

OVERSEAS

The Monthly Journal of the
OVER-SEAS LEAGUE
(Incorporated by Royal Charter)

Vol XXIII N^o 275 DECEMBER, 1938 1s. 6d.

"We sailed wherever ship could sail,
We founded many a mighty state,
Pray God our greatness may not fail
Through craven fears of being great"

Tennyson.



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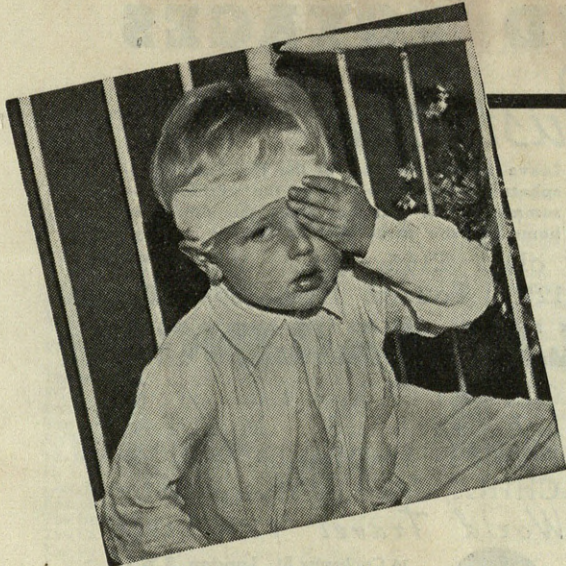
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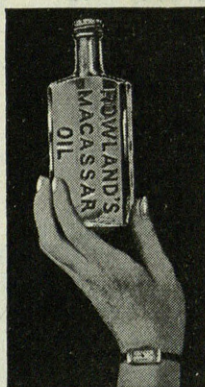
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(Incorporated by Royal Charter)

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Pray God our greatness may not fail
Through craven fears of being great."—*Tennyson.*

THE Over-Seas League is a non-party society of British subjects residing in all parts of the world. Its underlying motive is to promote the unity of British subjects. Its four chief objects are :—

1. To draw together in the bond of comradeship British subjects the world over;
2. To render individual service to our Empire;
3. To maintain the power of the Empire and to hold to it best traditions;
4. To help one another.

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quarters Offices the two first-mentioned buildings consist of Reading, Writing and Smoking Rooms, Drawing Room, Ulster Library and Reading Room, Ladies' Rest Room, Reception Office, Travel Bureau, Cocktail Bar, and a few bedrooms overlooking the Green Park. The Dining Room is in the New Extension which also includes the St. Andrew's Lecture Hall, the Hall of India (Banqueting Room), with three floors of Bedrooms above. The Club House is set apart for the use of male members only. The premises comprise Lounge, Buttery and Cocktail Bar, Billiard Room and 17 Bedrooms. Over-Seas Annexe is devoted to sleeping accommodation for members of both sexes. Suites and Bedrooms are available.

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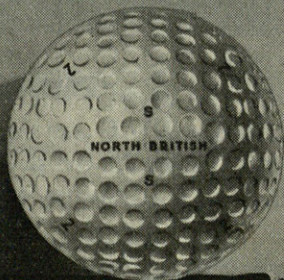
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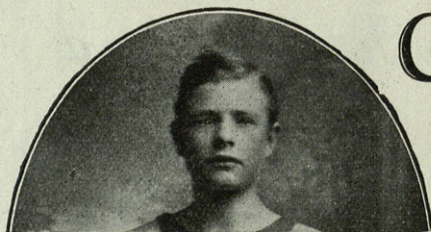
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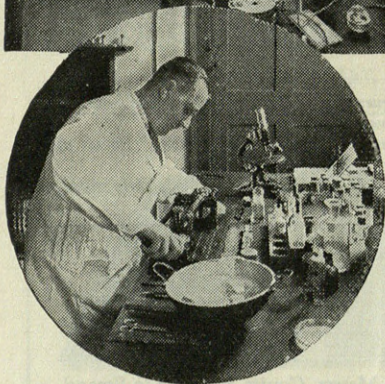
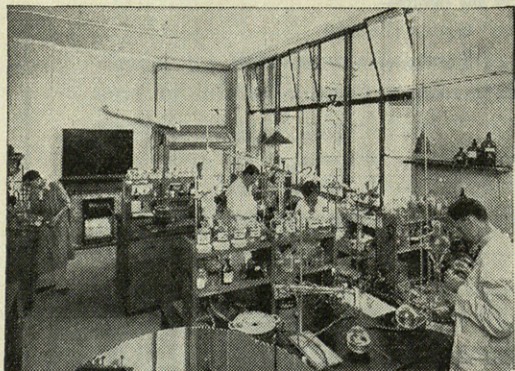
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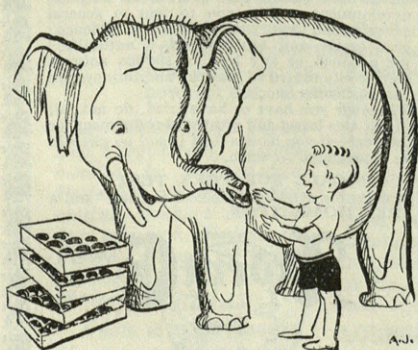
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MAXIMS OF LIFE: XI.



Share and share alike.

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ANCIENT TRUTHS & MODERN MEANINGS—No. 6

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OVERSEAS

VOL. XXIII., No. 275.

DECEMBER, 1938



MY MONTHLY LETTER

BY E. W.

THEIR MAJESTIES TO VISIT U.S.A.

ALL who believe in British-American co-operation will be delighted by the announcement made in the King's opening speech in Parliament as to his Majesty's proposed visit, accompanied by the Queen, to the United States during their Canadian tour next May, when they will be the guests of President Roosevelt at the White House. The visit does not, of course, imply any form of alliance between the two great English-speaking Commonwealths; no written word is necessary to govern our relationship, but the visit does mean that the British and American peoples in a rocking world stand for certain broad concepts of human freedom, and both in their own way are working for peace.

Mr. Frank B. Steele, the Secretary of the "Sons of the American

Revolution," referred to the visit as "a friendly gesture between two great Democracies," and he added that the proposed meeting of the President and the King was apparently born of the realisation that "the democratic powers must stick together." The *New York Times* writes: "We are glad they are coming and we hope they will be received as democratically as to leave no doubt that the object of the Royal visit is to stress the common democracy of two friendly nations in a world where the kings can leave the pomp to the dictators."

THE DUKE OF KENT IN AUSTRALIA

The announcement that the Duke of Kent has been appointed Governor-General of Australia in succession to Lord Gowrie and will take up his duties in a year's time has been received with widespread approval, and cables from Australia contain extracts

from the speeches of leaders of opinion recording their satisfaction. This is the first occasion on which a member of the Royal Family has been appointed to the position. The Duke of Connaught was, of course, Governor-General of Canada, and the late Prince Arthur of Connaught and Lord Athlone were Governors-General of the Union of South Africa. The Crown is increasingly the one bond between all sections of the Commonwealth. To the Members of the Over-Seas League the appointment makes a special appeal in view of the fact that the Duke of Kent is the President of our Society.

A LITTLE MORE OPTIMISM NEEDED

I want my Christmas Letter to you to sound a note of optimism as to the British Commonwealth, though it is not easy to write optimistically about anything with the thoughts of the terrible persecutions of the Jews and Non-Aryans in Central Europe. There has been so much pessimism expressed in the press of late that I think it is time that some of us followed the Prime Minister's example and tried to look on the optimistic side of things.

At the Lord

Mayor's banquet at the Guildhall on November 9th Mr. Chamberlain said, among other things :

"Christmas is coming and I see no reason why we should not prepare ourselves for the festive season in a spirit of cheerfulness and confidence.

"I believe that the influence which this country can exert for peace is more powerful than that of any other that I can think of. What I want to stress to you is this : Peace was not saved (in the crisis) by words, not even by notes—it was saved by action.

"The British Commonwealth of Nations has traditions of freedom which make it a steady factor in a world which has not regained its former stability. We in this country are vitally interested in preserving it and we must be ready to play our part in its military protection."

In the days immediately succeeding the crisis in October there was an almost universal wave of pessimism. None of us felt very proud when we regarded the dismemberment of Czechoslovakia under a threat of force. The Europe we had worked for since the Armistice crumbled before our eyes. Being a democracy we washed our dirty linen in public and readily admitted our shortcomings, and they are by no means few. The floodlight of publicity was turned on our defences, and we realised their inadequacy. But

*THE VIEWS EXPRESSED IN ALL
SIGNED ARTICLES IN "OVERSEAS"
ARE THOSE OF THE WRITERS, AND
NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE
MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.*

it is no good crying over spilt milk. While we have still a long way to go before our defences in the air are adequate, there has been a great speeding-up in the last six weeks.

THE GREAT BRITISH FLIGHT

The Royal Air Force showed by the great flight of three of its long-range Vickers Wellesley bombers from Egypt to Australia that it is second to none.

The three 'planes left Ismailia in Egypt on Saturday, November 5th. One machine had to come down at Koepang in the Dutch East Indies for fuel after flying non-stop 6,600 miles, and thus beating the previous world record by 300 miles, established by the Soviet flyers last summer. The other two machines arrived after a non-stop flight at Darwin in Australia at 4.2 a.m. and 4.5 a.m.

Greenwich mean time, a distance of 7,162 miles from Ismailia, or 856 miles more than the previous world record. The flight from Egypt to Australia took just over forty-eight hours !

The British Air Force ended up supreme in the Great War, and evidently the Government has no intention of letting it take a second place in the future.

BRITISH AIR EXPANSION

On November 10th in the House of Commons Sir Kingsley Wood gave particulars of the enormous expansion in the Air Force. First line of defence aeroplanes will number between 5,000 and 6,000, and the aircraft industry is to be so organised that it can meet all demands up to peak production of 40,000 machines per annum eighteen months hence. Unfortunately we live in a world



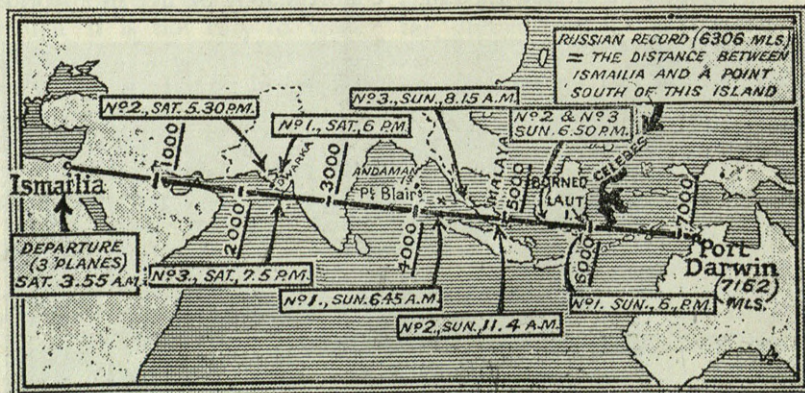
*THE THREE WELLESLEY BOMBERS
of the Long Distance Flight Record, November, 1938, in flight.*

of power politics in which no nation that is not armed can have its views listened to with respect. Our Government is therefore determined to make good the gaps in our defences. While it remains, alas, true that had our defences been greater the British Government could have spoken more authoritatively in the recent crisis, even had our strength been much greater there would have been little likelihood of Great Britain taking action, with the primary object of preventing the Sudeten Germans exercising their right to self-determination. The Government could not have mobilised public opinion behind it on that issue alone.

PUTTING OUR HOUSE IN ORDER

It would be foolish to shut our

eyes to the fact that Germany has achieved two great diplomatic victories during the past year, but whether we like it or no, 80,000,000 hard-working Germans inevitably must largely sway the destinies of Central Europe. Those who remember the pre-war era—and I lived in Germany most of 1900—will recall that Germany and her Austrian ally, now defunct, together occupied a key position. No policy of anti-Germanism or encirclement can prevent the German-speaking race having its place in the sun. There is no need for the peoples of the British Commonwealth to get panicky about the inevitable; provided—and this is the real point—that they take adequate steps to put their house in order. The worst of living in a democracy, and also



BRITAIN REGAINS THE LONG DISTANCE AIR RECORD

Stages of the flight from Egypt to Australia are shown approximately above.

Map by courtesy of "Daily Telegraph and Morning Post," London.

the best of it, is that we openly discuss our weaknesses. The drawbacks of such a policy are that people are inclined to be over depressed as a result of having their national shortcomings dinned into their ears, but the advantages outweigh the drawbacks. We live in a free country and we have always been strong enough to listen to criticism.

OUR HERITAGE OF FREEDOM

Despite all that has happened recently, if we but make a great national and Empire-wide effort, there is no reason at all why an era of greater prosperity than has ever been should not await the British Commonwealth. In realising that objective, the Over-Seas League, as the strongest Empire organisation, can play an important part. I would ask the readers

of *Overseas* as a New Year resolution to ponder on this sentence of the great nineteenth-century thinker, John Stuart Mill :

"The worth of a State in the long run is the worth of the individuals composing it . . . a State which dwarfs its men, in order that they may be more docile instruments in its hands even for beneficial purposes—will find that with small men no great thing can really be accomplished."

We Members of the Over-Seas League have no intention of being a nation of small men. Our task

in 1939 therefore is to show that a State, which gives full scope to the individual and does not seek to dwarf him, can demonstrate to the world that the fundamental concepts of freedom, on which our national life is based, granted whole-hearted co-operation of each unit, can function as efficiently as any dictatorship. As a New Year resolve, Mem-



FLIGHT-LT. HOGAN

one of the Long Distance Flight Record pilots, shows type of kit worn. Strapped above his knee is a roller map.

bers of the Over-Seas League can show that the worth of the individuals composing the British Commonwealth was never greater. Each one of us has a definite responsibility to make the Empire the greatest instrument for freedom and progress that the world has ever known. Like Mr. Chamberlain: "I believe that the influence which this country can exert for peace is more powerful than that of any country." I also believe that in great tasks of State building and in helping on the various races within our world State to a fuller and freer life, based on justice, order and good government, opportunities await us such as were never given to any nation since the dawn of time.

CHRISTMAS MAIL BY AIR

We live in an increasingly wonderful world and fresh scientific advances are made so rapidly that very often we forget to look back and record the progress made. This year nearly seventy aeroplanes will be used by Imperial Airways, according to the Aeronautical correspondent of *The Times*, to carry the heavy loads of our Christmas mails to Empire destinations! How little those of us who thirty years ago met the Wright Brothers when they were giving flights in their first heavier-than-air machine in

the South of France, anticipated the amazing developments in the air that we have witnessed in our own lifetimes. Even ten years ago we little thought that our ordinary Christmas letters, without surcharge, would go by air.

THE JAPANESE INVASION OF CHINA

The Japanese invasion of China continues, and with the capture of Canton and Hankow the Chinese have received two great blows. The rapidity with which Japan advanced on Canton came as a great surprise. There seems to have been, temporarily at least, a complete collapse in the Chinese resistance. There are rumours that Great Britain is undertaking the task of mediator with a view to bringing about a peace, and it has been stated that the British Ambassador, Sir Archibald Kerr Clark, has seen General Chiang Kai-Shek, though how much reliance can be given to these reports I do not know. From Chungking on the Yangtse, the new Chinese capital, almost as far from Hankow as Hankow is from the sea, comes a denial that China has any desire to make peace with Japan and that the Generalissimo has no intention of resigning. Anyhow, whatever happens with the fall of Hankow, *The Times* stated that a turning-point had been reached in what

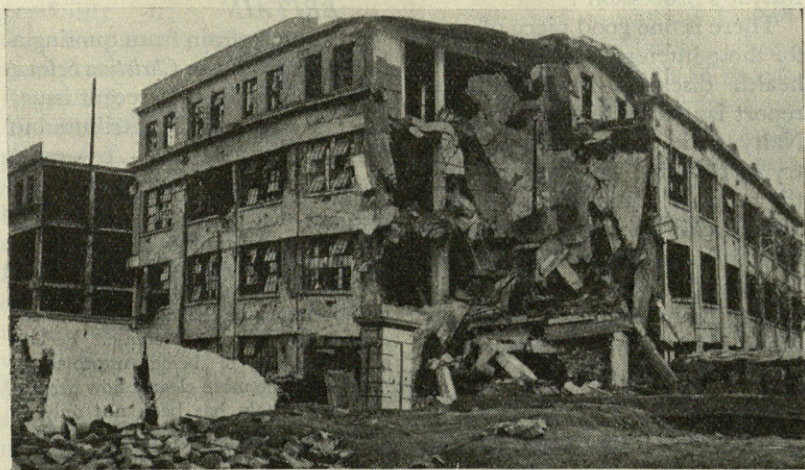
is perhaps the "most merciless war ever raged."

A strongly-worded note has been sent to Tokyo by the United States Government, stating that Japan has failed to live up to her promises to preserve an open door in China and accusing her of discrimination against American citizens. Mr. Shiratori, the new Japanese Ambassador in Rome, in an interview given to a German newspaper correspondent, stated that German industry would be given preference in the new China, and although Japan would be generous to foreign powers, the "British predominance in Eastern Asia had been ended for all time to come." One

of the Chinese Government's most difficult problems is to keep a doorway through which to draw munitions and armaments from the West, now that Canton is in Japanese hands.

THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR

The slaughter in Spain continues, but, alas, at the moment such is the bitterness on both sides that the peace makers will have their work cut out. General Franco has, with the help of large numbers of Italian aircraft, carried on a fresh offensive on the Ebro and retaken the salient that he lost on July 25th. The Republican forces have counter-attacked in the neighbourhood of Lerida and elsewhere with preliminary



THE COMMERCIAL PRESS BUILDING

at Shanghai, after its capture by the Japanese. Photo : Rev. P. C. Matthews.

success. The Spanish Government undoubtedly suffers very much in the air, although its soldiers can more than hold their own in the trenches. But its real problem is how to feed its starving millions.

THE LORD MAYOR'S SHOW

The Lord Mayor's Show on November 9th this year struck a note of "Keeping fit through the ages," an excellent idea, as part of the "Fitter Britain" campaign. The pageant illustrated the methods by which the individual can play his part in improving the national physique. I wonder what our grandparents or even our parents thirty years ago would have thought of a bevy of bathing belles perambulating through the City of London in the Lord Mayor's procession!

There is one good piece of news for those interested in the nation's health disclosed in the annual report issued by Sir Arthur MacNalty, Chief Officer of the Ministry of Health. For the first time the number of mothers who have died in child-birth in one year in England and Wales has dropped below 2,000, and another satisfactory figure divulged is that the tuberculosis death-rate was 657, the lowest ever recorded.

BRITISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS

Every now and then Mr. William Randolph Hearst, the

American newspaper proprietor, has a twist at the lion's tail and accuses Great Britain of inviting poor unsophisticated and gullible Uncle Sam to pull out of the fire the chestnuts on its behalf, and he seeks to make the flesh of his readers creep by describing the wiles of British diplomats. But despite Mr. Hearst, the friendly co-operation of our two Commonwealths is the major hope of civilisation. The President of the British Mine Workers' Federation has just returned from America and says from the angle of labour, that although British foreign policy was frequently criticised, the relations between British and American labour were never better.

AN AMERICAN TRIBUTE TO BRITAIN

I cannot refrain from quoting a few lines from the *Christian Science Monitor*, which, in a recent issue, paid a remarkable tribute to Britain:

"For even the Anglophobes must recognise that the United States world position is determined principally by her relations with Britain.

"If proof of this were needed it is quickly found in the new demands for American armament increase. Feeling a new sense of being unprotected, Americans see more clearly how great a bulwark Britain has been not only to democratic ideals but even to America's place in the world. They understand now why the American Navy could be shifted from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

They see that to-day as in 1823 British power is helpful in support of the Monroe Doctrine.

"Surely it is unjust for those who have been unwilling to risk even a small measure of co-operation in defence of democracy to indulge in thoughtless remarks about those who have stood in the front lines. And it is unwise when the need for co-operation is increasing. If there is need for understanding and appeasement as between the democracies and the dictators, clearly there is need as between the two greatest democracies. We believe the American people are making an effort for such understanding, and that as they come into closer touch with the situation in Europe, events will carry them—within certain limits—to a more active co-operation with Britain."

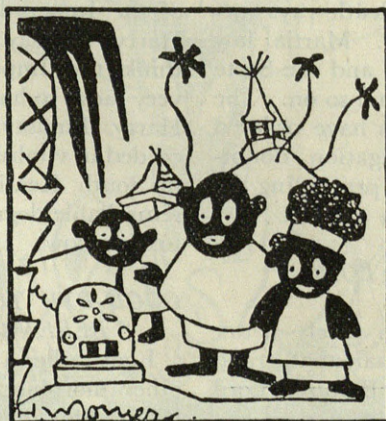
AMERICA GETS THE "JITTERS"

Nothing is more extraordinary than the change in public opinion in the United States towards the possibility of war. Ever since the American Revolution the United States proceeded on its way without bothering too much about Europe and the outside world; there was always the comforting assurance, certainly up to recent times, that the British Navy

ruled the seas, even though the nation may not have realised the basis of its confidence; but in an air age America is no longer immune from attack, and while the United States is more than ever determined to follow a policy of isolation, it likewise realises that it cannot afford to be unarmed. A great expansion is therefore taking place in American rearmament.

The United States has followed the recent events in Europe and Asia very closely with their demonstration that force is at the moment all powerful. American opinion is now so alive to the changed world in which we live that the broadcast of Mr. H. G. Wells' super-realistic phantasy, "The War of the Worlds," caused mass hysteria and panic through-

out the United States; thousands of people fled from their homes and implored gas masks and military protection from the invaders from Mars! The cable of *The Times* New York correspondent in recording this extraordinary event com-



"To blazes with those European Tribes. They can't keep quiet for a moment."

From "*Le Canard Enchaîné*."

mences : "America to-day hardly knows whether to laugh or to be angry. Here is a nation, which, alone of big nations, has deemed it unnecessary to rehearse for protection against attack from the air by fellow-beings on this earth and suddenly believes itself—and for little enough reason—faced with a more fearful attack from another world."

Evidently the Columbia Broadcasting System understands how to dramatise its broadcasting ! The news bulletins and descriptive broadcasts were amazingly realistic. Mars was fighting with the gloves off ; a "meteor" had landed near Princeton, New Jersey, killing 1,500 persons. No, it was not a "meteor," it was a "metal cylinder"—and the top unscrewed—and monsters crawled out armed with death rays impervious to bullets. Martial law had been declared and the State Militia was out—and so on. The Federal authorities have ordered a thorough investigation, doubtless with a view to preventing the recurrence of such a panic !

A STATUE TO LORD LUGARD

Few people can surely better deserve a statue than that grand old man of the Empire, Lord Lugard, who for fifty years has been associated with Africa, from the days when he commanded an

expedition against slave drivers on Lake Nyasa in 1888, culminating with his final term of office as Governor-General of united Nigeria, which came to an end in 1919. Lord Lugard is one of the most natural great men I have ever met. A couple of years ago I went down to see him at his country place near Abinger in Surrey. I think I had only met him two or three times before. He said : "Please drop formalities, just call me by my surname." I think few things have thrilled me more in life than to be treated on a basis of equality by a man for whom I have such a profound respect.

The new statue of Lord Lugard was presented on behalf of the Royal African Society by the Earl of Athlone and accepted on behalf of the Imperial Institute by Sir Harry Lindsay. Incidentally I think the Imperial Institute is very lucky to have as Director Sir Harry Lindsay, who has succeeded in vitalising the institution in South Kensington to such a remarkable degree. More power to his elbow.

GOOD-BYE TO THE "BERENGARIA"

I got rather a pang reading the other morning that the Cunard White Star liner *Berengaria* has been sold and is to be broken up. There is always something sad in

the demise of a great ship on which one has sailed the ocean. My wife and I returned from New York on the *Berengaria* on one of her last journeys, early this year, at the conclusion of our honeymoon. There is some consolation, however, in the thought that the breaking-up will give much-needed employment in Jarrow.

THE BRITISH MERCHANT NAVY

And now to turn to another subject connected with the high seas. As readers of *Overseas* will recollect, these pages have often championed the interests of

the Merchant Navy, both of officers and men. How strange it is that a country that so largely relies for its prosperity on the Merchant Navy should not have remedied certain defects in the conditions of service before now. I have always thought that there should be a proper pension system for the officers ; better food, better accommodation and better conditions of service for the crew. In various parts of the world it has been depressing to see ships flying other flags offering better conditions than the British Merchant Navy. Things are, however, I am glad to say, improving,



THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME.

After Phoenix—of Oriental mythology

From the London "Daily Express."

and only this week an announcement appeared stating that better food with a larger variety, including vegetables, will now be provided below deck. We are certainly moving away from the pork and biscuits diet of our grandfathers.

Never before was the British Merchant Navy of greater importance to the nation as a whole. Other countries are paying large subsidies to their ships. In an age when we are spending so much on rearmament it is essential that the claims of the British Merchant Navy be not overlooked. The Merchant Navy is almost as important to us as the Navy.

"MEIN KAMPF"

An interesting correspondence has been taking place in *The Times* on the subject of the doctrines enunciated by Herr Hitler in his famous book, of which over 4,000,000 copies have been sold; "Mein Kampf" is frequently referred to as the Nazi bible, and a copy is given to all young Germans. Some people assert that some of the doctrines set forth in "Mein Kampf" are no longer part of the Nazi creed; but "Mein Kampf" unchanged, referring to France as the eternal enemy, still circulates and has not been disowned. There are many people in the

British Empire who gladly admit that to saddle Germany with the sole responsibility of starting the Great War is ridiculous, and that however great the German share, other factors have to be considered. Captain A. L. Kennedy in *The Times* refers to the fifth edition of the book issued in 1935, and draws attention to the fact that the manual coaches its readers as to the reasons for the Great War. Blame is apportioned to England, France and Russia and *none to Germany*, and the book then prints this remarkable passage:

"But Germany also bore some responsibility. She could have prevented a world war on three fronts had she not waited too long. She had several opportunities: against England at the time of the Boer War and against Russia during the latter's contest with Japan. At both times Germany could have warred successfully not only against England and Russia but also against France."

The youth of Germany is therefore taught that Germany's only mistake in the pre-war years was that she did not make a preventive war. As Captain Kennedy asks: "Could anything be more cynical or more demoralising for good international relations?"

THE GLASGOW EXHIBITION CLOSES

The Committee responsible for organising the Glasgow Empire

Exhibition has every reason to be satisfied with the results. When the turnstiles revolved for the last time on October 29th, the estimated total of 12,000,000 visitors had been exceeded and the Exhibition therefore can very definitely be considered a success. There apparently is the likelihood of the Engineering Palace being retained to provide a much-needed hall capable of seating 20,000 people.

ANGLO-ITALIAN AGREEMENT

The much-discussed Anglo-Italian agreement has now been approved by Parliament, and Great Britain therefore now recognises the conquest of Abyssinia, and the British Ambassador in Rome will receive fresh credentials accrediting him to the King of Italy as Emperor of Abyssinia ; a serious start will now be made on the task, by no means too easy, of getting Anglo-Italian relations back to their former historic basis of friendliness and of helping us to forget the last three years. The relations of the two countries in the Mediterranean will come up for further discussion and the interests of the two governments in the Middle East will be clearly defined and both countries will agree not to fortify certain strategic islands in the Red Sea. The people of

Great Britain and the Empire have always had the friendliest feelings for the countrymen of Cavour and Garibaldi, and we can all hope that bygones will be bygones. The real test will come, however, when some major crisis arrives : will the Duce show by his acts that he earnestly desires to work for international goodwill and that he is prepared to carry out the pledges of the Kellogg Pact, which he subscribed to, of renouncing war as a method of settling disputes.

SUMMER IN NOVEMBER

November opened with an extraordinary spell of mild weather. On Saturday, November 5th, the temperature at Kew read 66 degrees and at Ramsgate 70 degrees, three degrees higher than any previously recorded in November since the records began in 1856 ! Later in the month—on Armistice Day—when I was recovering from an attack of neuritis, I spent some hours sitting in the sunshine near the “rabbit enclosure” close to Hyde Park Corner. It was just like a pleasant June day. Not even in midsummer have I seen so many bees ; they were hovering round the flowers of the ivy which grows in clumps on the ground.

Why the rabbits were not enjoying the sunshine I do not know, unless they may have

lately been thinned out. The whole enclosure was occupied by the pigeons, seagulls and busy little ducks and moorhens scuttling across the water. Throngs of bird-lovers were feeding their feathered friends, but as they were merely offering pieces of bread the seagulls for the most part just swirled past the outstretched arms indifferently. It was only when a familiar friend, armed with morsels of bacon fat, arrived, that they showed real enthusiasm. Here was someone who understood seagull tastes. They swirled and swooped and screeched, and swirled back again for more.

There were russet leaves still left on the poplar trees trembling in the wind. It was amusing watching the children with their toys. The modern boy surely does not know how lucky he is. I would have given a great deal in my childhood to have had one of those small and glistening bicycles or scooters at the age of six which every well-to-do child nowadays takes as a matter of course. One boy of five or six had evidently recently had a birthday. He was very proud of his pistol which he told a friend he was keeping out in case he saw any animals.

THE HYDE PARK PYTHON

In our interludes between

absorbing the depressing contents of the daily cables from China, Spain and Central Europe, newspaper readers were entertained for several days by the accounts of the doings of the "escaped" python in Hyde Park. The nursemaid brigade, accompanying their charges, walked warily and discussed with one another the latest doings of Tiko, the tame eight-foot python, who was known to have escaped from his Chelsea home. In ordinary life Tiko lives in the house of Mr. Adrian Conan Doyle, son of the creator of Sherlock Holmes.

As we read the circumstantial accounts of the doings of the python, memories of the Loch Ness monster came back to us. Tiko had been seen to bite a dog in Hyde Park; he had terrified women and children by rearing up and hissing at them; one brave defender of the unprotected had even struck at the reptile with a stick when it was seen to glide away rapidly; an Australian visitor saw it enjoying itself swimming near the Lansbury Lido. Nervous members of the fair sex even rang up a snake importer in Camden Town and asked him for hints as to what was the right thing to do if Tiko suddenly appeared in a lonely stretch of the Park.

After several days an Australian snake-charmer was called in by

Mr. Conan Doyle, and we were informed that after all Tiko had been hiding all the while in the roof of his Chelsea home !

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO YOU

May I take this opportunity of wishing every reader of *Overseas* a happy Christmas and may the international horizon gradually clear. May the year 1939 give us all an increased realisation of the great future which lies before the British

Commonwealth. We are citizens of no mean city, a world State which is unique and which rests on law, order and good government ; and may each one of us, Members of the Over-Seas League, every week throughout the year re-dedicate ourselves to the service of the Commonwealth and our fellows, in no spirit of hostility to any other nation ! Our motto must be fair play for every British subject, whatever his creed, colour or clan.

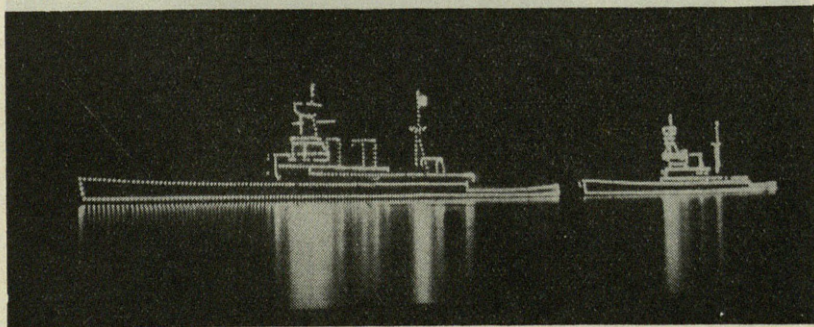
—E. W.

TO OUR LIVERPOOL AND SOUTHPORT FRIENDS

I wish to express the deep regret of my wife and myself for the cancelling of our visit to Liverpool and Southport on November 8th, owing to my very severe attack of neuritis. We had so much looked forward to re-establishing contact

with our Members at the Liverpool Centre and to making fresh Over-Seas friends at Southport. We hope to carry out our promise to visit Liverpool and Southport in January.

—E. W.



*H.M.S.S. HOOD AND RENOWN
illuminated at Gibraltar. Photo by Mr. H. O. L'Estrange.*

LETTERS AND PARCELS, ETC. ADDRESSED c/o THE LEAGUE

MEMBERS ARE URGED TO NOTIFY THE LEAGUE IN ADVANCE REGARDING THE DISPOSAL OF MAIL RECEIVED AT HEADQUARTERS

THE approach of Christmas brings with it the difficult problem of handling efficiently the greatly increased number of letters and parcels sent to the League for redirection to Members living at home and abroad.

In normal times it is difficult enough to handle promptly the mail of an organisation with almost 50,000 Members. Confusion is sometimes caused because of the frequent similarity of names and initials, and in other instances the League receives no specific instructions from the Members concerned regarding the disposal of their correspondence, etc. Some hundreds of letters have to be

redirected by hand to various Members each week, and in addition the position is complicated by the numerous changes of addresses. In a busy season these average more than 100 per day.

In Members' own interests it is therefore urged that they will advise the League *in advance* regarding the disposal of mail received at Headquarters, and it is particularly asked that Members who have been in residence at Over-Seas House will leave behind them forwarding addresses, so that correspondence received after their departure may receive proper attention.



THE ITSUKASHIMA TEMPLE

at Miyajima, inland sea of Japan. Photo by Mr. W. Muller, Foochow.

THE GERMAN CLAIM FOR COLONIES

"WE ARE NOT PREPARED, IN THE COLONIAL SPHERE AT LEAST, TO ADMIT THAT GERMANY IS ENTITLED TO REVERSE THE VERDICT OF THE GREAT WAR"



[*The Rt. Hon. L. S. Amery, M.P., the writer of the following article, was Secretary of State for the Colonies, 1924-1929, and Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs, 1925-1929. He has travelled extensively in the Near East and in all the British Dominions.*]

TO understand the nature of Germany's claim for the restitution of her former Colonial empire, and of our objections to such a course, we must go back over some fifty years of history. In the 'eighties and 'nineties of the last century Germany acquired, mainly in Africa, a colonial empire of something like a million square miles in extent. This empire played but a very subordinate part in Germany's economic or national life. Even as late as 1913 it accounted for little more than half of 1 per cent. of her external trade, and its total German population, including over 3,000 troops and police, was under 20,000. But if of comparatively little value in itself, its acquisition had created in Germany the dream of colonial empire on a much larger scale, a

dream which governed the whole course of German policy. To some extent that policy hoped to secure its ends by acquiring a reversionary interest in the Portuguese colonies, or in the Belgian Congo. But, in the main, it looked to the building up of a navy which, when the great "day of reckoning" came, should sink the British Navy and enable Germany to secure the empire of her dream at our expense.

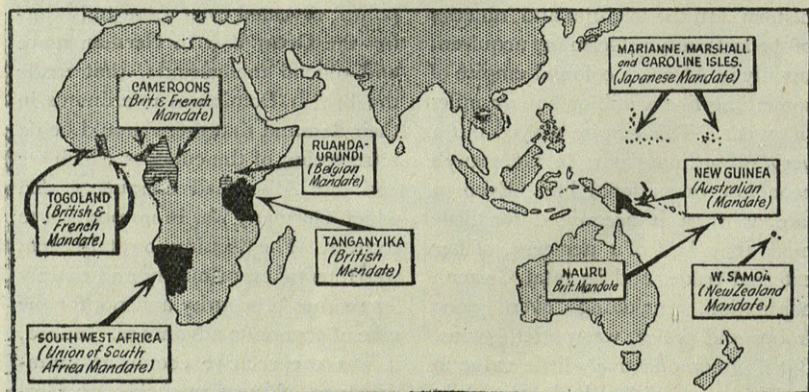
It was this aspect of German policy, revealed even more fully during the Great War in German maps and official memoranda, that made the British Dominions unanimous in their demand that there should be no retrocession of the colonies which we and our Allies had conquered and which Germany was in no position to recover. The decision to retain them was thus taken primarily and mainly for reasons of security and not for the sake of economic advantage. Indeed, it was the relative economic unimportance of these territories to Germany that strengthened the argument against their retrocession. In any

case the Allies were agreed that they were to be administered, not for exploitation, but in the interests of the native inhabitants, and, secondly, of the trade of the world at large.

To lend additional importance to this understanding, as well as to emphasise the association of the League of Nations with the whole peace settlement, it was agreed by the Allies that they should each, in respect of the territories held by them, embody it in a formal document to be endorsed by the League. This document, known as the Mandate, thus constitutes, on the part of the Power concerned, a solemn pledge, and, on the part of the League, a blessing or moral authority. *The Mandate has nothing to do with the ownership of the territory, which was unconditionally and permanently transferred to the "Principal Allied and Associated*

Powers" by Article 119 of the Treaty of Versailles.

The point is important, for one finds it continually asserted, or at least implied, that these territories in some sense belong to the League of Nations and that we are only tenants of the League with no permanency of ownership. As a matter of fact there is no substantial difference between a mandated territory like Tanganyika and a protectorate like Uganda. In neither case are the inhabitants technically British subjects; in both we have undertaken more or less identical international obligations; the main difference is that in the former case we also present an annual report to the League to show how we are fulfilling those obligations. So much for the technical status of our mandated territories. In practice, we have to the



HOW GERMANY'S COLONIES WERE DIVIDED

Map by courtesy of the "Daily Herald," London.

best of our ability governed them, as indeed we have governed our other protectorates, in the spirit of trusteeship for the native populations. In particular we have, in Tanganyika, successfully developed a considerable measure of native local self-government. The natives are happy and contented under British rule and have no desire to exchange it for any other.

Besides the natives, there are British and other European and Indian settlers and traders, all of whom have developed their interests in these territories on the strength of repeated pledges that no change of ownership could ever be considered. In South-West Africa there is to-day a large non-German white majority which has repeatedly urged direct incorporation in the Union. In New Guinea, Australia has developed a fine and humane system of native administration side by side with the encouragement of European plantation and mining. To all intents and purposes, indeed, these territories are to-day as essentially a part of the living body politic of the British Empire as any of our older possessions, and we have no more moral right to divest ourselves of our responsibilities towards their inhabitants than in the case of any other peoples living under the British flag.

On what grounds, then, does Germany base the really astounding claim that the verdict of the Great War and the development of twenty

years since should be reversed and these territories, or their equivalent, handed back to her? There is first the argument that Germany is starved for lack of raw materials and over-populated. The facts I have already mentioned show how small a part her colonies ever played in her economic life, or, indeed, could play in it to-day, however vigorously exploited. She is, in fact, actually short of working population and has had to import tens of thousands of Italian and Polish labourers annually to help her farmers, while she is now actually taking measures to recall German emigrants in view of the labour shortage at home. In any case, she could always secure raw materials for ordinary industry and more foodstuffs for her people if she concentrated less exclusively on re-armament.

Another ground is that Germany's "honour" demands restitution in order to clear her of the "colonial guilt lie" of the charge that she had shown herself unfit to govern native populations. Many things were, of course, said in the atmosphere of 1919 which would not be said in normal times, and the charge then laid at Germany's door was, no doubt, too generalised, though by no means without foundation in fact. The deliberate extermination of the Hereros in South West Africa and of some 150,000 East African natives in the Maji-Maji rising, were evidences of that "frightfulness" of

which the recent cowardly and brutal campaign against the Jews has just furnished an example which has shocked the conscience of mankind.

In any case, to put it mildly, it is difficult to see how the racial doctrines which modern Nazi Germany professes, or the rigidly closed economic system which she enforces, can be reconciled, either with the fulfilment of mandatory obligations, with the economic interests of the natives, or with their social or political development.

However strong our objections to the avowed grounds of the German demand, they are no less strong when we have to consider the unavowed ground, namely, the desire once again to get a foothold in the colonial sphere from which, when the opportunity offers, the effort to wrest a wider colonial empire from us may be renewed under more favourable conditions. From that point of view concession, so far from conducing towards permanent peace and goodwill, is far more likely to lead to renewed naval competition and to eventual war.

Meanwhile, the strategic grounds for retaining these territories are far stronger to-day than they were in 1919. The growth of Italian power in the Mediterranean and of Japanese power in the Far East make it even less desirable than it was then to contemplate the possibility of hostile air or naval bases near the Cape route on

the Atlantic, and still more on the Indian Ocean side of Africa. At present, so long as we hold Simonstown, the Suez Canal and Singapore, all the British territories round the Indian Ocean, as well as the vast trade that passes through it, are secure from attack and in a position to support each other. To break the continuity of British territory in Eastern Africa by establishing Germany in Tanganyika in a position to threaten either Kenya or the Union by air and land, and to endanger our whole security in the Indian Ocean by sea, would surely be an act of incredible folly.

Lastly, such a surrender would have an incalculable effect upon sentiment throughout the Empire. It is, indeed, doubtful whether the cession of Tanganyika could be carried through against the armed resistance of British settlers in that and adjoining territories. If so, and if Australia and South Africa are equally determined not to surrender their mandated territories, is it seriously suggested that we should press the French to give up Cameroons and Togoland and throw in Nigeria or the Gold Coast ourselves?

The fact is that those who by articles and speeches, or by unwisely evasive replies in Parliament, have encouraged a German demand which Herr Hitler himself long discouraged, have never fully realised the practical difficulties and almost insuperable objections to its acceptance. They

have unnecessarily raised an issue which may well develop, through protracted controversy, into a situation in which we shall once again, as over Czechoslovakia, be faced with the alternative of surrender or war. Only in that event surrender would mean the beginning of the end of the British

Empire. The best hope of peace is that, even at this eleventh hour, the British and French Governments should make it clear to Germany that we are not prepared, in the colonial sphere at least, to admit that she is entitled to reverse the verdict of the Great War.

—L. S. AMERY

A NEW WAVE OF ANTI-SEMITISM

THE anti-Semitism which has characterised Herr Hitler's rule since January, 1933, has now passed into an extreme phase. The pretext was found in the murder of Herr von Rath, Third Secretary at the German Embassy in Paris, by Herschel Feibel Grynsban on November 7th. Grynsban, a lad of seventeen, is the son of a Polish Jew recently living in Hanover. When arrested, he said that he had shot the diplomatist to avenge the ill-treatment of his people and especially of the Polish Jews recently deported from Germany—among them his own parents.

The German Press at once opened a furious attack on the Jews. The *Angriff* suggested, to quote its headlines, that this was "The wish of the instigator-international: a straight line from Churchill to Grynsban." The newspapers plainly incited their readers to take violent action. On November 9th, when it became known that Herr von Rath had died from his wounds, the German Government suppressed all Jewish journals and all Jewish organisa-

tions. Attacks on Jews were forbidden.

Next day, however, a carefully-planned campaign of savagery was executed throughout Germany and Austria. Most of the synagogues in Berlin, Munich, Vienna and other towns were set on fire or blown up. The Jewish shops even in the main streets of the capital were systematically wrecked and looted while the police looked on. In Vienna and Nuremburg, if not elsewhere, Jewish homes were ransacked and the occupants ill-treated. The wrecking parties were composed of Storm Troopers and Hitler Youths. Late in the day, when damage had been done to the extent of millions of pounds, Dr. Goebbels proclaimed that the campaign must stop.

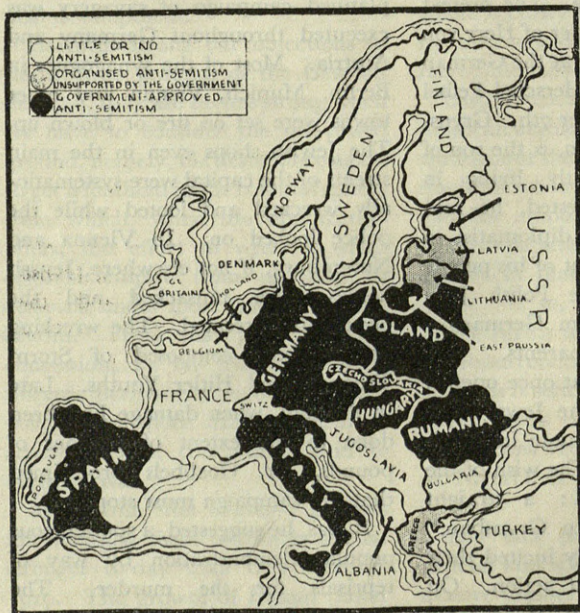
It was, he suggested, a spontaneous popular demonstration by way of reprisals for the murder. The German Press minimised the extent of the wanton destruction. After the looting the police arrested thousands of Jews and sent them to concentration camps.

On November 12th, the Government announced a further series of anti-Semitic measures. The German Jews must pay a fine of a milliard marks (£84,000,000) in expiation of the murder. Jews would be excluded from all economic activity as from January next; their businesses would pass to "Aryans." The Jews must repair at their own cost the damage done to their property by the wreckers; the Reich would confiscate their claims on the insurance companies. Jews would henceforth

be forbidden to enter a theatre, cinema, concert-hall or lecture-hall. On November 14th it was decreed that the few Jews still allowed to enter the Universities should be excluded. A hundred of the richer Jews in Berlin were summoned to police headquarters and ordered to pay 10 million marks at once towards the repair of the wrecked premises. The chief Jewish hospitals in Berlin were left without a staff, as the surgeons and physicians had been arrested. Short of wholesale mas-

sacre or deportation *en masse*, there seemed to be nothing more that Herr Hitler could do to the German and Austrian Jews.

The reaction in the Western world to these dreadful happenings was immediate. The Archbishop of Canterbury, writing in *The Times* of November 12th, expressed his indignation at the deeds of cruelty and destruction. "Would that the rulers of the Reich," he said, "could realise that such excesses of hatred and malice put upon the friendship which we



BLACK-OUT FOR JEWS IN EUROPE.

In Germany, which contains only 360,000 of Europe's 10,000,000 Jews, anti-Semitism is more intensively organised than in any other European country. The map shows how Jews are treated elsewhere in Europe. In all the white and tinted areas on the map the Jews have full civil rights.

From the London "Daily Express."

are ready to offer them an almost intolerable strain!" The Prime Minister, speaking in the House of Commons on November 14th, said that "there would be deep and widespread sympathy for those who were being made to suffer for a senseless crime committed in Paris." The American Press, like the British Press, was outspoken in its condemnation of the German authorities, and the American Ambassador was recalled from Berlin "for consultation"—to mark the President's disapproval.

* * * *

Sir Evelyn Wrench, writing in *The Times* of November 16th, says very truly that "the moment has arrived for deeds, not words." He receives the editorial support of the great journal for his plan to relieve some at least of the German Jews from their dreadful predicament. Sir Evelyn would set up a non-party and voluntary committee of Christians in London to inquire into the possibility of settling Jewish refugees within the British Commonwealth. The committee would be assured of the British Government's sympathy and it would invite representatives of the Dominions and Colonies to take part in its work.

The proposed committee should prepare a three-year plan, showing how many Jewish men and women of different categories could be absorbed in each part of the Empire. Business men with technical experience who could set up new industries

should be especially welcome. Just as the Flemish Protestants fleeing from Spanish oppression and the French Huguenots expelled by Louis XIV. set up valuable new trades in England, so many German Jews have already brought new business here, notably the fur trade once centred in Leipzig and now transferred to London. Then, again, Jewish boys might be trained here for farm work in the Dominions and Colonies. Palestine offers but a limited field; many thousands of young men of the right kind might, however, find new opportunities on the land in Canada, Australia, New Zealand and elsewhere.

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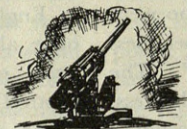
The immediate task is to discover precisely how many Jewish immigrants each Dominion or Colony will be prepared to receive, if suitable arrangements can be made.

It should be added that the Refugee Commission with its headquarters in London and its American director is taking active steps to facilitate the emigration of Jews from Germany. The Governments of the United States, France, Belgium and Holland, as well as our own Government, are discussing the question of relaxing restrictions on Jewish aliens for the time being. Sir Evelyn Wrench's proposed committee could co-operate all the more helpfully because its work would be informal and unofficial and would arouse no racial prejudice.

—OBSERVER

A GREAT PUBLIC SERVANT

SIR JOHN ANDERSON ENTERS THE CABINET AS NEW LORD PRIVY SEAL AND
MINISTER OF CIVILIAN DEFENCE



IT is characteristic of our Civil Service that its good work is done quietly and that even its leading members are barely known by name to the public. If that were not so, one would not have been so frequently asked of late, "Who is Sir John Anderson, the new Lord Privy Seal?" For, though the new Minister was first elected to the House of Commons last February as Unionist member for the Scottish Universities, he has long been regarded by all who are familiar with Whitehall as one of the very ablest of our public servants, and his administrative experience has been exceptional in its variety and importance.

Like so many of our leading public men, Sir John is a Scotsman born and bred. He is the only son of Mr. S. A. P. Anderson, of Eskbank, Midlothian, where he was born on July 8th, 1882. He was educated at George Watson's College, the famous old Edinburgh school, and at Edinburgh University. After taking his degree he spent some time at Leipzig, before going up for the Civil Service

Class I Competition. In 1905 he passed in and was appointed to the Colonial Office. There his talents were soon recognised. When the Health Insurance Commission was set up, promising young men from all the departments were picked for the new work, and one of them was John Anderson. He was Principal Clerk of the Commission in 1912, and a year later was promoted to the Secretaryship. When the Great War came, and caused new departments to be established, John Anderson was taken from insurance to be Secretary of the new Ministry of Shipping. The credit for the successful reorganisation of our carrying trade, then more than ever our life-line, went to the Minister, but it is no secret that Anderson's work was of incalculable value.

When the Ministry of Shipping was disbanded after the War, its Secretary was transferred in a similar capacity to the Local Government Board, soon to be rechristened and enlarged as the Ministry of Health. But he stayed there only a few months, for he was

selected for the very dignified office of Chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue. Most Civil Servants regard that as the peak of a career. Again, however, it proved but a stepping-stone for John Anderson. The troubles in Ireland had reached such a pass in 1920 that the Lord Lieutenant called for a few experienced officials from London to help him and one of them was naturally John Anderson. He remained in Dublin till 1922, helping in his calm and competent way to forward the negotiations that led to a settlement with the Irish Free State. When he was released from these critical and dangerous Irish duties, the Cabinet recognised his merits by appointing him Permanent Secretary of the Home Office. This great post he held for ten years, but, true to the official tradition, he worked quietly and attracted no public notice.

Sir John Anderson, as he had become in 1923 when the G.C.B. was conferred upon him by the King, first came into the limelight in 1932. General surprise was caused by his appointment as Governor of Bengal. It has long been customary to give Indian Governorships either to high officials of the Indian Civil Service or, more frequently, to eminent home politicians, usually peers. But Sir Samuel Hoare, who was then Secretary of State for India, felt that the conditions in Bengal were so unsatisfactory and even dangerous that a Governor of wholly exceptional

ability was required, and his choice fell upon the permanent head of the Home Office. Some authorities in India questioned the appointment. Sir John, they said, knew nothing of Indian ways and had no political reputation. To send him into a province seething with sedition and distracted by a violent terrorist campaign would, they thought, bring disaster. But Sir John's many friends knew better. They dreaded lest he should fall a victim to the assassins who nearly took the life of his predecessor, Sir Stanley Jackson, as he was presiding over the Convocation of Calcutta University in February, 1932. But they felt assured that Sir John would govern Bengal as firmly and fairly as any man could, and that the peculiar difficulties of the post would not prove too much for him.

Sir John's well-wishers were right. When he arrived at Calcutta the terrorists were desperately active. A British magistrate was murdered at Midnapur in May. The editor of the Calcutta *Statesman*, Sir Alfred Watson, was twice attacked and badly wounded in August and September. Native politicians were grumbling at the special legislation under which the Governor arrested and detained hundreds of suspected youths without bringing them to trial. The new Governor at once showed that he was resolved to restore order, whatever constitutional arguments might be raised against preventive detention. At the same time he was at pains to

make himself acquainted with the leading Moslems and Hindus and quickly gained very considerable personal popularity. He inquired into the causes of terrorism and, finding that it was partly due to the surplus of young people with university degrees who could not find suitable employment, he took steps to remedy this state of things. The terrorists were not grateful. Two of them tried to kill him when he was attending the Darjeeling races in May, 1934. But by this time the Governor had made himself so well liked that the outrage occasioned strong and general public protests, and the wave of terrorism began to subside. The Rural Development Commission, which Sir John set up to restore prosperity in the villages, helped to win support for the Government. Sir John had begun to train some of the young suspects in custody so that they might earn their living at useful trades, and he caused a sensation in 1936 by releasing fifty-seven such men. Next year the new

Provincial Government formed after the first elections under the India Act took office. It was feared at the time that the new Indian Ministers would insist on releasing all suspects regardless of their criminal records. But by this time Sir John Anderson had won such confidence that he was able to arrange that while 1,100 persons were set free, 450 dangerous characters remained in custody, so that their cases might be reviewed at leisure. Sir John left Bengal peaceful, orderly and prosperous in the closing weeks of 1937. His term as Governor had been astonishingly successful.

When he returned home there was instant competition for his services from great public companies and financial institutions. A safe seat was soon found for him in the Scottish Universities. On February 21st, 1938, he was returned, defeating two Independent candidates and a Scottish Nationalist, whose total poll was only a few hundreds in excess of his

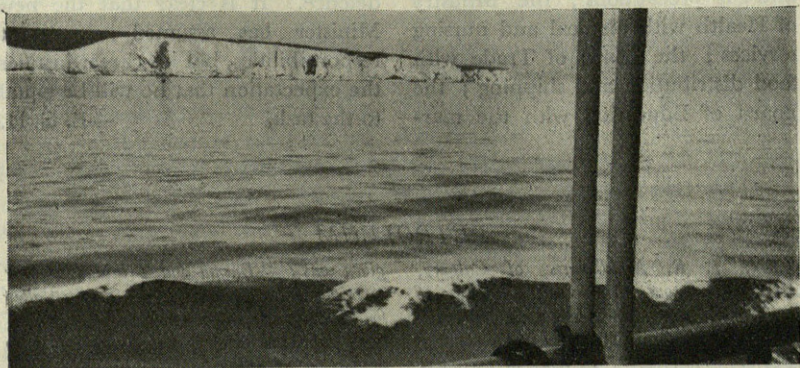


SIR JOHN ANDERSON

own. He was no sooner in the House than the Government found work for him. He was appointed in May as Chairman of the Civil Evacuation Committee, on which, with three London members of Parliament, he had to consider the question whether and how far a large part of London's millions should be removed if danger threatened from the air. It was typical of Sir John's methods of doing business that he induced his colleagues to complete an unanimous report by July, and that the recommendations were so sensible that, when at last published in October, they were found to have the entire approval of the Cabinet. It is known, indeed, that when the crisis came at the close of September, Sir John was hurriedly called upon to organise emergency arrangements for the removal of children and old people from London—arrangements which were

actually begun and in part carried out.

That a man with such a record should have been confidently expected by all who knew him to be selected for one of the recent Cabinet vacancies was natural enough. When Parliament met on November 1st, Sir John Anderson had become Lord Privy Seal, attaining Cabinet rank within nine months of his election to the House and without filling any minor office. It was a wholly exceptional promotion for a man who has proved his outstanding worth. That he should receive a honorific sinecure as Lord Privy Seal, whose duties in mediæval times were doubtless important but are now nominal, seemed strange. But the Prime Minister lost no time in making it clear to the House that the new Lord Privy Seal will in fact have most vital duties as Minister of Civilian Defence. Mr.



OUTWARD BOUND.

A final glimpse of the Homeland. Photo by Miss R. Guilleband.

A GREAT PUBLIC SERVANT

Chamberlain said with truth that

"the whole subject of air-raid precautions has assumed such gigantic proportions and has developed such complexity that the burden is really too great to be upon the Home Office in addition to its ordinary duties." The Cabinet wanted "a separate Minister with special administrative and organising experience who could devote his whole attention to this subject."

And Sir John Anderson was the obvious choice. As Minister he will have direct charge of air-raid precautions, hitherto left to the Under-Secretary for the Home Department, and he will be "responsible, in consultation with the departments concerned, for determining arrangements for national voluntary service." It can be well understood, as Mr. Chamberlain reminded the House, that the new Minister will have to co-operate with many other Ministries. The Home Office has to do with the police, fire-brigades and anti-gas precautions; the Ministry of Health with medical and nursing services; the Board of Trade with food distribution and shipping; the Board of Education with the mar-

shalling of the school children who may have to be removed; the Ministry of Transport with rail and road services; the Post Office with telephones and telegraphs; and the Ministry of Labour with the workmen required for any and every task. The Minister of Civilian Defence has to co-ordinate all these many agencies through inter-departmental committees so that there may be no delay or confusion if an emergency arises. These committees will be linked with the Committee of Imperial Defence, of which the Lord Privy Seal will be a member, thus emphasising the importance now attached to Civilian Defence. Furthermore, it will be one of Sir John Anderson's first duties "to examine with his colleagues what will be the best way of availing ourselves of the general desire on the part of the public to help the nation"—or, in Sir John Simon's words, of organising our man-power for home defence. It is clear that the new Minister has assumed very great responsibilities, but his career justifies the expectation that he will be equal to the task.

—E. G. H.



PETROLEUM

Mr. J. R. Middlemass, of Calgary, Alberta, draws our attention to the omission of the Turner Valley Oilfield in the answers to the Empire Questions published in the October issue of "Overseas." In reply to the question: "Name the two petroleum producing countries of the British Empire," the answer

given was: "Burma and Trinidad." Our correspondent points out that the Turner Valley field in Alberta has been overlooked, and mentions that the field is capable of a daily production of approximately 50,000 barrels. "At present, however," he writes, "the industry is afflicted with growing pains."—ED.

THE ROYAL GOVERNOR-GENERAL

MUCH INTEREST HAS BEEN AROUSED BY THE APPOINTMENT OF
THE DUKE OF KENT AS GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF AUSTRALIA



THE DUKE OF KENT'S CAREER

THE Duke of Kent, the youngest of King George V.'s sons, was slow to become known to the British public, as his elder brothers were for years able to render their father all the assistance that he needed in the duties that devolve upon Royalty. But when he, too, was called upon to do his part, in the closing years of his father's reign, he quickly showed such a happy aptitude for public speaking, and such a pleasant knack of making friends with all whom he met, that he became a very popular Prince. His marriage to Princess Marina of Greece in 1934 excited extraordinary interest in London, though Londoners are not unaccustomed to State ceremonies, and the fortunes of the wedded pair and of their infant children continue to be watched with the closest attention. We can be sure that Prince George, who has now been nominated as Australia's first Royal Governor-General, will make himself as beloved in the Commonwealth as he is at home. His tact, his humour and his passionate liking for sport of all kinds

will endear him to the Australian people.

Prince George Edward Alexander Edmund was born to King George V. and Queen Mary (then the Prince and Princess of Wales) on December 20th, 1902. He was educated privately before going to Osborne to begin the naval career for which he was destined like his father. He passed on to Dartmouth and to the training ship *H.M.S. Téméraire*, and showed promise of becoming as keen an officer as King George V. had been in his youth. But reasons of health compelled him to abandon the sea. He found useful occupation as a clerk at the Foreign Office. He shared quarters with his brother, then Prince of Wales, at St. James's Palace, and began to take part in the public duties that fall to the Royal family. His first post was that of President of St. George's Hospital, which has benefited greatly ever since by his alert interest in its work and in its rebuilding fund.

The first important mission with which Prince George was entrusted by his father was a long State visit to

South Africa. He sailed for Capetown in the *Carnarvon Castle* on January 19th, 1934. He was received at the Cape on February 5th by General Hertzog, the Union Premier, and then began a prolonged tour. General Smuts took him up Table Mountain, scrambling with him over the rocks. He saw the Cape vineyards, went eastward to Port Elizabeth and East London, and then north across the Karroo to Graaff Reinet and so to Bloemfontein. Diverging into Basutoland, he witnessed a native gymkhana at Maseru, and then made for Natal, where at Pietermaritzburg the Zulus performed their ceremonial dances on the racecourse. From Durban he went to Ladysmith and climbed Spion Kop, and then passed on to Johannesburg to inspect the mines and deliver a speech at a great banquet. Pretoria, Kimberley, Mafeking, where the Bechuana Regent, Tshekedi, welcomed him, were the next stages in the journey north to Bulawayo, the Zimbabwe ruins, Salisbury, Rhodes's tomb in the Matopos and the Victoria Falls. Thence the Prince went on to Livingstone, the old capital, and Lusaka, the new capital, of Northern Rhodesia, and the great copper mines of Broken Hill. Crossing the Belgian Congo frontier, Prince George stayed at Elisabethville, and then took train on the Benguela railway through Portuguese Angola to Lobito Bay, where the *Windsor Castle* called for him and his party. In the course

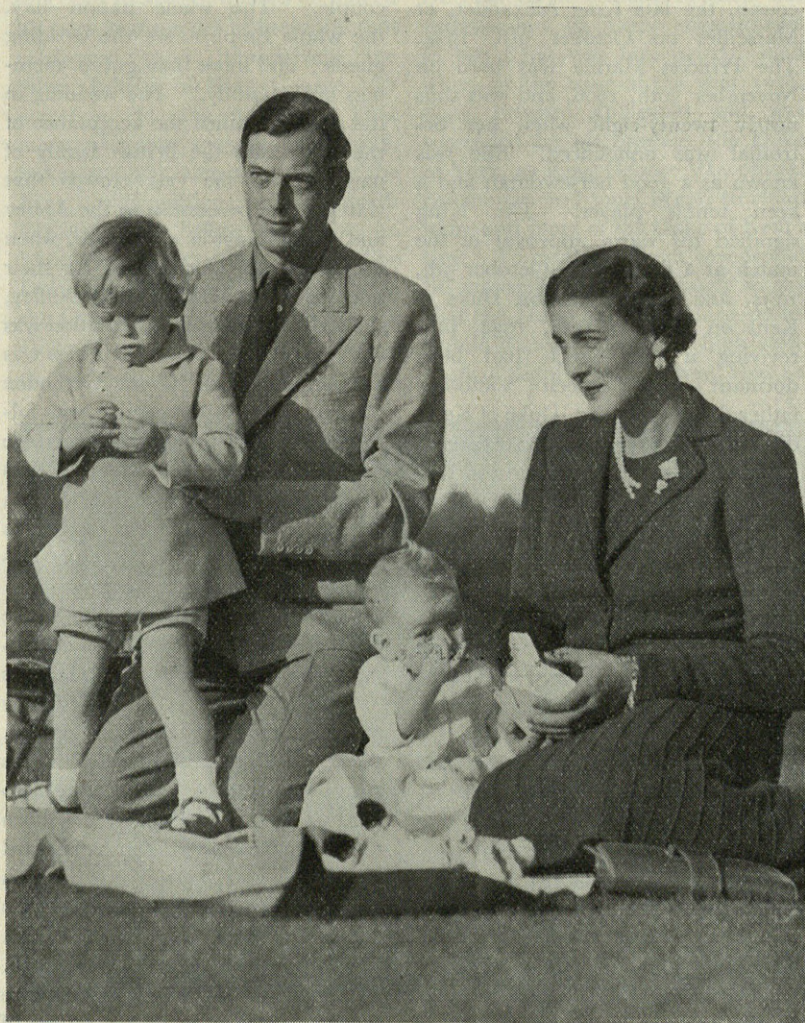
of this most interesting journey he had covered 10,000 miles on land and seen South Africa in all its aspects. And everywhere the Prince's kindly youthful manner and his impromptu speeches made a good impression. The journalists who accompanied the party were astonished at the Prince's determination to take exercise whenever possible, running beside the railway track if there was no chance of a game of tennis. They were not less surprised to find that he was a good pianist; the piano in his saloon car was not merely for show. They testified to his unconventionality and genuine desire to help them in their work. The tour was, as General Smuts wrote at the time, "one of the most successful tours which any member of the Royal Family had ever paid to South Africa."

The King had made his son a Knight of the Garter when he attained his majority in 1923, and given him the Grand Cross of the Victorian Order in 1934. After his return from South Africa Prince George was appropriately awarded the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

In the autumn of 1934 the nation was delighted to learn that Prince George was engaged to be married. The lady of his choice was the Princess Marina, the youngest of the three daughters of Prince Nicholas of Greece and the Grand Duchess Helen of Russia. Prince Nicholas was the son of the late King George I. of

Greece, the brother of the late King Constantine and the uncle of the present King George II. A

talented portrait-painter, he was Queen Alexandra's favourite nephew. His eldest daughter, the Princess



*T.R.H. THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF KENT
photographed with their children at their home in Iwer, Bucks.*

THE ROYAL GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Olga, had married in 1923 Prince Paul of Yugoslavia, who became Regent after the murder of his cousin, the late King Alexander, at Marseilles on October 9th, 1934. The Princess Marina was born on November 30th, 1906, and was thus nearly twenty-eight when her betrothal was announced. She was known as a good horsewoman and a keen tennis player. The King signified his warm approval of the match at a Council on October 5th, 1934, and created his son Duke of Kent on October 12th, 1934, thus reviving a title which had been dormant since Queen Victoria's father, Prince Edward, Duke of Kent, died in 1820, though the Duke of Edinburgh, Queen Victoria's son, had been Earl of Kent from 1866 to his death in 1900.

The young bride's beauty at once captured English hearts, and the wedding at Westminster Abbey on November 29th, 1934, drew such crowds as have rarely been seen in the capital. "Marina blue" was all the rage with the women, and the Duchess's good taste in dresses and hats was universally appreciated.

It was remarked at the time that Royal weddings had seldom been attended by such publicity. King George V., when Duke of York, had been married at St. George's Chapel, Windsor. The choice of the historic Abbey marked a deliberate change for the better. As the Archbishop of Canterbury, who performed the cere-

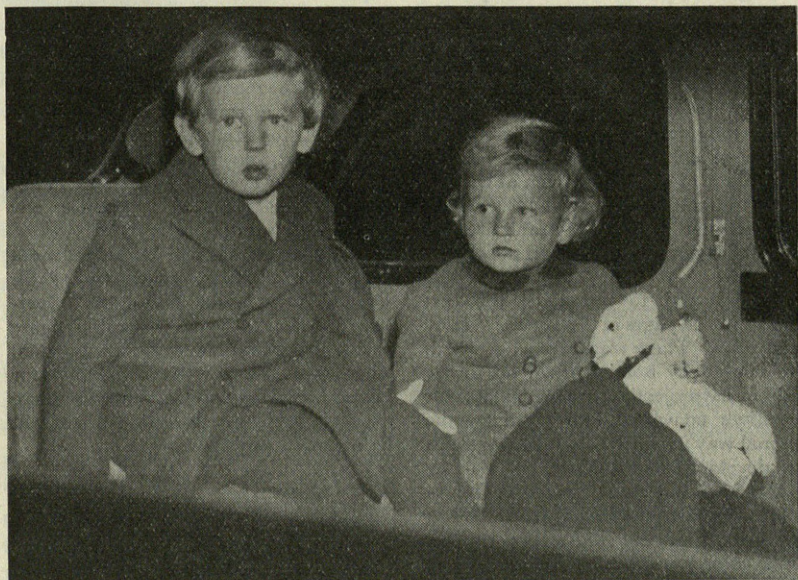
mony with the assistance of the Archbishop of York and the Dean, remarked in his address to the Royal couple, "The whole nation—nay, the whole Empire—are the wedding guests; and more than guests, members of the family." The wedding in the Abbey typified the acceptance of the bride into the British family of nations, and the vast crowds that watched the procession to the Abbey and to Paddington afterwards, when the Duke and Duchess left for their honeymoon at Himley Hall, Dudley, showed how delighted the nation was with the match. As the Duchess was a member of the Greek Orthodox Church, the Abbey service was followed by the betrothal and marriage service according to Orthodox rites in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace. The Archbishop Germanos of Thyateira officiated at this elaborate ceremony.

After the honeymoon the Duke purchased Lady Juliet Duff's charming house, No. 3 Belgrave Square, as his town residence. His country place is the modest house, Coppins, Iver, Buckinghamshire, which his aunt bequeathed to him a year or two ago. Two children have been born to the Royal couple; Prince Edward George Nicholas Patrick was born on October 9th, 1935, and Princess Alexandra Helen Elizabeth Olga Christabel on Christmas Day, 1936. Their airings in the Belgrave Square gardens are a never failing source of interest to ladies of leisure and Press

photographers.

In the early days of his marriage the Duke of Kent had few State functions to attend, though he played his part in the series of festivities that celebrated most impressively the Silver Jubilee of King George V.'s accession to the throne. That memorable year 1935 ended happily, but a fortnight later came news of the King's indisposition, and his death followed just before midnight on Monday, January 20th, 1936. The Duke and Duchess of Kent were with the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York and the Princess Royal at the King's bedside in those last

hours. The new reign necessarily brought fresh duties for King Edward VIII.'s youngest brother, and the Duchess of Kent had to help her sisters-in-law in many engagements as the King was unmarried. And when, at the close of the year 1936, King Edward abdicated and was succeeded by his brother, the Duke of York, as King George VI., official ceremonies and tours began to claim more and more of the Duke of Kent's time. To catalogue them here would be impossible. It is enough to say that the Duke has maintained on all public occasions the very high standard of dignity and courtesy that we

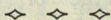


PRINCE EDWARD AND PRINCESS ALEXANDRA

Children of the Duke and Duchess of Kent, photographed on their return to London from a visit to the country.

have come to expect from our Royal family, that his speeches are always thoughtful and that he has displayed a very keen interest in our industrial undertakings no less than in our sports. The Duchess, too, has made herself an acknowledged leader in women's affairs, and has devoted much time to visiting hospitals and

children's homes. The young couple will be greatly missed when they go to Australia, but we can be sure that their three years' sojourn in the Commonwealth will bring them fresh popularity and strengthen the devotion of the Australians to the common Crown, worn by the head of a family which we all respect.



COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

*AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE OVER-SEAS LEAGUE
MAY SHOW WHAT THEY CAN DO IN THE REALMS OF COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHY*

TO give more time to readers in distant countries, it has now been found possible to make December 31st the closing date for the above competition and not December 15th, as stated previously.

Here is a further opportunity for all amateur photographers who are Members of the Over-Seas League to show what they can do in the fascinating realms of colour photography. Prizes, the details of which are given at the end of this announcement, will be awarded for the best Dufaycolor transparencies received by us from now until the closing date.

It is hoped to reproduce the best entries in the pages of "Overseas" early next year. These transparencies, which are viewed by holding them up to the light or by projection, are the Dufaycolor negatives converted into positives—the normal way in which colour photographs are developed and finished.

Members may submit as many Dufaycolor transparencies as they wish. When received from the processing station, Dufaycolor transparencies are framed in black cardboard mounts, and to the back of these mounts should be affixed a label on which the name and address of the

sender and a description of each picture is written distinctly. Except when no such mounts are used, do not send separate sheets of paper. Address entries to: "Colour Photography Competition, 'Overseas,' 99 Gower Street, London, W.C.1." Although every effort will be made to return transparencies when a stamped and addressed envelope (or Imperial reply coupon) is enclosed, no responsibility can be taken in the event of loss. The Editor reserves the right to reproduce any photograph submitted.

The competition will be judged by a committee of four, consisting of Sir Evelyn Wrench, the Editor of "Overseas," "Reflex" and a leading figure in the photographic world in London. There will be two sections, one for Home Members and the other for those overseas, and in each section prizes will be awarded as follows:—

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1st Prize | Seven guineas |
| 2nd Prize | Four guineas |
| 3rd Prize | Two guineas |
| And two extra prizes of half a guinea. | |

The prizewinners will be announced in the issue of "Overseas" for February, 1939, as stated previously.

A SURVEY OF THE PROBLEMS IN AFRICA

THE SURVEY INCLUDES THE GREAT BULK OF A CONTINENT WHICH
COVERS SOME 12 MILLION SQUARE MILES, OR A FIFTH OF THE
LAND SURFACE OF THE GLOBE



AFTER nearly five years' intensive study, entailing a journey of 22,000 miles, the co-operation of specialists, of administrators and officials throughout British, French, Belgian and Portuguese territories in Africa, a work of primary importance to the future of that great continent has just been completed in the African Research Survey.

The idea of the survey was first suggested by General Smuts in his Rhodes Lectures of 1929, and the suggestion was taken up by a group of prominent men interested in African affairs, including Lord Lugard, Lord Lothian, Sir Arthur Salter, Sir John Orr, Sir Richard Gregory, Professor Coupland, Professor Julian Huxley, Mr. Lionel Curtis and Dr. J. H. Oldham. Generous financial support was obtained from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, and the committee was fortunate in securing the services of Sir Malcolm (now Lord) Hailey, on his retirement from the Governorship of the United Provinces in India, as Director of the

Survey. The secretary has been Miss Hilda Matheson. Preliminary work on the survey was started late in 1933, and the Report, comprising some 1,700 pages, has just been published by the Oxford University Press. It is being followed by two supplementary volumes, one dealing with "Capital Investment in Africa," for which Professor S. H. Frankel, Professor of Economics in the Witwatersrand University, will be responsible, and the other on "Science in Africa," compiled by Mr. E. B. Worthington, the well-known ecologist, assisted by numerous specialists. The Report would have appeared earlier but for a serious breakdown in health which Lord Hailey suffered after his return from Africa, from which, however, he has now happily completely recovered.

SCOPE OF THE SURVEY

The survey has been concerned with all Africa south of the Sahara. It does not include the Mediterranean littoral or Egypt, but these

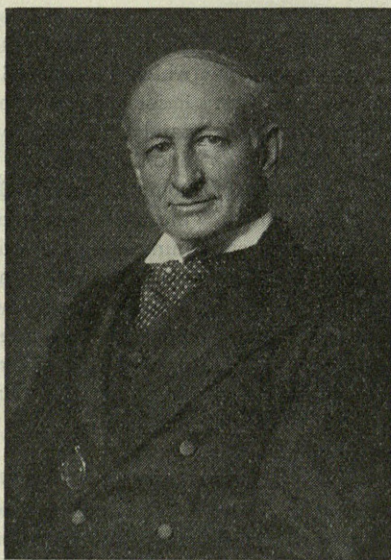
regions have quite different characteristics from the rest of Africa. Even so, it includes the great bulk of a continent which covers some 12 million square miles, or a fifth of the land surface of the globe. There are certain outstanding facts about Africa which perhaps are not generally appreciated. It has a larger proportion of tropical area than any of the other continents; except Australia, it has the lowest density of population in relation to that area; its peoples speak some 700 languages, and practically the whole of it south of the Sahara is governed by Europeans. Notwithstanding its vast extent, Africa as a whole contributes only 4.5 per cent. to the world's exports, and 4.8 per cent. to its import trade. The total outside capital investment in Africa south of the Sahara amounts to £1,222,000,000, of which a large proportion is represented by British investments. Of this sum, £546,000,000 has been in the form of loans or grants to Governments. Its total popula-

tion is estimated at between 138 and 163 millions.

The survey has covered every phase of African life, economy, and government, and within the compass of this article it is only possible to indicate in barest outline some of Lord Hailey's principal conclusions. Let us look first at the physical background. The tropical character of Africa has a special significance in regard to European settlement. The land lying 3,000 feet above sea level embraces the greater part of South and South-West Africa and extends as far north-east as Abyssinia. But it remains open to question, until further knowledge has been gained, whether the

more tropical portions of this elevated plateau are suited for permanent European settlement. In West Africa no such settlement is attempted. Does the future of Africa, therefore, ultimately lie with the African, subject perhaps to European guidance and leadership?

The low population density would seem to be connected with



LORD HAILLEY.

Photo by Russell, London.

known deficiencies in the soil, and with the prevalence of diseases partly due to the malnutrition associated with such deficiencies. Vital statistics are very imperfect throughout Africa, but so far as our present knowledge goes, the African population is probably either stationary or subject to a very slow increase, this in spite of improvements in health and standards of living and the cessation of tribal warfare. There have been some assertions lately that Africans are naturally limited in mental capacity, but there does not seem to be any evidence for a characteristic African mentality or that Africans differ essentially from other peoples.

SYSTEMS OF GOVERNMENT

There are many different systems of government in Africa, and some co-ordination of policy or objective would seem to be ultimately desirable. British Colonial policy looks towards eventual self-government. The issue is complicated by the European element in some of the territories. Indirect rule and native administration have yet to be fitted into the conception of responsible self-government, and may have to be materially modified if Great Britain is to maintain this ideal while remaining loyal to its obligations as trustee for native interests. In the Union of South Africa and in Rhodesia, a policy of racial segregation is favoured, the interests of the African communities, separately organised, being voiced

through a Native Representative Council and not in Parliament.

French policy does not envisage self-government, but aims at centralised administration on the French model, with very limited access to French citizenship and culture. Belgian policy in the Congo looks rather to material development, combined with conscientious care for native welfare. Portuguese colonial rule is at present undergoing reconstruction, especially in the financial sphere, and will probably develop corporative tendencies. The future of Indians in Africa will probably be largely affected by the advances made by Africans, who are already invading many fields of employment hitherto occupied by Indians.

The system of indirect rule generally prevails in the British Colonies, with the grant to native administrations of financial and executive powers in local government. Indirect rule may possibly be less effective for rapid development than the French direct system, but its supporters claim that this is outweighed by the greater readiness of the people to accept innovations introduced by their own authorities. The real test will come when these authorities have to introduce social services on more than the present rudimentary scale, and when they are faced with the growth of political and national aspirations in Africa. The system at present makes little provision for the co-operation of educated

Africans, or for co-ordination between individual authorities. British officials appear to be unduly occupied with routine work, and there should be considerable scope for the employment of educated Africans.

Lord Hailey deals in his comprehensive Report with problems of taxation, labour, land tenure, law and justice, agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry, soil erosion, health and education services, and many other topics, but these should be studied in the Report itself and its supplementary volumes. It is really remarkable that a valuable and authoritative work of this tremendous scope should

be obtainable for the modest outlay of a guinea, or, including the two supplementary volumes, of forty-one shillings.

Lord Hailey concludes his survey by stressing the importance of African studies in both social and physical sciences, and the need of assistance from Imperial funds for this purpose. He suggests the formation of an African Bureau covering social, economic, scientific and administrative problems which will constitute both a clearing-house for information and a source of assistance to all those who are pursuing research or enquiry into African questions.

—W. E. S.



PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Every Member possessing a camera is invited to take part in "Overseas" Photographic Competition. Two prizes of one guinea each are awarded monthly for the best or most interesting non-professional photograph sent in by an O.-S. Member. The name and address of the sender, and a description of the picture, should be written distinctly on the back of each photograph and not on separate sheets of paper. Prints only should be sent. Negatives are not accepted. Unusual pictures and those depicting life in various parts of the world are preferred to landscapes, seascapes or architectural subjects. The Editor reserves the right to reproduce any photograph submitted. In view of the large number of entries, no responsibility can be assumed by the Over-Seas League for loss of or damage to photographs sent in, and unless specially requested by the sender, no acknowledgment of receipt is given.

Members can help the League by mentioning "Overseas" when writing to advertisers.

THE MONTH IN THE EMPIRE

THESE NOTES ON THE MONTH'S OUTSTANDING EVENTS IN THE EMPIRE ARE WRITTEN BY SIR FRANK FOX, O.B.E. (DOMINIONS), BY MR. EDWIN HAWARD (INDIA), AND BY MAJOR W. E. SIMNETT M.B.E. (COLONIAL EMPIRE.)



THE ALASKA HIGHWAY

THERE is an international as well as an Imperial interest in the "Alaska Highway" project. Sir Evelyn Wrench explains this clearly and forcibly in *The Times**, October 29th. It would be a pity if considerations, which are really short-sighted and parochial in character, should stand in the way of its consideration as a problem of world statesmanship. People of vision in the United States wish, as a matter of economic development and of defence strategy, to see their Alaska Territory connected with their California State by a great motor road. That road must pass through Canada, and Canadians of vision recognise that the advantages would be as great to their Dominion as to the Southern Republic. But from some quarters come objections: that this would be allowing a "foreign Power" to trespass on Canadian soil to secure a strategic advantage.

Such a view ignores facts which are of much comfort and hopefulness in a sorely vexed world, and to ignore

them is to affront the dearest aspiration of mankind: that civilisation will some day learn that peace on earth is a possible ideal. The Republic of the United States is technically a Power foreign to the nations of the Empire. Practically it is not foreign in the sense of being possibly hostile. This is fully recognised strategically. The Canadian-United States frontier, without a trace of fortification on either side, is one clear proof. Another is that both British Empire and United States naval plans mutually exclude all foreboding of any hostility with one another. If we are to deny ourselves the comfort of these facts, truly the world is in desperate plight! Let us accept them in full faith that they are strong enough to stand any test. Then we must recognise that the peace of the Pacific is a matter of equal interest to the British Empire and to the United States; that any step towards making that peace secure is building a rampart for the defence of both. It was one of the happiest events of

* Sir Evelyn Wrench's letter to *The Times* is reprinted on page 52.

history that Russia consented many years ago to cede Alaska to the United States. It was one of the tragic events of history that, when the British Empire knew that it had to face a heavy challenge in Europe, it was not able to come to an agreement with the United States to "insure" the Pacific, and was obliged to fall back on the ultimately dangerous (though immediately necessary) expedient of the Japanese Alliance. Anything which helps the United States to defend Alaska is a very present help to the British Commonwealth.

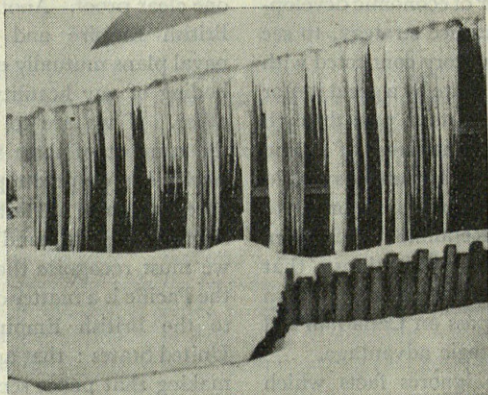
So much for the strategic position—unhappily one must in these days write so much of the possibilities of war. The trade position is equally clear. An Alaska highway must benefit Canadian development. The most prosperous period Palestine ever enjoyed was when the wisdom of Solomon developed the caravan routes through its territory from Asia Minor to Egypt. This Alaska caravan route of the twentieth century would service California,

Canada and Alaska. It would be of special value, as Sir Evelyn Wrench has pointed out, in promoting group colonisation in Canada.

ART IN THE DOMINIONS

The holding of an important exhibition of Canadian Art in London suggests that our British race has reason to be proud of one fact: taking its record as a whole, it has been a good colonist, the Home Country passing over to its children nations the full fruits of its culture. Those nations were not designed to be merely servile plantations—trade and production adjuncts to reinforce the wealth of the parent—but to grow up as equals in all things. The growth of Art in the Dominions is thus a monument of colonisation in the right spirit. Canada, of course, does not provide the only example. Australia

has a vigorous Art life, as the Royal Academy and the Paris Salon remind us almost every year. In "black-and-white" this nation is most notable. Phil May, though not Australian-born,



ICICLES

which took six weeks to form on the side of a house in Revelstoke, British Columbia. Photo by Mrs. E. J. H. Davies.



THE STATE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT
on November 8th. The King and Queen in the State Coach on their way to the House of Lords.



THE TAJ MAHAL, AGRA, U.P., INDIA

The marble mausoleum built by Shah Jehan in the XVIIth century for his favourite wife.

matured his matchless art as a cartoonist in Sydney. He was one of the founders of the first Australian Art Society; another founder was Alfred Clint, grandson of the famous English "Painter of Players," George Clint, many of whose pictures the Garrick Club proudly cherishes and who is represented in the National Portrait Gallery. New Zealand has also a promising school of artists. I had the honour in 1935 of opening a London show for one of them, Mr. Christopher Perkins: his pictures—fine, strong work, modern in the good sense, *i.e.*, in tackling modern subjects such as a butter factory. If older generations could make beautiful pictures of water mills and windmills, this generation must see Art in an electricity plant and a butter factory; and our architects must provide Art for them to see. As to New Zealand black-and-white, Low is a New Zealander.

DOMINION ART IS SENSIBLE

It is worth while noting that Art in the British Dominions, in my observation, rejects completely all the silly crazes that find a vogue from time to time in European Art. These young peoples are certainly not old-fashioned in their ideas, but their wholesome sanity rejects the weird notions of such folk as the Vorticists—or are they Vertigoists?—and of the Epileptic schools. I have sad memories of an excellent Scottish artist who once painted good pictures

and (what was important to a Scotsman) sold them well. Then he became addicted, one after another, to all the crazes, reaching a final nadir in what was called, I think, Expressionism. I last met him in 1917, hoping to find him occupation as a war artist. His Scottish conscience forced him to tell me that if he were entrusted with a commission to paint the Battle of the Somme "it might look like a teapot"—pointing to one furnishing of our afternoon hospitable table. I dared not put his name forward, even to the most advanced of our War Office patrons of Art.

SOIL EROSION

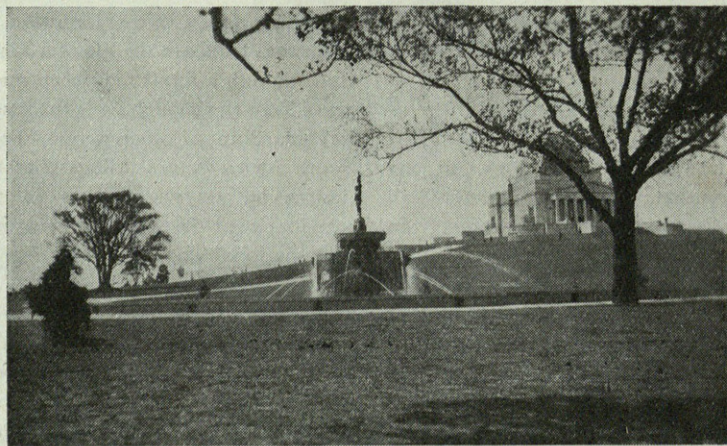
Unfortunate that the general sanity of outlook of the British race overseas has not been applied to one most important aspect of their life as colonists: they have forgotten so often that trees are the life of a land; that, though a forest may keep many acres from the plough, it is the essential guardian of other acres. From South Africa comes tidings that the desiccation of wide areas in the interior is at last being recognised as a national danger; and a great irrigation scheme between the Vaal and the Hartz rivers is being carried out as a remedy. For this desiccation British and Boer colonists are responsible only in a minor degree; most of the damage was done before their arrival. But neglect has existed there, as elsewhere, in the diagnosis of the

primal cause of desiccation and soil erosion—the destruction of the forests; and in applying the efficacious remedy, the restoration of trees and shrubs. To kill trees for fuel and to over-graze natural vegetation for fodder is to invite the invasion of the desert.

Australia's faults in this regard are brought to mind by a report of a South Australian Commission published in October. The report tells in detail of 7,381 square miles of land in that State made practically useless by the destruction of the vegetation; of another 20,000 square miles the capacity of which "has been depreciated greatly." The experience of South Australia is that of most of the Australian continent; forests destroyed to win a few easy crops of grass; native fodder bushes killed

off by reckless over-stocking. Then the sun beats down and the winds rage and the defenceless soil is blown away as dust.

Australia, when the white man came, was already very poor in forests, and, therefore, in a large part of its area very scanty in rainfall. Yet often the forests were treated as enemies of the farmers and graziers. To-day only 1 per cent. of the Australian area is forest land; this compares with 5.4 per cent. in thickly populated Great Britain, 19.2 per cent. in France and 27.5 per cent. in Germany. If the reader is not wearied by figures, Finland has 73.5 per cent. of its area forest land, and guards so carefully their capacity for wealth production that the annual harvest of trees is strictly replaced each year by new plantings. In Australia and



THE STATE WAR MEMORIAL AT MELBOURNE,
Victoria, Australia. Photo by Mr. G. E. Moullen.

South Africa the forest area should be systematically increased ; in Canada and New Zealand carefully safeguarded to the extent that is necessary for the preservation of the soil.

LESSON FROM LIBYA

"Wake Up, England," was the keynote of an historic speech from King George V., as Prince of Wales, returning from a tour of the Overseas Empire. "Wake Up, Empire," might well be the keynote to-day of a call to our race, with as its basis the fact that in October, 1938, an Italian fleet disembarked on a single day 18,000 colonists for Libya—men, women and children. They were met by a herd of motor cars to take each family to a farm home, which in due course will become their own. Have we no families who would welcome a change of prospect from life on the dole? Have we no empty lands more fair and fruitful than Libya? Have we no ships, no money, no leaders, no capacity to organise? Surely, for every talent that is under the stewardship of Italy we have at least ten talents ; are capable of colonising in convoys not of 18,000, but of 180,000.

—FRANK FOX

INDIAN NOTES

Lord and Lady Linlithgow have now resumed occupancy of the Viceroy's House in New Delhi. His Excellency's return to duty is naturally taken as a peg for specula-

tion on the progress made with the preparations for Federation. The controversy over the representation of the Princes in the proposed legislature still has to be taken into account. Yet it would not be unfair to say that a less dogmatic view is discernible in some references to it.

Perhaps the full ventilation given to the subject by speeches and writings in India as well as in England has shown that acute divergences of opinion are really out of place. Most people are agreed that Federation is essential as the coping stone to the New Constitution. The continuance of "irresponsible" government at the centre with provincial autonomy in British India and virtual autocracy in the Indian States cannot be indefinitely prolonged.

FEDERAL ANOMALIES

In principle all accept Federation. On principle, too, British Indian politicians aver that a Federal Legislature composed of democratically elected representatives from British India and autocratically nominated personal representatives of the Princes from "Indian" India is an unacceptable anomaly. Anomalies have, however, a curious habit of being far less formidable when they are subjected to close examination. If the Princes had not startled the first session of the Round Table Conference by plumping for Federa-

tion with responsible Government at the Centre, India would not have so readily secured the present considerable advance to self-government.

Never by any serious discussion was any objection taken to the view that, in the light of the treaty relations between the Princes and the Paramount Power, the representation of the States would be decided by the Rulers' nominations. Any system of elected representation by the peoples of the States would require a radical amendment of the massive Government of India Act—a task which, as Lord Zetland has firmly pointed out, Parliament cannot be expected to undertake at any rate until the Constitution has been tried. This applies, of course, to the other objections based on the reservation of Defence, Foreign Affairs, Railway Administration and Finance from the Federal

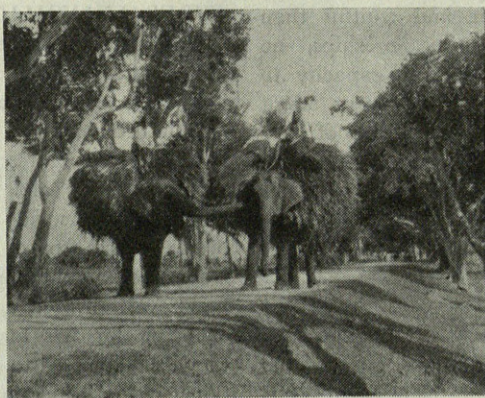
Legislature. So on the face of it a deadlock appears. Yet actually the issue is by no means so insoluble given good will and a shrewd appreciation of the trend of world politics. Pro-

gress has been made with the preparation of the Instruments of Accession which are required individually to accompany the Princes' formal acceptance of Federation. Even then the procedure laid down must take time—an Address to be discussed and agreed to by Parliament and then a Royal Proclamation. So it is generally considered that 1941 will be the probable date of Federation, always assuming no political hitch of any dimensions occurs.

VICEREGAL WELCOME

Anyway, Lord Linlithgow and his wife have received a warm welcome on their return from holiday. During their absence Lord and Lady Brabourne have been casting over Simla the same spells which made them so popular in Bombay and

have already won for them Calcutta's undeviating confidence. Calcutta, as everyone in India knows, does not always see eye to eye with Bombay. There is more than a suspicion of rivalry



BRINGING HOME FODDER.

A number of elephants are maintained in Mysore State for work in the teak forests. Photo by Mr. F. J. Brewin.

between Job Charnock's deposed capital and the dower-city of Catherine of Braganza which calls itself proudly the Gateway of India. Lord Brabourne's unprecedented experience of passing from a lustrum in Bombay to the Governorship of Bengal with complete ease and certainty of touch is in itself a tribute to his quality. He is the first former Governor of Bombay and the second Governor of Bengal to act as Viceroy for a short period. Lord Willingdon must be excepted, for though a former Governor of Bombay (and also of Madras) his Viceroyalty was a full-term one. It would not be surprising if Lord Brabourne eventually emulated his record.

The arrival of Lord Chatfield's Committee has prompted criticism of the Government for its failure to appoint an Indian to that body. The line of argument is familiar, but it overlooks the technical character of the investigation. Indian views on defence problems have been so exhaustively expounded through various committees' reports and the proceedings of the Legislature that Lord Chatfield and his colleagues will be amply advised on that point. They may be trusted, too, to make their own personal inquiries if necessary.

QUETTA'S REVIVAL

The ghastly earthquake which in forty-five seconds destroyed Quetta and caused the loss of nearly 30,000

lives out of a population of 50,000 three and a half years ago was so terrible a catastrophe that even now it seems almost frivolous to suggest that any good can come from it.

Yet the magnificent heroism and powers of organisation which it immediately evoked have been matched by the efficiency of the reconstruction. Immense improvements and innovations—many of them designed to make the new Quetta proof against earthquake shocks—have been introduced into the rebuilding. London benefited from the Great Fire of 1666. So Quetta, rising from the ashes of its old self, has the advantage of a town-planning scheme, the amenities of which are likely to bring greater security and prosperity to the Baluchistan capital.

COLONEL MUIRHEAD ON TOUR

Colonel A. J. Muirhead, the Under-Secretary of State for India, has been enjoying his rapid unofficial tour of India. Already he has visited Bombay, Kotah, Bundi and the North-West Frontier. At Peshawar he has met an old friend, for both Sir George Cunningham and he were at Magdalen, Oxford, thirty years ago. He has passed on from Delhi to the United Provinces, and it is expected that Rajputana, Central India, Madras and Calcutta will be included in his itinerary before he leaves in early December for Rangoon whence he returns to England by air.

Colonel Muirhead's visit is being made the subject of speculation in the Indian Press, in which it is freely suggested that he should take the opportunity to discuss Federation. As he announced at the outset, Colonel Muirhead is merely endeavouring to obtain some personal knowledge of the country and he is far too modest and sensible a statesman to attempt any more elaborate task in the short time at his disposal.

GAEKWAR'S ILLNESS

Great anxiety has arisen from the news that the Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda on return from Europe has been in poor health. His Highness' condition in the early part of November became so serious that the Maharani and her daughter, the Maharani of Cooch Behar, flew from England to his bedside, and Dr. Geoffrey Evans, the Bart's specialist, followed them by the same route within a few hours. The Gaekwar is seventy-six, and at that age a serious illness must necessarily cause deep concern.

Later reports have been more reassuring and every one hopes that the veteran ruler—he celebrated the Diamond Jubilee of his reign in 1935—will make a full recovery. His great influence on Indian political thought and his broad-minded liberalism have been a great asset to the order of which he is one of the outstanding figures.

I have talked with him in his capital—or rather outside, for he gave me a lift in a luxurious tonga on a cheetah hunt—in a hotel in Shanghai, and, only last summer, in another hotel in London. On each occasion I was immensely struck by his charming simplicity of manner, his vigorous intellect, and, above all, his intense solicitude for the people of India. I remember so well, as we discussed the Royal tour at Baroda, that he expressed a desire to be able to

give his distinguished visitor, the then Prince of Wales, a really long spell of hospitality so that he could take him personally and unannounced into the villages to show how the people lived and



A STATE ELEPHANT
adorned for a religious procession at Jaipur, India. Photo by
Mr. C. E. Gibbs.

how great their needs were. His Highness' long life of service is in itself a vindication of the system of Government for which he stands. He has liberalised his administration and yet preserved that paternal supervision which ensures the closest understanding between ruler and ruled. At this time, when the process of constitutionally linking the States with British India is at a delicate stage, His Highness' ripe judgment and personal ascendancy could be ill spared.

AFTER MUNICH

It would be idle to pretend that the first relief in India at the solution of the European crisis has been followed by complete satisfaction. The solidarity when the danger of war seemed to be greatest was breached—perhaps inevitably—when normality returned.

Sir Sultan Ahmed, the eminent jurist of Patna, has, therefore, rendered a public service on his return from Geneva, in refuting the suggestion that Mr. Neville Chamberlain's diplomacy was born of weakness. Rather did he consider that "in saving the world from an appalling disaster" the British Prime Minister had shown strength. Sir Sultan was speaking at Patna some days before the Lord Mayor's banquet at the Guildhall, and it is interesting, therefore, to note that he took in advance almost the same line as that so effectively chosen by Mr. Chamberlain in the speech broad-

cast from the Guildhall to the Empire.

Mr. Gandhi has been critical of what he terms "an inglorious peace," but, faithful to his own policy of "non-violent resistance," he is not disposed to impute error to Mr. Chamberlain. More significant, however, is Mr. Gandhi's unequivocal stricture on Russia: "Russia is out of the picture just now. Russia has a dictator who dreams of peace and thinks he will wade to it through a sea of blood. No one can say what Russian dictatorship will mean to the world." One of Mr. Gandhi's charms is his devastating and uncomfortable frankness. It once more comes as a useful corrective to some of his friends as well as to their opponents. —EDWIN HAWARD

THE COLONIAL EMPIRE

IT may be useful first this month to glance at the Colonial scene as a whole and see what outstanding events have happened since these notes last appeared. In the West Indies the Royal Commission, under Lord Moyne, has settled down to its work of investigation, and Major St. John Orde Browne, the Labour Adviser to the Colonial Office, is also touring the islands. The most important event as regards West Africa has been the publication of the bold and outspoken Report of the Cocoa Commission. East and South-West Africa generally is troubled by the uncertainty of the international situa-

tion as it may affect the future, and this also may delay publication of the report of the Bledisloe Commission which has been investigating the future relations of the two Rhodesias and Nyasaland. Meanwhile, Sir Robert Bell has produced an able and comprehensive report on the financial position and further development of Nyasaland. The territory's finances are largely dominated by the Trans-Zambesi Railway, as to which Sir Robert makes recommendations, and his plans for development include the construction of new roads, the establishment of a Land Bank, the introduction of secondary education for Africans, the extension of social services and other improvements.

Looking at Africa as a whole, the outstanding event of the month, apart from the Volta Congress in Rome, has undoubtedly been the publication of Lord Hailey's African Survey, which forms the subject of an article elsewhere in this issue. The Ceylon delegation has had several interviews with

the Secretary of State, and is, I believe, highly satisfied with his reception of its proposals. At the moment of writing, the Woodhead Report on Palestine is not yet published, but its trend and substance are generally known, confirming the forecast made in these notes, and a statement on policy will doubtless be made before these notes appear.* The Japanese landing in South China has brought into the forefront the question of the future of Hong Kong. These naturally do not exhaust the month's happenings in the Colonial Empire, but they may, perhaps, be regarded as the "high lights" of the scene, with one important addition at home.

* The Report and statement are now out. Partition is dead, and a conference with Arabs and Jews is convened in London. My comments below stand.—W. E. S.

MR.
MALCOLM
MAC-
DONALD

As most people know, for some months past Mr. MacDonald has had to bear the double burden of the Dominions and Colonial Ministries, and during the European



DRUMMERS OF THE DAGOMBA STATE,
Northern Territories, Gold Coast. By the beating of drums messages
are conveyed for long distances. Photo by Mr. R. A. S. Buckman.

crisis he was in daily touch both with the Prime Minister and with the Dominion representatives at a time when Colonial affairs also demanded his urgent attention. Following upon the lamented death of Lord Stanley, the burden has now been riveted on Mr. MacDonald's shoulders, probably for the duration of this session of Parliament. There is, of course, precedent for this action, for both Mr. Amery and Lord Passfield united the offices for a time, but though recent, those were far less strenuous and anxious days in Empire and world affairs. If Pelion must be piled upon Ossa, then here is certainly a gallant modern Atlas, for Mr. MacDonald has grown greatly in ministerial stature, and has now had wide experience and made his mark in both spheres ; but from the point of view of the Colonial Empire, which in my humble opinion (and without disrespect to the Dominions) constitutes in these days by far the more important charge of the two, being itself an *imperium in imperio*, one cannot help wishing that another Secretary of State could be found acceptable to the Dominions, so that Mr. MacDonald could devote all his attention in these critical times to the affairs of the Colonial Empire.

A POLICY FOR PALESTINE

Because of its urgency and importance, I would like to say something here about the Palestine problem, even though by so doing I must

anticipate the announcement of the British Government's policy. The scheme of partition proposed almost as an afterthought by the Peel Commission must be regarded as dead. It was never very practicable, and in any case the march of events has now pushed it into the political limbo. I reiterate my belief, in which I have never wavered, that it is still possible for Arab and Jew to live together in the same land, provided they are free from outside interference. We have now to reckon with a real and deep Arab sentiment (I would not call it "nationalism"), and the Jews have their share of the blame in the past for rousing it. They may now have learned wisdom. We have, on the other hand, the duty of securing a national home for the Jews in Palestine, which does not mean that the two are synonymous. The Arabs are not confined to Palestine, and Arab sentiment could probably best be placated by a reconstruction of the Mandate for Palestine and Transjordan which, by agreement with France as Mandatory for Syria, would provide some form of federal solution for the Arabs of this geographical entity. In Palestine itself a ratio might be fixed between Jew and Arab which would allay the Arab fear of Jewish domination, and any undue restriction upon Jewish immigration into Palestine which this might entail should be compensated by allowing some subsidiary and regulated settlement in other parts of

what would then be a greatly enlarged and predominantly Arab territory.

But this is not all. It will at once be said that the Jewish problem, owing to European persecution, has now reached such proportions that, instead of imposing restrictions, the gates must be flung wider. But the present terrible situation was not even dreamt of at the time of the Balfour Declaration. Once a true National Home has been set up in Zion, and the Jewish hope and ideal has thus become a reality, why should it not become the model and the mother colony for similar settlements elsewhere? If all Jews may not find a permanent home within the narrow limits of Palestine, which indeed was never contemplated or desired, nevertheless it can exist as a beacon to world Jewry, looked up to by satellite settlements, whose colonists would visit it or

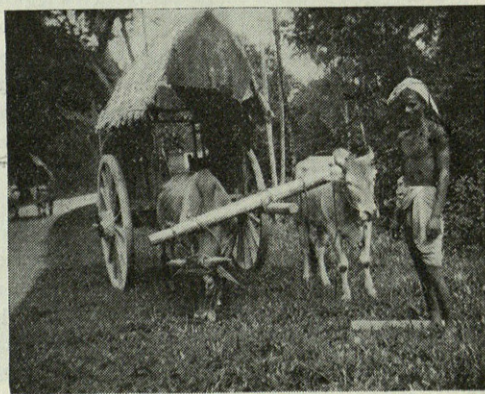
exchange residence with its inhabitants. The Jews were once offered a national home in East Africa. Though rejected then, once the Palestine National Home is

truly in being, other settlements might well be set up in different parts of the Empire or in South America, if co-operation could be secured for tackling the problem on these lines. It must be remembered, by the way, that the United States is interested in the future of Palestine, and under the terms of the Anglo-American Convention of December, 1924, must be consulted in regard to any modification of the Mandate.

WEST AFRICAN COCOA

Turning now to West Africa, it will probably be remembered that during the autumn of 1937 and the spring of this year there was a general hold-up of cocoa throughout the Gold Coast, accompanied by a boycott of European goods, which practically brought the trade of that Colony to a standstill and caused

serious losses, for cocoa represents 98 per cent. of Gold Coast exports. This was the result of agreements entered into between the principal European cocoa-purchasing firms, which the cocoa-



IN THE MALAY STATES.

Bullock carts, although slow, are much in evidence as a means of transport. Photo by Mr. H. D. Clarke, Kuala Lumpur.

farmers felt placed them entirely at the buyers' mercy. As a result, the Colonial Office sent out a Commission to investigate the whole position. The Commission did not reach West Africa until the end of March, but with commendable promptitude and great industry it produced last month an exhaustive and courageous report covering over 200 pages, studying and analysing the history and organisation of the cocoa industry in the Gold Coast and Nigeria, its relation to political conditions in West Africa and the world markets, and setting forth a well-thought-out scheme for its reorganisation on entirely new lines.

The Commissioners do not hesitate to say that the purchasers' agreements should be withdrawn, and they recommend instead that the producers should be organised into a single association on a co-operative basis, with a central sales' organisation, much on the lines of the various Marketing Boards for industries in this country. They suggest that the recognised leaders of the Africans should be invited by the Colonial Government to form a drafting committee to produce a statutory scheme, on the general lines of that recommended by the Commission, and that the purchasing firms should be invited to collaborate with this committee. Fears have been expressed in some quarters as to the working of the proposed association, and as to its effect on the tribal chiefs, but I am

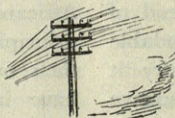
convinced that it merits a thorough trial, that in practice it should strengthen rather than undermine the chiefs' authority, and that it will provide valuable experience for the Africans in co-operative and business principles and in the management of their own affairs, which is sure to have important political repercussions.

* * *

There is little space left to touch upon the other matters briefly alluded to at the beginning of these notes, and I must postpone a further reference which I had intended to the Colonial question, as well as comment on the Volta Institute Congress on Africa lately held in Rome and attended by a strong British delegation, from which, however, Lord Lugard was notably absent. The Congress recommended the setting up of an international body for co-operation in the development of Africa, which somewhat accords with the African Bureau suggested by Lord Hailey. There is another question affecting individual Africans and other coloured peoples which especially claims attention in this country, and that is the important question of colour prejudice. I have been talking to many educated, sensitive and loyal Africans lately on this subject, and hope to find space to deal with it in my notes next month. —W. E. SIMNETT

ALASKA HIGHWAY PROJECT

IN A RECENT LETTER TO "THE TIMES," REPRINTED HERE, E. W. SUMMARISES THE ADVANTAGES THAT WOULD ACCRUE TO CANADA AND THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH IF THE ALASKAN HIGHWAY WERE CONSTRUCTED



FRIENDSHIP WITH AMERICA

To the Editor of "The Times"

Sir,—It was with deep interest that I read your Vancouver Correspondent's interesting dispatch in *The Times* of October 26th. Since my return from America early this year I have not been able to keep in touch with recent developments concerning the "Alaskan Highway" project—the building of an 1800 miles highway *via* Hazelton to the Alaskan border through Canadian territory—a matter which formed the subject of many conversations, both in Canada and in the United States, and which seemed to evoke greater interest in Washington than in Ottawa!

I was sorry to read the concluding paragraph in your Correspondent's message in which he states that those adverse to the proposal emphasise:

The very serious implications of this scheme, which means . . . that a foreign Power is to be asked to build a military highway for its own purposes of military strategy through Canada.

We live in an era of stern reality, but may I nevertheless plead for an act of true imaginative statesmanship

on behalf of the British Government. From the talks I had in the United States I believe that the problem of finance would not present any real difficulty and that American money would be ready to finance the scheme; the cost of building the Canadian section of the highway has been unofficially estimated to be \$15,000,000—I venture to think the cost would probably be nearer \$25,000,000. Obviously the Canadian people could not permit a strategic highway of such importance to be financed by American capital. It would be tantamount to saying Canada and the British Commonwealth could not pay for their own defences.

May I briefly summarise the advantages that would accrue to Canada and the British Commonwealth if the Alaskan Highway were constructed?

(a) Canada would possess a road essential to the defence of its western coast and which will have to be constructed sooner or later.

(b) The building of such a road—which would give a vast amount of employment, estimated at 5,000 a year for some years—would expedite the development of British Columbia, one of the few

practically virgin territories in the British Commonwealth.

(c) It would focus attention on the Canadian West, not merely on British Columbia. No one who has recently visited Western Canada can have failed to have been impressed by the splendid stoicism of the people of Southern Saskatchewan and Southern Alberta in face of great hardships. The West badly needs a fillip. I am convinced that the recent succession of lean years is only a passing phase.

(d) It would develop one of the greatest scenic districts in the world—a greater Switzerland and Norway combined, with mountain and fjord.

(e) It would have an irresistible attraction for American motorists and tourists. In 1929, the last year before the depression, tourists, mostly from the United States, spent \$300,000,000 in Canada. When prosperity returns in the United States, and business appears now to be on the up-grade, American motorists and others will visit Canada in their tens of thousands. There will also be a great development in flying once aerodromes are constructed. The vision of “see the Arctic Circle, the Klondyke, and Alaska by air in a week” no longer belongs to the realm of fantasy. Lord Tweedsmuir blazed an aerial trail which thousands would emulate if the facilities existed.

(f) A great era of settlement in British Columbia and in the Northern areas of the Prairie Provinces would be stimulated—only on this occasion a proper scheme of group settlement, under expert advice, would have to be prepared. We want a twentieth-century Edward Gibbon Wakefield to inspire such a large-scale migration.

Hitherto I have confined myself to the advantages that would accrue to Canada and the British Commonwealth from the material standpoint.

But there is a much larger issue. The construction by British Commonwealth capital of the Canadian section of a Pacific thoroughfare, running from San Diego, on the Mexican frontier, to Fairbanks in Alaska, would make it one of the greatest highways ever constructed: it would be a peace highway to draw closer Canada, a partner-State in the British Commonwealth, and the United States.

The unarmed 4,000-mile frontier between Canada and the United States is an object lesson to all the world as to what the relations of two great Powers should be. Our forefathers in the British and American Commonwealths wisely decided to abolish competitive armaments; there is something stronger than guns that rules the relations of our two Commonwealths. War has been renounced between us. Canada knows that she has nothing to fear from her neighbour south of the line.

The construction by British Commonwealth capital of the Canadian section of the proposed highway would be a great gesture of our two-fold belief in the destiny of Canada and in British-American co-operation as proof that our peoples are determined to be “good neighbours”—to use President Roosevelt’s phrase.

Apparently at the moment, in view of its many claims to help Western Canada, the Dominion Government cannot provide the money required.

Surely the City of London, which in the post-War era has lent many millions of pounds to Europe, from Berlin to the Bosphorus, would provide a low-term interest loan to construct an undertaking so vitally important to the British Commonwealth and North America ?

Next year when their Majesties the King and Queen visit Canada, 125 years of peace will have existed between the United States and the British Commonwealth. Owing to the Great War the celebrations of 100 years' peace between Britain and America never took place in 1914. Has the British Government sufficient imagination to lend without interest the cost of less than a battleship to British Columbia for 50 years ? Or, better still, as a thankoffering for 125 years' peace between the two English-speaking Commonwealths, to give

as a thankoffering the sum of £3,000,000 to Canada ? Disraeli's investment in the Suez Canal was an act of imaginative statesmanship, but it turned out to be a stroke of genius. I venture to think that the completion by British money of a Pacific Highway would be another.

If the days for Empire-building on the grand scale are gone may I advance a purely business argument for the undertaking ? Last year the two great bridges over San Francisco Harbour were built ; one of them has already become a commercial success. I am convinced that a Pacific Highway connecting the United States with its greatest "colony" could be made to pay by charging a moderate fee to all users within a few years.

I am, Sir,
EVELYN WRENCH.



EMPIRE QUESTIONS (Answers on page 96)

1. What do you know of the origin of the British National Anthem ?
2. What is Lammas Day ?
3. Who named New South Wales ?
4. What are the Chiltern Hundreds ?
5. Why is Baffin Bay a misnomer ?
6. Why is the name given to the system of map drawing commonly called "Mercator's" inaccurate ?
7. What is Trinity House ?
8. In what detail was Milton mistaken when, in *L'Allegro*, he wrote : " Till the

dappled dawn doth rise and at my window bid good morrow, through the twisted eglantine " ?

9. How would you define Empire Day ?
10. What is a tuatara ?
11. After whom was Hudson Bay named, and why, strictly speaking, should it not be called a " bay " ?
12. What are the date and year of the discovery of the Gunpowder Plot ?

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS CARD

CHRISTMAS CARDS HAVE NOT ALWAYS MET WITH THE APPROVAL THEY NOW ENJOY. THIS ARTICLE DESCRIBES THEIR ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT



WHEN fifty copies of the first Christmas card offered to the public found purchasers, the result was declared to be "astonishing."

But this was a long time ago—nearly ninety years ago—and it would be considered much more "astonishing" if the combined annual sales of Christmas cards did not now run into millions.

RIVAL CLAIMANTS

The distinction of having "invented" Christmas cards is attributed to several people. One is a clergyman, the Rev. Edward Bradley. His claim, however, is not so well established as is that of William Dobson, who, in 1844, designed a card symbolising the spirit of Christmas. He was perhaps specially interested in the subject because he had been brought up in Germany, where such cards were popular long before they reached England. On coming to London, in 1826, he entered the Royal Academy; and, while there, he won a prize for an architectural drawing. Some of his

canvases were purchased by Queen Victoria; and in 1868, he was elected a Royal Academician.

The Dobson claim is fairly well founded. Still, there is another one that is quite as good, if not better. It is that of Mr. (afterwards Sir Henry) Cole, a member of the Civil Service, with an appointment in the Records Office. In 1843 he conceived an idea for a Christmas card, and took it to a friend of his, John Callcott Horsley, an artist who, because he objected to painting nude figures, was dubbed by the comic journals of the period "Clothes-Horsley."

The rough sketch, having all the figures in it fully clad, was approved, and Horsley undertook to elaborate it. He went to work, however, in such leisurely fashion that the finished product did not find its way into the shop windows until the Christmas of 1846. It cost a shilling; and now, owing to its rarity, is much prized by collectors. Henry Cole, who, in addition to his work in the Records Office, ran a publishing business

(under the name of "Felix Sum-merly"), had a thousand copies lithographed.

The design of the Horsley card was somewhat unconventional, for the customary robin redbreasts twitting among bunches of holly and sheltering from a snow storm were lacking. The "Christmas spirit," however, was maintained, since one of the three panels into which the card was divided depicted a family group (with parents and small children complete) enjoying themselves at a well-spread table.

Nothing objectionable in this, one would imagine. Yet it aroused fierce criticism in certain quarters.

"This will never do," declared a shocked paterfamilias, on being offered a copy. "It actually represents people drinking alcoholic beverages. Preposterous!"

Undoubtedly this part of the design was a blot, where the more rigid were concerned. Still, the rest of it was beyond reproach, for the other two panels contained sketches of hungry and shivering beggars being fed and clothed.

FASHIONS IN CARDS

With the passing years, the fashions in Christmas cards have undergone many changes. The elaborately tinselled and bordered and frosted



THE FIRST CHRISTMAS CARD

designed by J. C. Horsley, R.A., in 1843, and published in 1846, achieving a subsequent sale of 500 copies at a shilling.

specimens so popular with our grandparents seem to have vanished. Once, too, "matinee idols" smirked on such offerings; and in 1886, a portrait of William Terriss, with robin redbreasts hovering round him, had a big sale.

Among the designers of Christmas cards, women have been very successful. More than fifty years ago an exhibition for the purpose, held at the Dudley Gallery, brought Miss Kate Greenaway into prominence; and her dainty little figures, clad in old costumes, are still popular. Other women artists to secure distinction in this field of endeavour have been Miss Harriett Bennett and Miss Alice Havers. Nor have prominent R.A.'s considered such work beneath them; and a "Royal Academy Series" (with designs by G. D. Leslie, E. J. Poynter, and W. L. Wyllie, and others) has appeared.

But all the designers of Christmas cards do not come up to the standard of Burlington House, or, for that matter, of the Burlington Arcade. It is difficult, perhaps, to please everybody. "The traditional robin, perched on a bunch of mistletoe in a snow storm," declared a disappointed recipient, "is more or less suitable. It is, however, too often replaced by idiotic sketches that fill one with disgust and annoyance."

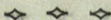
Directly and indirectly, the Christmas card industry gives employment to many thousands of workers. These range from artists and poets (alleged) to printers and packers, and from the commercial travellers who take round the samples to the shop-keepers, who give the orders for them. Finally, there is the co-operation of the postal authorities. By the way, where this last matter is concerned, a lynx-eyed official has discovered that a card with a silk riband on it ranks as a letter and is thus not eligible for the halfpenny rate in an open envelope.

Christmas cards have not always met with the approval they now enjoy. As a matter of fact, in their early days, these tokens of goodwill were apt to be looked upon with suspicion, or as an unworthy attempt on the part of the senders to wriggle out of their more serious responsibilities.

"They too often serve," was an indignant criticism, "as a cheap and unwelcome substitute for the turkey, the hamper of provisions, the case of wine, the barrel of oysters, or the ripe stilton—or even the cheque—in which a healthier spirit of benevolence would have found expression at this season of the year."

Not quite the "Christmas spirit," this.

—HORACE WYNDHAM



All ocean passages, rail, coach and air tickets may be booked through the Travel Bureau, which is situated on the ground floor at Over-Seas House, London. Members are invited to make full use of the facilities offered.

THE SMOKERS' "PATRON SAINT"

THIS striking bronze statue of Sir Walter Raleigh was executed by Mr. Benno Elkan, the sculptor, and has been recently shown in London to a group of distinguished critics. It is the only statue of the great Elizabethan explorer in London, and it is destined appropriately to occupy a niche in the façade of the new works building of Messrs. Godfrey Phillips in London.

That Sir Walter Raleigh made smoking a fashionable and gentlemanly art in Britain, and that his name became identified with the new national habit so thoroughly that later generations looked upon him as a kind of patron saint of smokers, is recognised. The suggestion that he introduced tobacco into England does not rest, however, on so sound a foundation.

Edmund Howes, in his continuation of John

Stowe's "Annales or Generall Chronicle of England" (1631, p. 1038), states: "Tobacco was first brought and made known in England by Sir John Hawkins, about the yeare 1565, but not used by Englishmen in many yeeres after, though at this day commonly used by most men, and many women."

Tobacco was first brought to Europe in 1558 by Francisco Fernandes, who had

been sent by Philip II of Spain to investigate the products of Mexico. By the French Ambassador to Portugal, Jean Nicot, seeds were sent to Catherine de Medici. Nicot's services have been commemorated in the name of the genus *Nicotiana*.

But it was due to Raleigh, who "tooke a pipe of tobacco a little before he went to the scaffold," that the habit became rooted among Elizabethan courtiers.



SIR WALTER RALEIGH.

Photograph of the bronze statue executed by Mr. Benno Elkan.

A HOGMANAY CUSTOM

IN FORDYCE THE CUSTOM OF SHIFTING THE MORTAR
STONE IS STILL OBSERVED ON THE 31ST DECEMBER

CUSTOM dies hard. At least this would seem to be the case in the little village of Fordyce in Banffshire, where the custom of "shifting the mortar stone" is still observed, and is believed to be altogether local.

Mortar stones or stone mortars, which are still common in many parts of Scotland, are of various dimensions, and are, in shape, not unlike an apothecary's mortar. They were used in olden times for various purposes, among them that of dyeing wool.

The mortar stone is by no means a thing of striking beauty, but, of course, tradition has it that it possesses wonderful qualities. The origin of the legend is uncertain, but one theory is as follows :

Long ago in the ancient village of Fordyce there lived a woman with a lot of daughters of no outstanding degree of beauty. Mothers in olden times were obsessed with the idea of marrying off their daughters as quickly as possible. This woman, however, seemed to experience no difficulty in that respect. When asked the reason, she pointed to the mortar stone in which she and her daughters used to mix the dye for the wool,

which they spun and made into dresses for themselves, and said : " They shall never want for husbands as long as this stone remains here." People then attributed wonderful powers to it, and thought it was the means of attracting husbands. So one night two or three youths stole the stone and placed it at the door of an old maid, who seemed to be having no luck in the matrimonial line. The stone took effect and she was married long before the year was out. From that arose the custom of shifting it every Hogmanay to the door of some eligible maiden in the village. There it remained throughout the year, and the next Hogmanay it went on its way again. It was never known to fail and so became quite famous.

Every Hogmanay, on the stroke of midnight, the youths of the village and of the surrounding farms hoist the stone on to a cart—now provided with rubber tyres as a concession to modern times—and go round the village three times, after which the stone is deposited in its place to the accompaniment of songs and speeches.

The inmates of the house before which it comes to rest are supposed to be "sitting in" the New Year (a Scottish

HOGMANAY—THE NAME IN
SCOTLAND AND SOME PARTS OF
THE NORTH OF ENGLAND FOR
NEW YEAR'S EVE, AS ALSO FOR
THE CAKE THEN GIVEN TO THE
CHILDREN.

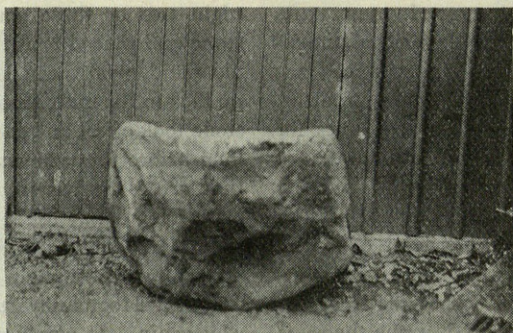
custom), and of course ought to come out and regale the company with food and drink. More songs are sung and then the hurlers disperse to their various homes, leaving the stone to cast its spell over the house throughout the year.

In spite of the passing of time this custom is still observed from year to year with almost the same gusto as in former days, but, unfortunately, the original stone is now no longer in existence. It had an unlucky fate. After a reign of prosperity among the

marriageable ladies of Fordyce it was unluckily laid at the door of one who did not think her charms required its aid. She vented her spleen on the innocent stone and broke it. The good folks of Fordyce naturally replaced it, and "Auld Yule" morning rang as usual with the cheerful cries of the hurlers. The substitute, however, seems to lack the mystic

powers of the old stone and has been known to fail, although in many instances good seems to have come of it.

—N. C.



THE MORTAR STONE

which at Hogmanay is placed at the door of an eligible village maiden.
Photo by Mr. James Clark, M.P.S.

RAPHAEL TUCK'S CHRISTMAS PUBLICATIONS

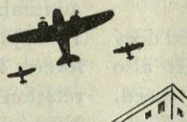
WE have received from Messrs. Raphael Tuck selections from their Christmas cards and calendars for 1938. As in previous years, their productions attain a very high standard, and they are available to suit all tastes and budgets. Amongst the cards, of which specimens have been submitted, is the King's Christmas Card, depicting the Coronation Review of the Fleet by the King at Spithead on May 20th, 1937, and also greetings cards produced for the order of the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester and the Duke and Duchess of Kent. In the range, too, were cards containing in the flap a gift handker-

chief in various delicate colours, and one card in particular carries with it a small thermometer — which works! The series of twelve real photographs of London made up in a small album is attractive, and there is a new series of post-cards of Australian cricketers and a similar set of illustrations of aeroplanes. The Tuck calendars and sets of "Lacette" table d'oyleys are attractive and will be appreciated as gifts.*

* Christmas Cards, Calendars and Children's Books, published by Messrs. Raphael Tuck and Sons, Ltd., Raphael House, Moorfields, London, E.C.2.

FLYING AND THE "SUPERMAN"

IT IS NOT SPEED IN ITSELF WHICH IMPOSES A STRAIN UPON THE PILOT'S PHYSIQUE. IT IS IN TURNING AND MANŒUVRING THAT HE BEGINS TO BE AFFECTED



THE Press have made much of the physical and mental strains consequent on the speed of modern aeroplanes and the increasing complexity of the airline pilot's job. Such contemporary statements as "Supermen Will Fly 400 m.p.h. 'Planes'" should, therefore, be taken with a grain of salt, but they are based on a genuine problem. Before discussing the physical side of it, we may as well be clear about the actual speeds involved.

Although the world air speed record stands at 440 m.p.h., no standard fighter at present being supplied to the R.A.F. is capable of more than 350 m.p.h. in level flight. The 400-plus of the specialised racer is still only trespassed on by mis-called "record" flights assisted by phenomenal tail winds, such as the recent flight of a standard fighter from Edinburgh to London in forty-eight minutes. The latest fighter monoplanes may, however, easily exceed 500 m.p.h. in a dive, and level speeds of up to 600 m.p.h. are not improbable in the next few years of development.

These are the speeds with which we have to deal, but it is not speed in itself which imposes a strain upon the pilot's physique, except in so far as it requires quicker thinking in relation to his surroundings. Straight and level flight at 60 and 600 m.p.h. is equally supportable. It is in turning and manœuvring that the pilot begins to be affected. Only a low rate of turn is possible on the fastest modern aircraft. Turning in a smaller radius, centrifugal force drives the blood from the head. The eyes are first affected by the temporary blindness known as "blacking-out." If the force is very violent or continued, the pilot may temporarily lose consciousness.

This gives rise to a new problem in air fighting, as, if a pilot wants to turn quickly, he may have to suffer a temporary black-out. It will be for him to judge whether the advantage so gained is worth its attendant temporary physical disability, so the contest is still one of skill and tactics rather than physique. However, the resistance to "blacking-out" does depend on the pilot's fitness and

blood pressure, and so the strict medical standard imposed on pilots should at least contribute to their efficiency as fighting weapons, though it is not a necessity of normal flight on fast machines.

Too tight a turn at high speed does not only affect the pilot. It also causes the aeroplane to lose speed. When the British High-Speed Flight was practising for the Schneider Trophy races in 1929 and 1931, its pilots were flying at speeds comparable to those attained by present-day service aircraft. Cornering in the race had to be reduced to an exact science, and they found that at speeds between 250 and 350 m.p.h., turns in which the force of gravity was exceeded by about four and a half times ("4½ G") were the most efficient. Tighter turns, up to and over 6 "G," produced black-outs and a definite reduction in speed. This seems to show that the efficient fighter pilot will be not only the fittest man, but the man who has found by instinct and training the compromise which suits both himself and his machine.

In general, the "superman" fiction is disproved by the fact that the Air Ministry has not tightened up the medical examinations for pilots in the high-speed squadrons, or put them under any special physical training. They are, like all service pilots, expected to be fit, but if they want their glass of beer they can have it, and they are in

principle interchangeable with the pilots of any other squadrons.

* * * *

The second big problem in human adaptability to flying is a mental one. It applies equally to the fighting forces, but is generally discussed in relation to the airline pilot's job. New accessories are constantly being invented to increase both speed and safety. Flaps to increase the lift or steepen the glide of fast machines and enable them to land slowly or in restricted spaces, controllable-pitch airscrews, retractable undercarriages and a formidable array of controls and instruments have to be watched over by the pilot, in addition to the demands of navigation, blind flying (with yet more instruments) or blind approach down a path of wireless signals. The automatic pilot is one of the few recent inventions which decreases the pilot's responsibilities instead of adding to them. Even the machines themselves are not getting any easier to fly. From a sales viewpoint, speed is considered more important than handling qualities, and many pilots may regret the passing of such ancient, slow and stable contraptions as the old Handley Pages soon to be superseded on the London to Paris route.

So the airline pilot nowadays has to be a clear thinker, and the flying instinct which makes him a good pilot must be supplemented by an increasing store of theoretical know-

ledge and a watchful eye for gadgets. The motor-driver who starts with the handbrake on or leaves his "flipper" out should not contemplate a career in commercial flying. The rare accidents which happen nowadays on airlines can generally be traced to a failure of the human element. A gadget was overlooked ; a wrong calculation made and someone flew blind into a mountainside, thinking himself over low ground. These were mental failures, "blind spots" against which no examination can guard. "What happens if the pilot faints?" is a favourite question, but it is a tribute to the thoroughness of the medical tests that no accident to a British commercial aeroplane

has ever been traced to the physical failure of a commercially-licensed pilot.

Probably the sons of the present generation of pilots will find things come by instinct that were laboriously learned by their fathers. The long-standing argument about the inheritance of acquired characteristics has a special application to flying, and our great-grandchildren may have the data to settle it once and for all. But at the present time flying demands fitness, not super-fitness, and it will probably be a long time before we have to start breeding pilots, as now we breed racehorses, for their specialised career.

—M. DE BUNSEN



LEARNING MALTESE

*"ELEMENTS OF MALTESE," A SIMPLE PRACTICAL GRAMMAR, BY MAY BUTCHER.
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, PRICE THREE SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE.*

THE lack of a text-book suitable for the study of Maltese by the British student is the reason given by Miss Butcher for compiling her "simple practical Grammar," a copy of which has reached us. The book has been produced for the use of the self-taught student, and thus it is necessarily written in as simple and non-technical a manner as is compatible with the exigencies of Maltese grammar. "Elements of Maltese" covers the elementary ground very

efficiently, and is up to date in the revised spelling of Maltese words and place names. We share the author's hope that it may help to widen popular interest in one of the most ancient of living languages "since there is no better way of inculcating friendship and understanding between nations, and especially between members of the same great Empire, than by learning to speak each other's tongue."



When sending photographs to "Overseas" Members are asked to write their names and addresses and descriptions of the pictures very clearly on the backs of the prints and not on separate sheets of paper. Please do not send negatives or films.

FLYING AND THE "SUPERMAN"

FORTY YEARS OF PLAY CENTRES

CHILDREN'S PLAY CENTRES ARE HELD IN 47 LONDON
COUNCIL SCHOOLS AND IN ABOUT 300 PROVINCIAL CENTRES



FORTY years ago the London children did not know how to play. Mrs. Humphry Ward taught them. She took them away from aimlessly jumping off a doorstep ; from gambling with buttons, screws, or cherry-stones ; from hanging round public-houses, to a Play Centre at the Passmore Edwards Settlement.

She had found that the children were often shut out of their homes until seven or eight o'clock at night, either because their mothers were out working or because there was no room for them to play.

Children's Play Centres are now opened in forty-seven London County Council Schools every evening from 5.15 to 7 p.m.

They exist that nearly two million children during the year may enjoy themselves in safe surroundings. They are opened during the hours when traffic accidents are most frequent. There is no attempt to teach the children anything, but they are learning all the time.

The child who is regarded as "dull" at school, and perhaps does not get the same attention as his bright brother, finds a new individuality at the Play Centre ; the "things he likes, he 'as," and he finds that he can do something with them ; he becomes a person to be reckoned with.

Even the Council teachers, many of whom are employed in the evening by

the Children's Play Centres Fund, say that getting this view of the children at play has helped them in their school work.

The only condition of entry to the Play Centre is that the child has attended school during the day. Only children of school age are admitted, although boys are allowed to come as visitors for a term after they have left school. And even after that, they come back to see the Superintendent with the explanation : "Come to have a look at cher, Miss !"

One little boy in the East End made a point of meeting the Superintendent every evening, and without a word, accompanying her to the Centre. She had been twenty-two years at the Centre and had seen the children, who used to come bare-footed to play, becoming every year cleaner and healthier. Between 500 and 600 children used to attend, but the numbers have been reduced to 400, since the "Wesley Anns," as the children call the Wesleyan Chapel, have opened a penny cinema.

The Play Centre has an Open Evening when parents are invited to come and see their children play. The pride of small brothers and sisters in the achievements of their families on that occasion is something to remember.

"That's my Mary over there. She's doin' !"

The "doin'" often consists of dancing.



THE [MONTHLY TUB.

Photo by Mr. B. Gordon Graham, Port Elizabeth, S. Africa.
This photograph has been awarded a prize of One Guinea.



BONNIE BETTY.

Photograph taken at a Bedfordshire farm by Mr Frank Heymans.
This photograph has been awarded a prize of One Guinea.

The girls whose mothers danced at the street corners round the barrel-organ now have a hall to themselves, where they learn folk dances, sailors' hornpipes and musical skipping. The variety of costume adds to the interest of the dances! Joan wears a shabby velvet dress and Phyllis a woollen jumper, while several scholarship girls have the regulation navy blue school tunic. And all wear white socks, because they are cheaper than stockings. It breaks the monotony of the evening when a girl drops out, explaining to the teacher: "I must go and put me father's cups out. He can't do a thing!" The boy who is playing games in another hall has a different reason for suddenly

stopping: "Time to get me father's bet!"

The cobbler's class is very popular with the older boys, and indeed any hand-work class which the Centres can afford.

Boys of twelve and thirteen years are more frequently arrested than any other section of the community, and Magistrates and Probation Officers often send them to Play Centres. The boys are very keen on boxing, and they sit round a ring fixed up with four chairs and a piece of rope eagerly awaiting their turn. It is found that the attraction of boxing cures them of going about in "gangs." The little boys copy the bigger ones. A boy of four-and-a-half years was recently brought to a Play Centre by his father,



LEAVING THE PLAY CENTRE AT CORAM'S FIELDS, LONDON.

Coram's Fields, Bloomsbury, is the site of the old Foundling Hospital, founded in 1739 by Thomas Coram as a refuge for deserted infants. Photo: Central Press.

a tram-driver, because he goes off with a gang of small boys.

It is hard sometimes for the little ones to leave the toys behind when they go home. And harder for the Superintendent to enforce the rule ! Tommy's pocket was bulging, but when she asked him what was in it, he said : " Nuffin ! "

" It looks very fat ; shall we turn it out ? "

Out came two bricks, a cup, and two marbles, and the crestfallen little chap said : " Only takin' them home to my baby brother ! " Not that night, but a day or two after, he was given something to take home to his baby brother !

There are boys and girls who make straight for the Quiet Games room when they arrive. Some want to draw and paint and some to read.

They love it when the teacher tells a story and they can draw an illustration. Anxiously they say when it is getting near to closing time : " We ain't got to cleck up yet ? "—" cleck " meaning

collect the things together. But there is always compensation in the reunion between elder sisters and toddlers who have been playing together downstairs. The little mother-sisters hug " my Willie " or " my Johnnie " as if they had been parted for a month ! If they have only one sweet they suck it in turns going home.

The London County Council recently made a survey of London and discovered that thirty to forty more Play Centres are needed in districts where the children have nowhere to play but the streets. On the new housing estates, the children have nothing to do even in the streets, for there are few shops and they miss the life and movement of big jolly places like Whitechapel Road. Mrs. George Trevelyan, a daughter of the Founder of the Play Centres and Chairman of the Committee, is trying to raise £5,000 to finance new Centres, and celebrate the fortieth Anniversary of the Fund.

—PEGGY SCOTT

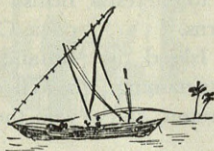


" A LEISURE HOUR."

Sent by Miss L. Bishop, Christchurch, N.Z

ISLANDS OF ETERNAL CHRISTMAS

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE TELLS OF ISLANDS BEARING THE NAME
"CHRISTMAS" BECAUSE THEY WERE DISCOVERED ON CHRISTMAS
DAY



THERE are places in the world where it is always Christmas. They are the Christmas Islands, of which there are three, each in a different part of the globe, and they have earned their names because it was upon Christmas Day that they were discovered. Each has a romantic little story to tell.

In the Indian Ocean, some 200 miles to the southward of Java, a mountain thrusts its head above the sea; it is one of the last traces of that vast continent, supposed to have contained a civilised empire, which at some remote moment in the history of the world was overwhelmed by a mighty disturbance of the sea. What was once a mountain peak, very possibly inaccessible, is now a small island.

During the winter of 1643, the ship *Royal Mary* was homeward bound, and driven off her course by unfavourable winds, came in sight of an islet of which there was no mention in any chart. Captain Mynors, of the *Royal Mary*, landed

for water, and perceiving that he had discovered a new land, sought a name for it. As the date was December 25th, what more suitable than Christmas Island? In a letter to the East India Company he described his find and told how he had given it a name. This island was formally annexed by one of His Majesty's ships at a later date.

A very lonely Christmas Island lies in the middle of the Pacific, near the Equator. This is a fairly large atoll of coral, and it was discovered on Christmas Eve in 1777 by Captain Cook, who found it uninhabited and unsuitable to the support of life unless man could be content to live constantly on turtle, in which the island abounded.

The island remained nothing more than a name until about 1870, when two venturous Britons, Henderson and McFarlane, took up their abode there, getting over the food difficulty by planting coconut palms, in which they began to trade. In 1888 the island was considered important

enough for formal annexation, the Union Jack being flown over it by Captain Sir W. Wiseman, of H.M.S. *Caroline*. Within recent years the coconut palm industry on the island has been important enough to interest large British trading concerns.

The third Christmas Island is unable to tell the story of its naming. It is situated near Cape Breton, and

though it has been the headquarters of a small community of farmers and fishermen for many years, no one knows why or how it came by its name. One can guess that an early British pioneer first set foot upon it on a Christmas Day, claimed it for Britain, and gave it its name; but search of records has never revealed who the man was.—R. L. HADFIELD

SOME OVER-SEAS LEAGUE BRANCHES

WITH PREMISES.—*EDINBURGH*.—Sec.: C. J. Baldwin, 100, Princes Street (Tel.: 30056) (Bedrooms). *GLASGOW*.—24, Royal Exchange Square (Bedrooms) (Tel.: 1831). *LIVERPOOL CENTRE*.—5, Rumbold Place. *ULSTER*.—Miss Phyllis Cowan, "The Carlton," Donegal Place, Belfast (Tel.: Belfast 2686r). *ALEX-ANDRIA*.—H.C.S.: A. Metzger (Hotel Cecil) (Tel.: 23052/6). *ATHENS*.—H.C.S.: R. G. H. Newhall (English Library, 8 Rue Bessarionos). *AUCKLAND, N.Z.*—H.C.S.: Miss E. M. Emerson, 3rd Floor, Queen's Arcade, Queen Street (Tel.: 42-723). *BASRAH, IRAQ*.—H.C.S.: Capt. J. M. Morris (Over-Seas League) (Tel.: 02244). *BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA*.—H.C.S.: Henry Hyde, 4, Alvarado Court (Gibson's Studio, 2183, Shattuck Avenue). *BERMUDA*.—H.C.S.: A. Dudley Spurling, Imperial Hotel, Hamilton. *BOURNE-MOUTH*.—Hon. Sec.: G. Perkins, The Queen Hotel, Bath Road. *BUENOS AIRES*.—H.C.S.: Norman Macqueen, British Society in Argentina, Prince George's Hall, Calle Sarmiento 1236 (Tel. U.T. 35: Libertad 0970). *BUDAPEST*.—H.C.S.: Madame de Guillaume, Vigado-Deak-Feruncutca 2111 (Wayfarers' Club). *CAPETOWN*.—H.C.S.: Mrs. McLachlan, Rhodes House, 60, Queen Victoria Street (Tel.: 2-8946) (Bedrooms). *CHRISTCHURCH, N.Z.*—Major W. E. S. Furby, T.D., J.P., 97, Gloucester Street (Navy League Hall). *COLOGNE*.—H.C.S.: H. R. Large, Robert Koch Strasse, 2a, Lindenthal (Tel.: 215426) (English Club of 1862, Gereonshof, 8c). *COLOMBO, CEYLON*.—E. A. Pleasance, British Soldiers' and Sailors' Institute, Fort (The Automobile Association Club). *DURBAN*.—H.C.S.: Mrs. D. A. Larmuth, the d'Urban Women's Club, Holt's Bldgs., Smith Street (The Book Club, 86, Yorkshire House, Field Street). *EASTBOURNE*.—H.C.S.: C. H. Hutchinson, (Southdown Hotel). *FLORENCE*.—H.C.S.: Harold Goad (The British Institute, Palazzo Antinori). *HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA*.—H.C.S.: Reginald Cooper (Lord Nelson Hotel). *MALTA*.—H.C.S.: E. Valenzia (St. George's Club, Valetta). *MONTREAL*.—Canadian Hqrs., 1188, Sherbrooke St., W. *NEW YORK*.—Hon. Sec.: Gordon Oliver, Rooms 816-817, Grand Central Palace Building, 480, Lexington Avenue (Tel.: Eldorado 5-8135). *PERTH, W.*

AUSTRALIA.—Hon. Sec.: A. W. Barnes, Box H. 629, G.P.O. (Over-Seas League, Orient Line Buildings, 56, William Street) (Tel.: B. 3010). *RANGOON*.—H.C.S.: (City) G. A. MacDonald, 102, Halpin Road; (Port) A. Simpson, 6, Liffey Road, Monkey Point (Mayo Marine Club). *SYDNEY*.—Hon. Sec.: Miss K. Gaden, 3rd Floor, Bulls Chambers, 28, Martin Place. *TORQUAY*.—H.C.S.: Capt. C. R. Wreford, Bayfield, York Road, Babbacombe (Imperial Hotel, Torquay). *WORTHING*.—H.C.S.: John Light, 57, Twitten Way, West Worthing (Burlington Hotel).—OTHER ACTIVE CENTRES.—*BATH*.—H.C.S.: Miss M. A. Allard, Westholme, Yomede Park. *BOMBAY*.—H.C.S.: W. H. Hammond, Cathedral High School. *CAIRO*.—H.C.S.: Mrs. Wise, 8, Sharia Sheikh Barakat. *CALCUTTA*.—H.C.S.: Miss Zoe Wilson, Prince Mansion, 11, Middleton Row. *CARACAS, VENEZUELA*.—H.C.S.: Major E. de Ville, O.B.E., Apartado 485. *HONG KONG*.—H.C.S.: G. C. Stopani-Thomson, c/o Hong Kong Electrical Co. *LAHORE*.—H.C.S.: A. Gilbert, Sunny View Hotel. *MELBOURNE*.—Sec.: J. W. Collings, 434, Collins Street. *NEWCASTLE*.—H.C.S.: Dr. A. R. M. Murray, Gordon Hotel, Clayton Road. *NICE, MONTE CARLO*.—H.C.S.: R. V. Lambert, Manager, Barclays Bank, 7, Promenade des Anglais, Nice. *PARIS*.—H.C.S.: Noble Hall, Travel and Industrial Development Association, 28, Avenue des Champs Elysées. *PORT SAID*.—H.C.S.: G. W. Coles, Suez Canal Lighterage Co., Ltd., P.O. Box 152. *PORTSMOUTH*.—H.C.S.: H. Hallett, 9, Wilson Grove, Southsea. *SINGAPORE*.—H.C.S.: F. H. Brooks, Great Eastern Life Assurance Co. *TOKYO*.—H.C.S.: J. L. Graham, c/o The Tokyo Club. *TORONTO*.—Acting H.C.S.: W. H. Irvine, 704, Star Building. *VANCOUVER, B.C.*—H.C.S.: E. O. F. Ames, 801 B.C. Mining Building, 402, Pender Street. *VICTORIA, B.C.*—Mrs. R. M. Hodgins, 1471, Fairfield Road. *WELLINGTON, N.Z.*—H.C.S.: H. R. Boyle, 8a, Colin Street, Lower Hutt. *YOKOHAMA*.—H.C.S.: Sydney Stephens, Rising Sun Petroleum Co., P.O. Box 401. *ZANZIBAR*.—H.C.S.: M. E. Jessa, c/o Police Headquarters, P.O. Box 237.

FROM A WOMAN'S STANDPOINT

CHRISTMAS IN 1938—LONDON AND THE CRISIS—A DECISIVE MOMENT—ALIENS—
THROUGH CHINESE EYES—THE NOBLEST RIVER—COUNTRY WOMEN



CHRISTMAS IN 1938

It becomes increasingly difficult to celebrate Christmas with a light and happy heart as once seemed possible. To-day our thoughts must perforce, and especially at what should be the season before all others of goodwill, be pre-occupied with the millions of suffering men, women and children in all parts of the world. We quail as we think of what this Christmas must mean to so many : uprooted homes ; maimed and dying children ; imprisoned loved ones ; persecution, terror, destitution. . . . The procession of tortured humanity is endless and well-nigh overwhelming. What are we to do about it all ? What are we to think of it all ? What can you and I, indeed, do or think ?

The pain for those of us who are more fortunately placed comes from the fact that we are so helpless in face of such woe. But if the outcome in you and me results in a deeper pity, a sterner determination to discipline ourselves so that somehow or other we may become better equipped to help and to serve, the agony of millions will in the last resort come to be recognised as part of the whole vast scheme of salvation : their torture will help us ; our efforts towards a better way of life, feeble as they are, will help them, for we are all one. Whether we like it or not, we belong to all eternity to each other : there is no escape. "There is nothing to do with

men but love them." Nothing. And that is the message of Christmas for all Christians for all time.

LONDON AND THE CRISIS

Now that I am once more living in Scotland, a visit to London is an event, and each time I go there I am surprised anew at the differences and developments that have taken place in a few short months.

Naturally enough on a brief visit recently there was a great deal to see, as London had only just begun to recover from the crisis, and there were evidences on all hands of how perilously near we had been to the precipice. There were piles of sandbags in the courtyard of Over-Seas House ; trenches were half-finished in the garden ; the fair face of St. James's Park was gashed in all directions and men had just begun to fill in the wounds, as trenches would, at any rate for the moment, no longer be needed. Notices of various kinds telling people what to do in emergency were posted in all public places, and private cars had strips of printed paper pasted across the front windows, saying to which particular organisation they belonged : the Women's Auxiliary, and so on. Inside several were smart, uniformed, purposeful-looking women.

The crisis was still the sole topic of discussion and I heard how joyfully the millions of London schoolchildren had

gone off to an unknown destination and how disappointed they were, poor lambs, when they found the exciting adventure was over and they had to return to homes and routine !

The National Federation of Women's Institutes did yeoman's service in this direction, meeting, placing and taking care of countless little Londoners. No one was allowed to have an unoccupied room in his or her house in the Home Counties ; all had to be relinquished to the service of the State. And everywhere I went, to whatever person I spoke, all were eager for the Government to push forward compulsory service of some kind.

A DECISIVE MOMENT

It seems as fantastic and as incredible as an evil dream that the world should have been—literally—and actually—within two short hours of war ; 120 minutes only between you and me and the un-

speakable horror and terror of barbarism let loose. . . . No one could see, humanly speaking, how what all dreaded was to be avoided, and yet there were those who were convinced, in spite of every sign and portent to the contrary, that there was not going to be war as far as we were concerned. "The world has had its worst fright for twenty years," as one student of history remarked, and pointed out that in plain English "*it is no longer safe to be immoral* : and we are forced by historical experience—which

is one of the channels of the Voice of God—to move out into a new field of thinking and take our stand on the things which are eternal." We are standing "at the most decisive moment of history since the fall of Constantinople" centuries ago. Let us rejoice that we are alive and can play our part in the days of reconstruction that lie ahead.

What puzzles me,



PRINCESS BEATRIX OF THE NETHERLANDS
daughter of Crown Princess Juliana and Prince Bernhard, is nine
months old. This photograph was taken by her father.
(Exclusive photo) Copyright. Associated Press.

however, is that there are women, who of all people should realise which way their salvation lies, who support the totalitarian and pagan outlook on life, which would force them back into the farmyard. The only answer can be that such lack of clear sight comes from not having thought out the implications inherent in the two points of view: a belief in force and all it implies, or a belief in right and all it implies.

THIS QUESTION OF ALIENS

A great deal of nonsense is being talked even in Great Britain with regard to the presence of the numerous aliens in our midst. In the first place, the people who shout most loudly against foreigners are too ignorant for the most part to realise what we owe to the various invasions of the "foreigner" all down our rough island history. Let us, however, for the moment, forget the past, and merely try to understand the situation as it is to-day. Last year 23,000 aliens took up their residence in Great Britain. In 1933 less than 10,000 did so. Of these the largest number came from Austria, naturally enough, and reached the total of 7,338. Personally, I wish we could absorb many more of these afflicted people. From the Glasgow University now comes a generous proposal that we should immediately invite 10,000 Czechoslovakians and look after them, at any rate until the upheaval in their own unhappy country has subsided. Only 660 Czechoslovakians sought our shelter last year. From Germany came 3,787, from Switzerland, strangely enough, 2,858, and over 1,000 each from the United States and from France, while no more than sixty nine Japanese arrived on our shores. The rest of the aliens included Dutch, Italians, Poles, Hungarians and Scandinavians and among the remainder were included several hundreds of what are known as

"stateless" individuals. To the average Briton a stateless person seems a creature from another sphere, so accustomed have we become to our own fortunate circumstances. Never shall I forget the shock it gave me, when at a roll call at an international function I came across a girl labelled "League of Nations." She belonged to no country: she was a wandering citizen of the world.

At the same time, it would be foolish to suppose that the alien problem does not need watching, especially in times like these when spies are busy trying to find out all sorts of information that may be useful to their countries in their schemes of aggression and conquest.

A fact, too, that is sometimes superficially brushed aside, and foolishly so, is the tenacity with which racial characteristics persist. Nations do not easily become absorbed into another nation, unless there are too few to make much impression. Somehow or other in the Old Country we do seem to have a faculty of absorbing those who seek our protection and it is probably due to the fact that normal human beings prefer freedom to slavery and our attitude of tolerance and a desire to live in our own way and to let others live in their way is unquestionably an important factor. Enlightened and watchful hospitality should be our watchword, for British citizenship is a gift neither to give nor to receive too lightly.

SEEN THROUGH CHINESE EYES

Seeing ourselves as others see us never fails to interest us and may incidentally be highly instructive. One of our latest friends and critics is the distinguished Chinese writer, Lin Yutang, who published a delightful book some time ago entitled, "The Importance of Living." In one of his chapters he has worked out a formula in connection with the characteristics he believes most important in the make-up of the sane

IN HOLIDAY DRESS



A MOHAMMEDAN GIRL
in holiday dress, Calcutta. Photo by Mr. J. N.
Tait, Calicut, S. India.

and enlightened individual or nation. These are a blend of realism, idealism (in which he admits his own people are lacking), humour and sensitiveness or sensibility, and he comes to the conclusion, gratifying for us, that "the English seem to be on the whole the soundest race." Far from exalting us, opinions such as these coming from those we can respect, should spur us on to even greater efforts to live up to our traditions, to prize and seize our opportunities, to cling to our Christian faith.

THE NOBLEST RIVER

These words are being written on a clear, cold, bright day as the good ship the R.M.S. *Andania* steams up the mighty St. Lawrence, for I am on my way to Canada on a brief visit in connection with the promotion of a rural tour in Ontario and the province of Quebec next summer, sponsored by the Scottish Women's Rural Institutes. I am reminded of the words of a former American Ambassador to Great Britain, who remarked that the St. Lawrence was the noblest approach to any continent in the world, and each time I come across the Atlantic by this route to the New World I recollect his words. We who live in a small and compact island find it difficult at first to allow our minds to expand in unison with the physical greatness of this fair Dominion of Canada.

The voyage has been uneventful, except that a rope became entangled in the propeller in Liverpool, necessitating the attentions of two divers. We sailed fifteen hours late from Greenock, at the unpleasant hour of 4 a.m. on a chilly and bleak morning.

It is a pity that the journey is as long as it is and a pity that it is as expensive as it is, and therefore precludes thousands of people on both sides of the Atlantic from coming into contact with one another. For contact as never before is

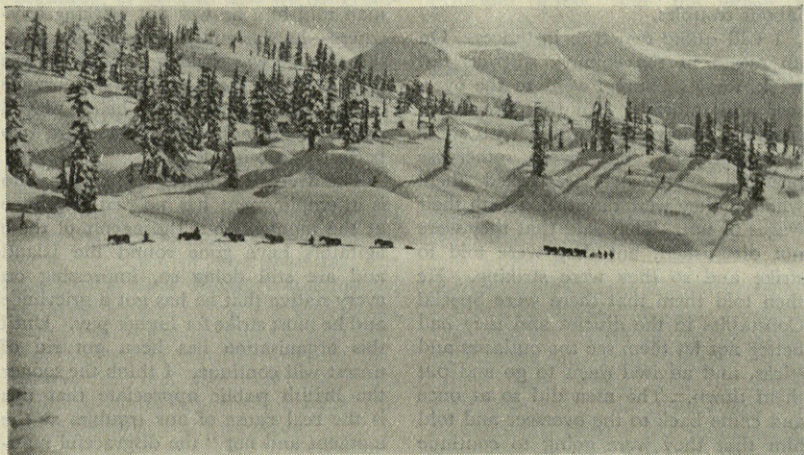
what we must promote in every conceivable way.

COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD

The country women of the whole world are assembling next summer in London for a conference on their common concerns and interests, and we in the Old Country are already looking forward to meeting them, seeing them, talking to them, hearing them speak, and in some cases offering them hospitality. The Associated Country Women of the World represent millions of women. As we become organised and vocal, so shall we be the better able to make our influence felt. A story goes that not so long ago hundreds of women and children lay down on a railway line along which a train was about to travel, taking their

menfolk to a labour camp. Even dictators, for the country in question shall be nameless, are obliged to pause when women do finally make up their minds. That train did not run. Country women and towns women once united and clear-sighted can do much for the world and in the world that is waiting for them to tackle. And so we come back by a winding road to where we began. What can you and I in our small way do to push the world a tiny bit further up the long hill of progress? We could start by linking up with some organisation for women that is struggling, often against all sorts of difficulties, to bring a little more light, more joy, more companionship into the lives of women.

—A WAYFARER

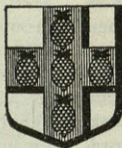


IN NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

A pack train at Big Miss Curi Mine. This train was caught in a snowslide and five of the nine horses shown in the picture were carried 100 feet down the mountain. They were uninjured owing to the depth of the snow.
Photo by Mr. J. H. Winter.

AGITATORS IN JAMAICA

A CORRESPONDENT SENDS THE FOLLOWING NOTE WITH REFERENCE TO THE TROUBLES IN JAMAICA AND THE OTHER WEST INDIAN ISLANDS



THE problem facing Jamaica is that of unemployment. It is going to get worse as time goes on. In former years our surplus population went to Panama and Cuba and relieved the local congestion, but now these outlets are no longer available and our population is increasing by leaps and bounds. This situation lends itself to be exploited by agitators, and, in my opinion, the whole of our troubles in Jamaica and the other West Indian Islands have been engineered by agitators who are financed from outside sources, and are really not genuine labour troubles.

I will quote two true instances. On an estate in the country districts last week, forty labourers went to the overseer and informed him that they were striking. They were armed with sticks and cutlasses, but were otherwise peaceful. The overseer asked them whether they were dissatisfied with their wages or not. They said that they were not dissatisfied, but they were told to strike and so they were striking. He then told them that there were Special Constables in the district and they had better not let them see the cutlasses and sticks, and advised them to go and put them down. The men did so at once and came back to the overseer and told him that they were going to continue the strike. He said, very well, when they were tired of this they could come back and resume their work, and the

next morning every man was at his work again, perfectly happy. This shows that the men really had no grievance, but they were being urged on to strike by some agent of the organisation in Kingston.

Another incident from the other end of the Island was that a peasant proprietor who cultivates his own field and sells his produce to a firm of merchants in Morant Bay, went to the head of the firm and told him that he was on strike. The merchant asked him where he was working and why he was striking. The man told him he was not working anywhere—he was cultivating his own field, but that he was striking because he was told to strike. Here, again, the ignorance of the country native is being played upon by the agitators. These are two perfectly true incidents.

The average labourer in Jamaica who is in employment has no real grievance at the moment, but the agents of these agitators have gone round the Island and are still doing so, impressing on every native that he has got a grievance and he must strike for higher pay. Until this organisation has been got rid of unrest will continue. I think the sooner the British public appreciate that this is the real cause of our troubles at the moment and not "the disgraceful manner in which labour is treated," as appearing in the Press, the better.

—X., Jamaica

NEWS FROM HEADQUARTERS

OWING TO SPACE RESTRICTIONS REPORTS OF ACTIVITIES FROM HEADQUARTERS AND BRANCHES ARE NECESSARILY SUMMARISED



MR. RICE'S TOUR OF CEYLON AND INDIA

The itinerary of Mr. Rice's tour has already been published in "Overseas," and by the time this number appears he will have begun his campaign. He sailed on the S.S. *Orford* on November 5th.

TRAVELLING SECRETARY IN EAST AFRICA

Early in November Mr. Crawshaw had enrolled over 250 Members since the beginning of his tour and we congratulate him on the success of his mission. After Kitali he went on to Kisumu, where he received great assistance from both Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hodgson, and succeeded in meeting many of the local residents. From there he went on to Jinja and Kampala, Uganda, at the latter settling down for a short stay. From Kampala he is proposing to travel down to Dar-es-Salaam, stopping en route at Mwanza and Tabora. His plans have been changed, and instead of travelling home from Dar-es-Salaam, he is going to Johannesburg to help Mrs. Oakley Thomas with the work of that centre. We feel sure that our many friends in South Africa, and especially in Johannesburg, will co-operate.

FORK LUNCHEONS

The fork luncheons held at Over-Seas House have proved to be so popular that

they are now held regularly each Tuesday. Among last month's speakers were Sir Arnold Wilson on "The Aftermath of the Crisis," Mr. Edwin Haward on "The Significance of Recent Developments in the Sino-Japanese War," and Mr. F. S. Joelson on "German Colonial Claims."

MEN'S PARTIES

Mr. Eric Rice held two of his parties—one on Wednesday, October 19th, when Sir George Ogilvie was the principal guest, and the other on Wednesday, November 2nd, which was in the nature of a farewell party to Mr. Rice prior to his departure for India. On this occasion a large number of friends gathered to wish him "*bon voyage*," including Sir Firoz-khan Noon, Lord Waleran, Sir Lancelot Graham, Sir Hugh Stephenson, Sir John Whitty, Sardar Bahadur Sardar Mohan Singh and Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar.

SUNDAY EVENING RECEPTIONS

Informal Sunday evening receptions were held on the 9th and 23rd October. At the first Miss Trixie Shephard entertained those present with a brilliant performance on the piano, and Mrs. Bowes-Smith sang a few songs accompanied by Mr. Eric Rice. At the second Miss Doris Ingham, accompanied by Miss Muriel Jefferson, sang a selection of popular songs. Among the hostesses

have been Mrs. A. L. Sheppard, Lady Munro, the Hon. Margaret Best, Mrs. Leslie and Miss Nordon.

LECTURES AND DEBATES

On Thursday, October 6th, Mr. Norman Pogose gave a lecture and demonstration of his efficient system of self-defence. Mr. Eric Rice was in the Chair. On October 20th, Mrs. H. Witney Cass lectured on "Australia Down Under and Up Over," the Chairman on this occasion being the Hon. Sir Hal Colebatch, Agent-General for West Australia.

During the course of the month a series of four lectures have been given in conjunction with the India Society on various aspects of Indian Literature. The lecturers were: Sir Denison Ross on "India, the Spoken Word" (Sir Francis Younghusband being Chairman), Mr. C. R. Rylands on "The Sanskrit Drama," Sir Abdul Qadir on "Modern Urdu Literature," and Dr. T. Grahame Bailey on "Modern Hindi Literature."

A Debate on the Government's A.R.P. policy had been arranged for October 11th, but owing to the crisis it was abandoned for a discussion on "Should Blood Sports be Abolished." Sir Jocelyn Lucas took the Chair, and among the speakers were Captain Douglas English, Mr. Kenneth Diplock, the Hon. Mrs. Speedwell Massingham and Mr. Bertram Lloyd.

OTHER FUNCTIONS

On Thursday, October 27th, Mr. Deverill organised an enjoyable Club dance with music by George Hall and his Band. On Friday, November 4th, an equally successful Whist Drive was held.

TWENTIETH CENTURY GROUP

The Group has arranged a series of Thé Dansants to be held from 3.45 p.m.

to 6.30 p.m. in St. Andrew's Hall, each Saturday. The first was held on November 5th, when Mr. Gordon Searle, Miss M. Challis and Miss N. Hazel were host and hostesses respectively, and was a great success. Seventy-eight Members and friends were present. It is hoped that these dances, which are open to all Members of the League, will be continued.

Recently the Group has also conducted Squash Racquets on Friday evenings, at 47 Lowndes Square, where arrangements have been made for Members of the League to play. Members are invited to make use of these facilities and join the club evening.

On Sunday, October 16th, 22 Members of the Group visited Bournemouth, where they were entertained by the Bournemouth Twentieth Century Group. After lunch at the Bournemouth centre (the Queen Hotel), the party separated to explore Bournemouth during the afternoon. They assembled again for tea, followed by games, in the Linden Hall Hotel Sports Stadium. The visit was thoroughly enjoyed, both by the guests and the hosts.

On Tuesday, October 25th, Mr. Llwellyn Colley gave a most interesting lecture on Newfoundland, illustrated by lantern slides. Unfortunately that evening London suffered from one of her worst fogs of the season, and only a few Members were able to attend.

NEWS FROM THE HOME CENTRES

BATH

The second of the Empire Teas was held on Wednesday, November 2nd, when Mr. R. Bissing, a member of the Cyprus Committee, visited the centre and spoke on the history of and present conditions in Cyprus. These teas are held on the first Wednesday each month. Members wishing to attend are asked to get in touch with the

Hon. Corresponding Secretary, Miss M. A. Allard.

BARNSTAPLE

Following on Mr. Philip Noakes's successful visit to North Devon, it was decided that in future Barnstaple should be the League's centre for that area, Mrs. E. Sharp having resigned the Honorary Secretaryship, Miss G. S. Champion de Crespigny has kindly taken over.

BOURNEMOUTH

The chief event of the month was the joint luncheon with the Royal Empire Society on Trafalgar Day, at which the speaker was Admiral the Hon. Sir Matthew R. Best, who spoke on the Navy and the Empire. Other functions included an excursion organised by the local Twentieth Century Group to the Spectacle Lens Factory at Winton; an Empire Tea on October 8th, at which the speaker was Mr. C. E. Adams, Superintendent of Imperial Airways Embarkation Station, Southampton, who

gave a history of the development and an outline of the future plans of Imperial Airways; the India Group meeting on October 29th, at which Colonel Rochfort Rae gave an interesting talk on his experiences in India.

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON

Efforts are being made to form a new centre of the League in Budleigh Salterton. The area has been visited by Mr. H. Hallett of the Development Staff, who has succeeded in enrolling a number of new Members, and Mr. A. H. King Robinson has offered to undertake the duties of Hon. Corresponding Secretary. An inaugural meeting is to be held on November 16th, when Mr. John Hutton, Acting Development Secretary, is to visit the area.

CHELTENHAM

The first of the autumn fixtures was held at Pyatt's Hotel on Wednesday, October 12th, when Mr. Albino gave a talk on Italy, and there was a record attendance of Members and their friends.



MEMBERS OF THE PORTSMOUTH BRANCH

of the Over-Seas League held a luncheon on October 21st, when this photograph was taken.

Standing (left to right): Brigadier Hunton, R.M.; Brigadier Montresor, R.A.; Major Graham, R.M., Mayor of Gosport; Rear-Admiral H. V. Moore, C.V.O., Chief of Staff; Mr. C. E. Adams, Superintendent, Imperial Airways, Southampton; Colonel Springhall, Chairman Worthing Branch; Mr. H. Hallett, Hon. Sec., Portsmouth Branch. Sitting (left to right): Mrs. Springhall; Mrs. Montresor; Mrs. Moore; Field-Marshal Lord Birdwood; Sir Harold Pink, Chairman Portsmouth Branch; Mrs. Graham, Mayoress of Gosport; Major Hannington, President Portsmouth Branch; Lady Pink.

HULL

Mr. R. d'E. A. Byrn has succeeded in bringing the League to the notice of a large number of people in East Yorkshire. The inaugural meeting of the new centre is being held in the Guildhall on Friday, December 2nd, by kind permission of the Lord Mayor, who is presiding on this occasion. We feel sure that there are many Yorkshiremen among our Members throughout the world who will be interested in this development of the League's work in Yorkshire. As reported elsewhere, Mr. R. C. Holliday has very kindly undertaken to act as Hon. Corresponding Secretary for the new centre and will carry on with the work after Mr. Byrn has moved on.

NOTTINGHAM

Mr. F. Mortimer Grimes has now succeeded in enrolling well over a hundred Members since the start of his membership campaign. We look forward to the day when this increase in the membership will result in the formation of a really successful branch of the League in Nottinghamshire.

EASTBOURNE

The principal event of the month was the inaugural luncheon of the new season held on Tuesday, October 11th, at the Burlington Hotel. Sir Evelyn and Lady Wrench were

expected as Guests of Honour, but unfortunately Sir Evelyn was confined to his room with laryngitis and Lady Wrench had to hold the fort herself. Among those present were: The Mayor (Alderman John Wheeler), the Deputy Mayor (Alderman Miss Thornton), the Mayor Elect (Councillor A. E. Rush), Mr. Charles Taylor, M.P., and Mrs. Taylor, Bishop Carey, Major and Mrs. Bird, and Sir Charles Arden Close. Lady Wrench spoke on the ideals of the League and the work that a centre might undertake. Other functions included a sherry party on October 5th, to celebrate the re-opening of the rooms at the Southdown Hotel after their redecoration; a Committee and Bridge evening on October 14th, given by Miss Stiff and Mrs. Deane; and a Tea on October 27th, when Mr. C. H. Hutchinson, our Hon. Corresponding Secretary, gave a talk on his mountaineering experiences.

NEWCASTLE

Sir Arthur Webber, late Chief Justice of Sierra Leone, was present at the first lunch of the new season at Newcastle. Sir John Maxwell was in the chair, and Sir Arthur spoke on his "Reminiscences."

TORQUAY

We regret to report the resignation of our first Chairman, Sir Charles Stead, who has now left the district. In his place we



FIELD-MARSHAL LORD BIRDWOOD
who attended the Trafalgar Day Luncheon of the
Portsmouth Branch.

welcome the new Chairman, Mr. Buyers. The Committee is full of ideas, and we feel sure our work in Torquay is due for rapid expansion in the near future. The Hon. Claud James, Agent-General for Tasmania, gave an interesting account of his State at the Empire Tea held on Friday, October 7th.

PORTSMOUTH

Field-Marshal Lord Birdwood was present at the Trafalgar Day lunch. There was a large attendance to welcome him and it was undoubtedly one of the events of the Portsmouth season. On Wednesday, November 2nd, at the Empire Tea, Mr. J. E. Watson, late of Nairobi, spoke on East Africa.

WORTHING

The Worthing centre continues to go ahead and almost each function sets up a new record in attendance. At the monthly lunch the Guest of Honour was the Hon. Claud James, Agent-General for Tasmania, and at the monthly tea Miss Muriel Douglas, F.R.G.S., a local Member, spoke on "Sidelights on Palestine."

H.C.S. NEWS

APPOINTMENTS

We are very glad to announce the following :—

BARNSTAPLE, DEVON.—Miss G. S. Champion de Crespigny, Instow, N. Devon.

HULL, E. YORKS.—R. C. Holliday, Esq., Suffolk Chambers, Scale Lane, Hull.

MOHEEMA, ASSAM.—W. R. Horton Peattie, Esq., Moheema Tea Estate, Moheema P.O., Assam.

RAZMAK, INDIA.—Parkash Moradda, Esq., The Green Cottage, Razmak.

RESIGNATIONS

We offer our sincere thanks to :—

Mrs. E. I. Sharp, Northfield Cottage, Ilfracombe.

ON LEAVE

MANDALAY, BURMA.—Mr. D. Rhind.

RAZMAK.—Dr. Gilson.

NEWS FROM OVERSEAS CENTRES

JERSEY, C.I.

The annual general meeting was held at the Woodville Hotel on October 21st. Deputy P. N. Richardson presided and there was a good attendance of Members.

NEW YORK

October brought with it another copy of the monthly bulletin, the first since the Hon. Secretary's marriage in June. Under separate cover has come the news of a magnificent Harvest Thanksgiving service on Sunday, October 16th, at which the Over-Seas League, together with all the other British Societies of New York, was represented.

PALESTINE

We were delighted to hear from Mr. S. R. Sherman, our Travelling Representative in the Near East, that he was proposing to arrange for a regular monthly "At Home" to Members in Jerusalem on the first Sunday of each month. We feel sure that our Jerusalem Members, and Members visiting Jerusalem, will respond to this invitation.

BASRA

We understand from Captain John Morris's monthly letter that in spite of the crisis functions continued as usual.

PORT ELISABETH, CAPE PROVINCE, S. AFRICA

Our Hon. Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. O. D. Clark, whom we had the pleasure of welcoming over here this summer, has now returned, and in her farewell letter she wrote saying that if any Members came to Port Elisabeth from time to time, she hoped they would let her know. She added that she would be delighted to meet and help any Member. We should like to thank Mrs. Clark for this offer on behalf of the Members of the Over-Seas League, who

we feel will be delighted to take advantage of it.

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

From Mr. Collings we learn of an evening Bridge party, an evening At Home and an evening meeting. At the evening At Home Mrs. E. M. Tilley, J.P., one of their own Members, gave an interesting address on "The Youth Movement in Germany." At this function they had the pleasure of welcoming Mrs. Moffat Clow from Belfast, who also gave a short talk. At the evening meeting Mr. Lucius Connolly gave an illustrated lecture on Mexico.

SYDNEY

From Mr. A. J. Parsons, the Honorary Treasurer, comes news that the re-decorated club rooms were opened on September 27th and a celebration party was to be held on Thursday, the 29th. He also told us that on behalf of the Branch he offered the British Settlers' Welfare Committee the use of the League Club Rooms for the reception of migrants and that this offer was accepted. In this way the Branch looks forward to being able to support the migration movement to the best of its ability.

MACKAY, NORTH QUEENSLAND

From Mrs. Innes, our Hon. Corresponding Secretary, we learn with deep regret of the death of Mr. Donald Parnell, an old standing Member of the League.

CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND

Major Furby has sent us a very interesting account of their Annual General Meeting on September 26th. Two vacancies on the Committee were filled by the election of Mrs. Thomas, formerly of the Paris Headquarters of the League, and Mr. K. Walton, formerly of Dunedin. At the meeting Mr. Kenneth Walton spoke of his visit to

London at the time of the Coronation and of the great hospitality accorded by Headquarters. Mr. P. Seligh, in proposing the re-election of Mr. Norton Francis as President, endorsed the remarks of Mr. Walton regarding the value of the Over-Seas League in the Empire, and expressed the hope that Members would co-operate with Sir Evelyn Wrench in the attempt to bring membership up to 100,000. After the business meeting an interesting lecture on his trip to the East was given by Mr. R. T. Tosswell.

AUCKLAND

Miss E. M. Emerson has taken over her new duties as Hon. Corresponding Secretary with enthusiasm, and forwards from Auckland notes of a programme for September, which we feel was sure to be successful.

PERTH, W. AUSTRALIA

Mr. Aubrey Barnes, our indefatigable Hon. Corresponding Secretary, tells us that the September programme of events was very successful. All the functions were well attended, including a dance organised by Mr. R. Steel, one of the Committee Members. Among the functions for October was a visit to the Fairbridge Farm School at Pinjarra on the 23rd.

COLOMBO, CEYLON

So often branches of the Over-Seas League write to us and ask us what active work they should do. We are all the more delighted, therefore, when local centres study local needs and formulate their programmes accordingly. The following extract is from our Hon. Corresponding Secretary at Colombo, Mrs. E. A. Pleasance :—

"You will be glad to hear that our Over-Seas League gathering was a success and everyone was very happy. The appeal for the Deaf and Blind School

at Mount Lavinia did not fail, and before the Members left one had offered to give a gramophone, which was such a real need for the children, and about one hundred records were also promised. I am quite certain the Members only want to know the needs of these unfortunate

people and they will respond."

Our Colombo Branch is also hoping to do some practical work for the lepers, of whom there are many in the hospital.

It is communications of this kind which make us very proud of our overseas centres.

NOTES FROM SCOTLAND

EDUCATING SCOTLAND'S YOUTH IN EMPIRE KNOWLEDGE

THE League's work in offering Empire knowledge to the youth of Scotland, by means of standard sound films, is becoming increasingly well known. For the fourth year in succession cinemas have been hired all over Scotland for the purpose of carrying on this work in the most up-to-date manner. This season we have been fortunate enough to secure, through the kindness of the South African Government, some excellent films dealing with life in the Union of South Africa, particularly from the point of view of youth. These films are entirely made in South Africa, and the Over-Seas League Empire Film Displays in Scotland represent their first release in Great Britain. The films were shown to an audience of 450 in Castle Douglas on October 18th, when Bailie Mrs. Welsh, a keen member of the League, presided. A display took place at Girvan the following day, when 800 senior school children and adults saw the films and Provost Johnstone was in the chair. At Ayr, on October 20th, no less than 1,700 attended a display there.

A programme of Empire Film Displays will be maintained throughout the winter and spring months and Members will receive notice of displays in their areas. The South African films have been universally approved and Members should take advantage of any opportunity of seeing them.

We have also received from the Canadian Government some very fine films

dealing with Canada, and we hope to arrange showings of these in different parts of Scotland.

EDINBURGH

Mr. W. R. Milligan, Advocate, who has held the office of vice-chairman since May, 1938, has been elected chairman of the Edinburgh and East of Scotland Branch, in place of the late Mr. W. Slater Brown. Mr. M. W. Allison, whose untiring efforts in the League's cause are so well known, has been elected vice-chairman.

An annual event at the Edinburgh Branch to which Members look forward with much interest is the "Bring and Buy" Sale held by the Handicraft Circle, under the Convenership of that enthusiastic League worker, Miss E. E. Miller. The Sale was held on October 22nd and realised £63. Scottish Members will be glad to learn that the Edinburgh Branch Handicraft Circle is adopting yet another Kingsley Fairbridge Godchild.

The Military Whist Drive arranged by Mr. M. W. Allison was very successful, and nearly 100 Members and friends attended the Edinburgh Branch Hallowe'en Party on October 31st.

GLASGOW

Over seventy-five new Members joined the Glasgow Branch during the months of September and October. This increase in membership is most encouraging.

The inaugural meeting of the Twentieth Century Group at Glasgow took

place on October 7th, when over sixty were present, and a Committee was appointed for the coming year. Every evening during the winter months one or two Members of the Twentieth Century Group will be on duty at the Glasgow premises as hosts and hostesses, to meet their contemporaries. A Children's Christmas Party is being arranged by the Group before Christmas.

The Hallowe'en Party held by the Branch on October 31st was attended by over fifty Members and friends.

DUNDEE

Once again we extend our warm congratulations to our Dundee Centre, which held its annual Empire Military Whist Drive on October 28th, when over 400 Members and friends were present. The proceeds of this function will go toward the maintenance of the Centre's God-child, Joseph Fenton, at the Fairbridge Farm School in British Columbia.

HAWICK

The Cabaret Ball arranged by our Hawick Committee took place in the Crown Hotel, Hawick, on November 4th,

and was attended by over 200 guests. There were several well-known Hawick personalities in the Cabaret and the function was a tremendous success, due largely to the very hard work of our H.C.S., Miss Margaret Harvey, who has done so much for the League in the Hawick area.

PERTH

Major Alan Duncan, our Perth chairman, presided at an interesting illustrated lecture on the work of the Grenfell Labrador Mission, given by Miss M. A. Pressley-Smith, in the Station Hotel, Perth, on October 20th. The arrangements were in the hands of Mrs. Sydney Steel, our H.C.S., and the Perth Committee, and the proceeds of the lecture were handed over to the Grenfell Association of Great Britain and Ireland.

*WILL MEMBERS WHO ARE
CHANGING THEIR ADDRESS
PLEASE NOTIFY THE RECORDS
DEPT., OVER-SEAS HOUSE,
LONDON, S.W.1?*

NOTES FROM ULSTER

These Ulster notes are written from Headquarters, London, at the conclusion of an Ulster function which marked the opening in London of the Agency for Northern Ireland in Great Britain—a centre which has for its object publicity for the province. The Guest of Honour, Sir James Cooke-Collis, spoke of the coming effort to develop the links between Ulster and the rest of the Empire. Lord Dufferin, the Chairman, voiced the feelings of Ulster people when he expressed the need for giving the Ulster point of view to the world. The function, which was attended by many Ulster personalities and representatives

of Ulster Societies, was held on November 2nd in the Hall of India.

EMPIRE FILM DISPLAYS

Going back over the activities of the month of October in Belfast, we have to record one of the most successful of the Empire Film Displays yet held under the auspices of the Ulster Branch. This was a display of Films of Canada, held in the Grosvenor Hall, Belfast, under the Chairmanship of the Right Hon. H. G. H. Mulholland, M.P., and shown to over 1,500 school children. Captain Mulholland again proved a most popular Chairman, and won the hearts of his

audience by leading them in patriotic choruses—while the films of Canada, lent by the Canadian Pacific Railway, were excellent. A most interesting message was received during the afternoon from the Minister of Commerce in Canada, and for this important link in our work we are indebted to Mr. J. G. Bridges, who is now in Canada.

BRANCH LUNCHEON

Lieut.-Colonel A. R. G. Gordon, D.S.O., M.P., was the Guest of Honour at the Ulster Branch Luncheon in the Carlton Hall on October 21st, and his talk on "A Visit to Australia During the 1938 Centenary Celebrations" proved most interesting. Captain Mulholland presided.

TWENTIETH CENTURY GROUP

The first Club evening of the season was held at Branch Headquarters, Belfast, on November 9th. This evening was made the occasion of an "A.R.P." talk by Dr. R. W. M. Strain. Miss Lena Irvine presided.

GROUP NOTES

ALTHOUGH several Group meetings arranged for the month of October were cancelled owing to the Crisis, many London Members came to meet Lord Nuffield when he was the guest of their Group, and Rhodesian Members turned up in full force to meet the High Commissioner for Southern Rhodesia and Mrs. Lanigan-O'Keeffe. Sir Ian Fraser, who was born in South Africa, was the guest of the South African Group, and again a record attendance was registered. When Lady Eleanor Cole lectured to the East African Group on "Kenya Today" the attendance was very gratifying,

ULSTER BRANCH EXTENSION FUND

Members who have expressed their interest in the circular issued in April on the subject of the future Over-Seas House of Ulster, should be glad to know that a fund is to be inaugurated at a Dinner Dance to be held in the Carlton Hall, Belfast, on December 7th. The Duke and Duchess of Abercorn have given their patronage to this function, and we do look forward to a united successful "send-off" in aid of our future Belfast House.

ULSTER LIBRARY OVER-SEAS HOUSE

Additional gifts for the Ulster Room continue to be received—among these a picture of Ballygelly Head, Co. Antrim, by Mr. R. M. Patterson. This Room, which is becoming one of the most popular and attractive of all those at Headquarters, should be visited by all our Ulster Members while in London.

—P. C.

and it is hoped that many more Members will join this Group, which holds instructive monthly lectures on East African matters.

There are now ten Empire Groups at Headquarters, and their rapid expansion has made it necessary to re-arrange the meetings. With the exception of the India and East African Groups, the Groups will in future meet once a quarter, and meetings will always be held on Thursdays. By arranging the meetings in this way we avoid clashing with the many other functions which are held at Over-Seas House.

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ULSTER GROUP LUNCHEON

A VERY successful luncheon was held at Over-Seas House, London, on November 2nd, when ninety Members of the Ulster Group and their guests were "At Home" to Sir James Cooke-Collis, the newly-appointed Agent for Northern Ireland in Great Britain, and Lady Cooke Collis.

Lord Dufferin, Chairman of the Ulster Group, presided, and in welcoming Sir James, said he was sure there was universal agreement on two points in regard to the appointment—that was, the necessity for an Ulster representation in London, and the suitability of Sir James for the appointment.

Replying to the toast, Sir James Cooke-Collis thanked the Group for their hospitality, and also for the opportunity of telling them something about the other corner of Ulster which has now been established in London. He spoke about the new Office, and mentioned that soon there will be an illustrated sign depicting the Royal Arms, a bronze plaque with the armorial bearings of Northern Ireland, and a flagstaff for the Union Jack.

"The room on the ground floor will be known as 'The Ulster Reference Room,'" said Sir James, "and it is our ambition to have available here at least one reliable and authoritative book



THE MARCHIONESS OF DUFFERIN AND AVA WITH MAJOR-GENERAL SIR JAMES COOKE-COLLIS

at the Ulster Group Luncheon at Over-Seas House.

dealing with every aspect of Ulster life in which the visitor is likely to be interested. It is our hope and aim to interest overseas visitors in particular in this room, and we hope to have to augment our staff to deal with the flow of visitors."

Sir James added that he intended taking every possible step to persuade the industrialist that in Ulster he will find a most favourable location for his new factory within the United Kingdom—where, inside the British tariff wall, he can carry out his manufacturing policy with the loyal co-operation of workers famous for their industrial and manipulative skill.

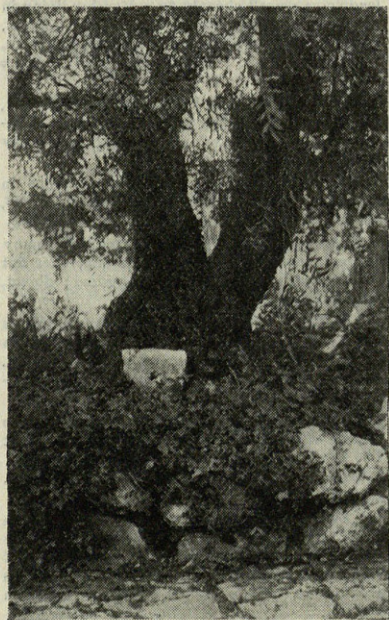
The speaker also referred to the acces-

sibility of shipping routes in relation to world markets, rapid and inexpensive communication with British markets, and admission to the benefits derived from Ulster's incorporation in the United Kingdom, and mentioned that Ulster contributed, and intends to continue to contribute, to the Imperial Exchequer, and is also a very good customer in the British market, having purchased some thirty-nine million pounds' worth of goods in 1937.

Lieut.-Colonel Lascelles, representing the Overseas League, proposed a vote of thanks.

Amongst the guests present were : The Marchioness of Donegall, Dr. William Gordon, Major J. H. Henderson, Mr. John Lascelles, Sir Lynden and Lady Macassey, Lady Monro, Colonel J. A. Mulholland, The Right Hon. Sir Hugh O'Neill, The High Commissioner for Southern Rhodesia, and Mrs. Lanigan-O'Keeffe, General Sir Menus and Lady O'Keeffe, Lady Reid, Mr. W. J. Stewart, M.P., Captain Donald Simson, Mr. Thomas Somerset, M.P., Colonel P. J. Wood.

—J. S.



THE GRAVE OF BAKSHEESH,

the dog of Banias, referred to in H. V. Morton's book "In the Steps of the Master." Photo by Mr. K. L. Reynolds.

FREEMASONRY

Over-Seas Lodge, No. 4030.—The regular meetings of the Lodge are held at Freemasons' Hall on the first Tuesday in February (Installation), May, July, October and December. Masons from overseas are cordially invited. Any inquiries respecting Associate Membership or otherwise should be addressed to the Secretary, Over-Seas Lodge, Over-Seas House, St. James's, S.W.1. The Lodge of Instruction meets regularly at the Moorgate Tavern, Moorgate, E.C., on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. (August excepted), and visiting Masons will receive a cordial welcome.

MEMBERS' EXCHANGE

ONE SHILLING IS CHARGED FOR EACH INSERTION. NOTICES
SHOULD BE SENT IN BY THE 6th OF THE MONTH

"S.W. Scotland." Lady Member, with two months leave July and August, would like to spend an interesting holiday as paying guest in any warm climate.

"Ann." Lady Member, early thirties, keen y interested in music, literature, drama, would like to meet Members from home and abroad with similar interests, and would welcome letters from S. African Members coming home on leave. Fond of walking and dancing.

"Atalanta" Young lady Member living in the South Sea Islands has much leisure and wide interests, and would welcome correspondence with Members abroad.

"T.R." Member recommends home in Cornwall for a delightful friendly holiday. Sea, country and all sports.

"Glasgow." Scotch Member (29) would welcome correspondence with Members at home or abroad. Varied interests.

"Rover." Young Englishman tobacco planting in S. Rhodesia, with general interests, welcomes correspondence from Members anywhere.

"J." Lady Member would like to correspond with other Members over 35. Varied interests.

"E.M.B." Widow, world travelled, would welcome exchange of correspondence with elderly Colonials.

"G.W.E." Member would appreciate unbiased information regarding settlement in Cyprus or Guernsey after retirement. Hobbies, gardening and sport. Apprehensive of rigours of English winter after India, but anxious to retain contact with England.

"Sinbad." Young Merchant Navy officer, frequently in London, keen and expert dancer, would like to meet another Member who is equally keen, for occasional dances.

"Companionship." Lady Member (38) would be pleased to correspond with Members abroad or meet Members at home for entertainment and occasional evenings at her London flat. Pay own expenses. Fond of dancing, theatres and country walks.

"Margaret." Western Canadian girl, travelled, with general interests, would welcome correspondence with Members in British Isles.

"Childe Harold." Bachelor Member (44) in London from abroad, would like to correspond with home Members.

"R.T." Middle-aged lady from Rhodesia would like to hear from other Members who would enjoy a week in Paris, a week through the

Chateaux of Loire and two weeks somewhere in Switzerland, staying at pension or small hotels economically but not stringently; to leave London between October 30th and November 2nd, 1939. Arrangements will be made by the Overseas Travel Bureau.

Mr. C. W. H. Weldon, of 25 The Green, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex, wishes all his friends overseas and at home who send him postage stamps, magazines, etc., Season's Greetings. As a cripple he welcomes such kindnesses and appreciates new friends as well as his old ones who have been so kind to him.

"A.M." Lady Member would be pleased to correspond with Members at home or abroad. Would like also to meet home Members. Varied interests.

"Languages." Will any Member kindly lend, give or sell cheaply to a Member living in Australia, a few modern books of general interest, or good novels, or discarded periodicals or papers, in French, Italian, German or Spanish? Postage refunded

Mrs. Ellen Castle, Twyford, 86a Hill Street, Wellington, New Zealand, appreciates correspondence received and offers apologies for delay in replying.

"Wanderman." Seeks correspondence in San Francisco. Interested in travel, radio, philately and photography.

"Memsahib." Widely travelled, many interests, would welcome lady to share her flat on Hampstead Heath. Terms nominal; object, companionship.

"F.P.P." Retired Member contemplates settling in Vancouver or vicinity, interested in poultry, fruit and bees, keen on camping, fishing, hunting and country life generally. Correspondence invited.

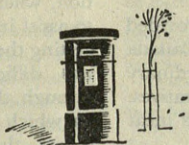
"Yuletide." Young lady Member would like to hear of other Members spending Christmas at The Dudley Hotel, Hove, or other country hotel, with a view to meeting. Keen on golf, tennis. Interests varied.

"Planter." Would anyone retired from India, or elsewhere, to Australia, give particulars and advice as regards localities, rents, costs of living, investments, schools and training colleges and future prospects for children of both sexes?

"G.S." Member would like to hear from another Member who is an expert on coffee, with a view to obtaining particulars of importing from Kenya, and selling direct to consumers.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED TO LIMIT THE LENGTH OF
LETTERS SENT FOR PUBLICATION TO 250 WORDS



LONDON, AFTER FIVE AND A HALF YEARS

AFTER an absence from London of five and a half years I noticed :

1. The large percentage of old people.
2. The marked improvement for both motor and pedestrians by the use of Traffic Lights and Belisha Beacons.
3. That some cemeteries round London are still in a very neglected state. Surely some of the unemployed could be used to tidy the cemeteries and keep the weeds down, etc.
4. The people in North London are much more polite than those in South London.
5. You are fined £5 for spitting in a 'bus, but only 40s. for doing the same thing in a tram.
6. The number of new coins in circulation.
7. The number of people of both sexes who go about hatless.
8. That you may ring up from a police box and enquire your way to any street in the district.
9. Last, but not least, the wonderful improvement in the Over-Seas League Headquarters, in the buildings, rooms, service and catering.—A. E. Corston, Malta.

SOWING FRUITFUL SEED

I am an old Member of the League, resident in Cairo, and a helper of your Hon. Corresponding Secretary—Mrs.

Wise—and my son living abroad, to whom I send my "Overseas," is making a picture gallery all round his room of the coloured plates. He has asked me for my old "Overseas" magazines, but before May I sent them all to the troops in Palestine. I *never* waste one, but always pass them on to someone, hoping to sow some fruitful seed !—Mrs. Deane Butcher, Camberley.

REINDEER RANCHING

The reference in November "Overseas" to Canadian Eskimos at Aklavik leads me to mention that Canada's efforts to provide economic security for her Eskimo population has brought about a scheme for a new industry in the Arctic—reindeer ranching. Soon, it is hoped, Eskimos will take charge of herds in widely separated areas of the Northland.

In the winter of 1934 Andrew Bahr, a Laplander, and nine assistants, brought a reindeer herd of about 2,500 from Alaska to the Mackenzie Delta in the Arctic circle. Their feat brought to an end a 3,000-mile migration across the rim of the Arctic that took five years.

The herd has increased to 4,500 animals, too many to retain on the Government reindeer reserve, and Eskimos, trained as reindeer herders, are to be given a chance to start on their own.

Under an agreement being negotiated, natives will move a selected herd of about 800 some 150 miles eastward from

Richards Islands, north of Aklavik, where the animals have been summering. Development of the herd will be largely up to the Eskimos. Reindeer are handled in much the same manner as range cattle.

The food and clothing to be provided from reindeer herds in northern Canada will serve to augment the ordinary sources of subsistence of the natives. There is a ready market for surplus meat and hides.—C. P., Ottawa.

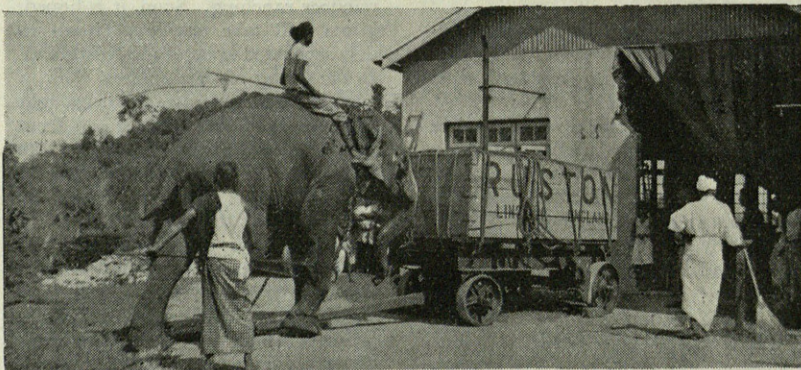
HEAVY TRANSPORT IN CEYLON

Thinking that it may be of interest to some of your readers, I am sending two snapshots and a short description of how a factory engine was transported to an out-of-the-way estate in Ceylon.

The engine, in a large case, was put on to a padda boat waiting in a canal which connects Colombo with one of the large rivers. Padda boats are rather like big punts, about 50 feet long and 10 to 12 feet wide, flat-bottomed and capable of taking very heavy loads. The boats are propelled by means of long poles expertly handled by Singhalese labourers, and where the stream is strong ropes are used to pull the boat along from the shore.

Progress is very slow and affected by weather conditions, and at times a week is needed to travel as much as 50 miles.

The engine in question was badly delayed, but finally arrived at its destination, where two elephants were waiting to assist in unloading it. The process of getting the heavy case off the padda boat was difficult, and was accomplished through the agency of heavy iron rails on which the case was run on wooden rollers, the elephants having to use all their giant power to pull the case off the boat on to the substantial trolley waiting for it. As soon as the task was completed the case was securely fastened to the trolley and the whole vehicle made ready for transporting up the steep road for 4 miles to the factory. One elephant was attached to the front of the trolley by heavy chains and the other pushed behind, and after many stops the engine arrived at the factory. A large hole had had to be cut through the wall of the factory towards which the trolley had to be manoeuvred, and this operation showed up the uncanny intelligence of the elephants, for one of them, without practically any assistance, took hold of the shaft of the trolley (the front



HEAVY TRANSPORT IN CEYLON

*Elephants help to propel the case (referred to in the letter on this page) containing the engine into the factory.
Photo by Mr. G. Bullen.*

wheels being of the turn-table type) and successfully manœuvred it into position in the exact centre of the opening.

Wishing all success to the League.—G. Bullen, Ingiriya, Ceylon.

SPAIN

Your contributor, Mr. Edward G. Hawke, usually evinces a strong partiality when commenting on the Spanish question. Following the usual method of the pro-Barcelona apologists, he paints the Protean "Government" as a benevolent democracy, and carefully ignores the ghastly roll of outrage and slaughter perpetrated under that *régime*. I am astonished that our "Overseas" lends itself to the attempt to justify a cause fostered by the red hand of Moscow, and which has shown step by step the essential phases of the grim horrors of the Russian Soviet Revolution. The Komin-tern planned the Asturias outbreak in 1934, and openly acknowledged its share in the short-lived Soviet reign in Northern Spain. The national revolt came barely in time to save Spain from a second, and better organised, effort to sovietise the country. Russia's aid continued, and the pact between Largo Caballero (self-styled Lenin of Spain) and Rosenberg, the Soviet envoy, provided for the supply of arms, munitions, planes, tanks, and an international Com-

munist army to ensure the red conquest of the country.

Dean Inge summed up the question very neatly in a letter to *The Times* :

"It is really rather horrible," he wrote, "to find a British Bishop championing men who, acting on instructions from Moscow, have slaughtered at a low estimate 200,000 helpless and harmless people, and whose avowed object is to extirpate the Christian Faith in the country of St. Teresa and St. John of the Cross. There is," he added, "abundance of well documented evidence for those who wish to know the truth;"—(*Vide* pamphlet published by United Christian Front in July, 1938, entitled "The Bishop of Chelmsford on Spain").

I believe that there are many Britons who would resort to force rather than allow the burning and desecration of our churches and the foul murder of our clergy by blood-lusting, uncontrolled mobs.—W. G. Phillips, Alassio, Italy.

(Mr. Hawke writes : "I strive to be an impartial commentator. Spaniards alone have the right to take sides in their dreadful civil war. But I am sure that the issue between the combatants is not one of Christianity or paganism. If it were, how could Herr Hitler, who deals hardly with Protestants and Catholics alike, or Signor Mussolini, whose anti-Semitism is condemned by the Holy See, be regarded as genuine upholders of the Christian Church in Spain? Moreover, the Republican Government has long since shed the extremists who killed priests and burned churches; it is indeed extirpating them."—ED.)



THE FACTORY ENGINE

in its case, referred to in the letter headed "Heavy Transport in Ceylon," placed on the trolley, after having been hauled off the Padda boat. Photo by Mr. G. Bullen.

A PRACTICAL SCHEME

In India, and doubtless elsewhere, there are for various reasons many middle-aged, able-bodied and clear-minded men retiring from their profession, or thinking of retiring in the near future. They dreamed of a peaceful old age in the old country with their children living full, free progressive lives as worthwhile citizens.

Now the state of Europe and the tension of daily life in England appals them; not only for themselves but for their children growing up in an atmosphere of fear, hate, gasmasks, military activities, etc. On the other hand we read, and are told, that Australia would welcome families with a little capital and young people to people its land, enter its army and navy and develop its secondary industries. Many of these retiring civil servants and planters would gladly turn their thoughts to Australia (or elsewhere) if they felt *certain* of their welcome and prospects.

I suggest the Over-Seas League could do no more worth-while work than act as a liaison officer between would-be settlers and the Dominions. A recognised body can deal directly with Governments and get accurate information as regards localities, conditions, housing, cost of living and—especially—prospects for children: Members overseas would render invaluable help later in meeting and befriending these strangers in a strange land. A practical scheme of this sort would undoubtedly strengthen the ties between Mother Country and Dominion and give her future citizens a bigger chance to prove their loyalty to the Empire.—Planter.

[Our correspondent's suggestion is receiving consideration at Headquarters.—Ed.]

SQUARE MILES

In the review of "Australia's Empty

Spaces" (by Sydney Upton) in the June "Overseas," Almey St. John Adcock writes that "the startling fact" that "there is less than one person to each 2,940,000 square miles of Australian territory outside of the capital city and towns" prompted the book. If those figures were correct, they would no doubt prompt more than a book, but presumably the words "of the" were omitted from the above between "one person to each" and "2,940,000 square miles." One person to each of the 2,940,000 square miles is not quite so startling a fact.

One other item in this review! "Nowadays, the *British* element is dying out. Only one-eighth of its people were born in Britain." Does that fact alone make the other seven-eighths any less British? Is a child of British parents born in France not *British*? Ninety-eight per cent. of Australia's population is British. Is the population of England much more so?

As one of the seven-eighths of the Australian population not born in England, Scotland, Wales or Ireland, may I ask what I am, if not British? I am an Australian certainly, in the same way that an Irishman is Irish, or Scotsman Scotch, but I am certainly also British—all through.—R. H. Adamson, Beverley, West Australia.

[In "Overseas" for September, 1938, p. 71, Miss St. John Adcock, the reviewer of "Australia's Empty Spaces," wrote, in reply to another correspondent: "Mr. Upton's exact words are: 'The population density of Australia's countryside is less than one person for each of 2,940,000 square miles outside the capital cities and towns.' His meaning is one person per square mile for that area." Any native of the British Empire is entitled to call himself British. Mr. Sydney Upton speaks of the Australians and British to distinguish between people actually born in Australia and those born in Britain who have emigrated to Australia.—Ed.]

VILLAGE LIFE

In "Overseas" for July appears an article by Sir Wyndham Deedes, touching on life in England in general and rural life in particular, and the gloomy prediction that if the present tendency is not checked or changed the people will eventually become a race of "sophisticated degenerates."

I was much impressed by what he wrote, and am a firm believer in the truth and the significance of his views. I was reared in the South of England, which I left at a comparatively early age, and have spent two-thirds of my sixty years in two other parts of the Empire. On three separate occasions I have visited my native soil again, the last time in 1936.

I was truly struck by the apparent lifelessness in country places, and my own native village in particular seemed "dead." Well, what remedy? My father was a tenant farmer. On occasions I remember he would invite young men friends visiting the house at harvest time to "Come and take a pick or rake or something and I'll find you a healthy job do to." They straightaway did it . . . Now I think that young men of towns in particular, during vacation, should cultivate their friendships with country people—they will easily find some—and put up or invite the putting up for a week or so's stay in the farmhouse, and giving a helping hand at the harvest or whatever else is doing. . . .

A recent writer in *The Times* suggested that many town people were genuinely afraid of the country, and many others found it altogether too dull. In my recollection of early days in a Devon village every now and again there was some sort of parish entertainment. I have many very happy memories of some gifted entertainers in the parish hall. In my last visit home I was never long enough in any one country place to

know if such entertainments took place now, but nevertheless I had a very strong suspicion that they did not.

In conclusion, let the young townsman do his turn at farm work, take his banjo and arrange with local celebrities for a "show"—I guarantee his popularity, and so much so that when the season came round again the next year many enquiries as to whether young Mr. So-and-So was coming down again "as they'd never forget 'ow 'e made 'em laugh the last time 'e was 'ere." Thereby in my own humble opinion much may be done to restore *life* to the village.—B. T. Ford, Vancouver, B.C.

(The radio, the cinema, the Women's Institute movement and other local activities have done much in late years to enliven village life in Britain.—Ed.)

FROM FIJI

This is a letter of "Gratitude" for the "Welsh Number" of "Overseas." The last number, July, was much appreciated, too—a bigger copy. We like the new style of two columns and as usual it is full of "good matter." My husband claims it first and reads from the beginning. I usually read your letter first, then Miss Wrench's letter, which is always interesting and full of information—it's good to know a little what other women are doing, just ordinary women like myself. Then there are the "Pictures"; especially loved are the thatched cottages—I have visions of living in one one day—the "bend of the road," and the lovely hedges in July's number are charming. Then there is always your intimate bit about the "state of the weather," flowers, etc., which makes it all so friendly and personal. The article and photos of Jamaica's Government House were specially appreciated as our Governor, Sir Arthur, and Lady Richards have left us for that country.—Mrs. H. D. Parry, Suva, Fiji.

A POLICY OF IMMIGRATION

I should like to agree most emphatically with the articles headed "Increase our Race Strength" and "Development of the Colonies" in your November issue. I have lately returned from a very interesting visit to Soviet Russia. Even in that vast and comparatively empty country the prevalent opinion about the British Empire is that England is a country holding a great proportion of the earth's surface and making very little use of it. And that is certainly the opinion in other Continental countries.

Outsiders, of course, understand little of the internal difficulties of our Empire. But I do feel that we should make more vigorous efforts to populate the huge empty tracts of the Empire and to develop its enormous untapped resources. Other nations will not long be content to leave us in possession of lands which they feel, often rightly, they could use much more profitably than we are doing. We must (in the words of your article) clear away every hint of reproach that we are not diligent stewards of our great possessions. Let the Dominions embark on a vigorous policy of immigration from Britain and self-development. Let England do the same for the Colonies.—E. Grey Turner.

THANKS

Mr. William Berntsen, of Casilla 265, Punta Arenas, Chile, S. America, wishes to thank all those Members who have sent him papers and magazines. He greatly appreciates their kindness.

FROM SPAIN

As I have been a resident in Spain for some forty-eight years, the letters which appear in the May and July issues of "Overseas," pp. 9 and 70 respectively, are, to me, most interesting.

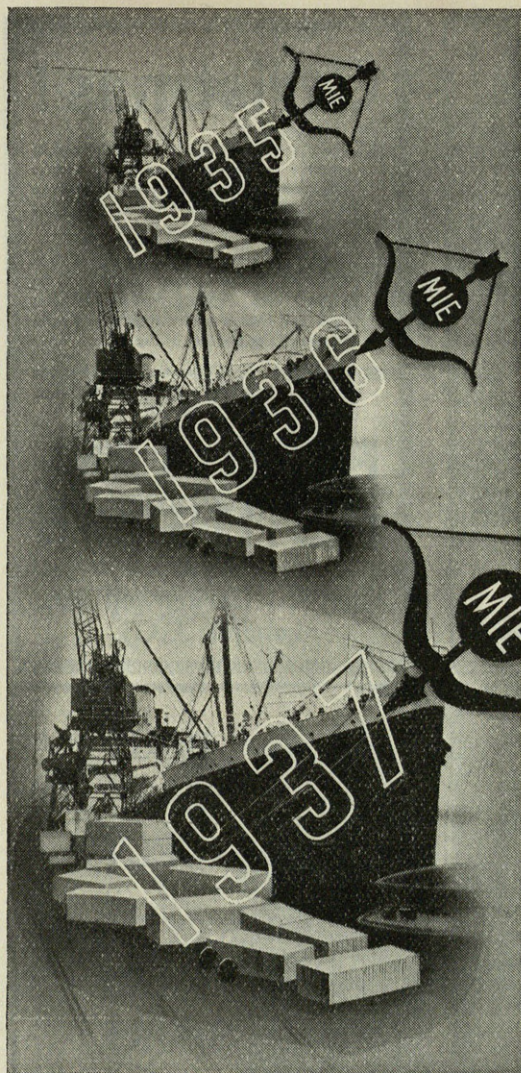
In relation to their contents I may say that during the Great War, it was my lot to live in Seville for about ten

months, when I had occasion to visit Jerez, Cadiz, Huelva and other places on the South Coast, thereby coming into contact with all classes of people. As the result of this contact, I have no hesitation in saying that Andalusia was then distinctly pro-German, and one of the outstanding topics was with reference to Gib. reverting to Spain, principally, I understand, of German propagation; therefore, to anyone who has observed German penetration since the Great War, it would not be surprising to hear that the same topic be again to the fore.

It would be interesting to know your Canary correspondent's reasons for qualifying as "nonsense" the reference (in the May issue) to the menace to the Empire lines of communication from an anti-democratic country? Surely the facts support such a fear? If one study the European situation since the Great War, especially noting the remarkable activities on the part of certain nations after the withdrawal of the army of occupation, and with a map handy in order to lose no detail, I think one must realise that the attitude of those nations does not tend to convince one of the sincerity of the expression *in words*, so often repeated, of their good intentions.

I limit myself now to place on record my energetic protest against the indiscriminate bombing from the air of the civil population, which has caused such havoc. I can bear witness to the fact that in this city many innocent lives have been lost, amongst them being personal friends, including a young lady medical student, who was killed by the explosion of a bomb from the air when on her way to hospital to tend the wounded.—Alex. Swan, Life Member No. 154,775.

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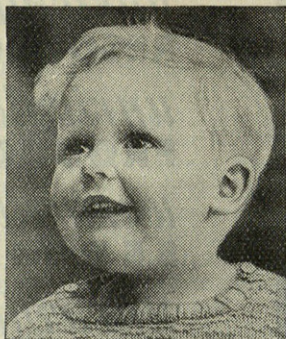
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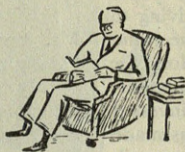
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MY MONTH'S READING

BOOKS ARE MEN OF HIGHER STATURE

—E. B. BROWNING



THE PASSING OF THE ABORIGINES.

A Lifetime Spent Among the Natives of Australia. By DAISY BATES, C.B.E. With a Foreword by the Hon. Sir GEORGE MURRAY, K.C.M.G., and an Introduction by ARTHUR MEE. 10s. 6d. (John Murray.)

Those who have read books about travel in the Australian Bush and books

about the Australian Aborigines can scarcely have failed to come across references to that heroic, yet most retiring of women, Mrs. Daisy Bates. To fireside readers she has seemed something in the nature of a fairy-tale—a lone white woman, living remote from the civilised world, ministering to a savage race, a race rapidly dying out. But now at last she has revealed herself. After thirty-five years in the Bush, dwelling in a small tent in the midst of the few thousand black

people who are all that remain of Australia's first inhabitants, she has written her own story. Simply, naturally, with sympathy and humour, she tells us about these poor barbarous folk who have named her Kabbarli—meaning Grandmother—and accepted her as their own. She tells how she came to give up her life to them, for love of

humanity and for England. It is a wonderful story, tragic, terrible, yet with touches of that comedy which is inseparable from life. Mrs. Bates is not shocked at cannibalism; the cruel customs of the wandering tribes arouse her compassion, not her anger. She understands too well the black fellow's method of reasoning, his temperament, his reactions. She learned to have patience, never to intrude her own intelligence upon him, to win his confidence by



MRS. DAISY BATES

author of "*The Passing of the Aborigines*," says good-bye to her friends from the train in the desert.

OVERSEAS

waiting. "Only in God's good time," she says, "will you begin to understand the riddle of the native mind. It is the study, not of a year or two of field work, but of a whole life-time." And a whole life-time she has devoted to it, giving to the world at last a book of unique value and absorbing interest. The Hon. Sir George Murray, who, as Lieutenant-Governor of South Australia, invested her with the Order when she was made a C.B.E. in 1933, adds a brief Foreword, and Mr. Arthur Mee has written a very moving Introduction. Many lovely photographs illustrate the volume.

SPOILS OF OPPORTUNITY. An Autobiography. By JANET MITCHELL. With a Portrait and two Maps. 10s. 6d. (Methuen.)

Whenever she reached the end of her tether and did not know what to do next, opportunity knocked at Miss Janet Mitchell's door. She opened the door at once and let it in. Consequently she has had—although she is still only in her middle years—a remarkably interesting career, and this account of it makes a most readable book. The author is unsparingly frank about herself. You feel that her relatives would protest that she was not the rebellious, jealous, arrogant child she tries to persuade us that she was. In any case, she had her share of failure and disappointment in early years, sufficient to mellow the most wayward character, and she is as frank about these as about her own shortcomings. But she cannot disguise her more admirable qualities. We see her rising above adversity, striking out for herself, studying in England, organising a State-wide Thrift Campaign in New South Wales, penetrating as a journalist into Manchukuo during the Japanese invasion, always with a zest for adventure, a quick eye for the unusual, an indomitable courage. She is now Warden of Ash-

burne Hall for women students at Manchester University.

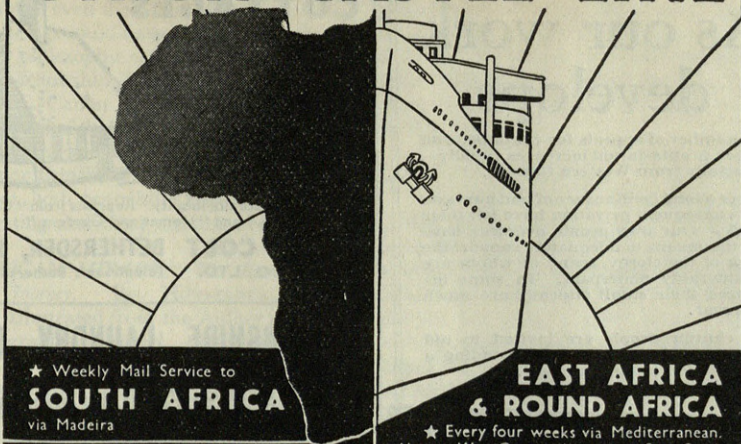
ASSIGNMENT IN UTOPIA. By EUGENE LYONS. 2s. 6d. (Harrap.)

Selected by the Right Book Club, Mr. Eugene Lyons's book on Russia, "Assignment in Utopia," is, in the main, sternly critical. A devout believer in the principles of the Soviet Union, though not himself a Communist, Mr. Lyons went to Russia in 1928 and spent half a dozen years there, only to become steadily disillusioned. His contention is that the ideals which prompted the revolution have been lost sight of, and "the collectivist idea has come to fruition in the apotheosis of an individual." His book is valuable because it is an honest record of his opinions and observations, and gives many glimpses behind the scenes.

IN SEARCH OF THE MAHATMAS OF TIBET. By E. G. SCHARY. With illustrations and Maps. 3s. 6d. (Travel Book Club.)

Few people go adventuring with such a profound purpose as that which inspired Mr. Schary to overcome countless difficulties and visit India—not once, but on three separate occasions. For years he was plagued with the desire to go to Tibet in quest of the Mahatmas, said to dwell somewhere within the confines of the Himalayas. From them he believed he might learn the answers to life's most baffling riddles. He encountered poverty, hunger, toil, imprisonment and innumerable hardships on his romantic travels, but the sense of adventure never deserted him and always his pluck and humour carried him through. He did not discover the Mahatmas, but, judging by his way of dealing with people, his sympathy with the poorest, white or coloured, his tolerance, his readiness to examine the other man's point of view and admit himself in the wrong, one

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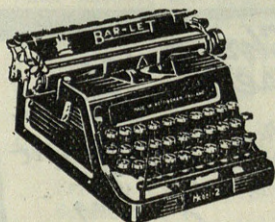
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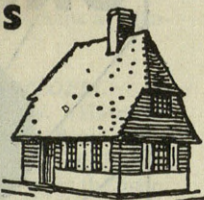
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CHURCH ARMY

doubts if even the wisest of those mysterious beings could have taught him a much finer philosophy than the philosophy of good-fellowship, which he never had to learn. Canon C. E. Tyndale-Biscoe, Principal of the C.M.S. School, Srinagar, Kashmir, and Mr. David Macdonald, former British Trade Agent at Gyantse, Tibet, both contribute Forewords to this arresting and most unusual book.

AFRICAN MIRAGE. The Record of a Journey. By HOYNINGEN-HUENE. Illustrated from the Author's photographs. 12s. 6d. (Batsford.)

This record of a journey into Equatorial Africa is partly in crisp prose, partly in magnificent photographs. As he journeyed through Egypt, the Sudan, Kenya, the Belgian Congo, French Equatorial Africa, British Nigeria, and back by the Southern Sahara, Mr. Hoyningen-Huene, the celebrated photographer, used his camera to excellent purpose. He shows us people, marvellous landscapes, native villages, beautiful water pictures, and adds to them the story of his experiences and descriptions of memorable scenes. "African Mirage," a combined art and travel book, is something out of the common.

IN KOREAN WILDS AND VILLAGES.

By STEN BERGMAN. Translated by FREDERICK WHYTE. 3s. 6d. (Travel Book Club.)

If the Westerner knows little enough of Japan and China, about Korea he knows still less. Dr. Sten Bergman, the famous Swedish explorer, gives us many insights into its people, their life and customs, its birds and beasts, the country's general aspect, and what it has to offer in the way of sport and travel. Its women seem to be in sore need of a feminine movement, though in some of the many fine photographs which illustrate the book they appear far from doleful. Dr. Bergman tells us of many

quaint and amusing ceremonies, gives us an impression of the mountain scenery and the loveliness of cherry-blossom time. Korea was annexed by Japan in 1910, but still pursues its own quiet existence.

LIKE WATER FLOWING. By MARGARET MACKAY. 8s. 6d. (Harrap.)

Miss Mackay's poignant novel touches upon the tragic problem of the child of a mixed marriage. Linda Heywood's father was white, her mother a Chinese; the girl has been brought up in China with a brother who bears plainly the stamp of the Eurasian. When she becomes engaged to an English officer, the difficulties of her position are made clear to her, and to save her lover from becoming a social outcast she nobly gives him up. That, however, is not the end of the story. Against a Chinese background, it is a story told sympathetically and with genuine pathos.

THE TURBULENT DUCHESS. By BARONESS ORCZY. 2s. 6d. (The Book Club.)

Caroline Ferdinande, Madame la Duchesse de Berri, who hoped to be Queen of France, then, in her widowhood, to be the mother of the King, is shown to us in Baroness Orczy's fascinating story as a vital spirit, not perhaps a particularly admirable character except as regards her unquenchable courage, but amazingly alive. She struggled wildly for what she considered to be her son's right to sit on the throne of France. She would have had her husband's relatives put up a vigorous fight for their privileges. But she belonged to that period when France was finally shedding its monarchy, and in everything she was defeated. Even so, she does not appear to have been too unhappy. Perhaps her volatile Italian temperament helped her to rise anew after each disaster. Baroness Orczy makes us see her very clearly—the

eager ambitious girl coming as a bride to France. The young matron working in her son's interests. The wife, relinquishing her exalted position for love, and from then on ceasing to count in politics. Caroline Ferdinande died in 1870. "She began life as a fairy princess and ended it as 'poor old Caroline.'"

—ALMEY ST. JOHN ALCOCK

A CORRECTION

In "My Month's Reading" in September, 1938, "Overseas," reference was made to the book "This England," by W. S. Shears, the price of which was quoted as 2s. 6d. We are informed that the price of this book is in fact 7s. 6d., but members of the Right Book Club may purchase copies at 2s. 6d.



ANSWERS TO EMPIRE QUESTIONS

(THE QUESTIONS WILL BE FOUND ON PAGE 54)

1. The British National Anthem is of uncertain origin. It was first printed in *Harmonia Anglicana* in 1742; both words and music have been attributed to Henry Carey, 1740. They were printed in the *Gentlemen's Magazine* for October, 1745.

2. Half quarter day in England, on August 1st of each year.

3. New South Wales was the name given to the territory in 1770 by Captain Cook.

4. Stoke, Burnham and Desborough, in Buckinghamshire. No member of the House of Commons can resign his seat; he must apply for an "office of profit under the Crown." The usual practice is to apply for the Stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds (or of the Manor of Poynings or Northstead, or the Escheatorship of Munster), whereupon the seat is declared vacant under the Place Act of 1742 (which expressly permitted acceptance of such offices to serve as an excuse for resignation) and a new writ is issued by the Speaker.

5. Baffin Bay is not a bay, but an immense inland sea, much larger than the Mediterranean.

6. Mercator is properly Gerhard Kremer, a Belgian geographer, born 1512. His system should therefore rightly be called "Kremer's Projection." His name meaning "a merchant" was at the time Latinised into "Mercator."

7. Trinity House is an institution for regulating pilots. It was founded in 1512 by Sir Thomas Spert, who was the first Master. The maintenance of light-houses and buoys is also one of the duties of the brethren of Trinity House.

8. Milton was mistaken because the eglantine does not "twist." He had in mind the honeysuckle. The eglantine is the prickly sweet briar of gardens.

9. Empire Day, a celebration of the unity of the British Empire, originated 1902. Officially recognised since 1904; held on the anniversary of Queen Victoria's birthday, May 24th.

10. A lizard-like reptile of New Zealand. To-day it is the sole surviving species of a race of reptiles that flourished in past geological periods.

11. Hudson Bay was named after Henry Hudson, who explored it in 1610. It is not a "bay," but an inland sea.

12. November 5th, 1605.

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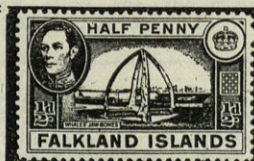
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The Over-Seas League Travel Bureau is arranging special parties to leave London on December 19th, January 2nd, 16th and 30th, and February 13th and 27th, and can also reserve individual accommodation for independent visitors.

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WINTER SPORTS

Members intending to go abroad during the winter season for the sports are requested to communicate with the Travel Manager, who will be glad to make suggestions and to reserve accommodation. A copy of our illustrated Winter Sports Folder will be sent free on request. Special parties in course of formation include the following:—

ADELBODEN. Leave London December 19th. (*Christmas and New Year in Switzerland.*) Hotel Beau-Site. 20 guineas. February 13th party, 19 guineas.

DAVOS. Leave London December 5th. Hotel Victoria. 19 guineas. January 2nd party, 20 guineas.

ENGELBERG. Leave London December 19th. (*Christmas and New Year in Switzerland.*) Hotel Bellevue. 19½ guineas. February 27th party, 19 guineas.

KANDERSTEG. Leave London January 2nd. Parc-hotel Gemmi. 18½ guineas. January 20th party, 18½ guineas.

KLOSTERS. Leave London December 5th. Pardenn and Sporthotel Parsenn. 22 guineas. January 16th party, 23 guineas.

LENK. Leave London December 19th. (*Christmas and New Year in Switzerland.*) Park-hotel Bellevue. 20½ guineas. January 30th party, 19½ guineas.

LENZERHEIDE. Leave London January 16th. Grand Hotel Kurhaus. 22 guineas. February 13th party, 22 guineas.

ST. MORITZ. Leave London January 2nd. Hotel La Margna. 23 guineas. February 27th party, 23 guineas.

VILLARS. Leave London January 16th. Hotel Chalet Anglais, 16½ guineas; Hotel Montesano, 19½ guineas. February 13th party. Hotel Chalet Anglais, 16½ guineas; Hotel Montesano, 19½ guineas. Rates include daily hot bath.

WENGEN. Leave London January 2nd. Hotel Waldrand. 19½ guineas. January 30th party, 19½ guineas.

Prices quoted above include 14 nights' accommodation in rooms with running hot and cold water. Lighting and heating are included, with continental breakfast, table d'hôte luncheon and dinner daily, sports tax, orchestra tax, kurtax, and gratuities to hotel servants. Seats are reserved on British and Continental trains for the outward journey, and transfers between stations and hotels, including hand luggage, are provided. Transportation includes 2nd class rail tickets by the short sea route, except for Davos, Klosters, Engelberg, Lenzerheide and St. Moritz, when we provide 2nd class tickets *via* Dover-Ostend-Brussels-Strasbourg-Bale, and for Villars, when 2nd class tickets are provided *via* Newhaven-

Dieppe-Paris-Lausanne, with 1st class on cross-Channel steamers.

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Departures on January 7th and 21st, February 25th, March 18th and April 1st for Paris by rail and steamer, continuing by Pullman Motor to Vichy Spa, Montelimar, Avignon, Nîmes, Arles, Aix-en-Provence, Cannes (for four nights, with visits to all the other well-known resorts of the French Riviera, including a drive to Grasse), Grenoble, Geneva (for two nights), Autun, Paris (for two nights), London. 16-day tour, 26½ guineas inclusive. Special 23-day tours, including ten full days on the Riviera, will leave London on December 17th (*Christmas and New Year on the Riviera*), 33 guineas, and February 14th (*Carnival, Battle of Flowers, etc.*), 35 guineas.

SUNSHINE IN EGYPT

A special party is being organised for Members of the Over-Seas League and their friends to leave London on January 9th, returning on February 7th, to visit

Cairo and Upper Egypt. There will be five days at sea in the Mediterranean both on the outward and homeward journeys, 1st class cabin accommodation being provided. During the five days in Cairo the principal places of interest will be visited, including a whole day's excursion to Memphis and Sakkara and a half-day's excursion to the Nile Delta Barrage. There will be one week in Upper Egypt, with a comprehensive programme at Luxor, Assouan and Thebes.

The inclusive cost is 73 guineas, covering 2nd class rail transportation to Marseilles by the short sea route with 1st class on cross-Channel steamers, all meals whilst travelling *en route*, port taxes, 2nd class rail in Egypt and accommodation in comfortable 2nd class hotels, all sightseeing, dragomans' fees, entrance fees and tips, monument tax in Upper Egypt and all transfers and tips at hotels. The party will also be given a sightseeing programme at Alexandria.

MAPMAKERS BUSY

ONE RESULT OF THE CHANGING FRONTIERS IN CENTRAL EUROPE IS OVERTIME FOR MAPMAKERS

"I WAS talking to the managing director of one of the largest mapmakers in the world," writes a contributor to the *London Star*. "We have never been so busy before," he told me. "We have had to overprint all our existing stocks of maps, and as soon as we overprint them, another change takes place and the whole job has to be done again. We have been working late for weeks."

In common with other mapmakers

the manufacturer is printing only a few thousand atlases at a time, as this reduces the amount of correcting to be done, and enables new frontiers to be included in following editions.

In spite of Herr Hitler, British children will not have to wait for their school atlases next year. The bulk of them are drawn to such a small scale that a frontier revision has to be very great indeed to need drastic revision.



BY APPOINTMENT

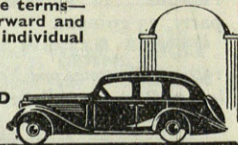
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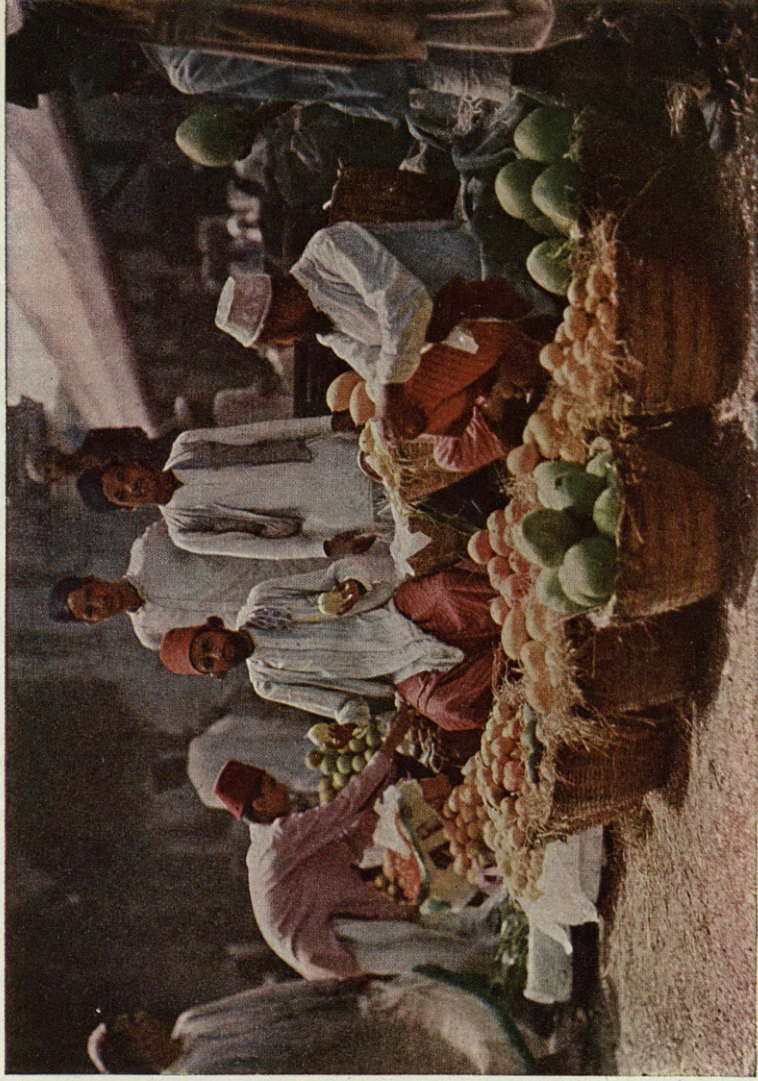
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AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHY NOTES

MEMBERS SEEKING ADVICE ON PHOTOGRAPHIC PROBLEMS
SHOULD WRITE TO "RELFEY," c/o THE EDITOR



THE storage of negatives and prints is a matter warranting closer attention than is paid to it by the average amateur photographer. This is specially the case for amateurs living in climates that have a deteriorating effect on photographic materials.

Heat and damp are the worst enemies of negatives and prints. Nothing is more annoying than to turn out an assortment of old negatives and then find that the particularly good one, which one wants to print again, is in an entirely unprintable condition.

I remember once losing a whole series of jungle negatives in this way. I had put them in a cardboard box on a shelf in my bedroom and forgotten all about them. Six months later I found that cockroaches had eaten most of them and mildew had ruined the rest.

Cockroaches, by the way, are particularly addicted to the gelatine on films and plates, and a few of these insects may ruin a whole series of negatives in a few nights. You can varnish your negatives over to make them safe against the ravages of insects, but, frankly, it is rather a nuisance, and an easier way is to put them out of the cockroach's reach. Once I had learned my lesson I never allowed negatives to stay out of one of those anti-damp tins, made in the form of cylinders, with a tight lid and moisture absorbing chemical in the bottom, that

are sold in the tropics for keeping tobacco in condition.

For storing a large number of film negatives in a way that enables any particular one to be found easily, and without the danger of scratching and other damage due to repeated handling, the wallets containing transparent envelopes for each negative are very useful. These are quite cheap, can be bought to suit the size of the negative, and each wallet will hold as many as a hundred negatives.

Plates are best stored in the cardboard boxes in which they are supplied. A large number of boxes and wallets can be stored in a single drying tin in the tropics. For amateurs in temperate climates, they can be placed in drawers or on shelves, and a simple filing system evolved. Then, when one particular negative is required, you won't have to search through hundreds to find it!

Miniature negatives are best left in their rolls of thirty-six exposures, and special boxes are sold to store a dozen rolls or more. If the rolls are cut up the individual negatives are so tiny that they are difficult to handle without damage, and, in any case, the rolls are easier to deal with in the enlarger.

Finally, before storing away negatives for future use, do weed out all the indifferent ones. So many amateurs keep all their negatives, thinking that they may like to have more prints from them one

day. But it is only the really pleasing "snaps" that are ever worth "repeats," and a large number of useless negatives hopelessly clogs any system of filing and storage.

Next month we will discuss the question of prints and enlargements—how to guard them against deterioration and how to show them off to the best advantage in album or frame.

* * *

A further word about the Colour Photography Competition announced in the September issue, in which prizes totalling nearly £30 are offered.

I do hope all readers of these Notes are entering. If you have not already done so, do please turn to the announcement on p. 34.

Dufaycolor photography is so simple that the amateur accustomed to ordinary black and white photography can hardly fail to get good results. I know any number of people, including the most casual "snapshotters," who have tried out Dufaycolor and they have all been

amazed at how simple it is.

Remember, there is nothing different about Dufaycolor. You just buy the films at the same shop, load them into the camera in the same way, and just give the exposures they tell you in the instructions enclosed with each film.

Could there be anything easier than that? And, after all, the prizes are pretty substantial; there is no entrance fee and no restrictions of subject. Just keep your eyes open, and your camera loaded, and you might win the price of a first-class new camera just by pressing the button. And think how exciting it would be if your colour photograph was reproduced in these pages!—"REFLEX."

(The writer of these Notes will be pleased to help readers with their problems and difficulties if they will write to him c/o The Editor. Whenever possible, negatives or prints should be enclosed. When writing for advice with regard to the purchase of cameras, will readers please state the type of camera required—folding, reflex, miniature, etc.—and the approximate price they wish to pay?)

OVERSEAS SERVICE BUREAU

THE BUREAU DEALS WITH MANY ENQUIRIES EACH MONTH

THE Overseas Service Bureau exists to help Members with their problems. Month by month an increasing number of enquiries reach us from all parts of the world. These enquiries are very varied in character. They relate not only to the purchase of goods, large and small—which the Department undertakes on behalf of Members—but also to such matters as accommodation, the choice of schools and tutors, suitable hotels, and a variety of general questions upon which the advice of the Bureau is sought.

Correspondents seeking advice or information are reminded that their enquiries should be accompanied by a booking fee of 1s. to cover preliminary

postage and telephone calls. Non-receipt of the booking fee is liable to cause delay and extra correspondence. The service of the Bureau is otherwise entirely free. Purchasing instructions must be accompanied by a remittance to cover cost and insurance of the goods, which may be in the form of either a British postal order, money order or cheque on a London Bank, crossed Coutts & Co. All communications should be addressed to the Secretary, Overseas Service Bureau, Over-Seas House, St. James's, London, S.W.1. Will correspondents please note that the Bureau does not deal with enquiries relating to employment?



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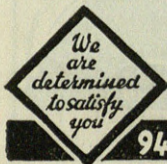
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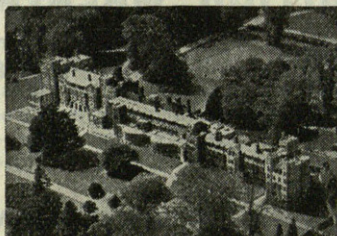
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