

RHODESIANA

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RHODESIANA

Publication No. 38 — March 1978

THE RHODESIANA SOCIETY
Salisbury
Rhodesia

Edited by
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The cover picture is of the Ndebele Great Dance. It is from an engraving in "The Illustrated London News", 1872, after a sketch by Thomas Baines.

The Rhodesiana Society

Founded 1953

The Society exists to promote Rhodesian historical studies and to encourage research. It also aims to unite all who wish to foster a wider appreciation and knowledge of the history of Rhodesia.

There is no entrance fee; with effect from January, 1977 the subscription is \$5,00 Rhodesian currency (\$8,90 U.S.A. or R7,00) a year, and this entitles paid-up members to those numbers of *Rhodesiana* issued during the year. There are two issues in each year, dated March and September.

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Judge Vincent (1902)

Photo: National Archives

Sir Joseph Vintcent

Rhodesia's first Judge

by Michael J. Kimberley

Joseph Vintcent was born at Mossel Bay, Cape Province, South Africa on the 12th November, 1861. He was the eldest son of Lewis Anthony Vintcent and Maria Vintcent.

Family

Lewis (usually known as Louis) Anthony Vintcent came to South Africa with his parents in the 1850s. His father, Joseph (Senior), came to the country from Holland for health reasons, and settled in Mossel Bay where he established the firm of Prince, Vintcent and Company. Joseph was a leading citizen of the town and served for several years as a member of the Cape Legislative Council.

Louis was returned to the Cape Legislative Assembly as the member for George in 1874. He was an excellent speaker and his attendance in Parliament always carried considerable weight. He was particularly interested in mercantile and financial questions and was a man of strong views and deep convictions.

His brother, Louis Anthony Vintcent, attested into A Troop of the British South Africa Company's Pioneer Corps on 20th April, 1890 and journeyed to Mashonaland with the pioneer column. After disbandment of the Corps on 30th September 1890, he did a certain amount of prospecting near Hartley Hills and elsewhere and early in 1891 was appointed Acting Mining Commissioner and Registrar of Claims for the Lo Magondi District. In April 1891 he contracted fever and while being taken by wagon to Salisbury for treatment, he died at Burnett's Camp on 7th May, 1891.

Of his other brothers, Alwyn ran the family firm of Attorneys, Prince, Vintcent and Company, which was established in Mossel Bay in about 1863, and Sidney died at an early age.

Education

Joseph was educated at the Diocesan College, Rondebosch, Cape Province, at Charterhouse, and at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, where he was awarded the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws in the Law Tripos.

While reading law in the University of Cambridge he achieved considerable renown as an association footballer, attaining his University Blue in 1881 and representing from 1880 to 1895 the Old Carthusians, winners of the English Cup in 1880-1881, and the South of England against the North. It is said that he was one of the finest half-backs of his day and but for an unfortunate injury

sustained in the historic match between London and Birmingham in the 1881-1882 season, would in all probability have won his international cap. He was also a cricketer of no mean ability as was his brother, Charles H. Vintcent, who represented South Africa in test matches in 1888/1889 at Port Elizabeth and Cape Town against Major Warton's touring team and in 1891/1892 in Cape Town against W. W. Read's touring team.

He was called to the English Bar by the Middle Temple on the 26th January, 1885 and was admitted as an advocate in the Cape on the 28th February of the same year.

Practice as an advocate

While practising at the Cape Bar in 1885 the law reports reveal his appearance in *The Divisional Council of Middelburg vs. Chase* (3 S.C. 411), a surety case involving the insolvency of the principal debtor; he appeared before Chief Justice de Villiers as junior to Attorney General Upington, with Leonard Q.C. and Searle on the other side, and in *Rupert Vs Trustees vs. Ruperti* (4 S.C. 22), also an insolvency case, he appeared before Chief Justice de Villiers as junior to Leonard Q.C, with Schreiner and Joubert on the other side.

After practising at the bar in Cape Town for almost a year he accepted an appointment as Crown Prosecutor in British Bechuanaland in March 1886 where he served for eight years. In 1893 he served as a member of the Bechuanaland Concession Commission.

Marriage

In 1891 at Wynberg Joseph Vintcent was married out of community of property to Hester Elizabeth Myburgh, the daughter of Mr. Myburgh of Wynberg, Cape Province.

Judicial Appointment

On the 10th September, 1894, Joseph Vintcent, B.A., LL.B., was appointed a judge of the newly established High Court of the British South Africa Company's Territories as defined in the Matabeleland Order in Council of 18th July, 1894.

This appointment coincided with and followed the reorganisation of the judicial system which was introduced by the Matabeleland Order in Council of 1894, and it is appropriate here to examine briefly the background to and the nature of the Court to which Joseph Vintcent was appointed.

From 1890 to 1894 there was no High Court as such in Rhodesia. The Administrator, in his capacity as Chief Magistrate, however, possessed the jurisdiction of a superior court of record with full jurisdiction in all cases, both civil and criminal, and was also empowered to hear appeals from Magistrate's Courts and to review their proceedings.

Under the Order in Council of 1894 the High Court of Matabeleland was set up, with full jurisdiction in all matters, both civil and criminal, including

appeal and review jurisdiction over inferior courts. The area of the court's jurisdiction, notwithstanding its title which implied that jurisdiction was confined to Matabeleland, encompassed the whole of what is now known as Rhodesia. The provisions for the appointment of judges were very simple. They were to be appointed by the British South Africa Company with the approval of the Secretary of State and would hold office during pleasure, but could only be removed by the Secretary of State. Salaries could not be increased or diminished without the approval of the Secretary of State. No qualification for judicial office was prescribed. There was no trial by jury but in criminal cases a judge was empowered to call in and appoint two or four assessors to aid him in the decision of any criminal case in his court. The assessors were advisory only and the judgment of the judge prevailed, but the judge was obliged to consult the assessors and to record any dissent from his judgment on their part.

The new Court was opened with due ceremony on 5th November, 1894, with Vincent taking the oath of office before J. H. Kennedy, J.P. He was welcomed by the Public Prosecutor, C. Wilson Fox, and addresses of welcome were made by the Sanitary Board and the Chamber of Commerce. The first matter on the Roll was an application for the admission of Sir Thomas Scanlen as an Attorney, Notary and Conveyancer, which was granted.

On the 20th October, 1898, the Southern Rhodesia Order in Council was enacted. Sections 49 to 78, inclusive, provided for the judicial framework of Southern Rhodesia. This Order in Council abolished the High Court of Matabeleland and established in its place a Court of Record, styled the High Court of Southern Rhodesia, with full jurisdiction, civil and criminal, over all persons and over all matters within Southern Rhodesia, subject to special provisions regarding native law and custom.

It was provided that the law to be administered by the High Court "shall, so far as not inapplicable, be the same as the law in force in the Colony (*i.e.* the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope) on the 10th day of June, 1891, except so far as that law has been modified by any Order in Council, Proclamation, Regulation or Ordinance in force at the date of commencement of this Order."

Section 52 provided "There shall be as many Judges of the High Court, to be paid by the Company, as from time to time may be necessary." Judges were to be appointed by the Secretary of State on the nomination of the Company and were to hold office during good behaviour and could only be removed by the Secretary of State.

Section 54 enabled the jurisdiction of the High Court to be exercised by any judge thereof sitting alone.

Sections 58 and 60 provided for appeals from the High Court to the Supreme Court of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope in all civil matters when the amount of value in dispute exceeded one hundred pounds sterling, and in criminal matters if a special entry of the record alleging irregularity or illegality in the proceedings had been made, or a question of law had been reserved and entered on the record by the High Court. Section 74 provided for

appeals from Magistrates' Courts to the High Court and for review by the High Court of certain judgments of Magistrates' Courts.

In terms of High Commissioner's Notice No. 24 of the 29th December, 1898, Mr. Justice Joseph Vintcent was appointed Senior Judge and Mr. Justice John Philip Watermeyer was appointed a Puisne Judge of the High Court of Southern Rhodesia.

By High Commissioner's Notice No. 20 of the 29th December, 1898, the High Court of Southern Rhodesia was declared "open from and after the 1st day of January, 1899."

Appeals against decisions of Mr. Justice Vintcent

With the establishment by the South Africa Act of 1909 of a Supreme Court of South Africa, appeals could be made in certain circumstances from the High Court of Southern Rhodesia to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of South Africa.

The first of seven reported cases of decisions of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of South Africa involving appeals from judgments of Mr. Justice Vintcent was that of *I. Pieters and Company vs. Salomon* (1911 A.D. 121). The appeal was heard by Chief Justice Lord de Villiers and Judges of Appeal Innes and Solomon. The matter in issue in the case was the indebtedness, if any, of Pieters and Company to Salomon, and the decision of the High Court of Rhodesia (per Vintcent J.) in favour of Salomon was upheld by the Appellate Division.

The case of *Sandilands vs. Tompkins* (1912 A.D. 171) was an important one as it involved the question of the liability of a gaoler who, by his negligence, allows a person who has been imprisoned for debt to escape from gaol. The High Court of Southern Rhodesia per Vintcent J. decided that the defendant Sandilands who was the gaoler of the Bulawayo gaol was liable in law to pay the judgment creditor, Tompkins, a broker of Bulawayo, the full amount of the debt and costs of obtaining the judgment and the writ of civil imprisonment, without proof of actual loss sustained by Tompkins.

On appeal, Appellate Division (Lord de Villiers C.J., Innes J., and Solomon J.) reversed the judgment of the High Court and held that the defendant was not liable for the full amount of the judgement and costs, and that, in the absence of any evidence that there existed a reasonable probability founded upon the debtor's position in life and surrounding circumstances that the debt or a portion of it would have been discharged if he had remained in custody, the plaintiff was not entitled to recover any damages.

The case of *Rex vs. McChlery* (1912 A.D. 199) was one of considerable constitutional significance as it involved important questions as to the extent of the powers of legislation conferred on the Legislative Council of Southern Rhodesia by the Order in Council of 1898.

Briefly, the facts of the matter were as follows. McChlery, an employer of coloured labour, was charged before the Resident Magistrate of Salisbury with

contravening section 3 of the Labour Tax Ordinance No. 13 of 1911 for failing to render a return in the prescribed form of the daily average of all coloured labourers employed by him during the month of January 1912.

After evidence had been called for the Crown, Counsel for McChlery contended that when the Labour Tax Ordinance was passed by the Legislative Council there was no properly constituted quorum, as required by the 5th rule of procedure of the Legislative Council which provided that six members exclusive of the Resident Commissioner should form a quorum. It was contended that as only two members of those who voted for the Ordinance had no pecuniary interest in the matter, the Ordinance had been wrongly passed and was *ultra vires* and, therefore, McChlery should be acquitted.

The magistrate ruled that he had no jurisdiction to decide on the validity or otherwise of the Ordinance, whereupon the defence called evidence to show that no reference to the tax under the Ordinance was made in the Estimates of the Appropriation Ordinance passed in 1911 nor was it included in the Estimates of Revenue.

The accused was ultimately found guilty by the Resident Magistrate and sentenced to a fine of 2s.6d or in default of payment to 14 days' imprisonment with hard labour.

Needless to say the accused appealed to the High Court of Southern Rhodesia. In a careful and painstaking judgment Vintcent J. in dismissing the appeal and confirming the conviction held that the Labour Tax Ordinance of 1911 was not illegal; that the Legislative Council had power to pass a tax and to allocate it; and that non-compliance with the provisions of sections 41 to 46 inclusive of the Order in Council of 1898 with respect to estimates and a specific Appropriation Ordinance did not invalidate the Labour Tax Ordinance of 1911 as such provisions were directory and not imperative.

McChlery then appealed to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of South Africa. In separate judgments Lord de Villiers, Innes J. and Solomon J. dismissed the appeal.

An important legal principle which derives from this case was enunciated as follows in the judgment of Lord de Villiers C.J. —

"Our Courts have every right to inquire whether any statute has transgressed the limits of the subjects in regard to which the Legislature is empowered to legislate, but they have no right to inquire whether, in dealing with subjects within its competence, the Legislature has acted wisely or unwisely for the benefit of the public or for the benefit of private individuals. If the right of imposing taxes exists, the Courts have no right, in the absence of a special direction as to the purposes to which the sums raised are to be applied, to declare a particular tax to be illegal because its proceeds are to be applied to a purpose which, in the opinion of the Court, is not a public purpose."

And, in the words of Solomon J., —

". . . it is the Legislature and not the Courts of Law in Rhodesia as in the Union of South Africa, who are the judges of whether any law is required for

the peace, order or good government of the territory under their jurisdiction. No Court of Law in Rhodesia is entitled to examine the policy of an Ordinance passed by the Legislature with the view of determining whether in fact the law makes for peace, order and good government. That is a matter entirely within the discretion of the Legislature, and no matter how strongly any judge may feel that a particular law is antagonistic to good government, he has no authority on that ground to declare the law to be invalid. All that the Courts of Law can do is to inquire whether the Legislature has exceeded the powers conferred upon it by the Order in Council which created it, and in that event to declare the law invalid to the extent to which the powers have been exceeded."

The next case in which the decision of the High Court of Rhodesia per Vintcent J. was taken on appeal to the Appellate Division was *The British South Africa Company vs. The Bechuanaland Exploration Company Limited* (1913 A.D. 37). The dispute had its beginnings on the 21st December, 1893, when the British South Africa Company issued certain Letters of Registration to one Edward Burnett in the following terms —

"These are to certify that Edward Burnett, "Staff", Salisbury Horse, having completed his special term of service under the British South Africa Company, is entitled under the conditions of his enrolment to a grant of 3 000 (three thousand) morgen of land and the right to peg off 20 (twenty) gold claims, further, that his right to avail himself thereof has been duly registered in the books of the said company."

These Letters of Registration were ultimately sold on the 15th March, 1910, for £400 to the Bechuanaland Exploration Company with an endorsement made in 1894 to the effect that the right was "perpetual for purposes of pegging in the Gold Belt or elsewhere in the territory of the B.S.A. Co."

In 1910 the Bechuanaland Exploration Company pegged off an area of 3 000 morgen adjoining the Lonely Mine in the Bubi District without obtaining the approval of the Administrator in terms of the Survey Regulations.

In reversing the decision of the High Court of Southern Rhodesia, the Appellate Division held that the area in question, having been reserved for public purposes, was not open and available for pegging in 1910 and that the pegging therefore conferred no rights upon the Bechuanaland Exploration Company and that the approval of the Administrator being necessary and not having been obtained, the pegging could confer no rights upon the Company.

Appeals against Vintcent's judgments in *Willoughby's Consolidated Co. Ltd. vs. Cophall Stores Ltd.* (1913 A.D. 267) and *British South Africa Co. vs. Mikellatos and Co.* (1913 A.D. 412) were allowed and the appeal against his judgment in the matter of *English vs. British South Africa Co.* (1913 A.D. 403) was dismissed.

Administrative and Military Appointments

Apart from being Senior Judge, Vintcent from time to time became involved in a wide range of other functions.

In terms of the Matabeleland Order in Council of 1894, the Government of the country was carried on by the Administrator and a nominated council of four members. The first Government under Dr. L. S. Jameson included Mr. Justice Vintcent as one of the nominated members.

Part IV of the Order in Council of 1894 established a Land Commission consisting of a Judicial Commissioner and two others charged with the duty of dealing with all questions relating to the settlement of natives. Vintcent was appointed first President of the Commission and served in that capacity for several years.

In November 1895, in the absence of Dr. Jameson, Vintcent was appointed acting Administrator, an office which he held until November 1896. With the outbreak of the Mashona Rebellion in June 1896 this office proved to be an extremely exacting duty which he carried out with distinction although at times he was subjected to criticism. On the 20th June, 1896, he proclaimed martial law in Salisbury and assisted by his Defence Committee he organised a laager based on the Salisbury gaol in which all women and children were accommodated and where a hospital was established by Dr. A. M. Fleming.

The exigencies of the Rebellion situation made it necessary for Vintcent to assume the position of head of the military organisation. H. M. Hole in *Old Rhodesian Days* writes "We styled him Commandant General and even manufactured a uniform for him, the principal feature of which was a tunic bedizened with crowns and stars and any amount of blue braid. We called it Joseph's coat of many colours."

In August 1896 Lieutenant Colonel Alderson relieved Vintcent of his military duties. Alderson in his *With the Mounted Infantry and the Mashonaland Field Force* writes of Vintcent's contribution during the Rebellion in the following terms —

"On the 12th a large convoy left Salisbury for Umtali, and among those who went down were, much to my regret, Judge and Mrs. Vintcent. He had indeed earned a rest. Ever since the rising commenced the whole responsibility of the administration in Mashonaland had been on his shoulders, and, prior to my arrival in Salisbury, he had had the direction of military matters also. To be suddenly pitchforked from the position of senior judge into a double-barrelled one of Administrator and Commander-in-Chief would be trying to a Napoleon.

"It must have been specially so in a community like that at Salisbury, which was so small that every man almost could make his voice heard, and where it appeared that all were determined to do so. The worst part being that all had different ideas, and each one grumbled if his own plan was not adopted!

"Through the troublesome early days of the rising, when questions of whether this or that patrol could be sent out — questions of life and death for some, in fact — had to be decided; through the times when food was short, and people said the Government (i.e. the Company) ought to feed them; settling this big, or that little, question in a kindly, gentlemanly manner—while he saw every one no matter who, and listened to their story; authorising this or

that expenditure — through all this the Judge steered the ship. Personally, I naturally saw a great deal of him; and I know I can safely say that the British South Africa Company may think themselves lucky if all their servants are half as keen about their interests, as conscientious, and as hard working, as Mr. Justice Vintcent."

He was a member of the First Legislative Council of Southern Rhodesia constituted under the Order in Council of 1899. He served as Chairman of Committees during the second session of that Council and also served with the Administrator, Mr. W. H. Milton, Captain the Hon. A. Lawley, Colonel Grey and Dr. Sauer, on a Select Committee appointed by the Council to consider the system of native administration in Southern Rhodesia. There are two references to Vintcent in the reports of the Debates in the Council. On Friday June 9, 1899, in the debate on the Appropriation Ordinance, he rose to a point of order but "The President had already given a ruling on the subject and the honourable member was not in order in arguing from a legal point of view on the subject of the Bill." On Thursday March 22, 1900, in the debate on the Branding of Stock Ordinance he called the attention of the house to the fact that no provision had been made for the recognition of existing brands and it was perfectly clear that such provision was necessary.

From January 8th to 19th, 1903, he attended, with Sir Lewis Michell, a conference on Company Law in Johannesburg. Other delegates included E. P. Solomon, A. E. Balfour and W. E. Hudson from the Transvaal, D. Horwell and W. H. S. Bell from the Orange River Colony, W. T. Buissine, H. Gibson and A. I. McGregor of the Cape Colony and G. A. de R. Labistour and K. H. Hathorn from Natal. On the proposal of E. P. Solomon, Vintcent took the chair at the conference. The conference prepared a draft Company Law and Vintcent used this draft as the basis of an Ordinance for the Incorporation, Regulation and winding up of Companies and other Associations which he drafted and submitted to the Administrator in May 1903.

He prepared legal drafts of the Trial by Jury Regulations which became the Juries Ordinance of 1899, the Sanitary Board Regulations of 1895 and the Tariff of Allowances of Witnesses.

In 1906 he was appointed a judge of the High Court of North West Rhodesia and in 1910 was appointed a Knight Bachelor.

As a matter of some interest Vintcent lived for a while in Salisbury's first brick double storey house which became known as The Residency. The house was completed in June 1895 on Stand 1747, No. 92 Baines Avenue just off Second Street, by E. A. Maund, the well-known geographer and prospector who leased it to the British South Africa Company as a residence for senior officials. Vintcent occupied it as Senior Judge and for a short time as Acting Administrator until about November 1896 under the terms of his appointment which provided for a salary of £1 200 per annum and a suitable residence. Shortly after Vintcent vacated the house prior to going to England on leave, Rhodes lived there for a short while. The house was occupied by Resident Commissioners between 1898 and 1923 and from then until the present time has been a residence for Cabinet Ministers.

He was created a Knight Bachelor in 1910 and attended the investiture with the Duke of Connaught officiating at Government House, Bulawayo, in November 1910.

Vincent Building which was completed in 1932 and houses the General Division of the High Court of Rhodesia, the offices of the Attorney General of Rhodesia and the Master of the High Court, was named after Mr. Justice Vintcent. A plaque on the south-eastern corner of the building bears the following inscription: "On 12th September, 1930, 97 surviving members of the Column which occupied Mashonaland in 1890 assembled at this spot to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of that occupation."

The End of a Career

Only six days after the death of his colleague Mr. Justice J. P. F. Watermeyer, Sir Joseph Vintcent died at his home in the Suburbs, Bulawayo on Friday the 14th August, 1914, a few days after sustaining a paralytic seizure, at the age of 52 years and 9 months. He was survived by his wife, and his two children Lewis Henry Kavin Vintcent then employed by the firm of Prince, Vintcent of Mossel Bay, and his minor daughter Agnes Fay Vintcent. Lewis was awarded the Military Cross in the field during the First World War. He died in Mossel Bay in May 1967 at the age of 74.

In terms of his will his wife was appointed sole heiress of the whole of his estate and effects and executrix of his will.

The funeral took place on Saturday the 15th August, 1914, and the *Bulawayo Chronicle* reported as follows —

"Rarely has there been such general manifestations of regret and respect on the part of all classes of the community as were shown on the occasion of the funeral of Sir Joseph Vintcent on Saturday morning. The cortege left the residence in the suburbs at about 10.30, and proceeded to St. John's Church. All along the route to the Church and cemetery there were signs betokening the sense of public bereavement. All the Government offices and many private establishments were closed, business in the town being almost entirely suspended; while the flags on the principal buildings were half-masted. The scene at the Church was a memorable one. Outside the big building were congregated hundreds of residents of all nationalities. The service was conducted by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Mashonaland both at the Church, where the organist, Mr. H. D. Keigwin, played the Dead March in Saul, and the graveside. By the time the cemetery was reached the procession had increased considerably and scarcely fewer than a hundred vehicles followed the flower laden hearse. The pallbearers were: Colonel Baxendale; Mr. C. F. Granger; Sir Charles Coghlan, M.L.C.; Major Gordon, D.S.O.; Mr. A. H. Ackermann; the Mayor of Bulawayo, Captain W. B. Bucknall, M.L.C.; Mr. P. B. S. Wrey and Mr. E. C. Baxter. The bereaved family were represented as chief mourners by Colonel Heyman, M.L.C. and Mr. J. G. McDonald."

Personality of the Man

For an insight into Joseph Vintcent's character and personality one can do no better than refer to the numerous tributes to him in August 1914, a number of which are reprinted below.

* In the course of his sermon at St. John's Church on Sunday 16th August 1914, the Rev. Mr. Maynard paid a high tribute to the many admirable qualities which had gone to make Sir Joseph Vintcent respected and admired by all with whom he came in contact. The preacher said that the late Judge was one who was more than respected; he was one who was loved. They admired him for his sympathy and his general kindness and as a true English gentleman. As for himself (the speaker) he would never forget the kindly way Sir Joseph had treated him as a newcomer. It was at times such as these that little kindnesses — a kindly smile, a welcome smile — were appreciated and not soon forgotten. The speaker felt it a great privilege to testify to Sir Joseph's great kindness, and concluded: "May God give him light and peace in Paradise." Proceeding with his address, the preacher said that it behoved them all to remember that, whether great or small, one required the other; all were necessary. And how encouraging it was to remember that there was not a single child of God who had not got his or her proper work to do in the great family to which they all belonged.

* The *Bulawayo Chronicle* of the 20th August had much to say about Mr. Justice Vintcent. —

"There have, we suppose, been few more pathetic incidents in the history of the British judiciary than those which have occurred in Southern Rhodesia in the past week. It was only on Saturday last that we had to record the death of Mr. Justice Watermeyer, which had taken place the previous day in Salisbury. The junior judge had scarcely been buried when Sir Joseph Vintcent was stricken with sudden illness, and now, within a week, he has followed his colleague to the grave. Rhodesia — and this part of the country especially — will mourn the loss of Sir Joseph Vintcent with no uncommon regret. There are probably few people here who remember his father, Mr. L. A. Vintcent, who was for many years a member of the Cape Parliament, but those who do will recognise the old-world courtesy of the son as a heritage from the father. Without any undue pessimism as to the future of the race, it is fair to say that one hopes that the courteous feelings which dominate the type of men represented by Sir Joseph Vintcent will not be allowed to lapse. He represented the best class of English gentleman. This is written in no spirit of undue adulation. It would be totally out of place to write in that sense in reference to anyone, and, indeed, one feels the need of a sense of restraint in writing at all of those who have gone to join the great majority. For twenty years Sir Joseph occupied one of the most distinguished posts in this territory — he was one of the earliest arrivals — and the people of Rhodesia, and particularly of Matabeleland, would be rather less than human if they did not feel acutely his passing to the Great Beyond. He will live in memory, not only as a sound Judge but, as he was described years ago, as "the beau ideal of a British gentleman". And to

have realised that ideal is something, which, without any undue pride of race, may be said to be no unworthy epitaph.

"Of Sir Joseph Vintcent's legal work it is not for us to speak, except to say that from the point of view both of litigants and lawyers he was a much respected judge. As in private life, so on the bench courtesy was always his dominating characteristic. Many a junior counsel must have had an unexpressed feeling of gratitude to the kindly Judge who did his best to help him out of a difficulty. But after all it is the man and not the Judge that Rhodesians will miss — and miss sadly. Sir Joseph and Lady Vintcent have occupied a great place in the social life of Bulawayo, and in the passing of Sir Joseph, Rhodesia sustains a great personal loss. The dead Judge was ever a keen Rhodesian, and displayed a persistent faith in the future of the country which many of us would do well to emulate. He was a keen sportsman, and if he had a motto it was "play the game". No better motto could be had by any man. One can say no more than that. Rhodesia in general, and Bulawayo in particular, sadly mourn his loss. The sympathies of all will go out to Lady Vintcent and the country at large will join in heartfelt regrets at the passing of one of its earliest and most respected citizens.

"During his long career on the Bench the late Sir Joseph Vintcent gained a high reputation for the soundness of his judicial knowledge, and for the scrupulous care taken in the preparation of his judgments. But probably he impressed practitioners and others who came into contact with him in his judicial capacity by his fine sense of equity; and hardly less by his keen knowledge of human character and his quick appreciation of the issues. No one who frequented the Court with anything like regularity could fail to be struck by the concise way in which he condensed a verbose piece of pleading into plain and simple statement of issues. In respect of criminal trials, Sir Joseph might almost be said without exaggeration to be a friend of the accused. At all events he was one of the type of judge who deems a man innocent until he is proved guilty. Where an accused person lacked the means of obtaining professional assistance, and was prejudiced by ignorance of the rules of procedure, Judge Vintcent was always ready to lend assistance — an attribute, it may be said, which characterised his relations towards those whom he met elsewhere than in the Courts of law. On the other hand, Sir Joseph had a stern sense of justice, and the habitual evildoer met with his deserts.

"In his social capacity, Sir Joseph was more than liked — he was beloved. He was unchangingly courteous to great and small in the world in which he lived. In the social life of the town he and the lady who is left to mourn a terrible bereavement took a distinguished part, while they were ever to the fore when any charitable cause needed a helping hand. Naturally, as one who was no mean exponent of manly recreations in his youth Sir Joseph took a particular interest in local sporting organisations, and was rarely absent when there was promise of 'a good game'."

* At the fortnightly meeting of the Bulawayo Town Council towards the end of August, the Mayor, Captain Bucknall M.L.C. made the following remarks —

"He had no time for little things; he always looked on the big things. He was a man whom no one could help but respect and love. Apart from his work on the bench they all knew the amount of time and trouble he had spent in the public and social life of the town. The speaker felt they had lost a very useful citizen; he might say the best citizen they ever had. Sir Joseph Vintcent was a man who had his heart in Rhodesia; he had given the very best years of his life to the country, and though he had many opportunities to go elsewhere he had elected to remain in Rhodesia."

* The following appreciation written by a member of the side bar and published in the *Bulawayo Chronicle* reveals the esteem in which the Judge was held by members of the legal profession —

"It is always difficult in giving public expression to an appreciation of one who held a high position, to avoid an appearance of merely formal eulogy. Moreover, in the case of Sir Joseph Vintcent one is conscious that the man was averse to public praise or circumstantial approbation. He was careful that in his Court there should be a minimum of ceremony, while there was no lack of dignity in its procedure. It was his maxim that the majesty of the law required no conventional trappings to lend it support, but that courtesy and patience were the true ornaments befitting the judicial station. Unless one is in the legal profession it is difficult to realise how valuable in the interests of justice are these judicial virtues. Sir Joseph was unfailing in his consideration of both lawyers and laymen who appeared before him. He reposed a confidence in the former, as officers of the Court, which undoubtedly engendered a deep sense of professional responsibility; and the public, whether as witnesses or as jurymen will long remember his regard for their daily concerns, so important to themselves, but so often of no account to judges and magistrates. Jurymen in particular will recall his unfailing rule to arrange the calendar expressly, so far as possible, to relieve them of their labours at the earliest moment. To the condemned man he meted out his reward with no hesitating hand, but he was never deaf to an appeal for mercy, exercising that prerogative of all judges with true discrimination, and, with a grace which fittingly became the act.

"During the course of the drawn-out tedium of civil work of a technical and involved nature, his patience was remarkable, a quality according to the present Lord Chief Justice of England profoundly valuable in the high judicial officer.

"In private life Sir Joseph was no less courteous than on the Bench; but in private life he was able to add to that courtesy a remarkable charm of manner, and to express the true human kindness of his disposition in a way which will have endeared his memory to all who knew him. As a younger man he had taken an active interest, and indeed had excelled in all manly sport. He had a catholic taste in literature, and in temperament he was essentially refined. It is easy to understand then how well he stood with his fellow men, and how great a respect and admiration he earned from them. Indeed in himself he seemed to represent the broad mind of the South African, moulded and polished by the culture of the best of English education; and he stood an example, in

this way, before the too narrow Home-born man and the too self-satisfied colonial embodying the best of the social qualities of each, with none of their shortcomings."

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ZAMBEZI TRAILS

A book, *Zambezi Trails: True stories from the Bush* by U. G. de Woronin, comprises thirty-one short pieces that originally appeared in the *Sunday Mail*, Salisbury, during 1974 and 1975. The author has added an autobiographical introduction. He is of Russian origin and he tells how he came out to Rhodesia with his father in 1925. From then followed a life of farming and hunting. The author's adventure stories are still continuing in the newspaper so this is perhaps the first of several volumes.

The stories are full of action. They are not the contemplative reflections of a natural historian although many acute and knowledgeable observations are made. The subjects are varied and it is not possible to list them all. They include — the role of predators, a battle between a harrier eagle and a martial eagle, bush medicines, the art of tracking, tuskless elephants, man eating lions and marauding leopards, hunting adventures with elephant and buffalo and fishing for *vundu* and big barbel.

de Woronin began roaming and hunting in the Zambesi valley in 1930 at the age of 18 and he has never lost his love of the place that he pictures as still being one of the most romantic and adventurous parts of Rhodesia.

Zambesi Trails is published by Regal Publishers, Salisbury, 1977. In limp cover it has a colourplate cover and line drawing illustrations by Russell Williams. 96 pages. Price \$1,95.

Buildings of Historic Interest

No. 7 Houses in Bulawayo

by Mrs. Monica Waddy

(The following notes were prepared by Mrs. Monica Waddy for a tour of places of historic interest in the Hillside and Suburbs areas of Bulawayo she conducted after the A.G.M. of the Matabeleland Branch on Sunday 20th Feb. 1977. — Editor.)

1. **Fletcher Cottage** in the grounds of St. Peter's School between Lawley Road/Livingstone Road/4th Street.

Mr. R. A. Fletcher had come to Bulawayo in 1894 to join his brother Patrick who along with a Mr. Espin had been commissioned to survey the town of Bulawayo. This firm was afterwards known as Fletcher and Espin.

In 1895 Mr. Fletcher ordered through a firm in Cape Town a house of Canadian pine. This was brought to Rhodesia in sections by ox-waggon from Mafeking where it had previously arrived by rail. Additions of brick and a wooden verandah were made subsequently. (The building is at present being renovated by a team of volunteers and a silver collection towards the restoration was taken which realised the sum of \$14,20).

2. **44, Heyman Road** on the corner of 4th Street/Heyman Road. This was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Colin Fraser. Mr. Fraser was a member of the Bechuanaland Border Police and was chosen as one of the men to join the Lochner Expedition to Barotseland to obtain a mineral concession from Chief Lewanika in 1889. Mr. Fraser occupied 44, Heyman Road in 1896. The house has been slightly modified but still retains most of the original features. Verandahs on two sides have been glassed in and original brickwork painted white. The ground in which it stood has been subdivided.

3. **75, Duncan Road and The Signal Tree.** The Signal Tree (species: *Lannea Stuhlmani* (Engl) var. *Totmenrosa* DUNKLEY) is on the boundary of the present plot, 75 Duncan Road. At the time of the Matabele Rebellion, 1896, this tree, then in the open veldt, occupied a commanding view of Hillside and the centre of Bulawayo and was used by the troops as a look-out post. A platform was erected on the tree from which troops on duty would communicate with those inside the laager in Market Square by means of heliograph.

By 1899 the plot on which the tree stands was owned by the Bulawayo Market and Offices Company Ltd. (Among well-known officials in the company were Dr. Hans Sauer, Mr. George F. Bate and Sir Philip Bouchier Wrey.) On 10th April 1899 the company sold the plot to Mr. R. A. Fletcher and Mr. P. Fletcher of the firm of Fletcher and Espin (Surveyors), in 1905 the Fletchers



**44, Heyman Road,
Bulawayo.**

*Photo: Monica
Waddy*



**11, Kent Road. First
Police Station at
Hillside, Bulawayo.**

*Photo: Monica
Waddy*



Fletcher Cottage

*Photo: Courtesy
The Sunday News*

sold the property to Mr. Arthur Sanders, the founder of the firm of Sanders, and he and his family lived in the house until 1932. Unfortunately I have not been able to find out who actually built the house. Mr. Vernon Sanders tells me he was born in the house in 1914 but cannot remember whether or not it was his father who built it. The plot is of three acres in extent and the present owners have built a brick wall around it, carefully leaving a gap, as shown in the photograph, for the historic tree.

4. **12, Oxford Road, Hillside** which was originally the home of Mr. and Mrs. Amos (Registered 12/11/1896) and was set in several acres of land which comprised a small farm. The property was bought by Mr. H. Barbour, one-time Mayor of Bulawayo, who owned the first swimming pool in the Hillside area. During his stay there he had a champion swimmer from England staying as a guest, and she put on a display for Town Councillors and their wives. The interest generated by this event resulted in the founding of the Borrow Street Baths.

The property was then bought by a Mr. Barton who had been an assistant master at Cedric College on the North side of Bulawayo (Mr. Chard, Headmaster). Mr. Barton set up a Junior Boarding School for Boys which became known as Barton Grange School. He died prematurely, and Mrs. Barton, who subsequently married Mr. Hayward, one of Bulawayo's early jewellers, sold the property in 1932, after which it was subdivided.

5. **11 Kent Road.** This was the first Police Station in Hillside. It became the Police Station in 1914, the Officer in Charge being Sgt. Black who was transferred from the Plumtree area to take charge. Sgt. Black had married Annie Prescott, the daughter of a Pioneer, and they had two children at the time of their arrival in Hillside. He became a legendary figure, and held sway in this building until 1921 when the Station was moved to Hillside Road/Cecil Avenue.

6. **Hillside House, to-day No. 58, Cecil Avenue, Hillside,** was built by Tom Meikle for his mother and three unmarried sisters.

Tom having come to Rhodesia in the middle of 1892, with his brothers Jack and Stewart, set himself up in business, in Bulawayo in 1894. Along with several friends, he rented a cottage next door to his store, in which they all lived.

As the years went by Tom began to worry about his mother Sarah, who having been widowed early on, was left to run the family farm in Natal, in order to provide sufficient to clothe and educate those of Tom's sisters who were still at school. In 1898 he had purchased a large plot of land at Hillside and in 1901 he set about building them a house on this site — this was afterwards known as the Hillside House.

Early in 1902 an old friend of Tom's came on a visit to Bulawayo and was taken to see the house. He recalls that Tom showed him the house, the outbuildings and stables and in particular a room attached to the outbuildings which he explained was to be his room and that his mother and sisters would occupy the house.



The Signal Tree, Duncan Rd/1st Street, Bulawayo.

Photo: Monica Waddy



Front verandah of Barton Grange, 12 Oxford Road — Taken about 1932.

Photo: Monica Waddy

By the end of 1902 Hillside House, the showpiece of its time, was complete, and the family moved in. During her stay Sarah established a wonderful flower and vegetable garden and acquired a fine dairy herd. Records show that she was a most hospitable person and welcomed many a "lame dog" into her home — more especially if they had a Scottish accent! (Sarah and her husband had come from Scotland to farm in South Africa.)

In due course the Meikle sisters married and so did Tom. Tom married Winifred Helen, the lovely daughter of Mr. Boyce Hubbard. They were married at St. John's Church, Bulawayo, in April 1907 and they subsequently took up residence at Hillside House.

In the meantime Sarah had decided to go and make her home with her son Stewart who had established himself in business in Salisbury.

Winifred was a most gracious hostess and is remembered by residents of the time, for the wonderful parties and dances held at Hillside House. In the words of Mrs. Moxon, their eldest daughter — "Mother was very good for father — she kept him young — she was so gay, she loved parties and in general she brought him out of himself." Tom was of a shy and retiring nature.

Whenever Tom went to town he drove a horse and trap in preference to a car and was a familiar sight with his trap and piebald horse. From Hillside to the Suburbs he took a short cut across the Golf Course and in time this route became known as "Winnie's Way" after Mrs. Meikle. To-day it is a tarred road and is still known by that name.



Tom Meikle's home, Hillside House, Bulawayo, built in 1901.

Photo: National Archives

A History of Rhodesia by Robert Blake

A Review Article by Oliver Ransford

(*A History of Rhodesia* by Robert Blake is published by Methuen, London 1977. 430 pages. Price in Rhodesia \$23,23.)

Robert Blake's long awaited *History of Rhodesia* is certainly among the most impressive and authoritative works on the subject which have appeared. The author has been researching Rhodesian history for more than a decade and during that time has paid frequent visits to the country, there arranging to interview many of the principals in the recent political drama. After taking a first in Modern Greats at Oxford, Blake served in the Second World War, was captured in Italy and, like Ian Smith, whose personality he explores, made a successful escape. Blake is perhaps most celebrated as the editor of *The Private Papers of Douglas Haig*, the introduction to which is generally regarded as the best short survey of the Kaiser's War. Beside several important political commentaries, he has also written distinguished biographies of Bonar Law and Disraeli. Ten years ago Blake became Provost of The Queen's College, Oxford, and he was made a Life Peer in 1971. No finer scholar could have been found to compress the story of Rhodesia within the bounds of a single book.

The first half of his *History* concerns the period which culminated in the grant of self-government to Southern Rhodesia in 1923. It is written in a fluent, highly compact style which pays tribute to the variety of characters who moulded the future of Rhodesia. Blake has not a great deal to say about Rhodes himself; he is inclined to ignore the undoubtedly idealistic streak in his character which was fostered more by the writing of Winwood Reade than by the ambience of Oxford; instead he leaves the reader with the impression of a man possessed by a dynamic brain and odious principles.

Indeed, Blake does not explore much new ground when considering this early, already well-covered period of white Rhodesian history, but two points that he stresses are of interest to the student: he is at pains to defend Alexander Colquhoun against the reproaches of contemporary commentators; and secondly the author lays emphasis on Rhodes' ability to pressurise Joseph Chamberlain, which, although falling short of overt political blackmail, yet permitted him to salvage a great deal from the fiasco of the Jameson Raid — the virtual exoneration of its guilty participants, his own much valued privy councillorship, and the Charter itself.

The second half of Lord Blake's book is essentially a political and constitutional history of modern Rhodesia. The author had originally intended to

carry the story up to U.D.I., but happily found it possible to extend his account as far as the ill-fated Geneva Conference. His interpretation of the events of these turbulent years may not be totally correct, and certainly many Rhodesians will not endorse it in its entirety, but, because of Blake's distinction, his version will be one which the outside world will most certainly accept. Herein lies the book's high significance. The author regards the Rhodesian scene with a dispassionate, almost clinical, detachment, but one which is tinged occasionally with a sense of bewilderment that is no better demonstrated than in his brief study of Ian Smith as a political animal.

In the end, Blake is inclined to accept Lord Malvern's judgement of Smith's personality as 'devious, parochial and suspicious'. He finds that his subject is 'a master of ambiguity and is skilled in the art of double talk'. Smith, he goes on, 'is the epitome and symbol of the white Rhodesian ascendancy caste. His objective has never ceased to be the preservation, as long as it is possible, of their dominant position. He has echoed their thoughts and reflected their opinions.'

Lord Blake's assumption must be respected, and indeed the blight on Smith's career may well turn out to be the length of time lost before he saw himself as the leader of all Rhodesians and not merely of her white elements. On a more specific subject, Blake is particularly critical of the lack of leadership demonstrated by Smith on his return to Salisbury from the H.M.S. *Tiger* discussions with Harold Wilson, who incidentally emerges as a man of propriety and benevolent consideration. For the author submits that Smith, after appearing to have accepted Wilson's terms, subsequently rejected them under pressure from his Cabinet colleagues in Salisbury, thus exhibiting another example of 'double talk'.

Perhaps it is not sufficiently appreciated that during recent years Rhodesian Cabinets appear to have operated in a manner different from that pertaining to Downing Street. For the British Prime Minister is a virtual dictator; he listens to his colleagues' opinions on a particular problem, considers them carefully and then announces that 'This will be our policy . . .' In Rhodesia, however, the Prime Minister has come to think of himself as being the Chairman of a team which he consults on policy, and from which he accepts a majority ruling. This perhaps exonerates the Rhodesian Prime Minister from the oft-heard charge that he was 'hustled' by his right wing colleagues.

The ironies which are seemingly inseparable from Rhodesia's conduct of political affairs, have impressed Lord Blake: he writes for instance of the restricted Garfield Todd who, after surveying the beauty of a Rhodesian evening from the lawn of 'Dadaya', turned to him and asked, in effect, 'why should we ever have to leave?'. He finds it strange too that Todd, the 'too liberal' Prime Minister, was replaced by the far more liberally-minded Edgar Whitehead, who, again ironically, turned out to be the man who set up the apparatus of a modern police state in Rhodesia. But he gives no evidence of having perceived the ultimate irony of the Rhodesian situation — that the

western world seems intent on destroying a viable state which would be invaluable in helping to curb Russian imperialism.

On the vexed question of the rights and wrongs of U.D.I., Blake's comments are predictable. He regards it as an unnecessary blunder, believing that the Rhodesian Government should have settled instead for continuing her apparently quite adequate political status. This of course implied acceptance of Whitehall's repeated assurances that in that case it would continue to observe the convention of non-interference in the domestic affairs of Rhodesia. Probably this would have been the wiser course to have followed, but it is one which ignores the sense of indignant betrayal among white Rhodesians at the time, who were mindful of all the earlier British promises which had been conveniently forgotten. For the electorate recalled the several intimations from London during the Second World War that independence would be granted to Southern Rhodesia as soon as that war was won; it remembered with bitterness the harsh additions made in Whitehall to the agreed text of the 1961 Constitution subsequent to its acceptance by the Rhodesian electorate; it found difficulty in forgiving the British for the unredeemed promise that the break-up of the Federation would be followed by independence for Rhodesia as well as for the two northern territories, or for the intimation to Field that if he attended the Victoria Falls Conference, and so allowed the legal dissolution of the Federation, he would be rewarded by the independence he sought.

History is rooted in the lives of common people, and a record of their thoughts, fears and aspirations is as important to the historian as the acrimonious discussions of politicians. But in *A History of Rhodesia* we search in vain for evidence of the shifting currents of opinion among black Rhodesians during the period under examination, and find hardly more regarding the group dynamics of white Rhodesian thought. There is scant mention too of the Rhodesian achievement; the emphasis is ever focused on the Rhodesian problem. No praise is bestowed on the valour and endurance displayed by the Rhodesian Forces, black and white, in the gruelling war against communist-orientated terrorists, whom, Lord Blake, detached from direct evidence of their methods, prefers to call 'freedom fighters'. Again nothing appears about the country's service to the sick, which is incomparably better than that provided by Britain for her African dependencies during her day of Empire. There is nothing about these and other community services in Rhodesia which fit in with the impression left on the author of a 'cultural desert', irreclaimable because of the pervasive mediocrity of its people.

Blake is fearful for the future of Rhodesia, whose condition he likens to that of "a man suffering from a slow haemorrhage or a gradual wasting disease. If it goes on, it will be fatal in the end." But then, and still using his medical metaphor, he adds in a note of cautious optimism: that "there is always the chance of finding some new drug or fresh technique which will arrest the process or even produce a cure."

If this occurs it will be largely due to the exertions of black and white men and women of good will whom Lord Blake salutes at the end of the *History*.

His eloquent tribute is addressed to those who "tried to soften the acerbity of conflict and to provide some bridge between the polarized extremes towards which race relations have been moving in the second half of the twentieth century. This is an aspect of a rather melancholy twilight of white rule which deserves to be remembered amidst the increasing stridency of strife."

INSECTS

Insects: a review of insect life in Rhodesia by Alan Weaving is an excellent introductory book to a vast and complicated subject.

The author points out that insects, with an evolutionary history going back some 350 million years, affect the welfare of man probably more than any other group of animals. They form about 70 % of the entire animal kingdom and they are best known for their ravages of crops, transmission of disease to man and beast, and for their destruction of plant and animal products. Yet probably not more than 2% of the million odd species that are known are injurious to man. The rest are normally beneficial, producing food for man, for example, honey, being eaten themselves and being absolutely essential for the pollination of man's main food crops. Also, many are parasitic on insects harmful to man.

After general chapters, including one on adaptation, mimicry and specialisation the book deals with insect structure, life histories and classification. It goes on to give extensively, and in great detail, descriptions, habits, feeding and breeding of all the various classes of insect found in Rhodesia.

The book is profusely illustrated with 80 photographs and plates with numerous drawings 30 fine colour plates with another 38 colour pictures making up front and back covers.

Dr. E. C. G. Pinhey, in a Foreword, points out that this book fills a "hiatus" in the literature on African insects and, for the student, supplements standard text books on entomology as well as being of practical use to the gardener and farmer.

Insects is published by Regal Publishers, Salisbury, in limp cover, 179 pages. Price \$11,25.

Medical Practitioners of Bulawayo in the Mid 1920s

by Dr. R. M. Morris C.M.G.,O.B.E.

Part 2

Dr. A. G. Christian M.B.; Bac. Surg. Victoria University Manch.

As Dr. Christian retired only a few months after my arrival, my acquaintance with him was short but pleasant. He was a Manxman and a bachelor with a portly figure and a deep slow voice. Always a good companion, a good bridge player and an excellent colleague. He had come to that town early in 1912 as a medical officer to the Rhodesian Railways, having been promoted Chief Medical Officer some time before we met. Although he was entitled to private practice he did not do so.

For many years he had made the old Bulawayo Club his permanent home. There his fellow members maintained that it was possible to set one's watch by his routine. Certainly he rose each day precisely at the same time, breakfasted at 7 a.m. and arrived at the African section of the Memorial Hospital each day, Sundays included, at exactly 8 a.m. There he kept in his own hands the care of all the Railway African patients. With them he was popular, partly because he had a good working knowledge of the vernacular and partly because he was so genuinely interested in each of them. His personal success was the more apparent at a time when it was still necessary to struggle to get Western medicine accepted by African patients.

I have no knowledge as to how he spent his office day, but always he did an afternoon round of the wards at 4.30 p.m. and then went to the Club. There he dined at 7 p.m. precisely. When 10 p.m. came he rose from his chair, said a polite "Good night" to all and went off to bed.

About the end of March, 1927, he handed over his work and position to a Dr. McEnery M.R.C.P.E. who was a newcomer to the country. He had been a Chief Medical Officer to a Railway undertaking in India previously. His appointment was not a very happy one and he became a sore trial to Dr. Christian during the handing over period. On the day of McEnery's arrival, he was accompanied by Christian to buy a new motor-car. Having selected the latest model Buick and in spite of all exhortations to the contrary, the new-comer insisted that he there and then drove it away himself, although as yet without number-plates, without insurance (not compulsory in those days), uninsured and

he with no valid driving licence. At the next street corner he managed to impale the beautiful new car on the disselboom of a stationary ox-wagon. Having been introduced to the Club by Christian, McEnergy within the next 48 hours had reported his views to the Secretary on the inefficiency of the servants, on the quality of the meals and for good measure added scathing remarks on the lack of quality of the contents of the Club cellars.

No wonder the introductory tour, which extended from Beira on the East to the Belgian Congo border on the north was a hurried affair, so that Dr. Christian could thankfully escape to his native Isle of Man.

Dr. Haydn Jones Morris, O.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Known to his family as "Haydn", in the hospital and in medical circles he was always "H.J.", which nickname was later to serve as a useful way to distinguish him from me.

Born in south-western Wales in December 1897, H.J. came of yeoman farming stock. He had his schooling in the Principality and started his medical studies at the Cardiff Medical School. As soon as he was old enough to do so he enlisted in the Royal Artillery. After a short but intensive training he was promoted to commissioned rank. He first served in France and then in the North Italy campaign, the latter in severe winter fighting in the mountains. By a coincidence part of his Italian service was under Ralph Morton, later Sir Ralph and a Judge of the High Court of Southern Rhodesia. These two men were in later years to be associated as fellow-members of the Medical Council of Southern Rhodesia.

On demobilisation, he transferred to London as a student at the Middlesex Hospital. At that time it was his firm intention to specialise as an Ear, Nose and Throat surgeon and to that end obtained the Primary Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. Qualifying as M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. in 1923, he was appointed to resident posts in his own hospital; one of these was the Senior Ear, Nose and Throat house-surgeoncy, where he had as his immediate junior Dr. Noel Gerald Carleton Gane, with whom he was again working in the Memorial Hospital in 1925/6.

All these plans were drastically altered when he met Miss Molly Fletcher of the Middlesex Hospital Nursing Staff and they became engaged. She was then about to return to her home in Muizenberg, Cape, whither he followed her.

H.J. and I had never actually met in London but did know each other by sight as sharing the same surname and as being resident housemen at our respective hospitals. It was therefore a surprise to both when, on my being introduced to the old Club in Bulawayo, I sat down to breakfast my first morning and found H.J. as my neighbour at table. He had come to Bulawayo in 1925, having bought the practice of a Dr. Strong, who had been there for many years. His consulting rooms were in Critic Buildings, on the southern side of Ninth Avenue at the crossing with Main Street, where he had already established himself as a general practitioner with special skill in Ear, Nose and Throat work.

In May the following year, I became Acting Medical Superintendent of all the Bulawayo Hospitals and H.J. was appointed as Consultant Surgeon to those institutions to back me up on that side. His honorarium was £12.10 per month, "to cover outgoings". That appointment is of importance as it was the first of its kind in the history of the development of hospital facilities in this country. (Mr. Huggins in Salisbury was officially only for military pensioners; H.J. was for all civil work as well.)

It was characteristic of H.J. that he gave unstintingly for this work as also for other honorary medical work in his town; for instance, for about thirty years he was the Hon. Medical officer to St. Gabriel's Home.

In 1926, the first Defence Act called for volunteer medical officers. One of the first to come forward was H.J. and he became a Major and Battalion Medical Officer to the 2nd Battalion, The Rhodesia Regiment, an appointment he held continuously from 1927 to 1941. The duties entailed regular parades most weekends; attendance at annual camps, which he rarely missed, and organising and training a succession of men in the battalion in medical units. His record shows how seldom he ever was absent from parade. When War broke out in September, 1939, he immediately gave up his private work and was made Senior M.O. to the Military Camp which had been set up in the Bulawayo Showground, carrying out all his duties with his accustomed enthusiasm for some five months until relieved by Major (Dr.) A. W. Forrester.

This set him free to be given the job of Hon. Consultant for General Surgery as well as Ear, Nose and Throat Surgery for the military forces in Matabeleland, which job he held for the rest of the War. When the Rhodesian Air Training Group was created his duties were expanded to include all the Ear, Nose and Throat work from the four Air Stations in the Bulawayo area and, at times also that special work from the Gwelo area. All this was, in common with the other local doctors in their capacities, done without any remuneration or official thanks whatsoever. After the end of the war I sought to remedy the omission of official letters of thanks by engaging the attention of the then Director-General of Medical Services, The Royal Air Force; his reply was to this effect, "If these consultants had been on any payroll they would each have received automatically such letters of thanks; but as they gave their services without pay the RAF had no record of either their names, or their addresses or their generosity."

After the War he reverted to the appointment as Hon. Consultant for Ear, Nose and Throat Surgery to all the local Government Hospitals and continued so doing until 1954. For these services he was awarded the honour of O.B.E.(Civil), a just recognition of the meticulous way in which he fulfilled his obligations and of the unflinching manner in which he gave support to the Government Medical Officers who called on him for help.

For several years Dr. Morris was an elected member of the Medical Council. Never a lover of Committee work, this job at first irked him but he nevertheless gave it his usual conscientious attention. In everything he did, he adopted the same approach, to consider most carefully the problem, to make

up his own mind on the best action to be taken and getting on with it with no further loss of time. It irked him to be forced to listen to other points of view, a process which called for all his store of patience; this did not prevent him from playing his full part as necessary. A loyal member of the local branch of the British Medical Association he was assiduous in his attendance when clinical matters were to the fore. But as soon as an item which referred to fees or other financial problem cropped up he as likely as not would get up and depart.

Dr. Morris was a tireless worker but never did he waste time, especially on what he considered trivial matters such as social small talk. His method in domiciliary practice was to arrive at the patient's house and get down to essentials at once; he would listen to the history with careful attention, ask all the pertinent questions, make a thorough examination, reach a diagnosis and order the treatment, all with quiet good manners but with never a loss of time. As a result there were some who regarded him as cold and distant, but that was far from being the case since he thought of most of his patients as friends for whose welfare he was happy to be responsible.

He was also very far from being mercenary as this true anecdote will illustrate. A very wealthy man, who had lost his two previous wives by serious surgical calamities in spite of having been taken to Britain to the care of renowned specialists, was faced by a similar situation in the case of his third wife. In the care of two trained nurses and on their way to Britain by sea, he and his wife arrived on a train at Bulawayo, where the condition of the wife was so critical that the Railway authorities declined to allow her to proceed. H.J. was called in to deal with the situation of a major abdominal operation on a very ill lady, weighing about twenty stones, in those days when both anaesthesia and intensive care were primitive. He coped with great skill and complete success. Thereafter he debated with me the appropriate fee. He reasoned thus: "I have no Fellowship. I am not a specialist. It is irrelevant that I have saved her life and saved her husband all the expenses of travelling to Britain and the costs there. So I shall make the fee £75." The sequel occurred some weeks later, when the jubilant husband, on returning from a convalescent trip to the Coast, with a healthy and completely recovered wife, came to the hospital seeking H.J., who was out of town on a case. I was presented with a parcel for him with the message, "I can only pay him in cash what is on the account, so he had better have this." This, I may say, was a gold cigarette case of large size with the doctor's monogram in brilliants in the lid.

H.J. was not an easy man to know but once he gave his friendship he never wavered and he never made enemies. Those he did not particularly like he treated with a distant civility obviating any possibility of open disagreement. His own social parties, especially those on Hogmanay when his birthday was celebrated by a dinner and dance for his particular friends, were famous for hospitality and good cheer, as he was always an excellent host, usually at his best in his own home.

He married Miss Molly Fletcher in March 1927. They had a family of four sons, all of whom have been successful in their chosen careers.

Shortly before he retired he lost the sight of one eye and this was a serious handicap, the more so in his E.N.T. work. Later it made reading for any length of time irksome but his life in retirement at Hermanus was one of much contentment and his periodic visits to Bulawayo gave him great pleasure. It was on his way to such a visit that he had the tragic motor accident which cost his life.

Dr. Aidan Campbell, M.B., Ch.B. (Edinburgh)

I first met Aidan Campbell when we were medical students together at the South African College, Cape Town (the forerunner of the University of Cape Town); indeed he had sat in the seat immediately behind me at our first lecture on Human Anatomy early in March 1915. At that time he was a broad-shouldered but spare young man, with more than average academic ability but outstanding ability as a cricketer and athlete, playing all the time he was at S.A.C. for the First Eleven in the Senior League.

Aidan was born in South Africa, but had been brought to Gwelo as a very small child, travelling in an ox-waggon. His father became a well-known and successful businessman in that town. Aidan early showed his ability both in school and in sport. In 1911, whilst still at school, he played for Matabeleland at cricket and in the next year was the Rhodesian record holder for the 100 yards sprint.

At the end of 1916 he transferred to Edinburgh University, where I met him again when I was on leave from the Royal Naval Air Service. Whilst a student there, he was renowned as a perennial source of specimens of *S. Haematobium* (bilharzia) eggs which he is said to have sold to the Parasitology Department of the University. He told me he knew he had been infected before he was ten years old but had always declined to be treated. He had two reasons. The first was to find out how long the infestation would last if not treated (the answer in his case was seventeen years at least). The other was "When young in Gwelo, if one wished to be accepted as a leader of a schoolboy group, it was essential to be able to demonstrate that one really was a Red Indian", haematuria being the common and most easily shown symptom of the disease.

Qualifying in 1920, he returned to South Africa and did several house jobs at the Johannesburg General Hospital. In 1925 he accepted appointment as a Railway Medical Officer in Bulawayo. Having a right to private practice as well, he became a partner in Standish White's group practice, his own fields of interest including midwifery and surgery, including a notable skill in performing Halstead's operation for cancer of the breast. Ever a pleasant colleague, I always enjoyed consultations with him in those days when general practitioner and the consultant did in fact meet together with the patient and did in fact consult together. The shrewdness of Aidan's cross-questioning of the consultant was always a valuable part of the higher education of the latter.

For several years he played cricket for Rhodesia and for even longer for Matabeleland and afterwards took his share in the administrative side of the game.



On left: Dr. Andrew M. Fleming. Centre: Dr. R. M. Morris, author of this article. On right: Dr. J. Wakeford who was President of the Rhodesia National Council for 23 years.

Photo: National Archives

As a bachelor one of his main hobbies was the Stock Market. A very successful investor he was, whilst freely admitting that almost all his best deals were the result of personal hunches. The evidence for this includes the following anecdote as related to me by himself. He woke one morning — it was a Monday — with an absolute conviction that he must sell at once every share he held. So that morning by telephone and telegrams he instructed his brokers in Johannesburg to sell everything he had in shares before midday of the Wednesday of the same week. The following Friday was Black Friday, when almost all the shares dropped to less than half the price at which he had sold and he was able to buy back in larger quantity.

Aidan remained a popular colleague in the profession and his practice continued to grow even more than he really would have wished, but in early middle life his health started to fail and he retired a few years before his death in 1956.

**Charles Herbert Hart (later Dix-Hart), MRCS, Eng; LRCP, Lond.
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Bristol)**

Dr. Hart was known to all and sundry as "Birdie". He came to Bulawayo early in 1921 as a medical officer to the Rhodesia Railways. He had qualified as MRCS, LRCP in 1911 and M.B., Ch.B. in 1912 at Bristol University. After some hospital house-appointments and a short spell in general practice, he was commissioned in the R.A.M.C. and served through the 1914-18 War and after, in that capacity. But I never heard any details of this service from him; he was one of the few war veterans who never in public repeated any stories about their experiences on service, but there is not any doubt but that it was meritorious.

As a clinician he was more than sound. He was a good general practitioner, who was particularly interested in orthopaedic operative work and was renowned for his skill in removing displaced cartilages from the knee-joint; but curiously he never seemed to wish to widen his skill in the treatment of bone fractures. He also had a natural flair for administration and statistics. He kept, personally and meticulously, a card-index record of all his surgical patients, which included all the details of operations and the follow-through results. He acquired something of a reputation for absence of mind; there were stories to the effect that he might call at a patients house at tea-time, join in that function and then, expressing his thanks, prepare to leave without having seen the object of his call, until reminded of the need. Personally I always suspected that these occasions were a pose on Birdie's part, in my own dealings with him, and they were many, I was always impressed by the exactness of his memory.

He had many attractive attributes. He was a raconteur of the highest quality, a sparkling wit and in his home a good host. In his early days in Bulawayo it was said that one of his main preoccupations was getting engaged to be married, and as rapidly and frequently breaking it off, or having the engagement broken off for him. At a later date this reputation led to an anecdote. He mentioned to a group of friends that he would have to take leave to go to Beira to meet a sister of his," who was taking her daughter on a voyage round Africa to get over a broken engagement. Then, after a pause, Birdie added "If I had had to go round Africa every time that had happened to me I'd have been called the new Flying Dutchman, forever rounding the Cape."

That phase came to an end when in 1926, he married Miss Connie Macintyre, of Cape Town. It so happened that the train on which they returned from their honeymoon was the one which brought me first to Rhodesia. A mutual friend introduced us on Cape Town railway station.

Connie Hart was a constant source of joy to their numerous friends, an excellent hostess, full of fun and very accomplished. She was both a singer and a pianist. These powers she used to great effect when, composing her own

words and music which she sang at the piano. Many of them were parodies of the songs of the Cape Coloured people but others ranged over a wide spectrum from the comic to the sentimental. She was an actress of great ability but preferred to appear in musical comedy or light opera. In particular I recall her outstanding success in the leading part in the "Desert Song" which suited her to perfection.

Birdie inherited a fair sum of money on condition that he added the name Dix to his own, hence the surname Dix-Hart. To one who remarked that he was fortunate that the new name was a pleasant one, Birdie replied "For a gift of that size I would be willing to change my name to anything at all," and then, after a slight hesitation, he added with emphasis "And so would you, if you got the chance!"

When he was promoted to be Chief Medical Officer to the Rhodesia Railways, his administrative skill came to the fore and made him a very efficient officer. He kept his own system of statistics to aid him in his constant endeavour to reduce accidents at work as well as keeping down the time lost by sickness. The one part of the Chief Medical Officer's duty which Birdie did not like was the travelling entailed in his regular trips over an area which in those days extended from Beira on the east to the Border of the Belgian Congo to the north. It was on such an official visit to the north that he developed the illness which led to his death in 1941.

Thomas Gregory Burnett, B.Sc, M.B., Ch.B.(Manchester) DTM(Liv.)

Dr. Thomas Gregory Burnett was a loyal and devoted son of the Roman Catholic Church. He told me that as a schoolboy and as an undergraduate studying for his degree in Biology, his one hope and ambition was to be received into the Society of Jesus. With that end in view he became a teacher of Biology in one of the larger Roman Catholic schools (Stonyhurst, I think but am not certain). When that ambition was not realised, he turned to the practice of medicine as his lifework.

When first I knew him, his house was on the north-west corner of Jameson Street and Tenth Avenue, exactly opposite the east end of the Private Wards, or Queen Victoria Wing, of the old Memorial Hospital. Three doors to the north along Jameson Street lived Dr. G. E. Strahan, who in turn had Dr. A. W. Forrester's town house almost opposite. When, at a later date, the Burnetts moved to the Suburbs, their house became the Children's Ward of the Hospital. And when that ward was moved to the old Desia Nursing Home in Lobengula Street, the house was the first geriatric unit in Bulawayo, housing ten female patients.

Tom Burnett had come to Bulawayo in January 1920. He soon made his mark as a general practitioner, but, as was common in those days, he did a fair amount of surgical work, especially in the gynaecological field. He was also much in demand as an obstetrician. His practice was always a busy one and within less than ten years required that he engaged an assistant to help with the volume of work.



Dr. T. G. Burnett in 1946.

In addition to all that, he was always deeply interested in medical administration and was an active member of the Matabeleland Branch of the British Medical Association. But his real metier was the Bulawayo Hospital Committee. He first served on this when it was run as a private hospital under the Chairmanship of Emmanuel Basch, the jeweller of 8th Avenue. He continued so to serve when the Government took over the Memorial Hospital and the Board became an Advisory one. Basch served in all as Chairman for 25 years but when he died, Dr. Burnett became Chairman. He served as such until the Hospital was moved from Fort Street to Kumalo. There, in the new building, he remained as Chairman of the Hospital Advisory Committee almost until his death. In 1929, when the first Southern Rhodesia Medical Council was formed, Dr. Burnett was elected as a medical practitioner member, being re-elected more than once and was a valued member of that body.

At no time did the Memorial Hospital have any accommodation for maternity patients. They had to rely on the facilities provided in small villas and run, usually single-handed, by overworked, if devoted, midwives. Dr. Burnett therefore became one of the doctors who pressed the Loyal Women's Guild to provide proper facilities in a specially designed Maternity Hospital or Home. A committee was set up under the chairmanship of Mrs. Dugmore, and had as members Mrs. Kitty Hill and Mrs. Gertrude Fenella Redrup. The latter was a Bart's trained nurse and midwife, who before the Rebellion of 1896, had come to Bulawayo as a member of the staff of Sir Arthur Lawley.

This committee did some good work in inspecting available sites and assessing financial aspects of the proposal, but there arose differences of opinion on the question of the best site. At that time my duties included being an Assistant Health Officer to Dr. Robert Askins, then Medical Director, and he made me go to Bulawayo and report in detail on the situation. It happened that simultaneously the Bulawayo Municipal Council were seeking a site for the replacement of the old European Isolation Hospital which was then on the Northern Commonage.

Discussing the matter with Dr. Burnett, he put forward the suggestion that what I should look for was a suitable area which was large enough not only for the Maternity Home but for a medical complex to include the Municipal Isolation Hospital and for the replacement of the Memorial Hospital, a project then becoming a matter of urgent study. Following this idea, my report was strongly in favour of the site which was to the east of the old race-course and on which the first building was the Lady Rodwell Maternity Home. Before that report was accepted in Bulawayo, not a few objections arose. It was the tactful handling of the position by Tom Burnett which brought the matter to a satisfactory conclusion. Whilst the Maternity Home was still privately run by a Committee, Dr. Burnett was a Trustee. This was a difficulty for him as it was always a problem to maintain a satisfactory financial state and that in spite of annual grants from the Beit Maternity Trust. Thus it often fell to his lot to give the personal guarantees to the Bank which provided the funds to pay staff salaries and other running expenses.

Throughout the twenty years of our association I always found him a wise counsellor and a firm friend, who worked as hard for others as he did for himself. On the occasions when he honoured me by asking my advice on his own health he was a very co-operative and appreciative patient. May his work for the public of Bulawayo long be remembered.

Dr. George Edward Strahan, D.S.C., L.L.M. (RCP&S, Ireland)

George Strahan was known to all and sundry as Docky. He was a tall, dark, slim and handsome Irishman, born 1899. Schooled in Ireland, he had his medical education at the Royal College of Surgeons in Dublin and qualified in 1921. In his final year he won a gold medal for obstetrics and gynaecology.

When still only 19 years old and still a student, George Strahan took part in a remarkable naval engagement on the 30th July 1918. During the First World War, in order to provide the smaller ships of the Royal Navy with some degree of medical services, students who had completed not less than six months of clinical training were accepted into the Royal Naval Medical Service, given a short course of instruction in Traumatic Surgery and then they were posted as the sole medical officer with the rank of Surgeon-Probationer to destroyers or similar small craft. This procedure led to George being posted to the "Q" ship "Stockforce", which went into action against a much larger enemy ship and succeeded in sinking her. As a result of this engagement the Commanding Officer, Lt. Auten, received the Victoria Cross and George, with other officers,

a Distinguished Service Cross. All my attempts to get him to tell the story of this action were abortive. The most I ever got was to this effect: — "Well you see there always seemed to be some more wounded to be seen to; as soon as I'd fixed up one there was another to be dealt with." In actual fact I was told he worked on the wounded for eighteen hours on end and that with only the help of his sick-bay attendants. A very remarkable effort by a young student at so early a stage of his clinical training. His attitude to his achievement was typical of Docky as a man.

After qualifying, he did two house appointments in Ireland. One was as an Ear, Nose and Throat house-surgeon in which he found great attraction and developed great skill. The other was in Anaesthesia, a speciality he added to his general practice work all his life; indeed later in 1931 and in 1935/6 he did further post-graduate courses in both these branches in London and in Vienna.

Docky came to Bulawayo in 1922 to join Dr. Robert Standish White as a partner in his group practice. This arrangement meant that he played his full part as a general family practitioner and obstetrician but also carried the major burden of his special branches which were the Ear, Nose and Throat surgery and the major anaesthetics. Over and above his professional work, George Strahan was always a great success in any gathering, with his Irish wit and his innate courtesy he would keep any party going in fine style.

He was President of the Matabeleland Branch of the British Medical Association when the detailed decisions on the design and capacity of what is now known as the Bulawayo Central Hospital which replaced the Memorial Hospital had to be taken. Serious disagreements with the Salisbury Headquarters of the Medical Department required a series of meetings almost all of which were held under his chairmanship.

I well recall the last of these; when, after several hours of argument and counter-argument, Docky enunciated the desire of the Bulawayo doctors to have free rein in the design, subject only to a financial control. This he did with great firmness and clarity, albeit with no loss of native charm, and so won the day for Daniel Lyne, then Deputy Director of Public Works, to design it exactly as was wished by those who would have to use it.

In October 1925 he married Miss Beryl Hopkins of Bulawayo. It was said that on their honeymoon he developed a severe attack of Lobar Pneumonia which was complicated by an Empyema. This led to a stormy convalescence in which his Diabetes Mellitus either became apparent or became more pronounced. Severe as this disability was, he did not allow it to interfere in any way with either duty or social life. But many of us did feel that the very numerous exposures to the volatile anaesthetics of that period often had unhappy effects on his insulin reactions.

When War started in 1939, this disability was a source of great concern to him. Not unnaturally one who had had such a spectacular career in the previous war, chafed at his inability to go forthwith on active service. Hence when the crisis weeks of May and June of 1940 came, he was very distressed. In July of that year he developed a tick-borne Pseudo-typhus of a degree to which he could not, with his other disability, cope. He died on the 15th July

of that year. Such was the sense of loss to all his colleagues that when shortly after his death an additional operating theatre was built at the Memorial Hospital, it was named after him — The George Strahan Theatre.

Lionel Rabinowitz Bergson, M.B., C.B. (Edinburgh)

Lionel Bergson was a South African who had taken a Bachelor of Arts degree of the University of the Cape of Good Hope and had then proceeded to the two year pre-clinical course in Anatomy and Physiology at the South African College, the precursor of the University of Cape Town. He then went to the London Hospital Medical School, where I was a student and it was thus we first met. For reasons unknown to me, he soon transferred to Edinburgh University, where he qualified in 1920.

After one or two house appointments in Britain, he settled in Bulawayo in 1922, so that he was firmly established by the time of my arrival. He was essentially a family general practitioner with a deep interest in domiciliary midwifery. His quiet manner ensured him a wide circle of families who were devotedly loyal to him as their medical adviser.

He rarely made use of the facilities of the Memorial Hospital, as he did no surgery and disliked administering any anaesthetics, so my contacts with him were few but invariably cordial. Within his own circle he had a reputation for friendly co-operation and helpfulness. My experience of this aspect of his character was in September 1939. On the Sunday of that month when War was declared, the two available Government Medical Officers were almost overwhelmed by the sudden increase of duties over and above the normal ones. The extra urgent work included the inoculation of some 320 men of a Special Service Battalion, the medical examination of all the reservists recalled to Active Service as well as numerous enthusiastic volunteers who wished to be taken on forthwith. As soon as Lionel Bergson learned of the situation, he contacted me on the telephone and offered his help, making it quite clear that, in common with all the other doctors in the Town, he would not wish for any cash remuneration.

MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS PART I: ERRATA

On page 29 of our September 1977 issue, accompanying Part I of Dr. Morris' article, is a photograph of a group including Dr. and Mrs. Alfred Vigne. This was taken on Mr. A. J. Edmonds' farm at Glen Lome Salisbury and is dated, according to National Archives records, as March 1896.

Dr. Morris comments: — "I am sure this is inaccurate. According to Dr. Vigne's diary for Jan.-Sept. 1896, in the possession of his daughter, Mrs. D. B. Barber of Bulawayo, Dr. Vigne was in Bulawayo working incessantly all through that period and could not possibly have been on Edmonds' farm in Salisbury, nor do I believe he could have got there in March 1896 with the Rebellion breaking out. Nor was there any Mrs. Vigne at that date and I don't believe there was a Dolly Vigne. Mrs. Barber was "Molly" and her parents were only married in 1906. I think the date may be 1916, not 1896."

There is another error in the caption to the photograph. "J. A. Edwards," on the second line should read: "J. A. Edmonds." — Editor.

The Rennie Tailyour Concession

by R. Cherer Smith

INTRODUCTION

Whilst Rhodes was busy securing a concession for the mineral rights of Mashonaland through his agent C. D. Rudd, a wealthy German financier, Edward Amandus Lippert (1853-1925) and a cousin of Alfred Beit, was seeking to make a similar arrangement with Lobengula to secure the land rights of the territory by sending Rennie Tailyour to negotiate with the king. There were at the time a number of Europeans at the king's kraal.

After Rudd had obtained the concession Rhodes had sought, Rennie Tailyour and E. A. Maund, who represented an exploring company tried to undermine the Rudd Concession. They supplied Lobengula with gifts and introduced him to the delights of champagne, and persuaded him to send two of his indumas, who were to be escorted by Maund himself, to interview the great white Queen. They believed they would by this means cut away the ground from under Rhodes' feet and thus nullify the terms of the Rudd Concession.

On April 4, 1891 Rennie Tailyour obtained from Lobengula on behalf of Lippert a concession for a hundred years to deal with all land in his territories in Mashonaland and Matabeleland for which he had to pay the king the sum of \$2 000 and \$1 000 per annum thereafter. By securing the land rights, distinct from the mineral rights, Rennie Tailyour believed he would be in the controlling position.

After Rhodes had established himself in Mashonaland he decided that his rights could not be challenged by the existence of another concession, and he purchased the Rights of the Rennie Tailyour Concession on behalf of the Chartered Company, though at considerable cost and so confirmed his title obtained under the Rudd Concession once and for all.

The Rennie Tailyour Concession consisted of a block of 125 square miles in the Umniati district. It has had quite a considerable history and a dispute over its implications first flared up in 1891 when there was a threatened action in the High Court of the South African Republic.

The original rights were vested in the Matabeleland and Manicaland Syndicate Limited which were subsequently transferred before notary Hull on 25th July, 1894, to the Matabeleland Development Company.

The original land and mineral rights were granted in the form of two certificates dated 3rd July, 1894, by the Acting Administrator. The land was valued for transfer purposes at 1/6d per morgen in Mashonaland and 3/- per morgen in Matabeleland. The transfer duty was assessed at 4% on the value of the land and 1% on the value of the mineral rights.

It was not until 1909 that a purported settlement was reached in London which was embodied in a written agreement dated 19th August, 1909. However, the purported settlement was so obscure that uncertainty accompanied mining operations in the Concession until they were legislated for in 1947. Prior to this date the matter was left entirely open in so far as the Umsweswe and Sebakwe blocks were concerned, although the matter appeared to be clearer in respect of the East Clare Block of the Concession.

The 1909 agreement indicated that the Exploring Land and Minerals Company was entitled to a concession of 125 square miles known as the Rennie Tailyour Concession located in four blocks — the East Clare, Sherwood, Umsweswe and Sebakwe. The agreement referred to a disagreement between the Exploring Company and the British South Africa Company, and the two companies agreed to settle their differences by executing the agreement of 1909, which provided that the B.S.A. Company should issue to the exploring Company a certificate of title to the surface rights in accordance with what was known as the Pioneer title in respect of the Umsweswe and Sebakwe blocks. A pioneer title had already been issued in 1905 in respect of the East Clare Block, so that reference to this block was absent from the agreement.

The Exploring Company was also given an exclusive right of prospecting and registering mining claims within the areas of the three blocks free from all payments under the Mines and Minerals Ordinances, except in respect of the royalty due to the Chartered Company under the Mines and Minerals Ordinance of 1907.

In 1910 deeds of grant were duly issued to the Exploring Company in respect of the Umsweswe and Sebakwe Blocks. The ordinary pioneer grants were not used for this purpose but special deeds were printed omitting the usual clause reserving the minerals to the British South Africa Company, but including a special clause embodying the provision relating to the exclusive prospecting rights and registration of claims within the Concession area.

No alteration was, however, made to the grant of the East Clare Block issued in 1905, so that that section remained an ordinary pioneer grant which included a clause reserving the minerals to the British South Africa Company. The omission to adjust the title deeds of the East Clare Block to bring it into line with the other two blocks has always remained a mystery.

The East Clare Estate over which the London and Rhodesia Mining and Land Company (Lonrho) had acquired mineral rights was defined as that portion of land lying in the angle formed by the Sebakwe and Bembezaan rivers and bounded on the south east by the old Hunters' Road to Hartley Hills, from the points or drifts at which the road crossed these two rivers.

The drift where the old road crossed the Bembezaan river is now completely obliterated, but it has been fixed from older maps at a point about 400 yards upstream from the south east beacon of Forestvale Farm. The other drift across the Sebakwe rivet was, at the time "Lonrho" acquired the Concession rights, still in existence about 400 yards upstream from the south east beacon of the Sherwood Block.

The actual route followed by the old Hunters' Road between the two points is now uncertain, since independent examination of old Africans living in the area indicated that the maps were not entirely correct. The old hunters' road was never more than a trail, and was roughly sketched on the map by the old surveyors who recognised such trails as temporary. These surveyors were accustomed to mark this type of track somewhat casually on their maps, merely to show that it existed.

In order to define its area more correctly, it was agreed between Lonrho and the parties concerned that for practical purposes a straight line between the two drifts or the two beacons that were in close proximity to them would be taken as the official boundary of the East Clare Block north of which the company had rights.

But because of the historical circumstances surrounding the original grant of the rights under the East Clare Block of the Rennie Tailyour Concession, there was a considerable amount of confusion regarding the actual rights acquired by the London and Rhodesia Mining and Land Company when they took over the property on 27 June, 1930.

The original deed of grant represented 14 920 morgen of land, but in other diagrams only 10 884 morgen were shown and the old Hunters' Road was indicated as the boundary of the company's rights. The position was further complicated by the fact that the East Clare Block was owned by six different parties.

A further difficulty arose in that the agreement of the 19th August, 1909, between the British South Africa Company and the Exploring Lands and Minerals Limited, could not be registered in the Deeds Office, because it was not entered into by the parties before a Notary Public and the Registrar of Deeds would not, therefore, accept it for registration.

Moreover, it was not within the power of the Government to alter the deed of grant of the East Clare Block by adding a clause embodying the



Rennie Tailyour's Camp at Bulawayo, 27 Oct. 1891.

From Reisebriefe von Marie Lippert, p. 26.

appropriate part of the 1909 agreement except with the consent of all six of the owners of the various portions, who would in any event have to surrender their title deeds in exchange for new ones, and in the case of one of the properties a distinction would have had to be made in respect of the boundary line represented by the old Hunters Road, which by that time had virtually disappeared and could no longer be identified.

The only solution to the problem seemed to be one of rectification through legislation — but the Government had other things in mind — the termination of all special rights enjoyed under the Concessions granted in the days of and before the Charter.

Unlike the Sebakwe and Umsweswe Blocks, the East Clare did not produce such mineral wealth. A certain amount of prospecting did take place along the line of some small hills that follow the Bembezaan river, but without any encouraging results. The Fingo and Pongo Mine was about the only property of any significance that was developed in this part of the Concession, where the formation consisted with the exception of two narrow dolerite dykes running roughly north to south about the centre of the property, of Rhodesvale Geneissic granite which continued westwards over the Bembezaan river for a distance of some 9 to 10 miles. The area between the two rivers was a well wooded plateau with numerous small hills containing numerous quartz veins.

By 1949 most of the properties had been given up and only the Anzac, Skeleton and Monty mines were operating.

The rights of the company were challenged by the Mining Affairs Board who insisted that all tribute agreements be sent to them for approval in the normal manner. The company insisted that as it owned both the land and the mineral rights under the concession, this procedure was unnecessary.

The Mining Affairs Board was relying upon certain provisions of the Mines and Minerals Amendment Act of 1947 which made it clear that the Concession area, was for the purpose of approval of tribute agreements, deemed to be a mining location. The Act stipulated that every tribute agreement of a mining location must be submitted to the Mining Commissioner for examination and approval by the Mining Affairs Board, and no party under a tribute agreement was entitled to exercise any right under such an agreement and until it had been examined and approved by the Mining Affairs Board.

The Company's rights under the Concession were finally extinguished in 1956 when the Government terminated the Concession and opened up the area for general prospecting.

The Sebakwe Block contained 38 old properties, eight of which were let on tribute by Lonrho. Four mines, the Moss, Anzac, Skeleton and Venus, were large producers and between the period 1908 to 1958 milled more than one million tons of ore from which 261 000 ounces of gold were recovered. The remaining 29 properties produced 30 000 ounces of gold from 189 000 tons of ore. The Umsweswe Block had 36 mining properties which produced 197 000 ounces of gold from 575 000 tons of ore crushed. As in the case of the Sebakwe

Block, the greater proportion of gold came from four mines, the Owl, Revie, Pink, and Blue Ribbon, which accounted for 181 000 ounces of the gold won.

In the Western end of the Umsweswe Block there were probably the most concentrated areas of quartz veins, nearly all gold bearing, in Rhodesia. The veins appear to be of more than one age, as veins have been noted that cut through and fault other veins. Nearly all of them carry some old workings.

In the early days the Umsweswe Block was a favourite place for illicit mining. The procedure was for a mill to be opened up on some water site near the Concession and a few labourers would be sent with an ox cart into the Concession to collect ore from the various shallow workings and rubble beds. There is no clue as to how much ore was removed, except that it must have run into thousands of tons.

To combat this illicit mining, the Company employed a Ranger, the first of whom was a man named Boyle, to patrol the property and supervise the activity of the various tributors.

A certain amount of unauthorised wood cutting also occurred, particularly on the Umsweswe Block and the Ranger had his time cut out tracking down trespassers in the Concession area.

A narrow gauge railway passed through the Eastern end of the block a little south of the Umsweswe river which was used by wood cutting contractors who supplied some of the larger mines around Gatooma.

There was also a fair amount of game on the Concession, including elephant and zebra.

In the Southern half of the Concession there are numerous ancient workings. Here the surface is highly disturbed and, in part, so turned over by the ancient miners and more recent rubble workers that only the low grade veins can be followed; the outcrops of the better gold carriers have been completely removed and the outlines of the ancient workings, which may have gone to some depth, have been obscured by modern workings. At one point in the rubble workings a line of ancient fill, representing a vein 2-3 feet wide, was exposed, but no shaft had been sunk on it.

There was great difficulty in trying to establish the actual values of the various deposits in the Concession. As no prospecting records or plans of the old workings were available and the ore that had been removed had gone to swell the numerous unaccounted sand dumps surrounding the area, both inside and outside the Concession, it was not possible to distinguish the good prospects from the bad ones. The good veins could only be found by re-testing the old workings, by prospecting the ancient workings and by prospecting below the bases of the old rubble beds.

The London and Rhodesia Mining and Land Company allowed certain persons to prospect on the Concession who, if they discovered gold bearing reefs, were entitled to peg them with certain rights being granted to the Company. During the period 1940-1951 however, all prospecting by third parties was stopped. One of the tributors named Meagher discovered scheelite on the

Concession. His claim was taken over by the Company and he was employed as a prospector.

The Company sold sand and stone from the Concession area for which it received a royalty and it also leased property near Que Que for manufacturing bricks. Twenty five acres of the Sebakwe Block were sold to the Que Que Municipality who turned it into an Asian township known as Ferndale.

Notes on some of the mines that once operated on the Concession and which were owned by the London and Rhodesia Mining and Land Company are detailed below.

Anzac Mine

This mine, which forms part of the Sebakwe Block on the Rennie Tailyour Concession, is located in a southern extension of the Sherwood Starr arsenical mineralisation zone. The gold bearing veins are narrow shear zones in pillow lavas which have been mineralised by pyrite and arsenopyrite.

Quartz accompanied by antimony sulphides has also followed these shears. In these workings the white quartz veins carrying antimony faulted the arsenical shears.

The gold values of the known occurrences are not high and have been classified as low grade, but there is possibly still a large potential of tonnage to be mined. By 1958 the mine had produced 30 000 ounces of gold from 230 000 tons of ore milled. It was let on tribute to Mr. C. L. de Beer between 1949 and 1962, who installed a Ball mill and direct cyanide plant. He treated about 13 000 tons of ore a year from which he recovered nearly 2 000 ounces of gold.

Blucher Reef

These claims were situated in granite country on the east side of the Gatooma Road about four miles north of Que Que. It was a small mine, giving low values. Only 1 871 tons of quartz was extracted from the property. It was crushed in 1914, yielding 200 ounces of gold worth £840.

Black Cat

The Black Cat mine was situated six miles east of Sherwood Siding on the Rhodesdale Estate. The claims were worked between 1907 and 1909, but there appears to be no record of the values recovered from the property which has remained dormant ever since.

Blair Athol

This mine was situated on the Rennie Tailyour Concession two miles north-west of Que Que and was worked with the adjoining Torleven and Arundel mines. These mines were active between 1920 and 1923. The properties yielded something like 15 000 tons of gold bearing ore from which 2 731 ounces of gold worth £11 370 was recovered at an average yield of 3,6 dwt per ton.

The property consisted of a series of short east-westerly veins running off to the eastward at right angles to a bed of ironstone.

During the period that it was under the control of the London and Rhodesia Mining and Land Company, the mine was let out on tribute.

Gingie Claims

The Gingie Claims were situated within the Rennie Tailyour Concession about 5 miles south of the Jojo mine. The ore body was banded ironstone with feldspar and porphyry. It was a small proposition which was worked on a hand-to-mouth basis with little prospect of making reasonable profits. The output was about 50 ounces per month from ore bearing about 1,7 dwt of gold per ton.

The reef was near the surface and averaged about 20 feet, but narrowed down to about 8 feet. The strike was a short one.

The claims were let out on tribute to Major H. J. K. Brereton in 1935 who took Mr. Sidney Bradfield into partnership the following year. They installed two batteries, one consisting of 10 x 950 lbs. stamps and 5 x 1050 stamps which were driven by a 37 h.p. Huston gas engine.

In 1938 the payable ore ran out and the slimes were treated until the following year. A new discovery was made in 1941 on a nearby location and this was worked until 1950. Here only one battery of 3 stamps was used, which handled about 3 000 tons of ore a year, but the gold recovery was only in the neighbourhood of 300 ounces per annum.

Eagle Mine

This mine is situated on the Rennie Tailyour Concession about half a mile from the Sebakwe river, south-east of the Sherwood Starr pumping station. It operated only for one year in 1924 when only 34 ounces of gold worth £156 equal to a recovery of 5,5 dwt per ton was won.

The Eagle, it seems, was a favourite name to give a mine for there were three others of the same name in Rhodesia besides this one.

Impamesa Mine

This mine was situated within a quarter of a mile from the southern boundary of the Rennie Tailyour Concession and was crossed by the Globe and Phoenix pipeline.

Between 1909 and 1911 its ore was crushed in conjunction with that recovered from the nearby Ivanhoe mine. It was worked again in 1923, but it only produced 438 ounces of gold at an average recovery rate of 5,2 dwt per ton.

Mary Extension

This mine was one of the dormant mines in the Rennie Tailyour Concession during the period in which the London and Rhodesia Mining and Land Company had an interest. It was an extension of the Mary Fraser mine which was located three quarters of a mile south-west of the Gaika mine. It was worked

for four years during the early 1920's, but as the yield of 2 dwt per ton was unprofitable, it closed down. During its operative life it produced 511 ounces of gold.

Merry Dream Mine

The Merry Dream mine was within the Sebakwe Block of the Rennie Tailyour Concession and situated three quarters of a mile north of north-east of Que Que station, between the main road and the railway line. It was worked between 1923 and 1928, during which period it yielded 2 493 ounces of gold from 10 558 tons of milled ore. The mine averaged 4,8 dwt per ton of ore milled.

During the period it was under the control of the London and Rhodesia Mining and Land Company Limited, it remained dormant and no work was undertaken on it.

Mint Mine

This mine was five miles north of Que Que and situated within the Sebakwe Block of the Rennie Tailyour Concession. It was perhaps one of the smallest mines in the area, having produced no more than 19 ounces of gold from 82 tons of ore. The value of the ore was 4,6 dwt.

Monte Cristo Mine

The Monte Cristo mine was one of the earliest established in the area and was located on the site of an ancient working. It falls within the Sebakwe Block of the Rennie Tailyour Concession and was situated 600 yards east of the Indarama drift.

Monty Mine

The mine was situated within the Rennie Tailyour Concession one mile south of the Sebakwe river on the west side of the road from Que Que to Sebakwe Poort.

The Monty blocks were mistakenly so named because the pegging sketches gave the wrong location. They adjoin the southern end of the Anzac blocks and should have been named the "Yellow Hammer".

The outputs from the Yellow Hammer are recorded as 80 ounces from 928 tons milled, but from an observation on the ground it is obvious that a much greater tonnage has been mined, but the name under which it was declared is now unknown.

There were two trial crushings of ore from these claims made in 1930 and 1931. The value of the ore was 5,5 dwts per ton.

Moss and Piper Moss Mines

These mines occur in the Sebakwe Block in the Rennie Tailyour Concession and situated four miles north of Que Que.



Piper Moss Mine, Que Que dsitric, 1914.

Photo: National Archives

They were tributed by the London and Rhodesia Mining and Land Company and produced the greatest amount of gold of all the mines in the Sebakwe Block. Unfortunately, the value in both mines went out at shallow depths, the Moss at the sixth level and the Piper Moss at the eleventh level. The ore shoots appeared to pitch at a low angle to the east. At the ninth level in the Piper Moss a strong fault cut the vein on a nearly horizontal line. This fault was called the "Nyasa" fault.

The trend of the Moss and Piper Moss veins is east-west. The effect of the fault on the ninth level is to offset the upper section of the vein about fifty feet in the footwall and slightly downward. Along the eleventh level horizon the values go out along a similar line as the cut-off line of the Nyasa fault leading to the suspicion that a similar fault may be responsible for the downward disappearance of the values.

The two mines produced a total of 161 731 ounces of gold from 510 591 tons milled. They were taken over by the London and Rhodesia Gold Mining Company after they had been abandoned. The company undertook a certain amount of geological investigation to determine whether they were capable of being opened up again, but as the mines were flooded a full underground inspection could not be made.

The mine was first opened by the Chicago-Gaika Development Company Limited, which prospected the claim in 1904. There were two reefs which had been worked by the ancients. One, though high in value in places, was very narrow, and the other pinched out to a mere seam of clay assaying 7 dwts.

In 1911 the mine was owned and developed by the Exploring Land and Minerals Company Limited, who stated that at 56 feet down the reef assayed 130 dwts over 12 inches and at 58 feet 2,007 dwts.

The mine was then let on tribute and continued crushing until 1927, after which only sands and slimes have been treated, and continued until after 1934, when consideration was given to the reopening.

Development had gone to the fourth level by 1921. Later winzes went 200 feet below the fifth level. Throughout the reef was very irregular and patchy, though very rich pockets were found.

The total output of this mine from 1912 to 1934 was 67 000 ounces of gold worth £276 000 which was an average return of 10,4 dwt per ton.

The Piper Moss mine was let on tribute to Forbes and Thompson (Bulawayo) Limited for a number of years. They installed a ball mill and treated about 30 000 tons of ore a year, from which they recovered approximately 4 000 ounces of gold.

Owl Mine

This mine which was owned by the London and Rhodesia Mining and Land Company, was originally pegged in 1891 prior to the granting of the Rennie Tailyour Concession. It is situated within the Umsweswe Block of the Concession. It reverted to the Concession in the early '50's when the previous owner, Mr. R. H. N. Ambrose let the claims go to forfeiture. Although the Goldfields Rhodesia Development Company Limited held the claim from 1912 to 1935 they did not work the property but let out the mine to tribute. The tributor did very little mining after 1929 and when Mr. Ambrose purchased the claims in January, 1935, the mine was flooded and had to be re-claimed.

The Owl Mine consisted of a single block of claims which restricted the working of the property. The faulted extension was worked by the tributors from the Rennie Tailyour Concession. The vein was quartz mineralised with pyrite and galena. It varied in width from 2 feet to a maximum of 10 feet in one place and was emplaced in gneissic granite which contained greenstone intrusions. Frequent faulting added to the difficulties of operating. Practically no cross-cutting was done on this mine for parallels.

In October, 1941, the late Dr. A. M. MacGregor, Director of Geological Survey, examined the mine to obtain information about the termination of the pay shoot and the termination of the reef in the north-west portion of the mine. It was inferred from his report that faulting had, on many of the levels examined, been responsible for the abrupt ending of the vein to the west with presumably more than one fault involved. He examined the property down to the 14th level, the then bottom of the mine, and concluded that the ore shoot had not necessarily been terminated with depth. Subsequent to his visit development was extended to the 15th level with indeterminate results. On the dip given the 15th level was calculated to be about 800 feet in depth.

Later, Mr. C. E. Rainsford prospected the area just to the west of the north-west end of the old Owl block by excavating shallow shafts. He eventually picked up a quartz vein in a prospect shaft which varied in thickness from two to four feet which gave a mill recovery of just over an ounce per ton. On the dip the quartz vein went out against a mud seam which could have faulted or

could have been the result of sinking across the pitch. His shaft was only a few yards from the edge of the Umsweswe river and the strike of the quartz curved to the west to carry the western extension straight under the river. The width of the quartz in his drive increased westward. At the depth he was working, further driving would have carried him under the river at a depth of between ten and twenty feet below the river bed, which was entirely too dangerous. Between his discovery and the end of the Owl workings was a body of massive greenstone. Although his indicated strike is more westerly than the Owl, the nature of the quartz, the mineralisation and the low angle northerly dip indicated that this discovery could well be the westerly extension of the Owl.

Unfortunately, the wide river channel and the deep alluvium beyond made a surface investigation difficult for at least 400 yards on strike to the westward.

In the river bed the projection of the strike, to the west, passed through a deep pool with alluvial banks. Also, the course of the river here is only slightly west of north so that the probability is that at least part of the ore shoot lies beneath the river. The whole project was rather expensive to work, and could not have been effectively undertaken by a small worker.

The mine was let on tribute, but the Company did not view favourably its opening on a large scale by a tributor as it was the intention of the Company to open up a number of old workings on the Umsweswe Block on its own account and mill the ore at the Blow Again Mine.

An extension, known as Owl 3, was pegged in 1956 by a Mr. Wareham, on which he was given the right to mine on a tribute agreement. The old Owl Mine was excluded, but in any event surface water had flooded the workings and could not be pumped dry until the Electricity Supply Commission was in a position to provide a power connection and a pumping unit was installed.

The whole production from the Owl Mine is recorded as 141 000 ounces from 277 456 tons milled — an average of 10,2 dwts per ton.

Pink Mine

The Pink Mine occurs in the Umsweswe Block of the Rennie Tailyour Concession. The original output was combined with that of the Chicago Mine, but from 1924 onwards the output was declared separately. The ore averaged at 4,2 dwts per ton. The amount of gold recovered up to 1924 amounted to just over 10 000 ounces from nearly 50 000 tons milled. During the period 1924 to 1929 a production of 6 544 ounces of gold was obtained from 24 000 tons of rubble and a little ore from other mines so that the first results were not a true reflection of the value of the Pink Mine. Its ore recovery in the latter period averaged at 5,4 dwts.

The mine was tributed by Lonrho to Messrs. Gordon and Kimble of Gatooma who commenced crushing in March, 1933. The property consisted of four blocks of claims known as the Pink Claims Nos. 1 to 4. Block No. 4 was pegged so that it overlapped with that of the Revie No. 4 Block and a dispute arose between the owners of the latter and Messrs. Gordon and Kimble. As a

result, the Pink Block No. 4 was re-pegged by Mr. R. C. Simmonds, the Company's Ranger on the Concession, and turned into a rectangular shape.

The tributors carted the ore to an adjacent property which was situated outside the Concession where they crushed about 385 tons per month, yielding an average extraction of 1½ dwts per ton.

The old Pink Mine workings were abandoned by the tributors who carried out work on what might be termed the extension of the old Pink Reef, which was located in country consisting of decomposed gneissic granite. The reef width averaged about forty inches, but the pay strike was limited to only 100 feet.

An incline shaft of about 200 feet was sunk but the values were very erratic and generally poor, but some good values were encountered near the surface. The reef at the bottom of the shaft ran out of values, and driving and stoping took place on isolated quartz blobs. A lot of surface prospecting took place, without much result.

At the No. 2 block a shaft was sunk to 180 feet in depth, but with poor results. Considerable lateral development took place, but these also showed little result.

No. 3 and 4 blocks produced very patchy results where two shafts of 90 feet and 100 feet respectively were sunk. At these depths hard granite was encountered.

The mine was closed in May, 1946, and the plant sold by public auction.

Rothamstead — Venus

These mines were situated on the Sebakwe block of the Kennie Tailyour Concession. They were in juxta position to one another and together produced a total of 13 336 ounces of gold from 40 000 tons milled, giving a yield of 6,7 dwts per ton milled. The mines were let out on tribute in 1936 to S. Sloman for the re-treating of the slimes.

There were two veins which lay about 1 000 yards apart, striking north and north-west and dipping to the east. They were very narrow and contained stibnite. Their strike lengths were of the order of about 600 to 700 feet. The western vein belonging to Venus was developed to the fourth level to a depth of 230 feet vertically.

A drill hole was sunk in the hanging wall, just south of the line of the incline shaft, but it seemed that the shoot lay south of this hole and pitched steeply south, so that the results were not conclusive.

The old workings of these mines went out of values at depth and were abandoned. Lonrho acquired the claims and let them out on tribute rather than develop them themselves.

There was an interesting sequel to the tribute agreement when the tributors gave up the mine in 1948. They had erected a house on the mine which they claimed to be their property and which they regarded within their competence to rent to a third party. As there was an acute housing shortage in Que Que at

the time, there was no difficulty in finding a tenant, but "Lonrho", as the owners of the land, took exception to the arrangement and gave the tenant notice to vacate the premises forthwith. But relying upon the Emergency Housing Regulations that appertained at the time he refused to do so, and neither would the owners of the house consider paying the rent to "Lonrho".

An attempt was made at cutting off the water supply, but as this came from an adjacent property, the owners of which were unco-operative, a complicated legal battle began to loom ahead, but before the point could be proved the tenant finally found alternative accommodation and the company took possession of the house.

Skeleton Mine

The Skeleton Mine occurs in the Sebakwe Block of the Rennie Tailyour Concession.

At no stage of its operations could the Skeleton Mine be considered as a high grade mine, nevertheless it produced 40 000 ounces of gold from 207 000 tons milled, averaging a recovery of 3,8 dwts per ton.

The gold bearing vein dipped into the Globe and Phoenix ground and because of any development of the mine into that company's area could have led to complications regarding extra lateral rights had it junctioned or intersected veins in the Globe and Phoenix Mine, who had already been involved in a similar situation which led to the longest and most expensive civil case ever held in the British Empire, the owners were reluctant to risk a repetition.

Adjoining the western end of the Skeleton, and to the north of it, were the Primrose claims which were pegged just prior to the granting of the Rennie Tailyour Concession. They were consequently excluded from the Concession area. The main Primrose reef was proved to be the northern extension of one of the veins of the Skeleton. This vein was joined to a hanging wall at the northern end by a cross vein which was called the Line Reef.

Standard Claims

The Standard Claims which occurred on some low lying ground on the extreme eastern boundary of the Rennie Tailyour Concession, bordering on the Rhodesdale estate and about 3/4 mile from the Umsweswe river, were originally pegged in 1899 and operated by the Mashonaland Consolidated West Company Limited. The ore was treated at the Glendarra mine, near Hartley, and subsequently at the Queen's Prize mine.

During the years 1908 and 1909 nearly 1 700 tons of ore were treated on the Standard Claims which yielded a total of 468 ounces of gold — an average of 5,52 dwt per ton, but owing to the water shortage in the area the ore was transported to the Umsweswe river for milling.

The ore body, where exposed, consisted of a quartz reef having a strike approximately North East-South West and a dip of 63 degrees to the South East. The country was mostly granite.

Mining operations were confined to the prospecting of the reef along the strike by a series of surface qinzes and what appeared to be two open stopes from the surface, but they have now collapsed. The larger stope was 200 feet in length and was located towards the northern end of the strike and the smaller stope was 75 feet in length and occurred at the southern end.

All means of access to the earlier workings had collapsed when "Lonrho" took over the Concession and it was not possible to obtain any idea of the extent to which the ore body had previously been developed and stoped underground.

Lonrho let the claims on tribute to Mr. George Whittington in 1937, but within a few months he ceded his rights to a Mr. T. A. Paice, who was mining in the Mafungabusi district and on the Nevada Reef which was nearby. Owing to a shortage of water on the property, Mr. Whittington was unable to work the claims but Mr. Paice overcame this difficulty by transporting the ore to his property nearby.

Three shafts were sunk, but the deepest one was only 45 feet when it was decided that further development could not be justified.

In 1946 the claims were re-let on tribute to Mr. T. N. Botha, but before he undertook further development work the mine was thoroughly examined by one of "Lonrho's" engineers, who confirmed that there were no payable values in depth. The reef was found to be narrow — up to a maximum of 24 inches in width, but generally not more than about 12 inches, with a value of about 1,0 dwt. Mr. Botha was allowed to strip the mine of all payable reef and all operations were finally abandoned in 1948.

OTHER PROPERTIES

The following properties were included in the Rennie Tailyour Concession and owned by London and Rhodesia Mining and Land Company Limited:-

Sebakwe Block

Agricultural Plot	Eureka	Jojo	Reward
Black Rock	Gold Flake	King Bruce	Tin Ribs
Coronation	Good Hope	Mtumzimi	Tobruk
Croesus	Ivanhoe	Pyx	Will Be

Umsweswe Block

Blue Ribbon	Glenorchy Extension	Old Workings	Revie
City Deep	Kelvin	Pestle and Mortar	Rooskop
Freda	New Blue Ribbon	Purple	R.T.C.
			Start

Original References to Excavations at the Umtali Altar Site c.a. 1905

by M. A. Bordini

The Umtali Altar is a small Zimbabwe structure on a hill about 6 km S.E. of Umtali. It is famous in Rhodesian Prehistory because of an extraordinary cache of 136 soapstone figurines that were found there by E. M. Andrews *ca.* 1905.

Unfortunately, little is known about Andrews. He was apparently a miner at the King Edwards' Mine and lived near the Altar site. He was also interested in Rhodesian Prehistory and published at least one paper on a ruin near Chipinga¹ (Andrews, 1906). Andrews was a guide and companion to Dr. D. R. Maclver when the latter investigated the Inyanga and Zimbabwe cultures in 1905 at the invitation of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, and it was Maclver² (1906) who published Andrews' finds from the Altar site. Andrews died in Umtali in 1909.

The artifacts from the Umtali Altar were given to the British Museum by the Rhodes Trustees in 1905. The Altar site was again excavated in 1974 by the present author while Keeper of Antiquities at the Umtali Museum.³ As part of the general investigation the original figurines were examined in the British Museum, and quite by accident a collection of field notes was discovered which included Andrews' excavation notes⁴. The purpose of this article is to record the information about the Altar site which is available in this important document.

The Field Notes

The manuscript was somewhat complex and difficult to read because of a series of footnotes and references to other sites in the area. The specific entries concerning the Altar site were arranged in a daily sequence starting in April and continuing to the *8th June, ca.* 1905. There were 208 drawings of objects including pottery, iron implements and plans as well as the figurines. These were accurate and could be compared easily with the collection.

A large number of photographs of the excavation and other ruins were correlated with the drawings, but only two have survived with the notes, both of the Altar.

These two photographs bore the name of the photographer, "Gubbins — Umtali", one photograph contained the number 4 and the other 5.

The field notes of Andrews appeared complete except for a few pages which were given to Maclver, presumably for use in Chapter IV of *Mediaeval Rhodesia*.



Altar site, about 1905. Andrews and MacIver are thought to be behind the Altar.

Photo National Archives:

The circumstances surrounding the discovery of the soapstone carvings are unclear. They were probably found while Andrews systematically examined the Altar site, but their precise location is unknown, and no plan of the excavation exists. Conceivably these critical aspects were in the missing pages.

The original figurines were drawn to scale and numbered consecutively (Table 1)⁵. Generally, Andrews' descriptions were accurate, but a few figurines need new interpretations, for example, number 15 and 20 should read "crocodile" rather than "alligator", and it is most unlikely that number 61 was a double-headed camel.

These field notes clarify many points concerning Andrews' excavation, and they are an invaluable aid in our modern understanding of the site. Whatever the final interpretation of Andrews' research, it will help illuminate an unusual facet of the Zimbabwe culture.

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Dr. T. N. Huffman, National Museums and Monuments of Rhodesia, kindly helped edit this manuscript.

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The Registration Book is 1 (1861-1868) (1903-1907), and the reference number of the field notes 1905: 12-15 No. 286 in the Ethnographic Department, Museum of Mankind, British Museum.
5. The missing numbers represent objects other than figurines.

List, enumeration and description of soaps tone figurines according to Andrews' drawings and notes

<i>No.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Description</i>
1	Bird, Life size	135	Object (decorated)
3	Head of bird, Life size	137	Phallus
4	Bird	138	Head (side view)
5	Apparently a bird, Life size	139	Spoon
6	Resembles a spoon	141	Female
13	Female (head/neck), Life size	142	Female (body and legs)
14	Head of mallard/baboon, Life size	143	Phallus
15	Tortoise/alligator, Life size	144	Bird
17	Male, Life size	145	Pig
18	Female (head/neck), Life size	146	Animal
19	Spoon with handle (Life size (face and side view)	148	Object
		149	Female
20	Alligator	150	Head of bird
21	Child(?) head/trunk, Life size	151	Male
22	Female (abdominal portion), Life size	152	Head
23	Female, Life size	153	Phallus
27	Female (sitting position), Life size	154	Female
28	Male, Life size	159	Crocodile (side view)
31	Male, Life size	160	Reverse side/front side/side view ?
33	Male	161	Female
34	Female	162	Object
35	Female organ (clitoris highly prominent)	163	Phallus (decorated)
		164	Phallus
39	Female, Life size	167	Object
40	Male (full face and side view), Life size	169	Male
44	Snake, Life size	170	Female
45	Female, Life size	171	Object
48	Female, Life size	172	Phallus
49	Portion of spoon	173	Boat or canoe
55	Female (back/front view), Life size	178	Object
56	Resembles water porcupine, Life size	180	Female organ
57	Male, Life size	181	Phallus
61	Resembles a double headed camel or some beast	182	Bird
		186	Phallus
68	Snake (presumably)	187	Male
69	Female	188	Head of bird
72	Female	189	Bird
73	Female	190	Bird
76	Male	192	Female
77	Bird	193	Object (charm)
78	PhaUus	195	Female
80	Tortoise	196	Male
82	Object	197	Head (male or female)
86	Resembles a coin	198	Object
100	Soapstone with hole in centre apparently portion of a whorl	199	Object
		201	Object
101	Female organ	202	Male
106	Object (side view/front view)	204	Bird
128	Female	205	Female
129	Portion of phallus decorated	207	Object resembling copper mould
130	Object	208	PhaUus

Notes on the Branches of the Rhodesiana Society

The Rhodesiana Society has three Branches — in Mashonaland, in Matabeleland and in Manicaland — and their local committees conduct **all** the activities in their respective areas. Each of the Branches is also represented on the National Committee. The Branches are autonomous financially as regards running their own historical and social affairs.

The year 1978 is our 25th Jubilee and some brief notes on the history of the Branches and on their activities over past years will give some indication of the vital part the Branches have played in building up our flourishing and vigorous Society.

THE MASHONALAND BRANCH

Michael J. Kimberley relates the chronological history of the Mashonaland Branch:

The decision to establish a Mashonaland Branch of the Society was taken at a meeting of the National Executive Committee of the Society on the 22nd May 1969.

The National Executive Minutes read as follows:

"Mashonaland Branch

Following a suggestion by Mr. Kimberley it was resolved that a Mashonaland Branch of the Society be and is hereby established, with headquarters in Salisbury, and that the following persons be appointed to the Branch Committee to hold office until such time as it is possible to convene an annual general meeting of the Branch —

Mr. Tanser (Convener)
Colonel Hickman
Dr. Howland
Mrs. Von Memerty
Mr. Kimberley

It was envisaged that the Branch Committee would organise social functions including tours and dinners in Salisbury, commencing with the proposed tour to the Norton, Fort Martin and Hartley areas."

Prior to 1969

Although this decision in 1969 implies that no social functions, tours or lectures took place in Salisbury prior to the establishment of the Branch, this was not the case. Functions of this kind were in fact organised between 1953 and 1968 by the Salisbury based National Executive as it was considered that a branch organisation was not necessary at that stage.

The first lecture was presented on 2nd September 1953, not long after the Society was established, when Major W. R. Foran of Kenya addressed members on the Hunters and Explorers of Africa. Subsequently, public lectures were given in Salisbury from time to time and speakers prior to 1969 included W. V. Brelsford, E. G. Howman, E. C. Tabler, C. R. Sawyer, T. W. Baxter, R. Brown, D. H. Varley, E. E. Burke and M. Gelfand.

Historical films were also shown and the records reveal that various Government produced films and a series of films made by R. C. Howland were shown from time to time, the first film to be screened being the latter's "Harare — the story of Salisbury" in August 1964.

First Tour 1968

The first tour took place on the 21st April 1968 when two coach loads of members and their guests visited the Kopje Club (1894), the Market Hall (1894), the Kopje, Ranch House (1898), the first Jacaranda tree, old Government House (1895), The Residency (1895), the old Salisbury Hospital (1894), and Jameson House (1895) and heard interesting talks by G. H. Tanser and R. C. Howland who, with M. J. Kimberley, had been appointed by the National Executive to arrange tours of this type within Mashonaland.

First Branch Function 1969

The Committee of the newly established Branch lost no time in planning the first Mashonaland Branch function which was a visit to Hartley Hills on the 28th September 1969 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the naming of Hartley Hills. Just under two hundred members participated and all local arrangements were made by the Hartley Historical Society. Talks were given on the history of the area and on the defence of Fort Hartley in 1896. Plaques of Henry Hartley and Thomas Baines were unveiled by the Honourable P. K. van der Byl.

Early in 1970 the inaugural and interim committees of the Branch were replaced by a committee consisting of G. H. Tanser (Chairman), R. W. S. Turner (Vice-Chairman), T. W. H. Kennedy-Grant, C. W. H. Loades and R. C. Howland with Rhona Barker as Secretary/Treasurer.

On 26th July 1970 no less than two hundred and sixty members and their guests visited Mashayamombe's stronghold and Fort Martin in the Norton district, and heard talks by B. S. Marlborough and G. H. Tanser. A printed and illustrated brochure containing historical information on the stronghold and fort was compiled by the committee and printed and published by Rhodesian Breweries Limited at no cost to the Society. This was the beginning of a long association between the Society and the Rhodesian Breweries and the production of a high quality souvenir brochure for most expeditions and visits has now become a Mashonaland Branch tradition.

Annual Dinner 1970

The Society's annual dinner is held in a different branch centre each year and in 1970 the honour fell to the Mashonaland Branch to make all the necessary



**G. H. (Tony) Tanser. First Chairman,
Mashonaland Branch.**

arrangements. 180 members assembled at Meikles Hotel on 6th November and in toasting the Society O. N. Ransford gave a fascinating address on the scope open to members of the Society for historical research.

The first function in 1971 was a visit to historic Mazoe on 20th June, the 75th Anniversary of the Mazoe Patrol. The stirring events of the 15th to 20th June 1896 were outlined and the significance of Fort Mazoe and Fort Alderson explained. In September 1971 members toured various historic buildings and sites in Salisbury including the Market Hall, the Rhodesia Herald building, the Transport Camp, Queen Elizabeth School, Cecil House, the Drill Hall and Jameson House.

"The Mazoe Valley Special" 1972

In 1972 R. D. Franks, J. H. G. Robertson and Wendy Hedderick joined the committee to replace C. W. H. Loades, then National Secretary, and R. C. Howland who had emigrated to the Cape. The committee spent most of the year planning the extremely successful and most enjoyable journey from Salisbury to Glendale by train. The "Mazoe Valley Special" was pulled by two Rhodesia Railways steam locomotives and the twelve passenger coaches were filled to capacity with 400 members of the Society and their guests and 40 members of the Rhodesia Railways Historical Society, suitably dressed for the occasion in pre first-world-war attire. Talks were given en route at Tatagura siding, Selby, Jumbo, Concession and Glendale by G. H. Tanser, R. D. Franks, T. W. H. Kennedy Grant and A. H. F. Baxter. A travelling post office was included in the train and a special cachet was made to frank the commemorative envelopes which the Society produced. In the words of one of the passengers: "One felt the spirit of the old Rhodesia — that gay and unconquerable land with its courageous and resourceful pioneers."

In August the Branch Chairman, G. H. Tanser was awarded the Society's gold medal for "making an outstanding contribution towards furthering the aims and objects of the Society."

Joint Outing with Manicaland Branch

In 1973 R. W. S. Turner became Branch Chairman with M. J. Kimberley as Vice-Chairman. The highlight of the year was the visit to Fort Haynes and Makoni's stronghold where several excellent talks were given. This function was significant in that a number of members from Manicaland participated with Mashonaland members. The Society's seventh annual dinner was organised by the Branch at Meikles Hotel in October and Sir Keith Acutt was the guest of honour.

1974 was another good year with 350 members attending a sundowner and a special showing of three historical films, and a large crowd participating in the visit to Chishawasha Mission — the oldest mission in Mashonaland — which was the scene of certain actions during the 1896 Rebellion. Excellent talks were given by E. E. Burke, W. F. Rea and R. W. S. Turner. The Branch visited Fort Victoria, Morgenster Mission and the Zimbabwe Ruins, meeting there a large contingent from the Matabeleland Branch.

In March 1975 M. J. Kimberley became Chairman of the Branch, when R. W. S. Turner was elevated to the National Chair, with W. D. Gale as Branch Vice-Chairman, R. D. Franks as Secretary and additional members T. J. Kerr, J. M. Leach, J. H. G. Robertson, A. M. Rosettenstein, J. G. Storry, T. F. M. Tanser and Mrs. R. M. T. Barker. In August members were entertained to an historic walk down Manica Road from Kingsway to Angwa Street during which several stops were made and talks given by G. H. Tanser, W. D. Gale and T. F. M. Tanser. During September and October the Branch presented a series of lectures on the theme *Rhodesia 1896 to 1923*. The lectures, which were given by G. H. Tanser, J. G. Storry, A. H. F. Baxter, H. R. G. Howman and W. D. Gale were well attended and thoroughly enjoyable. Branch history was made when the full text of the lectures was published by the Mashonaland Branch as Occasional Paper 1.

In October the Branch Chairman, M. J. Kimberley, was awarded the Society's gold medal for making an outstanding contribution towards furthering the aims and objects of the Society.

Tour of the Midlands

1976 was another successful year with just on 100 members participating in a two day tour of the Midlands in May. Talks were given by Major R. Davey and Dr. T. Huffman at Iron Mine Hill, where the Salisbury Column under Major Forbes and the Victoria Column under Major Allan Wilson met in October 1893, at Fort Gibbs, and at the Bonko battle site and Nalatala Ruins near Shangani where the party was joined by 100 members of the Matabeleland Branch who had travelled from Bulawayo.

Tour to Umtali

In September some 80 members journeyed by coach to Umtali to attend the Society's ninth annual dinner and, en route, visited the historic Mount Zonga and Devil's Pass near Rusape. On the following day talks were given

by members of the Manicaland Branch, notably Mr. Harry Went, at Utopia, the former home of Mr. and Mrs. Rhys Fairbridge and their famous son Kingsley Fairbridge. On the journey back to Salisbury lunch was taken at La Rochelle, the beautiful home and estate which Sir Stephen and Lady Courtauld bequeathed to the National Trust of Rhodesia. Also in September, the Branch arranged yet another tour of historic buildings in Salisbury, the speakers being G. H. Tanser, E. E. Burke and T. F. M. Tanser and the attendance of over 200 exceeding **all** expectations.

In March 1977 M. J. Kimberley became National Chairman of the Society and was succeeded as Branch Chairman by R. D. Franks. J. H. G. Robertson became Vice-Chairman, and A. M. Rosettenstein and R. H. Wood, Secretary and Treasurer, respectively. Messrs. Leach and Tanser and Mesdames Jarvis and Barker filled the remaining positions on the Committee.

At the annual general meeting films on the journeys of Dr. David Livingstone and the visit to Southern Rhodesia of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, were shown. In September the first of a series of talks on the history of suburbs in Salisbury took place. G. H. Tanser spoke on the history of the Salisbury Kopje where the meeting took place and on Mount Hampden, while W. D. Gale, Mrs. D. John and Mrs. P. Izzett dealt with Marlborough and Mabelreign, Avondale, and Waterfalls and Parktown, respectively. The series continued in February 1978 when 100 members heard G. H. Tanser, R. C. Smith and T. F. M. Tanser talk on the history of Mount Pleasant, Borrowdale and Highlands. The Branch is now busy arranging an all-day symposium on the theme *Rhodesia—from Foundation to Federation*, as part of the Society's Silver Jubilee celebrations in May 1978.

THE MATABELELAND BRANCH

Mrs. Paddy Vickery has sent the following notes on the Matabeleland Branch:

The Matabeleland Branch of the Rhodesiana Society started as an idea in the mind of Mr. M. H. Barry in November, 1965, when he wrote to the Society on the 22nd of that month asking for a supply of membership forms to give to people who had expressed an interest in joining.

Mr. M. J. Kimberley, the then Hon. Sec., replied on the 26th November, 1965, enclosing the application forms and advising Mr. Barry that as there were a number of members in Matabeleland, consideration might be given to the formation of a branch in Bulawayo — the cost of running such a branch to be borne by the parent Society.

Further correspondence followed, but little more appears to have been done until early 1967 when Mr. Burke paid a visit to Bulawayo, discussed the formation of the new branch, and arranged for a list of members in Matabeleland to be made available. There were in fact 52 members of the Society in Matabeleland, including 10 educational institutions such as libraries, colleges and schools.

On 18th October, 1967, members of the Society in Matabeleland were circularised by Mr. D. T. Low and a meeting, attended by 32 members, was held in the National Museum lecture room under the Chairmanship of Mr. M. H. Barry. Mr. P. B. Gibbs was the first elected Chairman. Dr. O. N. Ransford and Mr. C. W. Pagden were elected to the committee, and Mr. D. T. Low became the first Hon. Sec.

Mr. H. J. Vickery took over as Chairman in 1970, and has remained in that office up to the present time. The Hon. Secs. after Mr. D. T. Low were Mr. D. C. Mason and Mr. B. H. Lovemore. Currently serving is Mrs. P. Vickery.

Outings and Expeditions

The first of these was on 14th January, 1968—to Government House, Umvutcha Kraal, White Men's Camp, the Jesuit Mission, and Old Bulawayo. It was a marathon expedition, the like of which has not been repeated, although there have been 60 assorted outings during the ten years since the formation of the Branch.

Notable among these were:

26/7/70 Three bus loads of members were transported to the site of Major Allan Wilson's last stand near the Shangani river. It was the first time that so large a party had attempted to visit this historic site, and it involved a special clearing of the corduroy drift across the river.

Rhodes' and Founders' Holidays: 10th/13th July, 1971 — when 72 members travelling in 25 vehicles did a round trip of 330 miles to camp on the banks of the Shashi river opposite Fort Tuli. A visit to the Fort and the other remains on the South Bank, including the Pioneer Cemetery and the Baobab tree on the Macloutsie road on which pioneers had carved their names, was made on the actual anniversary of the 1890 crossing. This was possibly the most ambitious project undertaken by the Matabeleland Branch, and all thanks were due to the co-operation received from the B.S.A.P., Internal Affairs, National Parks and Wild Life Dept., and the Schoolboy Exploration Society, who loaned us a lorry.

Rhodes' and Founders' Holidays: 8th/11th July, 1972 — when an expedition was made to Hartley Hills, Fort Martin, Mashayamombe's Stronghold and Kagubi's Kopje. We were delighted to be joined on the Sunday by a number of members of the Mashonaland Branch. On this occasion great help was received from members of the Hartley Historical Society who arranged the camp site, provided wood, water and fresh fruit, and admirable talks. On Mr. Brian Marlborough's farm the grave of Mashayamombe's brother, who had been wounded during the fighting and treated by Dr. Fleming, was discovered.

15/7/73. Over 100 members assembled in the Matopos Hills near Nkantola for a reconstruction of the engagement fought there between Plumer and the Matabele Induna Babyaan. During an afternoon walk of between 7 and 8 miles through the kopjes, members watched a demonstration by an old African,



**Peter Gibbs, First Chairman,
Matabeleland Branch.**

Photo: Eric Hayne

Benzies, of fire-making with dry ginger-bush sticks. The remains of Lobengula's "Kantoor", which gave the hill its name, were seen.

The weekend of 21st/22nd September, 1974 —trip to Fort Victoria. A visit was paid to Zimbabwe and Morgenster Mission, in company with members of the Mashonaland Branch, followed in the evening by a Civic Reception given by the Mayor of Fort Victoria. This was the first combined outing by these two Branches of the Society.

8/5/75. An innovation for the Matabeleland Branch was an Exhibition of Thomas Baines' original paintings, drawings, reproductions, etc., staged at the Bulawayo Art Gallery to mark the 100th anniversary of the artist's death. The display was on view for a month and was one of the most successful exhibitions to have been staged at the Gallery — and the most comprehensive collection of his works to be assembled in Rhodesia. This was made possible by the generosity of Dunlop, Rhodesia, Limited, and Mr. L. Bolze of "Books of Rhodesia," who also organised it.

27/6/76 — a second visit was made to the Mambo Hills in the Inyati district (the first was in 1971). The ruins of the last Mambo's stronghold were visited followed by a long walk and climb to the cave of the Mlimo, where the speaker stressed the important part played by the Mwari cult during the 1896 Rebellion. The engagement which took place at Thaba Zika Mambo is particularly noteworthy because Mr. Rhodes was actually present at the time.

As a result of security restrictions and petrol rationing, two organised week-ends were arranged making use of hired transport in September 1976 and September 1977. The first was to Wankie National Park, with the emphasis on the influence of wild animals in the settling of Rhodesia with particular reference

to the early hunters such as Hartley and Selous. The second was to the Victoria Falls where the principal speaker's theme was the construction of the Falls Bridge, and its subsequent alteration from dual railway lines to road and rail.

Lunch Hour Lectures

Towards the end of 1972, the Branch Committee decided to launch a series of mid-week lectures during the winter months of the following year. A Subcommittee under the leadership of Mr. E. T. Hepburn organised 9 such lectures which were given in the Small City Hall, Bulawayo, between 15th May and 24th July, 1973. They covered a broad canvas, starting from the Stone Age, Iron Age and Ruins period, the Bushmen, Early African Peoples and the Portuguese of the 15th Century, to the pre-pioneers, the impact of various invasions, Concession seekers, and some notable individuals, finishing with a round-up of the organisations which work to preserve the past. There were 1 300 paid attendances. No charge was made to the numerous scholars and students who attended. The complete series was published in a Special Issue of the Rhodesiana Journal — Publication No. 29, December, 1973.

Social Functions

Every third year the Society's Annual Dinner is held in Bulawayo. In the intervening years Branch Dinners and Sundowners are organised and have proved to be very popular with the members.

Some General Facts

The Matabeleland Branch membership currently stands at just under 350 — a tenfold increase over the initial membership figure, and the Branch is now financially self-supporting.

It has been estimated that something in excess of seven thousand members, friends, scholars and students have attended field trips, outings and expeditions organised by this Branch. In addition Matabeleland Branch members have been included in trips made by the Pioneers' and Early Settlers' Society whose members have also been invited to participate in some of our activities.

We should like to put on record our appreciation of the many and excellent speakers who have contributed so much to the success of our varied functions during the past ten years.

THE MANICALAND BRANCH

Mr. R. A. R. Bent describes the activities of this Branch from its inception in 1968 up to 1977:

Chairmen

Rev. E. L. Sells	1968-1970
P. Gordon-Deedes	1970-1971
R. A. R. Bent, O.B.E.	1972-1974
H. T. F. Went	1974-1978

Hon. Secretaries

Miss Angela Cripps	1968-1974
Mrs. P. M. Brodie	1974-1975

1968

The Manicaland Branch owes its inception to a meeting called on Nov. 6th 1968 by the Rev. E. L. Sells, the American missionary who had been at Old Umtali Mission for many years, who had taken a great interest and compiled information both on the old buildings there and the history of the tribes of Manicaland. The meeting was chaired by Mr. R. W. S. Turner from Salisbury, later Chairman of the Society, who explained the active and cultural purposes of a Branch. The 12 Rhodesiana members present, on the motion of Mr. B. H. de Beer, who has now returned (1978) as Regional Magistrate, resolved to form a Branch and elected the Rev. E. L. Sells as their first Chairman. Miss Angela Cripps as Honorary Secretary, to the committee Dr. D. G. Broadley, Rhodesia's herpetologist in charge of the Museum, Mr. P. Gordon-Deedes, a local farmer well known for his I.C.A. work, Mr. F. O. Bernhard, to whom Rhodesia owes the archaeological investigation and museum at Ziwa, and Mr. Peter Hutchinson who, with Miss Cripps, has served on the committee virtually throughout the years.

1969

Activities commenced at once with the committee, augmented by Mr. de Beer, taking an active part in local matters of historical moment, after being conducted round the buildings of Old Umtali by the Rev. Sells and visiting the Pioneer Cemetery. Notable was its mounting of an historical section as part of the National Hobbies Exhibition held in Umtali in July 1969, when documents, old photos and articles were collected and displayed.

The Branch hosted the Society's National Annual Dinner on the 25th October 1969 at the Cecil Hotel, Umtali, where 70 members attended. Sir Ian Wilson, late speaker of the Federal House, spoke on the need to preserve and protect the national heritage, whether buildings, articles, photos or documents. Mr. G. A. Tanser and Mr. H. Cripwell, the Society's Chairman, spoke on the history and activities of the Society and Dr. R. C. Howland screened a sound film he had produced on the life and work of Kingsley Fairbridge. The following morning guided tours were made to the archaeological excavations at Murahwa's hill and to the Nurses' Memorial at Penhalonga, near the site of the very first Umtali, and to the Pioneer Cemetery and Old Umtali where a brief memorial service was held in the church built in 1895.

1970

In March 1970, Mr. Gordon-Deedes, who had also been helping as joint secretary, took over the Chairmanship as the Rev. Sells was about to leave for a year in the States, pending his retirement, after which he planned to return to Umtali.

The Branch's active interest in local buildings continued and many members contributed with details and photographs for national records. There were joint activities with the Pioneer Society with films by Dr. Howland and Col. Hickman's address on early military experiences. Mr. Cecil Hulley had written in *Rhodesiana* on the area's historic buildings.

1971

A crisis came at the poorly attended 1971 Annual General Meeting on the 26th of March. All committee members except Mr. Deedes and Miss Cripps were on transfer. Upon the suggestion that the Branch had to close down, Mr. R. A. R. Bent proposed the remaining members present constitute the committee and so he, Mr. D. J. Chadd and R. Y. Armstrong joined the committee.

In May Mr. Gordon-Deedes had to leave Rhodesia for health reasons and the committee resolved to await the return of the Rev. Sells to take up the Chair and direct activities again.

Months passed, in which Mr. Chadd was the main factor in keeping the Branch in being and then came the sad news that the Rev. Sells had died in the States, just as he was expected back. The Branch was faced with its turn to hold the Society's Annual 1972 Dinner. Mr. R. W. S. Turner, from Salisbury, suggested that Inyanga would make a nice change of venue. Mr. R. A. R. Bent of Inyanga was elected Chairman and asked to organise this event.

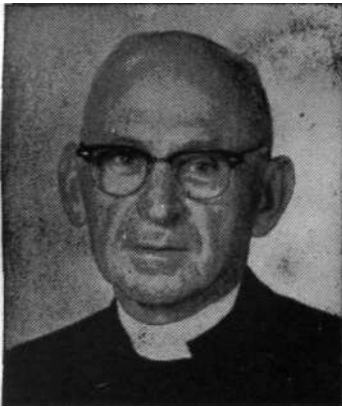
1972

On this occasion, the 1972 Annual Dinner, superbly set up by Mr. and Mrs. Lount of the Montclair Hotel and with Sir Henry McDowell as speaker, was a splendid event with 100 members present. Mr. F. O. Bernhard conducted the members around the Ziwa ruins, the van Niekerk ruins and terraces were visited and a Society member of that family was present from Fort Victoria.

1973

The success of the 1972 dinner and the active help and interest of the National Executive under Alderman Tanser and of the Mashonaland Branch under Mr. Turner, encouraged the Branch into activity again under the chairmanship of Mr. Bent. During 1973 Alderman Tanser visited Umtali to talk on Salisbury's historic buildings and Mr. Henry Steyn de Bruijn gave a significant and detailed account of the Gazaland trek of the Steyn and the other 11 trekking families, some of whom like the Websters arrived separately, and of the hardships experienced in the Melsetter, Chipinga areas for a generation by all families of this famous Moodie trek. Some descendants were present, some families had sent their early documents to Prof. van der Merwe of Cape Town for collation with no result to date. *Anxiety was expressed lest these records be lost.*

The most momentous occasion in 1973 was however a joint visit by the Mashonaland and Manicaland Branches on September the 23rd to the Fort



Rev. E. L. Sells. First Chairman,
Manicaland Branch.

Heynes cemetery and the caves and hut platforms of the Makoni stronghold, where the real Manicaland battle of the 1896 Rebellion was fought out, with Makoni finally being captured in the caves. Talks describing the battle with maps were given by Mr. Allen after a talk on the history of the area and Makoni by the District Commissioner, Rusape. A talk by Dr. Huffman on Rhodesian ethnology and mines ended the talks. The National President, Mr. Tanser, and all three Branch Chairmen and over 180 members, including all Makoni area members, were present. And finally the Manicaland Chairman conducted the Matabeleland Chairman and his wife on to Umtali via Devil's Pass on the old road where Mr. Boyd-Clark, son of the original pioneer, showed them the old sites.

During 1973 the splendid work of Mr. J. C. Barnes of the Umtali Boys High School, in thoroughly investigating the battles of Macequece and Makoni, and the adventurous contacts, struggles and developments in Manicaland prior to 1900 came to prominence, and led to his pupils publishing the work he had inspired in a periodical *Zuro*, impressive research articles by schoolboys on early Manicaland. Mr. Barnes' departure in 1977 has left us much poorer, but Mr. H. Went is continuing in the same vein with talks to the schools and other institutions on the early days, when requested.

1974

In 1974 the committee was strengthened by Mr. E. H. Howman, I.C.D., and Mr. K. M. Fleming, two prominent Pioneer Society members, and Mr. J. E. Marzorati.

1974 produced a talk by Rhodesia's, and arguably South Africa's, premier poet, Noel Brettell, on the poets of Rhodesia. Another talk was by Mr. H. Went on another colourful character, his grandfather, Mr. R. S. Fairbridge, the pioneer surveyor and father of Kingsley. Another talk was given by Mr. Tommy Stratton on the Umtali tramway, the only one in Rhodesia and a notable gravity feature of the town for many years, which went coursing down Main Street to the Railway station.

Mr. Went had been brought up in "Utopia", the old rough pioneer home of the Fairbridges, since presented by him to the National Trust, and has been doing research into early days of Umtali. In September he took over from Mr. Bent as chairman.

During 1974 and 1975, the Manicaland Branch became one of the local societies promoting the Umtali Cultural Centre, so successfully initiated and brought to fruition in Umtali's historic building, Kopje House, by the tireless efforts of Mr. Des Jackson, Curator of the Umtali Museum. A notable part in this was taken by Mrs. Brodie, the Branch's Hon. Secretary.

1975

1975 produced several talks and activities, including one by Mr. Bent on Bechuanaland in Pioneer Column days. He described the cemetery and relicts of the old Macloutsie Camp and the importance of the story of Khama and the L.M.S. missionaries in Rhodes's route to the North.

During the last three years there were, apart from other talks, notable meetings chaired by Mr. Went and addressed by him in displaying his, and others', fine collection of antique photographs on the details of the present Umtali in its early years. Many old timers attended and identified forgotten faces and buildings.

1976

The 1976 Society's Annual Dinner was held at the Cecil Hotel under Mr. Went's chairmanship, with the Hon. Jack Mussett as the guest speaker. It was a most successful occasion attended by members from all branches. It was preceded by a visit to Mount Zonga farm at Devil's Pass on the old Manica road, here was Mr. Boyd-Clark whose pioneer father bought the land from Rhys Seymour Fairbridge. Cecil exhibited the original documents of grant and other early documents and relicts of the old days and Mrs. Boyd-Clark kindly entertained the vast party to tea.

But incomparably the feature of the meeting was Mr. Went's own guiding of the members round his own and Kingsley Fairbridge's old home, Utopia. Every corner of the extensive old rough stone building, restored to its raw pioneer state, evoked personal memories, and the bullet hole old Rhys Fairbridge had fired from his bedroom through the door was still there. And, of course, the fireplaces made of wagon rims and sections. The theodolite which had helped to survey much of Rhodesia helped the members to see the beacon on top of Champken's Kop easily. Being high up at the top end of town made it easy to view part of the Frelimo attack on Umtali a few months ago. The party went on to the Fairbridge memorial at the top of Christmas Pass and then on to La Rochelle, the Courtauld's gift to Rhodesia.

Talks, get-togethers and visits have been few recently due to considerations of night travel beyond the urban area and security commitments of so many of the local members. Our Chairman has however collected, from his grandfather's

diaries, a set of five photos which comprise a panoramic view of Umtali in 1900 on which are being inscribed, rather like Mr. Tanser has done in his book on Salisbury, the names and features of long ago. Also a plan of present Umtali on which the sites of old buildings and features are being marked out; 68 have so far been marked.

THE SOCIETY OF MALAWI JOURNAL

The January 1978 issue of this journal contains an interesting "Early History of the Tea Industry in Malawi" by J. A. Hutson. A. R. Hornby describes a 1974 circumnavigation of Lake Malawi in a 27 foot Sabre sloop, following the course taken by Livingstone in 1896. The trip took place in January and the crew of four had some tough battles against the numerous storms and gales. The main article, by E. C. Mandala, is a study of Mang'anja and Kalolo oral traditions. There are two studies by Bruce J. Hargreaves on trees. One on *Pterocarpus angolensis*, "the tree that bleeds" and the other on "rain trees" that drip moisture created by minute insects.

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ZAMBEZIA: THE JOURNAL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODESIA

This journal now covers all the main disciplines in the University and, in addition, inaugural lectures and general articles covering a wider field than south-central Africa will be published.

This latest issue, Vol. 5, No. 1, 1977, contains a study by M. F. C. Bourdillon on "Labour Migration from Korekore Country" and an article by P. Stopforth on "Some Local Impediments to Social Change among Urban Africans".

There are two University of Rhodesia inaugural lectures. "Biochemistry and Benefit to Man" is a highly technical lecture by T. Wood of the Department of Biochemistry and "Practice before you Preach" by W. R. MacKechnie of the Department of Civil Engineering is a fascinating and very readable survey of the whole field of civil engineering with examples gathered from many other parts of the world as well as from Rhodesia.

The usual, shorter Research Reports and Reviews complete the issue.

Society Activities

MATABELELAND BRANCH

Report on the Annual Branch Dinner and Outing the following morning

The Annual Dinner of the Matabeleland Branch of the Rhodesiana Society took place on Saturday, 15th October, 1977, in the New Royal Hotel, Bulawayo. Seventy-six members and friends assembled in the lounge at 7.30 p.m. where many had an opportunity of talking to the National Chairman, Mr. Mike Kimberley, and his wife who had come down from Salisbury especially to be with us.

October 1977 marks the 89th anniversary of the signing of the Rudd Concession which paved the way for the arrival of the Pioneer Column in 1890, and fittingly, the Guest Speaker on this occasion was Mr. C. R. D. Rudd, great-grandson of the signatory to the original Concession, whose amusing speech was very well received. The reply to the Toast to the Society was proposed by Mr. Gavain Hart, whose anecdotes concerning life and travel in and around the Terminus Hotel in the Matopos, where he lived as a child, stirred many memories amongst those present.

An added interest at the function was a draw by Mrs. Rudd from numbered Menu corners for four prizes presented by Mr. Louis Bolze of Books of Rhodesia. These comprised the first volume of the bound copies of *Rhodesiana Rhodesia, Past and Present* by S. J. du Toit, and two folios of the work of Cornwallis Harris.

An enjoyable evening ended soon after 11.00 p.m.

Sunday morning, 16th October 1977, was fine and hot and the two buses and a number of private cars set out from the City Hall car-park at 9.30 a.m. The first objective was Umvutcha Kraal where Mr. Peter Gibbs talked to members under and around the Missionary Tree. He pointed out that this was another almost-anniversary, because the Matabeleland Branch of the Rhodesiana Society, with himself as first Chairman, had had its first function on October 18th, 1967.

The next stop was Government House where everyone enjoyed a leisurely lunch on the wide verandah or in the shade of a huge *ficus* in sight of Lobengula's Indaba Tree. Members were given the privilege of seeing around the apartments of Government House as well as exploring the grounds and visiting Rhodes's original cottage on the site.

At 2.00 p.m. the buses left for Mr. Eric Muir's home — Imbezu Kraal, twenty-one kilometres from Bulawayo on the Queens Road, where members saw the original homestead erected in 1894, and some of the Austin family's treasures. Mr. Muir recounted some of his family history, and the Secretary read a letter written to Mrs. Austin (Mr. Muir's grandmother) by Trooper

F. Cooper-Chadwick in June, 1890, when he was guarding on Umvutcha kraal the guns which were part of the Concession agreement.

A very pleasant outing, which was attended by upwards of 120 Branch members and friends from the Pioneers' and Early Settlers' Society, ended at 4.15 p.m. when the buses returned to the city centre.

Outing to Victoria Falls, Saturday to Monday 10th, 11th and 12th Sept. 1977

Forty-six members and friends from the Pioneers' and Early Settlers' Society set out in two buses — a 34-seater and an 18-seater — soon after nine o'clock on Saturday morning, 10th September. A trouble-free run brought us to Kenmaur Service Station by eleven o'clock where a convoy was formed. The journey was continued under escort to Gwaai River where there was a forty-five minute lunch break, and then on again through lovely wooded country all breaking into Spring leaf, via Wankie to Victoria Falls which was reached in the late afternoon.

We were delighted to find that the Management of the Victoria Falls Motel had done everything possible to make us feel welcome including the setting out of a temporary lecture hall on an enclosed verandah which was ideal for the purpose. After a relaxing evening and a good dinner, we were treated to a most interesting talk on the Victoria Falls Bridge by Mr. C. K. Thompson, retired Chief Engineer of Rhodesia Railways, illustrated with slides prepared from materials in the National Archives, the Railway Archives, and from Mr. Thompson's own collection. The overhead projector and slide projector behaved perfectly in spite of the long journey and the function was greatly enjoyed by all who attended — our numbers being swelled by some of the other guests in the Motel.

Sunday morning was perfect, and at ten o'clock we collected at the entrance to the Rain Forest where Research Officer David Peddie talked to us about the Geology, Ecology and History of the Falls area and answered a great many questions on all sorts of related topics. Members were then free to explore at will until twelve noon when the buses returned us, via the Big Tree, to lunch at a Hotel or the Motel, whichever was preferred.

At a quarter past four we were on the move again. This time to the river launch on which we took a slightly early Sundowner Cruise so that we could be off the river before dark. An appropriate commentary was provided by a young lady Tour Guide from U.T.C.; an escort boat kept us company; hippo and numerous species of birds enriched the view, but no other game was seen — it was probably too early for the genuine wild life to be interested in drinking!

During dinner at the Motel, a Raffle was drawn for some prints of historic photographs of the Falls Bridge and Thomas Baines at the Big Tree. Afterwards some members visited the Casino for which we had been supplied with free entry tickets, while others enjoyed relaxing in the pleasant garden around the swimming pool.

An early start was made on Monday 12th, which by coincidence was the 72nd anniversary of the opening of the Bridge by Professor Darwin in 1905.

We travelled in convoy until we were several miles out of Wankie when a stripped back tyre forced us to fall behind and drive cautiously to the Dett/Kamativi crossroads where the wheel was changed. Our thanks go to the B.S.A.P. Reserve Road Patrol who stayed with us and saw us on our way again to Lupane. There were no further untoward incidents, and after a lunch stop at Gwaai River we continued uneventfully, reaching Bulawayo at three o'clock.

Outing to Rhodes Estate Preparatory School on the edge of the Matopos Hills

This was made on Sunday 19th February 1978 following the A.G.M. One large bus and a number of private cars transported 100 members and friends in the first instance to the Matopos Dam which presented a fine sight — full to overflowing, and affording a splendid sheet of water for the enthusiasts of the Yacht Club.

The sky was lowering somewhat when the party arrived at R.E.P.S. and in the circumstances a picnic lunch was taken straight away before the rain came. Fortunately members were able to take refuge in the School Hall, where both the afternoon's speakers addressed them. Mr. R. Grant, the Headmaster, after gloating mildly over his "captive" audience, transformed his hearers into most willing prisoners with a most interesting and delightful talk about the School and its history. There were Old Boys of R.E.P.S., relations of Old Boys, Old Prunitians, and some ex-members of Staff amongst those present, and a considerable warmth of feeling was generated by the memories.

Mr. Simons made his contribution also in the School Hall. He painted a lively picture of the military activities in the area during the 1896 Rebellion, and outlined Rhodes's part in the peace-making. Three of the four Indabas took place nearby, and in one locality, only about one km along the road towards the junction with the Antelope Road, he remained for more than two months meeting with the Indunas every day and attempting to solve the many problems which presented themselves.

A visit to the Old Stables which had been built in 1902 by Mr. Hull, Rhodes's partner and the Manager of the Estate at that time, and a visit to the restored Summer House which Rhodes used during his visits, and within which his body lay in its coffin before it was interred at Malindidzimu completed the afternoon's activities.

The Annual Social Get-Together of the Matabeleland Branch of the Rhodesiana Society

This year it took the form of a Sundowner/Cinema on Friday, 17th February, 1978. The St. John's Ambulance Brigade Hall in Berwick Drive, Famona, had been decorated with two splendid floral arrangements by Mesdames Newham and Walker, and 62 members and friends gathered at 6.30 p.m. for drinks, snacks and conversation until 8.00 p.m. at which time a short programme of films was presented. These comprised "Scouting in the Matopos", a brief documentary about Robert Baden-Powell and the beginnings of the Boy Scout

Movement, loaned for the occasion by the Department of Information; "Kariba" the full story of the step by step construction of the great dam; and "Thomas Baines, Artist in Africa" a title which is self-explanatory. Members were able to obtain further refreshments in the intervals, and the Committee was most grateful to Mr. S. May of the Audio Visual Services of the Ministry of Education for lending two of the films, and for kindly consenting to do the projection.

The introduction of some formal entertainment into the Sundowner Party seems to have been a popular innovation, and the proverbial "good time" was had by all.

MASHONALAND BRANCH

A Mashonaland Branch "Talkabout"

Heather Jarvis reports:

On 18 September, 1977, about 150 members, their families and their friends gathered at the toposcope of the Salisbury Kopje to view parts of the city and to listen to the first in a series of talks given by local speakers on the history and development of some of the suburbs.

The fascinating story of Mount Hampden with its early associations with Selous and its possession of an historic chapel, was recounted by Mr. Tony Tanser, who suggested that a Society outing to this area might be arranged at some future date. Originally intended to be the destination of the Column, Mount Hampden proved to have an insufficient water supply for the establishment of a township and so the Kopje became the birthplace of Salisbury.

Once inhabited by a chief whose Anglicised name was "Harari", the Kopje developed into a controversial area when the B.S.A. Company divided the surrounding countryside into saleable plots, but the toposcope was built there in 1953 to commemorate the birth of Cecil John Rhodes and today, thanks to the efforts of Mr. Tanser and Dr. Morris, the Kopje has been declared a national monument.

An account of the development of Marlborough, which dates back to the arrival of many immigrants to Salisbury in 1947, was given by Mr. Bill Gale, a Marlborough resident for 20 years, Mr. Gale described the organisation of the housing scheme in this suburb which was undertaken partly by the Government and partly by Mr. Harry Reedman, a British-born private estate developer who bought the farm "Henrickson", which is modern Marlborough.

The sister suburb of Mabelreign, whose first European owner was the Manxman, Edward Walter Kermode, the personal cook of Mr. Colquhoun, was said by Mr. Gale to have been named by a Government surveyor whose fiancée was a Miss Mabel Dunn. However, the area now includes such suburbs as Meyrick Park, which took its name from Kermode's wife, who was a Miss Meyrick, and Monavale, which was named after a family estate in Tasmania.

Directly concerned with the Pioneers, too, is the suburb of Avondale, whose history was traced by a resident of long standing, Mrs. Diana John.

First established by Edward O'Connell Farrell, the veterinary officer to the Pioneer Corps and called after the estate in Wexford of Charles Stewart Parnell, Avondale has many Irish connotations, ranging from several of the street names to the highest of the three hills, which is known as Emerald Hill.

Dating back to 1895 when two men, Ogilvie and Masters of the "A" Troop of the Pioneer Corps purchased a farm on the other side of the Makabusi which had a waterfall, the suburb of Waterfalls was described by Mrs. Peggy Izzett, whose parents were in Rhodesia in 1914, as always housing a happy, constructive community. Mr. Ogilvie's property was later sold to a Mr. Bosanquet, who with his wife turned it into a pleasure resort, while Masters' land eventually passed into the hands of a Zulu named Frank Zigubu.

The farm "Ardbennie", whose residents have included Mr. C. H. Zeederberg and John Strachan, the chemist, had close ties with Waterfalls, while the final sale of Bosanquet's farm produced the present suburb of Parktown.

Recent Books of Rhodesian Poetry

A Review Article by Olive Robertson

(Although poetry does not often come within the purview of Rhodesiana we like to note local book publications on most subjects. In 1977 there was a remarkable surge of poetry output and five books by Rhodesian poets were published. This was a local publishing event of some note and is worthy of comment by a well known Rhodesian poet.—Editor.)

Considering the size of its European population and their relatively brief period of occupation, Rhodesia has thrown up a surprising number of dabblers in verse and a sound core of poets well worthy of the title: Arthur Shearley Cripps, Kingsley Fairbridge, Lewis Hastings and, in his early volume, Noel Brettell. Our local languages are peculiarly rich in poetic thought forms and writers gifted in using them. These are already finding their way into journals in and beyond our borders. This is a happy augury for our poetic future.

The Poetry Society of Rhodesia has for some 25 years managed to bring out a biennial booklet of Rhodesian verse. The little poetry quarterly *Two Tone*, on a shoe string budget, has in its 13 years of production, far outlasted many poetry magazines of a similar nature. Both these efforts have done much to keep the flame of poetic inspiration burning.

It is not surprising therefore that when opportunity offered through financial encouragement of the National Arts Foundation and the recently established Gazebo Books (Pvt.) Ltd. poets were ready and waiting to supply work in individual volumes. These can well substantiate a claim for a place in the wider world of poetry.

Perhaps there is something in the mystic number seven for it was in 1977 that no less than five poets had their work published. Work that had in some cases been waiting far too long for this accolade.

Of the poets in question three are long time citizens of Rhodesia, many of whose lyrics have been found previously in our journals. Colin Gordon-Farleigh is a welcome newcomer to Rhodesia whose dedication to the world of poetry is doing much to encourage its place in today's "scene". His collection *Flight of a Bee* stems mainly from his British background but this can only add to our Rhodesian heritage. I sometimes wonder if today's fashion for lines of two or three words can carry thought that is sufficiently memorable and then I am brought up sharp by Mr. Gordon-Farleigh's bees "pollinating paper flowers". Some of his work could have been honed to a keener edge with advantage. But the thought content is always of the stuff that distinguishes poetry from mere verse — the oblique rather than the direct glance — that carries the mind below the surface of things as in "Primaeval Playground" where

"Children now dance and sing

Darting like unseen shadows
Between the balancing rocks."

Merna Wilson, author of *The Ring has no End*, was the winner of the 1978 Rhodesian P.E.N. award and it was her poetry that contributed most to her success. Much of her work is intensely personal and can be very moving notably "Epitath for George". She balances this with a nice vein of slightly malicious wit. I had a good chuckle over "Sobriety". "Red Tricycle", first published in 1965 in *Two Tone*, to which she has been a regular contributor, has always been one of my favourites. That her work is sometimes over-morbid is not surprising in this Rhodesian decade, but we can hope that she will heed her own "Poet's Plea".

Hugh Finn has long held a leading place amongst our better known poets and it is more than fitting that we should now have a larger volume of his work for our enjoyment *The Sunbathers and Other Poems*. Here scholarship and craftsmanship are at work — less spontaneous than the other two but with the distillation of both thought and imagery that makes for the lyric excellence that can write.

"The ice tinkled; the ripples of tiny sound
Lapped through the vast waste of a moment's silence."

Here too, Africa speaks; voices of eucalyptus, seventeen year cicadas, the copper flower, bumble bee and beetle all have sharpened the poet's wit and tingled his senses, till one feels even his translations are more transmutation than borrowed thought. It is a memorable collection.

But overtopping them all, serene as the broad summits of his Inyanga hilltops, is Noel Brettell's *Season And Pretext*. It will long be cherished. He weaves his web of verse with such delicate threads and so much skill that one's heart and mind are wholly enmeshed. Though the Rhodesian scene haunts every page, here too is the ambivalence of those caught between two allegiances, the "watchful present and the wistful by-gones". Yet the nostalgia never cloys.

So often one triumphant expression of art sparks off another. This is wonderfully illustrated and wholly Rhodesian in what is generally conceded to be his finest poem — " 'Mother and Child' (for Job Kekana, wood-carver)."

In his short introduction to Broughton Gingell's *The Queen's Prayer and other Poems*, Archbishop Chakaipa writes:- "The philosophy . . . aimed at . . . is that human resolution is effective through faith," an appraisal well justified by the poems themselves, but the centre of his faith remains obscure. Its mystic obscurity is its greatest weakness. There is much beauty in the imagery and the rhythm only rarely falters but there is often failure of communication, a sense that one is seeing "through a glass darkly." In contrast to this his two poems, "Scorpions Fighting" and "Praying Mantis", have an immediate and direct appeal. These two elements are subtly combined in "The Freedom of Love" — perhaps the gem of the collection.

The five books mentioned are:-

Flight of a Bee by Colin Gordon-Farleigh (published by Gazebo Books Ltd., Salisbury); *A Ring has no End* by Merna Wilson (also published by Gazebo Books Ltd.); *The Sunbathers and other Poems* by Hugh Finn, edited by Vernon Crawford (Mopani Series No. 1. Published by The Poetry Society of Rhodesia, P.O. Box A.70, Avondale, Salisbury); *Season and Pretext: Poems* by N. H. Brettell, edited by Hugh Finn (Mopani Series No. 2. Published by Poetry Society of Rhodesia); *The Queen's Prayer and Other Poems* by Broughton Gingell. Introduction by His Grace Archbishop Patrick Chakaipa. (Published by Longman Rhodesia at \$1,25 in paper back. Limited cased edition of 200 copies, hand numbered and signed by the author at \$4,50.).

The poetry quarterly *Two Tone* is published at P.O. Box MP.79, Mount Pleasant, Salisbury.

RHODESIAN HISTORY Vol. 6. 1975

The latest issue of the Journal of the Central African History Association contains four articles. "Aspects of Gaza Nguni History 1821-1897" by G. J. Liesegang. Most of the Gaza kingdom was in Mozambique but in 1870-1880 its capital was in Rhodesia. The author does not give a history of the people but concentrates on a few episodes. "Freedom, Justice and Commerce" by B. A. Kosmin, under the B.S.A. Company motto, discusses "some factors affecting Asian Trading Patterns in Southern Rhodesia, 1897-1942." N. H. Wetherell, in "N. H. Wilson: Populism in Rhodesian Politics" discusses the efforts of Wilson, a well-known journalist and politician (not an M.P.) of the 1930s and 1940s to form a populist philosophy and programme for Southern Rhodesia.

There are Notes, Documents and Revisions, a Review Article dealing with recent books on the Independent Churches in Rhodesia, shorter reviews of twenty books on Rhodesia and a Bibliography of books and articles pertaining to Rhodesian history that appeared in 1975.

Notes

RHODESIANA SOCIETY SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS 1978

The Rhodesiana Society was founded in 1953 so 1978 marks its Silver Jubilee.

As the oldest and largest organisation of its kind in the country the Society is organising a series of events and exhibitions to be centred around Whitsun, May 12th, 13th and 14th. Kindred societies and institutions have been asked to join in the general celebrations by putting on exhibitions of their own associating them with our Jubilee.

At the time of going to press the following projects have been arranged. Fuller details are contained in brochures and in the various circulars and leaflets inserted in the last issue and the present issue of *Rhodesiana*.

The President of Rhodesia, the Hon. J. J. Wrathall, G.M.L.M., I.D., will hold a **Special Retreat Ceremony for the Society** at Government House on Friday 12th May.

A **Symposium** will be held on Saturday 13th May at the Monomatapa Hotel. Speakers: J. K. Latham, M.L.M., of Internal Affairs on "The Monomatapa period and the rise of the Roswe"; R. Dickinson, Senior Tutor at the University of Rhodesia on "The Explorations of the Portuguese and the spread of Portuguese influence"; E. E. Burke, M.L.M., of the National Archives, on "19th Century Hunters and Explorers"; J. G. Storry, J.P., author, historian and Hon. National Secretary of the Society on "The Administrators"; and Professor R. S. Roberts of the University of Rhodesia on "The Settlers". The text of the talks will be published in our special Jubilee issue in September.

A **Banquet** on Saturday evening 13th May, also at the Monomatapa Hotel. Our printers, **Mardon Printers Ltd.** have generously offered to supply the tickets and menus cards free of charge.

A **Train Journey** on Sunday 14th May to Marandellas and return with a stop at Bromley. At Marandellas the party will be welcomed by the Mayor and a talk will be given by a local historian.

A **Portfolio of Six Historical Botanical Prints** in full colour will be issued by the Society. The folio will be a de luxe edition at \$15. (\$10 pre-publication price to members of the Society.)

The National Archives will put on a display of historical Africana and Rhodesiana books of the 16th to the 19th centuries.

The National Art Gallery will put on a display, for about three weeks, either side of Whitsun, on the theme "Rhodesian Art 1953 to 1978."

A **National High Schools Art Competition** will be held, and winning entries displayed in **Messrs. Sanders Ltd.** premises where floor and window space has been made available, and the company has also very generously sponsored prizes to the value of \$150.

A **National High Schools Essay Competition**, on any aspect of Rhodesian history, will be held and the **National Historical Association** has offered a prize of \$50 to which the Rhodesiana Society has added another \$50.

The Prehistory Society will hold an exhibition of Rock Art and the Rhodesian Iron Age at the Queen Victoria Museum from the 1st to the 31st May.

The Rhodesia Heraldry and Genealogical Society will hold an exhibition in the National Gallery from the 12th to the 15th May.

The Mashonaland Photographic Society will hold an open competition, on the theme of "Historic Rhodesian Buildings," and an exhibition of winning entries will be held at Rhobank, First Street, Salisbury from May 4th to May 13th.

A limited number of porcelain **Silver Jubilee Beer Mugs** will be available for purchase from the Society at \$3 each.

THE COMMANDERY OF St. JOHN IN RHODESIA

The Commandery of St. John — the St. John Ambulance Association and Brigade — celebrated its 25th anniversary in Rhodesia in 1977. Sir John Kennedy, then Governor of Southern Rhodesia, laid the foundation stone of the present headquarters building in King's Crescent, Salisbury, in 1950 and the Commandery was declared constituted on May 7th 1952.

The anniversary is commemorated in *Jubilee Scrapbook 1952-1977*, compiled by J. G. Storry. (Published by M. O. Collins Ltd., Salisbury. 1977. Price \$7.) It outlines the long history of the organisation itself and expands, mainly pictorially, on its detailed growth in Rhodesia.

The Order of St. John, the oldest Order in the world, had its origin in a hospital founded in Jerusalem in the 11th century to care for pilgrims. At the end of the 13th century the Order was forced to leave Jerusalem departing firstly to Cyprus, then to Rhodes and finally to Malta where it was established from mid-16th century to the end of the 18th century. The men of the Order were, as the author says, "military monks", known as the Knights of St. John, fighting fiercely against the Moslems as well as giving succour to the needy. The English off-shoot of the Order seems to have been established in the 14th century. The English Knights were "good, rich men who devoted their lives, their swords and their fortunes to the glory of God" and the Hospices of St. John were renowned above all religious houses of the time for their unstinted hospitality.

Storry points out that the Order has always adapted itself to change and to the particular needs of whatever society or country in which it operates, endeavouring to make its motto — *pro utilitate hominum* — "in the service of mankind," meaningful in all senses.

In the book, in addition to editorial matter, the growth and the activities of the Order in Rhodesia are displayed most effectively in pictorial form by the reproduction of numerous press cuttings and illustrations from local newspapers and from the comprehensive collections of photographs held by the

Order. They date from 1950 and nothing could show more graphically the multifarious activities of the Order and the variety of tasks it is called upon to perform in this country. They show the wide spectrum of population of all races from which members are drawn and there are photographs of many of the well known citizens who, over the years, have belonged to the Order, ranging from Lord Robins, whose drive and initiative ensured the foundation of the Commandery, to Sir Humphrey Gibbs, the present Knight Commander of the Commandery of Central Africa.

This is a well produced book in an attractive format and is an interesting and valuable piece of Rhodesian social history.

THE RHODES-LIVINGSTONE INSTITUTE

To mark the fortieth anniversary of the founding of the Rhodes-Livingstone Institute in 1937, the December 1977 issue of the journal *African Social Research* (published by Manchester University Press for the Institute for African Studies, University of Zambia) is devoted to a history of the Institute from its beginnings until 1970 when it became an integral part of the University of Zambia.

The Institute's first home, in association with the Rhodes-Livingstone Museum was in the old Civil Service Club in Livingstone. The Institute and Museum were legally separated in 1940 and the Institute moved to Lusaka in 1950-51.

During the period covered, the Institute had eight "heads"; six Directors, one Acting Director and finally an Academic Secretary. The story is told in a series of articles by six of the eight heads who are still alive and by several other people intimately concerned with the start and the development of the Institute. (The first Director, Godfrey Wilson died on active service in 1944 and the second, Professor Max Gluckman, died in harness at Manchester University in 1975.)

The history has been checkered. Although founded by the Governor, Sir Hubert Young, the first researchers soon found themselves at loggerheads with the Colonial establishment either because their researches seemed to be showing a failure of colonial policies, especially as regards African urbanisation, or else because they were suspected of interfering in such organisations as African Trade Unions. Godfrey Wilson was banned from entering Copperbelt African Townships and he resigned in 1940.

Another unhappy period was during the days of Federation when, for a short period, the University of Rhodesia and Nyasaland took over the Institute. The move was opposed by the then Director, Henry Fosbrooke, on the grounds that he was convinced that the Federation was about to break up, and he resigned over the issue in 1960.

When Zambia became independent in 1964 the Institute shed the name Rhodes-Livingstone and became the Institute for Social Research. In 1968 it took its present name.

The Institute was the first of its kind in Africa and from 1940 onwards its activities and researches spread over all the three territories that became the Federation. It can proudly claim to have been the prototype of similar institutions set up elsewhere in Africa, for example, at Ibadan and Makerere.

NOTES ON NEW CONTRIBUTORS

Mr. M. A. Bordini (of Av. Luro 3363, Mar Del Plata, Argentina) was born and educated in Argentina. He is a former Keeper of Antiquities and Inspector of Monuments for the Umtali Museum from 1972 to 1975.

Dr. Olive Hope Robertson, M.B.E., was born in England in 1909 and took her medical degrees at Edinburgh University in 1932. She came to Rhodesia in 1934 and was in general practice until 1953. She was a City Councillor of Bulawayo from 1947 to 1953 and of Salisbury from 1970 to 1976. She was a Senator, 1970-76. She has held office in Women's Institutes and was President of the Rhodesian Association of University Women from 1961 to 1963. Her published work includes two volumes of poetry, one *The Mighty Turtle* (pub. by Purnell and Sons, Cape Town, 1966) the other, *Two Voices*, in collaboration with Phillipa Berlyn (pub. by Two Tone Publications, Salisbury, 1974) and many poems in anthologies and poetry magazines both in Africa and overseas.

BACK NUMBERS OF RHODESIANA

Only the following back numbers of *Rhodesiana* are in stock. Copies can be bought from the Hon. National Secretary, Rhodesiana Society, P.O. Box 8268, Causeway, Salisbury, Rhodesia, at a cost of R\$3,00 per copy. Remittances from outside Rhodesia must be for the equivalent of Rhodesian currency.

Rhodesiana No. 17, December 1967.

Rhodesiana No. 19, December 1968 onwards, two issues a year, up to the current number, *Rhodesiana* No. 38, March 1978.

Correspondence

THE NAMING OF RHODESIA

Dear Sir

The other day I came across an interesting piece of information on the question of the naming of Rhodesia after its founder, Cecil John Rhodes.

Although the first public use of the name occurred in the *Cape Argus* on 19th June, 1891, it has long been believed that Rhodes modestly demurred at the implied compliment, and that it was only some years later that he accepted the honour. F. J. Dormer, the Managing Director of the Argus Company in the 1890's, said that at first Rhodes "pooh-poohed the suggestion, then positively forbade it." Later he announced that "he had reconciled himself to the proposition."

Such apparent reluctance does not tally with a sentence in a letter written by Sir Henry Loch (then Governor of the Cape) to Lord Knutsford (the Colonial Secretary) on 16th June, 1891. In the course of a paragraph suggesting that the names then in use to describe the vast area of Bechuanaland, Matabeleland and Mashonaland needed revision and simplification, Loch made the following comment:

"Mr. Rhodes is anxious to connect his name with part of the country and call it 'Rhodesia' ".

It thus seems certain that the very first use of the name "Rhodesia" took place with Rhodes' personal approval, and indeed at his suggestion.

Yours etc.,

ROBERT CARY

(This letter is dated 19th August 1977 and was received too late for our September issue. Robert Cary, well-known historian, author of books on Rhodesia and contributor to Rhodesiana, died in January 1978. — Editor.)

AN EARLY GWELO WEDDING

(In our March 1977 issue was an article by Pat Davis — "The History of Gwelo, Part 3." The wedding of a popular couple in the town in 1906, Mr. Peel and Miss Walsh, was described, somewhat ambiguously, as "one of the biggest social events since the Rebellion." — Editor.)

Sir,

I am enclosing a photograph of the wedding group of 10th January, 1906. The wedding was between A. J. R. Peel and Kathleen Walsh, daughter of Captain and Mrs. J. J. de Clancy Walsh.



A 1906 wedding in Gwelo.
 Back row, l. to r.: Captain de Clancy Walsh, Mrs. Walsh, Miss Maud Reed (Bridesmaid),
 Fergus Peel (Best man), Miss Geraldine Walsh (Bridesmaid), Front row, l. to r.: Mora Walsh
 (Flower Girl), Bridegroom and Bride, Ross Bradley (Page), Collee Walsh (Flower Girl).
Photo supplied by W. C. Richards

Miss Maud Reed later became Mrs. Salt and Miss Geraldine Walsh, Mrs. G. S. Clegg. Our family have known the Walsh family since 1907 — Selukwe days.

Yours etc.,

W. G. RICHARDS
 P.O. Box 302, Fort Victoria.

HISTORIC STEAM LOCOMOTIVES

Sir,

It may be of interest to those readers who recall, with nostalgia, the days of steam locomotives to learn that Rhodesia Railways are recalling some of them and putting them back into operation.

The P.R.O. of the Railways tells me that the programme commences with the restoration of 22 moth-balled locomotives in the 14A, 15th and 16A classes, the first of which is expected to be in service in 18 to 24 months' time.

The locomotives will be used only on those sections which currently operate steam traction, i.e. west of Gwelo, on the West Nicholson line and in the marshalling lines.

Those readers who attended the Glendale trip in October 1972 will be sad to know that No. 258 was scrapped in February 1976, but No. 251 has been "set aside" at Bulawayo.

Yours etc.,

H. G. SIMPSON

P.O. Box 8175 Causeway, Salisbury.

PLACE NAMES

Sir,

I was given the following information by Mr. Ferdi Viljoen of Kezi who had it from a couple of elderly Matabele at some time. I pass it on for comment by the experts as in my opinion the origins given for the names of these two places are the most likely I have yet heard.

Gwanda The Gwanda area, low sweet veld, was where the King's cattle were sent at calving time and therefore was where increase took place:

Oku anda: to Increase

Ugw'anda: Increase, noun (Elliott).

Gwelo The high veld uplands where cattle were sent to graze on the early grass before it grew too rank:

Oku khwela: to climb

U Khwelo: noun: the place climbed to.

Yours etc.,

E. T. HEPBURN

National Museum, Bulawayo.

Reviews

Cecil Rhodes: The Man and his Dream by Herbert Baker and W. T. Stead. (Rhodesiana Reprint Library, Bulawayo. Silver Series, Vol. 14. 1977. Illustrations. 198 pages. Price \$11.25. A two-part work. New Foreword by Oliver Ransford. *Cecil Rhodes* by Baker originally published 1934. *The Last Will and Testament of Cecil J. Rhodes*, with additional chapters by W. T. Stead originally published in 1902.)

This reprint, like all those published by Books of Rhodesia (Pvt.) Ltd., is beautifully produced. It combines in one volume a biography of Rhodes by each author.

Baker, who was Rhodes's architect, wrote in the early 'thirties. It is difficult to understand what motivated him at that time, perhaps it was a tide of unwarranted criticism or a mood of anti-imperialism was abroad. Whatever it was, his eulogy is without criticism and would-be critics are dealt with as of little account. Despite the wide admiration Baker had for Rhodes, several pointers to the character of his hero do emerge from this account. Particularly, how well read Rhodes was, how impressionable, and how much, despite his apparent worldliness, he relied on others. (His artistic taste, from the standpoint of close on a century later appears to have been appalling, but perhaps that is merely changing fashion!) From Baker's account it may be reasonably inferred that Rhodes was the man of all-embracing ideas, but without the friendship of those who could translate his schemes into action the full scope of his ambition could not have been realised. So much may be deduced from Baker's view of a man for whom he felt an emotion close to worship.

Stead's biography, published shortly after Rhodes's death in 1902, is in a rather different category. He classed Rhodes, for good or evil, among the foremost men of his day; a sentiment none of his admirers and few of his detractors are likely to deny. He was, moreover, a friend of Rhodes rather than an employee. They admired one another, and recognised each other's characters. So that Stead's assessment of Rhodes as a man is probably the more valuable, for he was able to put his brilliance and his failings into better perspective. This account contains a particularly useful background to the eventual terms of Rhodes's will, and is of real interest from this point of view alone.

One facet of late Victorian life which emerges from both these accounts in its accustomed, though, to this reviewer, always startling, clarity is the vigorous and almost visible patriotism that men then had for the country of their birth. The loyalty Rhodes had for South Africa, and the pride he felt in bringing Rhodesia into existence never dimmed his fierce love for England. At times, he may have behaved cynically towards those who governed, but his patriotism rarely wavered. It is something which, alas, is now rarely understood.

All in all, this volume contains two important commentaries on Rhodes's way of life and outlook. Stead's account is probably of greatest worth, although each must be read critically for they both suffer from an abundance of admiration for their subject. For those who are familiar with these two works, the reprint volume is worthwhile for the sensible, yet comparative, Foreword contributed by Dr. O. N. Ransford.

J. G. STORRY

Rhodesia Past and Present by S. J. du Toit. (Books of Rhodesia, Bulawayo 1977. Rhodesiana Reprint Library. Silver Series, Vol. 15. Originally published 1897. New Foreword by R. S. Roberts, Professor of History, University of Rhodesia. New index. Illustrated. Price \$10,65.)

This is an unusual and vivid account of early days in Rhodesia. Although the author made this journey partly to assess the results of Afrikaner settlement here, he examined every aspect of the country with an astute eye to its future use — he liked what he saw, especially in the Eastern Highlands.

Travel was mainly by ox-waggon — 1 300 miles over barely completed "roads", or tracks that involved vigorous work to clear a path for their waggon. One is always aware that the author is interested by the abundant game but regards it in an unemotional fashion. He is far more interested in the ordinary people that he meets, the social problems made evident after the Matabele War and the opportunities for growth in the commercial, agricultural and mining sectors. His description of a country store is delightful — "Bottles in abundance." He made careful note of the prices, comparing them with those in Bulawayo.

He gives a history of the Matabele, remarking that, if Lobengula's overtures to the Kruger Government had been successful, "he would probably today still have been in possession of his kingdom." The fate of the Shangani Patrol was still being vehemently discussed and a chapter is devoted to this tragic episode.

Apart from visiting several gold mines, the party saw Bulawayo, Gwelo, Selukwe, Fort Victoria and Zimbabwe. The evidence of hard work — and the vegetable garden — at Morgenster Mission impressed the author. Chapters on Zimbabwe have not been included in this, the English translation.

After a desperately uncomfortable trip by coach from Bulawayo to Salisbury, Mr. du Toit travelled to Umtali, to embark on an even more arduous trek to Beira, to "study the burning question of transport from the several ports to the centres of trade in the interior." His conclusions are meticulously tabulated and make engrossing reading nearly a century later.

The author was dedicated to a united Southern Africa and was therefore a supporter of Rhodes, even after the Jameson Raid. He published the first Afrikaans grammar-book and helped translate the first Afrikaans Bible.

This book, a series of sketches and observations written en route, has a freshness and immediacy that will appeal to readers of all tastes.

ROSEMARY KIMBERLEY

Pioneers of Mashonaland by Adrian Darter. (Books of Rhodesia. 1977. Rhodesiana Reprint Library. Silver Series, Vol. 17. Originally published 1914. New Foreword by Robert Cary and added illustrations from Ellerton Fry collection. Price \$11,70.)

The traditional and possibly rather staid image of a Pioneer may be that of a bearded patriarch, and it is therefore refreshing to discover that the author of this book had distinguished himself as a rugby player before, at the age of 22, he became a member of the Column.

Adrian Albert Darter, whose family owned the well known music shop, Darter and Company, was born in Cape Town but went prospecting for gold in the north-eastern Transvaal, and it was there that he met Richard Nicholson who was recruiting men for Rhodes's expedition into Mashonaland.

His book, which is one of the few personal accounts written by a Pioneer, consists mainly of reminiscences and there are tributes to the enlightened leadership of Khama of the Bamangwato and to the remarkable clemency shown to the Pioneers by Lobengula. Fascinating and candid "pen portraits" of Pioneer personalities abound, too, and Major Frank Johnson is graphically described as a "thick set furtive eyed dark man," while Lt. Colonel Pennefather was irascible and hardly popular and Frederick Courteney Selous, the great hunter, is depicted, rather surprisingly perhaps, as a man with "the temperate habits and tastes of an ascetic."

The adventures of the journey itself are also recounted and it is with typical enthusiasm and vigour that Darter tells of the salting of the horses, the cutting of the road, the dangers posed by both wild animals and Matabele impis and an entertaining hippopotamus hunt.

Pioneer experiences continued after the arrival of the Column at Fort Salisbury, of course, and these included the literal weathering of the storms during the 1890/91 season which was one of the wettest on record, and the enduring of severe attacks of malaria, which could only be overcome, on occasion, by the consuming of adequate supplies of quinine and champagne!

The real reason for the writing of this book was not, however, to present a simple account of pioneering days, but rather to appeal to the British government not to renew the 25-year old lease of the Chartered Company, which was due to expire in 1914. Darter, who considered that the Company had forfeited its rights when it forcibly invaded Matabeleland, suggested that this country should become either a self-governing state or be allied to the then Union of South Africa. Ironically, the outbreak of the First World War put an end to all such aspirations, and this last segment of the book is equally unfortunate because Darter obviously had neither the experience nor the expertise to sustain a political polemic.

His work, though, provides an interesting addition to the Silver Series and it leaves a lasting impression of the enthusiasm, the patriotism and above all, the youthful bravado of the men whom history has called, "The Pioneers of Mashonaland."

HEATHER JARVIS

Cecil Rhodes, by Neil Bates (Wayland Publishers, Ltd. Hove, Sussex. 1976. 96 pages. Illustrated. Map. £2.95.)

The latest in a series called "History Makers," this objective book on Cecil Rhodes is a delightful publication. It is quite brief (only 96 pages) and therefore must paint its picture with broad strokes, and this it does adequately.

It is splendidly illustrated, and a feature is the quotation panel on almost every page of some apposite and authoritative remark applicable to the text. These quotations heighten the book's impact considerably.

In the blurb the publishers say: "(Cecil Rhodes) lived in an age when to be an Empire-builder was the height of patriotism, and who voiced the thoughts and ambitions of many British people; a man who left the world a legacy that perplexes us still — Rhodesia."

The story of Cecil Rhodes is told with understanding and, indeed, approval, and there is not a cheap sneer or derisive remark throughout the book. It is inevitable that the various incidents that high-lighted Rhodes's career should be described in outline only, and it is equally inevitable that in doing so the author should slip up here and there.

On p. 37 he says: "In 1884 Germany claimed land on the east coast as colonies." Of course, it should be "west coast." And in describing the Rudd Concession that led to the occupation of Mashonaland, he gives the impression that it was concerned only with Matabeleland; there is no mention of Mashonaland at all.

But by and large the story is accurately told and every major incident is included so that the overall picture is complete and well-rounded. The language is simple and the style pleasant; it seemed to me to be aimed at the 14-16 age group, but much more adult readers will find its contents enjoyable, interesting and, here and there, enlightening.

For instance, I hadn't known before that, in order to boost Rhodes's flagging morale as he lay dying, the *Cape Argus* produced a fake edition reporting that his health was improving. As a result he booked passage on a ship to England — and died on the day she sailed!

Mr. Bates is not so adept at foretelling the future as he is at analysing the past. In his final chapter he discusses that perplexing legacy — Rhodesia.

"The Rhodesian way of life seems to be increasingly modelled on Afrikaner-dominated South Africa," he writes. "A settlement that will lead to a fair share for all, including black Rhodesians, in governing the country grows more unlikely each year." If there is no solution, any chance for a just society in the territories Rhodes helped to create would be destroyed.

Mr. Bates, we hope, will have to rewrite that chapter before long!

W. D. GALE

Wankie: the story of a great game reserve by Ted Davison. (Second printing. Published by Regal Publishers, Salisbury, 1977. Originally published by Books of Africa, Cape Town. 1967. New Preface. Limp cover. 211 pages.

Illustrated by black and white photographs and line drawings by Penny Miller. Price \$4,50.)

Wankie is one of the renowned game reserves of Africa, not only because of its size (over 5 000 square miles), but because the interests of the animals and the tourists are finely balanced, with, perhaps, a slight bias in favour of the former.

This book is the story of the transformation, by its first Warden, of a big, undistinguished slab of Africa into a fascinating game reserve. The Wankie Game Reserve was proclaimed in 1928 and Ted Davison appointed its first Warden in September of that year. It did not become a National Park until 1949.

Ted Davison tells of the first exploratory horseback patrols over wild country where no white man had ever been before. It was hard going for man and beast over vast waterless areas where only a Bushman guide could find the damp patches of ground where they dug for a few cups of water. Davison realised that lack of water was a greater problem than that of poachers and his early years were spent in trying to stop the animals from leaving the reserve in search of water during the dry season by providing artificial water pans fed from boreholes.

There are lively descriptions of all the main species in the park with particular emphasis on the predators and the spectacular elephant and buffalo with which Davison had many adventures.

The provision of facilities for tourists began early. Davison introduced sleeping platforms at water-holes long before the wider known "Tree Tops" of Kenya. Now, fashion has changed to the more popular viewing of game from cars during daylight. By the time of the first printing of this book Wankie was coping with over 25 000 visitors a year and some parts of the park were open all the year round.

Running a game reserve is not all adventures with game and battles with poachers. Scientific studies have to be arranged; disease must be watched for; and overstocking must be followed by culling. The balance of species must be watched. Why is the beautiful gemsbok not responding to protection; why is its small number, 150, the only few in Rhodesia, not increasing? And species that were once found in the area, but no longer there, are reintroduced — such as the black rhino brought from Kariba to Wankie. These and many other sidelines of a Warden's job are in addition to the administrative chores.

This is a very personal story. It is not a guide-book for Wankie, nor is it a scientific text book on game conservation. It is all about Ted Davison's thirty-four years at Wankie, his life there and his achievements, about which he is far too reticent.

This is an excellent book of its kind for the development of the various National Parks for a fascinating by-way of Rhodesian history.

W. V. BRELSFORD

Gold Fever by H. F. Hoste. Edited and with introduction by N. S. Davies. (Pioneer Head, Kingston, 1977. Limp cover. 141 pages. Illustrations, Figures, Maps.

Henry Francis Hoste's chief claim to fame is his command of "B" Troop of the Pioneer Corps, and of the flag raising ceremony at Fort Salisbury on 13 September 1890. (*National Archives made a copy of Hoste's original memoirs which remained in the hands of the family. The original, now edited by Hoste's grandson, forms the basis of this book. — Editor.*)

The result is one of the best records of the vicissitudes and excitement of the Pioneer column epic march to Salisbury, and it is one which contains many details of incidents of that march which have not been recorded elsewhere. (*Some were published in Rhodesiana No. 12. — Editor.*) "Skipper" Hoste also provides us with vivid pen portraits of many of the early settlers and visitors to Rhodesia immediately after the occupation. Not all these are flattering; the author is particularly critical of Colquhoun and "Grandolph Churchill". The book fills in gaps of our knowledge of the route taken by the column, and in addition draws attention to the amount of individual trading which took place between its members and the Africans they met during the march. There are good accounts too of the appearance of Great Zimbabwe in 1890, and of the arrest of Andrada, Rezende and the "huge half-caste giant with the goatee beard, Gouveia," at Umtasa's kraal.

Gold Fever is a most useful addition to Rhodesiana, and its editor is to be congratulated on making "Skipper" Hoste's personal report of the occupation known to a wider audience.

O. N. RANSFORD

Vicarious Rhodesians: Problems affecting the selection of Rhodesian Rhodes Scholars, 1904-1923 by R. J. Challis. (The Central African Historical Association. Local Series No. 33.)

Perhaps the most remarkable portions of Cecil Rhodes's will are those clauses relating to education and the setting-up of the Scholarship scheme.

The directions to the Trustees of his will having been formulated, Rhodes laid down the type of student he expected to be selected.

In keeping with the wish of Rhodes that the Scholarship should be established "as soon as maybe after my death," the Organising Secretary to the Rhodes Trustees, making a tour of all countries participating in Rhodes Scholarships, visited Southern Rhodesia in 1903. The Education Department was given the task of local selection procedure and found itself in difficulties because of the small field from which to choose.

Mr. Challis's pamphlet considers the problems facing the Directors of Education and the results of their efforts to find suitable candidates. In some years no Rhodesia Rhodes Scholarships were awarded at all and certainly the "literary and scholastic attainments" that Rhodes had expected, of some of those selected were not high. Nevertheless the process of selection did continue,

but the author, a lecturer in the University of Rhodesia Department of History, makes it very clear there were defects in the procedure which were only slowly ironed out so that a satisfactory system could be operated.

The pamphlet has many references and a list of all Rhodesian Rhodes Scholars, with information on the schools attended, from 1903 to 1977. The research carried out is of great value to all interested in the development of Rhodesia's educational system, while the prediction that "it will not be very long before a female Rhodes Scholar takes up residence at Oxford" is about to come to pass.

G. H. TANSER

Zambesia, England's El Dorado in Africa- being a description of Matabeleland and Mashonaland, and the less-known adjacent territories, and an account of the gold fields of British South Africa, by E. P. Mathers. (Rhodesiana Reprint Library, Silver Series, Vol. 18, 1977. Bulawayo, Books of Rhodesia, p. (11), vii, 480, xv, illus., maps. Price \$14,85).

This is a very notable addition to the Reprint Library, as large a volume as any that has been resurrected and as important a one, too, for it has long been a major source on the events that preceded and lead to the creation of the British South Africa Company, and on the occupation of Mashonaland. It is to be noted however that it took, throughout, the official or Company interpretation of these matters.

The circumstances in which the book and its attitudes were created are brilliantly analysed by Professor R. S. Roberts in his Foreword to the reprint.

The author, closely associated with South African journalism and a firm believer in the potential of the sub-continent, established the weekly *South Africa* in London in 1889, a periodical which grew rapidly in influence in financial and political circles. Incidentally it continued until 1946 when the name changed to *Southern Africa* and in that form until 1970, though its influence had waned between the two World Wars.

Mathers was a keen supporter of Rhodes, of the wisdom of British imperialism in Africa, and of the possibilities that existed for beneficial commercial exploitation. Above all, however, he was a journalist with an eye to an opportunity and on 14 March 1891 he put out a very large special issue of *South Africa* devoted to the area to the north of the Limpopo — "Zambesia" and to the B.S.A. Company. This was six months after the occupation of Mashonaland and although communications were slower in the 1890's than they are today the processes of compilation and publishing must have been much quicker.

This special issue was expanded and issued as the present volume in June of the same year, 1891. Its purpose was essentially to draw attention to, as in the sub-title, "England's El Dorado in Africa", and with this in mind he devotes initial chapters to the Queen of Sheba, King Solomon, and the abounding ancient workings and then the more recent discoveries.

A special value lies in the author's personal acquaintance with many of the individuals concerned with the events of the 80s and the manoeuvres for a mining concession from Lobengula, as for example E. A. Maund, and from access to personal accounts. Again he gathered together much from sources which are not readily available as the account by Sir John Willoughby of the supply or relief expedition which backed up the Pioneer Column, from an article he contributed to the *Fortnightly Review* in 1891.

The book is essential for any collection of Rhodesiana.

E. E. BURKE

The Eldorado of the Ancients, by Dr. Carl Peters. (Rhodesiana Reprint Library. Silver Series, Vol. 16, 1977. Bulawayo, Books of Rhodesia, p. (14), x, 447, illus., maps. Price \$13,05).

Dr. Peters was an enigmatic figure. A Prussian, he had visions of a great German colonial empire in East Africa and, if not altogether against his Government's wishes then certainly not with its support, he presented them with the *fait accompli* which became Deutsch-Ost-Afrika, afterwards the British mandated Tanganyika Territory, now Tanzania.

Peters was the German Rhodes, but he fell from grace. While responsible for the Kilimanjaro District he was charged with mis-using his authority and carrying out illegal executions; he was removed from East Africa and the expedition which forms the subject of this book, travels between 1896 and 1902, was his next, and last, venture.

Out of face at home in Germany he turned to London for support — "I gratefully acknowledge that in London I have found encouragement and support in my task from the British South Africa Company, as well as from individuals. The country of Newton, Carlyle and Darwin cannot but accept the great principle that in scientific exploration and research the difference of nationality does not count" (p. 7). His self-appointed 'task' was to find proof that the Ophir of the time of King Solomon was the country between the Lower Zambezi and the Limpopo, or more specifically the kingdom of Macombe's in Manica, in Mozambique.

His travels took him from Tete south to Macombe's then to the Makaha gold area, and after that he criss-crossed the border between Rhodesia and Mozambique, through the Inyanga highlands to Umtali, then south to Melsetter and the Sabi.

Archaeologically the book is of little significance except for its early description of the Inyanga ruins and terraces, an aspect for which it is valuable. The journal *South Africa* in its review on 3 January 1903 coldly stated: "We have already sufficiently expressed our views concerning effusions of the author similar to those which form the subject of this work"; the Queen of Sheba theory has been *passé* for many a year. In this connection it may be noted that Books of Rhodesia has now reprinted three of the archaeological "classics"

each supporting the exotic theory of a romantic period in the dawn of Rhodesia's history. The other two are Bent's *The Ruined Cities of Mashonaland* (1892) and *The Ancient Ruins of Rhodesia* (1902) by Hall and Neal. It might be appropriate to turn to the other side, if copyright can be arranged, and consider Randall-Maciver's *Mediaeval Rhodesia* (1906) or Carton-Thompson's *Zimbabwe Culture* (1931), to provide an even representation.

However as a travelogue book this has great worth; the author's lively descriptions of the Inyanga district, of Umtali itself and the eastern highlands read easily and interestingly and herein lies the real value of the book.

As ever, the original edition of 1902 has been faithfully and splendidly reproduced; and there is a useful seven page Foreword by A. J. Chennells, of the University of Rhodesia.

E. E. BURKE

NOTE

The work was first published in Munchen, 1902, as *Im Goldland des Altertums*. This German edition differed somewhat in arrangement and in contents from the 1902 English version now reprinted. There is no indication of who was responsible for the translation.

General

The Lunatic Express by Charles Miller. (The Macmillan Company, New York. 599 pages. End maps. Illustrations. US\$10,95.)

Under this light hearted title the author relates the "magnificent saga" of the building of the "crazy" Uganda railway from Mombasa in Kenya to Kisumu on Lake Victoria and its influence on the opening up of East Africa to European settlement.

This is a large book and it tells a fascinating story in an easy to read style. The author says he has no pretence to scholarship and the free flow of the story is not encumbered by laborious footnotes. But the chapter notes and bibliography at the end show that he has absorbed almost everything ever written on the subject.

He skims lightly over the Portuguese explorations of the 15th century to come to a history of Zanzibar and the Arab slave trade, then to the missionaries and explorers of the early 19th century and so to the commercial ventures at the end of that century.

To the last group Uganda was the goal. Stanley referred to this lush land as "the pearl of Africa." Others went into rhapsodies about this "orchid in a field of poison ivy" and the Baganda as "the Japanese of Africa." A railway to Uganda would not only stop the slave trade but open up an agricultural cornucopia for Britain. For many years Britain stood out against the mission and commercial lobbies and finally it was political considerations that won the day. By 1894 the "scramble" for Africa was on and Britain realised that whoever

controlled Uganda controlled the Nile and that a railway to Uganda was the only way to transport troops rapidly to the upper Nile. So Uganda was taken from the responsibility of the Imperial British East Africa Company and turned into a Protectorate.

The story of the building of the 600 mile railway, which took five years from 1895 to 1900, with a permanent force of 2 600 Indian coolies and 15 000 Africans, is told in graphic style. The author tells of the killing of over a hundred railway workers by the man-eating lions of Tsavo; of the disasters caused by an outbreak of rinderpest in 1897; and of the harrowing droughts of the following two years in which 25 000 Africans died of starvation. All these add point to Elspeth Huxley's description of the Uganda railway as "the most courageous railway in the world."

The author tells of the early administration and administrators of East Africa; of the advent of British and Boer settlers; of many adventurous and rumbustious characters; and of the "happy valley" period in Kenya. The story ends with the outbreak of war in 1914.

This is an excellent book for the general interested reader. The same author's follow-up volume *Battle for the Bundu: the First World War in East Africa* was reviewed in our March 1976 issue.

W. V. BRELSFORD

Malawi — Foreign policy and development by Carolyn McMaster. (Julian Friedman Publishers Ltd., London. Limp cover. 246 pages. Price £3,50.)

This book gives an account of the events leading up to the achievement of internal self-government in Malawi on February 1st 1963. There follows an examination of the relationships which Malawi, a small, very poor, land-locked country, has developed with Mozambique, Rhodesia and South Africa since it became independent in 1964.

There is no publication date but the book was written as a thesis in December 1971 and updated during 1972.

A book on Malawi cannot possibly escape the over-riding presence of Dr. Hastings Kamuzu Banda. He became Prime Minister in 1963, was elected first President of the Republic of Malawi in 1966 and Life President in 1970.

He has asserted, "I do not idealise the world. I take the world as it is. One must be realistic and practical!"

The author has dealt with the foreign policy developed by Dr. Banda, based on his premise, in three of the chapters. The first deals with Malawi and the White South with the sub-title "Alliances with the Devil." The next one considers the relations between the "Uncomfortable Friends, Rhodesia and Portugal." The third, regarded by the author as the most significant and novel aspect, Malawi's interchange with the other states of black Africa.

The economic problems of Malawi have been the controlling factors of Dr. Banda's foreign policy, aimed at serving the interests of his people. His adoption of this statecraft has brought him into conflict with the Organisation

of African Unity. His establishment of diplomatic relations with South Africa led Radio Conakry to brand him as "The greatest traitor to the cause of the African nations."

Dr. Banda does not believe that economic boycotts and political pressure will effect a change in the internal conditions of the white states in Southern Africa, and has said so. He has endeavoured to make Malawi a bridge between black and white. This has not made him popular with other African states, while he has had, on occasion, to meet challenges to his leadership from certain of his Ministers.

The support he has sought from South Africa and Portugal has enabled the President to carry on two of his favourite schemes, the building of the new capital at Lilongwe and the construction of a rail link to the sea through Mozambique.

In the final chapter there is a reference to the future of Malawi when Dr. Banda is no longer there. The author, writing in 1972, admits that trying to predict the situation in southern Africa, even in the next decade, is a perilous task. How right she has been. But the book should be read by Rhodesians in order to give them an understanding of the problems of Dr. Banda in his efforts to promote his goals of Malawi's economic development and political stability.

G. H. TANSER

The Stamps and Postal History of Northern Rhodesia and Zambia, 1963-65, by Alan R. Drysdale. (Published by Robson Lowe, Bournemouth, England, pp. 38. Illustrated. Price £2.75.)

This is a short postal history of the pre-Independence period of Zambia followed by the first year of Independence.

The author, a keen philatelist, was chairman of the Lusaka Philatelic Society for ten years, also wrote the Society's newsletters and thus gained some first hand knowledge of his subject.

The booklet, after outlining the post Federal history of the country provides details of the principal postal rates adopted in the country, the types of postal stationery used, details of the two definitive sets of postage stamps issued and a miscellany of postal information. A list of Post Offices compiled from the Postmaster General's Annual Reports is appended.

The most informative part of the book relates to the production of the country's first postage stamps issued after the dissolution of the Federation. Federal stamps were used temporarily until supplies of the new Northern Rhodesia stamps were received ten days after they were due to be placed on sale. The Northern Rhodesia Printer also attempted to undertake the printing of stamps in Lusaka, and although some of them got to the proof stage, none was issued, presumably due to difficulties in production. The proof sheets which were made at this time have not been traced. This issue suffered from many

flaws such as the omission of the values. The cause of the poor printing has been attributed to the rush with which the order had to be dealt.

The postal historian specialising in Northern Rhodesian philately will find the book of limited value since it covers only a year of history. It might have been preferable to have covered a longer period, e.g. 1923-1953, and then ended with the post break-up era prior to Independence. Anyone making a study of the Zambia period would look to a greater coverage than the first year after Independence. The cost of the booklet at £2,75 is a reflection of the inflationary pressures of our times.

R. CHERER SMITH

Strategic Highways of Africa by Guy Arnold and Ruth Weiss. (Julian Friedmann Publishers, London. 1977. Limp cover. 178 pages. Maps. Price £3,50.)

The word "highways" in this book includes roads, railways and rivers and the authors are concerned only with Africa south of the Sahara. Here, the two greatest rivers, the Congo and the Zambezi, in their undeveloped state have proved too complicated to use as lengthy highways but the authors do speculate on what improvements new dams on both rivers might make.

The growth of the whole of the southern and central African railway is described from its beginnings to beyond U.D.I. and clear indications are given as to the effects that communications have on politics and strategy. Rhodesia is now solely dependent on South Africa for its external communications, thus giving the latter country immense political power over Rhodesia. The building of the Tanzam railway and the Botzam (Botswana-Zambia) road still further isolates Rhodesia and increases her dependence upon her southern neighbour.

In colonial days, particularly in West Africa, railways were built inwards from the coast in any particular colony either to mineral deposits or to move troops or administration into the interior. The authors refer to this type of development as "vertical" and it fostered a degree of territorial insularity. If a "horizontal," or coastal development across several colonies had been undertaken then a much wider, regional economic development would have resulted.

The proposed Trans-African Highway is one such imaginative "horizontal" project. Linking Mombasa on the East Coast with oil-booming Lagos on the West Coast it would pass through six countries — Kenya, Uganda, Zaire, the Central African Republic, Cameroon and Nigeria — bringing economic growth to areas that are backward and politically neglected.

The 4 500 mile route of the Highway has long been in existence but the condition of most of the existing stretches of road are deplorable. The project is likely to remain a dream for some time. The cost would be astronomical and the political differences between the various countries would not make for co-operation either in construction or in operation.

The authors emphasise that recent projects and changes and new highways in countries such as Zambia, Malawi, Botswana, Mozambique and, indeed, in

Rhodesia have all been inspired by politics rather than pure economics although strategy and economics may, in time overlap.

This is an original and unusual book on a fascinating aspect of modern African history.

W. V. BRELSFORD

Revelation and Divination in Ndembu Ritual by Victor Turner. (Cornell University Press, New York, U.S.A. 354 pages. Illustrated. Symbol, Myth. & Ritual series. Price \$14-00.)

The insignificant Ndembu tribe, a fragment of the Lunda people of Zaire, who live in the remotest corner of north-west Zambia, is unlikely to attract attention in Rhodesia but there may be a few readers interested in comparative magical and religious practices for whom the remarkable detail and learned comments in this study would be of interest. Two years of research in the 1950s lie behind the book.

That aspect of the cult of ancestral spirits which acknowledges their power to take possession of and afflict their living descendants is familiar enough. So also is the process of divination whereby the influences of the spirits are revealed and, remedied. Apart from the mass of information offered about this particular tribe Turner breaks new ground in interpreting, explaining and comparing the symbolic side of culture.

It is difficult to follow this theory because his scholarship enables him to range from religious philosophies through the Bible and psychologists to the mystical white whale — Moby Dick — and the ordinary reader is likely to get lost in the pursuit of symbolism.

I think we can unconcernedly leave the book to take off into anthropological space if that is what the academics are debating in their search for relations between culture, cognition and perception.

ROGER HOWMAN

More Titles from Regal Publishers Ltd.

In addition to the three volumes reviewed elsewhere in this issue, Regal Publishers Ltd., Salisbury put out three other titles in 1977. All six books are by Rhodesian authors.

Who Cares? Chipangali Wild Life Orphanage by Richard Rayner is the story of the unique wild life orphanage that is familiar to most Rhodesians through a TV series. It is run by Viv Wilson and his wife, Paddy. It is not a zoo, a menagerie or a collection of wild animals being shown for financial gain. Chipangali is a private sanctuary, some 40 hectares in extent, close to Bulawayo, where abandoned or injured wild animals are reared. Once reared or cured in captivity they cannot usually be released into the wild and the Wilsons' only manage to bear the financial burden of feeding and care by encouraging

members of the public to "adopt" a favourite animal or bird and bear responsibility for it.

Chipangali, in chiNyanja, means open, friendly country and refers to an area of the Luangwa valley in Zambia where Viv was once a Field Officer with National Parks. He left Zambia in 1964 to join National Parks in Rhodesia, then, in 1969, he became Mammalogist at the National Museum in Bulawayo. He gave up that post and a regular salary in order to indulge his great aim in life of caring for injured animals. It is a precarious life with only a pet shop in Bulawayo and admission charges to the sanctuary as sources of a regular income. The author, Senior Production Manager in the Information Department, tells the story of the Wilsons', and of the serious research that Viv is undertaking. He describes Chipangali, its problems and its successful cures, and relates many a pleasant anecdote about its varied and fascinating inhabitants. Nothing is behind bars and the emphasis is on educating the public to become conservation minded, not in providing a collection of animals to be gazed at.

The photographs are lively pictures of actual inhabitants and the book makes pleasant reading. It has a place in Rhodesian history because it is the only Wild Life Orphanage in Africa. In Limp cover, 88 pages, *Chipangali* costs \$2,40.

W. V. BRELSFORD

Two other books are smaller:

We Knew a Duiker is by Wilson MacArthur, an experienced and versatile author. In this, his first book written specifically for Rhodesians and published in Rhodesia, he gives an evocative account of farm life and the introduction of a young duiker to the farmstead.

Squeaky's character, curiosity and ardent appetite are described without anthropomorphological overtones, though it is stressed that, in her natural state, she would not have had the opportunity to develop into such a distinctive individual.

At the age of six months she was released at Binga, in company with a duiker ram of her own age. Report has it that she has adapted very well — a fortunate and all too infrequent occurrence.

This is a charming and humorous addition to the growing volume of Rhodesian literature. It has line drawings by Pamela Kelly. 52 pages in Limp cover it sells at \$2,25.

A Bird called Cousin by Alan Weaving is an engrossing account, told with restraint and a deep understanding of the wild.

We are given an insight into the difficulties of placing a hide on a near vertical rock and enjoy the mixture of delight and scientific observation displayed by the author while watching the parents and chicks of an Auger Buzzard. As is commonly the case, the weaker of the siblings is harried until it dies. The weaker chick was rescued and cared for by the author and his family.

This led to the "development of . . . a unique relationship between an adult bird of prey and a family . . . and a variety of domestic pets."

Cousin was released near Domboshawa. The Weavings continued to visit her frequently, bringing food until she showed that she was capable of fending for herself. A few weeks later she mysteriously disappeared.

The black and white photographs are strangely moving; the flight studies particularly striking and impressive. 72 pages in limp cover it sells at \$2,25.

This would be a delightful addition to any collection of Rhodesiana.

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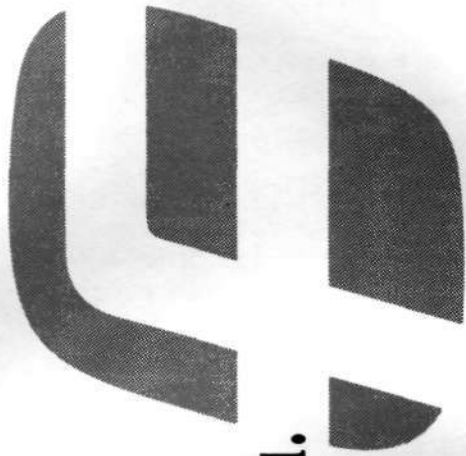
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