obtain it in this way as from a bookseller. The price, 20 shillings, includes packing and postage, and is a fair part of the world."

The book, alone, weighs 4 lb. 12 oz. or, with proper packing, another 1 lb.; the postage, parcel post; for the United Kingdom will be one shilling, but to foreign countries the cost may run as high as 6s. 9d.! As all this will come out of the £1 paid for the book, Professor Patton's munificence can only be described as princely.

Of the contents, it is only necessary to say that everything the medical man wants within the limits of the title will be found, clearly expressed, well arranged, and thoroughly authenticated. To say that the book is essential to every medical man in the tropics is a mere truism; the ordinary entomologist will find it not less indispensable.

Nor is this all. This volume is only Part 1 of a series of four; Part 2 (Public Health) and Part 3 (Tropical Hygiene) will be ready this year, and Part 4 (Veterinary) will appear in 1931. When complete the series will be a monument of which the authors and the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine will have every reason to be proud. A. L.

An eminent expert writes of Mr. J. H. McDonald's "Coffee Crowling: with Special Reference to East Africa," that it contains "a thoroughly practical chapter on insect pests." The book ought to be in constant use by all East African coffee planters, who can obtain copies from "East Africa," 91, Great Titchfield Street, London, W.1, by remitting 21/9.

CONTINUED PROGRESS OF THE R.E.A.A.

Mr. Galton Fenzi presents the 1929 Report.

No East African public body is more truly inter-Colonial in its outlook and its activities than the Royal East African Automobile Association, the tenth annual general meeting of which has been held in Nairobi under the chairmanship of Sir Jacob Barth.

The report of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Galton Fenzi, was again a record of achievement; he reported that the membership is increasing rapidly; and that during December one hundred and sixty new members were elected, and in one week in February an additional hundred. At least twenty members, and often forty or fifty, call at the head office during the day, so evidently they are well looked after. An interesting statement is that the average member going on leave receives ten personal letters of introduction to clubs and associations in Great Britain or to firms specialising in the sale of cars on the "buy-back" system.

No Request Ever Refused

Other spheres of work can best be emphasised by quoting the words of Mr. Galton Fenzi himself:—

"No request which any member has put forward has ever been refused; in fact, I think some members must have decided to test the R.E.A.A. in this direction, as we have been asked to meet a schoolboy at Kisumu, see him through to Mombasa, purchase his ticket Home, and put him safely on board. Another time we had to meet a fiancée at Mombasa and see her safely through to the waiting bridegroom up-country. The purchase of a variety of goods for members, like ploughs, oxen, or separators; getting spare parts for obsolete cars or cycles repaired; or made, is also another form of service to members; and, as already mentioned above, if any request is received from members it will be carried out if at all possible."

It is good news that arrangements have been made for the issue of triptyques for inter-Colonial travel, Italian Somaliland being the first foreign territory in Africa officially to accept such triptyques.

The Association is entering into a bond with the various Governments, like the Union of South Africa, Southern and Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, etc., and guaranteeing that should any member to whom a triptyque has been issued break a law in any country through which he may be travelling, and does not at the time pay up the amounts involved, the Association will, on his behalf, do so. The member applying for a triptyque gives us a cash deposit based according to the value of the car, and on the duty in which-ever country he may be going to. This deposit is refunded to the member three months after his return to East Africa; and only if no claim has been made on the Association during that period."

Nearly 17,000 signboards have now been erected in various parts of East Africa by the Association, but efficient signposting will take another two or three years, and a further 50,000 signs will be needed.

Year's Motor Imports £1,800,000.

The mechanisation of East Africa is graphically pictured by the Secretary:—

"As you know, we have about one motor vehicle for every 14 white inhabitant in East Africa, which, of course, is the highest percentage in the world. East Africa is entirely a country of mechanical transportation, and the value of goods imported by the motor trade in 1927 amounted to the colossal figure of £1,500,000; and in 1928 to £1,600,000, and when the Customs figures are published for 1929 I think you will find they approximate £1,800,000. The annual increase in motor vehicles is between 25% and 30%, and an astounding fact is the extraordinary increase in motor lorries, which are now rapidly replacing other forms of animal transport."

Regret was expressed at the resignation of Mr. Bird, late Comptroller of Customs, Tanganyika Territory, and Hon. Secretary of the Dar es Salaam branch, on his transfer to Nigeria; his place is being filled by Captain Stewart, who, at one time, ran the

Tanga branch, and whose place at this town is now being taken by Mr. Troughton. Moshi is under the management of Major A. E. Perkins, Mwanza under Colonel Montgomery, Bukoba under Mr. White, Kampala under Mr. Knowlden, and Jinja under Mr. Farley. Tribute was also paid to Mr. R. S. Campbell, the Mombasa Hon. Secretary, and to Captain Grazebrook, at Zanzibar.

Newly Elected Officers.

The following officers were elected:—

President, Lord Delamere; Vice-Presidents, Major-General Sir Edward Northey, Sir Charles Bowring, Sir J. W. Barth, Sir Edward Denham, and the Hon. H. M. M. Moore; Committed, Mr. J. C. Bentley, Mr. E. C. F. Bird, Vice-Admiral Crampton, Mr. J. Cumming, Mr. R. Campbell, Major E. A. T. Dutton, Mr. C. M. Dobbs, Major A. F. Dudgeon, Mr. Rex A. Fawcus, Mr. Farley, the Hon. T. Fitzgerald, Mrs. J. A. Gilks, the Hon. W. Grazebrook, the Hon. A. A. Holm, the Hon. Conway Harvey, Mr. R. W. Hemsted, Mr. R. S. Knowlden, Mr. A. A. Legat, Mr. J. D. Lawson, Colonel M. Maxwell, Mr. R. F. Mayer, the Hon. G. V. Maxwell, Lady McMillan, Mr. R. H. G. McDougall, the Hon. T. J. O'Shea, Colonel Montgomery, Mr. R. W. Playfair, Major Perkins, General Rhodes, Capt. A. T. Ritchie, Colonel A. C. Swinton Home, the Hon. R. L. Sykes, Major the Hon. G. R. B. Spicer, the Hon. Lord Francis Scott, Capt. T. H. Sparr, Mr. A. C. Tannahill, Colonel R. B. Turner, Mr. Troughton, Capt. F. O. B. Wilson, Colonel R. Wilkinson, and Colonel Fitzgerald.

EAST AFRICAN GOLFERS ON LEAVE.

Mr. Harry Kinnell, the popular professional at the Nairobi Golf Club, has arrived home on leave. His brother, who was also a professional in Nairobi for some little time, is now connected with the Eldoret Golf Club.

During their leave at home this year four prominent East African golfers, Major J. B. F. Adams, Mr. E. Grant Hay, Mr. Claude Wright, and Mr. Kenneth E. Wright, intend making an extended tour of English and Scottish links.

PERSONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Private—not trade—advertisements are now accepted by "East Africa" for publication in this column at the PREPAID rate of 3d. per word per insertion, with a minimum of 50 per insertion; three consecutive insertions for the price of two. For Box No. advertisements there is an additional charge of 1s. per insertion towards cost of forwarding replies. Advertisements reaching "East Africa," 91, Great Titchfield Street, London, W.1, after Tuesday morning will not appear until the following week. In Memoriam announcements can be inserted for five or ten years at special rates.

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AGENCIES AND FINANCIAL CONNECTIONS.

RETIRED BANK MANAGER, now in Land, Estate, and General Agency business in Kenya Colony, at present in England, wishes to get in touch with Financial House interested in Mortgages. Finance in connection with Sisal, Coffee, Maize, Wheat and Stock Farming propositions. Has over 25 years' experience of conditions in the Colony and could influence sound business. Is also anxious to secure good farming agencies, particularly for fertilizers. Write "BEMOK" Box No. 203, East Africa, 91, Great Titchfield Street, London, W.1.

East Africa in the Press.

THE SITUTUNGA OF NKOSI.

WRITING in *The Daily News* on the situtunga of Nkosi Island, Victoria Nyanza, Professor Julian Huxley says:—

"In spite of its small size, Nkosi is zoologically celebrated as the home of a race of antelope which has totally changed its habits. This creature is the situtunga. Everywhere else it lives in papyrus swamps, where it can submerge itself, all but its nostrils, in case of danger, but on Nkosi it lives like an ordinary bush-buck, browsing in the forest. Somewhere about 1900 a few individuals chanced to swim across, and as there are no swamps on Nkosi, they were forced into this new way of life. Usually their hoofs grow long and curved, but here, abraded by the hard ground, they are of ordinary antelope length, and in other ways, too, the Nkosi situtunga differ a little from the rest of their kind. Nature, in fact, has here staged an experiment which enables one to see evolution in progress."

SETTLEMENT ON THE IRAMBA PLATEAU.

A CORRESPONDENT of *Tropical Life*—it would not be difficult to guess his identity—says that the new Manyoni-Iramba railway "will open up one of the greatest, if not the greatest, of the undeveloped produce markets in East Africa. Its ultimate destination will be Mwanza on Lake Victoria, and it will thus be a link in a circular railroad comprising the southern Central Railway, the eastern Tanga-Moshi Railway, the northern Moshi-Arusha line, also to be extended to Mwanza, with the Manyoni-Iramba line as its western sector."

The writer believes that it will lead to a "rush" of white settlement which will create a demand for planting, ranching and farming equipment of all kinds.

"Maize, sugar and sisal machinery, fencing materials, cattle-house and dairy equipment will be first in requirement. Coffee, too, has been successfully grown here, and large areas of the plateau are likely to be put down under that crop, with its call for coffee machinery. Khaki clothing will command a large sale during railway construction, and an immense Native trade awaits the first firm to get in with such things as bush knives, hurricane lanterns, watches, bicycles, combs, matches, cooking-pots, chop boxes and metal trunks, small oil lamps for hut lighting, safety razors, and so on."

SOME STATEMENTS WORTH NOTING.

"In London I saw notices 'Buy British Goods.' I think there should also be a notice, 'Travel in British Ships.'"—*Sir Donald Cameron, Governor of Tanganyika Territory.*

"Kenya was never conquered by arms. It was won by the Railway. The civilisation which is now spreading in the heart of darkest Africa is based on railways. There was no hope of permanently civilising that vast and still primeval region until the railways came. No hope could survive if the rail-

INDIRECT RULE, IN TANGANYIKA.

As *East Africa* has published a number of articles on the subject of indirect rule as practised in Tanganyika Territory, our readers will be interested in the following extract from an article contributed by a settler to the *Dar es Salaam Times*:—

"In practice in contra-distinction to theory, what may rule by Native Authority mean? And what indeed must it often mean? In the first place, the chief, if of strong personality, can make his word law; he can obtain labour by force; he can levy tribute of labour and goods from those passing through his territory; he can influence the course of justice, and can arrange the 'removal' of awkward people.

"It may be objected that the Native has the right of appeal to the *boma*. In practice he is generally frightened to exercise this right. *The District Officer is less able to give protection than the chief.* If this were otherwise, would not the Administration have known of Sultan Saidi's defalcations months earlier? Non-officials knew, and one even went so far as to speak publicly on the matter, but his statements were received with derision.

"In short, the system has handed over the Native to the mercy of his chief, and, if Natives are to be believed, some of these chiefs have little or no title to the position in which the Government has placed them. These Natives have been placed in a somewhat similar position to that which obtained before the white man set foot in the country."

COFFEE IN THE BELGIAN CONGO.

THE *Revue Internationale des Produits Coloniaux* states that after about fifteen years of neglect Congo coffee is beginning to come into favour on the market. The missionaries were the first to take up the cultivation; now in the Eastern Congo there are many coffee planters and their number is yearly increasing. The future of Belgian coffee lies in the Kivu and Ituri areas; there the climate is good, access is easy to the sea *via* Uganda and Kenya, there are railways and many roads in course of construction, while a large population makes the labour problem an easy one.

The quantity of Congo coffee imported to Antwerp-only (not counting that sent elsewhere) was 10,000 bags (of 110 lbs.) in 1928 and 40,000 bags in 1929. For 1930 the amount is expected to be 100,000 bags and for 1935 about 300,000 bags. In 1926 the area under coffee was estimated at about 8,000 acres, *robusta* being planted in the lower country but *arabica* in Kivu and Ituri. For 1929-30 the acreage is expected to reach 25,000 acres.

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THE PRINCE IN THE BELGIAN CONGO.

Comments on some News Items.

A BRIEF but distinctly intriguing Press telegram from Brussels announces that the Prince of Wales entered the Belgian Congo on March 25 "through the little frontier post of Aru, Uganda, where there is a Protestant mission." "The Prince," the message adds, "who will stay in the Colony (sic) till March 30, will hunt elephant in the district round Gombari. He is hoping specially to find the giant elephant, which is not found in East Africa. He will also visit the local elephant-training farm which is connected with the great training station at Api."

One or two comments may be made on this news. "Aru" should be "Arua" which, as stated in "Eastern Africa To-Day," is the chief township and administrative headquarters of the West Nile district, formerly known as the Lado Enclave; it is a charming station situated in the hills; has, at times, quite cold weather, necessitating fires, and is one of the few places in Uganda where strawberries can be grown successfully. The little town boasts a Sports Club, a nine-hole golf links, two tennis courts, and a resident medical officer. There are three stations of the Africa Inland and Roman Catholic missions.

Although not mentioned by name, Arua must be in the neighbourhood of some of the exciting exploits of Mr. John Boyes, when he and his friends hunted elephant in the Lado Enclave. In his book, "The Company of Adventurers," he records leaving his base camp at Koba, just north of Lake Albert, and journeying for some days in a north-west direction. This would take him right into the Arua district; and it is worthy of note that he has much good to say of the highland country. While the belt, some miles wide, of low-lying land along the Nile is extremely unhealthy, the hills, which rise in places to a height of quite 8,000 feet, are just the opposite. "We passed through some beautiful country," writes Boyes, "very fertile and healthy, and it struck me that it would be an excellent district for white settlers." Elsewhere he says, "It was a fine country (about 4,000 feet above sea-level, where there were no mosquitoes), with first-class grazing, and land splendidly suited for cultivation." In Boyes's time—round about 1909—the district was inhabited by raw Natives, mostly cannibals, and abounded in elephants.

The "Giant Elephant."

That the Gombari district of the Belgian Congo is the home of "the giant elephant which is not found in East Africa" is a surprising statement. Dr. J. M. Béchet, who gives in minute detail the local races of African elephants, does not confirm the assertion. *Elephas africanus coltoni*, he says, is the "elephant of the Belgian Congo

size large; tusks of great dimensions; its height ranges from 9 ft. 10 in. to 10 ft. 10 in. at the shoulder. *E. a. knochenhaueri* is, according to him, the "elephant of German East Africa," of which a specimen is recorded no less than 11 ft. 2 in. in height. *E. a. oxyotis*, the "elephant of Abyssinia and the Eastern Sudan" reaches "an immense size," though no actual dimensions are given. Rowland Ward has no record of the "giant" of the Congo; the largest in his list measured 11 ft. 6 in. at the shoulder in a straight line and was shot near Wadelai.

It is of interest that Boyes worked down to the pygmy country and got right on to the edge of the pygmy forest; "the elephants thereabouts," he remarks, "did not seem to have the same quality of ivory as those in the more open country nearer the Nile, their tusks being long and thin and of a reddish colour." *E. a. albertensis*, says Dr. Béchet, is the "elephant of Lake Albert and the valley of the Semliki; height at shoulder rarely more than 7 ft. 5 in.; tusks thin and as long as a man's arm; of hardly any value—which confirms Boyes very satisfactorily.

It seems clear that H.R.H. will not be able to get as far as Api, and the "local elephant-training farm" mentioned in the telegram is probably Wando, to which as mentioned in our article last week on "Africa's Only Elephant Farm," many of the older trained elephants have been removed. Wando lies a few days' journey higher up the Wélé river from Api, and therefore nearer the Prince's route. He leaves the Congo at Aba; will pass Libogo, the British frontier post, and travel by motor along the road to Rejaf on the White Nile.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS IN THE SUDAN.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was met a few days ago at Juba—the terminus of the White Nile river service, and the junction of the motor roads to Kenya, Uganda, and the Belgian Congo—by Captain Henry Brocklehurst, Game Warden of the Sudan, in the s.s. "Omdurman," one of the largest and fastest ships engaged in the river service.

It is the intention of the Prince to use the "Omdurman" as his floating base for hunting, and particularly filming, purposes, the locality of such expeditions depending on present conditions in the most favourable areas.

As the "Omdurman" can cover the distance between Juba and Khartoum in seven days, and as the Prince is understood to be arranged to reach Khartoum by April 14, the halts for visits to the game grounds cannot exceed a week. Not more than twenty-four hours are expected to be spent in the capital of the Sudan; where ten Royal Air Force machines have already congregated to transport and escort the Royal traveller to Cairo.

The last few weeks have provided His Royal Highness with just the life he would wish to live, were he free to do so, and it is certain that in having a complete understanding of the trials and joys of a life in Eastern Africa, the Prince possesses a knowledge and a sympathy that will be of the utmost value when the time comes for his sovereignty over the British Empire.

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COMPANY CHAIRMAN FLYING TO THE CAPE.

Mr. Alan Butler, the Chairman of the de Havilland Aircraft Company, and the Aircraft Operating Company, and Mrs. Butler left England recently by air for Cape Town. Their route via Victoria Nyanza and Tabora. They are flying a Gloster Air Survey plane for use by the Aircraft Operating Company in Rhodesia.

£1,000 FINES FOR RHINO HORN SMUGGLING.

Five Kenya Arabs have been fined a total of more than £1,000 for smuggling rhino horns, all of which were ordered to be forfeited to the Government. The accused were found in possession of no less than 187 horns of rhinoceros, which are believed to have been slaughtered in the Ukamba Reserve. Rhino horn is more valuable than elephant ivory.

NYASALAND CONVENTION OFFICE-BEARERS.

The Nyasaland Convention of Associations has elected the following officers for 1930: Chairman, Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. B. Sanders; Vice-Chairman, Captain W. H. Evans and Mr. J. M. Parridge; Committee, the Hon. G. Busberry Seale, Captain A. M. Bentley, Messrs. W. Tat Bowie, G. G. S. Hadlow, G. V. Thornycroft, G. S. Fiddes, and D. W. H. Glover.

EAST AFRICAN AIR STATIONS.

The stopping places on the East African section of the air route from Cairo to Cape Town, the northern portion of which is expected to be opened in October, will be: Khartoum, Kosti, Malaka or Juba, Butiaba (to connect with the Congo); Port Bell (instead of Jinja or Entebbe), Kisumu, Nairobi, Moshi (instead of Arusha, as formerly proposed), Dodoma, Mbeya, Mpika, Broken Hill.

RED CROSS DELEGATES.

The following delegates from East Africa are to attend the Red Cross Empire Conference which is to be held later in the year: Nyasaland, Dr. H. G. Wiltshire; Northern Rhodesia, Dr. J. A. Acheson; Southern Rhodesia, Sir Francis Newton; Tanganyika Territory, Dr. R. Nixon; Uganda, Dr. R. H. Nielson; Kenya Colony, Dr. F. J. C. Johnston and Dr. Sterry; Seychelles, Dr. John Bradley.

A PENSION FOR MATTHEW WELLINGTON.

Last week we gave the text of an appeal published by *The Times* for a pension fund for Matthew Wellington, the aged servant of David Livingstone. Mr. W. MacGregor Ross now intimates that the sum asked for (£52 a year) has been subscribed, and that Matthew will have a regular monthly payment for the rest of his life, as well as a small sum specially given to him as birthday and Christmas gifts.

KENYA CHURCH AID ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Kenya Church Aid Association is to be held at the Church Missionary House, Salisbury Square, Fleet Street, E.C.4, on Thursday, April 24, at 3.15 p.m. Anyone interested in East Africa will be welcome, and may receive invitation cards on application to Miss M. H. Skipton, Mount Shadwell, Cleveland Road, Ealing, W.13. The Bishop of Mombasa and the Rev. W. J. W. Rampley are to speak, and Bishop J. Taylor Smith will take the chair. Tea will be served between 4.30 and 5.30.

AN IDEAL SPORTSMAN.

It is not every day that one finds the Englishman held up as a shining example by Continental writers, so the tribute paid to British sportsmanship by Dr. J. M. Béchet deserves to be placed on record. In discussing the protection of African game he quotes

the "well-known case" of an Englishman whose collection of trophies lacked a specimen of a rare antelope from the Sudan; so he set out with only three cartridges and returned with his trophy and two of the cartridges still unused. "Voilà," exclaims Dr. Béchet, "un beau sport!"

AN INVITATION STILL OPEN.

Mr. Ratcliffe Holmes informs us that quite a number of our readers have availed themselves of his invitation, expressed in our issue of March 20, to be present at the private view of his talking picture of African travel and wild life; one well-known ex-resident of Tanganyika Territory has expressed his intention by travelling from Italy for the purpose, while several others propose to come from distant provincial towns. The private view is now fixed for 3 p.m. on Wednesday, April 9, at the London Pavilion. A few of the seats specially reserved for *East Africa's* readers are still available; application should be made immediately to Mr. F. Ratcliffe Holmes, 101, Wardour Street, London, W.1.

AS A BANK SEES EAST AFRICA.

The current monthly report of Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.) says: *Northern Rhodesia*—Mineral output increased £19,207 over January owing to a larger vanadium output from Broken Hill Mine. *Kenya Colony*—General trade has fallen off somewhat owing to the delay in marketing crops. *Tanganyika Territory*—Considerable interest is being taken in the Tukuva, Mbeya, and Shinyanga districts by mining companies. *Nyasaland*—Trading conditions are listless. Tea production this year exceeds that of a year ago, and shows improved quality. *Uganda*—Trade conditions are dull owing to the disappointing cotton crop. Cotton exports for 1929 exceed the previous year by nearly 1,200 tons.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S NEW OFFICERS.

The following officers have been elected for 1930 by the Royal East African Agricultural and Horticultural Society: Patrons, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Lord Delamere, Lord Howard de Walden, Sir John Ramsden, and Sir Ali bin Salim. Stud Book Committee, the Director of Agriculture, Major H. V. Pirie, Mr. J. K. Hill, Mr. H. St. J. B. Ayre, Mr. J. K. Watson, Mr. W. B. Thompson, Lieutenant-Colonel W. K. Tucker, Major H. D. White, Major Luxford, Major G. Baynes, Major Brassey Edwards, the Chief Veterinary Officer, and Mr. Jardine. For the Nairobi Section of the Society the following were chosen: Mr. Holm (Chairman), Colonel Tucker, Mr. Welby, Mr. J. K. Watson, Mr. Dacre Shaw, Mr. Mayer, and Colonel Turner.



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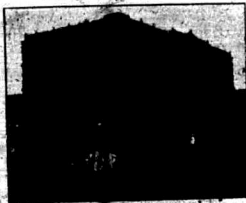
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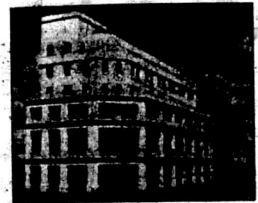
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If you do not possess, and frequently consult, J. H. McDonald's "Coffee Growing with Special Reference to East Africa," you are depriving yourselves of the only up-to-date and thoroughly comprehensive and authoritative work on the subject.

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Copies are obtainable from the publishers, *East Africa*, 91, Great Titchfield Street, London, W. 1, at 21/10, post free.

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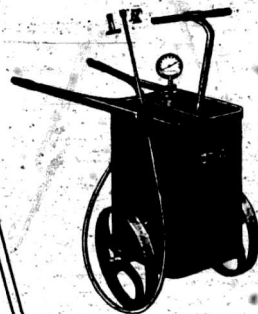
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SIR EDMUND
DAVIS'S SECRECY—

FOREIGN
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MINING, MEN, AND MATTERS

COPPER
SCAREMONGERS—

MINING CONGRESS
OPENING

THE refusal by so-called "Trust" companies to disclose information regarding their investments have often been justly criticised, and many, yielding to pressure, now list their holdings in their annual reports. This practice, far from bringing criticism upon themselves, has not only given shareholders renewed confidence, but has reacted beneficially upon the outside public, who are quick to perceive when directors have invested their funds wisely and well.

Of the opposite camp a typical example has just been provided by Anglo-Continental Mines, Ltd., a Sir Edmund Davis company, whose board refused at the recent annual general meeting to give any information whatsoever as to the company's holdings, except that certain percentages were interested in "mining shares, oil shares, industrial and miscellaneous interests." Nothing else, except the state of the balance sheet, is told to the shareholders or the public, who are left to imagine where and how revenue is derived.

Unless there is some good, and adequately explained, reason for such a refusal, outsiders naturally tend to consider the stock of such companies highly speculative, no matter what dividends have been paid in the past. The report of the Anglo-Continental Mines must be regarded in this category, for, in spite of a gross profit almost 90% in excess of that of the previous year, a smaller dividend has been declared in order to provide for the uncertain value of the company's holdings. These shares, then, the names of which are known only to Sir Edmund Davis and his co-directors, have depreciated so materially that, despite much higher earnings, a lower distribution is necessary. Why should the directors not take the shareholders (who own the business) into their confidence? Continued silence and insufficient data in the presentation of annual reports can only feed the suspicion that the board's policy is not one of sound investment.

A CORRESPONDENT complains of the lack of employment offering in Northern Rhodesia for British geologists and mining engineers, stating, with truth, that of the many geologists employed by certain Northern Rhodesian prospecting companies, only a small percentage owe their training to English Schools of Mines. He might have added, with equal truth, that a similar state of affairs applies to the executive positions on the copper mines.

Those in charge of staff arrangements on the mines are mostly of Canadian or American birth, and it is their obvious policy to give preference to Canadian or American geologists and mining engineers; at least, if they do not actually give preference—and most people with personal knowledge think they do—they seek for their labour with far more diligence in those countries than they do in Great Britain.

Some two years ago I was shown a letter from a prominent official of a Northern Rhodesian prospecting company written to a *confère* at a Canadian School of Mines. He wrote personally, and, in stating his staff requirements, asked for any likely

young men with the necessary technical education (not actual experience in the field, although this was a recommendation) to be engaged. I do not know of a similar letter being sent to any of the English Schools of Mines.

As to executive jobs on the mines, it is quite understandable that engineers with actual experience of copper mining and ore treatment are required, and that many South African gold miners who have applied are consequently unsuitable. This, however, does not debar the English School of Mines man, for there are to be found on the lists of such institutions a long record of British mining engineers with extensive copper mining experience, usually gained in America, and admirably suited for many of the positions offering. The fact remains, however, that there seems to be a definite preference for American engineers, and this is much to be deplored. Northern Rhodesia is a British Colony, and has been developed chiefly by British capital. British mining engineers should be given at least an equal chance with Americans.

SCAREMONGERS are again expressing fear that America has obtained, or is about to obtain, control of the Northern Rhodesian copper mines. This, however, is extremely unlikely, and if one can believe the words of Sir Edmund Davis, it will never happen. Admittedly, a large percentage of the heavy buying of Northern Rhodesian copper shares has come from across the Atlantic, but control is still vested in England, and if America desires, in the meantime, to "hold the baby" there is no reason why she should not be allowed to do so. Great Britain has fostered enough American financial children in her time—so much so, in fact, that at one time it almost looked as if we had formed a sort of financial *crèche* for the adoption of unwanted schemes.

THE Mining Congress, which was recently opened in Cape Town by the Earl of Athlone, Governor-General of South Africa, should be productive of much interesting data. Discussions will cover a multitude of subjects, and many members will no doubt take advantage of the opportunity of visiting Northern Rhodesia. It will be valuable to gather their views when they return, for most of them will be disinterested, and will be able to form an opinion that is not blinded by the light of the rising price of shares, or the fees paid in respect of directorships in these enterprises.

Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons send me a copy of "The Small Investor's Guide" (5s. net), by Sydney A. Moseley, which deals with elementary finance. The contents appear to be a re-hash of advice previously published by Mr. Moseley. I should hesitate to recommend the book to anyone who has passed the age of intellectual adolescence, though it will no doubt save some innocents from losing their money.

"BWANA FEZA."

"EAST AFRICA'S" INFORMATION BUREAU.

"East Africa's" Information Bureau exists for the free service of subscribers and advertisers desiring the Editor's aid on any matter. One of its principal objects is to contribute to the development of British trade throughout East and Central Africa, and any information which readers are willing to give for that purpose will be cordially welcomed.

Manufacturers wishing to appoint agents, and agents seeking further representations, are invited to communicate with the Editor. No charge is made for the service rendered by this Journal in such matters.

Mozambique has now 6,500 miles of motor roads.

Over fifteen inches of rain fell in the Abercorn district during January.

Messrs. Whiteaway, Laidlaw & Co. have acquired a site at Kitale for the erection of a branch.

Eleven new coffee estates have been opened in the Abercorn district during the past eighteen months.

Mr. W. H. E. Edgley is understood to have disposed of the Norfolk Hotel, Nairobi, to Mr. A. L. Black.

The name of Lesirko station, on the Kenya and Uganda Railways, has been changed to Ol'Joro Orok.

Cargo handled at the port of Beira during 1929 totalled 1,072,000 tons, compared with 885,000 tons in 1928.

The licensing of private surveyors in Tanganyika Territory has resulted in one starting practice in Arusha.

Clove and copra exports from Zanzibar during 1929 totalled 174,778 cwt. and 334,079 cwt. respectively.

Residents of Thomson's Falls have petitioned to be placed under Naivasha Province for administrative purposes.

Building in Kenya is still brisk, and demands for materials and tools are especially numerous in the Nairobi district.

The African Mercantile Co. has opened a new branch in Eldoret, under the management of Mr. R. M. Edwards.

Three elephants with tusks weighing over 100 lb. each are included in the bag of five Canadians who were recently hunting in Kenya.

East African planters will be interested to learn that estimates for the Java coffee crop for 1930 are 542,225 piculs, or 30% less than in 1929.

An order for trout fry, to be transported from Njoro to Arusha by Wilson Airways, Ltd., has been placed by the Usa Angling Association.

Traffic on the Kenya and Uganda Railways during 1929 showed an increase of 11.02% over 1928. The total train mileage run was 2,888,271 miles.

The inauguration of sisal growing in the Masindi district of Uganda will open up an important new market for agricultural and other implements.

Estimates are being prepared by the Works Committee of the Nairobi Municipal Council for the erection of a Town Hall and Municipal Offices.

Blue celestine marble, for which there is a considerable world demand, has been located in large quantities by the Kenya Marble Quarries, Ltd.

Nyasaland imports for 1929 were valued at £743,540, or £125,922 less than in 1928. Exports for this period were £625,480, or £81,277 under the 1928 figures.

The tender of Shs. 61,931.79 for the building of new workshops and a store has been accepted by Nairobi Municipal Council from Messrs. Lalji, Visram & Co.

The s.s. "Robert Coryndon" was recently launched at Butiaba, Lake Albert, by Mrs. Jenkins, wife of the Marine Superintendent of the Kenya and Uganda Railways.

The "Trader Horn" film, which was recently taken in Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, and the Belgian Congo, is expected to be shown in London in about two months.

Motor vehicles and accessories imported into the Sudan during the first eleven months of 1929 are valued at £176,971, compared with £142,900 in the corresponding period of 1928.

The reconstruction of the Matadi Port, Belgian Congo, is estimated to be complete in mid-1932. This will be at the same time as the Matadi-Leopoldville Railway line is completed.

The Kenya Government, the Uganda Government, and the Kenya and Uganda Railways have agreed to contribute respectively £500, £500, and £1,000 to the cost of the Overseas Mechanical Transport Committee.

Large orders are expected to be placed with British firms by the Shell Company, in connexion with the erection of a petrol canning and filling factory and the construction of huge petrol storage tanks at Beira. The scheme is estimated to cost £350,000.

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Full instructions given, no technical knowledge necessary. Complete required, when we will quote for complete plant, including bottles, flavour, etc., c.i.f. your nearest port. **Fiegel & Co. (London), Ltd., 225, Acton Lane, W. 4.**

THE ROBEY SUPERDECOR



THE Robey Superdecor embodies many important developments suggested by an expert whom we recently sent to East Africa to make a special study of present day conditions. The re-designed machine embodies improvements for gripping the leaf nearer the butt end, and a wider drum and concave for dealing with this part of the leaf. This results in a much gentler treatment and a higher percentage of fibre extraction. Another important new feature is that a special arrangement of concave clearance adjustment as developed by Major Notcutt is fitted, enabling easy and frequent adjustment to be made while running. An illustrated booklet, containing specification, will gladly be sent on request.

Enquiries are also invited for Oil Engines and Steam Engines for use as prime movers. As makers of all classes of engines to meet the requirements of various countries, we are always able to supply the type most suited to local conditions.

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A CAR OF YOUR OWN!

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EAST AFRICAN PRODUCE REPORTS.

Good to fine quality East African coffees have been selling well, but other grades are slow.

Kenya:—

"A" sizes	95s. od. to 124s. 6d.
"B" sizes	64s. od. to 89s. od.
"C" sizes	52s. od. to 68s. 6d.
Peaberry	77s. od. to 131s. od.
Pale	40s. 6d. to 80s. od.
Ungraded and mixed	43s. od. to 66s. 6d.
London Graded:—	
First sizes	100s. od. to 125s. od.
Second sizes	55s. od. to 91s. 6d.
Third sizes	45s. od. to 67s. od.
Peaberry	105s. od. to 118s. od.

Uganda:—

First sizes	72s. od.
Second sizes	60s. od.
Peaberry	65s. od.
Robusta	46s. 6d.
London Cleaned:	
First sizes	66s. od. to 66s. 6d.
Second sizes	55s. od. to 57s. 6d.
Third sizes	47s. od. to 35s. od.
Peaberry	62s. od. to 69s. od.

Toro

"A" sizes, good quality	110s. 6d.
"B" sizes	71s. od.
Mixed	50s. od.

Tanganyika

Arusha:—

London Cleaned:	
First sizes	93s. od. to 115s. 6d.
Second sizes	72s. od. to 85s. 6d.
Third sizes	42s. od. to 59s. od.
Peaberry	66s. 6d. to 117s. od.

Kilimanjaro:—

London Cleaned:	
First sizes	88s. od. to 113s. od.
Second sizes	80s. od. to 93s. od.
Third sizes	35s. od. to 67s. od.
Peaberry	98s. od. to 110s. 6d.

Usambara:—

Brown mixed	46s. 6d.
London Cleaned:	
First sizes	101s. od.
Second sizes	69s. 6d. to 70s. od.
Third sizes	47s. od. to 48s. 6d.

Belgian Congo:—

Kivu

Polish smalls	35s. od.
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Stocks of East African coffees in London on March 26 totalled 66,015 bags, compared with 44,720 bags on the corresponding date of last year. The auctions will be suspended from April 10 to April 20 on account of the Easter holidays.

OTHER PRODUCE.

Castor Seed.—No business is passing. £15 to £15 7s. 6d. is quoted for April-May shipment.

Chillies.—The market is very dull, but East African quoted at 55s.

Cloves.—Zanzibar spot parcels are quoted at 114d. per lb. on a firmer market.

Copra.—East African is at £10 10s. per ton.

Cotton.—Good East African cotton is in fair demand, and prices have advanced 5 points, with fine 5 points lower. Prices paid during the week were from 6.77d. to 9.89d. per lb.

Cotton Seed.—No business is passing. New crop is quoted at £6 ex-ship.

Groundnuts.—Prices are rather easier. April-May shipments are quoted at £15 10s. to £15 15s. per ton.

Hides and Skins.—No business has been reported.

Maize.—The market is idle. East African No. 2 white flat in bags is quoted at 27s. c.i.f.

Simsim.—There is very little inquiry for East African, but prices are slightly higher at £16 to £16 10s. for white and/or yellow, with £15 10s. for mixed.

Sisal.—Steady, with buyers of good marks No. 1 Tanganyika and Kenya for March-May shipment at £34 5s. c.i.f., and f.a.q. 10s. lower.

Tea.—One hundred packages of Nyasaland tea realised an average of 84d. last week.

REPORT ON SINOIA-KAFUE CUT-OFF.

THAT the time is not yet ripe for the Sinoia-Kafue cut-off, which would shorten by some five hundred miles the distance between Beira and the Northern Rhodesian mines, is the opinion of Mr. P. F. Potter and Mr. R. C. Wallace in their report on the project published last week in the Southern Rhodesian capital. They add, however, "undoubtedly at a later stage, financial and economic considerations apart, it will be found desirable to build the line. Railway history in South Africa in the past shows that this is almost inevitable and happens when the increase in traffic intensifies the importance of the geographical position."

As to the proposed Walvis Bay line the Commission is divided, Mr. Wallace believing construction of this line justified, while Mr. Potter thinks that for the present there is no need for the construction of the line; to be seriously considered. Public opinion considers that the Bechuanaland and Southern Rhodesian Governments may cause a survey of the Walvis Bay route to be made.

TUNG OIL FROM EAST AFRICA.

"Two years ago we got some of the (tung oil) fruit from Nairobi. Since then there has been an intensive campaign with the co-operation of the paint and varnish manufacturers, and we are now quite steadily sending packets of this seed to some fifteen to twenty different parts of the Empire, and again we have to wait for results. We hope to repeat in East Africa, Assam and Bengal the success obtained in Nairobi, for there is not the slightest chance that the supply of tung oil will come up to the demand."—Sir William Furze, Director of the Imperial Institute, speaking recently in London.

LAST WEEK'S RAINFALL IN KENYA.

H.M. EASTERN AFRICAN DEPENDENCIES' TRADE AND INFORMATION OFFICE in London has received cabled news that rainfall in Kenya for the week ending March 28 was as follows: Kitale, 5.3 inches; Lumbwa, 4.5; Ravine, 4.3; Kericho, 4.25; Limuru, 4.1; Moiben, 4; Koru, Fort Hall, and Eldoret, 3.8; Njoro, 3.4; Nakuru, 3; Nanuki, 2.2; Kampi ya Moto, 1.9; Ngong, 1.8; Voi and Kiambu, 1.7; Nyeri, 1.6; Nairobi, 1.5; Machakos and Naivasha, 1 inch.

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PROVIDE THE
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Built up with standard unit plates in sizes from 220 gallons capacity upwards. Economically transported, easily erected, simply maintained.

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PASSENGERS FROM EAST AFRICA.

The s.s. "Giuseppe Mazzini," which left Mombasa on March 1, brought homeward to Genoa:—

Miss A. M. Allaed	Master J. M. Kemp
Mr. F. S. Sinclair Belfield	Mr. Earl Klitsch
Miss E. Benson	Miss Rica Leham
Mr. A. Blair	Miss M. Locke
Mrs. L. G. Boby	Mr. N. F. Marrimicci
The Rev. A. B. Buxton	Mr. J. C. Mee
The Rev. P. Careda	Capt. H. M. Naylor
Miss E. S. Cliff	Mr. L. Nutti
Dr. and Mrs. H. Arnold	Mr. E. Perati
	Brig.-General C. J. Percival
Mr. Paul Coppens	Miss M. A. Percival
Mrs. B. Coppens	The Rev. H. D. Powley
Master E. Coppens	Mrs. M. Powley
Master G. Coppens	Miss M. R. Powley
Master B. Coppens	Miss M. G. Powley
Master C. Coppens	Miss G. Powley
Master J. Coppens	Capt. C. Price
General C. de Crespigny	Mr. C. Henry Price
Mr. J. C. Davies	The Rev. H. R. Reusch
Mrs. S. Delbourg	Mr. F. S. Saunter
The Rev. A. Fassino	Mrs. E. Shannon
Viscount and Viscountess Furness	Mrs. E. Baker Smith
Mr. and Mrs. T. N. Gregory	Miss E. Mary Baker Smith
	The Rev. N. Stam
	Colonel and Mrs. R. Sefer Whitburn
Master A. R. Gregory	Mrs. B. Willis
Master C. G. Gregory	Lt.-Colonel F. B. Wilson
Mr. R. Houghton	Mrs. M. H. Wilson
Miss M. Imrie	
Mr. D. Kemp	
Mrs. E. M. Kemp	

PASSENGERS FOR EAST AFRICA.

The s.s. "Chambord," which left Marseilles for East Africa on April 2, carries for

Mombasa.	Miss E. K. L. Heriot	Maitland
Miss E. A. Black	The Rev. Mother Kevin	
Mrs. G. V. Dawson	Mr. G. N. Poynton	
Mr. G. P. Dealtry		

The East African Steam Conference Lines have agreed to reduce the through rates of freight on sisal, sisal tow, and sisal waste from Mombasa, Tanga, and Dar es Salaam to New Orleans to those charged to New York.

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"SOLOVANE" Centrifugal PUMPS



Sizes: 1 1/2 to 12 ins.

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EAST AFRICAN STEAMSHIP MOVEMENTS.

BRITISH-INDIA.

"Madura" arrived Suez homewards, March 28.
 "Matiana" left Beira for East Africa, April 2.
 "Malda" arrived Port Said, for East Africa, March 29.
 "Ellora" left Mombasa for Bombay, March 29.
 "Karoa" arrived Bombay, March 29.
 "Karapara" left Seychelles for Durban, April 1.
 "Khandalla" arrived Durban, April 2.
 "Karagola" left Zanzibar for Bombay, April 2.

CLAN-ELLERMAN-HARRISON.

"City of Dunkirk" left Aden for East Africa, March 24.
 "Collegian" left Glasgow outwards, March 29.

HOLLAND-AFRICA.

"Jagersfontein" left Amsterdam for South and East Africa, March 25.
 "Giekerk" left Rotterdam for South and East Africa, March 25.
 "Nias" left Genoa homewards, March 24.
 "Grypskerk" left Port Sudan homewards, March 24.
 "Aldabi" arrived Beira for East Africa, March 24.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

"General Duchesne" arrived Diego Suarez for Mauritius, March 26.
 "Aviateur Roland Garros" left Réunion homewards, March 29.
 "Ville de Strasbourg" left Zanzibar homewards, March 30.
 "Bernardin de St. Pierre" left Port Said homewards, March 30.

UNION-CASTLE.

"Bampton Castle" left London for East Africa, March 27.
 "Dunluce Castle" arrived London, April 2.
 "Durham Castle" arrived Algoa Bay for Beira, March 30.
 "Garth Castle" arrived London, March 27.
 "Gloucester Castle" arrived East London, March 30.
 "Grantully Castle" left East London for Beira, March 30.
 "Llandoverly Castle" left Port Sudan homewards, March 29.
 "Llangibby Castle" left Dar es Salaam for Natal, March 29.

EAST AFRICAN MAILS.

MAILS for Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, and Zanzibar close at the G.P.O., London, 6 p.m. on:—

April 3 per s.s. "Viceroy of India"
 "10" s.s. "Maloja"
 "12" s.s. "Bernardin de St. Pierre."

Mails for Nyasaland, the Rhodesias and Portuguese East Africa close at the G.P.O., London, at 11.30 a.m. every Friday.

Inward mails from East Africa are expected in London on April 6 by the s.s. "Bernardin de St. Pierre," on April 11 by the s.s. "Llandoverly Castle," and on April 21 by the s.s. "Ville de Strasbourg."

ASK for and INSIST upon obtaining CHAMBERS' Empire Cedar Pencils.
 F. Chambers & Co., Ltd., are the only Pencil Manufacturers using **Empire Cedar** exclusively. If you have any difficulty in obtaining Chambers' Pencils write direct to the Garden Pencil Works, Stapleford, Notts.

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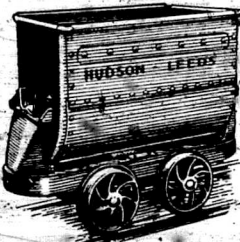
About 130,000 acres, on Freehold tenure from the Crown, in the best proved dairying district of the Kenya Highlands. Blocked out into farms, well watered and roaded. Available for sale in convenient areas to bona fide settlers. Instalment terms arranged.

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Interesting and unique Tourist Travel on the Equatorial Line.

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THE MOUNTAINS OF
THE MOON

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KENYA HIGHLANDS
5,000 TO 10,000 FT. ALT.

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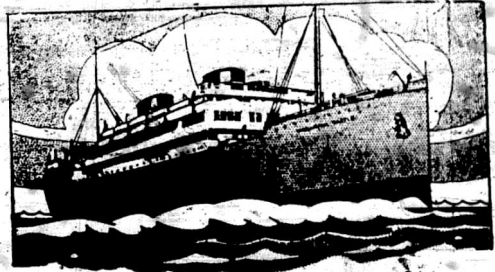
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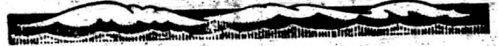
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