

# EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA

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## MATTERS OF MOMENT

WHAT POLITICAL MOTIVE lies behind the rejection by the Colonial Office of the plan for the reorganization of the cotton ginning industry in Uganda? This decision in London is diametrically opposed to that of the Government of Uganda, and the reasons for it ought to be made quite plain. Again and again in recent years Secretaries of State for the Colonies have told Parliament that the policy is to offer Colonial Governments all possible expert advice and guidance, and then generally to encourage them to make their own decisions in the light of local requirements. In this case there has been disquieting disregard of that principle, one which has been so frequently paraded for the approbation of the public. Yet the circumstances do not suggest good economic reasons for this use of the big stick. Will the Colonial Office deny that the plan submitted from Uganda seemed satisfactory to the Governor and his advisers, and to the delegates of the Uganda Cotton Association, and that it was sent to London with the endorsement of the Government of the Protectorate?

**Minister Overrides Uganda Government.**

Will the Colonial Office deny that it is the considered opinion of the authorities on the spot. For about a quarter of a century the cotton industry of Uganda has suffered from failure to reach decisions on matters of major principle. Commissions and committees have investigated and reported, and there have been periodic announcements from time to time about the need for re-planting, but the ginners have never been able to take action on the necessary scale because the authorities could never brace themselves to the major decisions from which alone the commercial interests concerned could resolve upon the heavy additional financial expenditure required for modernization. It is in regard to the modernization of the ginning industry that serious difficulties have occurred, partly as a consequence of Government policy, or lack of it, and the incentives. In the earliest stages the cotton growing in Uganda, the planter ginners were small and owned by British interests. Soon Asians entered the industry, rapidly and progressively expanded their stake in it and, it is freely admitted, often failed to reach desirable standards. Some Asian concerns have, of course, earned an excellent reputation, and the directors of some of them have co-operated wholeheartedly with the British

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**Quarter Century of Procrastination.**

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pean leaders in the formulation of plans for the modernization of the whole industry. Their influence upon their competitors has been of great and growing importance in the past year or two.

The former, Sir John Hall, told the industry earlier months than a year ago, after the publication of the Whitley Report, that if it did not set its house in order within three years the administration would itself have to impose a solution.

This challenged the association obtained the services as secretary of an able and experienced man from Liverpool, and, on his arrival at the beginning of last year, set seriously to work on the complete re-organization of the industry. In close consultation with senior officials of the Department for Agriculture a plan for the complete reorganization of the ginning system. The aim was to make basic which would involve the solution with suitable compensation of the mass antiquated or badly sited ginneries, and the regrouping and reconstruction of others. A committee was appointed by the Uganda Ginneries Association to negotiate with the Government. In order to obtain a factual analysis, Griffin Smith was appointed by the Government to act as representative of the industry and agree a formula. Within a year a scheme was agreed acceptable to the delegates of the Association and the Government alike and its official acceptance required only the formal permission of the Colonial Office.

A few weeks later confidence gave way to anxiety for which the association expected to be notified that the plan could proceed. The Financial Secretary and Director of Agriculture had suddenly Uganda View Rejected, to be sent to London by air, to en-

phasize at the Colonial Office the arguments which had weighed with the local Government. That really meant that there was obstruction in this country—almost certainly political obstruction. Not long afterwards the two senior officials had to make another visit. By this time the new spirit pervading the association was naturally under serious strain, and rumours began to circulate. Some thought that no reorganization was to be envisaged, that the principle had been rejected by the local Government. Some feared that the whole of the premature transfer of ginneries to the hands for whom two factories have been raised this season and to whose progressive participation there is, no

reason, provided only that the plan is decided by experience and proven competence, not theory. Europeans, Asians, and Africans are to understand, all supporting the Cotton Association's plan, which has the approval of the local Government. In other words, Uganda is not what is required is unanimous. Yet the Colonial Office rejects the scheme. Why? The full facts ought to be made known without further delay.

A NEWSPAPER which does not often get its facts wrong, and which we therefore refrain from mentioning by name, has asserted that it has long been known that the Commonwealth Relations Office has been more sympathetic towards closer union in Central Africa than the Colonial Office. If only that had been true, there might have been less procrastination in re-examining the case for closer association of the three British Central African territories. The truth is that long after Mr. Creech Jones, then Secretary of State for the Colonies, recognized the need for reconsideration of this problem, Mr. Noel Baker, at that time Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations, still held firm views against any such development. When Mr. Griffiths and Mr. Gordon Walker went to the Colonial and Commonwealth Relations Offices, respectively, they did not take long to agree that nothing could be lost and something important might be gained by an examination of the question of London by senior officials representing Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, and the Colonial Office. That investigation has been started this week—in we hope and believe an atmosphere of general good-will and good wishes.

## Closer Union in Central Africa

THE CONFERENCE on closer union of the two Rhodesias and Nyasaland was officially opened on Monday in London by Sir Percyvale Dunning, Permanent Under-Secretary of State at the Commonwealth Relations Office, and Sir Thomas Lloyd Permeant, Under-Secretary of State at the Colonial Office.

In addition to the delegates listed in EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA last week, the following representatives are taking part:

United Kingdom: Mr. H. BAXTER, Assistant Under-Secretary of State, and Mr. J. S. GANDEB, Commonwealth Relations Office; MR. C. E. LAMBERT, head of the Central African Department, Colonial Office; Central African Council: MR. A. E. T. BENSON, Chief Secretary to the Council (now Chief Secretary-designate, Nigeria); and MR. F. H. N. BARRY, Deputy Chief Secretary (Chief Secretary-designate).

PROFESSOR K. C. WHEARE, Gladstone Professor of Government and Public Administration at Oxford University, and formerly Beit Lecturer in Colonial History, will be present to discuss the independent constitution

## Notes By The Way

### Modern Elizabethan

COMMODORE WHITNEY STRAIGHT, who has just returned from his tour of B.O.A.C. bases in Central and Southern Africa, has for the typical personality which is customarily associated in the public mind with the typical chairmanship of a vast corporation. Indeed, imagination easily transplants him to the Elizabethan scene, for he has the *elan* characteristic of that period. The essential difference, of course, is that his mercenary qualities are linked inseparably with mechanical modernity. Twenty years ago, having just taken Moral Science Tripos at Cambridge University, he won motor races all over the Continent and soon afterwards made a name for himself in the air. In 1924 he started a number of civil aviation ventures and the name of Whitney Straight rapidly became known in connexion with high-speed monoplanes and other aerial marvels. He joined the Auxiliary Air Force as a pilot officer in the famous 601 (County of London) Squadron, and when war came he proceeded to establish yet another reputation—as a fighter ace. He was mentioned in dispatches, awarded the O.B.E., D.F.C., C.S.F., American Legion of Merit, and Norwegian War Cross (being the first R.A.F. man to land in Norway after Hitler's invasion, and being badly wounded). In 1944 he was appointed Additional Air A.D.C. to The King.

### To Salisbury in 24 Hours

LATER HE WAS SHOT DOWN over the Channel, but managed to land in France. While trying to slip across the frontier into Spain, he was captured and thrown into a concentration camp. Escaping on the third attempt, he reached England *via* Gibraltar. Subsequently he commanded the R.A.F. Transport Groups in both North Africa and this country. In 1947 he became managing director (chief executive) of B.O.A.C. and reached his present post two years later. Relaxation comes to this active man in the gentle pastimes of fishing and music. While in Southern Rhodesia's capital, he revealed that that city would be brought within 24 hours flying time of Britain as soon as an aircraft capable of handling the new Comet jet air-liner is ready next year, and that the successor to the Hermes, the new Bristol 175 aircraft, capable of seating up to 92 passengers and flying at a speed of 350 m.p.h., will operate at a lower seat-mile cost than any other aircraft on the African route. Air Commodore Straight says a good deal of the Rhodesias by flying in Doves and Vikings on the internal air-routes.

### "Nobso" Hobson

There has been paid by the *Northern News* of Ndola—the controlling interest in which newspaper has lately been acquired by the Rhodesian Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd.—to Mr. R. S. Hobson, editor of the paper in the past six years. When he started it in 1924, he had had no experience on the staff of a newspaper, but somehow he managed to be editor, sub-editor, printing manager, advertising manager, cartoonist, and everything else except book-keeper, the accountancy work being undertaken by Mrs. Hobson. The office and works were housed for a time in a dilapidated converted laundry, and the paper was printed on an old press which was not designed for newspaper production. Facilities were improved as revenue expanded, and a few weeks ago a linotype was installed. Mr. Hobson, who signed his cartoons "Nobso", and thus accumulated a nick-name which could scarcely have done more for the business, will retain a shareholding. His partner was Mr. Roy Welensky.

### Sir Lionel Fletcher

SIR LIONEL FLETCHER, who sailed on Tuesday in the MADURA to settle in the Arusha district of Tanganyika, first set foot in that country as far back as 1893. Large areas of East and Central Africa had then still not been brought under even elementary administration. Indeed, when he reached Nyasaland the rest of the Arab slave-raiders had been brought to book by force of arms only in the previous year, largely as a result of the courage of Mr. (later Sir) Alfred Sharpe—whose son, still resident in Nyasaland, married the only daughter of Sir Lionel's sister. For more than half a century Sir Lionel has thus had a keen and wide interest in the East and Central African territories, and for much of the time he has had a stake in the economic progress of some of them as a director of Dalgety & Co. Ltd., whose board he joined in 1932.

### Pine Shot

ANYONE FROM ANY of the territories who has ever shot at Bisley (where he won the Queen's prize in 1898) must have had personal proof of the enthusiasm with which he discharged his duties as president of the National Rifle Association. He shot for England in a dozen international matches, was in the Queen's and King's hundred on six occasions, and nothing which he could do to encourage the formation and development of rifle associations in the Colonial Empire has ever been too much trouble for him. I know with what pleasure he has followed the development of the movement in Southern Rhodesia and Kenya. There is room for improvement in Tanganyika, to which Sir Lionel may be expected to bring the right impetus, which may easily extend into other territories.

### Hopeful Approach

AS WILL BE SEEN from the letter on another page from Mr. S. V. Cooke, an elected member of the Executive Council of Kenya and a foundation member of the new Kenya Citizens' Association, that body, in which Europeans, Africans, Arabs, and Asians have set themselves to study Kenya's problems, has begun its work on the very basis which we have advocated as most likely to produce results. Perhaps other bodies in East and Central Africa will now try the same method, which has manifest advantages and no corresponding practical disadvantages, for even the delayed consideration of the most difficult problems will not represent loss, as success in tackling those in the first two groups promotes the growth of confidence and understanding, which would together exert a powerful influence when the time came to deal with what are meanwhile reserved subjects.

### C.R.O. List

IN AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION a sense of balance is highly desirable, and that is unfortunately lacking in the Commonwealth Relations Office List which has just been published by H.M. Stationery Office. For instance, whereas Southern Rhodesia's history and constitution receive less than a page and a half, rather more space than that is given to a description of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, and almost identical space to the Imperial Institute! Unnecessary prolixity in official publications has often been criticized in this newspaper, but this volume assuredly is not the other extreme. It contains much useful information, but could be greatly improved by judicious expansion.

# Demand for Inquiry into Groundnut Scheme

## Further Extracts from Overseas Resources Debate

**DURING THE DEBATE** on the second reading of the Overseas Resources Development Bill Mr. WALTER FLETCHER (Cons.) recalled that the scheme had started in an atmosphere of general goodwill and high endeavour, and that the differences had never concerned the objective, but the best methods of achieving the target; grounds for considerable criticism had been laid about the methods chosen. He continued:

"It is foolish to say that they were playing politics for the Opposition to criticize now, fed as they have been since the inception of the scheme with gross lies about the real facts, such as a pink veil of misquoting drawn between them and the facts. They would fail in their duty if they did not make these constructive criticisms."

Throughout every stage grave doubts were expressed whether the scheme would work in the Colonies. Grave doubts were expressed—and this is a very important point that has not been said sufficiently in this debate—about whether it ought not to have a scheme for greater use of the peasant proprietors and provision for their education. Many members on the other side of the House had, whether this Nation was going to be used sufficiently, named a phrase by the Minister to-day about how they had hope for the people of Africa, but at the same time throughout the period when this £36m. has been expended have there been more than 32,000 Natives employed in a country of several million.

### Gravest of Errors

"The gravest of all the errors in the scheme of the present Government for getting things in the wrong order, if they had come forward at the start with the scheme they bring forward to-day, and with an expenditure of £6m. for real pioneer work, if they had paralleled in the groundnut scheme what has been done for 20 years in Uganda in the production of cotton which is entirely in the hands of the Natives, if they had sought to learn from this experience, when it was recommended that they should do so, if they had regarded the scheme as a pioneering one, not so grandiose a scale, and there were many pioneers who told them so, and then later had come forward with an expounded plan to use greater sums of money for a scheme based on real experience, they would have been fully justified and would not have produced the disaster that faces us to-day."

"They talked entirely about an El Dorado for groundnuts. I thought El Dorado was a place from which one took gold and not a place in which to lose it."

"Many people were wise before the event. Having lived a good many years in East Africa, and having produced a large amount of groundnuts in East Africa in 1919, I and others with like experience pointed out that the use of Native proprietors was certainly one way of doing this job. Not only I, but others on this side of the House, in every single debate on this subject pointed out to the Minister what could be done."

### Minister's Vanity

"The real trouble has been the over-weening vanity of the Minister. That has been the root cause of the trouble—the Minister, as the paper showing him, glibly patting the side of the Government, going to pull non-existent groundnuts in East Africa, and the large amounts of groundnuts in West Africa were waiting for nothing to convey them. Throughout the Minister has been the villain of the piece, and I am very sorry for the Professor—who has inherited an egregious crop of errors far greater than the crop of groundnuts."

"All the way through we were given an entirely wrong picture. Beautiful rosy colours are so substitute for accurate drawing and a sense of perspective. What we never got for one moment in the groundnut scheme was an accurate drawing or a sense of perspective. A veil was always drawn over the facts by the Minister; time and time again we had this loss, and we went away with the impression that all was going well."

"We heard from the right hon. gentleman this afternoon that 18 months ago this same entirely unrealistic view was being taken; yet every member in the House with contacts in Africa in this scheme knew perfectly well that things were going about as badly as they could. The experience gained by the fiscal growers was being completely disregarded, and the question of ports and harbours was not being looked at realistically. We are being accused of taking political advantage of

this, but what was the Minister doing? He was trying to pull himself up so that his name should go down as having been responsible for a vast and grandiose scheme, which after the first six months never bore any relation to the relentless facts of African agriculture."

"The Government have been dragged along by this over-weening vanity and absolute refusal to look at the facts. After all the load-bearing of directors and senior officers, we have been provided with plenty of opportunity, when they came back to this country, to find out a few of the real facts about African groundnuts. There was never any question of the Minister being willing to learn, to go out there and come back and courageously say to the House—which this House always accepts—I have made mistakes; I should now like to go over this scheme again. 'No word!' Always this gloss was put on it."

"We have lost not only £36m. We have lost three or four years out of the lives of a great many devoted people who went to live and work in great discomfort and are now in the unhappy state of not knowing what their future is to be. And this is more serious loss is the opportunity of success in the first scheme for a joint endeavour between Government, local people, and business advisers to produce something new in African development."

"I spent a good many years in Africa, partly connected with the wheat industry, helping to draw up the first laws of the Uganda cotton scheme when they started, and I have had a certain amount to do with Colonial development. I am on record in the original debates and during the committee stage as wishing this scheme well in that it provided an opportunity for something new because a new phase is needed in Colonial development."

### Little Knowledge Gained at Enormous Cost

"I am grieved that we have gained so little real knowledge at such enormous costs. The proof of that is that we are to-day driven to considering as the last thing the pioneering work which should have been the first stage. All these experimental things which the Minister pleads are so important should have been carried out at the very beginning. 'More haste, less speed' is true in Africa than almost anywhere else in the world."

"The calculation of acreage of crop produced behind the ports is now reduced. What possibility is there of those and harbours being in any way economical or viable, if one does not use a harbour in the humid atmosphere of January at the rate at which it will lose efficiency and become obsolete, at the cost of keeping it going when it is not being used, must be extremely high."

"The bulldozer era is over. We are back to the hand-plough. I hope the right hon. gentleman will seriously consider the wisdom of getting the backing of an independent commission, which could not cause any serious delay and would restore the confidence which has been lost."

MR. GEOFFREY COOPER (Lab.) considered that there had been too much readiness to appoint to responsible positions in the O.F.C. "the sort of people who have had only civil service experience and therefore have none how to control an industrial undertaking. Other types we have been inclined to appoint to the public undertakings have been those who are very autocratic and overbearing, and are often little inclined to listen to the suggestions coming from their own staffs."

SIR PETER MACDONALD (Cons.) accused Mr. Shackley of deliberately misleading Parliament by concealing information in his possession during the whole period of his control, and said that he was unfit to hold any office under the Crown. He said: "I cannot put any fault in the Ministry of Food or the Colonial Office for the carrying out of this scheme. I know that the Colonial Office are very unwilling to take it on."

The Secretary of State for the Colonies indicated dissent.

SIR P. MACDONALD said: "I am convinced that it has been forced upon them. There is an organization to deal with matters of this kind, the Colonial Development Corporation."

MR. JOHN HYND (Lab.) said that the average crop of groundnuts this year was likely to be at least 850 lb. per acre. Yet it was "when we have got over the droughts, when we have accumulated the experience of the past, when we have demonstrated that we can conquer the bush, when we have evolved and accumulated the new types of machinery for dealing with this kind of problem, when we have laid down the harbours, railways, roads, towns and hospitals, and have trained the African labour and mobilized our own white labour, when the main capital expenditure has been laid out; that it is proposed virtually to abandon the scheme."

The £36m. should be compared with the £780m. a year used to subsidize home-grown food for the £150m. spent on the Tennessee Valley Authority.

If the O.F.C. could clear 40,000 acres this wet season in the Southern Province, why decelerate in future years to 15,000 acres?

He charged planners in East Africa with criticizing the scheme because African traditions of labour have been revolutionized by it, and the sisal planters, whose profits have been soaring, are very much disturbed at the result of this development and its effect on the existing low African conditions.

"So the political battle is on; but what surprises me, since it is so clearly a political battle, and since every member who has spoken in the House has emphasized that it is a political matter launched by the Opposition, is that the Minister has conceded to that pressure and is preparing to cut down on the scheme."

**Local Staff Want Inquiry**

MR. HENDERSON STUART (Cons.) declared, "I happen to know that if there is one group of people who more than another warrants full inquiry, it is the staff at Kongwa. I speak with some knowledge. Some of us went out a little time ago. I suggest to the Parliamentary Secretary that he would do well to get some information about the feelings of the staff, the leading executives there."

"At present the executive staff, to whom I pay the highest tribute, I have never met a more gallant set of men or men more imbued with the spirit of Colonial development are being upset by all this chipping, chattering, altering, false programmes and disappointments more than by anything else."

"Men in high positions are now leaving the corporation. Let us give them everybody else the facts. Everyone who had anything to do with the corporation appears to carry a great measure of blame, although a great many of them do not in fact carry any blame at all."

"I still have faith in the scheme if it is on a proper experimental basis, moving from stage to stage—for example, the French Government are doing in French Colonial Africa."

MR. BERGFORD CRADDOCK (Cons.) corrected an assertion that Africans employed on the scheme were much better paid than plantation labourers, surmised that agricultural officers in the Colonial Service were from the outset glad not to be concerned with the scheme, urged that the scheme should be abandoned and abolished; and that 10,000 acres, only in the three areas, should be used for purely experimental purposes.

"I should divide these 40,000 acres in each of the three areas into small *shambas* of 200 or 300 acres, engage a staff of the very finest agricultural scientists skilled in all branches of agriculture, and also a staff of first-class veterinary experts, and get them to pursue a real scheme of scientific research. The only way to develop agriculture in East Africa is to build on the very finest and soundest scientific basis."

"During the 20 years between the two wars I travelled and resided in many parts of the world. There are more difficult or strange parts of the world than the East African territories. One schemes, plans, and goes ahead, and then for no apparent reason everything goes wrong. It is one of the most difficult territories to operate. I do not believe that this scheme of 250,000 to 300,000 acres will be any more successful than the scheme has been in the past."

MR. JOYNSON HICKS (Cons.) emphasized that at the time the scheme started members relied upon the statements of Ministers, and when the then Minister of Food gave the explanations which he did give on the basis

of the Wakefield Report, they were assumed to be complete. But it was later discovered that that was not so.

"Subsequently it was found that various schedules and additions contained in the Wakefield Report were not published in the White Paper and were of such a nature that the knowledge of them would substantially have altered the views of anyone considering the report. Subsequently comment was made upon that fact."

MR. RANKIN: "Is the hon. gentleman alleging that they were deliberately withheld?"

MR. JOYNSON HICKS: "Yes—absolutely; they must without any doubt have been withheld. I do not think there is any question about it."

**Broken Promises**

MR. RICHARD ADAMS (Lab.) said that millions of pounds had been spent on roads, hospitals, schools, and other social services. That was a good social investment in a backward area. Private enterprise would never have had to face that expenditure, because private enterprise never went in for social development alongside its industrial exploitation.

MR. BERGFORD CRADDOCK: "Nonsense."

MR. ALPORT: "May I read from the book on the scheme by Mr. Allen Wood. In Kongwa a firm promise was made that priority would be given to building 1500 African married quarters by the end of 1948; but only 200 or so were ready. Once again Africans were saying that the white man had broken his promises. The houses were worse than those provided on the best sisal estates."

MR. ADAMS: "What is the effect of the work provided for the Natives in that backward area? What about paying out millions of pounds to keep away Communism?"

MR. HARRIS: "Rubbish!"

MR. ADAMS: "Members opposite may call this a costly failure, but if we with any vision of Colonial Empire development will learn from the experiment in social expansion. They will support the reorganization proposed by the Government and then, without any apology for the investment of this sum of money, march proudly into the future."

MR. EDGAR GRANVILLE (Lib.) referred to the previous speakers' Fabian fantasy and expressed regret that Mr. Morrison was to leave the O.F.C. board, for "I formed the impression that he was one of the really good men, one of the more responsible members of the board."

"Are the same men to remain at the top level and plan the level? Are the Ministers advising the Colonial Secretary, the men who make the estimates submitted tonight, the men responsible for the previous wrong estimates, for are the Government going to plan the men who should have been called in to advise the men who have had long experience in Colonial Africa to advise them on the sort of project they should now do it all?"

He hoped the Government would grant the requested inquiry.

**Capital Investment £200 per Acre**

MR. HURD (Cons.) said: "This Government does business in an extraordinary way. The shareholders, who have already lost vast sums, are asked to make a further investment without knowing what the new management propose to do or who they are. We, as trustees for the British taxpayers, are bound to insist for an impartial inquiry, as to what should be done in the future, bearing in mind what has happened in the past."

"The staff who stay on in Tanganyika should know that this House as a whole is satisfied after due, proper, and reliable inquiry that it is worth proceeding on certain definite lines in Tanganyika. They cannot know that so far."

"For what is this £6m. wanted? Kongwa and Urambo are super-equipped. No more capital expenditure should be required at either place. In the Southern Province the Government now say that clearing and development should go on until 1954, which will bring the cleared areas there to 60,000 acres. At the most two-thirds of that 60,000 acres will be cultivated each year. If the £6m. were to be applied to the development of that area, the cost would work out at £200 an acre as a capital investment. That is fantastic. The Minister suggested that perhaps only £4m. was going to be put into capital development in the Southern Province. Taking that lower figure, it means spending £100 an acre in developing this chancy land. We should not proceed without more reliable information."

(To be continued.)

# Low Productivity of African Labour

## Labour Commissioner in Kenya Suggests Nine Reasons

ONE FEATURE is common to all labour reports in Kenya—the steady, all-round improvement in housing provided by employers, including Government departments, for their African workers. Special efforts were made by the Labour Department during the year to obtain a higher standard of housing, and the results have been encouraging, not to say gratifying. Much permanent housing of good design has been erected in the urban and rural areas, and the quality of the accommodation provided by the Public Works Department and District Councils has improved to a very great extent. Contractors' labour was on the whole better housed than ever before.

While the ideal mobile house for gangs of employees who are constantly on the move has not yet been found and much use was made of tents, an important advance was made towards the solution of this difficult problem. In consultation with the deputy labour commissioner, a United Kingdom firm designed a portable aluminium hut with no frame, joints or girders, but built of individual pieces bolted one to another, no one piece weighing more than 10 lb. Hundreds of these huts are being imported by Government departments and other employers. The major objection to the hut lies in its cost, about £150. If the cost could be reduced this hut would go a long way towards a solution.

### Greatly Improved Social Amenities

Last year the provision of amenities was reported as having made great strides, and the same can be said again of the year under review. Sports fields and equipment—especially for football—schools, social halls, churches, shops, tea-shops and cinemas were amongst the amenities provided. This has led inevitably to closer contact between the employer and his staff, with resultant improvement in labour relations. Much more attention was given to this most important feature than heretofore, and any progress made is to everybody's advantage leading, as it must, to improved racial relations.

Output of work amongst the unskilled labour remained on the low side, but both the output and the quality of the work of some skilled workers received great praise, and in one growing industrial area the African's replaced the Asian artisan in the masonry and carpentry trades. The quality of cut-stone produced by African quarry workers, however, continues to receive my criticism.

Absenteeism and idleness in some rural areas gave cause for concern, but the majority of rural workers possess very little land and stock, and are still primarily interested in their possessions and affairs in the Native Land units.

The whole question of low productivity, short hours of work, and efficiency of the worker was the subject of close examination, and the following are certain general conclusions reached as a result of the examination of this problem and the experience of labour officers in the field.

In dealing with the efficiency of work, consideration must be given to the general background, i.e. the necessity or otherwise to seek pure labour as a means of existence and the effect that has on the general outlook towards work.

It has been contended that the fact that the demand for labour has always been in excess of supply means that there is virtually no economic compulsion upon the African to seek work. The sanction of the "sack" has therefore no significance, and an African whose outlook towards work is quite different from that of the European or the Indian, both of whose philosophies accept work not only as an economic necessity but also as socially desirable. Especially in rural areas many Africans prefer short hours and low pay to increasing their output of working longer hours on increased tasks. They place a higher value on leisure than on the additional economic return they could obtain by converting that leisure into cash.

With this background in view there appears to be nine reasons for low productivity—

(1) Experience in Kenya has shown that, even with bad conditions of employment, an employer who can maintain good relations with his workers and evoke a happy response

will never be short of labour, whereas his neighbour, who may conform to all the necessary standards of housing, feeding, and wages, will, if he has not the right personal attitude, always go short of labour.

This personal relationship, which in agriculture becomes more and more remote as industry as large organizations develop. In industry machinery is therefore essential to develop machinery to take the place of the direct personal relationship which can and does exist on most farms and other small undertakings. Such machinery will be found in estate councils, District Councils, staff associations, etc., right up to the level of the trade union.

### No Compulsion to Work

(2) The majority of Africans still own a certain area of land and stock in the Native Land units. This means that the African worker is never completely dependent on paid employment; he can give up his job and return to his home where he can enjoy a free existence, even if it gives only the barest economic return. He is not compelled to take up continuous work, and therefore he is very rarely worried about getting the "sack". Until the African worker is assured of as great a degree of social security at his place of employment as he is accustomed to in his own Native Land unit he cannot be expected to become a stable and contented worker.

(3) Employment in a town or even in an agricultural area often means that the African loses all contact with his wife and children for a considerable time. The average worker quickly discovers that his wage is not sufficient to maintain a wife and family near his place of employment. The urbanization of the African is in direct proportion to his earnings, as is shown by the fact that it is the skilled, and therefore more highly paid, worker who brings his family out of the reserve to live with him.

(4) There is a grave shortage of reasonable housing in urban areas, which means that the average employee must often pay a rental which is out of all proportion to the accommodation provided or to his earnings.

(5) There is a shortage of consumer goods at prices within the reach of the average African's earnings. The fact that everything that the African wishes to buy is highly priced must make him wonder whether the earning of money is worth while at all, and, if he decides to do without certain articles, he has no need to engage in any employment for long periods.

(6) If the African can be educated to appreciate the advantages of a higher standard of life, he will quickly see the need for increased effort in order to obtain the money to realize it. This desire for better housing, more consumer goods and social life will gather momentum, and of itself virtually solve the problem.

### Opening for Trained Africans

It has often been said that it is futile for Africans to acquire higher standards of education, because they will not find sufficient openings in either agriculture, industry, or Government. This is certainly not the case in Kenya, where the average employer is only too glad to employ trained Africans—but with emphasis on the word "trained".

(7) It is important to have a correct diet, and it is probable that to obtain the maximum efficiency from African labour exchange will have to be made from a cereal-consuming scale on in which meat is of major importance. Present research indicates that the meat-eating communities are capable of the most sustained effort. This change is gradually taking place, but its effects are of a long-term nature and must be keyed to a change in the agricultural economy.

(8) It is essential to have proper supervision of labour, which does not mean that somebody merely watches a worker performing a particular task. It is much more important that the worker should be given proper direction in the performance of his task. He should be taught the easiest way of doing a particular job and the importance of his task in the general organization of the farm or factory. It also often happens that a worker has little or no idea of the reason for his particular job, and that he has learnt the nature of his duties in a purely haphazard manner.

A good employer will consult his employees on any problems they have in the performance of their work, and will lead to the building up of mutual confidence which assumptions lead to the establishment of some sort of works or farm committee which will investigate all problems of production. Even simple supervision is helpful in that the worker, when realizing that the employer is taking an interest in the

daily tasks, will tend to devote himself to them with greater application. If so often happens that supervision is left in the hands of a foreman, who may even accept bribes from employers in order that they can escape certain work. Supervision should be directed to maintaining the morale of the workers in order that there should always be good harmony between him and the employer.

(9) The fact that large numbers of Africans have been moved from their normal places of abode to farms or towns has meant the necessity of providing the African worker with food and housing at his place of employment. Since in his own home food and housing have no economic significance, the provision of free food and housing at his place of employment has merely confirmed him in his attitude that he has a prescriptive right to them, and this has led to very considerable differences of opinion between him and his employer.

Food and housing account for sometimes half, sometimes as much as two-thirds of the cost of labour. In the opinion of the employer the cost of his labour has increased enormously during the past decade on account rather of the increased cost of food and the increased cost of materials for housing than on account of the fairly small increase in wages. The point of view of the African is that he is not interested in the increase in the cost of housing and food; whatever their cost to the employer, they are his by right. He has seen only a significant increase in his wage; and is therefore dissatisfied.

The time has come, it is considered in Kenya, when there must be a gradual move towards a consolidated salary, and, if local circumstances require the provision of food and housing, the full cost should be paid to the worker, who, in turn, should reimburse his employer with the value of rations and accommodation received.

Apart from the long-term advantage of educating the African in basic economics, there will be two immediate advantages: firstly, the African will see himself as a more important factor in the country's economy, because he will gradually come to realize that the cash element is only a significant part of his real wages; and, secondly, it will tend to reduce the apparent discrepancy between urban and rural rates of pay.

**Labour Relations in Industry**

New comers to the secondary industries of the Colony have had troubles in their labour relations, largely owing to lack of knowledge of Africa, the African and the language. On the other hand, they bring with them a background of United Kingdom industrial relationship, and are ready to discuss terms and conditions of service with their employees or their representatives which augurs well for the future—a very different attitude from that adopted by some of Kenya's "old-timer" employers.

Three extremely successful community centres have been established at Dundori in the Mururu district, Saboti in the Trans-Nzoia and Ndaragwa in the Thomson's Falls district, all of which are proving successful as centres for African farm workers employed in the Highlands. These centres, run under district council guidance, comprise dispensaries, tea-shops, markets, and shops for carpenters, bootmakers, and the like, and are beginning to be appreciated as a definite attraction to employment on farms in the vicinity.

Their success is attributable mainly to the courage, energy and enthusiasm of small groups of European farmers, who, with the assistance of African committees, administer these centres on behalf of the district council. While others are concerned, mention must be made of Mr. and Mrs. Hector Munro, of Dundori, Mr. J. F. Berkas, Mr. R. Bankeroff, and Mr. J. Anderson, of Saboti, and Major H. B. Sharpe, Mr. Augeraud, and Major General Fowkes, of Ndaragwa.

**Silver Jubilee**

The Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad will celebrate the silver jubilee of its charter on March 17, when the Governor, Sir Hubert Rance, will open the new sugar laboratories. On the same day Sir A. A. Burs, will open the new biological laboratories. In honour of the occasion a jubilee handbook has been produced giving a general and other information about the college, and illustrated with photographs of the station and of some of its principals and staff.

**Comments on Dr. Malan's Statement**

**Great Interest in East Africa**

FURTHER COMMENT has been made upon Dr. Malan's criticisms last week of British Colonial policy in Africa.

The Nairobi correspondent of *The Times* reported that great interest had been aroused throughout East Africa by the criticisms.

The African and Indian attitude is one of uncompromising opposition, with unqualified approval of the British Government's policy of self-government for Colonies as exemplified in the Gold Coast.

Mr. Mather, leader of the African non-official members in the Kenya Legislature, said that many would disagree with Dr. Malan's view that liquidation of the Commonwealth would result from the grant of self-government to the Gold Coast. Since the American revolution British policy had always been to develop Colonies within the Commonwealth if possible. Britain was rightly committed to this progressive policy in African and other dependencies.

Mr. C. Madan, Indian member of the Kenya Legislature and of the East African Central Assembly, said that the policies pursued by the South African Government were a greater threat to Commonwealth solidarity than the admission of non-white peoples to equal membership.

The *East African Standard* has expressed the hope that Dr. Malan's protest would lead to greater consultation between the members of the Commonwealth in deciding the direction of Colonial policy. In a plural society there should be local agreement about the path to be followed, but there was also a responsibility for overall development of an area such as the African continent, and no territory could be entirely a law unto itself.

South Africa was the senior partner of the Commonwealth in Africa, and Southern Rhodesia next among the members, added the *Standard*, and those two countries had every right to ask that the British Government should not follow policies in Britain which might expose them to dangers or undermine their security and stability. While South Africa remained a member of the Commonwealth, her claim to be considered in the fashioning of Colonial policy could not be disregarded, but if she left the Commonwealth she could have no such right to ask to be told what was being done in Africa.

The *Natal Mercury* has commented that Dr. Malan's remarks are representative of the confused thinking of the extreme section of the Nationalist Party and of no one else. He has made a public utterance which can only have the effect of provoking in the non-European peoples of Africa and the Eastern world against the white community of our land.

**Mr. L. S. Amery's Views**

In a letter to *The Times*, the Rt. Hon. L. S. AMERY has written—

The Government of the United Kingdom are fully, within their constitutional rights in granting complete and unqualified self-government to the Gold Coast. Dr. Malan may doubt the wisdom of such a step, but he would not claim a veto over our decision that we should claim a veto over his Government granting complete autonomy to the Transkei, with a longer tradition of self-government than the Gold Coast, as a consummation of the principle of open doors.

But British Ministers have no more right to promise full Commonwealth membership to the Gold Coast or to the West Indies than Dr. Malan has to promise it to the Transkei, or to Zululand. They can promise to sponsor either of them for admission, but the decision must rest with the general sense of the partnership as to the extent to which the candidate satisfies the qualifications which Dr. Malan has correctly laid down.

Speaking in Manchester last week, the Union Home Commissioner, Dr. C. Over, said—

Dr. Malan posed two quite simple questions: (1) Have the African Colonies and their inhabitants in fact reached that stage of development where they are fit for Parliamentary self-government? And if they have not, what would be the effect on Africa of granting them such self-government prematurely? (2) As the Commonwealth is now a group of free and equal members, and as the admittance of new members in future may still further affect the whole character of the group, should all the members not have an equal say in admitting such new ones?

Some 100 Labour M.P.s, headed by Sir Richard Acland, have tabled a motion in the House of Commons reaffirming confidence in the course of British Commonwealth and Colonial policy in the last five years.

## Racial Representation in Kenya — Imperial Institute Exhibits

### African Demand for Parity

A DEMAND that half the non-official members of the Kenya Legislative Council should be Africans has been made by the African members in political talks in Nairobi. They claim that Africans and not Europeans should have parity in representation compared with the other racial communities, and that the proportional basis should be the same as that recently approved in Uganda, where African non-official members are numerically equal to the Europeans and Asians combined.

The European non-official members of the Legislature hold that no changes in non-official representation are necessary, but support the Muslim claim for two seats and communal rolls of voters. They oppose any increase in Asian members, but state that they would agree to adjustments on the non-official side of the House providing that the parity between the European elected members and the total of non-official members was maintained.

The present constitution is, in the view of the European non-official members, justifiable in the existing conditions. No changes are suggested for the remainder of the term of the present Council, and minor adjustments might be agreed for the next. The Europeans would like to see discussions for a new constitution after that.

They contend that this new constitution should ensure the development and government of the Colony on the principles of the liberal traditions of western civilization, and permit the transfer of the direction of affairs to the people of the Colony to be progressively carried out. European leadership in association with representatives of the other races would be essential for a period the length of which it was impossible to state at the present stage.

### Character and Ability

Opportunities should be provided by such a constitution for the legitimate aspirations, economic and political, of all peoples living in the Colony, but it must be recognized that the advance of any people towards a full share in the direction of public affairs must be dependent on the character and ability of the people concerned. Those in authority locally must control the process, in which such a policy was carried out, and ill-considered pressure from abroad must not be allowed to influence its acceleration.

The inclusion of Africans on the Government side of the Council was urged by the deputation of the Kenya African Union in recent discussions with the Governor. Sir Philip Mitchell, who pointed out that such members would have to be appointed by Government and prepared to support it. He considered that other proposals for a system of public election of African members and a single roll of voters in the communities were impracticable at the present time.

According to a report of the meeting issued by the press, Sir Philip declared that for some time speakers at the recent meetings, including Mr. John Kenyatta, who was included in the delegation, had stated that as the Governor had already a firm in the system to which he expected to retire next year, some Africans had difficulty in believing that he could exercise impartiality in political matters. Sir Philip said that he was going to retire next year, but the British Government would like to use persons who were conversant with African affairs.

Kenyatta replied that Africans did not object to the Governor becoming a Kenya settler, but the fact that he had already a firm in the Colony before his retirement gave the impression that he would favour the European settlers.

### Preparations for Festival

DETAILS OF IMPROVEMENTS which are being introduced into the galleries of the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, in readiness for the Festival of Britain are given in the annual report of the institute for 1950. These include:

**East Africa.**—An exhibit illustrating roundnuts has been completed. One panel of the rayon display has been redesigned, and now illustrates effectively the various methods of manufacture, including extrusion, injection and sheet rolling, each method being demonstrated by means of coloured drawings and examples of finished products.

A Kikuyu head-dress, of black ostrich feathers, presented by the African community of Nairobi to the Duke of Gloucester on the granting of the charter to the city in April last, has been lent for display. A Kamba tribe wood carving, paintings, and photographs illustrating Indian education in Kenya have been received.

In preparation for the Festival, the East African Office in London has under consideration an extensive scheme for an entirely new display to occupy the East African Court. The scheme will include an electrically operated press button map showing the positions of the various industries in East Africa, and exhibits dealing with health, education, indigenous crafts, and ethnography.

### Tung Oil Display

**Nyasaland.**—The installation of the new Nyasaland Court has made good progress. A new centre showcase display a collection of agricultural samples received through the Commissioner in London. This case will also house the tung oil display and there will also be Nyasaland handicrafts, a handsome collection of which has just been received. A large screen is in readiness for scenic photographs from Zomba.

**Northern Rhodesia.**—A group of ethnological exhibits has been received from the Rhodesia Livingstone Museum. The cattle farm and copper mining dioramas have been cleaned and renovated. The selection of five glass screens for window transparencies in hand, and a mask silk banner bearing the badge of the Colony, is being made.

**Rhodesia Corporation, Ltd.**, has provided a specimen of cobalt ore and photographs of the Nkana mine smelter.

Carved wood figures and examples of basketware have been supplied by the Department of Co-operative Societies from which examples of rural craft from Barotseland are expected.

The diorama of the Broken Hill mine is still under construction in the studio and should be ready for installation this year.

**Southern Rhodesia.**—Action is being taken to secure good material from a Wankie Colliery display in time for the Festival.

**Seychelles.**—A grant to cover the cost of improvements to this court has been made by the Seychelles Government. The scheme includes a new diorama of Port Victoria, Mahor, and additional photographs. A number of exhibits from the British Industries Fair, including an attractive model of a cinnamon oil distillery and samples of basketware may also be available.

**Somaliland Protectorate.**—Most of the exhibits for an improved display have now been received, including a model of a Somali movable house with its furniture, and pottery and other articles used by the Esa and Gadabusi tribes. New window transparencies and coloured photographs have also been obtained.

A relief model measuring four feet by three and a half feet has been installed together with exhibits in connexion with the cotton, timber and sugar industries.



## Air Transport Council Meeting in Nairobi

SIR RONALD ROBINS opened the fourth meeting of the Southern Africa Air Transport Council in Nairobi, which was attended by delegates from the United Kingdom, South, East, West, and Central Africa. Colonel R. J. Muscatt Williams, Director of Civil Aviation in Northern Rhodesia, presided.

After West Africa had been admitted to membership it was decided to establish a Southern Africa Air Navigation and Ground Organisation to review requirements of all types of ground facilities and an Aircraft Engineering Committee concerned with airworthiness, licensing of engineering personnel, and similar matters. Among other subjects discussed were the plans of regional operators to provide for insurance against the cost of search and rescue and preparations for the introduction of Comet aircraft on the Springbok route.

### New Colonial Office

MR. DUNCAN SANDYS, Conservative M.P. for Streatham, has tabled the following motion in the House of Commons, with the support of 11 other members: "That this House requests the Minister of Works to arrange for a scale model of this proposed new Colonial Office building (on the site of the former Westminster Hospital) and other adjacent buildings to be publicly exhibited for a few weeks in order to give a fuller opportunity for the expression of public opinion regarding the suitability of the plans from the standpoint of size, height, frontage line, and compatibility with surroundings; and in the meanwhile to refrain as far as possible from incurring further expenditure on this project."

## Government and the Press

### Chief Secretary's Directive

THE IMPORTANCE of good relations between Government and the Press has been stressed by Mr. R. G. Stanley, Chief Secretary in Northern Rhodesia, who has issued the following instructions to all departments:

"The official channel of communication on matters of Government policy is the office of the Director of Information, who is responsible to the Government for maintaining good relations with the Press generally.

"It is, however, very desirable that all offices of Government should at all times assist the Press as far as it may be practicable for them to do so, and ensure that courteous and friendly relations are maintained.

"Heads of departments are at liberty to communicate to the Press any non-confidential information of a general character or any statement of approved departmental policy, and to give such background as may be necessary for the elucidation of any inquiries.

"Heads of departments should not, however, anticipate any plans or projects which await Government approval, and if they are in any doubt as to the extent of the information which should be communicated they should consult with the Secretary of the member concerned. Any statement implying criticism of bodies or individuals should be avoided."

Negotiations have been reopened between the Southern Rhodesian Government and Wyllyghby's Consolidated Co., Ltd. for the purchase by the Government of land surrounding Uvuna township. Earlier talks were broken off because of the disparity between the price asked by the company and the Government's valuation.

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# PERSONALIA

MR. and MRS. NOBLEY FARSON will leave April and May in Spain.

THE ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR left London for his last week in Cairo.

ARCHBISHOP H. STREICHER has completed 61 years residence in Uganda.

MR. R. L. PRAIN has been appointed to the board of the International Nickel Co. of Canada Ltd.

MR. DAVID A. TACKETT for five years editor of the *Ethiopian Herald* is visiting the United States.

SIR ALBERT COOK, the pioneer medical missionary to Uganda, celebrated his 84th birthday on Friday.

AIR VICE-MARSHAL S. C. STRAFFORD, Commandant-General of the R.A.F. Regiment, has visited Kenya.

MR. and MRS. J. KEMPLE of Gwelo, Southern Rhodesia, celebrated their golden wedding last Friday.

MR. WILLIAM RHYNS ISAAC completed 25 years service with the Uganda Co. Ltd. in the Protectorate on Monday.

MR. A. L. S. BRYDEN has arrived in Kenya to assume his duties as accountant to the Overseas Touring Co. (E.A.S.).

MR. E. C. S. DAVE, Director of Veterinary Services in Bechuanaland, has been appointed Deputy Director in Tanganyika.

SIR ROBERT HOWE, Governor-General of the Sudan, has presented a Corps Colours to the Western Arab Corps at El Fasher, Darfur.

MR. H. C. BIBBY, who recently visited Ceylon, will leave Kenya in the MADURA towards the end of April for leave in this country.

MR. STEWART ELLIS, after spending two years in East Africa, is returning to this country to resume his post with Messrs. N. A. Sparrow and Co., Ltd.

CAPTAIN I. H. MORTEN, representative in London of the Southern Rhodesian tobacco growing industry, will revisit the Colony later in the year, probably in June.

MR. EUGENE JUNGERS, Governor-General of the Belgian Congo, has accepted an invitation from the South African Government to visit the Union next month.

MR. N. B. TANNAHILL, of the Kenya administration, son of the late A. C. Tannahill and Mrs. Tannahill, of Nairobi, and Mrs. J. M. HOWY ROFT, of Gravesend, have been married in London.

COLONEL E. L. FANSHAW, until last year Comptroller of the Household at Government House, Salisbury, and MRS. MARGARET FANSHAW, have arrived in this country from Southern Rhodesia.

DR. M. A. K. DALGAMOUNI, Director of the Leprosy Section of the Egyptian Ministry of Health, has been deputed by the World Health Organization to assist the Ethiopian Ministry of Public Health in combating leprosy.

ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET LORD CROFTFIELD received the going as a reception given last week for overseas teachers from Great Britain under the exchange scheme devised by the League of the British Commonwealth and Empire.

MR. GORDON BAX has been elected chairman of the Nairobi Amateur Dramatic Society, vice Mr. K. LEWISON, who has held that office for the past three years. MRS. JOAN BURNERWORTH is hon. secretary and MR. WILLIAM COLE hon. treasurer.

MR. R. J. SMITH has been appointed Irrigation Adviser and Director of Irrigation and Mr. L. J. LEIGH Director of Irrigation (Departmental) in the Sudan. They will be stationed at Khartoum and Wad Medani, respectively. Mr. G. H. ALLAN, who has hitherto combined the functions of Irrigation Adviser and Consultant, will continue as Irrigation Consultant to the Government.

MR. W. H. CHINN, Social Welfare Adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, is on a visit to the East African territories, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland. He is expected to return by sea from Cape Town about the middle of May.

MR. E. GORDON WALKER, Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations, returned to London on Sunday night from a six weeks' tour of Southern Africa. He completed the tour of British Commonwealth Countries which the Minister has undertaken during the past two-and-a-half years.

THE REV. E. DOUGLAS MCKEY, principal Methodist Chaplain to His Majesty, has returned to the War Ministry after an extensive tour of the Far East and Middle-East Air Forces, which included visits to East Africa and Southern Rhodesia, where he attended the annual synod of the Methodist Church.

COLONEL SIR A. STANLEY AINSWORTH, relinquishing the chairmanship of Cable and Wireless Ltd., to join the Commonwealth Telecommunications Board. He will be followed in the chairmanship by MAJOR-GENERAL K. B. NICHOLLS, and MR. N. C. CHAPLING will be the new managing director of the Company.

SHEKEDI KALAMA, former regent of the Bamangwato tribe in Bechuanaland, sailed from Cape Town on Friday for this country, accompanied by his legal adviser, for further discussions with the British Government in connexion with talks which he has had with Mr. E. GORDON WALKER, Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations.

Recent visitors to the Northern Rhodesia Office in London have included MR. E. F. HARRIS, C.B.E. and Mrs. J. E. BLUNDEN, Mr. G. COOPER, Mrs. G. T. EVANS, MR. and MRS. P. H. HILL, MR. and MRS. A. W. HAYLEN, MR. and MRS. J. F. HURLEBAT, MAJOR J. G. S. LAWSON, MR. P. T. LOGAN, MR. J. P. SIMPSON, MR. D. M. TROTTER, MR. and Mrs. J. T. WATTS.

BRIGADIER SIR ROBERT ARUNDEL, Governor of the Windward Islands, who has left London by Grenada, accompanied by the Colonial Office Labour adviser, to investigate labour unrest on the island, visited his country of origin in Tanganyika in 1927 and later served in Nyasaland, Uganda, and the Somali Protectorate. His A.D.C., COLONEL KEITH STEWART, is suffering from a depressed fracture of the skull having been stoned by rioters.

The High Commissioner for Southern Rhodesia have a party last week at the Rhodesia House to welcome J. BRENNER ROSS, the new Official Secretary. Members of the Colony's delegation to the talks in London on closer union of Central African territories were present. Mr. Ross was born in South Africa and went to Rhodesia in 1928 to join the Native Affairs Department. On transferring to the Department of Justice, he became Magistrate and Civil Commissioner at Fort Victoria and latterly at Umtali.

## Obituary

MRS. A. M. JONES, who had lived in Kenya for 50 years, has died in Nairobi. Her husband was an engine driver on the Uganda Railway in 1895.

MR. LEWIS BOVIES LEWIS, formerly an assistant general manager of Barclays Bank, died at his home in Carmarthen on Friday.

MRS. LUCIE HOWES, wife of Mr. H. H. Howes, formerly of Nairobi, has died in this country.

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Parliament

# Questions in the Commons on Mr. Musazi's Detention

## Encouragement of Co-Operative Trading in Nyasaland

IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS last week the Colonial Secretary was asked by Mr. FRANK BROCKWAY (Lab.) why Mr. Ignatius Musazi was detained on arrival in Uganda from Britain on January 22; and what were the Uganda Government's intentions with respect to him.

Mr. GRIFFITHS: "I informed the House on January 31 of the circumstances that led to Mr. Musazi's detention. I am now glad to be able to say that the Government has decided, with my concurrence, not to deport Mr. Musazi, but to keep him under light restraint at Moyo, a township in the Northern Province of Uganda, where he will be able to be accompanied by his family and subject to reasonable conditions, to see his friends and acquaintances."

"The Governor and I hope that it will prove possible to help Mr. Musazi to realize that the Government policy and intentions are designed solely for the welfare of the people of Uganda. We hope that he will thereby become convinced of the desirability of working with, rather than against, the Government in the interests of the country and that it will then be possible to release him from all forms of restraint."

### Charge against Mr. Musazi

Mr. BROCKWAY: "Mr. 1950, the Minister, despite his use of the word 'detention', whether it is not a fact that Mr. Musazi has been deported to a northern province, and to a village on the Sudan frontier, by an order—a copy of which I have in my hand—which refers to the fact that he has been 'detained'. Can I say whether the charges against Mr. Musazi are not those of being part in the disturbances of 1949 when, in fact, he was in this country, and whether the Government do not now recognize that his organization is constructively aiming at building a co-operative organization? In view of those facts will the Minister reconsider his decision?"

Mr. GRIFFITHS: "I do not want, at this stage, to go over the past history of this case, about which I have already answered many questions in the House. The organization to which my hon. friend has referred is now showing signs of co-operating with the Government, and it is our very anxious desire that the co-operation should develop. It is my hope, for the reasons that I have given in my answer, that in the not too distant future it will be possible to remove all restraint upon Mr. Musazi and in view of that I would rather not rebash this matter."

Mr. S. AYLIFFE (Lab.): "Has the Colonial Secretary received any evidence from non-official European sources in Uganda supporting the detention of the Government? Is it not a fact that the Bishop of Uganda and other leading Europeans have expressed confidence in Mr. Musazi?"

Mr. GRIFFITHS: "I do not wish to go into the history of this matter."

Mr. J. RANKIN (Lab.): "Is the Minister aware that the Opposition Party, which represents a considerable section of opinion in this country, has made inquiries into this business and finds that Mr. Musazi is completely vindicated?"

Mr. GRIFFITHS: "This matter arose quite a considerable time ago. There was an inquiry, and the findings of the inquiry were accepted by my predecessor. That was announced in the House, I say again, that I think there is a possibility of this matter ending satisfactorily. That being so, I prefer to say that I do not want to pursue it any further."

Mr. GRIFFITHS: "In view of the only partially satisfactory answer I have to give notice that I will raise the matter on the adjournment and further notice will take advantage of the Ten Minutes for the purpose of introducing a Bill without these Hiterian and Gitanian people's incorporation from a denial of Government."

Mr. EDEN (Cons.): "Does the Colonial Secretary think that extraordinary description of his words?"

Mr. GRIFFITHS: "No, sir, but you may say that I am myself examining not only in Uganda but in all Colonial territories, the policy of 'detention'."

Mr. J. RANKIN (Lab.): "To what extent it was the policy of His Majesty's Government to encourage co-operative trading in Nyasaland?"

Mr. GRIFFITHS: "It is the policy of His Majesty's Government to encourage the development of all forms of co-operative enterprise in Nyasaland, as in other Colonial territories. At the end of 1949 there were 31 consumers' societies in Nyasaland and since then seven further societies have been established in the Northern Province. A union of the Northern Province societies to import certain consumer goods has been formed. My adviser on co-operation recently spent three weeks in Nyasaland."

### Co-Operative Store Closed by C.A.C.

Mr. RANKIN (Lab.): "Is the Colonial Secretary aware that the Kote Co-operative Store at Mzuzu has been closed slowly by the Colonial Development Corporation after the corporation had invited it to trade? Can he say if the Nyasaland Government made any protest about the matter to the corporation?"

Mr. GRIFFITHS: "I have no information about it. My hon. friend will put the details to me in the form of a question. I will do my best to give an answer."

Mr. GRIFFITHS: "I did try to put the details to you but they were lost by the Table."

Mr. GRIFFITHS: "If my hon. friend will refer to me about it, I will then write to him."

Mr. A. LENOX-BOYD (Cons.): "Arising out of the fact that the Colonial Secretary has this illustration to reopen once more the matter of the admissibility of questions about the Colonial Development Corporation and the Overseas Food Corporation?"

Mr. P. SMITH (Cons.) asked the Colonial Secretary whether it was his duty to encourage and to assist students who are married to bring their wives with them when studying in Britain; and whether his policy in that respect was the same for West Indian as for African students."

Mr. GRIFFITHS: "The answer to both parts of the question is yes. I am in consultation with Colonial Governments about certain practical considerations affecting the implication of this policy."

Mr. GRIFFITHS: "Is the Colonial Secretary aware of the hardship which arises as a result of students who have come to this country finding on their return to the Colonies that their routes has altered so much that it is rather difficult to live with their former wives? Will he give sympathetic consideration to this matter?"

Mr. GRIFFITHS: "I am aware of that consideration, and I am sympathetic to the project put forward."

### Wardens for Coloured Students' Hostels

Mr. AWBURY (Lab.) asked what steps were being taken to ensure that the warden in charge of the Colonial students' hostels possessed the qualities needed to enable them to carry out their tasks satisfactorily?

Mr. GRIFFITHS: "The British Council are responsible, under my general direction, for the administration of the hostels and the appointment of the warden. In the selection of warden consideration is given to experience in dealing with Colonial students and in handling a student of similar community, administrative ability, and to the quality of sympathy, tact and tact. Confirmation of the appointment is subject to the satisfactory completion of the probation period."

Mr. A. DONNISON (Cons.) asked what lease at Kongwa developed by the Overseas Food Corporation was leased from the Tanganyika Government; what restrictions operated against sub-lease by the corporation to another party; and what applications had been received by the Tanganyika Government to sub-lease it in the event of the corporation reducing its activities.

Mr. GRIFFITHS: "The land developed by the corporation at Kongwa is leased from the Tanganyika Government and may not be sub-let without the consent of that Government. No application has been received to sub-lease land at Kongwa in the event of the corporation reducing its activities."

Mr. DONNISON (Cons.): "Has the Tanganyika Government in any past year been given a chance to make application to take over this area?"

Mr. GERRITS: "I know. The right of the letter is subject to the consent of the Tanganyika Government."  
 Mr. A. B. ALBERT (Cons.) asked how much land had been leased in the Tabora district of the Western Province of Tanganyika for agricultural purposes within the last 2 months; and what crops were likely to be planted on the land.  
 Mr. GERRITS: "No land has been so leased in the Tabora district within the last 12 months."

Mr. DODDS-PARKER asked the Colonial Secretary whether he would arrange to send out to East Africa demonstration units of road and railway vehicles for the cold storage carriage of foodstuffs, using the latest equipment, including eutectic tanks.

Mr. O'NEILL: "This would be a matter for the transport authority in East Africa. Their view, I understand, that an experiment of the lines suggested at the expense of public funds, is not considered justifiable at the present time."

Mr. DODDS-PARKER: "Is it not a fact that refrigerating activities in Kenya are already nationalized, and would it not be as well to try to get them to nationalize-to-date equipment?"

Mr. WALTER FLETCHER (Cons.): "Should not the result mate word of this question be 'eupenic'? If that is the case would the Minister have one put into the library, so that hon. members who are suffering from indigestion can study it?"

Mr. GERRITS: "I understand that the right word is 'eupenic'. It is containers which are filled with dry ice and when placed within a closed vehicle extract heat and so lower the temperature."

Mr. C. ALBERT (Cons.) asked what progress had been made in completing the geological survey of the Southern Province of Tanganyika.

Mr. GERRITS: "I understand that since 1948 about 17,000 square miles of this province have been covered by geological reconnaissance survey and that a detailed survey has been made of about 160 square miles in the coalfield area. I am asking the Governor whether this information can be amplified."

## African Voters in Rhodesia

Criticism of the Electoral Amendment Bill recently enacted in Southern Rhodesia has been made in a letter to *The Times*, signed by Mr. Arthur Creech Jones, former Secretary of State for the Colonies, and by two Labour peers, Lord Rannison and Lord Lindsay of Birkenhead.

The Bill, they write, "raises the income qualification for the franchise from £100. to £240 and the alternative property qualification from a value of £150 to £500, the latter figure being adopted during the passage of the Bill in place of the £300 originally proposed. In addition, the applicant for registration must be able to read and write in the English language, and his ability to do so may be tested by the Managing Director."

"When this Bill was proposed, African opposition was immediately aroused. The *Native Mirror* stated on February 17, 1951: 'There are hardly a dozen Africans earning as much as £240 a year. The Southern Rhodesian African National Congress stated that the income qualification would be beyond the means of nearly all African teachers and all African ministers of religion and that the holders in the Native Purchase Area did not earn as much as £300 for their plots.'

### African Seats Confirmed

"African fears were confirmed by the Minister of Native Affairs himself, who was reported in *EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA* (January 1951) to have said that when additional Parliamentary seats were introduced, Africans would secure 1,500 voters before they could obtain their own constituency, and added: 'That will not be during my lifetime, nor for any children.' The 200 Africans on the voters roll are to remain there, but it is obvious that practically no other can now qualify for the common franchise."

"Apart from the undertones of racial discrimination in the Bill, the increase in the income and property qualifications is clearly repugnant to democratic thought and modern practice. The Southern Rhodesian Parliament has endeavoured to pass this discriminatory measure on its own responsibility, and no such distinction is made in the voting between Africans and Europeans. The franchise is available equally to all citizens of all races, and the necessary qualifications. Otherwise the Bill would have been subjected to disallowance by His Majesty the King, acting on the advice of the Ministers of the United Kingdom."

"We wish to draw attention to this unhappy measure because it offers final proof that the original intention of the constitution of 1923, which granted general responsibility to Southern Rhodesia in exchange for the discriminatory laws relating to a minority group full political power in the belief that democratic progress is thereby advanced."

## Rhodesia's Railway Plans

### Statement on East Coast Survey

FUTURE RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION was the subject of a recent statement in the Southern Rhodesian Parliament by the Minister of Transport, Mr. G. A. Davenport.

In order to determine which of the various routes would best suit the Colony, he said, the Economic Co-operation Administration was asked by the Portuguese and Southern Rhodesian Governments to carry out surveys to the east coast.

Until recently, both the Rhodesian and the British Governments thought that E.C.A. was interested in the project, and prepared to carry out the survey. Since the Johannesburg conference last year, however, certain conditions had been imposed which were not entirely acceptable to the Rhodesian and Portuguese Governments. They had therefore decided not to pursue the matter, but to undertake the financial responsibility for the survey themselves.

Nevertheless, it was still advisable for Rhodesia to obtain independent advice, and accordingly the United States Government had been asked to nominate a consultant to undertake the work.

"We hope it will be possible to proceed with the survey in the near future," added Mr. Davenport, "and that the United States will co-operate to enable the connexion between West Nicholson and Beit Bridge, and thence to Lourenco Marques, to be investigated thoroughly. This co-operation was promised by the United States Minister of Transport when the application to E.C.A. was made, and there is no reason to doubt that he will support the project on the new basis."

The survey would enable the Government to determine the best rail connexion: that between West Nicholson and Beit Bridge; between Bannockburn and Pafuri and direct to Lourenco Marques; or by doubling existing the tortuous section of railway line between Umtali and Macocoe and directing additional traffic to the enlarged Beit Bridge.

### Transport Problems

A survey was by no means the most difficult part of constructing a railway line. The complete picture of transport in Rhodesia had to be considered, including requirements of the existing system in the way of track, renewal, sidings, marshalling yards, and extensive new rolling stock. A connexion between Bannockburn and Pafuri alone would cost between £5m. and £6m. Availability of materials and railway labour shortages were other problems.

Construction of a railway link between Sinoia and Kafue had been ruled out as far back as 1920. In more recent times commitments had been appointed to report on this, and now the Government had set up a planning committee to consider all projected developments in the Colony which would affect the rail system. A parallel committee would study Northern Rhodesia, and the railways should thus receive a clear outline of necessary development during the next five years.

The Southern Rhodesian Committee, which this month submit to the Higher Authority their recommendations on the Sinoia-Kafue link, so that a directive might be given to the general manager to proceed with a point-to-point survey. The net result of construction of this route might well be the direction of all Northern Rhodesian traffic to Beira, which the Portuguese Government would thereby be influenced to expand further.

During the imposition of the curfew at Beira last year, added Mr. Davenport, there had been a general diversion of goods to South African ports, resulting in congestion on the Mafeking line. Capacity of this line was being steadily developed, and with the engine-power at present available some 55,800 tons of traffic were being brought monthly in that way. This figure could probably be increased to 120,000 tons.

The Cape of Good Hope or another route on the west coast were made at the Johannesburg conference, where it was decided that when the Government was in a position to submit specific proposals, the Administration would co-operate and offer assistance.

Railway surveys were also proposed in the Umtali area, which being proved to be in sufficient quantity and of suitable quality, it would be the Government's policy to encourage construction of a short rail line between the coalfield and the line between Beit and

*Letters to the Editor*

**Estate Council of Elders  
Experience of Dwa Plantations**

To the Editor of EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA

SIR, It may interest your readers to hear that this company has for many years had in existence an Estate Council of Elders, the general object of which is to create some Native body with authority with whom matters affecting the Native employees can be openly and frankly discussed. This Estate Council of Elders has lately become a much more live and important body, and the following is a brief summary of its activities during the past year:—

The council, consisting of from 12 to 15 members, with a chairman, vice chairman and secretary, represent the main tribes employed on the estate in Kenya, although the management expresses the wish that tribal prejudices should be avoided.

Five meetings of the council were held, and the matters discussed included the supervision by the council of maize growing by the employees between the real crops; the prevention of fire-raising, either deliberately or carelessly in the camp or on the plantation; the cleanliness and orderliness of the camp, including the education and parental care of the children, the care of the proper use of latrines, the ejection of prostitutes from the camp, and the detection and prevention of petty stealing.

In addition to the above matters, all initiated by the management, the council at its own suggestion dealt with amenities in the camp, various travelling facilities for those employees leaving the estate at the expiration of their contracts, and sport. The company encourages

football and athletics by the Africans, and a European member of the staff spends some of his spare time in this encouragement.

Yours faithfully,

S. R. HOGG,  
Chairman,  
Dwa Plantations, Ltd.

River Plateau House,  
Finchley Circus,  
London, E.C.2.

**Kenya Citizens' Association  
Inter-Racial Discussion**

To the Editor of EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA

SIR, I was very glad to read your leading article on the newly formed Kenya Citizens Association. It was formed so that members of all races, instead of slanging each other from platforms, could get quietly together and discuss their difficulties.

We have divided our problems into three parts: (1) those upon which we all agree, (2) those upon which agreement could be reached in the near future, and (3) those upon which we agree to differ, in the hope that a solution will be reached under the moving influence of the years.

So far the Association is in its infancy, and it will no doubt encounter many difficult hurdles. But we believe that with good-will, tolerance, and the determination to face facts, we shall succeed. Already a meeting of the editors of the Kenya newspapers (including the vernacular) has borne fruit, and last Sunday three of our European members attended a large public meeting of Africans at which Mr. Jomo Kenyatta made a speech of great courage and ability.

Yours faithfully,  
Kenya Colony,  
Nairobi

Yours faithfully,  
S. V. COOKE

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## Overseas Resources Development Bill

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS has been considering in committee the Overseas Resources Development Bill, which transfers from the Minister of Food to the Secretary of State for the Colonies responsibility for the Overseas Food Corporation.

After the clause covering the transfer had been agreed without a division, several amendments to the Bill were considered. Sir Richard Acland (Labour) moved that the Corporation be charged with the duty of "making experiments in the co-operative social organization of communities of African producers."

He was supported by Mr. A. D. Dodds-Fraser (Cons.), Mr. J. Rankin (Lab.), Mrs. A. Lennox-Boyd (Cons.), and Mr. C. Alport (Cons.). In reply, Mr. Griffiths, the Colonial Secretary, pointed out that what the amendment proposed could be done under the existing powers; moreover, the Colonial Office encouraged in every possible way the growth of co-operation. The amendment was then withdrawn.

Clause 2 (banking clause) next moved an amendment which would, he said, begin the winding-up of the Overseas Food Corporation. Since that body did not contemplate embarking on any further schemes in East Africa or anywhere else, it could surely be closed down within a reasonable time-limit.

### Groundnut Scheme Could Be Handed Over

Mr. A. Lennox-Boyd said in support that the scheme could be handed over to the Tanganyika Government, the High Commission, the Colonial Development Corporation, or even to private enterprise. The Conservatives, he added, did not want this burden because we know that in a few months time we shall be ministers ourselves.

The Colonial Secretary replied that he had considered whether the C.D.C. should run the reduced scheme, but believed it best to maintain the Overseas Food Corporation for the purpose. The amendment was defeated by 193-172. Another proposal by Mr. Lennox-Boyd that the board of the O.F.C. should consist of chairman, deputy chairman, and more than 10 members, was defeated by 193-162.

J. De SOALE, MINISTER OF STATE FOR COLONIAL AFFAIRS, said that the Colonial staff might be reduced to below 70. Compensation would amount to six months' salary or four months' salary plus leave, whichever was the greater. Employees of Earth Movers and Construction Co., Ltd., subsidiary, would be dealt with in accordance with the terms of their individual fixed-percentage contracts.

Mr. James McADAM, a member of the corporation, would receive £4,000 (full year's salary) and an annual pension of £620. Sir Donald PEARCE, deputy chairman, had been seconded from a Civil Service appointment, and no question of compensation arose. CAPT. CROOKSHANK said that the Opposition might raise the question again.

## Tribal Sculpture

MR. WILLIAM FITZGERALD, of the Department of Ethnology in the British Museum, told the Royal Society of Arts in a recent address on Tribal Sculpture in the British Colonies that East Africa was almost devoid of sculpture, and represented in the forthcoming London exhibition of traditional art of the British Colonies only by a single mask from Tanganyika. Later in his address Mr. Fitz said: "There are two senses in which we may look for mystery in primitive art. There is the mystery of the detective story, the search for the origins and the functions of a given piece of style, or, say, of an explanation of the extraordinary absence of sculpture among the many tribes east of the Great Lakes—except the Makonde of Tanganyika, who thus have the honour of representing East Africa in the exhibition." In another passage he refers to ambisexuality or a sexuality in African religion, and the hermaphrodite figures occasionally found in art. But of still more widespread interest are the so-called Yanus heads which are found throughout the art of Africa from the Gulf of Guinea to the Indian Ocean. In the great majority of cases the fact that one head is male and the other female is clear from differences of colour and features. The proper study of this mythical conception, in the light of African thought categories would be of the greatest interest.

## NEWS ITEMS IN BRIEF

Smoking has been banned on municipal buses in Southern Rhodesia's capital.

A sergeant of the B.S.A.F. was killed recently near Gwelo when thrown from his horse.

A church for all denominations is to be built at Shomon Falls in Kenya at a cost of £2,000.

There are 40 vacancies in the nursing staff in Tanganyika out of a total Government establishment of 130.

Rights of occupancy of agricultural land issued in Tanganyika in 1950 numbered 210, covering 328,200 acres.

A report on the first conference of Colonial Government statisticians has been published by H.M. Stationery Office at 9s.

This year's congress of the Rhodesia National Farmers' Union will be held at Bulawayo from July 17 to 19.

In a total of 10 cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis in the Durban Province of the Sudan 63 cases, of which 102 were fatal, have been reported.

The first time soil localities in the West district of Kenya passed their target rates in soil conservation work in the year ending in 1950.

Questionnaires have been issued to every potential voter in Zanzibar with a view to deciding the most suitable electoral system for the Protectorate.

A standardized Braille alphabet to serve 2,000,000 blind persons in Asia and Africa has been agreed at a Unesco conference just concluded in Beirut.

The number of cattle owned by the Cold Storage Commission of Southern Rhodesia which died during 1950 was 3,257, representing 0.87% of the total number handled.

Nearly £70,000 have now been given to the prospective University of Southern Rhodesia. In addition, Salisbury Council has presented a site valued at £200,000.

### Cost-of-Living Allowances

Temporary allowances to Government servants have been granted in Zanzibar and Uganda respectively of 10% and 15%, with a maximum of £100 per annum in both cases.

A gift of 6,000 square metres of land in Addis Ababa has been made to the Indian community by the Emperor of Ethiopia to celebrate the first anniversary of the Indian Republic.

Eric Edward Johnson and John Rouillon, who had been remanded in Fort Jesus, Mombasa, after escaping for two days, were recaptured by the police when swimming across the creek.

A cost-of-living survey being carried out by the Northern Rhodesian Government, with the co-operation of 2,000 householders. They keep detailed records of their expenditure, and are paid four guineas per family; the survey will take a year to complete.

A Sudan mechanical transport football team beat the Egyptian irrigation team by three goals to two in the final of the Dunlop Cup. The Governor General, Lady Howe, and several Ministers were present at the Omdurman Stadium, where a crowd of 17,000 watched the game.

Reductions in the death rate and the infant and maternal mortality rates in Uganda are shown in the annual report of the Medical Department for 1949, which has just been published by the Government Printer, Entebbe, at 2s. Between 1948 and 1949 the rate of births per 1,000 has fallen from 27.6 to 24.5, but the infant mortality rate, defined over the same period from 191 per 1,000 to 69.5 (maternal mortality dropped from 13.5 to 4.7 in 1948 (figures for 1949 are not shown). The death rate in 1930-34 was 20.1 per 1,000 and in 1949 12.3.



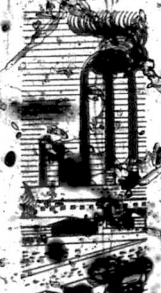
**ASPHALT:** A local legend at La Brea, Trinidad, describes

how the famous pitch lake was once the site of an Indian village. The villagers offended the local deity by their persecution of the heathening gods (which were animated by the souls of dead Indians) and as a punishment they were engulfed in the pitch lake with all their belongings.

In 1595 when on his ill-starred expedition to South America in search of El Dorado, Sir Walter Raleigh called at Trinidad. He made use of the pitch for caulking his ships and reported that he found it to be an excellent wood tar, an opinion which has since been endorsed by mad makers in Great Britain and in many other parts of the world.

Full and up-to-date information from our branches in Trinidad on market conditions and industrial trends in the island is readily obtainable on request. Please write to our Intelligence Department at the address given below.

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## Of Commercial Concern

The Overseas Food Corporation announces that 59,000 acres had been planted in the East African scheme by the end of February out of a target area of 64,000 acres. At present 5,100 acres are under groundnuts, 3,600 under maize, and 3,100 under sorghum. The corresponding figures at Orange are 24,800, 42,600, and 2,700, and for the Southern Province 4,700, 1,900, and nil. A further 1,000 acres are devoted to experimental plantings of subsidiary crops, including soya beans, cotton, hemp, rice and tobacco.

The Uganda Electricity Board in their trading account for 1950 show a 980 excess of income over expenditure, compared with a deficit of £5,107 in 1949. No allowance is made for depreciation of fixed assets or redemption of loans, and only £300 are charged as share of the head office administration expenses. Expenditure per unit was 20.6 cents or a shilling against 22.5 cents in the previous year.

### Kenya Cement Factory

Lord Sempill, a director of Industrial Cement, Ltd., has arrived in Kenya to complete arrangements for a cement factory at Sullivan strand which is expected to cost £1,000,000. Initial output is estimated at 100,000 to 150,000 tons per annum, with a labour force of 200 to 400. East African consumption is at present about 200,000 tons a year.

Corn Line Steamers, Ltd., announce that a scheme is under consideration involving a reorganization of the group of companies of which Corn Line is the principal operating company. It is hoped that details of the scheme will be issued to stockholders in the course of the week.

An air parcel service within the East African territories at 75 cents of a shilling per lbs. above the normal airfreight postage is announced by East African Posts and Telegraphs from the beginning of this month. Such parcels cannot be accepted for insurance.

Imwar, Ltd., Bulawayo have been given the local agency for handling the processed products of the Cold Storage Commission in Southern Rhodesia, whilst those for export will be handled by Carters Merchants, Ltd., London.

Messrs. Dalgety and Co., Ltd., report that majorities of 88% and 91%, respectively voted in favour of the scheme in connection with the 41% and 4% irredeemable debentures at the meeting held last Thursday.

### London Tea Market

The opening of the London Tea Market, scheduled for April 2, has been postponed until April 16 owing to delays in the shipment of tea from Eastern producing countries.

A £10,000 building, with three storeys and roof-top storage, is being erected for Messrs. Kimpton's (Salisbury), Ltd., in the capital of Southern Rhodesia.

The Sudan Plantations Syndicate, Ltd., and the controlled Kasela Cotton Co., Ltd., will hold meetings on April 4, at which a liquidation will be proposed.

Work has started on Elderet's new power station which is being erected by the East African Power and Lighting Co., Ltd. at a cost of £3,200.

Building workers in Southern Rhodesia are campaigning for a five-day week of 42 hours, compared with 44 hours at present.

The Northern Rhodesian Farmers' Union has proposed a potato and onion producers' association on a co-operative basis.

Price ceilings on raw cotton, both for merchants and producers, have been fixed by the Government of the United States.

Applications for licences to plant pyrethrum in Kenya represent an increase in acreage of 35.9% over last year's figure.

A general milk marketing Bill is to be introduced in the next long session of the Southern Rhodesian Parliament.

A Consumers Co-operative Society, open to members of all races, is to be formed in Kasapala.

Tourist traffic brought £3,000,000 to Southern Rhodesia last year.

Price control is to be imposed on bicycles in Uganda.

### Dividends

Manbre and Garton, Ltd.—Final, 14% (making 107% on the ordinary shares, and 107% on the deferred shares) on the same last year.

National Bank of India, Ltd.—Final interim (in place of final), 7% (the same), making 16% (the same) for the year.

Sudan Plantations Syndicate, Ltd.—25%, including bonus of 15% (the same).

Kasela Cotton Co., Ltd.—25%, including bonus of 15% (the same).

### Wage Rates

REVISED MINIMUM WAGE RATES in municipal areas and townships have been approved by the Kenya Government following recommendations by the Central Minimum Wages Advisory Board. The monthly increases for ticket contracts, 12-month contracts and housing allowances respectively are: Eldoret 6s., 3.50s., and 6s.; Kisumu, 2s., 2s., and 3s.; Kitale 4s., 4s., and 6s.; Mombasa, 2s., 2s., and 3s.; 50 cents and 3.25s.; Nairobi, 2s., 1.50s., and 5s.; Nakuru, 3s., 4.50s., and 7s.; Naivasha, 2s., 1.50s., and 4s.; Nyeri 5s., 4.50s., and 5s.; and Thika, 3s., 3s., and 5s. This involves monthly rates for ticket contracts ranging from 32s. in Kisumu to 40s. in Mombasa.

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### Cement Shortage in S. Rhodesia

FOR SOME TIME TO COME cement supplies in Southern Rhodesia will fall short of requirements by about 8,000 tons monthly, stated Mr. A. F. Halsted, the Colony's Minister of Lands and Industrial Development, recently.

A surplus of 2s. 6d. for the 48 lb. packet of home-produced cement had been agreed between the Government and the two companies in the colony, this figure being calculated as sufficient from time to time to reduce the price of imported cement to the same level.

In Bulawayo the new retail price would be 8s. 8d. a 94 lb. packet for the home product (formerly 7s. 7d. for Premier cement and 8s. 2d. for Rhodesia cement) and 10s. 4d. a 112 lb. packet of imported cement (formerly 10s.). Prices in Salisbury will be slightly higher.

The Government, said Mr. Halsted, had been fully alive to the undesirability of having widely differing prices for different brands of cement. A wartime emergency power, involving a surcharge, had lapsed, but it was necessary that conditions should be reasonably fair to all.

The Minister announced the establishment of a Cement Committee under the chairmanship of the Assistant Director of Public Works, with representatives of the two companies and of the National Building and Housing Board. Its function would be to distribute both Rhodesian and imported cement equitably to retailers and direct consumers, recommend price and surcharge adjustments, and determine the distribution through whom cement might be retained. Generally speaking, only these merchants who were on the books of the two Rhodesian factories before January, 1951, would be accepted.

More anti-malaria spraying units are wanted by farmers in Southern Rhodesia. Mr. J. MacIntyre, vice-president of the Rhodesia National Farmers' Union, said at a recent meeting that the four units had experimented in the Mazoe Valley, the funds being found by the State Lottery Trusts. No more money was available, but he thought that farmers throughout the Colony would be willing to pay a charge.

### Kenya Estimates for 1951

ESTIMATES of revenue and expenditure in Kenya for 1951 are respectively £12,948,746 and £12,167,721, compared with revised estimates for the previous year of £12,093,547 and £11,577,677. The estimated general revenue balance on December 31 next is £6,586,683. Disallowance items (with sanctioned estimates for 1950 in brackets) are: customs and excise, £5,145,000 (£5,551,000); income tax, £2,425,000 (£1,250,000); and African poll tax, £838,750 (£669,000), and in recurrent expenditure: education, £1,245,000 (£1,052,030); medical, £857,632 (£777,854); police, £820,000 (£929,535); pensions and gratuities, £654,300 (£585,700); administration, £623,149 (£612,445); public works department, £589,870 (£510,335); military, £573,760 (£570,245); public debt service, £472,571 (£222,531).

### Blantyre and East Africa

BLANTYRE AND EAST AFRICA, LTD. earned a profit of £100,537 in the year ended December 31 last, compared with £80,667 in the previous year. Taxation absorbs £49,000, general reserve receives £10,000, and special reserve £20,000, interest on the preference shares requires £232, and a 20% dividend on the ordinary shares £13,200, leaving a balance of £22,718 to be carried forward against £16,200 brought in.

The issued capital consists of £7,656 in 6% preference shares, and £120,000 in ordinary shares, both of £1 denomination. Capital reserve stands at £2,670, revenue reserves at £149,218, provisions at £5,204 and current liabilities at £48,119. Fixed assets are valued at £119,184, subsidiary company at £1,856, and current assets at £258,827, including Government securities at £91,548 (market value £68,365), tax certificates at £26,900 and £72,000 in cash.

The directors are Messrs. J. W. E. Steedman (chairman), R. R. Stark, G. Emrie, A. R. Stark, and E. Errington.

The 52nd annual general meeting will be held in Edinburgh on March 19.



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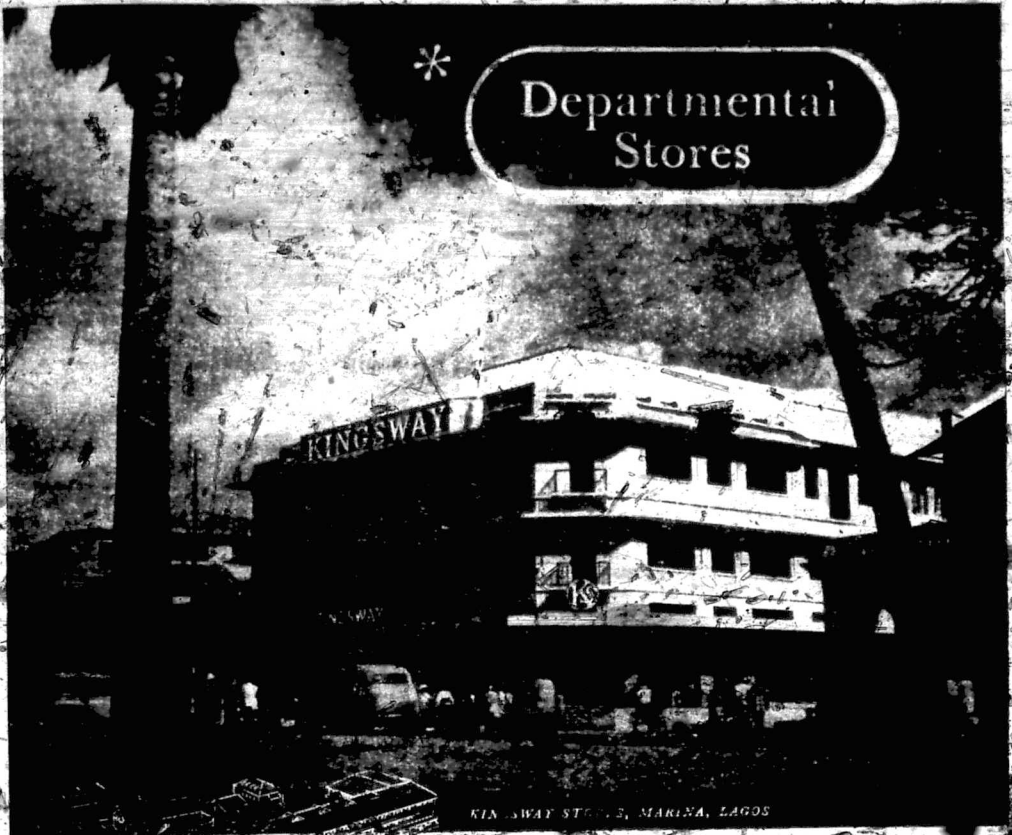
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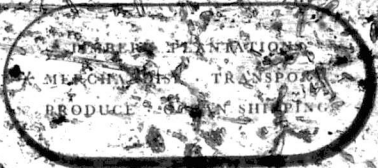


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**Mining**

**British Overseas Mining Association**

**Memorandum to the Chancellor**

MR. CLIVE TEMPERLEY has submitted to the Chancellor of the Exchequer on behalf of the British Overseas Mining Association, of which he is president, a memorandum in connexion with the taxation in the following terms:—

"1. This association has from time to time drawn attention to features of the tax code which have adversely affected the British overseas mining industry. Recently we had the opportunity of presenting both written and oral evidence to the Committee on the Taxation of Trading Profits regarding the computation of profits for tax purposes.

"2. Certain wider aspects of the taxation of mining companies fell outside the terms of reference of that committee. Some of these are appropriate for consideration by the Royal Commission on Taxation and we propose to bring them to the notice of that commission. The Royal Commission has, however, only recently been appointed and its findings cannot be expected for a considerable time. We therefore venture to address to you our submissions on a matter which has lately assumed a most serious aspect within our industry and has thrown into relief the problems of taxation the solution of which cannot without serious danger await the completion of the detailed study to be undertaken by the Royal Commission.

"3. During the past year or so, and more particularly in recent months, there has developed an increasing tendency among companies whose principal operations are based on abroad to apportion themselves from this country and either to transfer their business to companies incorporated and controlled in the countries in which their operations are performed, or more commonly to move their central management overseas. Overseas mining companies are figuring most prominently in this exodus.

**Burden of Taxation**

"4. The exodus results directly from the fact that the burden of taxation placed on British controlled companies deriving income from overseas is substantially greater than that levied by companies controlled abroad.

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"The exodus may be deplored but it is clear that the directors of overseas mining companies have a responsibility to their companies and to their shareholders both here and abroad to ensure that their businesses are run not only as efficiently as possible, but also in such a way as to minimize the tax burden. Moreover, with taxes as they are, it is difficult for some companies to obtain sufficient profits to finance the cost of replacing assets and exploring for new deposits, while, at the same time, paying adequate dividends. Where it is apparent that to transfer a company abroad will result in substantial tax savings, the directors must carefully consider whether the cost of remaining here justifies them in continuing to exercise control in the United Kingdom.

"6. In this connexion it is important to distinguish between United Kingdom industries which are necessarily resident in this country and the British overseas mining industry, which remains here from choice rather than necessity.

"7. Although a number of companies have moved or have announced their intention of so doing, the boards of others have decided to refrain from taking such a step at present. They have been influenced in their decision partly by considerations not of a fiscal nature but also by the expectation that a change in United Kingdom law to remove or substantially reduce the tax penalty which their companies pay for remaining here cannot be long delayed.

"8. In certain cases the directors' decision to refrain from recommending a transfer abroad has been unpopular with a number of shareholders and has received some criticism from the Press.

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"9. This exodus from the United Kingdom may have serious repercussions on the national economy of this country, the more important of which are referred to below.

"(a) The transfer of control of companies which has already taken place involves a large withdrawal of economic potential from this country. The Financial Secretary to the Treasury recently stated that transfers which have occurred during the past two years have removed from this country companies whose issued capital amounts to some £37,000,000 nominal. The actual value of their assets is, of course, far greater and, although the transfers do not themselves involve any change in the ultimate ownership of the capital, it is clear that they do result in the removal from this country of the management and control of assets worth a great sum of money.

"(b) The minerals produced by the overseas mining industry are becoming increasingly scarce and, in present world conditions, are of vital strategic and economic importance to this country. Transfer of control by companies producing these minerals may result in the minerals being sold to countries other than the United Kingdom and thus lost to this country, possibly with no compensating acquisition of hard currencies from their sale. Even if the proceeds of sale were still available to the country, it might well be impossible under present conditions of scarcity to replace the minerals by purchase from other sources.

"(c) It is inevitable that after companies have emigrated they will tend to purchase their stores and equipment, hitherto largely purchased in the United Kingdom, either from the new countries of control, or from any other country from which supplies can be obtained on even slightly better terms.

**Effect on Employment**

"(d) Their departure also means that the majority of their management and staff, formerly resident in the United Kingdom, will probably emigrate or cease to hold their appointments. Thus the movement overseas is likely to involve some contraction in employment in this country and will in any case result in the loss of technical skill which has for many years stood this country in good stead, while the prospects offered to new entrants into the mining profession in this country will be seriously diminished.

"(e) The emigration of these companies leads to an immediate and substantial reduction in tax revenue. Primarily there is the loss of tax paid by the companies themselves. A certain proportion of this will, of course, be recouped in the form of United Kingdom income tax and profits tax payable by such of the shareholders as are liable to those taxes when they receive dividends, but it is apparent that only a part of the tax foregone will be thus recovered by the British Treasury. Tax will also be lost on the salaries of employees who were formerly employed or paid in this country and taxable profits and taxable employment will be further reduced to the extent to which stores and equipment are purchased outside the United Kingdom.

"(f) The British overseas mining industry plays an important role in earning and saving dollars for this country, and this becomes more important than ever following the suspension of Marshall Aid.

"10. Prior to 1939 London was the leading centre of finance for overseas mining ventures and, as a result, an important proportion of the mineral resources of the world came to be



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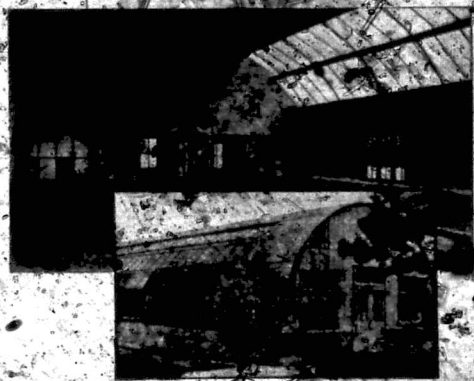
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controlled from here. This position is being rapidly and the fact that overseas mining companies are in increasing numbers transferring their control abroad indicates that London has little or no chance of recovering its position in present circumstances. Moreover, new mining ventures seeking capital and new operating companies formed by existing mining concerns will in future almost certainly set up headquarters in some country outside Britain so as not to expose themselves to United Kingdom taxation at this present level. If this happens then not only will London fail to recover its former leadership, but the mining business here will be bound in time to wither away altogether as the existing mines become exhausted.

11. If this important branch of the national economy is to be preserved, the remedies must be immediate and drastic. Under present conditions the inducement for existing companies to emigrate and for new companies to be set up overseas is very strong indeed. Merely to prohibit the emigration of mining companies would be no permanent solution and would certainly preclude the possibility of re-establishing London in its leading position in overseas mining.

12. It appears to us that the crux of the problem lies in the fact that income which the United Kingdom tax levied on becomes which arises from all overseas sources, whether or not that income finds its way to the United Kingdom, and whether or not it is ultimately paid in the form of dividends to United Kingdom shareholders.

13. In our view profits earned overseas by the British overseas mining industry should not be subjected to tax in this country unless and until they are distributed to shareholders here, or at least until they are remitted to the United Kingdom.

14. We would point out that the present profits tax has proved particularly disastrous, for it has been the main single cause for the recent exodus of companies.

15. Our objection to the present system of taxation is the greater because profits earned from mining contain an element of capital, inasmuch as the basic asset of a mining concern is of a lasting nature. This is recognized to a limited extent by the form of allowances embodied in Section 22 of the Finance Act 1949.

16. We should like to draw your attention to the instances of countries which in one way or another, refrain from tax some or all of the profits arising from overseas mining.

**South African System**

17. In South Africa, where the mining industry is the prominent part of the economy, tax is imposed only on profits whose source is within the Union.

18. In Canada, there is a provision that foreign business concerns engaged in overseas mining, where the management and designing, purchasing and transportation of goods are carried on within the Dominion, are not liable to national income tax at all. Canadian tax on dividends paid to non-residents is limited to a levy of 15%. It is also relevant to observe that a depletion allowance of 33 1/3% of net profits over the life of the mine is granted to Canadian mining companies and 40% to Canadian oil and gas companies.

19. In the United States a similar provision is granted to Western Hemisphere mining corporations including mining companies which, together with the unilateral relief available in Canada, will normally have the effect of retaining from shareholders tax all profits earned by such corporations. Further, where dividends are paid to overseas shareholders considerable substantial losses arising outside the United States to shareholders are sheltered from the ordinary charge to withholding tax. Mining companies are also given the option of claiming a depletion allowance payable to the cost of acquisition of their properties, in the

allowance is calculated as a percentage of the gross value of annual production, the percentage of base metal mines, for instance, is 15%.

20. To solve the special and immediate problems which face United Kingdom controlled overseas mining companies as described in this memorandum, we strongly recommend that the present heavy taxation imposed on them should be reduced and we submit for your consideration the following proposals to that end:

**Proposed Concessions**

(a) That profits derived from mining operations overseas should be entirely exempt from United Kingdom profits tax both in the hands of the operating company and its shareholders.

(b) That such profits should be subject to United Kingdom income tax only to the extent that they are remitted to this country.

(c) That depletion allowances should be granted to British overseas mining companies on lines comparable with, for example, the allowances granted in Canada and the United States referred to in paragraphs 18 and 19 above.

21. If it is considered impracticable to introduce legislation to give effect to all these recommendations forthwith, it is urged that our proposals set out in paragraph 20 (a) above should be adopted immediately. This would in our view be the minimum to arrest the present exodus of mining companies. It would not, however, create conditions under which further enterprise would be started by companies resident in this country.

22. While we appreciate that to change the law in any of the ways we suggest would result in loss of revenue to the United Kingdom Treasury, it seems to us that any attempt to maintain the present position would in the long run have far more damaging consequences for the British economy, and that this damage might be irreparable.

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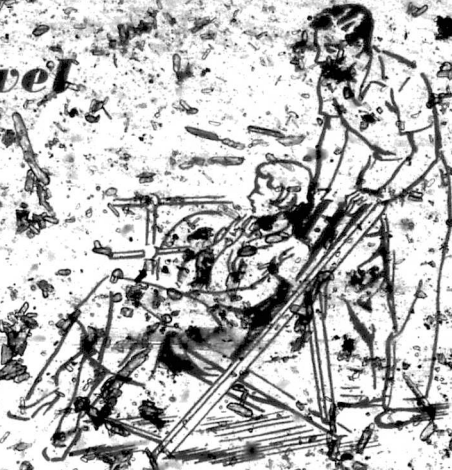
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## MATTERS OF MOMENT

THE BUSINESS LEADERS of all continents in Eastern Africa said the Member for Commerce and Industry in the Government of Kenya when he recently addressed the Joint East and Central African Board should be to encourage the growth of public spirit and idealism and to utilize that developing force to smooth the roughnesses which are inevitable while races at very different levels live side by side. In every East and Central African territory there are some leaders who seldom, if ever, lose sight of this responsibility, and their number is indisputably higher to-day than it was a decade or so ago. It would, however, be an exaggeration to suggest that the principle enunciated by Mr. Hope-Jones has yet developed into a political philosophy which constantly guides the discussions in committees and elsewhere of the representatives of the various racial groups. They are still concerned primarily, and understandably, with the day-to-day problems confronting the organs of central and local governments, problems upon which the spokesmen for the public must express their opinions.

Close students of the proceedings in the East and Central African Legislative Councils must

often be struck by the rarity with which speeches, except those from the Government benches, deal with first principles. It is not that thoughtful non-officials underestimate the importance of establishing landmarks for the guidance of political helmsmen in trouble from squalls or storms. Rather is it that they are preoccupied with questions of the moment, questions often demanding immediate action. Much more important long-range matters thus tend to be postponed, sometimes to the danger point or even beyond it, with the consequence that less responsible men are presented with the opportunity to create ill-will and agitation.

That the European communities of Kenya and Tanganyika Territory in particular have in recent years experienced a growing sense of frustration will be denied by no well-informed person. Different sense of frustration may be different phenomenon, but it may it not be that the fundamental reason is the failure of the communities, and especially of their acknowledged leaders, to put first things first—to encourage the growth of public spirit and idealism (to use Mr. Hope-Jones's words) and to utilize that

force thus developed in the best interests of racial harmony and general progress? That suggestion has been made again and again by EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA, which has

felt for a long time that too much energy was being dissipated on secondary, and sometimes trivial, matters, when the need was to grapple with major issues.

## Notes By The Way

### Queer Standards

NOT FOR THE FIRST TIME, I have had to call attention to the flattery of a senior public servant by a subordinate, who is paid by the taxpayer to provide it with information, not to pile encomium upon his chief. Another of these unpleasant incidents is provided by the leading article in the latest issue of the quarterly magazine of the Colonial Development Corporation, which, in a note of welcome to the new chairman, Lord Reith, comments that his "integrity of character commands the highest respect and esteem," and ends the paragraph with reference to his "universally recognized intellectual gifts and executive ability." Had any publication except one owned by the corporation made those comments, they would have been entirely unobjectionable, but they are surely wholly out of place in the corporation's own house-organ, which ought to be severely factual in such matters, and take special care to avoid flattery of individual members of the board.

### Flattery Unchecked

AND IS IT DESIRABLE that such an organ should publish comment about Colonial Governors with whom representatives of the corporation have to negotiate, and from whom the C.D.C. may hope for favours? Of one Governor the current issue states that "serenity and assurance are the dominant impressions derived from a conversation," and he is later described as cautious but firm, both clear and far-sighted, a hard worker, shy, but most approachable. All these statements may be true, and would I repeat, be unexceptionable in an independent publication. They ought, however, to be rigidly excluded from a magazine issued by a great State corporation. On this point of principle a hint from the Secretary of State for the Colonies clearly appears to be necessary, for this fault, which is also a surprising error of taste, has occurred on a number of previous occasions. Development by flattery will not commend itself to many people.

### Unusual Official Career

MR. FREDERICK C. NEWTON, who is to leave in this country, with Nottingham as his headquarters, has had an unusual career, since he left Jesus College, Cambridge, with a double first in history and a first in modern languages. After a spell in the Home Office, he was transferred in 1940 to the Treasury, where he became private secretary to the Financial Secretary. Later he was seconded to the Ministry of Agriculture, but on returning to the Treasury was made secretary to the Assheton Committee on the Training of Civil Servants, to the Committee on the Evacuation of Government Departments, and to various sub-committees of the Cabinet. After the war he was Treasury member of a British working party in the Ex-High Colonies, secretary to the Masterman Committee on the Political Activities of Civil Servants, to the official side of the Civil Service National Whitley Council, and to the Cabinet Committee on Equal Pay. About 18 months ago he was loaned to the Colonial Administrative Service, and appointed to the new post of secretary to the Treasury in Kenya.

### Mr. McFadyen and the O.E.C.

SOME QUESTIONS should be answered about the compensation of £4,000 to be paid by the Overseas Food Corporation to Mr. McFadyen, a full-time member of the board since its establishment, and one whose character quickly earned the respect of his colleagues. Did the original agreement with him stipulate such compensation in case of its discontinuance by either party, or is this a later arrangement? If so, why? As to the pension of £620 a year, liability for which was transferred to the corporation from the Co-operative Wholesale Society, did that great business organization pay to the corporation both the contributions made by its employee over the years and the appropriate sum from its own funds in respect of the pension? Statements made in Parliament at different times have not covered these material points, of which the public should be given full information. These questions do not, of course, imply criticism of Mr. McFadyen, but of a Government and a State corporation, which have been such poor custodians of the taxpayers' money.

### Bank Chairman's Candour

MR. J. K. MICHIE, chairman of the National Bank of India, writes trenchantly in his annual message to the shareholders, which appears in full in this issue. He says bluntly that taxation in the United Kingdom has reached the destructive stage; that the Socialist Government does not spend the country's money prudently; that devaluation has had serious inflationary results; that nothing but better productivity can prevent another crisis; and that those in charge of the national omnibus are afraid to use the "handbrake of interest rates or the footbrake of credit curtailment." I have heard very influential East Africans, official and non-official, lament the unwillingness of bankers to say candidly in public what they sometimes say in private about economic affairs. Mr. Michie, at any rate, believes that candid comment has real value.

### East Africa House

ACCOMMODATION IN LONDON will be severely strained this summer, and those who hope to stay at East Africa House, the new club at Marble Arch, would be well advised to book without delay. Mr. K. L. Lindsay, formerly of the Colonial Service in Kenya, is the secretary, and the address is 36 Great Cumberland Place, W. Every East African with whom I have spoken who has stayed in the club has spoken very appreciatively of it. The membership has almost reached 600, and that in well under six months.

### Paying for Independence

THE REPORT for 1949 of the Survey of Kenya (until last year the survey division of the Department of Land and Mines) will doubtless interest those who understand the intricacies of cadastral field-work and geodetic triangulation. As it is a result of having become an independent department that the administration publishes this report at 7s. 6d. compared with other official reports of about the same size priced by the same Government at 1s. 6d. or 2s.

# Colonial Secretary's Reply to Demand for Groundnut Inquiry

## Opposition's Questions on C.E.C. Compensation Terms

**WINDING UP FOR THE OPPOSITION** in the second reading of the Overseas Resources Development Bill, MR. A. LENNOX-ROYD said that there had been much misrepresentation of the attitude taken by the Conservatives in the earlier stages of this great and ambitious project.

"We gave it a friendly reception. We tried to create a friendly climate for it. We tried to ensure that it should not be prejudiced at the start by political opposition. What we did not do, however, was to give a blank cheque for mismanagement and misrepresentation, which unappreciably have marred the whole story of this boldly conceived scheme."

"The loss of £30m. in 1947 surpasses the entire annual revenue, actual or estimated, of Tanganyika for 1951, 1950, 1947, and 1948 put together. This great loss is very little more than the total losses under the Colonial Development and Welfare Vote for the whole of the last 10 years put together and for the entire British Colonial Empire."

"We certainly do not grudge money, but we do grudge this appalling waste. The most tragic feature is that after all this expenditure nothing has been proved."

"I have various observations to make about the Secretary of State for War. We gave him ample warning that we intended to refer to his own part in this sorry business, and I hope that he is intending to be present this evening. A large number of people in East Africa, whose homes were raised by the At. hon. gentleman and who are now confronted with distress and disappointment, even having sold their homes in England and pledged themselves as they thought for many years to a successful and profitable life in East Africa, are at least entitled to the presence of the At. hon. gentleman at what is, in fact, an inquest on his administration."

### Everything Sacrificed to Speed

"The Africans have seen a large-scale white enterprise break down and everything sacrificed to speed. Instead of inland African villages they were promised that they have housing for as good as the sial estate. Kongwa was recently described by an observer as a spiv town, a get-rich-quick town, where a young fellow would come for a year or two to make some easy money and see the sights, but where a decent man would hardly choose to come down with his family. It is that our contribution to African welfare."

"We forgive the early enthusiasm of the Minister (Mr. Strachey). What we cannot forgive is when a whole terrifying story began to unfold, and he knew about it, but he went on making just the same sort of statements. On the 12th of June 1948, the At. hon. gentleman, who had then been sent to Kongwa, said that he found that the scheme, far from being less sound economically or less profitable than the original estimate, was substantially more sound and more profitable and far more valuable than anyone could have foreseen when they started."

"Step by step, we are led by the historian of the Food Corporation, a position arose when someone who told the truth about the groundnut scheme was liable to be denounced as a scoundrel or a fool."

"We thought that period had passed, but for a moment we are not so sure that it has passed. The same boastful, arrogant, and arrogant assertions are being made. The At. hon. gentleman, to say the least, is being deceived by saying: 'We now know what is needed to conquer Africa.' He, like his predecessor, will learn to rue the words he has spoken. In the light of the past history, the inordinate and the lack of candour, the fantastic, boastful, and arrogant assertions that are made, the continuance without any justification and for no adequate purpose of the Overseas Food Corporation, we of the Conservative Party cannot be associated with the Bill now before the House unless and until there has been a full and impartial public inquiry."

### Colonial Secretary's Reply

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES (Mr. James Griffiths) said (in part): "There have been from both sides well-informed, constructive speeches, but in some of them, including the speech which we have just listened to, there has been in the past and I choose my words—what seemed to me rather, vindictive hunting for scapegoats."

"For many years it was my privilege to take part in the rough and tumble of industrial and overseas trade words

were spoken. I do not say that about my At. hon. friend the Secretary of State for War; in speeches that have been made this afternoon, in statements that have been made in the Press, in photographs (used up for a purpose) the venomous spiteful attacks of a personal nature made on him make me proud of the fact that I belong to the miners and not to a gentlemanly party."

"The groundnut scheme has failed. I want to say a few words about what the failure may mean to the Colonial Empire, and indeed to all the backward countries in the world. In the 12 months in which I have been privileged to fill this office, fresh evidence has come to me every day of two closely related problems which not only this country, but in so far as we have responsibility in the Colonies, but the democratic world have either to meet and solve or otherwise lose the battle which we were discussing in the House last week."

### Problems of Increasing Population

"The first fact is that in all the territories which we call backward areas the mass of the people are living in poverty. The second fact, of enormous importance, is that in all those territories the population is increasing at such a rate as to create the danger of still further poverty."

"In Tanganyika it is estimated that in 30 years the population will have doubled. Tanganyika, about equal to France and Germany together, is a net importer of food. We cannot see this increasing population in the world without bringing into activation land that is now bush and swamp. Whatever we may think about the role of private enterprise, we would all agree that this is not a problem which private enterprise can tackle of itself. Does anyone suggest that private enterprise would finance the six-year Colombo plan, which is absolutely essential unless Asia is to suffer still further poverty?"

"Therefore, if this problem is to be solved, it can be done only by a large-scale public enterprise. Indeed, in the end it can be done only by a world plan in which all the world joins. Governments here and in other countries have to realize that public money must be invested. (HON. MEMBERS: Not wasted?)—if this problem is to be solved. Not only must public money be invested, but risks will have to be taken, and if risks are taken, there are bound to be losses."

"If we abandon this scheme, we shall do so against the wishes of the vast majority of Tanganyika. In addition to losing all the money invested in skills and knowledge in the last few years, we shall have to pay a heavy bill at Colonial Development. If we do abandon the scheme, I ask members of the House what would appear to the Africans."

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES (Mr. James Griffiths) said (in part): "The Colonial territories who are concerned in this scheme are the territories who are concerned in this scheme. The scheme is a scheme from which they have done so, and the basis of their scheme was originally conceived for the people in Africa, but purely for their own interests and purposes. If we abandon the scheme, we are saying: 'Since the scheme cannot now produce the oil and fats for us in this country, we abandon it and do not care what happens to you.' That would be calamitous. Many have said that we ought to have an inquiry. There has been no suggestion of what kind of experience the people should have had."

"I shall give the names of five independent members of the working party which inquired into the scheme at Kongwa and presented a report from which the revised scheme was based. There were seven members, but two were members of the board of the corporation, and I gather that hon. gentlemen opposite thought that the members of the board were prejudiced in favour. Therefore I shall not call them as witnesses."

"I name the five independent members. The first is my own Agricultural Adviser at the Colonial Office, Mr. G. F. Clay, who has had years of experience in East Africa. Would he be regarded as a man whose advice was worth listening to? He is one of the men to whom we have listened. Another is Dr. H. H. Storey, deputy director of the East African Colonial and Forestry Research Organization. Then there are Professor S. H. Frankel, Professor of Colonial Economic Affairs at Nuffield College, Oxford, Mr. A. M. B. Hall, Member for Development in the Tanganyika Government, and Mr. J. C. Muir, Member for Agriculture in that Government."

"Does anyone suggest that these persons have rendered a report which is not their honest view? In recommending this scheme to the House we are supported by the advice of five men of great experience and knowledge, whose credentials and integrity hon. gentlemen opposite must accept."

"Similarly with the report made by the scheme in the Southern Province. Mr. Clay was a member of that working party, included in which was one who did not serve on the first. I refer to Mr. Frank Sykes, an English farmer associated with sisal estates in Tanganyika, and a member of the Colonial Agricultural Advisory Council.

"If there is to be another inquiry, who will make it? I consulted my advisers who have some experience in this field, and, as Colonial Secretary, I say that any examination of a problem of this kind would have to call upon the experience and knowledge represented by these persons. I say therefore that any inquiry must obviously be by persons less qualified to express an opinion and to give advice than the very people whom we have consulted."

MR. STENVILLE: We were asking for an inquiry was regard to the new scheme, and it should be an inquiry with an independent chairman, and constituted as absolutely independent."

**Scheme Needs Separate Board**

MR. CARROLL: "We have been asked why in this stage we do not hand this over to the Colonial Development Corporation. I considered that very carefully, and my view is it is a big enough scheme to justify the creation of a board of its own."

"The board will be based in Tanganyika, and the Tanganyika Government will be represented on it. I shall see to it that the corporation and the new board are in closest and continuous touch with the Colonial Development Corporation because it is very essential that there should be the closest association and understanding. I hope that the Colonial Development Corporation in future will desire, as I am sure they will, that any schemes they have for this area shall be schemes that as far as possible can be fitted into the joint pattern we are trying to create."

"I have been keeping in the closest touch with the Government of Tanganyika, and I know that if this House was to abandon the scheme or set up an inquiry, that decision would be received with dismay among the people of Tanganyika. (HON. MEMBER: Nonsense.) It is not nonsense. I know it is true, for it would be regarded as a decision by this House, now that the only prospect of this scheme is to become a Colonial venture, to give it up, though for four years we carried on while we had hopes of using it for our own purpose."

"If to-night the House were to agree to the Opposition amendment, we should be sending a message of despair to the people of Africa. I say that on behalf of the Government, who in five years have done more for Colonial development than any previous Government."

**Questions in Committee**

Since the main debate took place, the Bill has been considered in committee on several days.

Compensation for loss of office was raised by CAPTAIN H. F. C. CROOKSHAW (Cons.), who said that terms for the London staff appeared to be very low compared with those offered to overseas employees.

MR. C. MOTT-RADCLIFFE (Cons.) argued that the Board staff should be the older members of the Board, who bore a great burden of responsibility for a series of disasters and mistakes, and contrasted the payment to Sir Leslie Summer of £3,000 for the termination of his contract with the payment to the field staff in Africa as compensation of six months' salary or four months' plus leave, whichever was the greater.

MR. A. HURD (Cons.) asked about the position of Mr. McFadyen, who, all agreed, had given excellent service. The House ought to know whether the terms applied to the board would also apply to salaried staff.

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COLONIAL AFFAIRS, MR. J. DUGDALE, replied that the staff association representing the London employees had agreed to the compensation terms. Monthly staff received a retiring gratuity of one month's salary where one year had been completed and an additional two weeks' salary for every completed six months; weekly paid staff received a retiring gratuity of three weeks' pay in respect of the first year's service and an additional week's salary for every completed six months' service thereafter.

For O.F.C. staff in Africa, mostly on open-service contracts, retirement compensation was six months' salary.

An amendment moved by the Colonial Secretary that future operations of the O.F.C. be confined to East Africa was agreed.

MR. A. LENNOX-BOYD (Cons.) referred to the clause charging

the corporation with the duty of securing the investigation, formulation, and carrying out of projects for production, marketing, or processing in East Africa of foodstuffs. The initial investigations, he proposed, should not be carried out by members of the corporation. There should be an independent approach by people with no interest in justifying the past actions of the corporation.

The people who sat on the former inquiries, however admirable, highly able, and informed about tropical agriculture, should have been called as witnesses to the inquiries and not themselves formed the panel. Two independent reports produced in the past years on the West African oil seeds mission and the organization of tropical African agriculture, both carried a great deal of true value because of their impartiality.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, after being told by MR. LENNOX-BOYD that whilst an investigation was made there was nothing to stop work in East Africa being continued on a care-and-maintenance basis, said that that was nonsense. At present 40,000 acres in the Southern Province were being cleared. Was that to be stopped? Proposals for an inquiry had been twice rejected. The new scheme was the result of investigation by two working parties containing a majority of members who were not members of, or employed by, the corporation. The amendment was negatived.

**Checking O.F.C. Assets in Africa**

MR. LENNOX-BOYD then proposed that regulations should be made for ascertaining, verifying, and recording particulars of the assets, property, rights, and liabilities of the O.F.C. on April 1, 1951, on which date the Colonial Secretary would become responsible for the enterprise.

There were large quantities of very valuable stores in East Africa, some of which were liable to deterioration, and the Opposition wanted to know how much could be rescued. At Durban alone, when the last census was taken, there was no less than seven years' supply of gear oil in store. In 1949 there were offered for sale in East Africa no fewer than 3,783 bottles of sherry, 1,000 of liqueurs, 7,000 of brandy, 4,750 of the 4,140 of rum, 40,000 of Tennant's beer, and 4,408 of ale. What loss had been involved in those transactions?

MR. DUGDALE dismissed MR. LENNOX-BOYD'S speech as entirely confined to liquid assets, saying that it sounded like an inventory of the Carlton Club. The matter was not "scandalous" unless it was proved that the liquor had been sold at a vastly reduced price, and there was no information that it had been sold at complete cost of plant, machinery, and vehicles, and a test census of buildings and installations was now being carried out in East Africa.

SIR PETER MACDONALD (Cons.) suggested that surplus equipment was lying in the open, waiting to be sold. In some cases, he believed, equipment had been sold at knock-down prices without sufficient notice being given of a sale. There was room for disposal of vehicles, etc., in other parts of Africa, and other Governments should be given the opportunity of buying.

**Mr. McFadyen's Compensation**

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE, MR. MAURICE WEBB, referred to the compensation payable to Mr. McFadyen, and said that the pension was based on payments he had himself made to the Co-operative Wholesale Society, the pension rights with which he had been transferred to the corporation. Mr. McFadyen's contract had been for six years, and he had completed just over three.

When the motion for the third reading was put, the Colonial Secretary said that the Opposition had constantly referred to £36,000 that was admitted to be a grievous loss; the risk had been taken and it had failed. The revised scheme was an experiment, but one which the all hopes would succeed.

Henceforth he would accept responsibility for answering questions about the scheme. Ample opportunities would be given for examination and discussion. When all the party were here, he said, the fact remained that in East Africa we were in a desperate position facing the problem of over-crowding, population, and must seek a way of bringing the hands into cultivation.

MR. LENNOX-BOYD considered it surprising that the Bill should be coming on in its third reading without the simultaneous resignation of Mr. Stacey. If after the next election there should come the same gross errors in public affairs perpetrated by a Conservative Minister, the honourable practice of resignation would, most certainly, be invoked once more. The Bill has now passed its third reading.

"The individual who lives in a house beyond his means is not likely to be a good member of a liberal democratic society, for he is not living within the security of assets for which to develop the virtues found in the ability and quality, not colour, of Oudrey Higgins."

# Africa's £100,000,000 Coffee Crop

## Importance of Harmonious Labour Relations

**AFRICAN COFFEE PRODUCTION**, negligible in 1900, and worth only £2m. in 1930, will yield £100m. this year, says Messrs. Edm. Scudler and Co. Ltd. in their annual report, which is prefaced by an emphatic statement:

"Africa's future depends upon three things—spreading of the influence of spiritual values, the prevention of internal conflicts and a sound sociological structure being established in line with economic development. The alternative lies between water and soil conservation on the one hand and famine on the other.

"It is as true to-day as it was 20 years ago with coffee as with other crops, that the successful development of the industry everywhere is completely dependent of the harmonious cooperation of two races representing administrative and technical skill on the one hand and labour on the other. In coffee areas it is very noticeable that the closer the degree of European supervision, the longer the Africans' experience of it the better the coffee.

### Politics Bedevilling Industry

The same is true in the much wider context of political and economic progress in Africa. There is ample evidence elsewhere of how politics can bedevil flourishing industries, and how the premature abdication of responsibilities can retard those whom it is aspired to advance. There is fortunately little immediate danger of this in Africa, though long-term prospects are less certain; but it has a direct bearing on the chief problems facing the coffee-producing countries. It will take the resources and skills of all to overcome these difficulties."

The company express the belief that Africa's importance as a coffee producer will increase, "because her fine coffee is among the world's finest, her robustas are among the world's most economically produced, the irregularities of climate and labour troubles no worse than in other countries, and in many areas the soil and general conditions are extremely favourable.

The total British East African crop in 1949-50 was 45,729 long tons. Of the 722 tons dealt with on the Mombasa market the Ministry of Food took 3,087 and the free market 26,635 tons; the respective proportions in Nairobi were 10,525 and 3,982 tons.

### Arabica Coffee

Kenya arabica crop last season amounted to 6,500 tons, of which about 2,000 tons were sold on the open market at an average price of 480s. per cwt. The balance going to the Ministry of Food. Total proceeds were £2,255,000.

In a series of advances following devaluation the price of coffee rose from 280s. to 480s. believed to be the highest price ever paid for any coffee.

In March of last year the Ministry of Food contract was revised, prices being increased 100 per cent. clause providing that the coffee should be consumed only in the U.K. was deleted in order to enable the Ministry to divert part of its purchases for sale in the U.S.A. and Canada for dollars.

The current crop is estimated to be 8,500 tons, of which 3,500 tons will be the acreage under coffee in Kenya has declined 50 per cent. from 1930 to 1940, 100,000 acres. Kenya should be able to produce 4,000 tons given favourable conditions, that is, a yield of about 400 lbs. per acre.

In the Mount Elgon district of Uganda the Bugishu crops amounted to 2,250 tons, and the new crop estimate is 2,800 tons. About 6,500 acres are under coffee on Mount Elgon, where propaganda for improved cultivation is meeting with some success. Elsewhere in Uganda 465 tons of arabica were produced last season.

The quality of the Bugishu started well, but water outturns were sometimes disappointing. The Africans who grow this coffee need the advantage of European supervision and a fine

technical organisation backed by the Uganda Agricultural Department. Arabica, except for 122 tons from small plantations in the Southern Highlands, are sold to the Ministry. The Kihimango Native Coffee Union had a total crop of 1,000 tons and Europeans on the Northern Frontier yielded 2,138 tons, the total an increase of 6,678 tons on the previous season. It is hoped to produce about 7,000 tons. The arabica output from the Bukoba area is estimated at 2,500 tons this year.

### Robustas

Robustas from Uganda were reduced to 22,800 tons by poor rains, but the current crop is expected to be about double that total. After devaluation the price settled at about 166s. per cwt. f.o.b., but rose to a record of 400s. in November 1949. As a result of extensive Uganda cultivation and preparation improved, some of the use of soil conservation methods and shade trees increased, and less coffee was dried on bare ground than previously.

These producers are more fortunate than their neighbours in the Congo and Angola, where the poorer soils, although intensive damage, but the preparation in those countries, and hand-picking facilities, are still far superior there to those available generally in Uganda.

In the years ahead when African robusta production rises to the 8m. bag mark, as it surely will, only producers of the best qualities will be able to sell their crops to best advantage, and those who never regret money spent now—when they can well afford it—to improve their crops.

Before the war the Bukoba robusta crop was larger than that of Uganda, but now it is much smaller, though the Bukoba area is described as one of the finest and oldest of African coffee-growing areas in Africa. The 1951 output is estimated at 7,500 tons of robusta.

The suggestion is made that Uganda's robusta crop may within a few years reach the 50,000-ton mark.

Uganda-Urundi should produce about 10,000 tons this year, though the acreages under European cultivation have contracted as more land has been put under guanine, pyrethrum, etc., essential oils, and aleuron. African co-operative societies have been started on small new areas to the north of the Kivu district, some of the early samples are of excellent quality, and the prospects are regarded as good for quality and quantity.

The company have also issued a table of annual coffee exports from Africa covering the period 1930-50. At the beginning of the period Africa's percentage of total world output was 4.6%. But until 1941 did it reach double figures, at 11.5%. Last year it was estimated to be slightly over 14%.

## C.O.L. Vigilance Committee

MR. V. G. MURPHY, Member for Finance in Kenya, presided over a meeting of Nairobi Citizens of all races, who decided to establish a Nairobi Citizens' Cost of Living Vigilance Committee to assist Government in its fight against the rising cost of living and to organize public opinion against illicit trading practices and hoarding.

The following organizations were represented and asked to provide one member each to serve on the committee: East Africa Women's League (Mrs. Hughes), Asian Women's League (Mrs. Shahani), Association of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Eastern Africa (Messrs R. Anderson and G. Tyson), Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Eastern Africa (Messrs M. J. Mulla and K. Singh Sagoo), British Legion (Mr. H. H. W. Webb), European Civil Servants' Association (Commander J. V. Webb and A. E. Tommenger), Somali Service Club (Mr. B. R. R. R. R.), Asian Civil Servants' Association (Mr. N. G. Desai), S. H. Shamsud, Aga Khan Club, and a branch of Messrs Shamsudeen Ahmed and Co. Ltd. and African Civil Servants' Association (Messrs E. N. N. and S. Masoro). A request has been made to the Kenya National Labour Union to nominate a member to the committee.

Registration of all races in Tanganyika, whether by finger-printing or other means, is supported by the Tanganyika European Community.

## Tanganyika Legislative Council Labour Conditions Debated

DISCUSSING the Regulation of Wages and Conditions of Employment Bill, 1950, as another step with which to beat up the employer, without providing for any control of the employee, MAJOR S. E. DE TART told the Tanganyika Legislative Council that it was necessary that the labour of the Territory should be organized first.

He pointed out that a Masters' and Servants' Ordinance had been promised nearly three years before, but it had not yet materialized. The one-track mind of the Labour Department produced Bill after Bill against the employer, and it was time that legislation was passed for both sides.

The progressive developments which were visualized for the Territory could not be achieved until labour was controlled and the employee could be held to his task. No one asked for conscription or forced labour, but the worker should be held to his contract as well as the employer.

### Exploitation of Africans Impossible

MR. I. C. W. BAYLON, supporting the previous speaker, said he was not convinced that there was any need to repeal the existing legislation. Exploitation of the African in the Territory was quite impossible, as any labourer who did not like his job could move on to another one in his reserve. The economic necessity for working did not exist. The conditions which gave rise to this sort of legislation in Great Britain did not obtain in the Territory.

The Bill, he believed, was not particularly suited to Tanganyika but was more in keeping with implementing the policy of the Labour Party in England, and he thought it open to doubt whether this had been a conspicuous success. It was ill-advised to introduce the Bill at the present stage of the country's development. That view had been expressed both by the Chamber of Commerce and the Tanganyika Sisal Growers' Association.

MR. R. C. GERRARD, replying for the Government, denied that the Bill affected the employees rather than the employers. He agreed that labour was completely unorganized but so were the employers. There was at present no method of negotiating, and some form of works council was needed.

### New O.F.C. Scheme

MR. E. C. PHILLIPS, welcoming the revised programme of the Overseas Food Corporation, which had brought the proposals within the capacity of the Territory, said that what the Council had to consider was whether it was worth while to participate in the financial guarantee and the loans which were to be issued in connexion with the extension of the railway. He had no doubt that the Southern Province could be developed to form an important part of the Territory after examining the development programme, which included tobacco growing, mineral development, a big timber concession and food production.

He supported the proposals for the provision of better facilities and for the continuation of the work at Mtwara.

BRIGHIDIE W. ES. H. GUPHAM supported the proposals enthusiastically, but he hoped that Government would consult the Land Utilization Board in planning the development of the area concerned.

MR. C. W. CARNEGIE, who had lived in the Southern Province for many years, stressed the lack of communications in the district. Despite absence of outside interest, the Southern Province had always managed to raise itself on its own boot straps, and during the war had contributed substantially to the war effort with

men, machines, materials, and food. What was good for the Southern Province must be good for the Territory.

### Obtaining Settlement

MR. C. N. HOURY strongly supported the extension of the railway, but pointed out that land must be cultivated before freights could be earned, and emphasized that the greatest assistance should be rendered to settlers. He pleaded for relaxation of the existing formalities. When an application for land was made now the applicant had first to find the land, then survey it, for inspection by the district Commissioner, then it had to be submitted to the provincial commissioner, then to the Governor for approval, then approved for alienation, and then the select committee selected the persons to whom it should be given. That did not encourage persons to settle. In some cases it had taken two years to obtain a piece of land for cultivation.

The Member for Agriculture and Natural Resources, introducing the Trades Licensing (Amendment) Bill to control sisal fibres derived from Native-grown leaf, said that the Bill sought to include sisal in the schedule of Native crops, which would bring it under control.

The interests of cotton growers might be seriously affected if stray fibres of sisal were found in the bales, and it might be necessary to ensure the African sisal was not included in estate production.

### Africans Making Fortunes From Wild Sisal

MR. J. C. CHOPRA declared that with the present high prices for fibre there was a large demand for low-grade sisal, and some Africans were making money by cutting wild sisal leaves. This was an example in which, as soon as Government heard that money was being made, from any article, they wanted to control it.

He had been told that during five months last year Natives were paid nearly £400,000 for wild sisal leaves in the Lake Province alone. This was possible because a few enterprising persons had erected factories in the bush (there were about 40 of them in the province) involving a capital of £250,000. The industry could not last long because the supply of leaf would probably be exhausted in two years.

MR. C. N. HOURY stressed the danger that dishonest factory owners might incorporate Native sisal with machine-decorated fibre.

MR. E. C. PHILLIPS supported the measure. Anyone establishing a factory for what was obviously a temporary crop was speculating, and speculation must not be allowed to jeopardize two such firmly-established industries as sisal and cotton.

## Italian Delegation in N. Rhodesia

MR. ANTHONY GRAHAM MASON, English leader of the mission, and Prince Riccardo Scacetta and Mr. G. Poggio, two members of the Italian Delegation which has been investigating industrial and agricultural sites in Northern Rhodesia, have returned to Rome. Before leaving, Mr. Graham-Mainot said they had been impressed by what they had seen and would be returning in May with the hope of putting certain plans into effect. They had applied for a plot of land in a location which to build offices, showrooms, and garages, and were very interested in a scheme to transport gravel by road from Salisbury to Lusaka. Although no definite plans had been made for the establishment of industrial projects or for the erection of a laboratory for producing anti-biotics, the delegation had high hopes of being able to supply pharmaceutical products, and of putting certain agricultural schemes into effect. Mr. H. C. Ballingall, Acting Development Secretary in Northern Rhodesia, said that a decision on proposals made by the Italians would shortly be made.

## New Warden of Rhodes House Dr. C. K. Allen to Retire Next Year

MR. EDWIN REYER WILLIAMS, Fellow and Senior Tutor of Balliol College, has been appointed by the Rhodes Trustees to succeed Dr. C. K. Allen, K.C., who will retire from the Wardenship of Rhodes House, Oxford, in September, 1952.

Mr. Williams is 32 and recently became editor of the Dictionary of National Biography. Educated at Tettenhall College, King Edward VII School, Sheffield, and Merton College, Oxford, he was commissioned in the 1st King's Dragoon Guards just before the outbreak of war, and served with his regiment in Cyrenaica and as chief intelligence officer to General Montgomery in North Africa, Sicily and Italy.

He was a tank brigadier before going to Normandy in 1944, and was in charge of intelligence for an Army Group until the war ended, and in the British Army of the Rhine from 1945 to 1946. In the latter year he became a director on the Security Council Secretariat of the United Nations, and in 1947 was secretary to the Conventional Armaments Commission.

Mr. Williams was awarded the D.S.O. in 1943, was made C.B.E. in 1944 and C.B. in 1946, and is mentioned in dispatches three times. Elected Fellow of Balliol College in 1945, he is honorary treasurer of the Oxford University Cricket Club. He hopes to be able to visit the main Rhodes Scholar constituencies overseas during the next year.

### In the Tradition of Rhodes

Commenting upon the new appointment, *The Times* said in a leading article that the retiring warden, Dr. Allen, "is universally known as an uncompromising champion of the liberal tradition of the Common Law, upholding the liberties of the individual against the mass, and in the name of the rights of the subject, constantly protesting against the encroachments of the State."

Therein lies true to the thought of Cecil Rhodes, the last great prophet of expansive imperialism, for Rhodes had a vision of Empire as the great liberating force in the world, where the British flag was hoisted, Rhodes thought, civilization prevailed over barbarism to set the world free just as surely as physical slavery disappeared before the advance of law.

He did not live to see the coming of the word Communism to symbolize this liberal imperialism, but it is fundamental to his thought that Empire must be an obliterative of a nourisher of nationalism, and he saw clearly the idea of Dominion status even if he did not know the words.

## N. Rhodesian Loan

THE GOVERNMENT OF NORTHERN RHODESIA to-day issues £7,730,000 of 3½% Inscribed Stock, 1970-72, at 80 per cent. The money is to be lent to Rhodesia Railways for the purchase of locomotives and rolling-stock and for other development purposes. Before the public issue £2,130,000 had been placed, and £100,000 was reserved for subscription in Northern Rhodesia, leaving £5.5m. for the London market.

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## S. Rhodesia's New Cabinet Mr. Halsted Dropped

DEBAISE MR. R. F. HALSTED, Minister of Trade and Industrial Development, who had been severely criticized from many quarters, including members of his own party, over his handling of petrol rationing, refused the request of the Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia for his resignation, Sir Godfrey Huggins himself resigned last week. The Governor at once asked him to form a new Administration.

There is one new-comer to the Cabinet, Mr. J. M. Caldicott, a popular and respected farmer and M.P. for Mazoe, who becomes Minister of Agriculture.

The former holder of that portfolio, Mr. P. B. Fletcher, is now Minister for Native Affairs, his predecessor, Mr. W. A. E. Whitterton, succeeding to Mr. Halsted's office.

Mr. E. C. F. Whitehead (Finance), Mr. G. A. Davenport (Mines and Transport), and Mr. J. M. Greenfield (Justice and Internal Affairs) retain their old posts.

### Statement by Mr. Halsted

At the beginning of this week Mr. Halsted issued a statement which had not yet reached London, in which he placed the blame for the petrol confusion on other members of the Cabinet, pointing out that he was on leave when the decision to change the system was taken.

The statement reveals that factors other than the petrol squeeze were involved, for Mr. Halsted is shown to be at variance with the Minister of Finance, Mr. Whitehead, whom he accuses of holding wild economic theories. Mr. Halsted is not leaving the Government party; he will remain as a back-bencher, and says that he will keep a vigilant eye on Mr. Whitehead.

The petrol confusion and the prolonged Cabinet crisis are stated by *The Times* correspondent in Salisbury to have lowered the Government's stock, but there is now a disposition to reserve judgement until it is seen how the new Cabinet shapes.

The *Bar* too correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* cabled: "Southern Rhodesia, one of the first countries to scrap petrol rationing, was now compelled to reintroduce rationing the year ago due, so Government spokesmen said at different times, to shortage of tankers calling at Beira to shortage of holding stocks of carry petrol to the Colony, to lack of storage space, and, more recently, to the war clouds which threaten to dim even Rhodesia's eternal sunshine."

A few months ago Mr. Halsted promised to let his hat if petrol rationing was not ended. Instead, stricter rationing was introduced last month. But pie in the sky by and by is still being peddled to Rhodesians with the promise of a pipeline to bring petrol from the coast, and the installation of an oil-from-coal plant on the Wankie coal-field. But both these projects are merely in the early planning stages.

### Ministers' Careers

MR. CALDICOTT, born in Gloucestershire, has lived in the Colony for 20 years. In 1944 he was elected president of the Rhodesia National Farmers' Union, and was president of the Rhodesia Tobacco Association from 1943 to 1945. He became an M.P. in the general election of September, 1948.

MR. FLETCHER had been Minister of Agriculture since 1946, and his father held the same post from 1928 to 1932. He will not find his new task wholly unfamiliar, for he began his Civil Service career in the Native Departments.

MR. WHITTERTON, a solicitor, became Minister of Native Affairs in August, 1949, when the portfolio was relinquished by the Prime Minister. He was first elected to the Legislative Assembly in 1935, Reform Party member for Victoria. He is a past Vice-president of the Rhodesian Mining Federation.

MR. HALSTED was made a Minister on his entry into Parliament in September, 1948. A business man, he was Director of Supplies in the Colony during the war, and from March, 1947, to August, 1948, was Posts Controller.

East African civil servants are, for the most part, dissatisfied with the cost of living allowances which have been announced. It is expected that joint meetings of the civil service associations of all four territories will be held to make joint representations to the Secretary of State for the Colonies when he visits Kenya and Uganda.

## Parliament

## Mr. Gordon-Walker's African Tour Army Equipment in Kenya

IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS last week MR. A. LEWIS (Lab.) asked the Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations whether he would make a statement giving full information regarding his recent overseas tour, with details of the countries visited and talks held.

MR. P. GORDON-WALKER: "In response to invitations from the Governments of the Union of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia I have recently visited the two countries. I left London on January 18 and returned on March 4. During that time I also visited Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland. I owe a deep debt of gratitude to the Governments of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia, whose guest I was, and who did everything possible to make my tour interesting and profitable.

"In both the Union and Southern Rhodesia it was my purpose to learn as much as I could of all aspects of the national life. I met and talked with Ministers about matters of common concern to our countries. I visited the capitals and other large centres and toured in country districts. I saw a great deal of industry, agriculture and mining and I met a great number of people of all kinds and in many walks of life. Everywhere I met with great kindness and generous hospitality.

"In the High Commission territories I met chiefs and other notable and addressed representative gatherings of the people. This enabled me to explain the Government's policy. I was much impressed in all three territories by the work being done by the Colonial Development Corporation and under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act."

MR. P. SMITHERS (Cons.) asked how many Colonial students studying in Britain with the assistance of United Kingdom or other Government funds were married.

MR. GRIFFITHS: "Approximately 520, of whom 118 are accompanied by their wives or husbands. In some cases both husband and wife are students."

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much of these had already been transferred elsewhere.

MR. J. STRACHEY: "There are numerous miscellaneous units as well as units of the fighting Armies in East Africa in 1945. Details of the equipment held or subsequently disposed are not available."

MR. ALPERT: "Does the Minister realize that there were the equivalent of two divisions plus a number of various detachments in East Africa, all of which had full equipment? How is it, therefore, that he was able to state in a recent debate that there is not sufficient equipment in East Africa for an expansion of the Colonial Forces?"

MR. STRACHEY: "That equipment has not been left in East Africa."

SIR WALBRON SMITHERS (Cons.): "Can the Secretary of State say how much of the equipment went to Soviet Russia and to Soviet satellite countries?"

MR. GRIFFITHS: "That equipment has not been left in East Africa."

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Letters to the Editor

### Mr. Ernest Bevin and Africa

#### Policy on Ethiopia and Eritrea

To the Editor of EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA

SIR—When such events as the inauguration of Marshall Aid and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization have disappeared with the conditions which called them into being, two achievements will remain as the permanent accomplishment of Mr. Bevin's Foreign Secretaryship—the federal reunion of Eritrea with Ethiopia, with the restoration to Ethiopia of access to the sea, and the grant of self-government to Libya.

To Mr. Bevin these acts of liberation must be mainly attributed, for when all the other members of the Council of Foreign Ministers refused to restore to the former Italian Colonies to Italy in some form or other, this was the only consistently dissenting voice.

Yours faithfully,  
W. GARDNER GREEN  
E. SYLVIA PANKHURST

### Winning the Heart of Africa

#### Views of Canon W. J. Wright

To the Editor of EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA

SIR—Many of your readers will rejoice to hear of revival in what the proverbial Nanki partrays as a very wordly place. Between the wars it was fashionable in certain quarters to hold this opinion. I always felt that Nairobi was neither more nor less wordly than towns of similar size in this country. "Suppose," a voice seemed to say, "that dwellers in East Africa are greater sinners than our Englishmen?" I tell you, sir, except ye repent ye shall likewise perish.

There is crying need to-day not only of personal but of

corporate penitence. We resolutely adjust our values, confessing our faults. I believe that we can win the heart of Africa and enter the heart the mind, and after the mind the willing co-operation of all races.

Yours faithfully,  
W. WRIGHT,  
Former Dean of Nairobi

### Pensions for Colonial Service

To the Editor of EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA

SIR—As a pensioners' association official, I am intrigued by the suggestion that present-day pensioners should have secured endowment policies whilst they were serving, for I recall that in my early days in East Africa the Secretary of State was appointing pensioners at an initial salary of £130 a year, against Europeans who had also varying financial responsibilities. The implication is obvious.

Yours faithfully,  
G. PERCY LEWIS,  
Honorary Secretary, Kenya Government Pensioners' Assoc.

Southbourne.

In the days of which Mr. Lewis writes all salaries, official and non-official, were low, but money was money, and went three or four times as far as it does to-day. Costs of living, even in the towns of East Africa, were low, and, as an insurance company operating in the territories will confirm, many non-officials on small salaries managed to pay premiums on policies suited to their needs. Officials could have done the same had they wished, but because few foresaw the possibility that their pensions would have sadly reduced purchasing value, few did so.

Because they did not take precautionary measures, why should the others now expect to receive from their fellow taxpayers an annual bonus over and above that sum which their fellows had contracted to pay them in the form of a pension? That is the argument, in simple terms, for EAST AFRICA AND RHODESIA.

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# PERSONALIA

MR. J. RILEY, Director of Grain Stores, Tanganyika, has resigned.

SIR CHARLES and LADY MONTIMER have returned to South Africa.

MR. C. J. BAKER, Financial Secretary of Uganda, is on leave in England.

MR. A. LE MAITRE has been elected president of the Tames Township Association.

MR. DONALD AS NIVEN, Librarian of Bulawayo Public Library, is on leave in Scotland.

MR. J. L. BATES is chairman of the Rent Control Board of Nanyuki, Kenya.

MAJOR GENERAL C. D. PACKARD has been appointed Chief of Staff, Middle East Land Forces.

DR. GAVIN WRIGHT, a Government Medical Officer in Southern Rhodesia, is in London on leave.

MRS. HOPE JONES and MISS BEUNG spoke in last Sunday's B.B.C. programme on East Africa.

MAJOR B. P. SCHOTT has been elected president of the Tanganyika branch of the British Legion.

MR. S. E. C. PHILLIPS and N. A. ALLAN have been appointed to the board of the Land Bank of Tanganyika.

MR. S. MUHAMMAD has been elected president of the Tanganyika African Association, vice DR. V. KYAZURU.

MR. J. K. WATSON, Assistant Director of Public Works in Uganda, has been appointed Deputy Director.

MR. O. A. FRANK and LIEUT. COLONEL G. G. ROBSON have been appointed J.P.s. in the Southern Province of Tanganyika.

MR. FRANK WARRENDER has just returned from East Africa where he has been taking part in the film "No Surrender".

MR. R. THOMAS, MR. DOUGLAS PIRIE, and MR. MICHAEL ROSS left London last week on their way to Dakar by car.

MR. SYDNEY H. VEARS, who recently resigned the editorship of the *Bulawayo Chronicle*, is due to arrive in England to-day.

SIR EDWARD PRINING, Governor of Tanganyika, was open at the Southern Highlands Agricultural Show at Iringa on September 27.

MR. H. H. FOSSELL has been elected chairman of the Dar es Salaam Chamber of Commerce, of which Mr. C. MURRAY is vice-president.

Owing to indisposition SIR CHARLES LOGHART was unable to give his talk on the groundnut scheme at East Africa House yesterday evening.

MR. E. S. T. MARSHALL, of the Uganda Agricultural Department, and MISS A. C. PHILLIPS, of the G.E.C.N.S. Kampala, have announced their engagement.

MR. A. G. FRANK, Deputy Director of Education in Nyasaland, and MR. H. CROMBIE, Director of Veterinary Services in Uganda, are on leave in this country.

LADY MOUNTBATTEN, when opening the new hospital, announced that the name of the National group hospital was to be the George V Hospital.

MR. R. ASTLE, chief inspector of schools in Tanganyika, has been appointed Deputy Director of Education.

COLONEL W. J. COLLETT has been appointed Commissioner for Development in Tanganyika, and MR. R. S. W. MALCOLM, Commissioner for Co-operative Development.

PROFESSOR T. H. DAVEY and R. M. GORDON, both of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, have spent two weeks examining the problem of bilharzia in the Blue Nile Province of the Sudan.

PROFESSOR LILIAN PENSON, vice-chancellor of London University, and a member of the Council of Makerere College, Uganda, gave a reception for graduates and their guests at the Senate House on Friday.

The new Church of St. Andrew at Nairobi has been consecrated by the Moderator of the Church of Scotland, the Rt. Rev. PRINCIPAL HUGH WATT. The original building was built more than 40 years ago.

MR. IRA H. MORSE, of New Hampshire, U.S.A. who is on his sixth African safari, celebrated his 76th birthday in Northern Tanganyika by shooting his 13th lion. He plans to return to the Territory next year.

THE EARL OF LIMERICK, chairman of the Council of Councils, Territorial and Auxiliary Forces Association, has visited Southern Rhodesia and raised the development of the Colony's forces. The lead given by Southern Rhodesia in this regard in the proportion of manpower made available in the war would never be forgotten.

MR. K. K. O'CONNOR, since 1948 Attorney General of Kenya, who has been appointed Chief Justice of Jamaica in the place of SIR HECTOR HEARNE, the newly-appointed Chief Justice of Kenya, was called to the Bar in 1924 and was in private practice until 1942; when he went to Australia as a legal assistant. Appointed Crown Counsel in Nyasaland in the following year, Mr. O' Connor became Attorney General of the Malayan Union in 1946.

DR. C. D. CONVERSE has arrived in Southern Rhodesia from the United States to take charge of agricultural research at the Sabi Valley experimental station. He was born and grew up on a farm, on the Ohio maize belt, studied animal science but later became connected with the soil conservation service. He served with the 47th Infantry during the 1939-45 war, having previously spent a short time in Alaska as a territorial agronomist, and since then has been in charge of fertility and agronomic investigation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

## Obituary

### Viscount Elibank

VISCOUNT ELIBANK, who died at the age of 71 in Cape Town, where he had gone to live for health reasons in August last, was the third son of the first Viscount Elibank. He received his education in Dresden and in Scotland and joined the staff of a London bank in 1899. Three years later he went to British New Guinea as assistant secretary to the Lieut. Governor, later holding other local appointments there and in South Africa.

In 1906 he became assistant private secretary to the permanent Under-Secretary for the Colonies, a post he held till 1909. At different times administrator of St. Vincent and St. Lucia, Leeward Islands as Governor of the Windward Islands, before returning in 1911. After being a Good Commissioner in Scotland in the latter part of the 1910s, he became Unionist M.P. for the 2nd Colloch division of Glasgow, but did not seek re-election in 1922, and entered the House of Lords on the death of his father five years later. He was a strong advocate of Empire-free trade.

Until less than a year ago he was on the London committee of Colonial Syndicate, Ltd., the Anglo-Reserve Bank, Ltd., and was chairman of the African Investment Trust, Ltd., and the London and Rhodesian Mines and Land Co., Ltd.

MR. JOHN KENNEDY NORWOOD, who has died in Southern Rhodesia at the age of 69, was a director of Williams, Barr & Co., Salisbury, and a prominent Freemason.

COLONEL C. E. VICKERY, M.A., who has died in this country at the age of 82, served in the Sudan from 1907 to 1912.

# S. Rhodesia's Defence Plans & Railway Development Problems

DEFENCE PLANS have been debated in the Southern Rhodesian Parliament.

MR. L. M. CULLEN (United Party) said that the spread of Communism was a double danger in Africa and the native with his mode of life was a ready subject. It was imperative that the Government should disseminate suitable propaganda for Africans.

Stressing the dangers of over-control, he said that by introducing too many emergency powers in peace time, the Government would be doing exactly what Stalin wanted, it to do. The element of enterprise and endeavour that had developed Southern Rhodesia would be stifled.

The railways presented a formidable problem, for they were in a deplorable state. In the event of war the Colony would be virtually cut off.

MR. MACINTYRE (United Party) asked whether the production of strategic materials might not be the greatest contribution Rhodesia could make. Other countries were more in need of copper, tungsten, asbestos, and oil from coal at present than the need for small military assistance.

### Government Should Practise Austerity

Every member must ensure that powers surrendered to the Government were necessary. No people were asked to make sacrifices they had every right to expect the Government to bow to the same austere conditions. An independent "economizer" should be appointed, with direct approach to the Prime Minister. The cost of stockpiling should be taken out of revenue of the next four or five years.

MR. P. VAN DER MERWE (Liberal) was disappointed that Africans had not been included in the conscription plans. Africa would play an important part in any future war, and there would be a great demand for labour corps. He urged the Government to practise austerity themselves.

MR. W. H. EASTWOOD (Labour) suggested a reduction in Customs duties on textiles and other commodities in everyday demand. The abolition of subsidies was the main cause of price increases. The Government should restrict immigration to 6,000 during 1951. In 1949 the number had been 14,555 and the then Minister of Internal Affairs had stated that the Colony could not absorb anything like that number in the future. Yet in 1950 there had been 16,245 immigrants.

MR. C. HANZ (United Party) asked the Government to take a more positive interest in industry, which had its own development plans for the Colony. It would be necessary soon to look at the whole tariff structure. From the industrial point of view, there should be no differentiation in the margins allowed on locally produced and imported articles as there was in 1949. A margin of 25 per cent was allowed on the latter. If anything it should be the other way round.

### Plans for Fuel Storage

MR. L. KELLER (Labour) said that nothing had been learned about Government plans for fuel storage in times of emergency, nor about a more adequate and efficient operation of the railways. The latter were the Colony's weakest link. In the event of war the democracies could require all the metals that Southern Rhodesia could supply, but how could they be transported? The railways were operated by an inflexible board, as a result of a general manager. The reintroduction of price controls would be welcomed, for whatever they might be, merchants immediately took advantage of economic conditions.

MR. R. J. BALLANTYNE (United Party) urged the Government not to waste any more time over the plan to produce fuel from coal.

MR. F. W. SONS (United Party) said that the Colony was fortunate in having a great leader, and it was up to the people to help him by being more constructive and cooperative.

MR. W. S. QUINN (United Party) asked that patriotism was cheap when it came to words. Of the speeches offering support to the Prime Minister, there was hardly one without a qualification.

MR. J. R. DENBY YOUNG (United Party) said that the Colony's main power contribution in the last war had been over-rated. Supplied vegetables and dairy had been more of an embargo against the Allies than the authorities in Britain. Young Rhodesians who wanted to go to the service should be given every encouragement, and the passengers in recruiting ships outside the Colony. Southern Rhodesia's main effort should be directed towards achieving self-sufficiency.

THE PRIME MINISTER, SIR GUYRE HUGHES, said that an enormous amount of work had been done by all-informed criticism of the railways. True, there was a lot of work to be done, but it was being overcome. £10m. had been spent in dealing with it, and a further £17m. would be spent over the next three years.

"People talk of the enormous industrial expansion in this country, and say how clever they are. How many of them realize they could not have done any of it if the railways had not been working in an efficient way to serve the increased needs of the people? That is one of the greatest indications of their efficiency."

The men working in the railways had not received the encouragement they deserved from the public. What had been achieved in the past three or four years was a phenomenal exhibition of efficiency and labour. In the Colony 150 miles of tracks were under repair, against 12,000 in Europe. The personnel of the locomotives were out of action compared with 20% in Europe. That could not be called inefficiency.

### Encouraging Coal Production

Coal production was being pushed forward and another coalfield was being examined. A full exploration of the oil-field proposition was expected at the end of June. The proposed oil pipeline, essential to the economy of the Colony, would, he envisaged, eventually supply Mashonaland, perhaps as far as Que Que. Metaveland would be supplied by the oil-from-coal scheme.

The Government was not prepared to encourage secondary industries entirely dependent on imported raw materials, but if those industries could produce goods to export, good luck to them.

So far as new regulations were concerned, the Government would have to introduce a consolidating measure of controls in instalments, because they were not going to be very popular. Subsidies were completely removed when the pound was stabilized with the dollar. While other countries were still playing around with subsidies, the Southern Rhodesian Government, though firm, the sooner the country had an settlement, the better all industries and the real value of the pound, the better.

In the last war the Colony's military training scheme had worked extremely well. From a defence point of view, relations with the countries neighbours were perfectly clear. Before 1939 an inspector of the War Office had come out occasionally to give advice, and to a large extent that system had been continued since.

Whether Southern Rhodesia should concentrate on producing strategic material was a matter to be decided with partners in the struggle. During the last war, commented Sir Guyre, he had asked the Ministry of State whether it wanted air crews or tobacco; the answer was tobacco.

### Dr. Nkrumah Congratulated

CONGRATULATIONS to Dr. Nkrumah on his success in the Gold Coast elections have been sent by the Kenya African Union through its vice-president, Mr. Tom Mboela, in the following telegram: "The Kenya African Union and African people of Kenya generally are sending you and your party their heartiest congratulations on your gallant victory in the recent Gold Coast election. We in Kenya mark your success as a historic and basic change which we should cherish and follow."

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# Zimbabwe Theory Workmanship of South Indians

A NEW THEORY concerning Zimbabwe has been elaborated by Radit Anandriya, principal of the Masvingo College, Bechua, who has been visiting Southern Rhodesia.

The ruins are, he believes, a Shiva temple, the workmanship of South Indians of Dravidian stock, who migrated to Central Africa.

"When we visited the Bulawayo and Salisbury museums, and saw the pottery work, the earthen vessels and utensils such as bowls, pots and jars, we could see a strong affinity with South Indian pottery, and were convinced to see South Indian patterns used so accurately," he said.

"At the ruins we saw near the entrance a tree known in India as the 'kadamb' which is a common feature of Dravidian temples, especially those of Lord Shiva. We also found four trees of a kind which grow in areas which are known as 'kadamb'.

### The Zimbabwe Bird

Zimbabwe, added Mr. Anandriya, was shaped like the temples of the worshippers of Shiva, and the Zimbabwe bird depicted on Rhodesian coins was nothing else but Garuda, the bird of Vishnu in Hindu mythology.

"Zimbabwe must be the ancient Shivalaya of the South Indians who came to these parts as traders or laborers. The official pamphlet of Great Zimbabwe told us that no human relics in the form of human bones had been found. Hindus burn their dead, possibly a Hindu form of civilization flourished here, which would explain why no tombs or graves are to be found."

"To say that these ruins are of Bantu culture is a mistake. Nowhere in Africa have the Natives cut stones in the fashion we have seen in the ruins, but this is done all over India. Moreover, three stones embedded in the front of the temple have been imported from India, as they are found nowhere else."

# "Times" Review of the Colonies Case for Secretary of State for Africa

THE "REVIEW OF THE BRITISH COLONIES," which now appears as a quarterly publication, "upholds the point that the Colonial territories should be advanced progressively to self-government within the Commonwealth on the basis that all the races inhabiting them preserve their rights and make their proper contribution to the territory to which they belong." It intends to deal with constitutional developments, the problems of cultural societies, the political interplay of parties in individual Dependencies, the social changes resulting from industrialization and urbanization, and, of course, other subjects.

In the current issue Mr. Ivor Thomas re-examines the case for a separate Secretary of State for the African Colonies. He emphasizes that the idea has appealed more strongly to Governors anxious to secure more prompt and immediate attention for their own problems than to Secretaries of State, both to diminish the prestige of their office, on which their influence in the Cabinet so largely depends. Mr. Thomas writes:

### Difficulties Which Have Been Foreseen

Until 1947 the case for dividing the responsibilities of the office was strong. In retrospect it is clear that if there had been one Secretary of State for the African Colonies and another for the remaining territories many of the difficulties experienced might have been foreseen and averted.

As it was, the Secretary of State was obliged to give almost the whole of his attention to one pressing problem after another and was seldom able to see things steadily and whole. If this reform had been carried out after the first world war it might have greatly helped the smooth political evolution and economic development of the Empire.

Since 1947 there have been many changes, which have altered the force of the case. The main change is that since May, 1948, the Secretary of State has had no responsibility for the administration of Palestine, which Mr. Oliver Stanley once confessed took 75% of his time when it was quiet and 90% when it was disturbed. In November, 1947, the Secretary of State had already shed responsibility for the administration of India and in February, 1948, he shed his responsibility for Ceylon. Though these were big changes, they have not perhaps altered perceptibly the volume of work on the Secretary of State's desk; the process has been like emptying a few buckets of water from a house invaded by a flood which immediately rushes in to fill the vacant space. The changes have been far from the way more quickly than expected. The United Arab Emirates has already come to the stage of having African ministers. Nigeria will soon follow suit and the transfer of responsibility is being carried very far. For the present the Governors have reserve powers which will still require the Secretary of State to give the territories his close attention but the time when they will pass from under his supervision and now be contemplated.

This movement cannot be without an effect on the other African territories. All along the line there is a considerable devolution of powers in practice, even if the Secretary of State still assumes nominal responsibility for matters which have passed outside his control.

### Close Union in Central Africa

Then there are the movements for closer union. If federation is achieved in central Africa, it is inconceivable that it should be based on the present status of Southern Rhodesia, which means that Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland would no longer be a responsibility of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. In East Africa Dominion status must also be contemplated.

To sum up if anyone had advocated a separate Secretary of State for the African Colonies 10 years ago it would have had a strong case. This year, hence, clearly it may be necessary.

Is it then worth while carrying out the reform now? The case rests in the evolution of a territory to self-government within the Commonwealth. The most delicate, in my own view, is that, in spite of the shedding of substantial responsibilities which have been taken since 1947, and provided that both Secretaries of State had seats in the Cabinet, the reform would be justified.

The review contains articles on Uganda to day, the technical education of Africans, the industrial boom in Southern Rhodesia, game policy in Africa, and Soviet Colonial policy.

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### Dealing with African Tax Evaders How the Portuguese Meet the Problem

THE AFRICAN PROTECTORATE COUNCIL of Nyasaland, the body which represents the Africans of the whole Protectorate, having resolved unanimously that Africans who do not pay their annual poll tax by September 30 of any year should thereupon become liable to pay at a rate 50% higher, the Government has introduced a Bill to give effect to that principle.

The *Nyasaland Times* comments: "Our good neighbours the Portuguese deal with African tax evaders in a very sensible and effective manner. There is no automatic tax increase, and the defaulters are not convicted under the common law. They thereafter the treatment differs. He is kept separate from Africans convicted of theft and similar serious crimes, and is placed in a gang composed of tax defaulters only, and is set to labour on the roads or similar public work, a real hard day's work being exacted from him."

But in the evening, when he and his fellow defaulters have knocked off work and have gathered for the evening meal, the European warden in charge of the gang leaves them a man-to-man, heart-to-heart talk. He tells them that they are by no means criminals, but just fools. He explains that they are citizens of a State to which every adult must contribute his share for the upkeep of security, transport, education, and so on. In their case, for reasons known best to themselves, they have decided to contribute their share by means of public work.

He continues in this strain: "You know best, but I think you are fools. For one-tenth of the energy you are expending you could have grown sufficient agricultural produce to satisfy your indebtedness to the State; and for the expenditure of a little extra energy you could also have money in your pocket. That is why I say you are not criminals but merely fools." "The system in the Colony of Mozambique works very well indeed. The same tax defaulter seldom shows up a second time, and in general the defaulters are few and far between."

### S. Rhodesia's Cotton Industry Great Expansion in Gatooma

THE GATOOMA SPINNING MILL at the Southern Rhodesia Cotton Research and Industry Board began operating 24 hours round the clock last month.

Under a £17,500 grant made in use, producing 200,000 lb. of yarn monthly. With the completion of the second spinning mill, still under construction, the present output will eventually be doubled.

This industry has grown rapidly since the Empire Cotton Spinning Corporation began searching for an experimental farm site in 1925. They received an offer of land from the Gatooma municipality, and, under the guidance of Major George Cameron, a research station was opened in 1928. A first-class ginner was built in the town itself.

#### New Trade Mills

Much of the cotton spun is imported, but the proportion of Rhodesian-grown cotton has been rising steadily since the war, and is now some 50% of the total. The first weaving mill established in the district was opened by Gatooma Textiles, Ltd. in 1942, and now uses 30 tons of yarn monthly for its annual output of 3,500,000 yards of cloth. The company plans to double this output.

Early in 1950 Scotland Mills, a knitting company, began production in the industrial area, and now consumes five tons of cotton monthly.

The Rhodesian Cotton Corporation was registered last year as a textile company, with £250,000. It has purchased 15 acres on Gatooma's industrial sites, and plans to launch production of drills and denim materials early next year, with an annual target of 3,750,000 yards. Another knitting mill is being constructed by D. Pegler and Co. (Rhodesia), Ltd.

Consumption of cotton textiles within Southern Rhodesia is to-day some five times the output of the Gatooma spinning mill, and production will still equal only one-third of demand when the second mill is operating.



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## NEWS ITEMS IN BRIEF

Courses for training executive officers for local government councils have been started in the Sudan.

The European population of Southern Rhodesia has grown from 2,134 in 1938 to some 6,000 at the present time.

Approval has been given by the Kenya Legislative Council for a council building to be erected in Nairobi at a cost of £450,000.

A game ranger in the Songea district of Tanganyika has trapped a man-eating lion which was thought to have accounted for 32 victims.

The European population of the Rift Valley Province of Kenya is now about 9,000, the African population rather more than 11,000, and the African about 650,000.

The first modern university in Addis Ababa has been inaugurated by the Emperor of Ethiopia. Most of the professors, including the Dean, Professor L. E. L. M. M., are Canadians.

Durban Post Office officials said recently that many trained juniors were resigning in order to go to Northern Rhodesia, where they could obtain double their salaries for similar work.

### Indian Girl Guides Visit Rhodesia

A troop of Indian girl guides from Bhopal, who are touring East and Central Africa, arrived recently in Southern Rhodesia. They give displays of physical culture, folk-dances, and archery.

A memorial in Charterhouse War Memorial Chapel has been dedicated to Major General Orde Charles Wingate, who led the Chindit force in Burma and, earlier in the war, the Ethiopian irregulars.

Scholarships to enable deserving African students in or entering secondary schools in the Busoga, Bukuru, and Lango districts in Uganda to complete their high school course in any school in the Protectorate have been offered by the ginning pools of those areas.

The number of new private cars registered last year in Northern Rhodesia was 1,512, including 994 British and 523 American or Canadian models. Commercial vehicles totalled 1,366 (695 British, 663 U.S. or Canadian) and 334 motor-cycles (practically all British).

More than 1,500 miles of terraces were completed in the North Nyiriza district of Kenya during 1950, an area of 1,255 miles in the previous year. This is, however, regarded by Government as a very small achievement, which has had little effect upon soil movement in the area.

Official figures for the epidemic of cerebro-spinal meningitis in the Sudan for the week ended February 24 disclosed 1,363 new cases and 231 deaths. The worst infection was in the Kordofan Province, with 892 new cases and 113 deaths; for the Darfur Province, the respective figures were 388 and 98.

### Curing Blindness

Mr. A. R. McKelvey, recently appointed eye specialist in Kenya, has had remarkable success in the curing of blindness in the reserve. After performing two successful operations, he returned to the reserve with his wife and family and dealt with 194 patients, all of whom were cured in some degree.

The National Museum in Bulawayo has recently acquired several more relics of Cecil Rhodes, presented by two of his nieces, including a medal which Rhodes won for public reading at Bishop's, Stortford grammar school; his medals for the Matabele Rebellion and the Boer War; a set of beer mugs; and a cigar lighter.

In the history of juries in Southern Rhodesia there have been some rather bad verdicts, said Sir Robert Hudson, former Chief Justice of the Colony, in an address at Salisbury. "On the whole, however, juries take their job seriously and are just." He observed that the special jury had been an admirable institution.

An old African woman whose two balls were maimed before her eyes by the spears of Matabele nearly 100 years ago lives in a rough grass shack in the middle of a forest 100 miles north of Bulawayo. It was named at a recent Bulawayo meeting of the Methodist Missionary Society. She will see only one Native teacher and still lives in fear of the spears of Matabele soldiers.

Preliminary estimates made by the Central African Statistical Office show that the indigenous population within Northern Rhodesia numbers 1,266,000, with a further 83,000 of the territory's Africans living outside its borders. Of the former there are 1,368,000 Natives in villages, 212,000 in main towns, 46,000 on farms, and 138,000 elsewhere in the territory. The non-indigenous population totals 40,000.

### African Farming Experiment

Land in the Kigezi district of Uganda has been converted from traditional Native farming practice to horizontal strip cultivation. Simultaneously 25,000 Africans have been voluntarily transported from the denuded Kabale country for resettlement areas in north Kigezi. The best part of the work on the land has not exceeded £150 since 1946, the money having been offered in prizes and training fees in connection with field competitions for the best districts. Transportation costs amount to 24s. per head.

Representatives of the Umma Party (Independence Front) withdrew last week from the Sudan Legislative Assembly owing to the Government's insistence that no revision of the constitution could be considered outside the present constitutional framework. The Umma Party, which holds two-thirds of the seats in the Assembly, is not supported by the representatives of the southern areas in their proposal for a commission to consider the revision. Unless the deadlock is removed the Governor-General will be obliged to rule by decree.

Unless Salisbury has a new aerodrome, it may become an aerial backwater when the D.W. Comet service between England and Southern Africa is introduced towards the end of this year. Sir Miles Thomas, chairman of B.O.A.C., who has again been visiting Southern Rhodesia, Salisbury should be brought within one-and-a-half hours of London, he added. The Comet needed a 7,500 ft. runway with good approaches and very good radio aids. Mr. L. J. Dumortier, Under Secretary in charge of air service questions in the Ministry of Civil Aviation, to join the United Kingdom delegation to the Southern Africa Air Transport Council conference in Nairobi, also visited Salisbury. He praised the part played by Central African Airways in opening up the territories.

### Latest Locust Report

THE ANTI-LOCUST RESEARCH CENTRE in London reported this week that hatching continues on the Red Sea coast of Eritrea. British Somaliland was free up to the end of February, and Somalia to February 16. In Ethiopia swarms were observed late in January, but the country has reported free since last month. In Kenya swarms, mostly small and immature, were moving south and west in the Isiolo, Mandera, north Masai, and Tana districts. In the Northern Frontier District they were reported moving north near Wajir. Swarms reached Tanganyika in the second week of February, concentrating mainly in the Arusha district. By the end of the month many were mature, and oviposition was reported from two places on the Kenya-Tanganyika border. Migration on the coast of the Sudan was controlled, and the country reported clear in February. It is expected that some young swarms may appear in Eritrea, and that movements in Kenya and Tanganyika will continue. Some may be destructive, but they may be expected in both territories.



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### Africans' Role in Food Production Block System in Victoria Reserve

"I DO NOT THINK we realize the part the Native plays in contributing to the Colony's food supplies," says Mr. D. J. A. Robinson, Assistant Director of Native Agriculture in Southern Rhodesia, recently.

"During 1948 and 1949 practically all the small grains produced in the Colony came from the reserves. Natives produced about 95% of our groundnuts, 65% of the beef, over 55% of the wheat, and just over half of the total production of maize.

"Some of that was consumed in the reserves. Very much more food is needed in the Colony, and if we can raise the production in the reserves by as much as one bag per acre it will make a substantial contribution to foodstuffs in Southern Rhodesia."

Describing the organized plan, evolved in 1949, to increase production in the Victoria Reserve, Mr. Robinson said that some 100,000 acres were split into blocks of 20,000 acres each and a rotational system of cropping planned for each block according to soil and climate.

#### Native Demonstrators

The basic system was grain plus manure, grain, legumes and then a close-growing crop. Under the supervision of a land development officer, a Native demonstrator was responsible for development in each block, which was split into headmen's areas. Meetings were held to explain the scheme to the people, and, finally, the land was allocated, six acres going to each married man.

"The response has been extraordinarily good," said Mr. Robinson. "Only four or five people are still mixing their crops, and the demonstrators have offered advice on the system of rotation to the cultivator. They have not been forced to carry out the system, but have followed it of their own accord."

An improved grazing plan had been carried out in the Tloane Mamuti Reserves. When the land was taken over it was over-stocked and over-populated, and the condition of the cattle lamentable. As a result of experiment, improvement in the wet areas had exceeded all expectations. So far as schemes for complete reserves were concerned, said Mr. Robinson, he believed that these experiments were the first of their kind in Africa.

### S. Rhodesia's Need for Dairy Cows

THE suggestion that Southern Rhodesia should import cows from Australia and New Zealand is described as "ludicrous" by Major R. R. Sharp in the *Rhodesian Hermer*.

"The Department of Agriculture," he writes, "apparently takes the defeatist view that our production of dairy products can be maintained and increased only by the importation of dairy cows, and that natural increase cannot be expected to provide the necessary replacements."

"The modern dairy cow cannot be economically managed on pasture alone, and can give of her best only if provided with adequate supplies of artificial food. Southern Rhodesia can produce immense quantities of roughage, silage, hay, and so on at a ridiculously low cost, and if roughage of really high quality is provided the quantities of expensive concentrates can be materially cut down."

"The compulsory rearing of every suitable dairy heifer to a suitable standard might mean a temporary reduction of supplies for human consumption; Major Sharp affirms, but could well treble production in five or 10 years."

"We can, if we wish, have a healthy dairy industry, capable of supplying all the needs of the Colony, but the first essential is to have enough cows. Large numbers of good dairy bulls under Government subsidy have been introduced into our herds in the last 10 or 15 years, but where are their progeny? It is clear that the majority never reach production."

Mr. Paul Mboya, member of the East Africa Central Assembly, is just like a picture on the wall. He has sat there for four years and never said a word. Not has he held any discussions with us. We want a man who will consult us about our needs. It would be better to be represented by a European rather than by a person of this kind. — Jomo Kenyatta.

### Common Roll in Southern Rhodesia Reply to Fabian Gellus

PROFESSOR W. M. MACMILLAN has replied as follows to the letter to *The Times* which was quoted in our last issue:

"The letter from Mr. Creech Jones and Lords Faringdon and Lindsay of Esker in your issue of March 6 on the Southern Rhodesian Electoral Bill seems to me less than wholly fair to the Rhodesian people, and therefore unhelpful.

"The letter condemns the high income and property qualifications for the franchise as repugnant to democratic thought and modern British practice. It is, however, questionable if the practice of one homogeneous society is in all respects relevant to the complex, plural societies of Central or East Africa, and there was room for various experiments."

"Adult suffrage as practised in Rhodesia or the Gold Coast would be doubtful as a precedent for democratic ways of thinking, but these were not at least not fully proven, and it would at any rate be unentirely to jump advance on this line practicable for the more complex societies of Rhodesia."

"In fact, these Rhodesians, rejecting the dubiously democratic-parliamentary systems taking root in the Union and elsewhere, have reverted to the principle to the oldest and in its day the most successful experiment of them all—any, and following the almost forgotten Cape model, the same 100-year-old plan that the Union Coloured Persons Bill now threatens with final extinction in the blessed name of apartheid."

#### Bill Will Exclude Some Europeans

It is true that the Electoral Bill as it now stands may have fixed the income and property qualifications too high, at £240 and £500 respectively. This was a fair target for criticism and it should be put right, but it remains that, though the Bill may for the moment disqualify too many potential African voters, it will certainly also exclude some Europeans. I make bold to guess, moreover, that if Southern Rhodesia continues to develop at anything like its present rate, the number of Africans qualified for a vote may increase much faster than the Minister for Native Affairs is said to expect.

"With all respect to your correspondents, the cheering fact is that Southern Rhodesia has thus swung back to the unexceptionally democratic principle of the common roll, and that within a year or so the mention of such a thing causing no small stir in parts of East Africa. The sovereign merit of the common roll (as Cape practice has shown in African contexts) is that it puts most, if not all, Parliamentary candidates under a compelling electoral necessity to be aware of African interests and of African opinion."

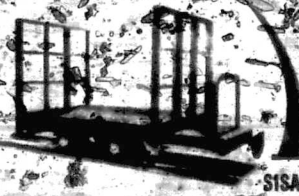
"It is, I think, widely accepted in Rhodesia itself that in present conditions there must also be special representatives to speak for the as yet unfranchised masses. And for the elite, the educated few, there is no doubt whatever that their great ambition is still the full citizenship of which inclusion on one common electoral roll is the readiest evidence. It is a great matter that in Rhodesia the door now stands open."

### Substitute for Jute

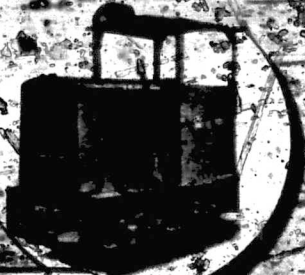
INTEREST HAS BEEN AROUSED in East Africa by the manufacture in the Union of socks from the fibre of common hibiscus which grows in both Kenya and Tanganyika. Mr. T. Robie, commerce secretary to the Commissioner for South Africa in Nairobi, has said that these bags are stronger than those made from jute and preferred for the packing of wool and cotton. He considered that the production of hibiscus fibre could become one of East Africa's biggest industries. Processing was a secret and expensive process, but the current price of hibiscus fibre was about £100 per ton and yields of two tons per acre had been harvested. The process might be made available to the East African territories.

When Sir John Kennedy, Governor of Southern Rhodesia, recently inspected the Colony's Far East contingent in Salisbury, he said: "I knew all about the Rhodesian military tradition long before I knew anything else about this country. It was a tradition started in the days of the pioneers, and has grown in the course of two world wars until it is known all over the Empire to be second to none."

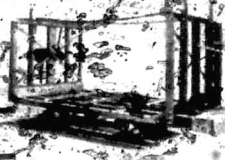




SISAL WAGONS



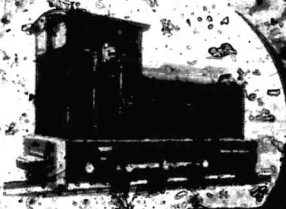
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## Of Commercial Concerns

Mr. H. S. Lovell, chairman of the Premier Portland Cement Company (Rhodesia) Ltd., said recently that the company hoped to bring the new unit of the present factory into full production within the next few months. With the completion of the reorganization of its quarry at Colleen Basin, plentiful supplies of limestone would be available. Even with this increased output the Rhodesian factories would not be able to meet the full demands of the Colony, and the Premier Company had been making plans for an additional factory near Salisbury, which it was hoped would prove sufficient to meet the shortage. Inquiries had already been made regarding a pig plant, and the company had been assured of reasonably quick delivery. Existing shareholders would be given the right to participate in the issue of capital which would be necessary.

It is officially estimated that financial revenue for 1951 will be about £10,444,000, a rise of no less than 60% above the approved estimates for 1950, almost the whole of the large increase being due to the yield of export taxes on cotton and coffee. The cotton and coffee price assistance funds now total about £18,000,000.

A sufficient quantity of expired vouchers having been accumulated, provisional vouchers covering amounts from 1949 into Tanganyika are now being issued on a restricted scale in respect of applications which have been held pending by the Department of Trade and Economics. No new applications will be accepted.

Near-drought conditions in Southern Rhodesia threaten many tobacco farmers with heavy financial losses, and hopes that a record crop of 150,000,000 lbs. would be produced this season have largely been abandoned. Many crops are also threatened.

Rubber is being planted experimentally in the Mopani district by the Government of Tanganyika. During the last war rather more than 4,000 tons of rubber were produced from the detritus areas plantations still existing from the war.

### News Sugar Refinery

Rhodesia's new sugar refinery in Salisbury is expected to begin operations within the next few weeks. Consumption in the Colony has reached 200 tons weekly, but the existing sugar refinery in Bulawayo has reached its peak production of 700 tons.

Mr. R. B. Richards, managing director of the Cementation Company, Ltd., London, recently inspected the work being carried out by the Rhodesian branch of the company at Hunyani Port, near Salisbury. Progress is ahead of schedule.

The last two elementary sugar plants in Tanganyika have been sold. The Kwandulu estate to Messrs. Jungi, Ltd. (the Tranter syndicate), and the Kihul estate to Messrs. W. F. Nichol, J. B. Wilson, and A. L. Randall.

A progress film of the work at Owen Falls during the past three years concerning the manufacture of the plant in factories in Great Britain is to be made under arrangements by the Owen Falls Electricity Board.

Application for a licence to operate non-scheduled charter air services has been made to the Central African Airways Authority by the Johannesburg Light Plane Club.

The largest industrial show ever to be staged in Rhodesia will be held in Bulawayo from May 4 to 10, organized by the Federation of Rhodesian Industries.

The Southern Rhodesian Government is to give financial help to a Johannesburg business man to establish a precision grinding plant in Lusaka this year.

East African Sisal Plantations, Ltd., propose to capitalize £47,500 by the distribution of a one-for-two bonus to shareholders registered on April 6.

The East African Posts and Telegraphs Department has an expansion programme which will cost about £1.5m. in the next five years.

### Kilimanjaro Reafforestation

Within the next 30 years some 50,000 acres of reafforestation are to be undertaken on Kilimanjaro by the Tanganyika Government.

The embargo imposed on December 16 by East African railways on the railing of sisal at Qar es Salaam has been lifted.

Attempts to encourage Africans in the Nekoma district of Northern Rhodesia to grow more rice have proved disappointing.

Beira radio station now sells time to advertisers.

## Bandanga, Ltd., Report

BANDANGA, LTD., a Nyasaland tea planting company, earned a profit of £1,742 in the year ended September 30 last, compared with £3,102 in the previous year. Taxation absorbs £7,800. General reserve receives £3,000 and a dividend of 10% on the reserve of £1,640, leaving £2,245 to be carried forward against 250,000 shares.

The issued capital of £32,000 is shares of 5s. each. Revenue is £1,742 and £13,245 reserve for income in 1951 is at £15,000 and current liabilities at £8,310. Fixed assets are valued at £27,380 and current assets at £30,992 including £19,852 in cash.

The company owns 548 acres of mature and 24 acres of immature tea, with another 76 acres prepared for planting. Fuel plantations amount to 100 acres, and there are 3,900 acres of land under review and 10 for buildings, etc. In the year under review 61,209 lb. of tea were manufactured, compared with 251,528 lb. in the previous year. Average f.o.b. costs increased from 15.93d. to 28.62d. per lb., but the average price rose from 23.33d. to 28.62d. per lb. Three-quarters of the crop was sold to the Ministry of Food.

The directors are Messrs. Spencer (chairman), J. A. Loram, and R. B. Euler, and the 13th annual general meeting will be held in London on March 19.

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Abridged Prospectus

Consent of His Majesty's Treasury has been obtained for this issue in compliance with the Group Finance Act, 1947, under Section 10 of the Borrowing (Control and Guarantees) Act, 1948.

The list of applications will open at 10 a.m. on Thursday, the 15th March, 1951, and close at or before 3 p.m. on the same day.



**NORTHERN RHODESIA GOVERNMENT**

**3 1/2% Inscribed Stock, 1970-1972**  
**ISSUE OF £7,730,000**

of which £2,130,000 has already been placed in the terms of the Prospectus, £100,000 is reserved for subscriptions by applicants resident in Northern Rhodesia which have been guaranteed and the remainder, £5,500,000 is now offered for subscription.

Authorized by Ordinances No. 15 of 1931 and No. 47 of 1950.

**Interest payable 15th March and 15th September**

A first interest payment of £1 6s. 8d. per £100 Stock will be made on the 15th September, 1951.

**PRICE OF ISSUE £99 PER CENT**

Payable as follows:

On Application	£100 per cent.
On 5th April, 1951	£100 per cent.
On 28th May, 1951	£99 per cent.
	£99 per cent.

The Government of Northern Rhodesia, acting in compliance with the requirements of the Colonial Stock Act, 1900, trusts to be authorized to invest in this stock, subject to the restrictions set forth in the Trustee Act, 1925.

The proceeds of the loan will be retained by the Rhodesia Railway and applied to the financing of a plan of capital development which includes the purchase of new locomotives and rolling stock, the provision of housing, workshops, buildings and plant, expenditure on the permanent way, bridges, deviations and other objects likely to improve the operation and capacity of the system.

The loan and the interest thereon, the property of persons not resident in Northern Rhodesia, will not be subject to any taxes, duties or levies by the Government of Northern Rhodesia.

THE CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, on behalf of the Government of Northern Rhodesia, invite applications for £5,500,000 stock as stated above. The stock will be issued under the provisions of the General Loan and Stock Ordinance of Northern Rhodesia and will be inscribed in accordance with the provisions of the Colonial Stock Act, 1900.

The loan is secured on the general revenues and assets of the Government of Northern Rhodesia. A sinking fund will be formed in this country for the redemption of the loan under the management of the Crown Agents, who are appointed trustees. Half-yearly contributions to the sinking fund will be at the rate of not less than one per cent. per annum and the first contribution will be taken on or before the 15th March, 1954. These contributions may be increased, and will only be discontinued if and when the trustees are satisfied that no further contributions will be required to ensure the redemption of the loan at its maturity.

The stock will be transferable in multiples of £1, at the Crown Agents' Stock Transfer Office, Lloyds Bank Building, 55-61 Moorgate, E.C.2 (subject to the provisions of the Government and other Stock (Emergency Provisions) Act, 1947, without charge. Stamp duty will be paid by the Government of Northern Rhodesia.

Series Certificates to Bearer will be issued at the Crown Agents' Stock Transfer Office in exchange for allotment certificates after the payment of the amount due on the 5th April, 1951. It is intended that at a later date advantage shall be taken of the provisions of the Colonial Stock Act, 1900, and of Section 17 of the Northern Rhodesia General Loan and Stock Ordinance to make regulations which will have the effect of converting the stock into registered stock.

Arrangements for the receipt of applications from residents in Northern Rhodesia and for the payment of instalments on allotments made in respect of such applications will be made by the Government of Northern Rhodesia. Instalments on local allotments must be paid locally.

A commission of five shillings per cent. will be allowed to bankers and stockbrokers on allotments made in respect of applications bearing their stamp.

The Colonies of Northern Rhodesia alone are liable in respect of the above stock and the interest thereon, and the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom and the Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury are not directly or indirectly liable or responsible for the payment of the stock or of the interest thereon, or for any matter relating thereto (Act 40 and 41, Vict., Ch. 59, Sec. 19).

The Public Debt of Northern Rhodesia amounted on 30th June, 1950, to £4,637,000. The accumulated sinking funds on the same date amounted to £303,825.

Full prospectuses and application forms may be obtained from the Crown Agents for the Colonies at 1, Abchurch Lane, E.C.4; or at Lloyds Bank Buildings, 55-61, Moorgate, E.C.2; Barclays Bank (D.C. & O.), 29 Gracechurch Street, E.C.3; 2, Castle Street, Liverpool; and 26, Princes Street, Manchester; the Standard Bank of South Africa, 100, Abchurch Lane, E.C.4; Messrs. Minnett & Co., 15, Gresham Street, Mansion House, E.C.4; Messrs. J. & A. Beaman & Co., Louthbury, E.C.2; or at any Stock Exchange in the United Kingdom.

All applications will be considered only in the terms of the full prospectus.

OFFICE OF THE CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES  
13th March, 1951, at the LLOYDS BANK BUILDING, LONDON, S.W.1

## Company Meetings

## National Bank of India, Limited

## Balance-Sheet Total Reaches New High Peak

## Statement by the Chairman, Mr. J. K. Michie

THE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED, will be held in the bank's premises at 24 Bishopsgate, London, E.C.2, on Thursday, APRIL 9, at 12 noon.

MR. J. K. MICHIE, chairman of the bank, has circulated to shareholders, with the report and accounts for the year ended December 31, 1950, a statement in the following terms:

"I have the pleasure to report on another year of expanding business and in so far as that has been the consequence of our own policy it is a matter for satisfaction.

"The total of our balance-sheet reaches a new peak at £109,970,767, the comparative figure for last year being £92,372,500. Deposits have risen by £17,311,149, and advances by £3,604,982.

"Our consolidated balance-sheet total shows an equally satisfactory increase, the figure being £117,404,771, as against £114,559,065 last year.

## Net Profit of £361,957

"After making full provision for taxation, bad and doubtful debts, and other necessary reservations, including an appropriation to the staff pension fund, which previously has been shown as a separate item in the profit and loss account, our net profits are £361,957 against the comparable figure for 1949 of £368,500. Considering that the wage expenses continue to go up, the result is satisfactory.

"We propose to allot the sum of £100,000 to premises, including increasing last year's provision by £50,000. We have in progress and ahead of us a heavy programme of building new and rebuilding old banking premises and of building and buying housing for our overseas staffs. Your board therefore consider it wise to provide against this expenditure as we go along as far as this is possible.

"Out of the year's profits, we have been able to allocate £60,000 to the reserve fund and, to supplement this, we have transferred £40,000 from inner reserves no longer required. Our published reserve funds will now stand at £3,600,000.

"The amount to be carried forward to next year is increased by a small amount.

## Pensions Fund

"The aim of all pensions funds must be to reach actuarial soundness, and a recent valuation of our funds shows this with our large staff of younger staffs we require to make considerably increased allocations if, even over a long period, we are to reach that goal. We have accordingly materially increased the allocation from last year's profits. This item being an expense of the business, in accordance with generally accepted practice from now on we do not propose to show this as a separate item in the profit and loss account.

"Grindlays Bank Ltd. have brought their accounts for the year into line with our own and their results for the period of 14 months covered by the accounts were satisfactory.

"Our Finance Corporation has continued to meet the needs of the limited market for which it was created. As you know, corporations of this kind are not intended to overlap or compete in normal banking business.

"During the past year we have opened five new

branches and sub-branches, and under the authority of the respective central banks we shall shortly open branches at Bangalore in Southern India and at Kathmandu which will serve the new port of Chama in East Pakistan. We have also arranged to open a branch at Port Portal in Uganda. Our further programme of extensions overseas is held back only by the difficulty of recruiting trained staff in step with our needs.

## West End Branch To Be Opened

"We have anxious and more local development in train. Provisional arrangements have been made to lease a very suitable building in St. James's Square, one time known as Whigham's Club, and we hope to open a West End branch there some time this year. Not only will this additional office enable us to offer our constituents better service in London, but it will relieve the increasing pressure on space in our head office. As soon as this can be done, our customers will be advised of the opening date and of the services that will be available.

"Last year was one in which many adjustments had to be made, for the major effects of the devaluations of certain currencies carried out in September, 1949, did not begin to emerge until 1950. Quite more recently the world-wide programme of rearmament have added further impetus to the inflationary trend which devaluation has already accentuated. Industrialists, merchants, and not least bankers, have had to face the problem of financing stocks and shipments of goods at consistently rising prices until today the whole financial machinery is under strain. Taxation of commercial profits is so high that an altogether disproportionate share of the burden of financing highly priced goods is being placed on the shoulders of banking.

## How Prices Have Risen

"Let me give a few examples of the relationship of prices to-day with those of 1938:

	1938	Feb. 1951
American cotton	41s. to 45s. 6d. per lb.	3s. per lb.
Lute	£18 to £20 per ton	£470 per ton
Wheat	£77 to £18 per ton	£226 per ton
Pea	1s. per lb.	3s. 3d. per lb.
Coffee, Kenya B	£40 to £60 per ton	£540 per ton
Rubber	6d. to 8s. per lb.	6s. per lb.

"The expansion of capital in the hands of commerce, industry and banking has not kept pace with the inflation, so we must war ourselves against the ever increasing danger of advancing money to speculative borrowers. It is our duty to assist sound commerce; it is also our obligation to our borrowers, and to our shareholders to keep this help within the limits of safety.

"In a period of world shortages and advancing markets buyers will overlook late shipments and even faulty documents. But, although different attitudes will be shown as prices recede from these—in some cases—fantastic levels. Divergent views are held about the immediacy of this danger, but if the value of money is to be preserved, a vigorous attempt must be made to control the rising trend of the prices of what it buys. Restrictions of certain kinds of credits are one potent method, but unless adopted as a general policy it would be ineffective.

"During 1950 India had much to contend with in her struggle for self-sufficiency in food and economic equilibrium. The disastrous earthquake and flood in

Assam, which damaged so many tea estates, and the drought elsewhere, were some blows to India's hopes, and, while the tea industry has made a wonderful recovery, India's deficit in foodstuffs in 1951 is estimated to be less than 2,000,000 tons, and may be much more. The ending of the temporary charter trade agreement with Pakistan in September, 1950, added greatly to the difficulties of her vital jute and cotton industries, and has interfered with what would have been the normal flow of India of surplus food available in Pakistan.

**India's Incoming Food Supplies**

Fortunately a new trade agreement is to run from February 26, 1951, to June 30, 1952, the first being concluded which includes the recognition of India of the existing value of the Pakistan rupee, and this should redound to the benefit of both parties. Much needed jute, cotton, and grain are now flowing from Pakistan to India, and equally necessary coal, steel, cement, and textiles from India to Pakistan.

In several of his annual statements my predecessor drew attention to the patent fact that an adequate food supply is the first necessity for India, and that until this is assured no general industrial expansion can be safely or successfully pursued. This is again all too evident, and I trust the U.S.A. will find it possible to release both the grain and the shipping for the 2,000,000 tons of foodstuffs, the shipment of which Congress is now considering. It would mean many millions of the population of India from actual starvation, and would be an act of the greatness which only the U.S.A. can perform.

An unfortunate repercussion of the difficulties India's economy is having to face is the increase in taxation which the Finance Minister, Sir Chintaman Deshmukh, has just announced. I have no doubt he regrets as much as we do the necessity for reversing the policy of reducing direct taxation inaugurated by his Government last year.

**Ceylon**

The economy of Pakistan has recently been much straitened by the rise in the prices of jute, cotton, hides, and wool, of which she is a large exporter. Her food position both in East and West Pakistan is also satisfactory.

Recent months the trade of Pakistan has been very active, and the shipping position has considerably benefited by the opening of a new port at Chalna in Bengal, which will relieve the congestion at Chittagong. A contract has just been placed for the improvement of Chittagong port facilities, which since partition have been badly overtaxed.

To the universal regret, and in spite of the offers made during the recent Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference, no settlement of the Kashmir dispute between India and Pakistan has yet been reached. A further effort is now being made by the U.K. and the U.S.A. through the U.N.O., which the well-wishers of both countries hope will lead towards a settlement.

**Ceylon's Prospects**

Ceylon has had a prosperous year and a balanced budget, and prices of tea, rubber, and copra have been buoyant. The State Bank of Ceylon was formally opened on August 28, 1950, we welcome the establishment of this central bank, which should be a great benefit to the banking community, particularly with regard to the opportunities it gives of obtaining immediate cover for foreign exchange operations when such is necessary.

In June last the Government of Ceylon entered into a contract to spend nearly £4,250,000 over a period of four years on a plan to develop and modernize the port of Colombo. When this scheme is completed, Colombo will indeed be one of the most efficient ports in the East, with a total tonnage for 14-16 ships, the most up-to-

date equipment for handling all types of cargo, and transit sheds of the most modern design. The Government of Ceylon are to be congratulated on their vision in going forward with this scheme, which should benefit greatly both their country and the shipping using the port.

The news from Burma I am glad to say, is of an improvement in conditions both political and economic in a country of such bountiful natural agricultural and mineral wealth, all that has been wanted in Burma on the road towards prosperity was internal peace and security. The year 1950 gave hope that this has begun, though a great deal more remains to be done before the improvement can be looked on as a permanent one.

This year it is believed that a total export of 2,500,000 tons of rice will be reached, and as prices have risen this will mean a large addition to Burma's revenue and to her earnings of foreign exchange. All she can produce is badly wanted.

**Colombo Plan**

Before I leave the Asian field, mention should be made of that product of Commonwealth statesmanship known as the Colombo Plan, the outcome of a conference held in London in September last. It is hoped to fund and put at the disposal of certain countries of South East Asia, for the development of their agriculture and other natural resources, over a period of the next six years, the vast sum of more than one thousand millions of pounds. The idea is that the necessary funds should be found in part by releases from the sterling balances held by the countries concerned, partly by private investors, partly by international institutions such as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and partly by loans from overseas Governments to the Governments of the receiving countries. At the moment the gap between the estimated cost of the schemes put forward and the funds estimated to be available is £500 millions, so without help from the U.S.A. the plan cannot possibly be brought to fruition.

A conference has just been held in Colombo to discuss the practical aspects of the plan at which the U.S.A. was represented. I hope this is an augury that she will yet see her £500 million, despite her other large commitments.

The trade of Aden continues active, and far from its traditional function as a port of export for hides and skins, it has increased in importance as a entrepot centre.

**East African Progress**

Our East African territories have shared in the general expansion of trade during 1950, and I am glad to say the drought conditions from which they suffered in 1949 were not repeated. Coffee and cotton prices continued high, while the world price of sisal has now topped £200 per ton, a rise of more than 100% since 1949.

Trade has therefore been good for farmers, traders and industrialists alike, and the flow of capital into Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika has continued.

So long as the regard is first had to the longer term prospects of new ventures, and so long as they are soundly planned, nothing but good can come of developing the assets of East Africa, and we shall continue to do our part in providing the necessary banking services. The activities of the Overseas Food Corporation are being brought within the requirements and control transferred to the Colonial Office.

The market for cloves has participated in the general rise to a marked degree, and today prices are nearly five times what they were in the year 1949. Zanzibar has therefore had a prosperous year, particularly as the crop has been an excellent one, the incidence of the sudden death disease, which recently attacked the clove trees, having been very much less than was feared.

Taxation is a subject of which we shall hear more in the near future, and that it is not likely to be to our advantage. My remarks therefore can only be of a general nature. I have recently read a pamphlet issued by the Fabian Society which advocates a steady and remorseless extension of the policy known as 'Soaking the Capitalist' but with the proviso that at no stage must the process be so obvious as to cause the worm to turn and thereby immediately imperil the economy of the country. The iron hand applying the squeeze must be skilfully camouflaged by the velvet glove of socialistic benevolence.

**Destructive Taxation**

One must hope that the Government will prefer another Fabian policy, the classic one of delay, for in the opinion of many patriotic thinkers a point has already been reached where the best of direct taxation cannot be in the real interests of the State, which let us face our own situation. To take from the miner and industry well over 50% of their earnings is itself destructive, and is surely beyond the dreams even of the most somnolent of sleeping partners. Much is written about incentives for labour and management, if not to capital and it has to be said that defence must be prepared for and paid for. The best encouragement I can think of would be for taxpayers of all categories to be able to recognize in the spending of the money which they earn and Government collect the same care and prudence which these Governments are so anxious to see exercised by their economic slaves, and which the taxpayers willfully must impose on themselves.

**Greater Productivity Needed**

Such a policy is the only one likely to achieve what is claimed to be the aim of all—greater production, an expanding income and so the road for a stay, not a reduction, rather than an increase in the rates of taxation.

The price of the devaluation is not necessarily as high as is now expected, and the period of apparent financial settlement that follows a devaluation is over. We and other countries similarly placed have had to face selling on the same currency value at that in which we had been leading increase in productivity, the same old man was yet in front of us. It is already coming into view.

At times we are very much like a heavy omnibus creeping down an interminable and winding road. The drivers of the omnibus have removed the handbrake of interest rates as unnecessary and the driver is afraid to use the footbrake of credit curtailment. The fact that all traffic is travelling in the same direction does not make the ride any safer or the end of it less certain.

Provided nothing cataclysmic happens in world affairs or in commodity markets—and there is no reason to believe that it will—our prospects for 1951 are quite favourable, but, I repeat, the higher prices go the greater the danger and the greater the anxieties of responsible bankers.

The staff come last but not least. We continue to be faced with the difficulty of increasing our training managerial and clerical staffs to meet an expanding and exciting business which demands incessant application and vigilance.

That the work has been done so well, enough to

have not yet been able to overcome the needs, is another tribute to the devotion to the bank's interests shown by the staff throughout the service, and I am sure you will want to let them know that their work is appreciated.

**Mining**

**Company Export Reports**

Wanderer—24,000 tons of ore were treated in February for 1,872 oz. gold and a working profit of £163,482. Motapa—32,000 oz. gold were recovered from the milling of 22,000 tons in February for a working profit of £234,872. In February 9,100 tons of ore were treated in February for 700 oz. gold and an estimated working profit of £209. Milling time was lost through repairs.

Rhodesian Corporation—666 oz. gold were recovered at the Fred and Redwing mine in February from 3,500 tons of ore treated. The working profit was £85.

London & Rhodesia—An estimated working surplus of £120 was made in January by the recovery of 1,064 oz. gold from the treatment of 3,338 tons of ore and 435 tons of waste.

London & Rhodesia—At the Abachikwe mine in February a working loss of £125 was incurred from milling 5,000 tons of ore; 700 tons were treated at the Connaught mine for a working profit of £253.

Coronation—7,000 tons of ore were treated at the Rebekwe mine in February for a working profit of £5,820. The corresponding figures for the Muriel mine were 1,000 tons of ore and £2,502, and for the Muriel mine 1,000 tons and £1,144.

**Sir Digby Burnett**

SIR DIGBY BURNETT, who has retired after 27 years' service with the Lonrho Group, was recently presented with an inscribed cigarette case by Salisbury. Lady Burnett received a tea service. The presentations were made by Earl De La Warr, a director of the London and Rhodesian Mining and Land Co. Ltd.

**Tanganyika Mineral Exports**

MINERAL EXPORTS from Tanganyika in 1950 were valued at £1,306,283, compared with £2,506,241 in the previous year. December exports were £96,068 (£715,441).

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