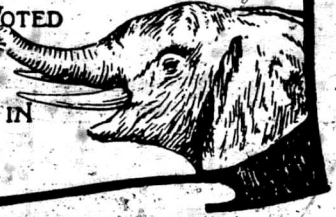


# EAST AFRICA

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## THE IMPORTANCE OF QUALITY.

THE fall in the price on the world's markets of all forms of raw material is seriously affecting the staples of East and Central Africa. Planters of coffee, sisal, tobacco, tea, maize, wheat, cotton, and rubber, to mention only the chief, are feeling the pinch, and it behoves them, not only to face the situation bravely, but to devise means to overcome it. Obviously the first thing to do is to reduce costs, which does not necessarily mean cutting down salaries and wages. There are other, and far better, methods, to some of which we venture to call the attention of our readers.

We would give pride of place to careful, accurate, and, above all, detailed cost accounting. In these days of specialisation no business can be conducted successfully unless the system of book-keeping enables the proprietor to ascertain at any moment the exact state of his affairs. He must be able to put his finger on the weak spot at once; then he is in a position to remedy the defect. The whole history of British commercial colonisation teaches this lesson, and the modern plantation company of good standing regularly analyses its costs to three decimal places of a cent. Then, when trouble comes and costs have to be cut, data for correct judgment are to hand. Moreover, good accounting connotes sound organisation. The two things go together; if one is slack, the other becomes impossible, and confusion and loss must result.

Then the settler must concentrate on quality. It is the poor grades of produce which sell at disastrously low prices; the best types of East African coffee, for example, still sell readily and bring remunerative returns, while the "thirds" drag and disappoint the grower. As the Director of Agricul-

ture of Tanganyika Territory has put it, though in another connexion, there must be "an end to mere wandering diffuse efforts." Concentration on quality means intensive cultivation of smaller areas where the "master's eye" of the proverb "makes the crop grow" and in no country is the master's eye more potent than in Africa, where, whatever good points Native labour may have, excessive application is not to be counted among them. Too large an estate is now a curse rather than a matter for congratulation; no man should attempt to deal with an area beyond his real capacity, for yield per acre, rather than bulk regardless of area, must be the aim. In the attainment of increased yield, wise and really practical manuring will play a great part. What can be done in this way with tea has been authoritatively shown by Dr. Arnold, an expert who has quoted cases within his own knowledge of a 60% increase in crop achieved by the aid of chemical fertilisers. The small plantation with the big, first-quality yield—that must be the aim.

One last point: spread your risks and broaden the basis of your production. Coffee and maize often go well together; pigs make a side-line to maize; bee-keeping is mutually profitable to coffee growing; many a farmer's wife dresses herself and her children well on the profits of her poultry; and a milk contract has before now provided a trip to Europe for the manager of a sugar estate whose chief business in life was the growing of cane but who had the enterprise to keep stock.

Tropical agriculture is an affair of ups and downs, and for the moment the downs seem to have it. In the old days it was "dogged as did it." Our forefathers in the colonial life lacked the knowledge we have, though they have handed down experience by which we may profit. In the end they made good, with our greater advantages success should come as certainly and far more quickly.

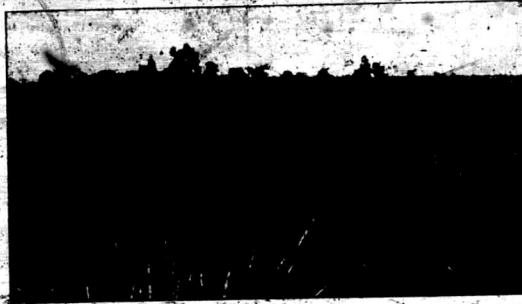
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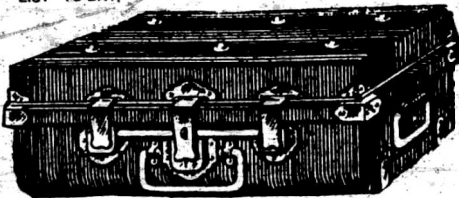
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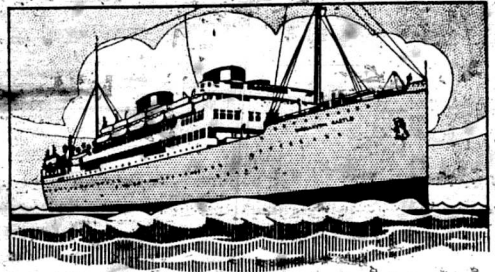
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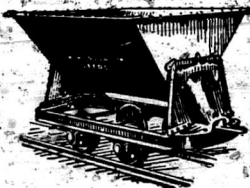


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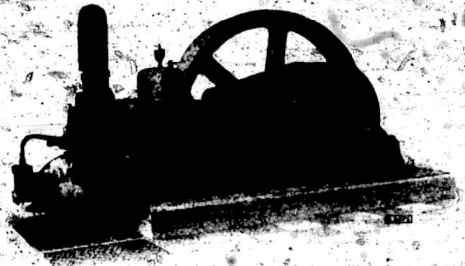
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# MATTERS OF MOMENT

We are always glad to receive for review copies of the annual reports of the various East and Central African Government Departments, which documents are, indeed, indispensable for reference purposes, but unless they arrive within a reasonable time after the close of the period which they deal they lose their news interest, our readers do not want to read of developments many months' out of date. This subject, to which we have had occasion to refer repeatedly in the past, is again brought to the fore by the latest Annual Report of the Tanganyika Department of Agriculture posted to us by the Department on March 10, which was posted to us by the Department on March 10, and the statistical information therein given refers only to the calendar year 1928, so that it was really sixteen months but of date when it came into our hands. And is there any reason why a Government report should be ponderous in style and obscure in diction? Many of the reports which we receive are both lucid and interesting—for example, the Kenya and Uganda Railway Report, and the Reports of the Game Wardens of Kenya and Uganda, of the Tanganyika Police, and of the Nyasaland Census—but those of the Tanganyika Department of Agriculture are unfortunately not among them.

This last one—signed by Mr. A. H. Kirby, the then Director, who has now been transferred to West Africa—though lightened by appearing in two separate fascicles, makes hard reading. Dealing with the tendency of sisal planters to regard their crop as practically disease-free, the Director writes: "This precarious attitude must, however, be abandoned, unless we are continually to run the risk of most serious capital loss, added to the social dislocation of a large discharge of labour that becomes less easily absorbed into its original society as time goes on, through failure by experiment and research to arm ourselves with the knowledge of the most economical means of its manufacture and cultivation." And again, with reference to the activities of agricultural officers: "There is an end of the mere wandering diffuse efforts of officers, preaching the agricultural gospel without any means for decentralisation with concentration for demonstration propaganda and the equally important work of distribution of tried and select planting material." As "wandering trifled efforts" those two sentences challenge competition. Considering the cost of printing Colonial Government reports, the pressure on the Government Printers, and the desirability of early publication, we feel that a strong hint might be given by some higher authority that brevity, besides being the soul of wit, should be regarded as the essence of Government reports:

Last week we published the terms of the letter in which the Tanganyika Government refused the request of the local Planters' Association for reasonable hospital accommodation for non-official European residents of the Morogoro district, and, as our special report showed, the communication met with unmeasured reprobation at the

meeting of the Executive Council of the Joint East African Board. Seldom indeed is such emphatic language used by responsible men of position. It was not the inability of the Government to provide the accommodation which was criticised; everyone realised the cost of hospital facilities in Africa, and the desirability of self-help in the case of strong European communities and important industries. What provoked the storm was the revelation of the Government's declared policy towards "non-Natives." "The Government accepts no responsibility for the medical care of unofficial Europeans" may be true, but it might have been more happily put. And if it is true, it is time for that state of affairs to be changed. The Tanganyika Government, which has already come under criticism for its apparent tendency to differentiate between the classes of its domain, must be made to realise that "non-Natives" will not be officially relegated in this manner to a position of inferiority, particularly in so vital a matter as medical treatment. When a denial of responsibility for hospital treatment is coupled with a policy of restricting the private practice of Government medical officers—which is said to be the case in Uganda—a state of things is revealed which calls for protest. A good deal more is likely to be heard of this matter.

The authorities in Tanganyika are seeking to improve the breed of bees. We have wondered who was responsible for the suggestion of BEES, whoever he was—quite possibly a senior Government official safely ensconced in an office—he no doubt put the notion to the Director of Agriculture, who called up the Entomologist and gave the order, *tout court*: "Native bees! Improve them," and left it at that. Then we visualise Mr. Ritchie setting about the job, carefully, as befits the reputation of the local bee, but with a bravery deserving a medal "for conspicuous courage in times of peace." "Deborah, the bee," as Kipling has it, is a tough proposition, but already she supplies, in the form of bees' wax, one of the staple exports of the Mandated Territory, and if the Natives would only take to eating honey, instead of making prohibited honey-wine of it, the bee business would be economically sounder. Already Mr. Ritchie has concentrated on the queen-bee problem; has, we understand, devised "queen excluders" with all their delicate technique, and is at present engaged in the heart-breaking task of endeavouring to instil enthusiasm for the new methods into the mind of the Native bee-keeper. As an expert, Mr. Ritchie has before him the accomplished deeds of European and American bee experts; but it may come as a revelation to most of our readers that in advanced bee circles the breeding of queens is so specialised an industry that large commercial concerns rear thousands of queens for sale annually, and that there are several queen-breeding societies with isolated mating stations where the mating of young queens with drones from selected stock can be assured; these societies indeed, keep stud-books and records just as cattle-breeding associations and race-horse owners do. Tanganyika's Entomologist has made a gallant start on a long and a difficult, not to say a dangerous, road. Good luck to him; he can always comfort himself with the knowledge that bee-stings are a champion cure for rheumatism!

**MEDICAL  
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## THE GROWTH OF ELDORET.

Rapid Rise of "Sixty-Four."

INTERESTING IMPRESSIONS OF A VISITOR.

By Captain H. C. Gruem,

Editorial Secretary of "East Africa."

FEW towns, even in Kenya, can boast of so rapid a rise as Eldoret—for years known as "Sixty-four" because it was built on a farm of that number. Its growth is to be attributed partly to the foresight of its pioneers and partly to the enterprise shown by its business men in the post-War years. As an instance of this enterprise, be it mentioned that a shop in Main Street has a small cinematograph which shows the prospective purchaser of ploughing machinery exactly what the ploughs or tractors in question have done on other farms. It is certainly a form of salesmanship which could be usefully applied to many other commodities.

Moreover, some of the shop-window displays in Eldoret would do credit to many shops in London itself, while one prominent building, erected at a cost of about £18,000 and used as a motor-car showroom, would be regarded as a fine building even in Nairobi, where some of the modern business premises are masterpieces of architecture. Altogether, Eldoret breathes an atmosphere of enterprise, and leaves the traveller with the belief that its progressive spirit will undoubtedly carry it to still greater success.

### Splendid Climate.

To the visitor the most striking feature of Eldoret is the clarity of the air. A blue sky, invigorating freshness in the early morning, warm and clear days, and quite restful evenings, with delightful sunsets throwing a deep glow over the countryside, are the rewards of those who have made the Uasin Gishu Plateau their home. Mosquitoes are conspicuous by their absence; bonny children, looking the picture of health can be seen on all sides; and some of the older residents, with wide experience of other parts of East Africa, were very definite in their assertion that it would be difficult to find a more healthy spot in which to settle.

How the township grew up is an interesting story. Years ago the District Commissioner's house was some eight miles from what is now Eldoret, and mails for settlers in the district were brought to that house by road from Londiani. Settlers formed the habit of coming in to collect their letters, and to supply the need of a place of refreshment and a meeting-place for the farmers, a hotel was established. Gradually the settlers began to obtain their various household commodities at the same time as their mails, and so shops were established. From such origins did the township develop.

### The Wonderful Kamorin Escarpment.

One of the most entrancing and inspiring sights in all East Africa is only fifteen miles away. As yet it is comparatively little known among tourists, though I was told of one party of Americans who journeyed all the way from Livingstone to the spot. Stranger still, there are local residents who have never visited the Kamorin Escarpment, though it is possible for motorists to drive practically up to the edge of the cliff, which has a sheer drop of 1,500 feet to another ledge below. The escarpment overlooks a vast valley, the distance between the heights on each side being some seventy-five miles, while the width at the base is fifty miles. The escarpment, as



PART OF THE KAMORIN ESCARPMENT.

has been said, consists of two ledges, the first of which drops 1,500 feet, while the second falls 2,500 feet. At the foot are thick forests, though, when seen from a great height, they appear to be nothing more than bushes. In the middle of the valley is a lake which, though it seems to be only a small sheet of water, is actually over ten miles in circumference.

Right and left of the escarpment the hills sweep down majestically towards this gigantic valley in which thousands of wild animals abound. Standing at the top, one can look down to the first ledge between huge granite boulders lying about another and forming a kind of gateway. It is a desolate spot, but one which deserves to be more widely known, and which should certainly attract more tourists, for no human being at all responsive to Nature could fail to be moved by the grandeur of the indescribable scene.

### Captain McNab Mundell—Pioneer.

Three or four of the pioneers still carry on business in Eldoret, and from some of them I heard interesting stories of its early days. Captain McNab Mundell, who arrived in 1910, and who has always taken a keen interest in the public affairs of the township and district, told me that even to-day there is ample privately-owned land available for settlement in the locality, it being estimated that there are 42,000 acres of suitable coffee land, 91,000 acres suitable for maize and wheat, while larger areas are available for sisal planting.

The fact that the township is the last healthy station on the Kenya and Uganda Railway before the main line enters Uganda is yet another reason for its increasing importance. In this connexion I learnt that Eldoret is to spend a further £5,000 on its European General Hospital, and that the settlers mean, in co-operation with their Kitale neighbours, to increase the number of beds and to provide the most modern surgical arrangements. Dr. Dundas, a medical settler of three years' residence, I believe, now purchasing the necessary equipment in England. The hospital belongs to the district, for when the Government decided, five or six years ago, to close it down, the residents, determined not to be

left without a medical centre at which their sick could be treated, decided to take it over themselves. A company was formed, and a scheme inaugurated, whereby any person who subscribes 60s. a year is entitled to accommodation at the hospital at half the rates charged to non-subscribers. This subscription, it may be mentioned, covers a man, his wife, family, and nursemaid.

#### Messrs. T. J. O'Shea and A. C. Hoey.

Another interesting personality is the Hon. T. J. O'Shea, an elected member of the Legislative Council of the Colony, whose ability is held in general regard, and who came to Eldoret twenty years ago, and ten years later erected the first brick building in the town. He is well known throughout Kenya for his independent views, his outspokenness in the Legislative Council, and his candid criticism of the Government's handling of the Closer Settlement Scheme; he has pointed out that there are 20,000 alienated land around Eldoret, all of which could be divided up into blocks of from 400 to 1,000 acres. Mr. O'Shea believes there is a great future for dairying on the Plateau; and the number of farmers who are now devoting their attention to this form of farming is definitely on the increase, moreover, with the operation of the Fencing and Dipping Ordinances, the application of which is left to local option, development should be speeded up. In Mr. O'Shea's opinion Eldoret is destined in the future to develop into the distributing centre for the Eastern Province of Uganda.

There are many instances of places in East Africa having been named after their pioneers, and at least one Eldoret business man can be proud of such a distinction. He is Mr. A. C. Hoey, who came to East Africa in 1904, and whose name will always be associated with Hoey's Bridge. He is now actively associated with the sisal industry, which was established in Eldoret only in recent years, and he expresses great faith in the district as a sisal producer. As a matter of fact, Mr. Hoey himself controls about 7,000 acres under sisal. It is in this district that Sir Neville Pearson has very extensive interests, particularly in sisal.

#### "Micky Eywaz"

No mention of the early days of Eldoret would be complete without reference to Mr. Michael Eywaz—known to hundreds of East Africans as "Micky Eywaz"—who established himself as a trader in the Nakuru district in 1907, and a year later began to trade in rubber in the Nandi district. At that time the product sold at about 4s. a lb., and as the undergrowth in the forest was mostly rubber, his proved a profitable venture, which he extended by opening Native trading centres in different villages. At first his stores sold *Amerikani*; later, when the Natives began to cultivate their own land, he sold them hoes, axes, and other farming implements, and, as flax prices were high, he encouraged them to grow flax, buying the crop from them and selling it in bulk. Originally it fetched 3s. a lb., but the price dropped, leaving a large quantity on his hands. Then, just after the War, the flax boom started, and he sold the flax seed from the Nandi district to the settlers on the Plateau.

Mr. Eywaz remembers the early Dutch settlers coming up to Eldoret, many of them having trekked all the way up from South Africa, and he recalls how in 1912 Mr. J. C. Shaw, now manager of the Standard Bank in Nairobi, opened the Eldoret branch of the bank. In those days herds of game of all descriptions roamed the whole of the Plateau, and when President Roosevelt was on his famous *safari*

in East Africa Mr. Eywaz arranged a lion hunt for him. A large number of Nandi boys were collected, and, armed with spears, they formed a circle round the lion; gradually the circle became smaller and smaller as the boys closed in, until in the end the beast, in attempting to escape, was speared by one of the warriors.

#### A Town of post-War Growth.

As recently as 1920 there were only two or three buildings in the township, and gum boots had to be worn by everybody in the wet weather, so bad was the mud. The present Eldoret Hotel was just a framework. Everything had to be brought up by ox-wagon from Londiani, and as those waggons had no brakes, travellers often had interesting and sometimes hazardous experiences; one point was that they had little idea when they would reach their destination. The oxen, it may be mentioned, were changed every ten miles. One professional man in Eldoret—Mr. W. A. Shaw—recalled that on one occasion the wagon in which he was travelling capsized at ten o'clock of the first night on the journey, and the drivers, fearing that the passengers would blame them for having capsized the wagon, immediately ran off into the bush, leaving the stranded wagon there until daylight.

Eldoret now has its Municipal Council, to which eight European members are elected and two others nominated by the Governor; there are also two officials and three nominated Indians. At the time of my visit the Town Council was composed of the District Commissioner (who acts as Chairman), Captain McNab Mundell, the Hon. T. J. O'Shea, M.L.C., Major E. G. Russell, Mr. A. C. R. Bainford, Mr. O. E. Egleton, Mr. Michael Eywaz, Mr. M. W. Ghersi, Mr. G. C. Holder, Mr. G. F. Murrell, and Mr. D. Sparrow, while Lieutenant-Colonel G. East King acts as the Town Clerk.

The District Council, which has its headquarters in Eldoret, comprises the whole of the Usin Gishu district, including in its sphere Moiben, Turbo, Soy, Hoey's Bridge, and Sergoit. For the purposes of election it is divided into four wards: Soy, Sergoit, Southern Plateau, and Kipkarren—each of which elects three European members.

#### How "East Africa" Helped.

Colonel East King, who is himself a farmer in the district, told me that Eldoret now possesses a first class aerodrome some 700 yards square and near the township, and that they have now planned their new Native location, the cost of which will be about £9,000, of which the Government will contribute half. In the location the Native will be charged a moderate rent, chiefly to cover the cost of administration. Native beer-shops will be controlled, all the profits being allocated towards further benefits for those residing in the location. Incidentally, I learnt that members of the Town Council had been extremely interested in the recent articles in *East Africa* on "Controlling Natives in Townships," and that those articles had proved of the greatest practical value. In the township itself it is anticipated that electric light will be available next year, the charges being the same as those in Mombasa. They have a trunk telephone system to Nairobi—a facility which even Mombasa does not enjoy—and it is intended that the township roads shall be tarred this year.

#### Eldoret's Government School.

No visitor to Eldoret can miss seeing its school, a splendid building equipped with the most modern educational appliances, and having on its staff an excellent body of teachers. The Headmaster, Cap-



GOVERNMENT SCHOOL, ELDORET.

tain R. Madge, was good enough to show me over the building; on one side are the dormitories, and the whole establishment is electrically lighted by a small installation. There are both boy and girl scholars, and as many of them have lived their lives in out-of-the-way places in East Africa, Captain Madge invited me to tell them of our flight from Croydon to Nairobi in the "Knight of the Grail," the first three-engined passenger aeroplane.

I was amused to find a couple of hundred yards in front of the school one of the stone-breaking machines used by the builders when the school was erected. The machine is in perfect order, but presumably because it is difficult to move, it has been left on the site. Would any private contractor leave costly machinery derelict in such a fashion?

As recently as 1922 Eldoret's golf course ran down the hill where now stands Main Street; to-day the town possesses an excellent club house, a course claimed to be one of the best in the Colony, and its own professional in Mr. Kinnell, brother of Mr. Harry Kinnell, the professional at Nairobi; an idea of local keenness on the game may be gauged from the fact that four of the Eldoret members have decided to tour some of the links in Scotland during their leave this year. While on the subject of sport, mention must be made of the splendid racecourse just outside the town.

### COLONEL FRANKLIN LEAVES FOR EAST AFRICA.

COLONEL W. H. FRANKLIN, C.B.E., D.S.O., Commissioner to H.M. Eastern African Dependencies' Trade and Information Office in London, and H.M. Trade Commissioner for Eastern Africa, is due to leave London on Tuesday morning next to join the "Llangibby Castle" for Mombasa. The Commissioner is to proceed direct to his East African headquarters in Nairobi, and will thereafter visit Uganda, Tanganyika Territory, Zanzibar, Nyasaland, and Northern Rhodesia, returning from the Cape, and arriving back in England about the end of November. As this tour will be rather more hurried than usual, it has been arranged that he shall again leave England in the spring of next year, in order to arrive in Nairobi at the end of March or the beginning of April, prior to the departure on leave of Mr. C. Kemp, the Deputy Trade Commissioner. During his tour of the Dependencies, Colonel Franklin will be glad to meet anyone desirous of discussing settlement or business affairs.

He is accompanied by Miss "Billy" Franklin, a daughter who has not yet visited East Africa, and who is to join Mrs. Franklin and family on their plantation at Limuru.

### ARCHDEACON BLACKLEDGE OF UGANDA.

A Remarkable Life.

An old friend writes:—

The Ven. Archdeacon Blackledge recently arrived in this country on retirement after thirty-six years of missionary service in Uganda. He is one of the rapidly diminishing number of pioneers in that country, having reached East Africa in 1894, when he marched the whole way through what is now Tanganyika Territory to Mwanza, travelling thence by Lake canoes to Uganda, the whole journey taking four months to accomplish.

He worked amongst both the Baganda and Batoro peoples and acquired a wonderful proficiency in the Luganda language. In 1903 he produced a Luganda Vocabulary which was prominently in use for over twenty years, until superseded by the larger dictionary which he and Archdeacon Kitching compiled together. His flow of Luganda was remarkable, and it seemed as easy for him to preach in that language as his own native English. During the Nubian rebellion in 1897 he acted as interpreter to Major Macdonald, was mentioned in despatches, and received the medal and bar. From 1914 to 1915 he was chaplain on the Kagera line, to Native and British troops. In the King's Birthday Honours List of 1928 he received the Order of the British Empire. In the previous year he had been appointed a Canon of the Cathedral at Namirembe, and was subsequently made Archdeacon of Uganda.

He will be greatly missed by the chiefs, Native clergy, and people of Uganda, whose confidence he enjoyed in large measure. Incidentally, it is questionable whether the newer generation of Europeans in Uganda are retaining in anything like the same degree the confidence of the Natives which was reposed in so many of their predecessors. The Europeans nowadays have so many more social interests among themselves which do not give opportunities for getting to know the Natives so thoroughly, and perhaps both white and black are the losers thereby. It is therefore with a tinge of sadness that such men as Archdeacon Blackledge take their leave, when the passing of time calls them to retirement, but there is this to be said, they have forged a link in the chain which binds Native peoples to the Empire—a link of far greater value than standing armies. The inspiration of Archdeacon Blackledge's life, as of Mrs. Blackledge, one of the earliest woman missionaries in Uganda, whose gracious life endeared her to the Natives amongst whom she laboured, has been Christian service. Their many friends wish them both the full enjoyment of their well-earned retirement in their own native land.

#### FORTHCOMING FEATURES.

During the next few months Capt. H. C. Druett will continue his series of articles describing his tour of Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika Territory. Early contributions will include pen pictures of Kitale, Jinja, Kampala, the Mountains of the Moon, Motor-ing in East Africa, Lake Victoria, etc. Limited supplies of the issues containing his past articles are still obtainable. Among the subjects were Nairobi, Nyeri, Mombasa, Nakurua, Nakuru, Arusha, and Moshi.



## MR. ALLISTER MACMILLAN ANGRY WITH "EAST AFRICA."

### HIS RETORT TO OUR REVIEW OF HIS BOOK.

"East Africa's" Principles of Literary Criticism.

WE recently reviewed at some length Mr. Allister Macmillan's book, "Eastern Africa and Rhodesia," which our reviewer described as "a 493 page volume presented on good art paper, adorned with a profusion of well prepared photographs of most aspects of East African life and endeavour, and bound in an attractive and expensive cover."

Having thus written appreciatively of the appearance of the book, our reviewer discharged the definite duty which we impose upon each of our literary critics of stating without fear, or favour his honest opinion of the work committed to his judgment. There has never been, and never will be, any editorial attempt to influence that independent judgment for personal, mercenary, or other motives. Our reviewers have been selected with care, enjoy our full confidence, and, if we may judge from the appreciative references constantly received regarding our book pages, commend themselves to our readers.

It is true that the reviewer to whom we entrusted Mr. Allister Macmillan's publication found little to say in its favour, beyond noting its expensive appearance and many excellent illustrations. But, in order that we may escape the charge of quoting in our own defence only selected passages, let the whole of the review be republished. The sense of the introductory paragraph has already been recalled. The rest of the notice ran—

The book is presumably intended to be a business guide, but its compiler is no ordinary collector of cold fact, statistics, and outputs. Unlike Peter Sim, to whom a primrose was a primrose, and nothing more, to Mr. Macmillan a business house is very much more than a business house; it is a Real Live Palpitating Human Experience. Every wholesale or retail store, every hotel, and every *duka* that he deems worthy of mention spells

#### Panegyrics.

"If you, gentle reader, have imagined the life of a butcher in a small East African town somewhat unromantic, disabuse your mind of such errors, and listen to Mr. Macmillan's panegyric on the noble work of the purveyor of meat—

"Good, pure meat should mean good thoughts, and good thoughts good character. The latter is the basis of all personal, family, social, and national welfare; so that if intelligent analysis is made of the relative causes of things that matter most, gentlemen like Mr. — (the butcher under eulogy) are worthy of all encomiums, for are they not engaged in work that is much more important and influential for good than rarely, if ever, enters into the conscientiousness of the average individual?"

"About larger concerns Mr. Macmillan is equally enthusiastic. Usually the references are couched in terms of business-cum-romance, but in connexion with one large East African quasi-banking firm the reader is warned that 'it is controlled by a small number of directors—gentlemen chosen by the shareholders, and usually men of position and trust, as well as of unquestioned probity, are selected.' (Italics are those of the reviewer.) What will the directors think of such guarded commendation?"

"In writing of such institutions as hotels the author is at his best. Listen to this—

"What happy memories must be aroused by contemplation of that well-known and popular place (an hotel on the East Coast), with its alfresco tables, where people still sit as of yore in the lovely evening air and drink their beverages of all kinds. Unchanged are the charming acacia trees about the building, and unchanged, too, is the picturesque Anglican church with chimneys that tell sweetly of the passing hours, and which on Sundays must awaken, in the minds of many, memories of "dear, dead days gone beyond recall," and the goodness of early days in the homeland far away."

#### Have these Puffs any Use?

"Ecstatically we are taken store by store and hotel by hotel through the greater part of East and Central Africa. Have these 'puffs' any use? One possible benefit occurs to me: anyone—if there be anyone—who finds it possible to absorb but a portion of the author's tremendous enthusiasm might picture himself as happy as the merest wagslave in one of these picturesque *dukas* as if he were the managing director of a large and responsible firm—which, on account of the limitations of the English language, can scarcely be described in more flattering terms than the aforesaid *duka*. Which is unfortunate. For an established house with a capital of scores or hundreds of thousands of pounds sterling and immense ramifications to be eulogised in terms very similar to those employed to picture a quite unimportant concern may be most satisfactory to the latter, but it will scarcely please the former or satisfy the unbiased reader."

#### VIGOROUS PROTEST OF THE AUTHOR.

Against that frank judgment Mr. Macmillan has protested vigorously. Of the propriety of some of his remarks we leave East Africans to judge. His letter—written while on his way back to East Africa for the purpose of preparing a second edition of the volume the usefulness of which had been called in question—reads:—

Your criticism of my book "Eastern Africa and Rhodesia" is misleading, unfair, and incompetent. It says absolutely nothing about the extensive historical and descriptive sections of the volume, and adverts entirely on the portions devoted to reviews of the business houses.

"It endeavours exultingly to ridicule the panegyrics on the business firms, yet at the same time reads as follows:—'About one large East African quasi-banking firm the reader is warned that it is controlled by a small number of directors—gentlemen chosen by the shareholders, and usually men of position and trust, as well as of unquestioned probity, are selected. What will the directors think of such guarded commendation?' It must, therefore, be disconcerting for you to be told that these actual words were specially inserted in the article in question as a correction to my own former expressions, and were written by the Secretary of the firm described by you as 'one large East African quasi-banking firm,' but is the Nairobi Board of Directors."

"Your excerpt from my article on the butchery business would have been more enlightening had you quoted the latter part of that article; but what you do quote as worthy of derision recalls on yourself, for your conscientiousness of the average individual, instead of conscientiousness of the average individual, as in my book, which is quite a different matter, although it may be that you are unable to differentiate between words and contexts."

"A criticism of your little paper entirely from its publicity contents, without any regard to its letterpress, would be absurd, wouldn't it?—especially as I notice among the few advertisements that one or two large concerns occupy very small spaces. You admitted to me, on the only occasion I met you, how very difficult it was for you to get advertising support. All the articles on the business houses in my book received the careful and hearty approval of the directors of the firms concerned, and the one to which you apparently refer as not being insufficiently eulogistic, was, like many others, prepared for my book by the principals of that firm themselves."

"Your absurd criticism has the distinction of being absolutely the one and only adverse notice any of my books has received. I had no intention of giving you a copy of the volume you endeavour to deride so ineffectively; but your repeated requests for a copy quite misled me. Your verbal praise of it, and your request that I should write your name in the copy I had presented to you, in all good faith still further misled me. *Verb. sap.*"

#### THE REPLY OF OUR REVIEWER.

In accordance with established journalistic practice when adverse comments on the work of a reviewer are received, we passed the above communication to our contributor for his reply. This is what he wrote:—

"The personally abusive tone taken by Mr. Allister Macmillan I prefer to disregard, but it throws light on certain characteristics of his book which, in order to be scrupulously fair to him, I did not mention in my review. Let me take his points one by one."

"First, he complains that I said nothing about the extensive historical and descriptive sections of the volume. That is true, the reason being that not only did those sections fail to produce any new data or ideas, but that they serve merely as a sort of *hors d'œuvre* to the bulk of the book, which consists of 'write-ups' of firms and companies operating in the various East African territories.

"Secondly, he complains of my treatment of the 'write-ups' given to a quasi-banking firm in Nairobi, which he now sees fit to name—and even then to name incorrectly! Mr. Macmillan thereby confirms the impression I had formed, but refrained from expressing, that this, and many other similar 'puffs,' were actually written by the firms themselves. That ingenuous confession is quite adequate explanation of the excessively eulogistic phraseology with which the book is plastered. It also tempts an inquiry as to whether the business houses which wrote their own 'puffs,' also compensated Mr. Macmillan for his kindness in having them set up in print. If so, how much did they pay for it? Whatever the amount, it is scarcely conceivable that they will appreciate Mr. Macmillan's indelicacy in telling the world—their competitors included—that the nice things said about them were mere self-praise, which is proverbially alleged to be no recommendation.

"In a later paragraph Mr. Macmillan becomes more personal and insinuates, quite erroneously, that the editorial and advertisement pages of *East Africa* are so closely allied as to interfere with editorial policy. It is an insinuation which any honourable journal will at once deny, and one that has so little foundation in the case of *East Africa* that readers will certainly regard it as mere personal abuse.

"The trend of the letter of protest suggests confusion in Mr. Macmillan's mind; he appears to be under the impression that your reviewers are denied the exercise of their own judgment and its free expression. For his information it may be well to set down the instructions given to me by the editor. They were brief, to the point, and certainly in no sense tendentious. They ran thus: 'Here's another book for you. It is a long time since we have received a volume so well illustrated and excellently bound. I have had a number of inquiries about the book, so let me have your notice quickly.' Rather thoughtlessly I asked at what length it was to be treated, to be told promptly, and deservedly, 'Whatever it's worth. Those are the facts, which it is but fair to *East Africa* and myself to narrate. There has never been any attempt by the editor to dictate, or even influence, my attitude to any book handed to me for review.'

#### A NOTE BY THE EDITOR

The above correspondence speaks for itself, but an editorial note may be added to abolish any doubts which may still remain.

Our editorial and advertising sections always have been, are, and will remain entirely separate and distinct, and no amount of advertising or lack of advertising matter has ever influenced, or will ever be allowed to influence, the editorial policy of *East Africa*. Honourable journalism is based on pursuance of an independent editorial policy, and by that means alone can a newspaper succeed, as we are proud to have succeeded, in steadily increasing its influence and standing in the community it seeks to serve.

Mr. Macmillan's concluding paragraph, in which he states that we repeatedly asked for a copy of "Eastern Africa and Rhodesia," places an entirely wrong interpretation on the matter. For many months before the publication of his book we had been receiving communications from East African firms stating that they had paid sums varying from three to twelve guineas to the compiler, and asking us to ascertain if and when the book was to be published. The long delay between collection of these advance subscriptions and the publication of the book gave natural cause for anxiety to a number of our subscribers, whose request to us to inform them of the position was the cause of our two inquiries of Mr. Macmillan, to whom we intimated at the same time, and in strict accordance with the customary newspaper practice, that we should be willing to review the book if a copy were sent to us for that purpose.

For the first time in the five and a half years since the establishment of this journal the review copy, instead of being posted by the publisher or delivered by his messenger, was brought to our office in person by the author, who, without disclosing the reason of his call, asked to see the editor, to whom he handed a copy of "Eastern Africa and Rhodesia," which, he said, had been published only that day. After some conversation—in which he expressed himself very appreciatively about *East Africa*—Mr. Macmillan referred to the scope for British trade in East and Central Africa, in reply to which the editor remarked that one of *East Africa's* desires was to induce more British manufacturers to realise the possibilities of those Dependencies, but that unfortunately very few of them were sufficiently enterprising to explore and exploit their opportunities by personal visits, the appointment of the right agents, and adequate and sustained advertising. That drew from the visitor a complimentary remark about the increased volume of advertising appearing in our pages, and a rejoinder from the editor that it was very difficult to persuade most British business houses of the essential need of overseas advertising, but that we believed we were slowly but surely driving home a realisation of the value of the market. Such a conversation is now epitomised by Mr. Macmillan in a sentence which, if it is intended to mean anything, is presumably inserted with a derogatory object.

Two further points. A suggestion to a publisher that a newspaper is willing to consider a book for review does not, and obviously cannot, be construed as implying that the review will be favourable. Mr. Macmillan unpacked his book in our office, placed it before us, and asked: "What do you think of it?" The editor's reply was the obvious one: "You have spared no expense in its production, and the illustrations are excellent; as to the contents, I can naturally not express an opinion." "Of course not; but I'm leaving for East Africa again in a fortnight. Can you review it in your next issue or the next?" That we could not promise, but we did promise an early notice, which duly appeared.

Lastly, the reference to a signed copy of the book may easily be misunderstood. The fact is that the volume lay open on the desk at the title page, and that, as Mr. Macmillan spoke of his impending departure for East Africa, the editor said: "Then scribble your name in the book." How such a casual remark can have misled the author is difficult to conceive, but still stranger is his apparent conviction, to judge by his letter, that a review copy of a book in which the writer's name has been

(Continued on page 1176.)

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## Camp Fire Comments.

### Style on the Upper Nile.

Dr. Arthur Kitching, Bishop of the Upper Nile, has quoted an amusing example of Native "swank" in his diocese. The acme of fashion is to possess squeaky brown boots, and he has known a man enter church noisily in a pair, take them off, and pass them through the window to another man so that he in his turn could make a sensational entry.

### Where I Dines I Sleeps.

A note reminiscent of the late lamented Mr. Jorrock's was struck at the recent reunion in Beira when "old timers." The dinner was held at the Savoy Hotel, says *The Beira News*, and pioneers of Mozambique Territory came in from many outlying districts. One of them, apparently realising the futility of avoiding the natural consequences of such an occasion, wired: "Please reserve me a room at the Savoy Hotel, and put it as near to the place where we leave off as possible." A message of congratulation was sent to Mr. A. L. Lawley, the oldest resident, by the Governor of Mozambique.

### Clerical Collars for Native Clergy.

A correspondent declares that Europeans have a heavy load of blame to bear for introducing their costume to African Natives. "I have heard," he writes, "a C.M.S. missionary at a meeting at Salisbury House inveigh against European clothes in the tropics; he pointed out that they were tight where they should be loose, as under the arms and between the legs, where perspiration was most profuse; and he compared them very unfavourably with the flowing *kanga*, which is roomy, airy, and cool. Now I read that in the Upper Nile diocese the Native pastors wear a white robe with the traditional clerical (or 'dog') collar, in spite of its discomfort; a special design of celluloid has, indeed, even been made to withstand the heat and washing. Some British clergymen—among them the famous Canon Sheppard, formerly of St. Martin's in the Fields—consistently refuse to wear the 'dog-collar,' and it seems strange that so uncomfortable a fashion should prevail among Native ministers. The white man has indeed much to answer for!"

### Are Snakes Immune to Strychnine Poison?

A correspondent sends us a cutting from the South African *Farmer's Weekly* which appears to prove that snakes are not affected by vegetable poisons such as strychnine. A lady in Southern Rhodesia was much annoyed at the disappearance of eggs in her poultry-run, which phenomenon she attributed to one of several causes—egg-eating hens, dogs, or rats. A careful series of experiments—the planning of which does credit to the hen-wife's skill—eliminated the hens and dogs, and she then proceeded to poison some eggs with strychnine. Still no dead rats were found, though she expected to find a dozen or so. Eventually she traced the thefts to a couple of snakes, which she shot; they were identified as ringhals. Apparently they were not in the least injured by the strychnine, and her "boys" expressed the opinion that snakes have so much venom in their system that a little more does not hurt them. It would be interesting to know if any similar cases

are on record; if verified, the laying of poisoned baits for snakes appears to be a useless proceeding, though we have never heard of anyone who tried it.

### Preserve the Birds in East Africa!

A determined effort is being made in South Africa to bring home to farmers the immense amount of good work birds do in keeping down insect and tick pests. The sad case of the United States and Canada is quoted as a warning: there dollars are being spent like water and drastic laws passed to preserve the birds and undo the wanton destruction of bird life during the last century. France might be added to the list for there *la chasse*, which very often means shooting little birds, has resulted in a great increase of insect pests. It is true that some birds take toll of fruit, when in season, and others attack grain crops, but they can be kept off when the harvest is ripening and ripe, and the good they do in the off season amply compensates for the little trouble they give.

Of the 514 birds of Southern Rhodesia, of 422 genera listed by that authority, Captain C. D. Priest, practically every one eats insects and/or weed seeds, some specialising in locusts, termites, or ticks. Quite a number are fond of snakes as food. Only one or two can be listed as harmful, the bulbuls and the mouse birds, for example, being fruit eaters. East Africa is not yet densely populated, and its birds are still unpersecuted, though certain small Native boys have a bad habit of "gunning" for little birds with a miniature bow and arrow. They should be sharply checked. For the rest, all planters and settlers should think twice before shooting any bird of whatever kind, even game birds, for these are among the best friends of the farmer.



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## Bill on Leave.

No. 13.—Going Teetotal.

"I'll bet you a pound you can't do it," declared Derwent. The subject of drink had arisen, and the usual arguments and platitudes had been expounded. Now he had bet me a pound I could not go teetotal for a month in London, and, as additional weight to the bet, he decided to do so himself; whoever touched alcohol first was to pay the other a pound.

It's easy, I thought. I drink relatively little, and the bet would be a good test of my will power. In the sitting room of my new flat that evening I lazed by the fire, prepared for a quiet hour or two with a book before turning in. Just as I was getting really comfortable the bell rang violently. It was my Highman and two of his low friends.

"We saw a light in your window," he vouchsafed, "and thought we would call and partake of your excellent hospitality."

I shook hands all round and bade them be seated. I have known Jerry for years, and he was never bashful.

"Well," he said at last, "what about it?"

"What about what?" I queried.

"Oh! have a heart, man. What about a spot, of course? Have you any of that special whisky left?"

"I'm sorry," I said, "but I haven't a drop of anything at all in the place."

I was about to explain the reason when he, without more ado, jammed on his hat and stalked out of the flat. "Won't be a minute," he flung from the doorway. "This will never do. I'll go and get a bottle. There's a place over the way." And he slammed the door behind him.

### Sixpence on the Empty.

I sighed and sat down. "I was just going to tell you," I said to the other two men, "that I have gone teetotal, that's why the house is dry."

I paused for this momentous remark to find its level. It took them a second or two to realise its importance, and then, after looking at one another, they began laughing. "Oh! come off it," I said sourly, "there's nothing particularly funny in a man going on the tack 'is there?"

At that moment Jerry returned, laden with a bottle of whisky and a syphon of soda. "Sixpence on the empty," he announced, diving into one of my drawers in search of a corkscrew. "I'll have it now, Bill. You can collect it from the bottle store later. Say when, you chaps. A big one for you, Bill?"

"Jerry," I said solemnly, "I am on the tack." He replaced the bottle on the sideboard with a crash.

"W-what?" he whispered hoarsely. "W-why, I mean, what's the idea? You don't drink much anyway, and what you do doesn't do you any harm. I'll bet it's a woman. Now come on, who is she?"

"No, Jerry, there is no woman. It's a bet with Derwent, and I am going to keep it. One is apt to drink too much in this infernal city," I said oracularly. "I am going to chuck it for a month. You go on and help yourselves."

Jerry looked at me unbelievably. "Well, of all the tom-fool ideas!" he said at last. "But what on earth made you do it? Come on, have a small one? We won't split on you." I shook my head, and, with a shrug of his shoulders he poured out three tots and sat himself in my only really comfortable chair. "Cheerio!" he toasted, "and good luck.

You'll need it." He swallowed his drink with relish. "Jove! that was good, Bill—best whisky I've drunk for a long time. Sure you won't have one?"

### Kidney Trouble.

Half-an-hour later they departed, leaving half of the bottle unfinished, and suggesting that I should consume it if my resolve weakened. I shut the door behind them, returned to the smoke-laden room, and put the bottle away in a cupboard.

A couple of days later I went to a private dance in Holland Park. There were several men there that I rather liked—a not always common occurrence at London parties—and one chap in particular interested me; he was in the Air Force and knew the East Coast well. In the din of the music we tried to discuss East Africa and kindred subjects, but the chatter of people and the noise of dancing was deafening. "Let's slip away and have a spot," he suggested, "then we can talk in peace."

We descended the stairs and made our way to the bar, my friend helping himself to a stiff whisky and soda, the while I cast round for something "soft." I found a whitish liquid in a jug and poured myself a tumblerful. "Cheerio!" he said, raising his glass. Then his eyes fell upon the tumbler in my hand and he looked puzzlingly at me. "What's the matter?" he queried. "I mean why the barley water? Do you suffer from kidney trouble?"

I explained, and he, having met me for the first time, was polite enough to say no more. But I could see a look in his eye that spoke volumes.

On Monday I took Derwent into the country to see an old aunt of mine. The Flying Dudu went like a bird, and in a very short time we were gliding noiselessly along the green-hedged lane that led to the old lady's cottage. We must be tired, she declared, and suggested a glassful of her parsnip wine.

"Has it any alcohol in it?" I asked suspiciously. "Oh, no, dear. I make it myself out of parsnips grown in the garden, with some sugar added. It has to be kept for a few months before it's drunk. But I'm sure there is no alcohol in it at all."

We toasted her health and drank deeply. It tasted good and innocuous, but I was alarmed to feel a pleasurable warmth creep over my body a few minutes later.

"Some more, dear?" invited my aunt. "I'm sure you will have some more, won't you, Major Derwent?"

I stole a glance in his direction, and saw as much as she re-filled his glass. Half an hour later, just as I felt that I was talking too much, Derwent looked steadily at me and twitched his left eyebrow as a signal to make a move. Having made our adieux, we climbed into the Flying Dudu. My first attempt to change gear was not a success. I looked at Derwent, and he looked at me.

"Great stuff this non-alcoholic home-made wine, isn't it?" he said.

"So far as the African Administrative Services are concerned, we are satisfied that it would clearly be inexpedient, at any rate under existing conditions, to rely on the test of written examinations."

—Report of the Colonial Services Committee.

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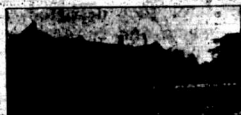
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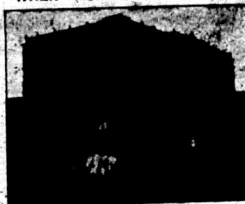


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IS THE LARGEST, MOST COMMODIOUS, AND MOST MODERN HOTEL IN THE COLONY.

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TELEPHONE: 103.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

## SPECIALLY TWISTED ELEPHANT TUSK.

A Rello of David Livingstone.

To the Editor of "East Africa."

SIR,

In reply to your subscriber's query in Camp Fire Comments about the spiral tusk brought to Professor Owen by David Livingstone in 1856, I believe this tusk is now in the Livingstone Memorial Museum at Blantyre, Lanarkshire. I have looked up my guide to the Memorial, but unfortunately the museum exhibits are not fully catalogued, though I am certain I saw the tusk, or a record of it, a few months ago.

I also remember seeing a similar tusk, thin, but with a remarkable corkscrew turn, in the house of Mr. John Deacon in Zanzibar about 1919.

Yours faithfully,

Grosvenor, N.W.9.

GRANVILLE SQUIERS.

## THE PENSION FOR MATTHEW WELLINGTON.

Versions of Sir Edward Crigg and Under-Secretary of State.

To the Editor of "East Africa."

SIR,

I would suggest that the following question and answer given in the House of Commons should be published by you for the information of H.E., the Governor of Kenya, and to hasten his asymptotic journey towards the truth on the subject of the proposed pension for Matthew Wellington. The italics in the reply of Dr. Drummond Shiels are mine. Following the question and answer I give His Excellency's latest version of the reason for which the Government of Kenya did not allot a pension to Matthew Wellington.

It is clear from Dr. Shiels's official reply that the Kenya Government has been free to give the pension for ten years past, since Kenya became financially independent in 1920, and that it has actually been pressed to do so by the present Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs.

Here are the question and answer, taken from columns 2922-3 of the House of Commons official report—

"Sir W. de Frece asked the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies whether, seeing that the Kenya Government has always been anxious to grant Matthew Wellington a State gratuity, but has hitherto been prevented by the ruling of the Imperial Treasury and Colonial Office, what is the obstacle to the granting of a gratuity to this old servant of Livingstone?"

"Dr. Shiels: In 1911, when Matthew Wellington retired from the service of the Government of East Africa Protectorate (now Kenya Colony and Protectorate), the Governor urged that in the special circumstances of the case a pension of Rs. 20 a month should be granted, but the Colony was not then financially independent and it was found impossible to arrange for the grant of superannuation other than that strictly allowed by the existing rules, namely, a gratuity of £16. Now that Kenya is financially independent there is no obstacle to the grant of a special compassionate allowance, provided that it is voted by the Legislative Council of Kenya and approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. *My noble friend, as indicated in the reply given to the hon. member on July 22 last, has been in sympathy with the suggestion to make such an allowance, and has indeed pressed it upon the Government of Kenya.* It is understood from a recent report in the Press that the matter is now before the Legislative Council, but official information as to the action taken has not yet been received."

The Nairobi Standard of April 5 quotes H.E. the Governor as saying: "This Government originally wished to make larger provision for Matthew Wellington. At the time, this Government was pre-

vented from doing so by the Secretary of State and the Imperial Government. We are now informed that the adverse view then taken by the Secretary of State and the Imperial Treasury need not be considered as binding. I propose, therefore, that Council should grant a further compassionate allowance. It would be intolerable that this Colony should seem indifferent to the memory of Livingstone or to the needs of any old servant of Livingstone's."

The "intolerable" has been tolerated for ten years, and a difference in the "indifference" has only now made itself apparent.

Yours faithfully,

London, S.W.11.

"THE TRAMP."

## SOME AMERICANS AND EAST AFRICA.

The Mote and the Beam.

To the Editor of "East Africa."

SIR,

The subtle and mephistophelian propaganda initiated by Gandhi is bound to have repercussions in East Africa, where the Hindu population is both numerous and important, and it is impossible for East Africans to ignore the serious situation in India. East Africans will, I feel sure, have noted with surprise and not a little indignation that over a hundred U.S. clergymen have sent a telegram to the British Prime Minister appealing to him to come to an "amicable settlement with Gandhi and his people."

It is a curious conconcatation of circumstances that on the same day that this appeal was published the British newspapers contained a horribly detailed account of the lynching by "baking" of a Negro in the town of Sherman, Texas, and the looting and burning of the Negro quarter of that town. Gandhi's people have just pursued the same tactics in Sholapur, where Muhammadan policemen have been burned to death and shops looted, a fact which the U.S. clergymen do not mention—possibly because such displays of savagery are common enough in the States from Chicago to Texas.

No doubt the American Government will come to an "amicable settlement" with the lynchers of Texas; but Britons in East Africa and at Home are getting a little tired of American interference with the affairs of the Empire as well as of American idealism and "moral uplift." The clergymen declare that they themselves "believe in the spiritual ideals which Gandhi sublimely embodies." Britons may be pardoned for pointing out the precisely similar results of Gandhi's idealism in India and of American idealism in Texas.

Yours faithfully,

Kensington.

"SUBSCRIBER."

[Certain circles in both America and this country are far too prone to criticise the work of colonisation upon which Great Britain is engaged in Africa, the spate of suggestions and advice to which such circles give wide publicity being usually in inverse ratio to their members' knowledge of the subject and the practical difficulties which officials, missionaries, and settlers have to face. We have frequently paid tribute in these pages to American co-operation in Africa, e.g., the excellent work done by the Phelps-Stokes Trust, but unfortunately such good is often far more than offset by the worst type of American film and misguided American criticism of British administrative and settlement methods.—Ed., "E.A."]

"I may consider it (the Veterinary Surgeons' Ordinance) rather a half-baked Bill: I do not know whether it is the fault of too many cooks—on this occasion, or whether Mrs. Beeton has not been consulted."—The Hon. Capt. T. A. Murray, speaking in the Northern Rhodesia Legislative Council.

## PERSONALIA.

Major J. D. Leonard is expected in London from Nairobi on June 7.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Allsop, of Turin, on the birth of a son.

Mr. David P. Evans and Miss Evaline Harrison were recently married at Makuyu.

Miss E. Neale is returning to Tanga in June, when she will be married to Mr. John Leigh.

Mr. and Mrs. Furtell, of the Uganda Company, have returned to Kampala from a visit to Europe.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Lawrence have arrived from Tanganyika and are staying at Boxmoor, Hertfordshire.

Mr. Herbert Ruston, the newly appointed Treasurer of Kenya, has arrived in the Colony from India.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Roy, of the Bombay Uganda Company, on the birth of a son at Soroti.

The Hon. A. D. Jones is leaving Uganda next month for England to recuperate from his recent illness.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. John Gaunt, of Mombasa, Northern Rhodesia, on the birth of a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. F. C. A. Summers, of the Nakuru Motor Mart, recently left Kenya for Europe on a health trip.

Dr. C. V. Braimbridge, who attended the Prince of Wales during his illness in Nairobi, has arrived in England.

Miss Joan Beales, of Naivasha, is a recent arrival in England, where she will stay for a year to study archaeology.

Captain Guilbride has been elected President of the Uganda Cotton Association in succession to Mr. W. E. Holl.

Mr. C. W. Guy Eden, the former Provincial Commissioner in Uganda, is now secretary of the Society of St. George.

We regret to announce the death in Nairobi of Mr. S. D. Cuthbert, who had resided in East Africa for many years.

Dr. and Mrs. S. M. Vassallo, of Zanzibar, are spending a portion of their leave in Japan before coming to England.

The engagement is announced of Mr. Cecil Coke, of Tanganyika Territory, and Miss Mary Barry, of Pilgrim's Rest, South Africa.

Miss Margaret Peterson, the East African novelist and short story writer, who is the wife of a Uganda official, is at present in London.

His Excellency Sir James Crawford Maxwell, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Northern Rhodesia, has arrived home.

Mr. D. Macgregor, manager of the Kampala branch of the National Bank of India, is shortly to be transferred to Dar es Salaam.

Mr. Justice Stephens has been transferred from Mombasa to Nairobi to act as Chief Justice during the absence on leave of Sir Jacob Barth.

Lieutenant-General Tilkens, Governor-General of the Belgian Congo, has left Europe for Africa, but expects to return to Belgium in November.

Mr. W. G. N. Lightfoot, Assistant Director of European Education in Northern Rhodesia, has returned to duty from a holiday in South Africa.

Captain and Mrs. A. E. Miller were recently entertained at Nanyuki prior to their departure for England, where they will live in Southampton.

Colonel A. D. Stitt, Colonel F. Guays, and Captain J. McNab Muddell are amongst those elected to the Licensing Court of the Plateau Area of Kenya.

The wedding of Mr. C. W. Sanders, of the Tanganyika Civil Service, and Miss Eva Houry, of Cyprus, was recently solemnised in Dar es Salaam.

Transferred from Fort Beaufort, Mr. Frank Davidson has joined the staff of the Standard Bank of South Africa at Livingstone, Northern Rhodesia.

Mr. R. K. Mertens, assistant manager of the Kenya Marble Quarries, and Miss Inez Rowe were recently married in Kenya and left immediately for England.

*In response to numerous requests we have decided when possible to devote further space to our Personalia notes, which are accordingly continued overleaf.*



# BOVRIL

makes delicious bouillon, rich, tasty gravies; adds flavour and strength to all made dishes.

**Bovril is the Cook's best Friend and true economist in the Kitchen.**

*A 4 oz. Bottle of Bovril makes 128 delicious Sandwiches (size 3" x 3" x 4").*

# HELP US TO IMPROVE 'EAST AFRICA'!

## TEN GUINEAS FOR CRITICISMS FROM READERS

There are, of course, various means of improving *East Africa*. Some are practicable at present; others must be deferred until the paper grows larger—as it shows every sign of doing.

With the object of learning the opinions of his readers, the Editor requests their candid criticisms. Will those who do not generally enter newspaper competitions accept a special invitation on this occasion? No one need hesitate because he or she does not wish to compete for the prizes; entrants in the past have asked that anything they might win might be sent to charity, and St. Dunstan's, the East African branch of the R.S.P.C.A., and other splendid causes would certainly be glad of anything *East Africa* might have the privilege of paying. So will YOU send YOUR criticisms?

As our desire is to learn the real views of our readers, we leave the conditions of entry as elastic as possible, mentioning only that in his decisions—which shall be accepted as final by all entrants—the Editor will give preference to constructive suggestions and to well-reasoned and briefly stated opinions.

The task we set our readers may be divided into two parts:

**A.** List in order of your preference, and give briefly your critical opinion of the following regular features: Leading Articles, Matters of Moment, Pen Pictures of East Africa, Reviews, Letters to the Editor, Personalia, Saa Sita, Camp Fire Comments, Bill on Leave, East Africa in the Press, Mining and Financial pages, Information Bureau, Produce Prices, Passenger and Shipping Lists.

**B.** (a) Suggest any new features. (b) Would you welcome a crossword puzzle? It has been requested by a number of subscribers, and it would be helpful to know how many support and oppose the idea.

### WE OFFER A

**FIRST PRIZE** OF FIVE GUINEAS (or Three Guineas if won by a reader who is not an annual subscriber to *East Africa*);

**SECOND PRIZE** OF THREE GUINEAS (or 31s. 6d. in the case of a non-subscriber);

**THIRD PRIZE** OF TWO GUINEAS (or 21s. in the case of a non-subscriber);

Up to Six Annual Subscriptions to *East Africa*, the number to be decided by the Editor according to the number of entries.

For the guidance of readers we append a specimen entry.

#### A.

**Personalia:** Always interesting. Often contains news of East Africans unobtainable elsewhere. Cannot you give three pages, instead of two, to it?

**Passenger Lists:** I turn to them immediately after reading Personalia.

**Letters to the Editor:** Well selected, but too much space given to animal controversies, e.g., crowing crested cobra and diet of tsetse flies. Two half-column letters better than one of column length.

**Matters of Moment:** A new feature of wide appeal. Should like two pages of Matters each week.

**Leading Articles:** Usually express what I think. Are a guide without being dictatorial. Perhaps you have somewhat undermined the standing of your leaders by introducing leaderettes as Matters of Moment.

**Reviews:** Good, authoritative, and discriminating. Recently you have cut them shorter. Prefer the old length. Could you start "Books in Brief," giving readers immediate news of E.A. books and some idea of their contents. Further particulars would appear later in your reviews.

**Camp Fire Comments:** Always read with interest, but the page varies somewhat in calibre.

**Pen Pictures:** Well chosen. Are real Pen Pictures of East Africa. Prefer two of three-quarters of a page each to one of three columns. Nearly all deal with bush life. Give us one of town interest now and again.

**Saa Sita:** Excellent, but too infrequent. Cannot make your contributor supply one a fortnight regularly.

**Bill on Leave:** Strikes the right note. Make him continue his weekly causerie when he returns to Africa.

**East Africa in the Press:** Judiciously selected. Helps us to gauge trend of Home opinions.

**Produce Prices:** Don't always agree with the reports received from my brokers, but on the whole I set more store by your figures; brokers are interested parties!

**Information Bureau:** Interesting. You might feature each week one definite trade opening for British merchants.

**Mining Page:** To me the least interesting feature in the paper, but I respect your contributor's outspokenness. Don't let him overdo his criticisms of some of the Northern Rhodesian magnates.

#### B.

(a) **Life Stories:** Why not a regular feature of life stories of East Africans? You often publish column stories about men in the public eye, but one or two columns a week would be welcomed.

**Photographs:** More pictures would increase interest in the paper.

**Sport:** Have you tried to find a good gossip on East African sport?

(b) Please spare us a crossword. Those who want it can find it easily enough elsewhere. *East Africa's* appeal is in its editorial pages. You do not need the adventitious aid of such competitions.

To enable readers in remote parts of Africa to compete, the competition will not close until September 1, but we urge readers to dispatch their entries without delay. Compliance with this request will greatly facilitate the work of judging. For the convenience of readers who are not yet annual subscribers, an enrolment form is printed in this issue.



## PERSONALIA (continued)

Mr. S. S. Abrahams, successively Attorney-General of Zanzibar, Uganda, and the Gold Coast, has been appointed His Majesty's Counsel for the last-named Colony.

Amongst the unofficial members of the Dar es Salaam Cinematograph Licensing Board are Captain and Mrs. "Jackie" Ingles, Mrs. E. H. Drury, and Mrs. H. Nimmo.

Mr. Vernon Russom, of the Kenya and Uganda Railways, who is now on leave in this country, is stated to have won £1,330 in a Grand National Sweepstake.

Mr. C. M. Baker, who has been in East Africa for the past fifteen years, and in recent years has served the Tanganyika Education Department, has arrived home on leave.

The wedding is announced of two of the Uganda residents, Mr. Frank Pettigill, and Mrs. Phillips, who formerly resided at Namiaba Estate, Kyagwe. They are living in Scotland.

The Governor of the Province Orientale of the Belgian Congo, M. Moeller, recently visited Uganda, and was staying at Government House, Entebbe, during mail week.

Sir John Maffey recently presented the Governor-General's Inter-Departmental Challenge Cup (for football) to the Finance Department Team in Khartoum, who won the tourney.

Mr. S. M. Sclanders, of the Tanganyika Railways, has arrived on leave. Previous to his departure Mr. Sclanders had spent much of his time in the washaway area on the Central Railway.

Mr. S. Parker has been seconded from the head-quarter staff of the Agricultural Department to act as Chief Clerk at Government House, Nairobi, during the absence on leave of Mr. Bird.

Amongst those elected to the Eldoret Municipal Board for 1930 are Captain J. McNab Mundell, Mr. C. E. Egleton, Mr. A. C. Hoey, Major E. C. Russell, Mr. M. W. Ghersi, and Mr. O. Fayle.

Pilot Officer Francis Slade Barron, who was recently killed when his machine crashed at Helio-polis, had been coffee planting in Kenya for five years before he entered the R.A.F. in 1928 at the age of twenty-four.

The following have been chosen to represent their respective territories at the Isle of Man Tourist Trophy in June: Mr. J. Button, Kenya Colony; Mr. J. G. Human, Uganda; and Mr. S. Brunt, Tanganyika Territory.

Mr. A. H. Kirby, until lately Director of Agriculture of Tanganyika, has sailed for Freetown to take up his new duties in Sierra Leone. Captain B. A. K. McRoberts, at one time Chief Magistrate in Zanzibar, was a fellow-passenger.

Colonel Birney, D.S.O., late general manager of the Rhodesia Railways, and Mrs. Birney recently passed through Beira on their way home. They were entertained by local railway officials and presented with a portable typewriter.

East Africans, who will remember the keenness of the Prince of Wales to play golf on every possible occasion during his recent visit, will be interested to learn that he has consented to become President of the Professional Golfers' Association.

Major G. H. Anderson has arrived back in London from Kenya, and intends to spend the summer in this country. Many of our readers will remember that he accompanied the Prince of Wales during his recent hunting trip in the Kiu district of the Colony.

Mr. W. Russell, who last year was Captain of the Caledonian Football Club of Nairobi, and has been in Kenya for the past nine years, has just arrived home from the Colony, and intends to visit many of the well-known golf links. He is accompanied by Mrs. Russell.

We learn that General G. D. Rhodes, the General Manager of the Kenya and Uganda Railways, left Nairobi a few days ago for England, via Tanganyika, Belgian Congo, Rhodesia, and South Africa. He will probably leave Cape Town by a liner which is due in England about the end of June.

Chevalier Egon Fr. Kirschtum, the well-known Latvian mining geologist, who went home to Europe in July last after twenty-three years of practical experience in tropical Africa, has returned to Tanganyika Territory and established himself as a consulting geologist at Kigoma on Lake Tanganyika.

Brigadier-General the Hon. Sir Charles Crewe, who commanded the column which advanced from Mwanza during the East African Campaign, and was forestalled by our Belgian allies in reaching Tabora, has been in ill-health for some time. He is now Chairman of the 1820 Memorial Settler Movement in South Africa.

## LENGLER'S TENNIS TRAINER

THE IDEAL GARDEN GAME

You will be fascinated by this splendid game. Can be played anywhere. Lenglens Tennis Trainer keeps you fit and gives Tennis players wonderful practice, tremendously improving play. Hit the ball as hard as you like and at any angle—it always returns.



Two players can practice at the same time!  
Many thousands already sold.

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281, High Holborn, London, W.C.1, England.

Dr. Rubbel, Permanent Secretary of the German Colonial Office from 1913 to 1919, has been nominated a member of the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations in succession to Herr Kastl. Before the War Dr. Rubbel served in the Cameroons.

The engagement is announced between David Laurie Anderson, of Nanyuki, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Anderson, of Dawlish, Devon, and Sibyl Joyce Davis, daughter of the late Dr. and Mrs. Davis, late of Darrickwood, Orpington, and Friningham Lodge, Maidstone.

We regret to learn of the death a few days ago of Mr. C. W. Shute, O.B.E., who before his retirement in 1927 had for twenty years been Naval Architect to the Union-Castle Line. He was awarded the O.B.E. for services during the late war, particularly in connexion with the conversion of liners into armed merchantmen.

At the last meeting of the Council of the Royal Empire Society the following East Africans were elected Fellows: Captain B. W. L. Nicholson, R.N. (Kenya Colony); Mr. C. Kingsley Latham and Mr. Roy E. Ponsoby (Tanganyika Territory); the Hon. K. E. Poyser, K.C., D.S.O. (Uganda); and Mr. Arthur T. Ball and Mr. Eric P. Hodgson (Nyaland).

The engagement is announced between Captain Martin Ronayne Mahony, Colonial Service, Kenya Colony (late Royal Irish Fusiliers), eldest son of Mr. Martin Francis Mahony and Mrs. Mahony, Dublin, and Mona, eldest daughter of the late Colonel James (Tiger) Reilly, Fort Etna, Patrickswell, Co. Limerick, and Mrs. Reilly, Monkstown, Co. Dublin.

The Committee formed to advise the Tanganyika Government on European education in the Territory consists of the Director of Education (Chairman), a representative of the Women's Service League, Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. Llewellyn, Mr. A. B. Dumas, the Rev. W. Wynn-Jones, Mr. E. J. Miller, a nominee of Brigadier-General Boyd Moss, and Herr H. Pfeng.

The officers of the Irish Society of Tanganyika Territory for 1930 are: President, Chief Justice Sheridan; Vice-President, Captain P. E. L. Gethin, A.F.C.; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. D. C. Campbell; Hon. Secretary, Captain R. A. H. Tougher; Committee, Messrs. T. D. M. Bartley, J. J. Craig-McPeely, and H. A. H. Jordan. Mr. MacIlwaine, the first Hon. Secretary, resigned on leaving the Territory.

Mr. H. C. Lott has arrived back in this country from his brief visit to Kenya and Tanganyika, during which he gave evidence before the Commission appointed to investigate the proposed transfer of Native Reserve land in connexion with the installation of a hydro-electric installation at Maragua. Mr. Lott also visited the Pangani Falls; as time was so short, he chartered one of the Wilson Airways aeroplanes, in which he flew from Nairobi to Korogwe.

Dr. J. J. Black has met hundreds of East Africans during the seven years which he has spent as medical officer on the British-India liner "Matiana." They will be interested to hear that he recently took up his appointment in Uganda as a member of the Medical Department. It was during one of the outward voyages of the "Matiana" that Dr. Black met his wife, then Miss Edna Miles, who was travelling to East Africa as a passenger. They were married in London not long ago.

The engagement is announced between Captain Richard Spicker Brander, Royal Army Service Corps, attached Sudan Defence Force, youngest son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel W. M. Brander, The South Wales Borderers, and of Mrs. Brander, West Close, Wick, Christchurch, Hampshire, and Doreen Worsley, only child of the late Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. Boyce, The King's Own Royal Regiment, and of Mrs. Byam Johnson, and step-daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel F. S. Byam Johnson, D.S.O., late The King's Own Royal Regiment, Parfett's, Eversley Cross, Hampshire.

At the installation ceremony of the Haven of Peace Lodge, No. 4385, in Dar es Salaam, Bro. P. W. Newman was duly installed Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, Wor. Bro. N. C. Drury acting as Installing Master. The following brethren were appointed to the offices indicated for the ensuing year: S.W., Bro. G. H. Jeston White; J.W., Wor. Bro. A. E. Hill; Chaplain, Wor. Bro. W. Stuart Akers; Treasurer, Wor. Bro. W. T. Storm; Secretary, Bro. G. S. Cox; D. of C., Wor. Bro. J. E. Brunnen; S.D., Bro. P. W. Morgan; J.D., Bro. C. H. Rees; Asst. D. of C., Bro. W. H. Thompson; Almoner, Bro. F. S. Williams; Organist, Bro. E. J. Shand Tully; Asst. Secretary, Bro. T. H. Marshall; T.G., Bro. G. E. Lane; Stewards, Bros. G. Eccleston, H. G. Hilton, W. G. Taylor, and J. R. Walker; Tyler, Bro. J. H. Stafford.

## 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.*

## UNBALANCED POSITION OF TRUST WANTED.

WANTED, by the pioneer owner (lady) of Muthiga, a position in Kenya. No salary required. References given and desired. Answers to Box 205, East Africa, 91, Gt. Titchfield St., London, W.1.

## HOUSE TO LET.

DEXHILL-ON-SEA. Furnished house, four bedrooms, dining room, 6 lounges hall, garage, and tennis court, to be let. Moderate terms to good tenant. Apply Box No. 196, East Africa, 91, Great Titchfield Street, London, W.1.

## POST AS MANAGER IN KENYA.

GENTLEMAN, married, 38, at present on leave England, due to return Kenya about Christmas, seeks post manager. Seven years' experience in Kenya, including maize, coffee, cattle, dairying, and general mixed farming, including machinery. Kenya references. Apply Box 1, Kitale. Address: W. Loxton, c/o Midland Bank, Ltd., Pall Mall, S.W.1.

## KENYA'S OVERWORKED OFFICIALS.

Better System Recommended.

As our readers are aware, Mr. A. de V. Wade and Mr. R. E. Mayer were recently invited by the Governor of Kenya to investigate the office systems in use in Government Departments. In the course of their report they say:—

"In almost every office the Committee were informed that the work was more than the staff could manage within the recognised office hours and that most of the clerks regularly work overtime. The Committee is satisfied that in existing conditions overtime work is inevitable, but the reasons are not uniform.

"In some offices accommodation is so lamentably deficient that expeditious and orderly work is impossible; in others there is a serious lack of necessary furniture and equipment; in others competent clerks are hampered in the performance of their own work by the duty of supervising that of inexperienced juniors; in others there is a noticeable absence of system or method; in many the claims of Departments of Government, particularly the Police and the Post Office, are so considerable as seriously to interfere with the adequate performance of essential administrative work; while in all district offices the existing regulations impose on the District Commissioners and his staff a very considerable amount of routine labour which the members of the investigating body believe to be entirely unnecessary.

"We do not believe that the remedy generally lies in the provision of additional staff. In many cases an extra clerk would merely mean increased confusion. We are, however, convinced that no little relief can be afforded by the elimination of unnecessary work, by the provision of more adequate accommodation and equipment, by the installation and maintenance of a uniform system of filing and preservation of records, and by the introduction of other reforms and innovations, such as the observance of differently recognised office hours and the creation of a central office for the purpose of recording revenue collection and the compilation of certain statistics from the records so obtained."

## Card Index and Petrol Tax.

In recommending that cashiers' offices at district stations be closed at 3 p.m., and that overtime be disallowed, it is suggested that collection of revenue will thus be greatly facilitated. Another suggestion is the inauguration of a card index system for European residents, to be constantly brought up to date as newcomers arrive in the Colony, and that a Central Revenue Registry be started. On the cards would appear all details regarding taxes, land rents, licences, and other fees. By this it is suggested that the taxpayer will be able to pay his taxes wherever he pleases, and a record of the payment will come direct to the Central Revenue Registry.

The report continues:—

"One particular department of revenue collecting, viz., fees for the registration of motor cars under the Traffic Ordinance, 1928, we consider to be particularly exasperating, cumbersome and extravagant of time and labour. It is the occasion of great inconvenience to the general public and of much unnecessary and irritating labour to the licence issuers. It is probably an under-estimate to say that 50% of the applications for motor licences sent by post are submitted with inadequate or inaccurate details and the consequent work thrown on the cashiers in district offices is unduly burdensome. To us it appears to be advisable to reconsider the substitution of a petrol tax, combined with a flat registration fee per vehicle. A flat registration fee appears to us to be a reasonable method of recovering the costs of registration—the registration of a lorry involves just as much labour as does the registration of an Austin 7 and no more. A tax on petrol equally appears to us to be reasonable, ensuring as it does that the man who takes most out of the roads pays most towards their upkeep. In any case, for the purposes of this report, we have no hesitation in saying that the present methods of collecting revenue from vehicle licences are intolerably irksome and occupy an undue proportion of a District Commissioner's time."

If such a system be instituted, it is recommended that a rebate of some sort be given to certain commercial undertakings and agricultural operations where large quantities of petrol are used.

## AGRICULTURAL CREDITS IN KENYA.

An Emergency Measure.

Nairobi.

A STATEMENT issued by the Government announces that, as Kenya, in common with the rest of the agricultural world, is suffering from a heavy fall in the prices of agricultural products, and has also suffered during the last few months from abnormal climatic conditions, which have delayed the delivery of local produce to overseas markets with a consequent delay in credit facilities, the Government has, therefore, decided, subject to the sanction of the Secretary of State, that additional credit facilities should be provided immediately. A further announcement will be made when the Legislature is asked to vote the credits. In the meantime boards are being formed in every province. Applications will be made to and investigated by these boards, after which they will be considered by a central board in Nairobi.

It is understood that the provision of additional credit facilities would be purely an emergency measure and of a temporary character. The Government has no intention of using State funds for any permanent large-scale scheme.—Times telegram.

"Your Excellency, if we accept what is now put upon us, I hope posterity will write us down as a pusillanimous set of jelly-backed monstrosities, without any claim to manhood."—The Hon. Colonel Durham's Unofficial Member for Kikuyu, speaking on the Native Lands Trust Bill in the Kenya Legislative Council.

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## COFFEE GROWING IN TORO.

Some Points for Planters to Note.

PLANTERS in the Toro district of Uganda—who in past years have always secured a premium over Uganda coffee and usually prices approaching those paid for Kenya—have recently been dissatisfied with the prices realised for their coffee on the London market, and at a recent Planters' Association meeting complaints were made that Toro prices were barely equal to those for Uganda, and only approximately 50% of those for Kenya. It was not felt that the severe drop in price could be fully accounted for by the fall in Brazil and other growths.

East Africa has discussed the question with the leading brokers and merchants handling East African coffees in London, and they point out that comparisons made with the prices paid in January and early February for best quality Kenya parcels are no real criteria, since those were really exceptional star prices, paid only because supplies of Kenya coffee suitable for home trade purposes were at that time extraordinarily scarce. Though an occasional Kenya parcel of unusually good quality still sells at an extreme figure, most of the shipments, as our weekly produce prices will have testified, now command much lower rates. Speaking generally, on the other hand, Toro prices have not materially fallen since the beginning of the year, so that the comparative difference with Kenya is now not nearly so great as it was. It is also to be remembered that the liquor of Kenya coffee appeals particularly to home trade buyers, who have never shown such interest in Toro.

We also gather the impression that trade buyers in this country consider that Toro coffee has somewhat changed in appearance since the name first became known in the market. At that time Toro shipments were very attractive in appearance, the bean being well-made, round, and plump, somewhat resembling the once-popular Chick coffee of Mysore, and looking very similar to the best Kenya. To-day, however, it is claimed that the bean is more oval in shape, and not so easily distinguishable in appearance from ordinary Uganda coffee. Careful seed selection to ensure the more favoured appearance is therefore recommended.

As we have frequently insisted in recent months, the fall of all produce prices throughout the world is a reminder to planters that safety lies in the production of a quality article. Too much attention cannot be given to the question of quality, and, however disappointed coffee planters in various parts of East Africa must be with present prices, they can take hope from the assurance that good quality coffee will always command its market. Quality, not quantity, must be the motto.

### RHODESIAN TOBACCO SALES IN LONDON.

The report of the High Commissioner for Southern Rhodesia for 1929 gives the following results of the official policy of subsidising a tobacco company to sell Rhodesian tobaccos and cigarettes. During eleven months 58,546 customers entered the company's shop and paid cash, and 6,814 lb. of pipe tobacco and 930,000 cigarettes were sold. Additional shops are now to be opened at Brighton, Westcliff, and Southampton. The company is subsidised at the rate of £500 per shop per annum. Mail order business in England has risen from nothing to £1,200 a year, and at various exhibitions held in Great Britain during the year 251,000 cigarettes and 560 lb. of tobacco were sold. At the tobacco kiosk at the Southern Rhodesia Office 523,410 cigarettes and 1,281 lb. of tobacco were sold.

## THE REMITTANCE MAN.

He had the tortured face of one astray,  
Who fought for ease in moral strength,  
And kept temptation at arm's length  
Lest he should flinch from Life's demands, and  
weaken  
Into coward's clay.

His task was such that no man knew its end,  
For well that purpose was concealed  
Which kept his heart to danger steered,  
Yet softened it at will to gentle kindness  
Which could Self transcend.

He never spoke on matters grave or deep,  
Nor would he break reserve;  
No known religion did he serve  
Yet every night he knelt in simple prayer,  
And so oft fell asleep.

And strangely calm the death that he did die:  
His back against a lonely tree,  
Cold life set across one knee,  
Grey eyes reflecting back the awful stillness  
Of the brazen sky.

C. BEVERLY DAVIES

### WATER DRILLING COSTS.

In connexion with the recent report issued by Mr. Beeby Thompson on water problems in Kenya, and reviewed at length in our columns, it is interesting to learn from Southern Rhodesia that the average cost of boring for water by Government drills last year worked out at 23s. 5d. per foot, which is 3s. 6d. per foot less than in 1928; during the past five years 15,100 feet have been drilled in the Colony for private applicants at an average cost of 18s. 10d. per foot, including the cost of casing.

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**EAST AFRICA'S NEW CUSTOMS DUTIES.**

Report of Expert Committee.

THE Report of a Committee appointed to consider a revision of the Customs tariff of Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika Territory (Government Press, Nairobi, gs.) is a business-like document which marks a distinct advance in East African Customs administration, bringing practice in those territories into line with that adopted by most modern countries. The new tariff adopted by the Governments of the three contiguous States as a result of the labours of the Committee is framed on a commodity as opposed to a rate basis, thus allowing the maximum of elasticity, and greatly increasing the ease with which reference may be made to the tariff by the trading community.

The conflicting views held in the three territories on the subject of protective duties were naturally an obstacle to agreement, but, by the introduction of a system of suspended duties, it has been found possible to arrive at a common tariff, the main points of which were given in our issue of May 15, 1930. As was then made apparent, the main tendency of the new duties is definitely downward.

**Duties on Motor Vehicles.**

One of the most interesting passages in the report, is that in which the duties on motor vehicles are examined. The Committee states:—

"During the seven years covered by the present tariff, the transport industry has developed with great rapidity. Improvement and extension of the road system, coupled with the introduction of new types of vehicles, have affected this market in many important respects, and it is evident to the Committee that the present rates of duty imposed on transport vehicles are no longer equitable in their incidence.

"At the time the 1923 tariff was framed important lorries were of the three-ton and five-ton type, and the line of demarcation between these vehicles and touring cars respectively was readily distinguishable. Since then the gap has been bridged by the introduction of speed waggon, delivery vans, and the like, designated as power lorries, but having a carrying capacity as low as 15 cwt., with many parts, including tyres and tubes, which are interchangeable with touring car parts. In consequence administration of the tariff has become increasingly difficult, and the incidence of taxation has become unfair, owing to the fact that in many instances light lorries imported duty free, and box-body cars with touring chassis charged with a duty of £15 plus 5% *ad valorem* are engaged upon precisely the same class of work. The rapid development in production of light cars of good quality was also not foreseen at the time of framing the 1923 tariff, the result being that this type of vehicle is now charged with duty at a rate equivalent to nearly 20%, whereas a high-power luxury car is admitted on payment of a duty equivalent to little more than 6% *ad valorem*.

"The Committee is strongly of the opinion that in approaching the problem of fixing an equitable rate of duty on motor vehicles and parts and accessories thereof, the claims of other forms of transportation should not be overlooked. It feels that farm tractors and agricultural waggons are clearly in a separate category, and should properly be allowed exemption from payment of duty on importation, and that lorries of a relatively high carrying capacity should be free of duty in order to keep the cost of transport of produce at a reasonably low figure, lorries used as omnibuses being dealt with by the licensing authorities. It considers, however, that the transport of persons as opposed to goods is of almost equal importance in the territories covered by the tariff, and that some attempt to reduce the initial and running costs of passenger vehicles should be made.

"After the fullest consideration, the following specific alterations in the rates of duty on transport vehicles, parts and accessories are recommended:—

- (1) Motor vans, including motor vehicles of a carrying capacity of less than 30 cwt., 10%.
- (2) Power lorries of a carrying capacity of 30 cwt. and over, free.

- (3) Tractors, free.
- (4) Motor cycles, 10%.
- (5) Pedal cycles, 15%.
- (6) Perambulators and parts, 10%.
- (7) Parts and accessories of motor cars, power lorries, motor cycles and pedal cycles 20%.
- (8) Tyres and tubes, rubber, not attached to wheels or vehicles:—
  - (a) Pneumatic:—
    - i. Tyres, including the weight of the immediate wrapper, per pound, 25 cents.
    - ii. Tubes for motor vehicles, or for sidecars and trailers for motor vehicles, per pound, 20 cents.
    - iii. Tubes, bicycle and other, per pound, 25 cents.
  - (b) Solid: complete, or in lengths, or in the piece, per pound, 10 cents.

These proposals will eliminate the difficulties enumerated above in regard to administration, and will have a marked effect on the initial and running costs of all vehicles other than power lorries. The average reduction in duty per car is £7—a 50% reduction being made on motor cycles, perambulators, and parts and accessories, including tyres, and tubes, for vehicles other than motor lorries.

A small pro rata reduction is recommended for pedal cycles, as the running cost of these vehicles is not affected by the taxation of petrol. The recommendation to impose specific rates of duty on tyres and tubes follows the practice adopted in many other countries and places the yield of revenue from this source on a more assured footing."

**A Tariff Advisory Board.**

In the opinion of the Committee the establishment of a permanent Tariff Advisory Board in Eastern Africa would be of definite value as a means of ensuring that Customs taxation through the medium of a common tariff operates fairly as between the various territories, interests, and races. It feels, however, that this end can only be attained by the appointment of a permanent body with statutory powers and obligations, an *ad hoc* Committee being of little value for the purpose, and it is in this connexion that an almost insuperable difficulty is encountered.

"In India, Australia, and the United States of America, the Board are responsible to a single central authority, but under the existing constitution such an arrangement in Eastern Africa is impracticable, nor could this constitutional difficulty be overcome by Order-in-Council, as in the case of the Kenya and Uganda Railway Advisory Council or Harbour Advisory Board, where ultimate authority is vested in a High Commissioner for Transport, to whom the Board report. In consequence, a statutory Tariff Advisory Board would require to be established by co-ordinated legislation in the three territories, and the Board would presumably be under the control of three independent Governments, there being no equivalent to the High Commissioner for Transport so far as Customs Administration is concerned.

"In these circumstances, and having regard to the fact that both Customs management and tariff laws are now closely co-ordinated in the three territories, the Committee is of the opinion that no very useful purpose would be served by the establishment of a Tariff Advisory Board at the present juncture, as few points of material difference are likely to arise for some considerable time. It recommends, however, that the principle of establishment of such a Board be approved and that the matter be further explored immediately with reference to the future constitution of the mainland territories is settled.

"Congratulations on a successful issue of their labours are due to Mr. G. Walsh, the Commissioner of Customs of Kenya and Uganda—whose chairmanship was, we have reason to know, an important factor in the success achieved—Mr. Ernest Adams, the Controller of Customs of Tanganyika, Messrs. H. E. Bayles, R. W. Taylor, and S. Marston, the Treasurers of Kenya, Tanganyika, and Uganda respectively, and Mr. J. H. McQuade, of the Kenya and Uganda Customs Department, who acted as Secretary.

## MR. ALLISTER MACMILLAN ANGRY WITH "EAST AFRICA."

(Continued from page 1163.)

written at the suggestion of an editor to whom—contrary to established practice—he has brought in person, should receive gentler treatment at the hands of that editor's reviewer than the same book not so autographed. Mr. Macmillan seems to imagine that a courteous reception by the editor implies favourable comment on the work of the man so received. Any responsible journalist who allowed his honest judgment of men and affairs to be biased by such personal motives would have betrayed his trust.

### "East Africa's" Creed.

Perhaps on this occasion it is well to set forth East Africa's belief that a journalist should write only what he believes to be true, and that he should not express that truth only when it is in the public interest to withhold publication. Our attitude to any problem is to endeavour to discover the treatment best calculated to serve the public interest of the territories it is our privilege to attempt to interpret, and if, as sometimes happens, the pursuit of that policy entails an obligation to criticise severely an organisation or an individual that it would be easier and more convenient to spare, we still seek to discharge what we conceive to be our public duty. Our readers are, however, the best witnesses that we have never indulged in adverse criticism for its own sake; that our criticism has consistently been measured and constructive; that it is directed, whenever possible, to policies and institutions rather than to persons, especially those whose position makes it difficult for them to reply; and that we have never refused space in our pages to a reasoned statement of public importance simply because it differed from our own views. We believe a newspaper to be a public trust, and it has been, is, and will be our endeavour not to fail in the discharge of that trust.

"We have formed the opinion, from our own investigations and from the statements of many witnesses, that the system of annual confidential reports on officers which are rendered by the several Governors though adequate in theory, has in practice not always proved satisfactory. We are given to understand that, in the case of certain Colonies, these reports have in the past been received only after a considerable interval of time, and sometimes not at all, and that in some cases only the senior officers of the Administration are thus reported upon. We need hardly emphasise how desirable it is that such reports should be rendered regularly and fully in the case of all officers who might, however remotely, be considered as possible candidates for promotion or transfer."—*Report of the Colonial Services Committee.*

## THE ZAMBEZI BRIDGE AT LAST.

Railways to be Amalgamated.

It was announced this week that financial arrangements had been completed for financing the construction and equipment of the Zambezi Bridge, for the extension of railway communication to give a continuous line from Lake Nyasa to the port of Beira, and for the fusion of the Shiré Highlands Railway with the Central Africa Railway Company by the formation of a new company.

The Nyasaland Government has agreed to provide the requisite capital, amounting to approximately £3,200,000, one of the conditions being that the bridge and the whole line from the Zambezi River to Lake Nyasa be brought under one company. Therefore, a new company, to be called the Nyasaland Railways, Limited, is to be formed in England, and will acquire the whole of the assets and undertakings of the S.H.R., and the whole, or at least 90 per cent., of the issued share capital of the C.A.R. The share capital of the new company will be £475,000, divided into 420,000 Ordinary shares of £1 each and 1,100,000 "A" Ordinary shares of 1s. each. The Nyasaland Government will subscribe at par 1,081,625 of the "A" Ordinary shares of 1s. each.

The cost of the railway on the southern side of the Zambezi—from the Port of Beira to Murraca—owned by the Trans-Zambesia Railway Company and the southern approach to the new bridge will be met by advances from the new company to the T.Z.R. As security for the sums so advanced the T.Z.R. will issue to the new company at par 5 per cent. Income Bonds secured by a first charge on the southern approach and the net earnings thereof but no charge on the rest of the assets and undertakings of the T.Z.R. These Income Bonds will be redeemable by means of a cumulative sinking fund of 1 per cent. per annum to commence five years after the opening of the bridge for public traffic.

An agreement which is to be approved by the Nyasaland Government is to be entered into between the new company, the C.A.R. and the T.Z.R. for the working of through-traffic over the lines of the three companies and over the Zambezi Bridge.

With an unbroken line of railway from the Port of Beira to Lake Nyasa, it is anticipated that not only will the completion of the scheme benefit the existing railways, but the opening up and development of the vast territory which will be served by the railways will be of national advantage and prosperity to the Government of the Nyasaland Protectorate and also to the Portuguese Government.

## THE COLONIAL OFFICE LIST FOR 1930.

The 1930 edition of "The Dominions Office and Colonial Office List" (Waterlow & Sons, 35s.)—the "Red Bible" of the Colonial Service—still retains its ponderous title, which, it has been said, "was surely not born for immortality"; nevertheless, it expresses the nature of the book, for which a happier title may yet be found. The work itself is of great intrinsic interest, besides being indispensable to everyone who has dealings with officials within the Empire; moreover, it contains a mass of information of general and commercial importance. It is a handsome tome, too, and the maps alone are a precious possession.

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## MINING, MEN AND MATTERS

RHODESIAN  
LABOUR

MAGADI SODA  
REPORT

I AM grateful for a booklet received from the Rhodesian Anglo-American Corporation entitled "Mining Developments in Northern Rhodesia." This is published in Johannesburg, and has evidently been compiled on the spot, instead of from the London office—a habit of which other companies are sometimes guilty, and which usually entails missing many points of value. Beginning with an explanation of the reasons for the long setback and stagnation in Northern Rhodesian mining before and after the War, the brochure gives an interesting and concise history of the mineral history of the territory.

In defence of the policy of granting large concessions to private concerns—a policy which had it been adopted by Tanganyika in earlier years, would have greatly added to the development of that country—the brochure states:—

"It is an open question whether these fields would ever have attracted serious attention had it not been for the granting of the large concession rights to companies financially equipped to weather the disappointments and uncertainties of pioneer work on base metals in a country such as this. It is difficult to imagine a part of the world less suited to the operations of the individual prospector.

"Due to intense leaching, mineral indications on the surface of copper are, almost without exception, negligible. Distances are very great and transport conditions exceedingly difficult. Labour at certain times of the year is hard to get and still harder to feed. When obtained it is inefficient, generally and ignorant of mining work in particular. Almost invariably the Rhodesian copper deposits must be explored below water level and sometimes to a depth of 500 feet or more before their economic value becomes apparent. As bad ground and considerable water are often met with such exploration by shaft sinking is costly. The only alternative in exploration is by drilling. There are, of course, few prospectors who can afford such methods as these.

"If any further evidence is needed to prove the important influence of large mineral concessions on the state of the country's prosperity it may be found in the fact that, during the twenty-four years from the discovery of the Kansanshi Mine in 1899 to the formation of the Rhodesian Congo-Berber Concession in 1923, no mine development of any real consequence had occurred in Northern Rhodesia. On the other hand, from the granting of the first concession in 1923 to the beginning of the present year, enough work has been done to prove that the Northern Rhodesian fields in another five or ten years' time will be one of the largest copper producing fields in the world."

OF the influence of mining development on agriculture, the requirements by the Rhodesian Anglo-American group for meat during 1929 are illuminating. Nchanga and the Rhodesian Congo Border Concession required 58 short tons, Bwana Mkubwa 120 short tons, and Broken Hill 120 short tons. Taking into consideration that each beast weighs approximately 350 lb. dead weight, it will be seen that direct purchases by the mines during that year represented between 1,800 and 2,000 animals. These figures allude only to Native consumption on the above-mentioned mines. Other important mines outside the group, such as the Roan Antelope and its subsidiaries, the Star Zinc, and Carmarnor are, of course, not included. Other native foods bought by the Corporation during 1929 were: mealies, 25,000 bags; meal, 5,000 bags; groundnuts (shelled), 146 short tons; Kaffir beans, 300 tons; and Kaffir corn, 10 tons.

DEALING with communication between the various mines and outposts under the Rhodesian Anglo-American control, it is interesting to note that the private wireless stations instituted at Broken Hill (headquarters), Bwana Mkubwa, Nkana, and Nchanga, have proved their value and saved much time. At present signals are sent out in Morse, but it is hoped that wireless telephony will soon be installed.

The Native labour question is wisely spoken of with a due regard of the seriousness of the problem, and it is evident that local officials are much concerned over the future supply. They say that although there are 249,000 tax-paying male Natives in the territory, "it is certain that a large portion will never be available for mining work, either through lack of fitness or lack of inclination." No suggestions are put forward for supplementing any future deficiency except by the establishment of a recruiting organisation. In a further paragraph dealing with the industrialisation of the Native, there is a statement that will interest all East Africans. "What the final result of industrialising the Native may be," it reads, "no one can say. He will have to suffer growing pains and he may appear to have deteriorated at some stages of his development, but one feels that ultimately the European will make him a better and more useful man than he found him."

IN the chapter dealing with Loangwa Concessions,

Ltd., on whose activities I commented on this page on May 8, the method of geological procedure is carefully explained, and I note that "the average distance traversed per man per day is something under twelve miles." One seems to remember instructions being sent to these men to the effect that they were expected to walk "twenty or more miles per day." The impossibility of this, day after day, over all kinds of country, has apparently been realised, and "under twelve miles per day" is more reasonable.

Various other statistics are given of the mines under the Rhodesian Anglo-American control, the whole booklet, in fact, bristling with information for which shareholders, actual and potential, have long been waiting. It is also wholesome to have an accurate account of the doings in Northern Rhodesia from someone on the spot, for they are apt to be overshadowed in London by the need for ceaseless attention to Stock Exchange manipulation.

THE report for 1929 of the Magadi Soda Company, of which Lord Melchett is chairman, again shows, after deduction of £14,792 for obsolescence and £29,128 for debenture interest, a fair profit at £10,086, from which dividends on the first and second 6% Cumulative Preference shares have been paid, the deficit having been made up by a transfer from reserves.

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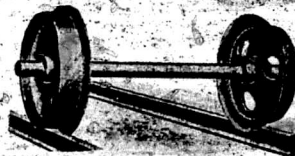
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## "EAST AFRICA'S" INFORMATION BUREAU.

"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.

The Standard Bank of South Africa is erecting new premises at Livingstone.

Roanese Broken Hill Mine produced 1,605 long-tons of slab zinc during April.

Sugar imports into Kenya and Uganda fell from £68,003 in 1928 to £39,003 in 1929.

A consignment of long-horned Ankole cattle has been sent from Eldoret to Germany.

Cholo Sports Club house and grounds were recently opened by H.E., the Governor of Nyasaland.

India took 90% of Kenya's potato crop in 1929, which, at 82,755 cwt., was 50% higher than that of 1928.

Over five hundred miles of new motor roads have been constructed in Madagascar during the last twelve months.

Imports of cement into Kenya and Uganda had a total value in 1929 of £117,772, compared with £109,654 in 1928.

A new Post Office and Government school are to be erected in Livingstone in the near future, as are new Municipal Offices.

The business of Moulton & Morrison, Ltd., of Nairobi, has been placed in voluntary liquidation, with Mr. A. Hornby as liquidator.

The Governor of Nyasaland has announced that the extension of the existing railway to Lake Nyasa will be carried out departmentally.

Imports of tea into Kenya and Uganda during 1929 were £8,405 less than in the preceding year, on account of increased local production.

An employment bureau has been opened under the Officer for Municipal Native Affairs in Nairobi for the purposes of finding employment for Natives desiring work in the municipality.

The Mombasa Chamber of Commerce is pressing for an additional resident magistrate to be stationed in the town, owing to congestion in the local courts, and the consequent delay in settling cases.

A volume to commemorate the work performed by the British Navy in the freeing of African slaves is being published in aid of the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.

The Kenya Government is investigating the possibility of saving clerical labour by the introduction of accounting machinery. Firms interested in this class of business have been asked to offer suggestions.

That mails may shortly be carried from London to South Africa within three days was predicted by Sir Samuel Hoare, former Secretary of State for Air, in last week's House of Commons debate on civil air transport.

In our issue of April 24 we stated that Mr. H. Kettles-Ro, the well-known Nairobi business man, had arrived in England. We now learn that our source of information was incorrect, and that Mr. Kettles-Ro is still in Nairobi.

The temporary closing of the Macupa Causeway, joining Mombasa and the mainland, is threatened unless motorists adhere to local laws governing its use. The causeway is not yet completed and motorists have to receive permits to travel over it.

Owing to difficulties of a temporary character which have occurred in the Beira office of the company, we understand that publication of *The Beira News* has been interrupted. A new Editor arrived in Beira on May 21, and normal publication is to be resumed immediately.

We recently reported that the application of a Kampala barrister for bail for an Indian client could not be heard in Uganda because the two judges in the Protectorate were debarred from taking such an application. We now hear that the man in question has been acquitted by the Court of Appeal.

Following the invitation of the Auto Cycle Union of Great Britain for a rider from each of the East African Dependencies to compete in the Tourist Trophy this year (as already announced by *East Africa*), Mr. Percy Blunt, the official tester of cars and motor cycles in Tanganyika, has applied to represent that Territory.

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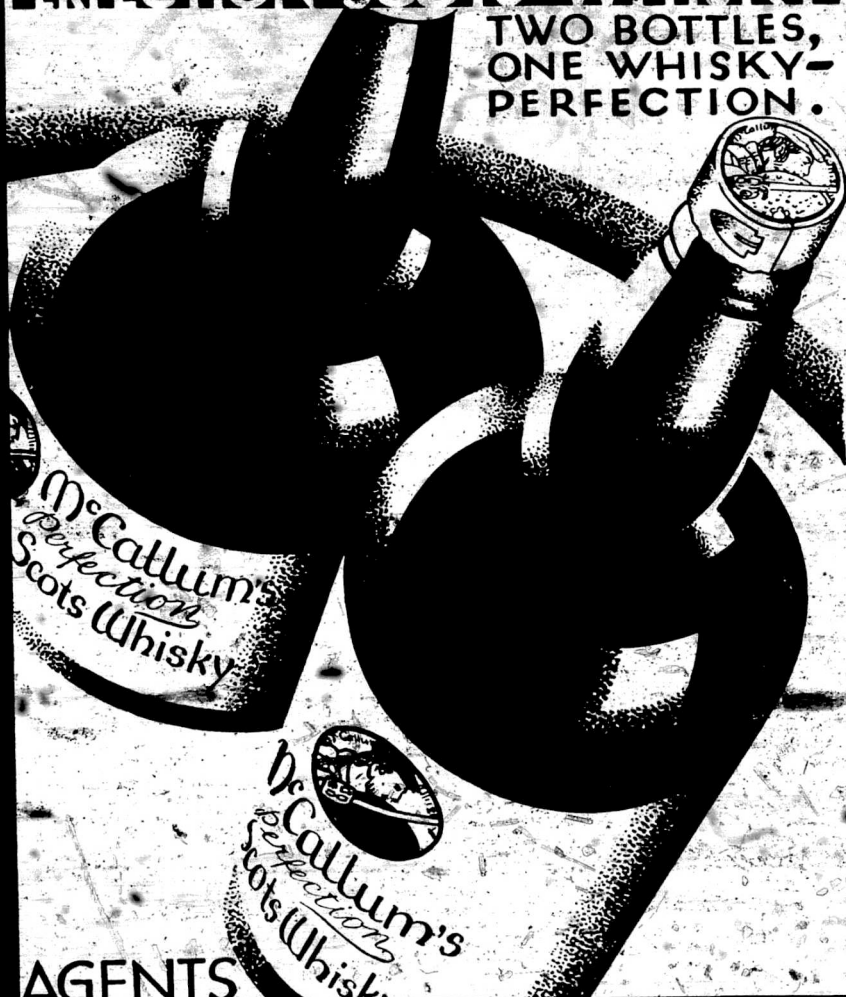
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**EAST AFRICAN PRODUCE REPORTS.**

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**BRITISH INDIA.**

The market has been mostly irregular, but inclined to be steadier. Prices have been as follows:—

**Kenya**—

"A" sizes	77s. od. to 123s.
"B" ..	56s. od. to 77s.
"C" ..	47s. od. to 68s. 00
Peaberry	72s. od. to 138s. od.
London graded—	
First sizes	70s. od. to 98s. od.
Pale	64s. 6d.
Second sizes	58s. od. to 69s. od.
Third sizes	45s. 6d. to 57s. 6d.
Peaberry	90s. od. to 100s. od.
Mixed and ungraded	40s. od. to 68s. 6d.

**Uganda**—

Pale	58s. 6d. to 64s. od.
Robusta	39s. od. to 49s. od.

**Toro**—

First sizes	62s. 6d. to 76s. 6d.
Second sizes	52s. 6d.
Third sizes	45s. 6d. to 48s. od.

**Tanganyika**—

London cleaned:—	
Second sizes	67s. od.
Third sizes	54s. od.

**Arusha**—

Brown and Pale	47s. od. to 65s. od.
London cleaned:—	
First sizes	85s. od. to 100s. 6d.
Second sizes	54s. od. to 73s. od.
Third sizes	40s. 6d. to 58s. 6d.
Peaberry	80s. od. to 100s. 6d.

**Kilimanjaro**—

London cleaned:—	
First sizes	90s. od. to 123s. 6d.
Second sizes	73s. 6d. to 77s. 6d.
Third sizes	40s. 6d. to 55s. od.
Peaberry	82s. od. to 125s. od.

**Moshi**—

Mixed	53s. od.
-------	----------

**Usambara**—

London cleaned:—	
Third sizes	50s. od. to 54s. od.
Triage	44s. od.

**Belgian Congo**—

Dull brownish	48s. od.
---------------	----------

**Kivu**—

Dull brownish green	58s. 6d.
Mixed	40s. od.

London stocks of East African coffees on May 14 totalled 88,261 bags, as compared with 51,730 bags on the corresponding date of last year.

**OTHER PRODUCE.**

**Castor Seed.**—Dull with quotations at £15 5s. per ton.  
**Chillies.**—The market is dull, prices remaining at about 55s.

**Cloves.**—Firm, with prices still at 114d. per lb.  
**Cobra.**—The market is neglected, the value being £20 15s.

**Cotton.**—Business is slow. Quotations for East African have advanced slightly to 9/18d. per lb.

**Cotton Seed.**—No business is passing. Prices are down slightly to £5 15s.

**Groundnuts.**—Nothing is passing in this market, prices remaining at £15 17s. 6d.

**Maize.**—Demand is still slight, prices standing at 26s. od.

**Sisal.**—The market is steady, with good marks No. 1 Kenya and Tanganyika quoted £20 10s., for May/July shipment, and f.a.q., at £20 c.i.f.

**Tea.**—At last week's public auctions 100 packages of Nyasaland tea from African Lakes Corporation were sold at an average price of 1s. 01d. per lb., and 65 packages from the Esperanza Estate realised an average of 01d. per lb.

**Wheat.**—No business is passing. Marquis remains at 38s. od.; Kenya Governor No. 1 is at 38s.; Equator No. 1 has improved to 38s.; Equator No. 2 to 37s.; and Durum remains at 33s. 6d.

"Malda" passed Perim homewards, May 17.  
 "Madura" passed Gibraltar for East Africa, May 15.  
 "Modasa" arrived Dar es Salaam for South Africa, May 14.  
 "Ellora" arrived Mombasa from Bombay, May 10.  
 "Khandalla" left Mozambique for Durban, May 21.  
 "Karagola" left Durban for Bombay, May 19.  
 "Karapara" left Bombay for Durban, May 21.  
 "Karoo" left Seychelles for Bombay, May 17.

**CLAN-ELLERMAN-HARRISON.**

"Collegian" arrived Mombasa for South Africa, May 11.  
 "City of Bagdad" arrived Port Sudan outwards, May 16.  
 "Clan MacDougall" left Birkenhead for East Africa, May 17.

**HOLLAND-AFRICA.**

"Klipfontein" arrived Mombasa for South Africa, May 12.  
 "Giekerk" left Beira for East Africa, May 14.  
 "Jagersfontein" arrived Durban for East Africa, May 11.  
 "Nieuwerkerk" arrived Cape Town for East Africa, May 13.  
 "Billiton" left Dar es Salaam homewards, May 11.

**MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.**

"Chambord" left Tamatave homewards, May 10.  
 "Bernardin de St. Pierre" left Tamatave for Mauritius, May 16.

**UNION-CASTLE.**

"Bampton Castle" left Lourenço Marques for Natal, May 18.  
 "Chepstow Castle" arrived Algoa Bay for Beira, May 17.  
 "Dunluce Castle" left Plymouth for Beira, May 16.  
 "Durham Castle" arrived London, May 15.  
 "Garth Castle" left St. Helena for Beira, May 18.  
 "Grantully Castle" arrived London, May 15.  
 "Guildford Castle" left East London for Lourenço Marques, May 19.  
 "Kildonan Castle" arrived Southampton, May 18.  
 "Llandaff Castle" arrived Mombasa for Natal, May 19.  
 "Llanstephan Castle" left Mombasa homewards, May 18.

**LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.**

At yesterday's meeting of the East African section of the London Chamber of Commerce Mr. J. Knutford gave his impressions of British trade in East Africa, which he recently visited. Other matters discussed at the meeting; a full report of which will appear in next week's issue of *East Africa*, included a resolution from the Tanga Chamber of Commerce regarding the Governor of the Territory residing in Tanga during a certain period each year.

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House, Easton Road, of July 18th has  
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The s.s. "Grantully Castle," which left Kilindini on April 19 for England, carries the following homeward passengers:—

## To Genoa.

Mr. G. J. Bone  
Mrs. G. J. Bone  
Miss Bone  
Master Bone  
Mr. J. Fergus Grant  
Miss E. A. Hart  
Mr. W. Macdonald  
Mr. P. O'Reilly  
Mr. Stronmza  
Miss M. F. Verdier  
Mr. A. Walmsley  
Mrs. A. Walmsley  
Mrs. M. Wootton  
Mr. G. Williamson

## To Marseilles.

Capt. J. B. Belfrage  
Mrs. J. B. Belfrage  
Miss F. P. Belfrage  
Mr. F. Bracewell  
Miss I. E. Brown  
Mr. G. H. Chandry  
Mr. G. E. R. Hancock  
Mrs. J. Jackson  
Mr. J. Macdonald  
Mrs. J. Macdonald  
Master B. J. D. Macdonald  
Miss P. L. Macdonald  
Mrs. R. R. Merrteny  
Mr. R. A. B. Parker  
Mrs. R. A. B. Parker  
Miss M. C. Tunstall  
Mrs. D. Tongue

## To England.

Major L. Avey  
Mr. A. R. Atkey  
Mrs. A. R. Atkey  
Miss Y. J. Atkey  
Miss E. M. Bayley  
Mr. E. M. Bayliss  
Miss A. Birdsall  
Col. C. F. Birney  
Mrs. C. F. Birney  
Mrs. M. Blake  
Miss M. T. Blake  
Mr. W. L. Booker  
Mr. R. J. Brimblecombe  
Mrs. R. J. Brimblecombe

Miss P. G. Brimblecombe  
Mr. W. Brown  
Mrs. W. Brown  
Capt. G. P. Brown  
Mrs. G. P. Brown  
Miss D. Brown  
Master G. Brown  
Miss M. E. Cameron  
Miss K. Cameron  
Mr. C. H. Cook  
Miss D. A. Curtiss  
Miss K. H. Derry  
Miss Dennatt  
Lord Howard de Walden  
Mrs. J. E. Woodley Dod  
Mr. J. H. Echalar  
Sir Howard Elphinstone  
Lady Elphinstone  
Miss E. Elphinstone  
Mr. R. J. Goulston  
Mr. J. B. Grenfell-Hicks  
Mr. E. G. Gulliver  
Mrs. E. G. Gulliver  
Mrs. E. Hampton  
Mr. W. Harris  
Mrs. W. Harris  
Capt. E. W. P. Hayman  
Mr. H. Hignell  
Mrs. H. Hignell  
Master F. A. Hignell  
Mr. H. S. Hill  
Mrs. H. S. Hill  
Master G. H. Hill  
Mr. G. C. Holmes  
Mrs. A. P. Humble  
Miss D. Humble  
Dr. F. J. C. Johnstone  
Miss D. M. Kenny  
Mr. F. G. Kinsella  
Mr. W. H. Kitching  
Mrs. M. Lambert  
Miss M. Legge  
Mr. J. MacKenzie  
Mrs. J. MacKenzie  
Miss MacKenzie  
Miss F. C. Mundy  
Lieut. P. R. O'Sullivan  
Mr. F. Ord  
Miss A. Penfold  
Miss G. Plaskitt  
Mr. H. O. Salt  
Mr. W. H. Saunders

Mrs. W. H. Saunders  
Master Saunders  
Master Saunders  
Mr. H. S. Sayer  
Mr. W. Soper  
Mr. A. Thomson  
Mrs. A. Thomson

Mr. J. M. Wainwright  
Brig. General H. A. Walker,  
C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.  
Mrs. O. Watkins  
Mrs. F. B. Wilkinson  
Mrs. M. E. Williams  
Mr. Williamson

The s.s. "General Duchesne," which arrived at Marseilles on May 16, brought the following passengers from

## Mombasa.

Mr. Moller  
Mr. R. Homewood  
Mr. A. E. Hamp  
Major O. M. Taylor  
Mrs. Dubois  
Mr. B. Galliard  
Mr. J. M. Murray  
Mr. J. A. Smith  
Mr. S. H. Mews  
Mr. & Mrs. Depre  
Mr. & Mrs. Haime  
Mr. A. Joyce

Mr. V. Gamble  
Mr. Macmillan

## Dar es Salaam.

Mr. & Mrs. Mathy  
Mr. and Mrs. Gathy  
Mr. Cox  
Mr. Vielvoje  
Mr. Mestrez  
Mr. & Mrs. Krutchen  
Mr. Laurent  
Mrs. Scaillet

## 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 May 17 was as follows: Songhor, 6 inches; Fort Hall, 4.8; Kabete, 3.7; Nyeri, 3.4; Lumbwa, 3.3; Nairobi, 3.25; Narok, Kisumu, 2.9; Kiambu, 2.4; Ngong, 1.9; Kericho, 1.8; Koru, Machakos, Voi, 1.7; Thika, 1.4; Njoro, 1.2; Ravine, Eldoret, 1.1; Naivasha, Kitale, .9; Moiben, Nakuru, .8; Turbo, .75; Rumuruti, .75.

## EAST AFRICAN MAILS.

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

May 22 per s.s. "Morea."  
"29" s.s. "Razmak."  
June 5 s.s. "Narkunda"

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 May 24 per s.s. "Rajputana," and on June 2 by the s.s. "Leconte de Lisle."

## NEWS OF OUR ADVERTISERS.

Elsewhere in this issue will be found an advertisement of the Elgin Court Hotel, Elgin Road, East Croydon, a private residential hotel, the success of which is evident from the fact that the accommodation has had to be quadrupled within the last five years. The hotel caters especially for people on leave from the Oversea Empire, and offers a special welcome to East Africans.

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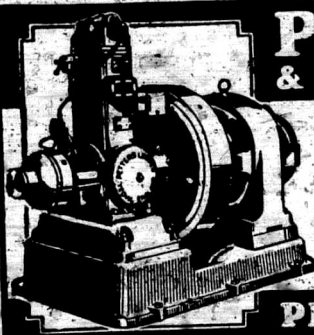
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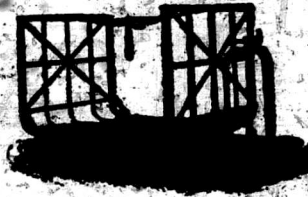
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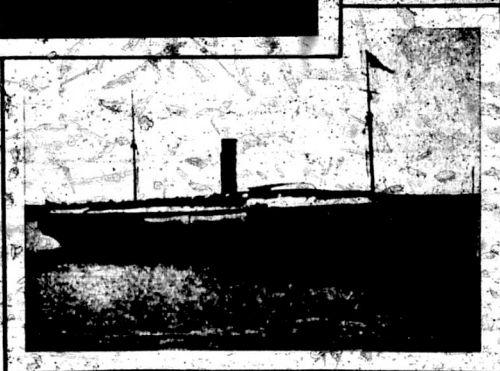
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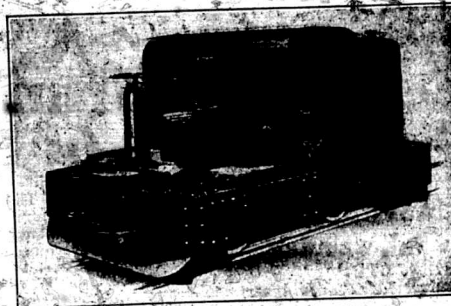
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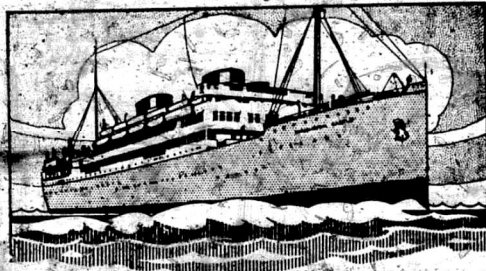
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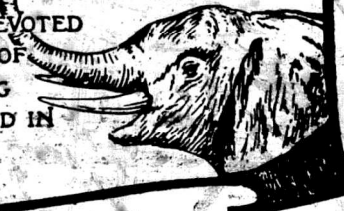
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## GENEVA AND AFRICAN LABOUR.

We invite the earnest attention of our readers to the Draft Convention on Forced Labour drawn up by the International Labour Office in Geneva, the essential points of which document are set forth in this issue of *East Africa*. It is a strange fact that extraordinarily little publicity is given in the British Press to proceedings at Geneva; even direct questions put by the Opposition in the House of Commons fail to elicit any real information; and the small fraction of the public which is interested has to be content with truncated accounts and fragmentary statements which are most unsatisfying. Moreover, official publications from Geneva are not easy reading, and busy folk have no time for unravelling their complexities. We have therefore felt, and shall continue to feel, it our duty to keep an eye on Geneva, for ideas are being promulgated there and decisions made which will have vital repercussions on the British East and Central African Dependencies.

In this Draft Convention it will be noted, among other points, that infraction of the provisions is to be punishable as a *penal* offence, and that it is to be an obligation on the ratifying Member State to ensure that the penalties imposed by law are really adequate and are strictly enforced; that an inspectorate is to be established to cover forced labour; and that trade union rules—the eight hour day, the forty-eight hour week, and payment at higher rates for overtime—are suggested for introduction into East Africa. This last is the thin edge of the wedge which is to be driven into all Native labour conditions, for it is the avowed object and the considered intention of the labour dogmatists who are behind the activities of the International Labour Office to bring about the introduction to all African

Native labourers of organised trade unionism, with all its implications.

Let it not be thought that we condemn out of hand the Draft Convention as it stands. In many respects it is a harmless document, which embodies little to which any British Colonial Government will object and much that is already British practice. We should welcome adoption of its broad principles if it put an end to the carping criticism and reckless allegations which are the hobby of Africa's more infatuated detractors, but its framing is too wide and its language too vague for that. In an attempt to find a formula to satisfy all interests, the draughtsmen have been forced to sacrifice precision to expediency. The very definition of "forced or compulsory labour" adopted in the Convention is obviously inadequate, while the provision that labour for transport shall be called upon with "respect for conjugal and family ties" opens up a vista of possibilities which may well turn grey the hair of any official demanding essential porters.

It is a matter for congratulation that the States with real colonies under their suzerainty have discountenanced any "suspension" of Article 421 of the Treaty of Peace, and have definitely turned down the proposal to establish in Geneva a Permanent Committee of Experts with a supervisory commission and powers of control—much to the disappointment of the International Labour Office, which hoped thus to parallel the functions of the Permanent Mandates Commission. And there remains the very practical point that, should this Convention be adopted, the British Dependencies would implement it honestly and meticulously, while other countries, such as the great manufacturing United States of America (to quote only one example), would be free to continue to exploit Negro convict labour for the benefit of private "entities"—a proceeding strictly forbidden by the Convention.

## MATTERS OF MOMENT

In the Report of the Committee which sat to consider the system of appointments to the Colonial Service occurs a paragraph calculated

**ARE ENGINEERS TO PROVOKE COMMENT. ON THE QUESTION PAID ENOUGH?** of the recruitment of engineers the Committee declares: "We do not

hesitate to give it as our opinion that any real improvement in the quantity and quality of the fully-qualified engineering personnel required for the Colonial Services must depend on an improvement in the general rate of emoluments offered. Our evidence shows clearly that in view of the cost and duration of an engineer's training, the financial inducements offered by the Colonial Services are not adequate." That recommendation will, we think, surprise many of our readers, who, like ourselves, do not consider the "cost and duration" of the technical training (which must obviously include the

each class before the trainee can earn a living wage) is longer, more intensive, or more intellectually difficult in the case of an engineer than it is in the case of a medical man, a veterinary surgeon, or an agricultural officer, even excluding specialists in any of these three departments. It is of railway men that the Committee is writing, and it appears to have overlooked the fact that in East Africa railway salaries on the whole compare more than favourably with other branches of the public service. There are cases of senior railway officials, other than general managers, who are paid at a higher rate than the Chief Secretary and even than the Chief Justice, while mechanical engineers and section traffic managers drawing well over £1,000 a year appear sometimes to have very light responsibilities; on certain East African lines they handle only a few trains a week, while on an English main line they would have to deal with hundreds of trains a day. Nor can it be maintained that the training and experience which have qualified an officer for, say, high command in the K.A.R. have been shorter and less expensive than that of a chief storekeeper or a workshop manager on an East African railway. Sufficiently high salaries to attract first-class men ought to be paid by the East African Governments, particularly in their highly technical and responsible Departments, but for some reason, not easy to explain, the Committee appears to have lost for a moment its sense of proportion in laying such stress on the matter of railway staff recruitment.

The Report of the Committee on the Colonial Services goes carefully into the question of the Universities from which the Service is

**UNIVERSITY MEN RECRUITED; AND IT WILL PROBABLY COME AS A SURPRISE TO MANY OF OUR READERS TO FIND THAT OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE HAVE BY NO MEANS A MONOPOLY OF THOSE APPOINTMENTS.** For the three years 1927-

29 the total number of officers who entered the Service from the Universities was 627, of whom 409 came from Oxford and Cambridge and 518 from other Universities. "These figures," says the Report, "serve to show that there is no real ground for the suggestion that the older Universities have anything like a monopoly of Colonial appointments. In the matter of certain classes of specialist posts, neither Oxford nor Cambridge is the chief source of recruitment. For appointments in the Administra-

tive Services, however, which are in many ways the most attractive and important, the two older Universities provide by far the greater number of successful candidates, and for this we believe there are cogent reasons. At the older Universities there is a long tradition of public service overseas.

Under a system of selection it is not surprising that these two Universities have been regarded as the main recruiting centres for the Colonial Administrative Services, attributable no doubt to the personal qualities which those in high office in the Colonies associate with students at these seats of learning and their confidence in the schools from which students flow to them.

"Though they would not claim that the qualities which they regard as essential in an administrative officer—namely, vision, high ideals of

**COMPETITION FOR OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE.** service, fearless devotion to duty born of a sense of responsibility, tolerance, and, above all, the team spirit—are a

monopoly of the products of the public schools and Oxford and Cambridge, they undoubtedly believe that administrative recruits drawn from those sources are more certain to possess them than those drawn from schools and universities about which they know little. Another factor has to be taken into account. The new Universities have specialised in training students for the professions, for example, medicine, engineering, science, education. . . . Oxford and Cambridge were clearly the most promising as regards the Administrative Services, other centres—in particular the Universities of London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow—were looked to for well qualified recruits for the medical, scientific, and agricultural services.

We have suggested that the field of recruitment for the Colonial Services should be extended so as to embrace all the Home Universities and if possible the Universities in the Dominions. An analysis of the figures given shows that for medical appointments London came easily first, that for forestry Edinburgh headed the list, and for agriculture, Wye College; for non-medical, specialist appointments London came first with sixteen, Cambridge and Edinburgh second with nine each, and Oxford fourth, with seven; for non-scientific appointments as a whole, Oxford claimed 173, Cambridge 168, and other Universities 91.

We are frequently asked for particulars of the proportion of Uganda cotton shipped to the Mother Country and other destinations, and, in response to another such request,

**UGANDA'S COTTON EXPORTS.** we give the following facts:—In 1929 Uganda's total export of cotton amounted to 204,057 bales (of 400 lb.), valued at £3,312,668. More than half the crop, namely, 118,529 bales, was shipped to India, which, it is well known, passes on a considerable quantity to Japan, which also took 35,139 bales direct from Mombasa. As China bought 3,063 bales, Asia's purchases of Uganda's cotton totalled 156,731 bales, or more than three-quarters of the exports. Shipments to Great Britain were only 44,727 bales.

## IMPRESSIONS OF KITALE.

AN ENTERPRISING TOWNSHIP.

By Captain H. C. Duett,

Editorial Secretary of "East Africa."

VISIT Kitale if you wish to see a township in its earliest stages of development. Everywhere can be seen evidence of the birth of a town destined to become of great importance in the years ahead. Its builders have had vision and foresight. No ramshackle business premises are visible, none of the tin-roofed stores which characterised so many East African townships in the early days. Streets, shops, and business buildings are orderly and well laid-out. Some of the buildings, indeed, would be a credit to a much older town—and therein is reflected the quiet but firm confidence its citizens have in its future. The whole atmosphere of the town breathes enterprise—a spirit marked in settler commercial circles, but rather spoiled by the few thatched *bandas* erected for certain Government stores. Incidentally, it was somewhat surprising to learn that, whereas Government prohibits the erection of such temporary hutments by private individuals, its own officials have seemingly ignored the order!

### The Road from Eldoret:

From Eldoret to Kitale—a distance of about fifty miles—the road is particularly good, judged by the standard of roads in Kenya. Scenically, there is little of interest, if one excepts Mount Elgon, its slopes rising gradually from the plains to a height of some 14,200 feet. Past Hoey's Bridge and Soy, the road runs until Kitale can be seen in the distance, sheltered on the side of a hill. The route forks suddenly to the left, and the motorist finds himself in the main street of the town.

On each side are permanent buildings, while on the brow of the hill is the Kitale Hotel, which, though it has been open for the past three years, is still being enlarged. Under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Townsend, this hostelry is most popular among settlers in the district, and from personal experience I can vouch for its first-class comfort and cuisine. Settlers in the district also have their own Sports Club, while in addition there is a Country Club with tennis courts, a library and restaurant, and for golf enthusiasts there is a nine-hole course. Along the Jijja road there is the Elgon Club, which also has its own tennis courts and a hockey and cricket ground.

Kitale may be said to be remarkable from the health point of view, for the deaths recorded have reached the low level of just over 7 per 1,000 inhabitants, compared with 9.39 in South Africa and 12.6 in England. The average altitude of the district is just over 6,000 feet above sea-level, and its climate, like its neighbour, Eldoret, is reminiscent of England in the spring.

Kitale's growth as an agricultural centre is sufficiently well-known to need but little mention here. Suffice it to say that in ten years the area under maize—the chief crop in the district—has risen from 5,000 to 92,186 acres. Indeed, this year it is anticipated that the crop in the district will weigh out at over half a million bags—no mean achievement considering the brief space of time since development started in the locality. Experiments are continually being carried out by enterprising settlers desirous of finding other suitable crops. One, for instance, is growing groundnuts—a more valuable crop than maize, for whereas the price of the latter to the farmer works out at roughly £5 per ton, with groundnuts it may be three times as much. Another settler has planted an area under casca trees, which in five years ought to yield him an excellent return.

### Coffee Prospects.

After two very bad years, Kitale settlers are hopeful—for, like all other East Africans, they are thorough optimists—that next year will go a long way to solving their difficulties. Many have been planting coffee, and next year will see some of the bushes in full bearing. Coffee has, moreover, proved eminently successful on the slopes of Mount Elgon, the soil there being volcanic in origin, while the fact that the mountain is just below the permanent snow-level is another important factor. The average land found the base of Mount Elgon is really lower than the plains which stretch for miles to the north, and extremes of temperature are unknown—a point of great importance to a coffee planter. Up to now the growth has been so successful that one or two planters with whom I discussed the subject predicted that in ten years the whole of the base of Mount Elgon will be under coffee. It is not only in the lower areas that the coffee bush thrives, for one planter has a plantation of healthy bushes 7,600 feet above sea-level, which, even in East Africa, is surprising.

### A Pioneer of Kitale.

Perhaps the best-known member of the Kitale community is Colonel J. G. Kirkwood, C.B.E., D.S.O., whose work as the local member of the Kenya Legislative Council is widely appreciated. The Colonel, who first went to the district as a soldier-settler some ten years ago, and who four years ago forsook the land for commerce, has been untiring in his efforts to secure wider recognition of the attractions of the district. Again and again he has found opportunity on the Legislative Council for telling little statements, and when in England on holiday has, I know, sought to spread the good news of the Trans-Nzoia to those desirous of settling in the Colony.

Another interesting personality whom I had the pleasure of meeting was Captain L. A. Elmer, who



VIEWS OF THE MAIN STREET IN KITALE.



KITALE RAILWAY STATION.

has likewise resided in the district for about a decade, and who, by dint of his energy and hard work, has established himself as one of the leading settlers. He has always taken a lively interest in public work in Kitale, and has for a long time been Honorary Secretary of the local Farmers' Association.

His capacity his name must be familiar to thousands of men anxious to have full information regarding farming prospects in the Trans-Nzoia. He certainly has good reason to be proud of his farm, on which he is continually carrying out experiments in coffee and maize planting. For instance, the knowledge he has gained as a result of his experiments in manuring, on the question of shade trees, and on methods of coffee cultivation generally, must be of the greatest value to his neighbours. A brief conversation with Captain Elmer would instil into the most sceptical a firm belief in the benefits of settlement in the Trans-Nzoia.

Two of the leading banks have established branches in Kitale, the buildings, situate on opposite corners of the road, being features in the main street of the town. The present manager of Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.) is Mr. W. Bishton, who, previous to his arrival in Kitale some three years ago, had been in charge of the Tanga branch of that bank. Mr. R. A. B. Parker, who manages the Standard Bank branch, has also spent a number of years in the Colony, and is well-known to numerous East Africans.

#### A Hospital for Kitale.

The establishment of a hospital in the Kitale district has been under consideration for some time past. It is estimated that the cost of building and equipping a European hospital would be £4,000, and as Government offered to add £1 to every £1 subscribed in the district, the sum of £2,000 had to be raised. To achieve this a novel scheme was devised, whereby every farmer was urged to allocate ten bags of his maize towards the cost of erecting the hospital. Lieutenant-Colonel Thackwell is the Honorary Secretary of the Committee appointed, which, I fear, will be hit by the fall of maize prices throughout the world, for the heavy drop must mean a considerable lesser return from the maize contributions than will have been estimated at the time the gifts were made.

#### THE EAST AFRICAN DINNER.

APPLICATIONS for tickets for this year's East African Dinner on June 25 should be made to Major J. Corbet Ward, at H.M. Eastern African Dependencies' Office, 34, Cockspur Street, S.W.1. To members of the Dinner Club the price is 10s. per ticket, and to non-members 18s. 6d.

## GOVERNMENT DECISION ON CLOSER UNION

To be Published on June 20.

THE decision of the Government on the question of Closer Union in East Africa is to be made public on June 20, according to an answer given to Sir Philip Richardson, M.P., in the House of Commons last week.

Sir Philip Richardson asked the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies whether he has received representations from East Africa to the effect that the delay in announcing the policy of His Majesty's Government with regard to the future of this overseas territory is prejudicing the position of the country from the economic and other standpoints; and if he can now make any statement as to when this announcement of policy may be expected.

The reply of the Government was in the following terms:—

"As regards the first part of the question I would invite the hon. member's attention to the reply given to the hon. member for Sevenoaks on February 12.

"As regards the second part of the question, it is proposed to present to Parliament as a Command Paper the Conclusions of His Majesty's Government regarding the question of Closer Union in East Africa on June 20. My Noble Friend, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, proposes shortly after that date to move in another place for the appointment of a Joint Committee of both Houses to consider the proposals of His Majesty's Government in this matter."

## ROYAL EMPIRE SOCIETY DINNER.

Mr. A. V. Alexander on Developing the Colonies.

If there is one member of the Royal Family, with the exception of the Prince of Wales, who is closely allied to the Empire cause, it is H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, and it was with real regret that the members of the Royal Empire Society learned that he was unable, owing to indisposition, to attend their annual dinner on Monday night. Sir John Sandeman Allen, Chairman of the Council, took the chair, and amongst the speeches the most interesting were those of Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. S. M. Bruce, ex-Prime Minister of Australia, and Mr. Neville Chamberlain. Mr. Alexander said that in the Colonial Development Fund we had one of the strongest bonds of Empire, inasmuch as whereas the Dominions were in a stronger financial position than the Crown Colonies, the latter were being helped enormously in development by the funds now available. Over £6,000,000 had been approved for development schemes, and he hoped this would soon be considerably enlarged. "By the time you meet for your next Royal Empire Society Dinner," said Mr. Alexander, "the Trans-Africa Air Service should be running regularly, and in this I believe we have forged a tremendously strong link in consolidating the Empire." Mr. Neville Chamberlain said that this month will be one of the most momentous in the history of the Empire, for the Imperial Conference is to be held, and a statement will be made on the Hilton Young Report on East Africa.



SIR J. SANDEMAN ALLEN

## FORCED LABOUR IN NATIVE COUNTRIES.

Activities of the International Labour Office.

TERMS OF PROPOSED DRAFT CONVENTION.

THE British East and Central African Dependencies have a very vital interest in the activities of the International Labour Conference, which is now engaged on the problem of "forced labour" in colonies, protectorates, and possessions which are not fully self-governing. That Conference has just issued the first Report of its fourteenth Session, held at Geneva this year, that being the second occasion on which the subject of forced labour was discussed. The Report embodies the replies sent by Powers to a questionnaire of thirty-five questions, of which the first twenty-nine tended to the adoption of a Draft Convention and the last six to the adoption of a Recommendation.

From this Conference emerged a Draft Convention which, it may be briefly stated, contains nothing which Great Britain could not sign and, indeed, little that she does not now put into practice in East and Central Africa. A short epitome of its contents, however, must be given so that our readers can follow the trend of events and judge for themselves.

### Compulsory Labour to be abolished.

**Article 1.**—Forced or compulsory labour to be abolished in all its forms; but a transitional period is allowed for forced labour for public purposes.

**Article 2.**—"Forced labour" is defined as "all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty for its non-performance, and for which the said person does not offer himself voluntarily" but it shall not include—

- (a) compulsory military service,
- (b) normal civic obligations,
- (c) penal service, not hired to private persons.

**Article 3.**—Forced labour to be ordered only by a competent authority, defined as "an authority of the metropolitan country or the highest central authority in the territory concerned."

**Article 4.**—Convention not to apply to—

- (a) emergencies, such as war, internal disorder, fire, flood, famine, epidemic diseases or pests,
- (b) minor, traditional village services.

**Article 5.**—No forced labour for private employ, except for contractors executing public works.

**Article 6.**—No forced labour for private concessionaire companies; where now existing, to be abrogated.

**Article 7.**—"The competent authority shall not permit officials of the administration, in the exercise of their duty of encouraging the populations under their charge to engage in some form of labour, to put constraint upon the said populations or upon any individual member thereof to work for private individuals, companies or other entities than the community."

**Article 8.**—No forced labour for chiefs not exercising administrative functions; or for personal gain of chiefs exercising administrative functions. Personal service to chiefs to be restricted, where possible to public works, and to be commuted for money payments as soon as possible.

**Article 9.**—Until forced labour is completely abolished in all its forms, the ratifying Powers to regulate such labour for purposes other than in Articles 5, 6, 7 and 8, in accordance with the following articles.

**Article 10.**—Forced labour, entailing sleeping away from home, may be used for "the purpose of facilitating the movement of officials of the administration, when on duty, and for the transport of Government stores."

**Article 11.**—Work done by forced labour must be—

- (a) of direct use to the community called upon to do the work,
- (b) of present or imminent necessity,
- (c) only in the absence of voluntary labour at local rates,
- (d) within the capacity of the population.

**Article 12.**—Forced labour as substitute for tax, or for chiefs, to be progressively abolished for money payments but, meanwhile, such work must be—

- (a) (b) and (d), as above (Article 11),
- (e) such as not to entail sleeping away from home,
- (f) "directed in accordance with the exigencies of religion, social life and agriculture."

**Article 13.**—Forced labour only for able-bodied males of apparent age of eighteen years or more, subject to—

- (a) medical inspection,
- (b) exemption of school teachers and pupils,
- (c) maintenance of number of able-bodied men indispensable to family and social life,
- (d) respect for conjugal and family ties.

**Article 14.**—Period of forced labour not to exceed sixty days in any one period of twelve months, including travelling to and from work; except in very exceptional circumstances, and then not to exceed six months in one period of thirty-six months.

### Forty-eight hours a week.

**Article 15.**—Normal working hours to be eight in day and forty-eight in week, except for transport of persons and goods; overtime at higher rates; and one day a week for rest.

**Article 16.**—Except for labour in Article 12, wages to be paid in cash at local rates, to workers individually and not to tribal chiefs or other authorities, the days of travel to and from work to count as working days; no deductions to be made for taxes or special clothing, food, accommodation or tools; but "nothing in this paragraph shall prevent ordinary rations being given at cost price as part of wages; such rations to be at least equivalent in value to the money payment they are taken to represent."

**Article 17.**—Local workmen's compensation laws to apply.

**Article 18.**—No transference to strange climate or unaccustomed work, or where unavoidable, "measures of habituation" to be enforced.

**Article 19.**—Measures to be taken to provide medical care, good sanitation, subsistence of families or workers, care on journeys, and repatriation.

**Article 20.**—For transport workers (porters, boatmen, etc.) medical inspection, maximum load, maximum distance from home to which they may be taken, maximum time engaged, and persons entitled to demand labour, to be provided or stated.

**Article 21.**—Compulsory cultivation only as precaution against famine, the food produced to remain the property of the persons or community producing it; but—

"Notwithstanding the provisions of the first paragraph of the present Article, the competent authority may, in exceptional circumstances where it is justified by the indolence and improvidence of the inhabitants, authorise recourse to compulsory cultivation as a measure of agricultural education," with the usual safeguards.

**Article 22.**—Collective punishments not to include forced labour.

**Article 23.**—No forced labour underground in mines.

**Article 24.**—Annual reports to be made to the International Labour Office and to be full and detailed.

**Article 25.**—Pre-see regulations to be issued, and to include provision for workers to present complaints to the authorities and to negotiate concerning them.

**Article 26.**—Regulations must be enforced.

### Forced Labour a Penal Offence.

**Article 27.**—"The illegal exaction of forced or compulsory labour shall be punishable as a penal offence, and it shall be an obligation on any Member ratifying the present Convention to ensure that the penalties imposed by law are really adequate and are strictly enforced."

**Article 28.**—Convention to be applied to territories under Members' "sovereignty, jurisdiction, suzerainty or tutelage."

**Article 29.**—Members ratifying and desiring to take advantage of the provisions of Article 421 of the Treaty of Versailles and of the corresponding Articles of other Treaties of peace, shall declare—

- (a) the territories to which they intend to apply the provisions of this Convention without modifications,
- (b) the territories with modifications, with details of modifications,
- (c) territories for which it reserves decision.

"The aforesaid declaration shall be deemed to be an integral part of the ratification and shall have the force of ratification. Notwithstanding, it shall be open to any Member, by a subsequent declaration, to cancel in whole or in part the reservations made in the original declaration."

The story of the evolution of this Convention is not without its humorous aspect. The thirty-five



questions—more formidable than President Wilson's Fourteen Points—were answered by twenty-seven countries—South Africa, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cuba, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, India, Italy, Irish Free State, Japan, Siam, Spain, Sweden, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Switzerland, Yugoslavia, Austria, Estonia, Hungary, and Rumania—most of which, it will be noted, have no colonies whatever of their own. The last four evidently saw the joke, for they replied that they refrained from answering the questionnaire "on account of their lack of experience of the subject." Others, who did reply, acknowledged their indifference to the queries and gave opinions on the general principle only. Some, like Bulgaria, replied "in the affirmative" to everything. France submitted, among her replies, the full text of the instructions issued by the Governor of French Equatorial Africa, while Italy sent a detailed document in answer to all the questions. The replies of South Africa, Belgium, Holland, and Great Britain were, of course, fully and carefully considered.

The Conference defends, at some length, its pending its questionnaire to non-colonial countries, on the ground that these States "have a definite obligation and an undoubted right to interest themselves in conditions of labour" in the colonies of other people, as they are dependent on colonial products grown by colonial labour and "upon the successful achievement of this protection depends a part of their industrial prosperity"; in other words, they want to take care that their own people are not swamped by cheap labour in the tropics.

#### Portugal Hostile.

Portugal alone was definitely hostile to the inquiry:—

"The Portuguese Government considers that the regulation of forced or compulsory labour for public purposes is purely a colonial question. In any case its application to colonies and protectorates is governed by Article 421 of the Treaty of Peace, which expressly authorises each colonising country to be the sole judge of the desirability of applying to its colonial territories International Labour Conventions which it has ratified. The prudent recognition of the special conditions of colonising countries in connection with international social work which is contained in this Article has been recently confirmed by the International Colonial Institute.

"The latter institution, composed of the most qualified representatives of science and experience in all colonising countries, unanimously came to the conclusion that the system of labour in colonies could not yet be dealt with by International Conventions.

"The Portuguese Government must also mention that serious legal objections are anticipated to the enforcement of the Convention foreshadowed by the questionnaire. The Government reserves the right to develop these objections and act upon them when it is considered necessary."

That is an attitude that deserves consideration. The International Labour Conference is, no doubt, composed of earnest, well-meaning, clever, and internationally-minded persons, perhaps with an exalted idea of their mission to improve the world, but behind them are certain other bodies, which it is not necessary to particularise, some at least of which would like to see the Conference in a position to investigate and supervise all colonial labour problems and impose its own conditions. Indeed, that the Conference has actually made one effort to accomplish this is clear from two of its questions:—

*Question 2.*—Do you consider that such a Convention should be drafted in such a way that its ratification by a State should imply, for the colonies and protectorates of that State, the application of the Convention without the reserves or modifications provided for in Article 421 of the Treaty of Peace?

*Question 20.*—Do you consider that it would be advantageous to create a permanent committee of experts on forced labour in connection with the International Labour Office?

Do you consider that this committee should be charged with the study of other problems created by forced labour?

Question 2 is obviously an attempt, however ingeniously it is masked or defended, to tamper with, and alter the provisions of, the Treaty of Peace. Belgium, Portugal, and Holland would not countenance it, and France would agree only on special conditions. Great Britain suggested an arrangement embodied in Article 2 of the Draft Convention.

#### Other Countries' Views.

But Question 20 had a much more serious aspect and was promptly vetoed by Belgium, which replied:—

"Such a committee would correspond to a supervising body which would be counter to the sovereignty of States. The Natives would soon come to regard it as superior to the Government itself, and they would be continually appealing to it. At the very least their faith in the intervention of such a committee would be a cause of continual agitation among them."

India did not think the committee would be worth the expense. Portugal "would never agree to a committee which would bear the slightest resemblance to a committee of supervision or control"; South Africa thought the proposal premature, as did Spain; while Great Britain was "not prepared to agree that powers of control or supervision should be given to such a committee." Bulgaria and Yugoslavia replied "in the affirmative," as usual.

"We have given these activities of the International Labour Office considerable space because they affect East Africa and other parts of the Empire very closely and yet practically no attention is paid to them in the British Press. We have in mind the efforts of the Permanent Mandates Commission to extend its authority over our mandated territories until British administration is reduced to a shadow—efforts which we have already plainly exposed. The workings of the International Labour Office, carefully veiled and insidious, need as close a watching; otherwise East Africa may wake up some bright morning to find itself visited by a mixed Bulgaro-Cuban committee with an Irish Free State secretary, come to put settlers and other employers of Native labour, perhaps even Governments, through the "third degree."

## SETTLEMENT IN TANGANYIKA.

### Report of Committee on Non-Native Settlement.

In December last Sir Donald Cameron, Governor of Tanganyika, appointed a committee to advise him on the subject of the promotion of non-Native settlement.

The report, recently issued, declares that non-Native settlement is essential for the prosperity of Tanganyika and most beneficial to Native interests. It is proposed that there should be appointed, in London a Tanganyika Agent, who would on his sole responsibility conduct the selection of suitable settlers. For this purpose the committee suggests that an addition should be made to the present vote for the East African office in London.

The committee proposes a division of the settlers into four categories: (1) Untrained, married or unmarried, needing a capital of £1,500; (2) trained farmers with a capital of £1,000; (3) persons producing evidence of guaranteed employment; and (4) young men of good class, at least 10 years old, who, after training, have a guaranteed capital of £1,500.—Times telegram.

## MR. NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN ON EAST AFRICA'S FUTURE.\*

### STEPS TOWARDS A CLOSER UNION.

Joint Conferences Suggested.

WHATEVER may be in store for East Africa, it is evident that it can never be comparable with a Dominion like New Zealand, for example, the whole of which is capable of permanent occupation by a European race. Indeed, one of the many controversies which seem to rage ceaselessly about Kenya is whether it is a white man's country at all; that is, a country where a man can make his permanent home, and bring up his family without detriment to their health or fear that they or their children will lose the qualities of the original stocks. You will hear very contradictory opinions on this subject, even among medical men, but the truth is that there has not yet been time to accumulate the data necessary for a final verdict. There is a general impression that children born and brought up under a tropical sun, and at these high altitudes, require at least a radical change in order to preserve their vitality, and that even adults are apt to become "nervy," and to lose something of their mental poise and balance, unless from time to time they move to another climate.

But even assuming these views to be correct, they do not seem to me to provide a final answer to the question. The experience is so recent, the rules of conduct for white men in such conditions are so far from being established, that many years, perhaps several generations, must elapse before the various possibilities are exhausted and the riddle finally solved. In the meantime, however, the mere existence of these doubts lends strong support to the conclusion at which I arrived on other grounds, that to spend time and temper in arguing now what will be the ultimate form of government in East Africa is a futile occupation, and that in planning our next steps, we should limit our consideration to such developments as we can with reasonable confidence, foresee.

#### Closer Union Desirable.

That some advance towards a closer union of the three mainland territories is urgently called for is, indeed, obvious. There is no natural boundary between them; indeed, in more than one instance, the frontiers laid down cut right through the territories occupied by particular tribes, and it is impossible to explain satisfactorily to the Native why that is right, according to the white man's Government, on one side of an invisible line is wrong, on the other.

The question of railway rates and railway extensions presents constant opportunities of friction. The Kenya and Uganda Railway serves both countries, but while Kenya desires the lowest possible rates on its exportable produce, Uganda is more interested in the inward rates on articles brought up from the coast. The Central Tanganyika system is at present unconnected with the Kenya and Uganda Railway, but, to some extent, it is in competition with it for the produce of the territories bordering on Lake Victoria; and, although a provisional agreement was reached on railway rates at

a recent Governors' conference, there will always be the possibility of difficulties and jealousies; until some central authority is set up which will deal with the whole question of railways, main arterial roads and ports, without incurring the suspicion of partiality towards one territory or another.

Similar considerations apply to Customs, and to other essential common services, such as Posts and Telegraphs, Defence, and what is called fundamental research into medical, veterinary, and agricultural problems, which affect, to a greater or less degree, all three territories. The transfer of these services to the control of a High Commissioner, assisted by a Central Council, consisting of equal numbers of representatives from Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika, and a limited administrative staff, would, I believe, meet with no serious opposition and, in many quarters, be warmly welcomed. The High Commissioner would convene and preside over Conferences of the three Governors, and, if he possessed the requisite qualifications, I have no doubt that, through the conference, he would exercise a powerful influence in allaying possible suspicions and jealousies, and in harmonising policy.

#### Native Legislation.

For the reasons just advanced, I believe that the appointment of a High Commissioner ought not, in the interests of East Africa, to be delayed. The creation of such an office, however, raises a further question of the first importance, namely, how far the High Commissioner should be given control of Native policy. The first of the principal conclusions arrived at by the Hilton Young Commission was that "there is an urgent need for the co-ordination of policy in Native affairs, and all matters concerning the relations between Natives and immigrants," and they contemplated that the High Commissioner should spend a preliminary period in investigating and working out the lines of co-ordination. Later on, a Governor-General was to be appointed in his place, and the most important duty to be assigned to him was to be that of "directing the lines of Native policy and supervising its working." Around this proposal a certain amount of controversy has arisen, and its adoption in the form stated might very likely fail to command the general assent of those whose co-operation is desirable if success is to be attained. It would, however, be a mistake to conclude that, because this particular proposal is objected to, there is any fundamental difference of opinion as to the general principles which should govern the Native policy in East Africa. I found, for instance, that settlers in Kenya were quite prepared to admit the necessity of some central authority to preserve the balance of even justice, as between the various races in East Africa. But it is felt very strongly that it would be impossible to formulate a policy, as apart from principles, which would be equally applicable to conditions so variable as those which exist in the three territories concerned.

#### Agreed Principles.

It is agreed everywhere that the Natives must have sufficient land available to them to enable them to support themselves upon it, and to develop their own institutions. It is agreed that, in the exercise of that Trusteeship, for which the British Government is responsible, they must be afforded reasonable and increasing facilities for education, both general and vocational. It is agreed that, as the finances of the country and the existence of an adequate trained staff permit, they must be given medical instruction and treatment, and that they must be taught how to apply modern scientific methods to the improvement of their cattle and other stock and their methods of cultivation. It is agreed that, according as they show their capacity for improvement, they should be granted opportunities for the progressive control of their own affairs. These are broad principles, about which there need be no dispute; and such principles might well be laid down by His Majesty's Government, as a general guide.

(Continued on page 120.)

\* By the courtesy of the "Sunday Times" we are able to reproduce the above extracts from an article by Mr. Neville Chamberlain appearing in the May 24 issue of that newspaper.

## Bill on Leave.

No. 14.—The Point of View.

We stood under the canvas shelter of a coffee stall, Derwent and I, consuming cups of chicory-flavoured water, erroneously called coffee, and eating with relish an excellent "hot dog" prepared by the trusty Fred. Fred is unique; if he has another name, no one has ever heard it, and he is known to thousands of Londoners as just plain "Fred." Each night he drags his stall to his pitch, lights the Primus stoves beneath his urns, and prepares his loaves of bread, his sausages, his pork pies, and his ham sandwiches for the nightly gathering. He has been there for years and years, and when the time comes, for him to "hand in his checks," his spirit will, I feel, all hover over the pitch, as bearded veterans, sipping their coffee from tin mugs of lesser calibre, discuss Old Fred, his character, his beneficence, and his deft handling of "drunks."

The conversation of our fellow guests forced itself upon our notice. There were printers (their hands black with ink), two youths who had dined not wisely but too well, a poor shivering devil without an overcoat, and several nondescripts. Two of them were having an argument. "The Prince er Wailles," said one, oracularly, "as a smorl clipped moustache. I know it because I seen 'im once. At an 'orse show it were." He put his cup down with an air of finality. "A smorl clipped moustache."

"Well," said the other, in the manner of one about to administer a crushing blow, "that's where you make your ruddy error, because 'e ain't got a smorl clipped moustache."

### The Englishman's Ignorance.

From the night came a slip of a girl into the warm ray of light thrown by Fred's petrol lamps. She looked tired, despite the rouge on her cheeks and the lip-stick smeared across her mouth. She leaned upon the counter. "Give us a couple of pork pies, Fred," she sighed. "Nor put 'em in a bag, I'll take them home." She collected her bag and departed into the blackness.

Derwent was pensive. I could see that he was worrying about his pet subject—Africa, and the average Englishman's ignorance of it and its opportunities. A few introductory words, and he was telling me for the nth time that "they haven't the faintest conception of Africa. They know nothing about it, and they don't want to know."

"How can you expect them to know?" I asked. "You can't visualise the backblocks of Alaska because you have never been there, and for that reason Alaska probably doesn't interest you—except from an adventurous point of view. For the same reason they don't care about Africa. It means nothing to them. All they know about Africa is that it is full of savages, popularly described by people like Rider Haggard (who did it very well) and Gertrude Page (who tried to bring in a little romance of the kind that is so lacking in Africa, and who is maligned because she doesn't stick to the cold and, looked at from the women's viewpoint, dull truth)."

"But it's one of the finest parts of the Empire," said Derwent. "Surely that stands for something?"

"Certainly, and I am sure it does, but it is all too

far away. As an ideal the Empire is a wonderful thing, and the average Briton stands up for it, though he lets someone else go and do the work. It's easily understandable. The young man born in South Africa of English parents or grandparents, never having seen England, wants to visit it for the pleasures of which his more fortunate friends tell him. But South Africa, not England, is Home to him, and if he regards this country as a sort of distant relation, of whom he is secretly rather proud, the domestic troubles of the Englishman leave him cold. And why not?"

"But I've tried so many times," came the reply, "to interest young fellows in this country about East Africa. Their fathers and they themselves say that this country is in a rotten state, no jobs, no money, and the rest of it, and yet when I advise them to go to East Africa—if they have enough money—practically all give the same answer. 'Yes, I would like to go for a trip, but leave England for good, and lose all my friends?' No! The same thing happened when we left home, Bill. Your parents probably thought you were gone for ever, or completely mad, or bound to come to a bad end anyway, yet look at all the good fellows there are all over Africa. I wouldn't live here for ever for all the tea in China, and I don't believe you would either."

### Glad to get away.

"No, I wouldn't," I replied, "but you and I probably felt when we left just the same as these boys do, except that London, in fact, the whole country, in those days was not the place for humble people like ourselves it is now. We were probably quite glad to get away at the time. Nowadays the fellows and girls have all the freedom they want. They have cheap seats at the theatre, the girls can work, and there are hundreds of cinemas to go to in the evenings. Transport is quicker and cheaper, considering the increase in wages, and there is nothing of the dull drab evenings we had to endure when we were lads. In those days to go out in the evening was an event, if it was to a theatre or party. If one wanted to go out because one was bored, it was considered not only wicked but mad. Nowadays the youngsters can do what they like within limits, and never having experienced anything better, one cannot blame them for refusing to exchange the substance for the rainbow."

I stopped to light a cigarette, and was about to continue when I was interrupted by an intelligent looking working man of about fifty years of age.

"Excuse me," he said, "but I couldn't help hearing what you gentlemen have been saying. I was born at the Cape, and I've been pretty well all over Africa. This last fifteen years I've been settled in London with my missus and kids—five of 'em I've got now. And believe me, gents, if I got the chance I'd go back to-morrow. But what chance have I with five kids? Sometimes I speak to the chaps where I work—I'm a fitter by trade—and tell them to go out there, and this is what they say: 'What! me go out there and work all hours, and not get a dollie if I'm out of work, and not have a union to look after me if the bosses reduce my wages, or increase the hours? Not likely! Home's good enough for me!' But I'll bet it would make men of 'em if they went. What say you, eh?"

"You're right," I said, "it would. The time will come alright, and then there will be a general trek, as there was in pre-War days to Canada and Australia. Well, I think it's time to be getting home. Good-night! Good-night, Fred."

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

## THE NEED FOR ROADS IN KENYA.

All-Weather Routes needed between Important Centres.

To the Editor of "East Africa."

SIR,

A few weeks ago I read in my clerical paper of a worthy canon who lived a couple of centuries ago, and of whom it is recorded on the memorial tablet to him within the precincts of one of our cathedrals in the Midlands: "He was a deadly foe to all forms of enthusiasm." I looked up my Chambers and found that "enthusiasm" meant "an intense interest, passionate zeal," and that it is derived from the Greek, meaning "God-inspired zeal."

You will find plenty of this fine spirit in many of the young settlers in Kenya, and, if you will allow me to say so, if it fell to me to write your epitaph, I think I would record your enthusiasm about that grand land of East Africa, an enthusiasm which the settlers in Kenya greatly appreciate.

I am afraid that many descendants of that canon of the eighteenth century are to be found to-day amongst the officials in England and East Africa who are responsible for the progress of Kenya. They seem to be almost totally without that spirit of enthusiasm so necessary to the development of a land so full of opportunities.

To mention only one token of this unfortunate failure, I would point to the lack of proper roads. Centuries ago, when Britain was in a similar state to present-day Kenya, the first thing its conquerors set themselves to do was to make roads. An iron track merely for the use of steam-driven engines will not suffice. Motor cars have supplanted the camel and the ass, but in times of real need it is often found impossible to use them. Mr. Galton-Fenzi could no doubt fill a few volumes with sad tales caused by the lack of proper roads.

I remember the case of a tender lady who, three days after her confinement was obliged to leave a mission hospital on account of lack of room, and who, stranded on a track in a motor car, was forced to walk a long distance because what was deemed to be a main road was closed. It might have meant her death.

After watching a loved one suffer, and being unable to secure medical attention through lack of a proper road between two well-known centres, I felt I could never again subject my wife to another such experience, and we left the country we greatly admired. The last mail brings me word of a terrible experience which befell another member of my family a few weeks ago. A doctor was sent for, and he hastened with his nurse to the sick man. I do not know the distance by track, but as the crow flies I reckon it would be under 100 miles; yet it took that doctor and nurse some forty-eight hours to traverse the distance, they being held up some fourteen times, and finally arriving at their destination in a third car, leaving two others in the mud. A few hours longer and it would have been too late. That was a sample of the "God-inspired zeal" which overcame every obstacle in the path of duty, an enthusiasm which calls for the highest honour, and stands out in striking contrast to the indifference and lack of enthusiasm on the part of the Kenya authorities.

Nobody expects the Government to lay a metalled road to each *shamba*, but there ought to be at least a few main roads passable in all weathers between important centres. A much bigger issue is at stake than the welfare of a few individual settlers. The millions at home are for ever crying out for cheaper and yet cheaper food, and what quantities of butter, cheese, maize, wheat, coffee, and tea Kenya might supply if the settlers were not so sorely hampered by lack of proper roads!

Or, again, what a land in Kenya for the many who retire with limited incomes. Life is trying for thousands at home who find it so difficult to make two ends meet. They might be infinitely happier in Kenya on a little block of ten or fifteen acres with a fruit orchard or poultry farm, if only there was better access to the thousands of suitable sites in that splendid climate.

I therefore hope you will not cease your efforts to awaken the authorities to a greater sense of their

duties. Enthusiasts like *East Africa* may be deemed nuisances, but those inspired by zeal will ever be honoured by their fellow men. As I close this letter my eye has fallen on a head line in an evening paper—"Moscow Prepares for Motors; £500,000,000 for Roads." Is Kenya to be put to shame by Russia? I will not mention Uganda.

Yours faithfully,

Fareham.

W. H. SHAW.

## A SUBSCRIBER'S SURPRISE.

"East Africa's" Wide Circulation.

To the Editor of "East Africa."

SIR,

Having been a subscriber to your very interesting weekly journal, I was surprised the other day to find in what parts of the world it may be found.

Whilst staying at the Moore Hotel, Seattle, U.S.A., I happened to be looking for a paper in the lounge to read one evening, and, to my amazement, I saw staring in my face, amongst a lot of American dailies and periodicals, *East Africa*, issued April 10, 1930.

It was a particularly interesting number, with Captain Druett's article.

Yours faithfully,

FREDERICK SCUDAMORE.

Vancouver.

## WIRELESS IN EAST AFRICA.

A Wireless Boom Possible.

To the Editor of "East Africa."

SIR,

When recently in Fort Portal I had the pleasure of listening to a wireless set, and I was amazed at the clarity with which a concert broadcast from Holland came through on the loud-speaker. It is no exaggeration to say that it was better even than such concerts heard by me in London.

Fort Portal is on the eastern edge of Uganda and literally in the heart of Africa, so that wireless reception there must increase as and when planters realise the simplicity with which they can receive stations. Whereas the nearest newspaper is published in a town 200 miles away, they can now get their news each night, apart from concerts sent out from Continental stations.

An interesting incident which occurred just prior to my arrival was related to me. My settler friend had been trying to pick up stations, and accidentally hit on a conversation taking place between an experimenter in Sydney and the experimental station in London. The former asked the latter to connect him with a doctor friend, whose address he gave. Evidently London looked up the telephone directory, and got on to the doctor, who was then connected with his friend in Sydney. They then had a long conversation, all of which was heard in the settler's bungalow in Fort Portal. The man in Sydney said the sun was just rising there, it being 6.10 a.m.; the man in London said his time was 8.10 p.m.; and in Fort Portal it was 10.45 p.m.

If only East African settlers were told and retold by manufacturers of wireless sets how well they can receive wireless concerts, and how well modern loud-speakers reproduce the music, the talks, and the news, they would hesitate no longer, and there would be a wireless boom in these territories. All that is wanted is the right type of educational propaganda, addressed to the East African public, and properly sustained.

Yours faithfully,

Kampala.

'SURPRISED VISITOR.'

"EAST AFRICA'S" BOOKSHELF.

## "KENYA MOUNTAIN."

Major E. A. T. Dutton's Fine Book.

Books, like human beings, have their individualities, and sometimes unusually good books, like certain men of outstanding achievement, are not easy to assess point by point. Because the task is more difficult, such men are not nearly so frequently the subject of character sketches in the Press as men nearer to the average; similarly, some unusually good books get placed aside by stress of urgent affairs, and so receive their due meed of notice less promptly than lesser works.

"Kenya Mountain," by Major E. A. T. Dutton, is a case in point, and my conscience will feel clearer when this review is published, for its non-appearance has been a constant reproach since, several months ago, Messrs. Jonathan Cape published it—at the extraordinarily low price of 2s., considering the numerous and really magnificent photographs taken by D. Melhuish, Major Dutton's mountain-camping companion, who is already well-known as an expert in Alpine photography. There are dozens of full-page plates, every one of them a masterpiece. In his modesty, Major Dutton says that without the photographs the book would not have been a book at all; on the contrary, it would have been a memorable book, even without a single illustration, but their inclusion makes it a triumph for author, photographer, and publisher.

As private secretary to successive Governors of Kenya Colony, Major Dutton's ability in various directions has been demonstrated to East Africans. Those who are wise enough to read this new book of his will find in it evidence of real literary ability, of love of nature, of pluck and perseverance, of thoughtful philosophy, and of a quiet but evidently intense championship of the Colony in which he lives.

Sales of the book may possibly suffer from the title, for many people, confessing themselves uninterested in mountains and mountaineering, may omit it from their book list. Let no East Africans be deterred because mountains make no appeal to them. The climbing, interestingly as it is narrated, is but the background for a human narrative. Major Dutton generously shares his feelings, his fears, disappointments, compensations, and his relief with his readers, who find themselves travelling with a flesh-and-blood author.

The adventure, then, begins in February, in which, says Major Dutton, there can be no better place to get away from than Nairobi, which he describes as "Kenya's slatternly capital, unfit to queen it over so lovely a country." Hard words, but spoken by an enthusiastic Kenyan, who a little while later writes thus of a garden forty-two miles from the town he has apostrophised:—

"Perhaps the real charm lies after all in the garden: at most times of the year it is a royal feast of colour; now it was sadly transformed by the dry days of January and February. I have a lamentable ignorance of plants and flowers, though I love them tenderly. But whatever small store of knowledge I have achieved has been learnt from my hostess at Santamoor. Before she became my cicerone I could scarcely give a name to a single flower—perhaps to the commoner hedgerow beauties, some moorland flowers, and a few of those with country names, *love-in-a-mist*, *lad's-bed-straw*, and *lad's-love* and *old-woman's-nightcap*. How charmingly they sound! And the best of all is the biting stone-crop, that bright yellow flower which grows on walls, or smiles down from over cottage doorways and is known among Wiltshire people,

so I am told, by the enchanting name of *welcome-home-husband* though never-so-drunk. These and a few more I have contrived to master, but until I came to wander round this garden I had learnt scarcely the name of a single garden flower, and never one dignified by latinity.

"I have, indeed, been challenged to give a name to one single flower in the bowl gracing the centre of a dinner-table. And I have always (it was a frequent jest) taken up the challenge with an ill-omened confidence. At least, I would assure myself, at least I know an *avalea* when I see one. Alas! on that instant I am taken in doubt. Is it really an *avalea*? or possibly a *sihlia*? Or is there such a flower as a *sihlia*? There always seemed to be a provoking sameness about these names. I would proceed further and fare worse. At length I am driven to choose wildly between a half dozen of them. And I am always wrong. And yet for the life of me I cannot see why that should debar me from calling myself a lover of flowers. It is as though, to be in love, I must be able to put a Latin name to each of the endearing features of my divinity. I love flowers, their scent and their colour and their tender forms, as well as most. I am quite happy in that knowledge: and that is all that matters to me."

That passage is likely to win the allegiance of most readers. Overleaf he makes sure of the endorsement of East Africans when he writes:—

"There is a charm and downrightness about Kenya farmers which is so delightfully blended that critics who come among them often end by being their staunchest friends as well. For they have a variety of critics. There is the honest and broadminded critic who looks only to the future welfare of all races, and, not least, of his own; there is the honest and narrow critic whom none can persuade out of his preconceptions; there is the Little Englander who longs to see pulled down what the brain and the nerve and the sinew of his own people have taken years to build up; and there is the pension-snatching, atrabishous critic, who supplements his annuity by vilifications of the Colony which pays it. Nor must I forget one more class, an irritating, pretentious variety which inflicts upon its victims a mass of information of bewildering inaccuracy. Luckily for the future welfare of our Colonies the fair-minded ones generally hold the floor. Indeed, have not all critics their uses, even the basest of them? Is it not the speck of dirt in the oyster which stimulates the growth of the lovely pearl?"

Later, on the mountain, the dependence of the African on the Europeans emphasises itself—a fact which leads the author to note:—

"It is astounding how much the Native expects of the white man, notwithstanding how arduous for him, and yet, when fortune crowns his efforts, he regards it as a matter of course thing in the world. After all, he says, it is the *mwanga*, the white man. He has the most implicit trust in the white man's powers. How long he will continue in that belief lies with our governors and all those set over us. The prestige of the white man was born in the strength and the courage and the fair-mindedness of our people; and, in the judgment of those of us who live among Native races, the moment that prestige is seriously impaired, the signal for the decline of the Empire will have been sounded, the decline of the greatest Empire the world has seen, an Empire not without the taint and reproach incidental to all human work, but constructed on the whole with pure and splendid purpose, the pride and glory of our race. All that the Empire stands for, rests on the prestige of the white man, and on that alone."

One of the charms of the book is this constant soliloquising. In another such passage he writes:—

"Surely we can find some better way of teaching our subject peoples our faith and our civilisation than by turning them into clerks. I should have thought that the first stage would be to teach them to work with their hands and to use better tools at their own crafts. Unhappily, our system has hitherto been to turn out battalions of unwanted clerks. It is not surprising. It is after all the way education has gone in England, and it is only natural that her example should be followed in the outposts of the Empire."

"There is a fine passage in Froude in which he draws a picture of the apprentice system in England at its best. And he asks whether, after looking at that picture, it is not possible to question the assertion that modern education is the summit of human wisdom. For the African, at any rate, there is no doubt that 'Hands before Heads' is the wiser course of learning to apply. Moreover,

although there has grown up among Natives a distaste for manual labour and a craving for a job in an office, the Government in Kenya is now using all its power and influence to induce the Native to learn to be an artisan. Their object-lesson is from the Reserves, where the spear-makers, the makers of ornaments and finery, are highly considered men."

My space is exhausted, and little has been said of mountaineering, but the above extracts nevertheless give a not unbalanced idea of the book, for it is its spirit and human touch that raise it so much above the ordinary account of mountaineering. Major Dutton was bold to choose an unusual method of treatment, but his success is complete vindication.

Success, however, often brings its penalties, and Major Dutton's friends in Kenya ought, with the evidence of this book before them, to give him no peace until he contracts to write—and that without delay—other books for which the world is waiting. "Kenya Mountain" provides internal evidence that he could write splendidly on the ordinary, everyday life of the European settler in East Africa, his trials and his triumphs, of the daily irritations and compensations, of the freedom which seldom degenerates into a licence which a little clique of novelists delights to portray as the normal. Here is a piece of real service waiting to be done. Will he tackle it?

F. S. J.

## ETHNOLOGY OF AFRICA.

### An Inadequate American Publication.

No one will dispute the enterprise of the Field Museum of Natural History in the city of Chicago, U.S.A. It is lavish in providing funds for expeditions to Africa among other places, and it is always on the look-out for the *aliquid novi* in that interesting continent. It has command of money and talent; and when it issues a "Guide to the Ethnology of Africa," written by its Assistant Curator of African Ethnology and edited by its Curator of the Department of Anthropology, one has the right to expect something out of the ordinary.

The book runs to 226 pages and is embellished with four maps and forty-two plates in photogravure, many of them illustrating treasures in the show-cases of the Museum itself, but the letterpress is neither scholarly nor accurate. It is ambitious: "The main purpose of this guide is to give an account of the Native races of Africa, their social organisation, religious beliefs, languages, migrations and handicrafts"; but it hardly fulfils its promise.

One has long noted in American books on East African travel a disregard for accuracy in language and spelling, as if the country were still unexplored and ungoverned, and there were no rules whatever. This Guide confirms the impression. "Mombassa," "Addis Abbaba," "Nyassa," are incorrect in English; the ethnological map gives "Usambara" and "Ussukuma" as the names of tribes, where also "Monbutto" appears; *Erythrophalem* on page 112 should be *Erythrophloeum*; the map of African exploration makes Livingstone start from a point north of the Orange River and west of longitude 20° E., whereas that great explorer landed at Port Elizabeth, and crossed the Orange about 20° 30' E.; and no indication is given of his famous journey up the Zambezi and his discovery of lakes Shirwa and Nyasa. "In the east," it is stated, "the great lakes of Victoria Nyanza and Tanganyika are linked by rail with the ports of Mombassa and Zanzibar," a truly remarkable feat.

As for the descriptions of the tribes, nothing is said of the most characteristic trait of the Wanyamwezi—

their skill and tradition as porters, without mention of which any pen-picture of them is featureless. "In the past there were in Baganda temples of East Africa numbers of young girls dedicated to the gods"; "temples" is a misleading term in this connexion. "A story of the Cameroons purports to explain why the deer has a long neck"; a better story should explain how deer came to be in the Cameroons at all. The prefix *M* means an individual, as in the word *Mganda*; but, unfortunately, the Luganda word is *Muganda*. This list of errors might be indefinitely extended.

A. L.

## LANGUAGE BOOKS BY OFFICIALS.

### A School-book in Shuwa Arabic.

WITH a professedly pacifist Government in office in Great Britain and its official countenance withdrawn from Cadet Corps lest youth should be inoculated with "militarism," it is intriguing to find tribal songs and legends of an emphatically militant sort collected to make a school reader for Nigerian children. One dreads to think what the feelings of Lord Passfield will be if, by some unlucky chance, he encounters the "Stories of Abu Zeid." Everyone is killing or being killed:—

"Al-Fajm Muhazin wished to kill them, and his wife said to him, 'Do not kill the singers for if you kill them, I shall leave you.' And in the course of three nights they killed sixty-six thousand women and men with the sword, secretly."

Their method was, as Alf said of the djinn's, "olesale." But primitive minds, like Toddy's, love things bluggy.

These stories, told in Shuwa Arabic, have been collected by Mr. J. R. Patterson, District Officer of the Bornu Province, Nigeria, primarily as a reader for use in schools in which Shuwa Arabic is one of the languages spoken, and translated by him in the hope that it may render the book of service to students of Shuwa Arabic, which is one of the languages recognised by the Nigerian Government for certain qualifying examinations which officers of some Departments are required to pass. Both the Arabic text and the English translation are included in the volume, which is published by Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner and Co. at the remarkable price of five shillings.

Officials in Africa are taking ethnological research more seriously. Recently a similar work on the difficult Bedauye dialect of the Red Sea littoral was reviewed in *East Africa*. Tribal legends, such as these "Stories of Abu Zeid," apart from their intrinsic interest, have a value in elucidating the early history of the tribe, as is explained in the preface by Mr. H. R. Palmer, C.M.G., C.B.E., Lieutenant-Governor of the Northern Province. It is to be hoped that before long some research will be published by East African officials on the more recondite dialects of the districts ruled by them. Nigeria and the Sudan have given them a good lead.

A. L.

A Message to the British Empire.

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FOR BREAKFAST

AND HELP YOUR OWN  
PEOPLE IN THE COLONIES

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## PERSONALIA.

Lady Delamere has arrived home from East Africa.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Jesse are outward bound for Kenya.

Mr. R. H. Dearden has left England to return to Arusha.

Sir Donald Cameron recently visited the Mwanza district.

Lady Alice Scot Pole Carew has been visiting Uganda.

Mr. A. B. Buxton has arrived in England from Abyssinia.

Mr. Roy Homewood recently arrived in Europe from Nakuru.

Mr. Justice Guthrie Smith has retired from the Uganda Service.

Mr. John N. Hopcraft has been appointed a Game Warden of Kenya.

A daughter was recently born at Meru to Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Vernon.

The death is announced from Dar es Salaam of Mr. George Bauarschi.

Lady Sidney Farrer recently arrived back in Kenya from her visit to England.

Mr. Reginald Sharpe is a recent arrival in England on leave from Nyasaland.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Coxhead have arrived in England from the Katanga.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. J. Flynn, of Kitale, on the birth of a son.

Mr. C. L. Todd has been appointed Acting Senior Assistant Auditor in Tanganyika.

Congratulations to Captain and Mrs. Catchpole, of Nakuru, on the birth of a son.

Miss Roden, matron of the Livingstone Hospital, has arrived in England on leave.

Mr. E. L. Scott, Deputy Chief Secretary, has arrived back in Uganda from leave.

A recent arrival from Uganda on leave is Mr. C. W. Chorley, Sleeping Sickness Officer.

Mr. Herbert Hudson has been appointed Acting Assistant Postmaster-General in Kenya.

Major C. Gaitskell has been appointed a Fellow of the Incorporated Secretaries Association.

Dr. A. Copland is spending a few days of his leave in South Africa on his way to England.

Miss Helen Sher has returned to Northern Rhodesia from a trip to England and America.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. H. Bain on the birth of a daughter in Northern Rhodesia.

Mr. R. A. Gibson has been promoted Senior Assistant Conservator of Forests in Uganda.

Mrs. J. A. Kampf sailed for Mombasa, via Cape Town, on the "Windsor Castle" on Friday.

Mr. G. F. Elliot, of the Veterinary Department, is at present on leave from Northern Rhodesia.

Mr. A. W. Drury, of the Tanganyika Postal Service, has returned to the territory from leave.

Mr. Ben Schafer has been appointed Compound Manager of Muflira Mine, in Northern Rhodesia.

Mr. G. H. H. Coleman has been appointed Acting Senior Collector of Customs in Northern Rhodesia.

Mr. McLeod Barrett is at present on leave from Northern Rhodesia, and arrived in England recently.

Mr. J. Fergus Grant, of the Montreal Gazette, who has just visited Kenya, has returned to England.

Major F. T. G. Tremlett has been appointed Acting Commissioner of Police and Prisons in Uganda.

Mr. D. C. Campbell, Clerk to the Tanganyika Legislature, has been appointed Acting Chief Secretary.

Mr. R. A. Athol, ex-Mayor of Nottingham, recently addressed the Mombasa Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Kerrison, who were recently married in Norfolk, are returning to Kenya shortly.

*In response to numerous requests we have decided, when possible, to devote further space to our Personalia notes, which are accordingly continued overleaf.*

**Mosquitoes defeated!**

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# HELD US TO IMPROVE 'EAST AFRICA'?

## TEN GUINEAS FOR CRITICISMS FROM READERS

There are, of course, various means of improving *East Africa*. Some are practicable at present, others must be deferred until the paper grows larger—as it shows every sign of doing.

With the object of learning the opinions of his readers, the Editor requests their candid criticisms. Will those who do not generally enter newspaper competitions accept a special invitation on this occasion? No one need hesitate because he or she does not wish to compete for the prizes: entrants in the past have asked that anything they might win might be sent to charity, and St. Dunstan's, the East African branch of the R.S.P.C.A., and other splendid causes would certainly be glad of anything *East Africa* might have the privilege of paying. So will YOU send YOUR criticisms?

As our desire is to learn the real views of our readers, we leave the conditions of entry as elastic as possible, limiting only that in his decisions—which shall be accepted as final by all entrants—the Editor will give preference to constructive suggestions and to well-reasoned and briefly stated opinions.

The task we set our readers may be divided into two parts:

**A.** List in order of your preference, and give briefly your critic's opinion of the following regular features: Leading Articles, Matters of Moment, Pen Pictures of East Africa, Reviews, Letters to the Editor, Personalia, Saa Sita, Camp Fire Comments, Bill on Leave, East Africa in the Press, Mining and Financial pages, Information Bureau, Produce Prices, Passenger and Shipping Lists.

**B.** (a) Suggest any new features. (b) Would you welcome a crossword puzzle? It has been requested by a number of subscribers, and it would be helpful to know how many support and oppose the idea.

### WE OFFER A

**FIRST PRIZE** OF FIVE GUINEAS (or Three Guineas if won by a reader who is not an annual subscriber to *East Africa*);

**SECOND PRIZE** OF THREE GUINEAS (or 31s. 6d. in the case of a non-subscriber);

**THIRD PRIZE** OF TWO GUINEAS (or 21s. in the case of a non-subscriber);

Up to Six Annual Subscriptions to *East Africa*, the number to be decided by the Editor according to the number of entries.

For the guidance of readers we append a specimen entry:

**A.** **Personalia:** Always interesting. Often contains news of East Africans unobtainable elsewhere. Cannot you give three pages, instead of two, to it?

**Passenger Lists:** I turn to them immediately after reading Personalia.

**Letters to the Editor:** Well selected, but too much space given to animal controversies, e.g., crowing crested cobra and diet of tsetse flies. Two half-column letters better than one of column length.

**Matters of Moment:** A new feature of wide appeal. Should like two pages of Matters each week.

**Leading Articles:** Usually express what I think. Are a guide without being dictatorial. Perhaps you have somewhat undermined the standing of your leaders by introducing leaderettes as Matters of Moment.

**Reviews:** Good, authoritative, and discriminating. Recently you have cut them shorter. Prefer the old length. Could you start "Books in Brief," giving readers immediate news of E.A. books and some idea of their contents. Further particulars would appear later in your reviews.

**Camp Fire Comments:** Always read with interest, but the page varies somewhat in calibre.

**Pen Pictures:** Well chosen. Are real Pen Pictures of East Africa. Prefer two of three-quarters of a page each to one of three columns. Nearly all deal with bush life. Give us one of town interest now and again.

**Saa Sita:** Excellent, but too infrequent. Cannot you make your contributor supply one a fortnight regularly?

**Bill on Leave:** Always the right note. Make him continue his weekly causerie when he returns to Africa.

**East Africa in the Press:** Judiciously selected. Helps us to gauge trend of Home opinions.

**Produce Prices:** Don't always agree with the reports received from my brokers, but on the whole I set more store by your figures; brokers are interested parties!

**Information Bureau:** Interesting. You might feature each week one definite trade opening for British merchants.

**Mining Page:** To me the least interesting feature in the paper, but I respect your contributor's outspokenness. Don't let him overdo his criticisms of some of the Northern Rhodesian magnates.

**B.**

(a) **Life Stories:** Why not a regular feature of life stories of East Africans? You often publish column stories about men in the public eye, but one or two columns a week would be welcomed.

**Photographs:** More pictures would increase interest in the paper.

**Sport:** Have you tried to find a good gossip on East African sport?

(b) Please spare us a crossword. Those who want it can find it easily enough elsewhere. *East Africa's* appeal is in its editorial pages. You do not need the adventitious aid of such competitions.

To enable readers in remote parts of Africa to compete, the competition will not close until September 1, but we urge readers to dispatch their entries without delay. Compliance with this request will greatly facilitate the work of judging. For the convenience of readers who are not yet annual subscribers, an enrolment form is printed in this issue.



**PERSONALIA** (continued).

Mr. E. M. Baylis and Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Thompson are recent arrivals in England from Zanzibar.

Mr. J. T. Purvis, of the Tanganyika Veterinary Department, has left for the Territory on his return from leave.

Captain W. L. Skinner, of the 1/1st King's African Rifles, has been transferred to Zomba as staff officer.

Mr. F. G. Kinsella and Mr. H. Hignell, both of the Administrative Service, are recent arrivals from Tanganyika.

Mr. Geoffrey Walsh, Commissioner of Customs, has arrived home, and is at present staying in Scotland.

Major Palmer, of the Kenya Public Works Department, has returned to the Trans-Nzoria from leave in Europe.

Mr. J. T. Simpson, manager of the Nakuru branch of the African Mercantile Company, has been transferred to Eldoret.

Lord Delamere and Colonel W. K. Tucker have been appointed Unofficial Members of the Railway Council in Kenya.

The Rev. F. Potts, of the Elgon Mission, Sudan, recently addressed the Carlisle branch of the Church Missionary Society.

The death has occurred at Nchanze, Northern Rhodesia, of Mr. R. Page, who had spent many years in Broken Hill.

Sir Drummond Chaplin, a director of the Chartered Company, arrived in England on the "Armadale Castle" last week.

Lieut. Colonel W. H. Murphy, the Commandant of Police in Zanzibar, who has just retired, is a recent arrival in England.

Mr. Arthur Starke, a London Director of the Rhodesian Selection Trust, Ltd., has recently visited the Mfulira Mine.

The engagement is announced of Mr. Paul Topham, of the Nyasaland Forestry Service, and Miss Eileen Garnham, of Mill Hill.

Dr. H. H. Hunter and Mr. A. D. Jones have been elected as Unofficial representatives for Uganda on the Railway Advisory Council.

Captain Coglioli, Inspector of the Citra line of steamer services to East Africa, is on his way back from his recent tour of East Africa.

Mr. Marston, the Treasurer in Uganda, and Mrs. Marston, are spending a portion of their leave in South Africa before proceeding Home.

Mr. A. G. Freeman Pannett, manager of the British East Africa Corporation in Mombasa, left London last week to return to the Colony.

Mr. Graham Dawson, the well-known Manufacturers' Representative of Nairobi, has arrived in England, accompanied by Mrs. Graham Dawson.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is to be present at a reception by Lord and Lady Ellesmere to be given to the delegates to the Imperial Press Conference on June 3.

Mr. Harold D. Thackrah, accompanied by Mrs. Thackrah and their son, have arrived home from Nakuru, having spent a brief time in South Africa on their way home.

His many friends in Tanganyika will be interested to learn that Mr. R. C. Samuels was the guest of the evening at the recent annual dinner of the Legion of Frontiersmen.

Dr. William Cullen, President of the Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, who has been visiting Northern Rhodesia with the Empire Mining Congress, returned to England this week.

Mr. W. Slade, who is on his way back to Tanganyika from leave, has been on the staff of the Tanganyika Railways since 1917. Before the War he held Railway appointments in South Africa, South America, and India.

**PERSONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Private—not trade—advertisements are now accepted by "East Africa" for publication in this column at the PREPAID rate of 3s. 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.

**HOUSE TO LET.**

**BEXHILL-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.

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**POST AS MANAGER IN KENYA.**

**GENTLEMAN**, married, 38, at present on leave England, due return Kenya about Christmas, seeks post manager. Seven years' experience in Kenya, including maize, coffee, cattle, dairying, and general mixed farming, including machinery. Kenya reference c/o Box 1, Kitale. Address: W. LONDONER, c/o Midland Bank, Ltd., Pall Mall, S.W. 1.

Amongst recent arrivals from East Africa are Captain and Mrs. Belfrage, Lord Howard de Walden, Mrs. J. E. Wolley Dod, Sir Howard and Lady Elphinstone, Miss A. M. Penfold, and Brigadier-General H. A. Walker.

Mr. Owen Letcher, Editor of *The Rhodesian Mining Journal*, who served with the Forces in East Africa during the war, and who is well known in Northern Rhodesia and the Belgian Congo as a big game shot, arrived in England last week.

Mr. H. V. Clark, of Messrs. J. H. Clark, Ltd., the well-known manufacturers' representatives of Nairobi, has arrived in London and expects to be on this side for the next four months. Mr. Clark is Hon. Secretary of the Kenya Lawn Tennis Association.

The Anniversary Meeting of the Universities Mission to Central Africa is to be held in the Queen's Hall at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, June 3, when Bishop Gore will preside, and the Bishops of Zanzibar, Masasi, and Northern Rhodesia, and the Bishop-designate of Nyasaland are expected to speak.

Mr. C. Kenneth Archer, President of the Coffee Planters' Union of Kenya, and East Africa, arrived in this country last week. Mr. Archer, who has been in East Africa for the past sixteen years, is also Vice-Chairman of the Convention of Associations and President of the Kikuyu Farmers' Association.

Captain C. M. S. Boys-Hindere proposed the toast of "England" at the St. George's Club dinner in Mombasa, the other speakers including Mr. A. M. Campbell, who responded on behalf of the Caledonian Society to the toast of "Our Guests," and Mr. Warren Wright, who responded for the Irish Society.

Amongst those now on the water for East Africa are Mr. and Mrs. J. Dundas, Mr. S. J. Jensen, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Kerrison, Mrs. M. Macartney, Miss G. Macartney, Miss C. D. Matthew, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Prettejohn, Mr. E. S. Gade, Mrs. L. Deneus, Miss Thomsen, Mrs. Vergeer, Miss C. W. Wilson, and Miss M. Wright.

The engagement is announced between Captain Sir Thomas L. H. Roberts, Bt., The King's Regiment, late R.A., attached 6th K.A.R., son of the late Colonel Sir Howland Roberts, Bt., and of Lady Roberts, 10, South Street, Thurloe Square, S.W.7, and Margaret, only daughter of the late Mr. H. Fielding-Hall, Burma Commission, and of Mrs. Fielding-Hall, 7, Southwell Gardens, S.W.7.

East Africans will be interested to learn that Brigadier-General W. F. S. Edwards has been appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Devon. General Edwards, who has seen much military service in East Africa, commanded the Kioga Punitive Force in 1911 in Uganda. During the East African campaign he commanded a brigade from 1912 to 1919, and was in command of the Turkana Punitive Force in 1915.

Mrs. R. B. Turner has been re-elected President of the East Africa Women's League, and the following vice-Presidents have also been elected: Lady Frances Scott, Lady Delamere, Lady McMillan, Mrs. H. S. Scott, Mrs. A. Holm, Mrs. J. H. Gailey, and H. E. Welby. The Association, which now has a membership of 1,200, forwarded over £1,800 to the Earl Haig Fund last year, as a result of the Poppy Day appeal in Kenya and Zanzibar.

The installation ceremony of Lodge Zanzibar, No. 3897, E.C., was recently held in Zanzibar, Wor. Bro. Ahmed Ayub being duly installed W.M. for the ensuing year, and the following brethren being appointed to the offices indicated: I.P.M., Wor. Bro. W. J. Borrow; S.W., Bro. Tayabali H. A. Karimjee; J.W., Bro. A. R. Stephens; Treasurer, Bro. Shah Mohamed Khan; Secretary, Wor. Bro. Shavakshaw H. Talati; D. of C., Wor. Bro. N. B. Cox; S.D., Bro. Firoze S. Madon; J.D., Bro. J. R. Dastoor; I.G., Bro. C. M. Patel; Tyler, Bro. M. A. Rana.

At the last meeting of the Council of the Royal Empire Society, at which Sir John Sandeman Allen, M.P., presided, the following were among the Fellows, Undergraduates, and Associates elected: Mr. E. C. Nangle, M.B. (Southern Rhodesia); Major John B. Thomson, Mr. A. Lindsay Basford, Miss Sybil Johnson, Mr. Henry O. Weller, and Mr. Edward J. S. Cowling (Kenya Colony); Mr. Thomas S. Hinds (Nyasaland); Mr. W. S. Gerard Barnes (Tanganyika Territory); Mr. Hugh O. Savile (Uganda), and Mr. Joseph G. Mathison (Zanzibar).

Amongst recent arrivals from East Africa are: Mr. and Mrs. O. Barry, Miss E. Barry, Mrs. K. Archer, Mr. R. Bell, Mr. T. Bromam, Mr. H. E. Buxton, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Baxendale, Mr. G. Colville, Mr. H. V. Chigdale, Mr. A. Cullen, Mr. A. H. M. Dryden, Mr. F. Dymott, Mr. and Mrs. C. Cleminson, Mr. B. E. Fielding, Mr. A. L. Grant, Mr. H. Handley, Mr. E. G. Hay, Mr. W. B. Howard, Mrs. E. Bell Hinde, Mrs. D. Hall, Mr. G. Jones, Miss E. L. James, Mrs. K. Booth, Mrs. B. Kebbell, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Murray, Miss M. Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Waite, Mrs. A. Tullis, Mrs. A. Webb, Mr. E. E. Welch, Mr. C. Wright, Mr. K. Wright.

Mr. Maxtone L. Mailer, of Tanganyika, last week addressed the Church of Scotland Manse Fellowship, of which the Very Rev. Dr. Robert Laws is Honorary President. Mr. Mailer pointed out how much the work of Dr. Laws was appreciated in Africa, adding that he had noticed no representative of religion or an apostle of Empire in the roll of the Order of Merit, one of the highest honours the King could bestow. Mr. Mailer said it might well be that Dr. Laws, who had been described as one of the greatest men living in Scotland to-day, should be considered in recognition of this thought. It would give delight not only to the Church of Scotland and to the cause of missions, but also to that large part of Africa where Dr. Laws' name was a household word.

## Camp Fire Comments.

### How to deal with the African "Boa Constrictor."

In an address given to "juveniles" recently, under the auspices of the African Society, the lecturer gave the following advice to his audience: "There are two main kinds of African snake. One is the boa-constrictor (*sic!*), which winds itself round you quickly, and squeezes until you become pulp. If ever you young boys here ever get such a snake round your knees, whip out a knife, which you should always carry with you, and cut off his head. The other kind of snake is a viper, which bites you and whose poison kills you." He forgot to add that if attacked by a "rocodile" the proper thing to do is to give it a good, hard slap and say, "Naughty, naughty!"

### Motorists, Go East!

It was officially stated at the recent annual meeting of the Road Improvement Association that there are more vehicles per mile of road space in England and Wales than in any other country in the world, the figure being 11, as against 74 in the United States of America. It was added that during 1929 no fewer than 6,696 persons were killed on English roads and 170,789 were injured—a huge total. Such startling facts should induce some motorists to migrate to East Africa, where they can sometimes motor for a hundred miles or more on the excellent roads of Uganda and the poorer, but still adequate roads of Kenya, without meeting another car. There is elbow-room in East Africa.

### Registering Trees in Africa.

*Apropos* of Mr. Beeby Thompson's statement that many thousands of baobab trees have been registered by the Government in Kordofan owing to their value for water-storage, a correspondent mentions that in pre-War times the fine mango trees in Tabora were all numbered by the German East African Government and rented out to Indians, Arabs, or Natives, who were thus entitled to gather the fruit and sell it in the market. He believes that coconut palms—at least, those used for the making of palm wine—were also, thus registered on the coast, and he asks if the system has fallen into disuse under the British. Will readers in Tabora, Dar es Salaam, and Tanga kindly satisfy his curiosity?

### Why the Hyena Laughs.

The query, "Why does the hyena laugh?" has often been put, and considering that he is a poor creature, eternally hungry, often mangy, always being chased and ostracised by every kind of society, human and animal, the question, "What in thunder has he to laugh about, anyway?" is even more to the point. In order to please the juvenile patrons of the B.B.C., a broadcast of "Zoo noises" was made last week, and the problem of the hyena's laugh was solved. The broadest joke leaves him cold, tickle him and he merely grunts, sing a comic song and he seeks the refuge of his sleeping quarters—but annoy him, and he laughs. The method adopted on this occasion was to show him a large lump of succulent meat, and then to take it away. That did it. The hyena laughed until he cried, and when at long last he got the meat, he *did* cry. This was the report of a special newspaper representative who attended the *séance*. "Strange creatures, hyenas," he concludes—and justly.

### The Bridges of Tanganyika Territory.

Like the famous Bridge of San Luis Rey, those of Tanganyika Territory, at least in the more "blazy" parts, hover perilously on the verge of collapse. Dr. J. Parkinson, who has had experience of them, thus describes them and the fate of those who essay to cross them:—

"The usual construction is as follows: forked sticks of a variable length, stoutness, and straightness are planted in the bed of the stream, which, be it understood, is dry; these forks, standing where the sides of the bridge will be, serve to hold the longitudinal supports which extend from bank to bank. These are lashed together by strips of suitable bark—not rope, and no nails are employed—and the bridge is completed by fastening smaller and thinner sticks, cross-wise, as the decking of the structure.

"About three inches, or rather more, as clearance for the wheels on either side is usually allowed. Parapets are unnecessary. If these decking sticks are straight, strong, and close together, the crossing is easy, but if (as usual) the sticks are frail and not straight, moreover spaced irregularly, with intervals of varying width between, and given (also as usual) that the bark lashings are rotten and loose, it is possible to experience a number of thrills, and to see half the car settle downwards to the accompaniment of cracking poles until the body rests on something that doesn't happen to have broken. I can't put it more clearly than that."

"What Tanganyika evidently needs is a second Isle of Man Kingdom Brunel.

### The Food of African Flamingoes.

As a contribution to the vexed question of the actual food of the flamingoes which are so wonderful a feature of many East African lakes, it is worth noting that Mrs. Carl Akeley, who paid a visit to the flamingoes of Lake Hannington, favours the "animal" theory. "Their food," she says, "consists of minute particles of animal matter found in the mud on the bottom of the lakes." When feeding they thrust their large, curved beak, upside down, into the mud and scoop up both dirt and food like an excavating shovel. Still holding the beak upside down, they bring it to the surface, and, with a loud hissing sound, swish it through the water to separate the mud from their food, through a sieve-like arrangement on the side of the bill. As the water of Lake Hannington is officially described as having "a putrid sulphurous flavour, and is lukewarm, and as there are acres of yellow rotten grass killed by the flooding of the chemically-charged waters," it seems unlikely that there can be much animal life in it. It is more likely that algae, of which certain kinds flourish in "chemically-charged" and even really hot waters, are the food obtained by the flamingoes. Mrs. Akeley does not state that she found any "animal matter" in the mud, but evidently presumed it. Moreover, it is possible that rotting vegetable matter in the mud may form an appreciable portion of the diet of these Lake Hannington birds.

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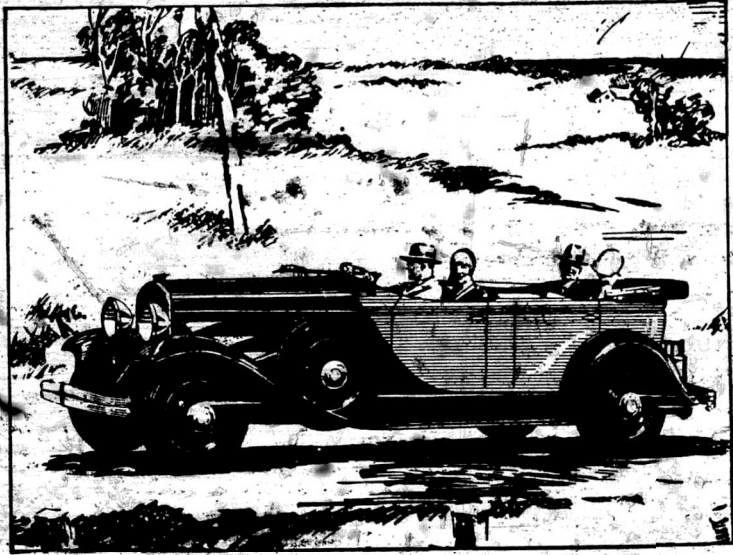
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## THOUGHTS OF A KENYA COLONIST.

Rains, Roads, and the Governor.

From a Nairobi Correspondent.

"THE rain, it raineth every day"—and to rather disastrous purpose. A few days ago came the Voi washaway, quite the worst individual happening of the kind in the history of the Kenya and Uganda Railways. Of course, there is the usual criticism by people who always know better than those entrusted with the job that there was a lack of preparedness. Actually there was no reason to anticipate any such deluge, or at any rate, in view of the steps taken to strengthen the embankments after the washaway of 1923; that the line would be affected to such an extent by the rush of water from the Teita Hills and the consequent overflowing of the Voi River.

What can be criticised is the complete breakdown of the catering department. The complaints are numerous and bitter, and there is likely to be a further inquiry into the whole unhappy business. In the difficulties, there seems no good reason why passengers should have had to go twelve hours without food, which was the unhappy experience of quite a number of people who went down by the specially large train from Nairobi on Tuesday (the first since the washaway) and did not get into Mombasa until twenty-five and a half hours later.

### Kenya Irritated with the Secretary of State.

Then came Nairobi's turn. In a few hours Government Road was transformed from its customary tarmac-adamed smoothness into a swiftly flowing river through which cars had difficulty in making progress. The oldest settlers do not remember seeing such floods before. It is being generally said that the Weather Clerk in this part of the world is much too wholesale. For three years there has been drought, now we are having too much rain and farmers are getting more than a little alarmed. Apart from the washing away of crops, the roads up-country are for the most part entirely impassable even with ox-wagons. Except for the road to Thika and Fort Hall, Nairobi is for the time being entirely cut off by road from outside districts. The fact that even people in the Limuru district, to which normally there are two roads, have been unable to get into town for three days, emphasises the gravity of the floods.

And yet, despite the chronic state of the road to Limuru, which is also part of the only road to Nairobi, and on to Uganda, the Secretary of State has refused to sanction the expenditure of money from surplus balances in order to make this stretch of the road suitable for all-weather. Whatever may be said about Lord Passfield's intervention in other matters—and there has been a great deal of it lately which most people here consider entirely unnecessary—his action in regard to this purely parochial but none the less vital matter to Kenya and Uganda is regarded as irritating officiousness. After all, the people on the spot are better able to judge such matters than folk like Lord Passfield, who have no personal knowledge of the prevailing conditions.

This road has been discussed for years, and always it has been understood that it should be properly conditioned as soon as the money was available. The scheme put forward by elected members of the Legislature, had the backing of the official members and of His Excellency, who often has occasion to use the road and knows from experience its present treacherousness. The illogical

action of the Secretary of State has aroused a storm of resentment, and the name of Passfield is not honoured in Kenya just now.

### Sir Edward Grigg's Governorship.

Mention of His Excellency recalls the fact that Sir Edward Grigg will soon be leaving the Colony for good. His term of office expires in August, and I am able to say quite definitely that there is no question of his continuance as Governor of Kenya.

It cannot be said that his stay here has been a success. He had not been in the country long before it began to be suspected that his ideas were much too grandiose for a young Colony, in which many of the settlers are struggling to make good. Soon there commenced a veritable orgy of official extravagance, and before people quite realised what was happening His Excellency, who "has a way with him," had caused the Government to embark on all sorts of ambitious schemes. Most glaring of all was the altogether unwarranted expenditure on Government House, and Sir Edward Grigg's name will always be associated with that extravagance, for which he is held personally responsible.

Another of the Governor's weaknesses has been his love of importing experts. No matter what the problem, whether rust in wheat, the building of houses for Civil Servants, the roads programme, or the locust campaign, His Excellency inevitably proposed an expert—and more than once the Legislative Council found that all the arrangements had been made before that august body was consulted at all! Such a policy is certainly not very complimentary to the men on the spot, who are supposed to know how to tackle the ordinary problems of the country; whilst the heavy expenditure involved has aroused the ire of the taxpayers. Worst of all, in not a few cases little more than passing notice has been taken of the experts' reports, so that the money in those instances has definitely been wasted.

As against his shortcomings, Sir Edward Grigg has done much to improve the educational system of the country, and, what is even more important, has worked consistently to promote closer union between the two main territories.

"I am satisfied that if Kenya were a democratically controlled country, the Government of this country would be impeached for the way in which it is squandering public funds."—*The Hon. T. J. O'Shea, speaking in the Kenya Legislative Council, in connexion with the proposals to revise the scale of salaries in the Post Office and Telegraphs Department.*

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## East Africa in the Press

### TROPHIES FOR FRIENDS AT HOME.

FOR the guidance of the many people living in Great Britain who, repeatedly, request their East African friends to send them hunting trophies, we reprint the following extracts from a letter written to *The Hamilton Advertiser* by Mr. J. O'Hara, of Nairobi:—

"Before I left home I promised many of my friends a big game trophy from the hunting fields of Kenya. Ten of my friends wanted lion skins, eight of them wanted a pair of elephant tusks, four of them wanted leopard skins, and I promised three of them tiger skins. I didn't know that there were no tigers in Kenya.

"Immediately on my arrival in Nairobi I directed my motor bike in the direction of the Game Warden's office. I received the very courteously and seemed very willing to help me with his advice. He let the first fall into the ointment when he advised me to go to the neighbourhood of the Belgian Congo, where he said I would find elephant, lion, and leopard, not to mention the other small fry in big game, such as the gazelle, the buck, the wildebeest, the hartebeest, and a great many other wild beasts of which I had never heard. He omitted to mention, however, that the Belgian Congo was five hundred miles away, and that there were no roads.

"This same courteous official then invited me to tell him exactly all that I wanted to shoot, and while I read over my list to him, he was busy making notes. He was sorry to tell me that I was allowed to shoot only two elephants in a year, and that the only way to get more than two was to find friends who would also be entitled to shoot two. Then, in the most matter-of-fact voice, without any outward sign of shame or embarrassment, he read—as clearly as I can remember—the following extracts from his notes: 'Non-resident's licence: for the first elephant, £160; for the second, £50 (that means for two elephants £150); and for eight elephants, £600. Non-resident's licence for shooting lions is, for first two lions, £100.' I felt that it was hardly worth his while carrying on with the details, and I told him so.

"To the friends at home who are waiting for their promised trophies I take this chance to assure them that I will keep my eyes open at the auction sales, and should I see any trophies such as blue-monkey skins or zebra tails, I will do my best to buy them and send them along, and if any of them would like a nice new 303 rifle cheap, I am open for a deal."

### BELIEFS OF THE KIKUYU.

MR. A. R. BARLOW, writing in *Kikuyu News* on "Some Kikuyu Beliefs," quotes the following:—

"Spitting at the new moon conduces to good fortune. The calling of the African cuckoo is a sign of coming rain.

"Splashing or agitating the water in a puddle with the feet or with a stick will bring rain. It is inviting misfortune to return from a journey on the seventh day from starting, or to make an appointment for the seventh day.

"To eat during the night entails risk of the spirits of the departed coming to beg for some of the food.

"If a child is continually crying, one of its parents will die.

"Should a man carry his child on his back or sit with it on his lap (both knees, not one only) the mother will die.

"If someone strikes a man or boy with a switch used for sweeping, the one struck will have female children only.

"The gashing or stabbing of a certain species of tree which shows red when cut will get you meat to eat at your journey's end.

"If a woman sows her seed before her mother sows hers, the crop will come to nothing.

"When a leopard ascends a tree with its prey, it goes up tail first.

"Buffalo and other wild game were once the cattle and goats of the women, but they stampeded and went wild."

### A LEOPARD WEIGHING 300 LBS!

As a source of amusement to East Africans an account of a leopard or lion hunt by the *British daily Press* is often full of quiet charm. The *Western Mail* recently came out with a particularly good one, a description of a leopard hunt in Kenya, sponsored by a settler who lives "a day's march from the Equator." Omitting a lengthy account of "the wounding of this immense beast, the breathless chase through the jungle, deep grows through the undergrowth, etc., we come to the following:—

"I should think we covered a good mile before a likely hiding-place was spotted. A tree had fallen years ago and formed a barrier to a snug bush and fringed hollow. I think we all instinctively knew it to be the trail's end! The light was good and the sun on the point of rising. I thought for an instant if I should see it rise, and longed for the whole affair to be safely over. One of my boys mounted the tree trunk, and then things happened quickly.

"The peaceful silence was split with the most fiendish and blood-curdling roars I have ever heard from a wild beast (and I have accounted for fifteen lions). I saw a streak of orange and a wild lashing tail. I heard a clanking chain and for an instant my eye just photographed the grapple caught in the undergrowth, the log had been torn loose. To take a bead and put a bullet in a vital spot was impossible. It was like trying to pot a flash of lightning. I saw the flash as the boy threw his spear. I saw him leap up wildly off the tree, and then to my horror out came the leopard free and in all his mighty strength. With a bound he was on top of the boy (the other two had fled), and as I hung up my gun I slipped and fell.

"After this the only recollection I have is a boy facing me fifteen feet away, his eyes almost dropping out of his head, while behind him, rearing up with talons un-sheathed, the leopard. I know I took a snap shot at the huge head and after I picked myself up I found the great beast on top of the Native—stone dead, with a bullet bang in his right eye. And that was that. He measured ten feet as he lay and weighed 300 lb. I will send you a photo of the skin! This is the grand finale to my hunting days."

Somewhat amazed, we consulted Rowland Ward, and found that the record leopard for Kenya measured only 8 ft. 11 in. as it lay, and that the greatest weight on record is 140 lb. Our friend's specimen, at 10 ft. and 300 lb., must therefore be not only an outsize for East Africa, but far in excess of any other specimen yet obtained by man.

The above note lay on the editorial desk when an East African visitor called. He has done his full share of big game hunting, and was sympathetic. "Don't discourage the hunter (who says he has accounted for fifteen lions) in his enthusiasm," he pleaded, "though perhaps he would have been better advised first to make certain that his 'leopard' really was a leopard, and not a Sooner Dog, large packs of which may abound in his district near the Equator. It is possible, too, that in the excitement he may have mistaken it for the Striped Gazelle, a formidable beast closely resembling the Lesser Ickapu."



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## THE AFRICAN AS ENGINE-DRIVER.

General Hammond on the Outlook.

DURING the four years 1926-30 there were 132 engine failures on the Tanganyika Railways, and says Brigadier-General F. D. Hammond in his report on those railways, the majority took place with African drivers. This was found to be the cause in 33 out of the 55 cases which occurred in 1928-29 and in 7 out of 21 in the first six months of 1929-30. The Chief Mechanical Engineer was of opinion that the main cause was the difficult stage which the education of the African had reached.

"The experience of the Locomotive Department has been," writes General Hammond, "that, after the Native has received a certain measure of training, he appears to slacken off, either from lack of ambition or from conceit that he has already learned all that he needs, and neither fines nor dismissal appear to act as an efficient deterrent. A certain measure of discontent is, also due to the rates of pay for Africans being lower than those received by Asiatics, and to the fact that, whereas all Asiatics receive mileage allowance, no Africans do. The reason for this difference is that no African driver has yet reached the standard of the worst paid Asiatic. They can consequently only be used on trains which run intermittently, and, if they were placed on mileage allowance, the total amount they receive would vary violently from month to month with the traffic. This would probably give rise to more discontent than the present arrangement.

"The experience is a disheartening one, but the Chief Mechanical Engineer has very rightly not been deterred thereby from pursuing the policy of training the African until a higher standard has been reached, which is the only real and final solution of the difficulty.

## Apprentice Drivers Suggested.

"I wish to point out one direction in which I think an improvement is possible. At present there are European, Asiatic, and African drivers. There can be no question yet of dispensing with European drivers. At present none of the African drivers and only a few of the Asiatics can read and write English. The system of passing traffic is by 'line clear' orders transmitted by the telephone and conveyed to the driver and guard by a message written in English authorising them to proceed with their train to the next station. When a driver cannot read, this has to be read out to him by the stationmaster, the man who has written out the order and has been responsible in part for its transmission. The driver is thus at the mercy of the stationmaster, and, when he arrives at the running-shed and has to return his ticket for the run, he is equally at the mercy of the shed clerk as well as of any fuel clerk whose receipt he has to sign for fuel put on his tender.

"At present recruits for African engine drivers are drawn solely from the unskilled workmen who have been employed as cleaners or in the running-shed and have been promoted thence to firemen. This is the class in which it is rarest to find any education. Nor is it only in regard to making out and checking returns that education is required for an engine driver. It is one of the most difficult and, beyond dispute, one of the most responsible of the trades on a railway. It is difficult to expect good results so long as the recruits are drawn solely from the worst educated class; it is merely a reflex of the ordinary English system; but in England the cleaner, who is the ordinary recruit, is far better educated nowadays than the best African driver. On the other hand, it will be impossible to get the better educated Native to undertake the manual labour of firing unless it is merely a comparative short stage in the process of becoming a driver.

"I therefore suggest that, just as in the case of the workshop artisans, a regular class of apprentice driver should be formed. They would have a certain amount of firing and shed work in the course of their apprenticeship, but it should always be kept in view that the object of their apprenticeship is to turn them into drivers and not firemen, and they should be trained with that object and made to attend technical classes like other apprentices. At the same time it would be advisable, in order to keep both avenues of recruitment open, not to draw the whole of the drivers from this source but to give a few of the annual vacancies to such firemen as pass the approved test. This system has been adopted in Nigeria."

## A NEW TOBACCO PEST.

Rhodesian Leaf Affected.

In the Report for 1929 the High Commissioner for Southern Rhodesia, in London, says:—

"One disquieting feature of the tobacco situation which I feel should be rightly mentioned is that at the end of October it was reported to this office that a substantial quantity of Rhodesian leaf tobacco in the London docks was found to be infested with *Ephestia elutella*, and that the infestation was mostly confined to Rhodesian tobacco. The supreme importance of such a matter was fully realised, and steps were at once taken to ascertain the source of origin of the infestation. An entomologist of the staff of the Imperial College of Science and Technology is carrying out an investigation, and the Empire Marketing Board are very generously contributing a grant towards the expenditure to be incurred in this direction.

"The caterpillar *Ephestia elutella* has not been known previously to attack tobacco, but it is well known as an important and serious pest of cacao, and as a pest of secondary importance of dried fruit. Inquiries carried out by the entomological staff of the Agricultural Department show that after an exhaustive investigation and careful examination of every tobacco warehouse and store that might harbour the pest, also tobacco estates and farms in the Colony, no indication of the pest could be found. A similar thorough examination of warehouses and stocks at Beira led to the same result, namely, that no trace of *Ephestia elutella* could be found, nor is there any record of the pest there. It is evident, therefore, that the tobacco could not have been infested before it left either Rhodesia or Beira."

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## MEETING OF EAST AFRICAN SECTION

Of London Chamber of Commerce.

*Specially reported for "East Africa."*

At last week's meeting of the East African Section of the London Chamber of Commerce Sir Humphrey Leggett welcomed Major Conrad Walsh on his return from his recent visit to East Africa. The resolution of the Tanga Chamber of Commerce, in which it was stated that in view of the increasing importance of Tanga and district, the Governor be asked to reside there at least one month each year, was read to members for information.

The Chairman reported the receipt of a letter from the Colonial Office on the subject of the Uganda Cotton Commission, and pointed out that since the matter was raised last year nearly all the British ginning concerns in Uganda had disposed of their ginning interests in the Western Province, and that only three British ginning concerns remained. Sir Humphrey felt it was a matter for regret that the twenty-five years of hard work in the industry the ginning had now passed out of their control, and as far as cotton in Uganda was concerned, it had now ceased to be a British industry. Mr. E. Lloyd-Price said that last year European firms handled only 17% of the Uganda cotton crop, the remainder being dealt with in the main by Oriental firms, who exported it to Bombay and Japan. He felt that with the industry in foreign hands the Natives would not get a square deal such as they received under European enterprise.

### Delays in East African Mails.

Mr. A. B. Vialou said he understood that the mails from Dar es Salaam which reached England on May 5 had been held up in Mombasa, to which port they had been carried by the s.s. "Matiana," until the arrival of the French steamer, s.s. "Aviateur Roland Garros." The "Matiana" had left Dar es Salaam on April 6, reaching Mombasa on the evening of April 8, when her English mail from the former port was taken off to await the arrival of the French packet, due to arrive there on April 14. The "Matiana" sailed for Europe on April 12, arriving at Marseilles on April 30, but the French boat, carrying the Dar es Salaam mail of April 5, did not arrive until two days later.

Major Walsh said that though he was in sympathy with the last speaker, it should be remembered that as the British India line boats carried a large amount of cargo, they were frequently held up at Kilindini for five or six days, particularly when there was a great rush for labour. After a brief discussion it was agreed that the Secretary should

call the attention of the authorities to the incident. Major Walsh asked whether the Section could inquire of the Colonial Office as to when the road between Tanga and Dar es Salaam would be open to traffic, to which the Chairman replied that the latest official information was that it would be open in a year's time.

## MR. N. CHAMBERLAIN ON EAST AFRICA.

(Continued from page 1195.)

### How to Apply Them.

But in the application of the principles to concrete cases, it seems to me that the most practical method of progress is not by withdrawing all powers to deal with them from the local legislatures, but by bringing them into joint discussion by the Governors of the three territories, in conferences presided over by the High Commissioner. In this way practical difficulties can be threshed out on the spot by the men who know the conditions, under the impartial direction of the High Commissioner, who will himself be guided by the broad principles established by the Imperial Government; and full consideration and protection will be given to all interests, with the minimum of friction and disagreement.

Great constitutional changes have generally been brought about in our British history by a gradual and progressive advance, and we have thus avoided the violent disturbances that have accompanied them elsewhere. In East Africa, too, we shall be wise if we proceed from stage to stage, and the suggestions made here for a first beginning of closer union may lay a foundation on which it will be possible hereafter to build a more solid and lasting structure, knitting together these territories into a single powerful and united whole.

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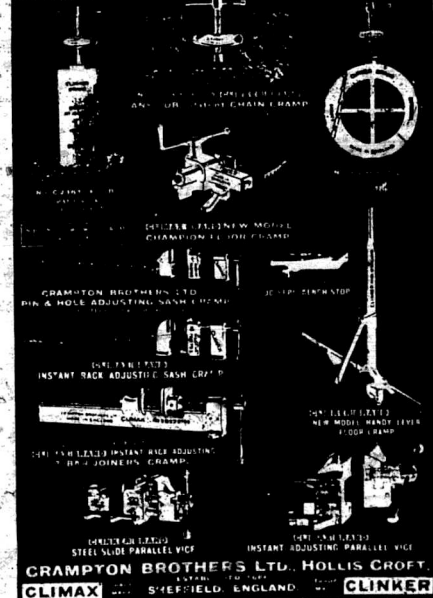
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## MINING, MEN, AND MATTERS

NEW PROSPECTING  
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RHODESIA

A GOOD BOOK

A CIRCULAR has been sent to shareholders of the Kagera (Uganda) Tinfields, Ltd., relating to an offer to purchase all or part of their shareholdings by the Billiton Tin Company (N. V. Billiton Maatschappij), who, with their associates, are desirous of increasing their shareholding. The price offered is 7s. 6d. per share, and the offer becomes absolute if accepted by the holders of 150,000 shares, or such less number as the Billiton Company may agree.

The circular states—

"On the 9th inst. the Board were informed by the Billiton Company of their intention to make the offer. The Board were asked to co-operate by recommending acceptance of the proposals. Owing to the extreme importance of the question involved, it was felt that every member of the Board should have the opportunity of giving it adequate consideration before a decision was arrived at, and as one of the Directors was absent, being at that time on the mine in Uganda, your Directors asked to be given a period of one month in which to arrive at their decision. On the 16th inst. they were informed that this delay could not be granted and that the Billiton Company proposed to submit their offer direct to the shareholders. In view of this, steps were at once taken to consult the absent Director by cable and his reply was received on the 20th inst.

"As was indicated in the recently issued Directors' Report and in the Chairman's remarks at the Annual General Meeting, your Board have the greatest faith in the future prospects for the Company, and whilst they would welcome further and closer co-operation and the possible assistance of the Billiton group, with its unrivalled experience and strong financial resources, they nevertheless feel that they cannot give the shareholders any definite recommendation.

"Given a revival of prosperity in the tin mining industry, which revival, it is thought, must eventuate sooner or later, it is the opinion of your Board that the shares of this Company possess potentialities of a value very considerably in excess of the current market quotation. At the same time, it should be clearly understood that the Directors do not wish to take the responsibility of advising a rejection of the offer, but would prefer each shareholder to form his own conclusion as to the best course to adopt, and to which he must be guided by his assessment of the mining prospects from the up-to-date information available, by his views as to the future prospects of the tin mining industry generally, and by personal financial considerations.

"It will be appreciated that advantage could not have been taken of the opportunity provided by the recent General Meeting at which to ventilate this question, because, as has been shown, the Directors were not then aware of the forthcoming proposals."

THE news that the Southern Rhodesian Government has at last agreed to the policy of granting large concessions for the exploitation of hitherto barely prospected lands is indeed good. Northern Rhodesia has had the foresight to grant these large concessions, with the result that enormous tracts of country have within the last few years been proved to possess highly mineralised areas; these areas would still be lying undiscovered were it not for so progressive a policy. The agreement recently announced from Southern Rhodesia provides for the formation of a company, known as the Victoria Prospecting Company, in which nearly every important mining company in Southern Rhodesia will participate. The initial capital is to be £150,000, but when it is realised that such financial houses as the Rhodesian Anglo-American, the Chartered Company, Goldfields-Rhodesia, London and Rhod-

esia, the Selection Trust, the Central Mining and Investment (the Johannesburg "Corner House"), and the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company (Barnate Bros.) all have interests, it is seen that there will be no lack of further capital should it become necessary. Another good move is the reservation of a block of 50,000 shares to be subscribed for by individual residents in Southern Rhodesia.

The area allotted to the company comprises 9,000 square miles from Fort Victoria to the Portuguese border, and prospecting operations are to begin on June 1. This portion of the country, as is well known, is rich in small mines, but as yet few of the known reefs have been proved to extend to any considerable depth. The past handicap, lack of capital, has now been swept away, and with the technical knowledge at the command of the consulting engineers, the Rhodesian Anglo-American Corporation, it is presumed that the thorough methods of prospecting used by Loangwa Concessions, Ltd., in Northern Rhodesia will form the basis of operations.

ON June 20 a meeting is to be held at the London Offices of the Roan Antelope Copper Mines, Ltd., for the purpose of raising further capital, and the following resolutions are to be submitted:—

- (1) "That the nominal share capital of the company be increased to £1,500,000 by the creation of an additional 1,000,000 new shares of 5s. each."
- (2) "That this meeting authorises the Directors to borrow for the company's purposes up to £2,500,000."

The Company states that arrangements have been made for raising £1,500,000 of this last item, as 7% Debenture stock.

TO the layman an ordinary company's balance sheet is a never ending source of mystification, and it is therefore interesting to find that such an authority as Mr. Hartley Withers devotes a whole chapter to the misleading devices sometimes adopted, in "The Quicksands of the City" (Jonathan Cape, Ltd., 6s. net). As an authority on the inner workings of London finance, Mr. Withers needs little introduction, for he was City Editor of *The Times* from 1906-10, and Editor of *The Economist* from 1916-20, having, in the interim, published some twelve other books on the subject of finance.

Of the wayward tendencies of manipulators of shilling and other shares of a small denominational value, he has many sound things to say, and if one is inclined to think he is unduly sceptical, he makes up for this criticism in his penultimate chapter, "A Haven for Investors," in which, having finally dissected the piebald carcasses of various types of companies, he delves into more pleasant avenues, finally leaving the impression that although the City is generally not a bed of roses, there are, nevertheless, pleasant paths along which to stroll. To the investor, unskilled in the ways of professional operators, Mr. Hartley Withers has a definite message, and one that may unreservedly be taken to heart.

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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 post office has been opened at Kilindini Port.

A Battalion of the King's African Rifles has been withdrawn from Iringa.

Whisky to the value of £85,735 was imported into Kenya and Uganda during 1929.

The April output of Bwana M'Kubwa mine totalled 587 tons of refined copper.

A party of gramophone experts has been visiting Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar to record Native songs.

Galvanised iron imported into Kenya and Uganda during 1929 increased by £21,603 over 1928 to £129,412.

The new bazaar has been opened in Kisumu, all *dukas* in the old bazaar having been closed for sanitary reasons.

A site for a power station to supply electric light has been chosen at Nakuru, and work is to be started immediately.

A storage tank at Changamwe, Mombasa's water supply station, recently burst and allowed half a million gallons of water to escape.

Under the revised Customs tariff the import duty on bicycles into Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika has been reduced from 20% to 15%.

The Thunder Transport Company, Ltd., and Motor Necessities Syndicate, Ltd., have been struck off the Kenya Register of Companies.

Tanganyika's sisal exports during April totalled 2,928 tons, of which 1,883 tons went to Belgium, 318 to Germany, 303 to Holland, and only 122 to the U.K.

Indian demonstrators in Nairobi marched through Nairobi on Saturday last carrying banners bearing the words "Honour before Empire" and "Boycott Empire Day." Boys in an Indian school which has been affected declined to participate in a special Empire day celebration.

A new hospital is to be built in Dar es Salaam at a cost of £98,000, to be provided from the Colonial Development Fund. A maternity home and a college for training African medical assistants and sanitary inspectors is to be erected on an adjoining site at a cost of £20,000.

The advance Trade Report of Kenya and Uganda for 1929 issued by the Commissioner of Customs shows that the two countries spent £286,969 on hardware, £2,485,000 on cotton blankets, £55,689 on silks, £266,479 on 5,753,700 gallons of petrol, and £61,900 on 10,976 bicycles (of which Uganda took 8,650).

A decree of the Portuguese Government orders that while unemployment lasts, or until the end of 1933, all commercial and industrial concerns of any kind operating in Portugal and her colonies must engage only Portuguese or Brazilian subjects. It is provided, however, that foreigners already in employment may remain.

Messrs. Whiteaway, Laidlaw & Co., Ltd., made a net profit in 1929 of £91,226 compared with £92,158 in 1928. A dividend of 8% is paid, against 10% for the previous year. Mr. Mence Wilkinson said at the annual general meeting: "As our branch in Uganda was proving an unprofitable unit, it has been closed, and the stock and premises have been disposed of. The branches in Kenya Colony have contributed slightly more to the general result than they did a year ago."

The current monthly report of Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.) says: *Northern Rhodesia*.—Active mining development is being maintained. The mineral output for January was valued at £103,571. Maize declined to 10s. per bag. *Nyasaland*.—Trading conditions remain listless. Tobacco crops are expected to equal last year. Tea production exceeds the 1929 crop considerably. *Kenya Colony*.—In many districts the rainfall is 50% to 100% above normal. The installation of new machinery by the Magadi Soda Company, at a cost of £250,000 is expected to result in increasing the annual soda output to 100,000 tons. *Tanganyika Territory*.—Trade conditions are dull owing to the continuance of railway dislocation. Excellent reports are available from agricultural areas, and planting is on the increase. *Uganda*.—Money is particularly short owing to the slow-marketing of the cotton crop.

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<b>Kenya</b> —	
“A” sizes	72s. od. to 127s. od.
“B” sizes	62s. od. to 84s. od.
“C” sizes	45s. 6d. to 68s. 6d.
Peaberry	75s. od. to 137s. od.
London graded: —	
First sizes, pale and dullish	65s. od. to 74s. 6d.
Second sizes	61s. od. to 70s. od.
Third sizes	48s. od. to 65s. od.
Peaberry	73s. od. to 86s. 6d.
Mixed and ungraded	44s. od. to 56s. od.
<b>Uganda</b> —	
First sizes	65s. 6d.
Second sizes	51s. od.
Peaberry	64s. 6d.
Robusta	42s. 6d. to 47s. 6d.
London cleaned: —	
First sizes	70s. od.
Second sizes	50s. 6d.
Peaberry	64s. 6d.
<b>Toro</b> —	
First sizes	66s. od. to 71s. od.
Second sizes	54s. od. to 64s. od.
Peaberry	60s. od.
Brown and Pale	50s. od. to 65s. od.
<b>Tanganyika</b> —	
<b>Arusha</b> —	
London cleaned: —	
First sizes	55s. 6d. to 111s. od.
Second sizes	68s. 6d. to 73s. od.
Third sizes	55s. 6d. to 56s. od.
Peaberry	79s. od. to 101s. 6d.
<b>Kilimanjaro</b> —	
London cleaned: —	
First sizes	75s. od. to 92s. od.
Second sizes	59s. 6d. to 74s. 6d.
Third sizes	35s. 6d. to 52s. 6d.
Peaberry	74s. od. to 101s. 6d.

**Usambara** —

London cleaned	...	80s. od.
First sizes	...	61s. 6d.
Second sizes	...	43s. 6d. to 40s. 6d.
Third sizes	...	68s. 6d.
Peaberry	...	...

**Nyasaland** —

Ordinary pale	43s. 6d.
---------------	----------

**Belgian Congo** —

Triage	30s. od.
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London stocks of East African coffees on May 21 totalled 88,252 bags compared with 50,528 bags on the corresponding date of last year.

**OTHER PRODUCE**

**Chillies**.—The price is stationary at 55s. on a very dull market.

**Cloves**.—Firm, with spot quotations at 1s. per lb.

**Copra**.—No business passing, with prices down to £10 15s.

**Cotton**.—Business has improved, and quotations are up slightly to 7d., to 9 7/2d. per lb.

**Cotton Seed**.—The market is dull, with quotations at about 25 10s.

**Groundnuts**.—The market is dull, the current price being £15 7s. 6d.

**Maize**.—There is no demand, and for white and/or yellow 25s. 3d. is now quoted for June shipment.

**Sisal**.—Steady. For Tanganyika and Kenya No. 1 good marks, £20 10s. is quoted for May-July shipment. There are sellers of f.a.q. at £20 c.i.f.

**Tea**.—At last week's public auctions 358 packages of Nyasaland tea realised 10 3/4d. per lb.

**Wheat**.—There is little passing, but prices show a little improvement. Kenya Governor No. 1 is now quoted at between 36s. and 37s. 6d., according to sample; Marquis, 39s.; Equator, No. 1, 38s. 6d.; Equator No. 2, 37s.; and Durum, 34s.



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## PASSENGERS FOR EAST AFRICA.

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Mrs. L. M. Bearcroft  
Master M. Bearcroft and  
Nurse  
Mrs. C. C. Buckler  
Miss Buckler  
Mr. & Mrs. R. Burgess  
Miss P. Burgess  
Capt. & Mrs. H. H. Cowie  
Mr. W. B. E. Dalgairns  
Mr. & Mrs. M. Dards  
Miss J. E. Diapere  
Mrs. E. L. Feast  
Miss M. M. Francis  
Miss W. M. Franklin  
Mr. & Mrs. A. C.  
Freeman-Pannett  
H. W. Gauld  
H. D. Graham  
Miss H. Harrison  
Mr. A. E. Hill  
Mrs. E. F. Holmes  
Mr. & Mrs. W. Jesse  
Miss H. McCulloch  
Mr. & Mrs. W. R.  
McGeagh  
Miss McGeagh  
Mr. R. McKay  
Mrs. McKay  
Miss V. M. Mimpres  
Lt. H. W. Newell  
Mr. H. Ogden  
Mr. & Mrs. F. T.  
O'Meagher  
Mr. A. R. Paxton  
Mr. A. J. Price  
Mrs. Rodwell  
Miss Rodwell  
Miss M. St. J. Shelton  
Miss G. M. Cameron Young

*Marseilles to Mombasa.*  
Miss M. E. E. Clelland  
Col. W. H. Franklin  
Mr. & Mrs. W. S. Godfrey  
Mr. G. G. Graves  
Miss M. C. Heasler  
Lt. D. McKay  
Mr. McKenzie  
Mr. & Mrs. S. Morson  
Master W. L. K. Morson  
Mr. W. G. Reid  
Mr. & Mrs. W. T. Shephley  
Mr. O. E. Whitehead

*Genoa to Mombasa.*  
Mrs. B. Cordery  
Miss E. Cordery  
Mr. P. G. Pollard  
Mr. W. G. Waldron  
Mr. F. Waldron

*Port Said to Mombasa.*  
Mrs. G. M. Long

*Tanga.*  
Mr. R. H. Dearden  
Mrs. P. E. Higgins

*Zanzibar.*  
Miss E. H. Bremner  
Mr. E. H. Kellaway

*Dar es Salaam.*  
Mr. C. C. Burkill  
Mr. J. J. McN. Chawynne  
Mr. & Mrs. A. W. Drury  
Mr. C. J. Forbes  
Mr. W. H. Grose  
Mr. C. W. Hancock  
Mr. S. O. Limby  
Mr. & Mrs. D. K. Logan  
Dr. C. J. MacQuillan  
Mr. J. J. Manning  
Mr. & Mrs. R. E.  
Ponsonby  
Mr. & Mrs. J. T. Purvis  
Mr. & Mrs. W. Slade  
Miss M. S. Slade  
Mr. & Mrs. J. H.  
Willmott

*Marseilles to Dar es Salaam.*  
Mrs. Finoest  
Mr. W. Hockley  
Mr. C. H. N. Jackson  
Mr. B. Robinson

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Mr. J. R. Tile  
Miss K. Tile

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Mr. J. A. W. Vliegert  
Hart

*Genoa to Lourenço Marques.*  
Mrs. J. I. Van der Merwe

*Suez to Lourenço Marques.*  
Miss M. G. Peall

## EAST AFRICAN STEAMSHIP MOVEMENTS.

## BRITISH-INDIA.

"Malda" left Port Said homewards, May 23.  
"Madura" arrived Port Said for East Africa, May 23.  
"Modasa" arrived Beira for South Africa, May 22.  
"Ellora" left Mombasa for Bombay, May 21.  
"Karapara" left Seychelles for Durban, May 27.  
"Khandalla" left Beira for Durban, May 26.  
"Karagola" left Dar es Salaam for Bombay, May 27.  
"Karoo" arrived Bombay, May 24.

CLAN-ELLERMAN-HARRISON.  
"City of Bagdad" left Port Sudan for East Africa, May 24.  
"Clan MacDougall" passed Gibraltar outwards, May 21.  
"Gladiator" left Glasgow outwards, May 26.

## HOLLAND-AFRICA.

"Nykerk" arrived Dankirk homewards, May 20.  
"Jagersfontein" left Lourenço Marques for East Africa, May 20.  
"Nieuwkerk" arrived Durban for East Africa, May 18.  
"Grypskerk" left Rotterdam for South and East Africa, May 20.  
"Heemskerck" left Amsterdam for South and East Africa, May 20.  
"Springfontein" left Genoa homewards May 19.

## MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

"Leconte de Lisle" left Port Said homewards, May 25.  
"Chambord" left Diego Suarez homewards, May 23.  
"General Voyron" arrived Diego Suarez outwards, May 22.  
"Aviateur Roland Garros" left Marseilles for East Africa, May 23.

## UNION-CASTLE.

"Bampton Castle" arrived Algoa Bay homewards, May 24.  
"Chepstow Castle" arrived Natal for Beira, May 23.  
"Dunluce Castle" left Las Palmas for Beira, May 21.  
"Garth Castle" arrived Cape Town for Beira, May 24.  
"Guildford Castle" arrived Natal for London, May 25.  
"Llandaff Castle" left Dar es Salaam for Natal, May 25.  
"Llangibby Castle" left London for East Africa, May 22.  
"Llanstephan Castle" left Port Sudan for London, May 25.

## EAST AFRICAN MAELS.

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

May 29 per s.s. "Razmak."  
June 5 s.s. "Narkunda."  
"12" s.s. "Malwa."  
"18" s.s. "Leconte de Lisle."

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 June 2 by the s.s. "Leconte de Lisle," on June 6 by the s.s. "Moeltan," and on June 9 by the s.s. "Llanstephan Castle."

## 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 May 24 was as follows: Limuru, 3.6 inches; Kericho, 2.9; Songhor, 2.5; Nyeri, Koru, 1.7; Nakuru, 1.6; Lumbwa, Meru, 0.8; Kitale, 0.7; Kabete, Kyambu, Ruiru, 0.4; Turbo, Rumuruti, Naivasha, Nairobi, Machakos, and Ravine, about 0.3.

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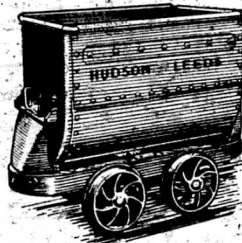
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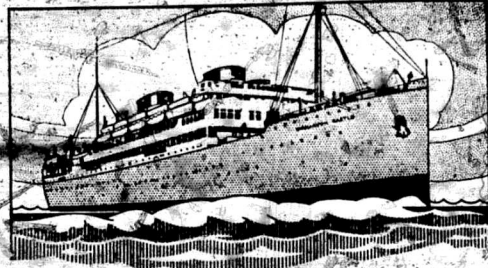
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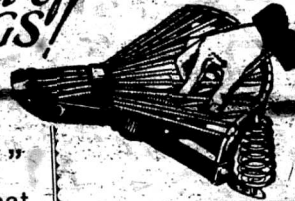
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