

SERVICE NEWS

No.8 - June/July, 1963.

The new High Commissioner, Sir Hugh Stephenson and Lady Stephenson, arrived in Swaziland by road on July 21. They were met at Oshoek by the Resident Commissioner, Sir Brian Marwick, and Lady Marwick, and Senior Government Officers and their wives.

They visited every district in the Territory and attended several parties and other occasions. During their tour of the Territory, they were accompanied by the Resident Commissioner and Lady Marwick.

In a speech at a sherry party which was attended by about 130 people at the Residency, Mbabane, Sir Hugh said he had come to Swaziland to learn and would not try to give his views on the Territory after having been here for only a few hours.

But, he said, he had a good deal of experience of administration elsewhere in difficult times and there were certain principles which were of universal application.

One was that real advance and real progress could, at the best, be delayed and at the worst be prevented by disorder. He had considered that Swaziland, of the three High Commission Territories, was with its rich resources the least of the problem children. Yet four days after his arrival in Southern Africa he had been obliged to summon British troops to the territory.

The arrival of the Gordon Highlanders had been most expeditious and smooth. They had done a good job here and had won the respect and affection of the people of the Territory.

Industrial progress brought its own difficulties and he recognised the great difficulties the Administration had to face. But the Government was determined to maintain law and order and would take all steps necessary to do so.

Of the constitution, Sir Hugh said it was a compromise of views of all interests in the Territory. These views had been exhaustively argued and the Secretary of State had given his decision. The time had now come to make the constitution work and with goodwill it could be made to work. But closer contact and understanding between all concerned was a necessity.

The High Commissioner and Lady Stephenson returned to Pretoria on July 26.

THE SWAZILAND STRIKES

In a statement on June 17, the Government Secretary, Mr. A.C.E. Long, said:

"The disturbances in Swaziland, which

included illegal strikes, illegal gatherings and processions, illegal carrying of weapons, assaults and intimidation, were brought about by leaders and organisations which appeared to have as their main aim the standstill of the whole economy of the Territory.

"These persons and their supporters who had been planted in most labour forces used both the ignorance of the mass of the workers and intimidating methods to cause the strikes and disturbances which Swaziland has experienced. "Although many areas remained quiet the trouble spots were sufficiently widespread to make it impossible for the small Swaziland police force to cover them all adequately.

"As a result the law was being broken with impunity in these places and it became essential for reinforcements to come to support the police in carrying out their duties as guardians of the law. These reinforcements who are acting in this supporting roll to the police are 1st Battalion Gordon Highlanders.

"As the Government had announced its intention to appoint a board of inquiry into the question of a minimum wage and conditions of employment generally, and a separate board of inquiry is just about to produce its report on the Havelock strike, including the wage structure there, and also on the Big Bend strike, it is difficult to see exactly what the strikers hope to gain from these illegal strikes and they appear to be blindly following leaders who do not have their interests at heart.

"It is the first duty of any government to ensure that law and order is maintained and it cannot sit by and see laws broken unless it is prepared to fall back into an uncivilised state. The Swaziland Government has no intention of doing so.

"Swaziland has a great future for all the people within its boundaries, Africans, Europeans and Eurafricans, and the Government is determined to see that this is not jeopardised by the subversive activities of people and organisations which thrive on chaos and do not have the interests of the Territory at heart.

"The British Government has responsibility for this territory and will ensure that it remains stable and law abiding and its people will be protected from those who wish to see it otherwise.

"With the arrival of the Gordon Highlanders this resolve is clearly shown and already there are signs of a rapid return to normality and reason, and law and order everywhere will be maintained".

EMPLOYMENT FOR TRAINEES.

Six advanced building trainees of the Swaziland Trade Training Centre, in Mbabane, are building a new school at Bhekephi, about 14 miles from Mbabane on the Usutu Forests road. The old school there is to be demolished to make way for the railway.

The/.....

The building trainees are being paid for their work and it is expected that the school will be completed within three months.

This means that 23 of the 62 trainees of the centre have been found employment during the mid-year holiday. Another 10 are still at the centre, carrying out maintenance work.

Two advanced trainees are in the probationary period of an apprenticeship. Fifteen trainees - all of the first and second year classes - are with the Usutu Pulp Company, the Swaziland Electricity Board and the Mhlume Sugar Company. The Electricity Board has offered to extend the temporary employment of its four trainee electricians and the other concerns are expected to make the same offer.

The centre stopped instruction on June 11, when most of the trainees asked to be allowed to go home to avoid being involved in disturbances during the illegal strike in Mbabane. Two days later Gordon Highlanders began occupying the greater part of the centre.

The acting Principal is trying to find more employment opportunities for his trainees while the military are based at the centre.

VISITORS.

Mr. A. Campbell, head of the Southern African Department of the Colonial Office, arrived in Swaziland on July 15 by air for a five-day visit. He left by air on July 20 for Maseru.

Professor Gwendolen Carter, of the United States, visited Swaziland during July. Miss Carter, who visited most parts of the Republic and Basutoland, is Professor of Government in Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts. She visited Southern Africa to keep abreast of recent political, economic and social developments here.

It was her fifth visit to Swaziland. She was accompanied by Professor Jeffrey Horton, senior lecturer in history at Natal University. They left Swaziland on July 26.

Professor Carter is the author of "The Politics of Inequality - South Africa Since 1948."

INTEREST IN SCOUT MOVEMENT.

A "genuine interest" in the boy scout movement in the three High Commission Territories, particularly among the "top people" was found by the Chief Scout, Sir Charles Maclean, during his recent tour. Examples he gave to a London Press Service representative on June 20 were the Ngwenyama of Swaziland and the Paramount Chief of Basutoland, who was about to complete his woodcraft training.

Sir Charles's office in Scout headquarters, opposite Buckingham Palace in London, was full of trophies which had been given him when he visited East Africa in February and March this year.

The Chief Scout said that in these Commonwealth tours it was his policy, with the growth of nationhood in Africa, to put the movement in a form suitable to each country -- Scouting in Swaziland has to be Swazi Scouting.

"He/....."

"He wanted Scouts in the newly independent countries to have a voice in the world movement.

Asked what he thought of the future of the movement in the three Territories, Sir Charles said that more boys wanted to be Scouts than could be coped with. The problem was the lack of leaders. Too few educated men were coming forward as leaders, and on his visits he had been trying to interest men of this type in a movement which was so good for youth. If these leaders could be found, he was confident that the movement would continue to expand.

Sir Charles was emphatic about the value of the Scout movement in bringing the races together. He was greatly thrilled at the Queen's Birthday Parade in Swaziland, when one European and one African went up side by side to the Resident Commissioner to receive their Certificates as Queen's Scouts.

"Scouting in these three countries will play an important part in building up a co-ordinated community," Sir Charles summed up.

R330,000 FROM OXFAM.

On the eve of his departure on a visit to East Africa and the United Kingdom on June 6, Mr. T.F. Betts, Field Director of the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief, announced that since February 1962, Oxfam has expended in the three Territories, or committed for expenditure on projects now in progress over R330,000.

In Swaziland, Oxfam has financed the first two years of the establishment of a Co-operative Department. Its other projects have included the establishment of the settlement, in conjunction with the Colonial Development Corporation, of Swazi smallholders on irrigated holdings; the provision of water supplies for rural resettlement schemes, of a Filmobile publicity van for agricultural extension work, and of rural housing for women domestic science demonstrators. Funds have also been provided for the erection of a Red Cross Clinic at Goedgegun and for the relief of Swazi families in difficulties as a result of the recent maize crop failure.

Oxfam's funds do not come from impersonal Government sources but are willingly contributed by the ordinary people of Britain to help their fellows in countries overseas. For the High Commission Territories this first phase has been a period of exploration and experiment and it is believed that the groundwork has been laid for a more positive impact, when the Field Director returns in September. The proposal he is now taking home with him, for consideration by his Committee, are for considerable expansion on past programmes.

ON STUDY COURSES.

The following officers left during June on study courses in Kenya, England and India:

Mr. Arthur S. Matsebula and Mr. Daniel Simelane, both Grade I Linesmen in the Posts and Telegraphs Department at Manzini and Mbabane respectively, left Johannesburg

IN
KENYA

by plane on June 21 for Nairobi in Kenya to do six months' telecommunication training with the East African Posts and Telecommunications Administration in Nairobi.

Mr/.....

Mr. Matsebula and Mr. Simelane both completed motor mechanics' courses at the Swaziland Trade Training Centre in Mbabane before being employed by the Government as linesmen. There will be a break of a month, in September, in their training which began in June. For this month they will be employed on field duties by the Kenya Postal Department to prepare them for the second course, which will end on December 7.

Sgt. Timothy Mtetwa of the Swaziland Police Training School, Mbabane, flew to the United Kingdom on June 21, to attend the non-Gazetted Police Officers Course which began on June 24 at the Metropolitan Police Training School, Hendon. It will end on November 9.

IN
ENGLAND

Mrs. Ayllina L.S. Dlamini, wife of Mr. Polycarp Dlamini, Secretary to the Swazi Nation, who has been on the nursing staff of the Mbabane hospital since April 1, 1951, left by plane from Jan Smuts Airport on June 26 for a ten-month study course in Public Health Nursing at the All-India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health in Calcutta, India. The course which started on July 1, 1963 is offered by UNICEF.

IN
INDIA

Inspector N.A. Bantich of the Swaziland Police left for England on June 26 for a four-month course at the West Riding Constabulary Training College, Wakefield. The course started on Monday July 1, and ends on October 26.

IN
ENGLAND

BACK FROM BRITAIN.

Chief Warders Mr. R. J. Mkatshwa and Mr. M.K. Mdluli, both of the Prisons Department, returned from England on June 30. They left Johannesburg on April 1 to attend the Prison Administration Course at the Prison Service College, Wakefield, Yorkshire. Before going to Wakefield, Mr. Mkatshwa and Mr. Mdluli had to be made familiar with the British way of life. They attended a two-day British Council Introductory Course on April 4 and 5.

Mr. Harry M. Dlamini and Mr. Benedict Maseko, two officers of the Veterinary Section who went to England on a study course, returned in July.

ATTENDED COURSE.

Mr. H.G. Dube of the Prisons Department, Mbabane, who was on leave, was among 200 students who in July attended a 12-day course sponsored by the University of South Africa at Hofmeyr High School, Pretoria. The course was aimed at helping students to achieve further education.

Most of the students on the course were from the Republic. Others were from Southern Rhodesia and Nyasaland and eight were from Swaziland. Two of the Swaziland students are at Roma University, Basutoland.

STAFF MOVEMENT/.....

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The following are movements of Administrative Officers:

- Mr. P.J. Miller, District Officer(Cadet), Hlatikulu to Stegi at the end July.
- Mr. E.E.M. Zwane, District Officer, Hlatikulu re-posted to Hlatikulu on his return from leave at the end of July.
- Mr. H. Fraser, District Officer, Stegi posted to Secretariat with effect from July 13.

L E A V E

Mr. A.C.E. Long, Government Secretary, left on June 25 for Britain, on leave. He was accompanied by Mrs. Long. They will be away till October.

Mr. H.M. Roemmele, Secretary to the Public Service Commission, left Jan Smuts Airport on June 30 with his wife and three children for Londonderry, North Ireland. They are due to return on November 6, 1963.

Mrs. B.K. Wilhelm, Personal Assistant to the Government Secretary, left on June 20 to go on leave until August 21, 1963. She is being relieved by Personal Assistant Mrs. D.M. Culverwell, during this period.

Mr. R. Eva, principal of the Swaziland Trade Training Centre, Mbabane and Mrs. Eva left Johannesburg by air on Monday June 24 for Rome and then London. They are due back in October 1963.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

The postal address and telephone number of the Public Service Commission are: Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 158, Mbabane and the telephone number is: Mbabane 600.

DIRECTOR OF MANPOWER.

The Director of Geological Survey has been appointed Director of Manpower. Requests for assistance should be referred direct to the Director of Manpower, P.O. Box 9, Mbabane, phone number - residence, 283; office 411.

RESIGNATION.

Dr. G. Thompson, Veterinary Officer, has left the service and has taken up an appointment in East London. Mr. M. Nel, Agricultural Officer, and Mr. J.F. Botha, Forester, have resigned.

TRANSFER OF OFFICE/.....

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The office of the Agent for the High Commission Territories in Johannesburg will be transferred on August 1, 1963 from 22 Thorpe Street to 38A Albert Street. The new telephone number will be 22-3265

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