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# NEWSLETTER

OF THE BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE GOVERNMENT

ISSUED FOR THE SERVICE BY THE INFORMATION BRANCH

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September 25, 1963

## C E N S U S

Preparations are being made to hold a census in 1964, the main objects of which will be to obtain accurate information on the size, composition, growth and distribution of the population and manpower of the Bechuanaland Protectorate to make possible the planning of further economic development. The information is also urgently needed in connexion with constitutional development for such purposes as demarcation of constituencies.

Mr A. Campbell, until recently District Commissioner, Ghanzi, has been appointed Census Officer, and has started preliminary work. A United Nations expert, Mr V.O. Kannisto of Finland, has been made available in an advisory capacity for a year under the approved UNEPTA programme for 1963/64. Mr Kannisto arrived in the Protectorate earlier this month. Colonial Development and Welfare funds are being provided to pay for the census.

The last full census was taken in 1946, and was followed by a sample census in 1956, but the information at present available is inadequate for the many purposes for which it is needed: for example for applications for assistance from international agencies, allocations of scholarships etc., it is most necessary to be able to state with accuracy what the population of the Protectorate is, and the conditions in which the people live. A census provides this information.

A census also provides information about the distribution of the population; this is useful in planning where to encourage the development of industries etc., as well as in deciding the limits of the various constituency areas for voters as constitutional advance takes place.

The Census Officer and Mr Kannisto have their headquarters at Mochudi. Mr Kannisto has come to the Protectorate accompanied by his wife.

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## OXFORD COMMITTEE FOR FAMINE RELIEF

Four new grants of funds have been made to the Protectorate by the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief, totalling nearly R60,000.

The four grants are -

For the supply of sorghum seed	£3470 (R6940)
For the improvement of district roads	£6000 (R12000)
For construction and repair of stock dams	£5071 (R10142)
For the equipment of boreholes by means of a grant functioning as a revolving loan	£15000 (R30000)

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## LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY SURVEY

Members of the Livestock Industry Survey Commission, Dr.G.R. Purnell and Mr W.S. Clayton met the Bechuanaland Protectorate Agricultural Union, Farmers' Associations, Chambers of Commerce and Tribal Executive Committees between September 9 and 24. The third member of the Commission Dr. H. Thornton, joined Dr. Purnell and Mr Clayton at Gaborones on September.../

*Contributions and Correspondence should be addressed to —*

THE INFORMATION OFFICER, P.O. BOX 196, MAFEKING, C.P.

September 9 for their meeting with the B.P. Agricultural Union, after which he stayed in Lobatsi, where he was concerned with the Abattoir.

Dr. Purnell and Mr Clayton visited Gaborones, the Tuli Block, Mahalapye and Serowe between September 9 and 13. From September 14 to 18 they conferred with Dr. Thornton prior to the latter's departure. From September 18 to 24 they visited Francistown, Bulawayo, Maun, Ghanzi, Mafeking, and Lobatsi. Their last meeting was with the Chairman and Trustees of the Livestock Producers' Trust at Lobatsi.

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### LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT TEAMS

Work done by the Livestock Industry Development Teams North and South is reported on in two papers, one in respect of each team, which were issued recently.

#### North

The report on the Northern Teams, which is concerned only with the Ngwato District, gives its main tasks as -

- (1) to conduct a survey of the livestock industry in the Ngwato Territory with a view to finding answers to various questions which should provide the basis for decisions on reviewing and reforming the policy of the industry;
- (2) to assist in reviewing existing policy and formulating further policy;
- (3) to assist in negotiating acceptance by the Bamangwato of policy changes which are considered desirable.

The principal questions to which answers are being sought relate to the distribution of stock on the ground, among owners, and by sex and type, with a study of the significance of differences between areas, and of contributory factors such as poor husbandry, disease, shortage of water, and so on; land usage, including a study of causes of over-use of certain areas, of the potential for further development and use of each area, and of whether new development requires the imposition of special conditions etc; animal health, including a study of natural increase, of factors contributing thereto, and of disease prevention and control measures; animal husbandry, including a study of the scope for improvement in various areas and the best methods of introducing improved methods; and, finally, marketing, including a study of off-take and grades of animals sold for slaughter, with factors contributing to variations in grade and off-take.

Certain policy changes have already been accepted, and the team has been occupied in publicising them and assisting in their implementation. These include policy on underground water development, the Lebung pilot settlement and ranching scheme, and improved marketing facilities and methods in the West.

#### South

The report from the Southern team, which has been operating in two separate halves in the Kweneng and Ngwaketse respectively, describes working on four general fronts with a few subsidiary activities. These four fronts are grazing control, water development, marketing, and the establishment of syndicates.

Working with the two halves of the team is a senior representative of each tribe - from the Bakwena, Mr B. Kenosi, and from the Bangwaketse, Mr R.N. Kalaben. The District Officer in overall charge of the team, Mr M.C.B. Williams, works in close co-operation with the administrative authorities of the two districts, and with the departments of Veterinary Services and Agriculture.

After surveys in the two districts of the distribution of cattle and stock concentrations, an interim grazing control policy had been paid down of fixing a maximum number of "animal units" + for each borehole of 500 in the Kweneng and 600 in the Ngwaketse. These limits are higher

Footnote: one animal unit comprises a single bovine or equine, or five small stock

than the optimum (400 animal units) laid down by the Agricultural Department, and both tribes aim to open up more water points to enable them to reduce the limits. The Bangwaketse for instance are drilling for water to open up a new area near Khakea, and at one borehole are enforcing a rule that no cattle post should be within one mile of the borehole. The report claims noticeably good grazing near this borehole in spite of a general overcrowding in the area as a whole.

In developing water supplies, the team has publicised the Government policy of granting loans to cattle-owners who wish to sink their own boreholes, and so far there have been 14 applications from the Bakwena, with seven more awaiting the Chief's approval, and 34 from the Bangwaketse.

A condition of the loans that the maximum of 400 animal units to the borehole is not to be exceeded links the water development programme with grazing control, and will, it is hoped, bring home to producers the fact that quality and condition of cattle bring more wealth than mere numbers.

The team has assisted the working of the Bangwaketse Cattle Marketing Scheme with <sup>for their marketing officer</sup> transport, and cattle are now being drawn from the Molopo and from as far west as Morwamotseng. A holding area on the route to Lobatsi has been fenced by the team.

The Bakwena have also established a cattle marketing organisation, which after little more than a year is gaining increasing confidence and support among the people, and is demonstrating the advantages of selling beasts in good condition and of suitable age, since the seller is told exactly what price each beast he sells fetches.

The team is helping the Bangwaketse to organise their syndicates into a society which may prove to be an embryo cooperative society. It has also helped the Bakwena to set up a limited number of experimental syndicates.

Subsidiary activities described by the report include the experimental fencing of a dam for the Bakwena and piping water from it to a trough outside the fence to prevent cattle fouling the water. With the Bangwaketse an experiment is being tried of piping water (with plastic piping) a distance of two and a half miles from a borehole to a subsidiary water-point, with a view to drawing away half the cattle originally using the borehole, and so reducing the concentration of cattle round it. An area between the two points will be kept free of cattle.

Kgosi Bathoen himself is undertaking an experiment in rotational grazing, for which the team is erecting fencing. The Chief will graze his cattle on one side of the fence for one half of the year, and on the other side for the other half of the year.

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MORE COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARS TO STUDY IN BRITAIN  
COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIP COMMISSION AWARDS

219 Commonwealth Scholarships have this year been awarded by Britain to students from 33 countries of the Commonwealth. Since the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission began its work four years ago it has made awards to a total number of 808 scholars. Some 300 of these have completed their tenure. The target set by the Government at the inception of the scheme in 1959 provides for 500 awards to be held at any one time, and this target will in 1963-64 be achieved for the first time. This was announced recently by the Commission. The successful candidates are coming this month for periods of one or two years' study at universities and other institutions of higher education in Britain. The list of newly selected scholars reveals a wide variety of subjects to be studied, ranging from Public Administration to Sanskrit and from Mycology to Mechanical Engineering.

The 219 awards are being made to 40 students from Africa and neighbouring islands (two from the High Commission Territories), 92 from

Asia.../

Asia, 28 from Australia and New Zealand, 54 from the American continents and the West Indies, and 5 from Europe.

Their fields of study comprise Arts (60), Science (48), Technology (38), Medicine and Dentistry (32), Social Studies (37), Agriculture (2), Veterinary Science (2).

The two scholars from the High Commission Territories are Mr T.T.E. Pitso of Basutoland, who is taking History at Birmingham University, and Mr Leonard Sithebe of Swaziland, who is taking Education at the University of London Institute of Education.

In 1960, the first year of the scheme's operation, 173 scholars were selected for a wide variety of courses at a large number of different United Kingdom universities. In 1961 a further 230 awards were made which, with the scholars remaining from the previous year, brought the total number of scholarships held in the 1961-62 session to 381. The total number held in 1962-63 was 471 which included 185 scholars who arrived at the beginning of that session. The 219 scholars whose awards are now announced are expected, together with the scholars whose awards continue from earlier years, to bring the total body of Commonwealth Scholars and Fellows in this country in 1963-64 to a number exceeding 500 for the first time.

ONE THOUSAND SCHOLARSHIPS      The idea for a scheme of Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowships was conceived by the Commonwealth Trade and Economic Conference at Montreal in 1958. It was planned that there should be about 1,000 new Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowships under the scheme and of this total the United Kingdom undertook to provide 500 Scholarships and Fellowships during any one year.

Details of the scheme were worked out at the Commonwealth Education Conference held at Oxford in July 1959.

It was agreed that the majority of the awards, to be known as Commonwealth Scholarships, should be given to men and women of high intellectual promise who might be expected to make a significant contribution to life in their own countries on their return from study overseas.

The Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom was set up by Act of Parliament in 1959 to administer the United Kingdom part of the scheme.

The Commission selects scholars from among those recommended as candidates by the governments of countries of the Commonwealth overseas. It also recommends persons from the United Kingdom as candidates for any scholarships offered by such countries. Final selection rests with the donor country in all cases.

Awards in the United Kingdom are intended for postgraduate study, and are only made at undergraduate level when the applicant is from a country where no university or college offers courses in the subjects of their choice. They are normally of two years' duration and cover the cost of fares, tuition fees and living expenses while the scholar is in the United Kingdom. Special allowances are made to scholars accompanied by their wives.

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COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM,  
CANADA, AND CEYLON, 1964.

The United Kingdom is offering 600 scholarships, Canada 100, and Ceylon 3 to Commonwealth students normally resident in other countries. These scholarships are for purposes of advanced study or research.

Eligibility:                      Candidates must normally be Commonwealth citizens or British protected persons who are, or by the time of taking up the award in 1964 will be, graduates of a University or College in their country or holders of an equivalent qualification.

Age.../

Age limits: Scholarships are open to both men and women who will not have reached their 35th birthday by 1st October, 1964, but preference will be given to candidates between 22 and 28 years of age.

Method of application: Further details and forms of application may be obtained from the Director of Education, P.O.Box 255, Mafeking, to whom interested persons should write before 30th September, 1963.

#### VISIT OF LORD WALSTON

Lord Walston of Newton will be visiting the Protectorate and Mafeking for four days in October. He will arrive in Francistown on October 6, and will visit Palapye, Serowe, Gaberones, and Lobatsi on his way to Mafeking.

During his visit Lord Walston will meet representatives of political parties as well as senior officials of the Government and other leading personalities.

Lord Walston, who is a graduate (M.A.) of Cambridge University and a Research Fellow in Bacteriology of Harvard University (U.S.A.), has had a distinguished career in public service, much of it in the sphere of agriculture. He was a member of the Huntingdonshire War Agriculture Committee from 1939 to 1945, Director of Agriculture in the British Zone of Germany in 1946 and 1947, Agricultural Adviser for Germany to the Foreign Office in 1947 and 1948, and a member of the Cambridgeshire Agriculture Committee from 1948 to 1950. He has also been Counsellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, a Governor of Guy's Hospital, and a Trustee of the Rural Industries Bureau. He has contested four elections as a candidate for the Labour Party, and was made a life peer in 1961. He has written several books on agriculture, and is a contributor to a number of journals.

His recreations are shooting and sailing, and he spends part of his time in the West Indies.

#### U.N. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Mr George Ivan Smith, United Nations Technical Assistance Regional Representative at the Regional Office in Dar-es-Salaam is visiting Mafeking and the Bechuanaland Protectorate at the end of this month.

Mr Smith will meet senior officials and leading non-officials in the course of a short tour from September 27 to October 4, during which he will visit Ramathlabama Veterinary Training School, Kanye, Lobatsi, Mogobane irrigation scheme, Mahalapye and Morale, as well as Government headquarters at Mafeking.

On October 4 he will go on to Basutoland.

#### P R O M O T I O N S

The following promotions have been approved :-

Mr L.G. Duhy to Deputy Director of Posts and Telegraphs.

Mr P.G. Harrison to be Senior Architect.

Messrs J.D.S. King and T.J. Dent to Superintendent of Police.

Inspectors J.A. Cade, W.H. Southwood, C.A.J. Sheppard, J.H. Monour to Assistant Superintendent of Police.

A P P O I N T M E N T

Mr P. Mmusi, Clerk Grade I, Councils, has been selected to fill the training grade post of Assistant Labour Officer w.e.f. 1st October, 1963.

S T O R E S   E X A M I N A T I O N

The following officers passed the Stores Examination on 12 August 1963 after a three-week course :-

Mr M. Mokoto, P. Seane, A. Mayisela, L. Mukokomani, Miss G. Selolwane, Miss V. Gofhamodimo, A. Pontsho, N. Tiro.

Mr Mukokomani (who has only been in Government service for nine months) passed with 76% (pass set at 40%).

Five officers failed.

D E A T H S

Mr Setseeng Modise, Cattle Guard in the Veterinary Department stationed at Palapye, lost his life in a canoeing accident on July 30 while holidaying at Maun.

The body was not recovered from the river until August 4; he was buried the following day.

P A S S E N G E R   T R A I N   S E R V I C E S   T O   T H E  
R E P U B L I C   O F   S O U T H   A F R I C A

The South African Railways are issuing a new Time Table which will come into operation on Monday, 25th NOVEMBER, 1963.

From that date the passenger trains to Kimberley - Cape Town and Johannesburg - Durban will depart from Bulawayo on the following days :-

To Kimberley - Cape Town

SUNDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS.

To Johannesburg - Durban

MONDAYS, THURSDAYS, SATURDAYS.

There will be no alteration to the days on which the respective trains arrive in Bulawayo from the Republic of South Africa.

V A C A N C I E S

The vacant post of Sanitary Inspector (Medical Aid) in the Medical Department is being advertised. Details are as follows :-

QUALIFICATIONS: Minimum - Junior Certificate with English and Arithmetic as passing subjects, and possible Social Science subjects.

SALARY: Scale C.4.3.2.1. R276 x 24 - 492 - 552 x 48 - 744 - 804 x 48 - 996 - 1080 x 48 - 1272.

Entry notch in the scale R300 p.a.

Applications to reach the Director of Medical Services, P.O. Box 252, Mafeking, not later than 31 October, 1963.

# IF YOU ASK ME - - -

September 1963

No.12

Government officers receive numerous questions about the Bechuanaland Protectorate from many and various sources. Some of these concern topics of general interest, and this publication, "If You Ask Me...", is intended to make generally available those answers which appear likely to be of interest to a wider public than they could reach by means of a direct reply to the enquirer. "If You Ask Me..." is not, of course, a substitute for a personal reply, and each enquirer will continue to receive a direct answer whether or not the answer appears in "If You Ask Me...". Enquirers' names will not be disclosed in "If You Ask Me...", but the Information Branch cannot take action on anonymous questions or letters.

QUESTION NO.66:      What is Government doing to combat the 1963 African famine?

ANSWER:              The problem is being faced on both a short and a long term basis.

The short term action has been to secure generous assistance from the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief which, together with Government funds, is being spent in the worst hit areas in the following amounts :-

(a) Supplementary school feeding	R27,940
(b) Supply of subsidised sorghum seed	6,940
(c) Road improvements (district)	12,000
(d) Stock dam improvement & provision of new dams	10,142
(e) Equipment of boreholes	30,000
	<u>R87,022</u>

Applications for long term assistance have been made by Government to Oxfam for financial assistance amounting to some R340,000 in order to help combat possible famine in future years.

Finally it is Government policy to improve conditions generally so that the effects of drought are minimised as far as possible and to this end a substantial part of any development funds in future years will be so utilised.

QUESTION 67:      Are there possibilities of planting rice, sugar, tea and cocoa in the Bechuanaland Protectorate?

ANSWER:              Rice has been tried in the past in Ngamiland, but was destroyed by Quelea birds and so the growing of it was discontinued. It will however be tried again on the new Ngamiland Experimental Station. It is possible also that sugar cane will be tried out on the experimental station. Both crops require either a heavy rainfall or abundant irrigation water for their growth, and so it is unlikely that they could be grown anywhere in the B.P. except on the fringes of the Okavango Swamps.

Tea and cocoa are crops of the wet tropics and could not be grown in the arid sub-tropical climate of Bechuanaland.

QUESTION 68:      What crops, other than the above, can be successfully produced in the B.P. which are not already grown?

ANSWER:              The most promising crop, which is not at present widely grown, is cotton and a campaign has been mounted in the Southern Protectorate to increase production of cotton, and it is expected that over 300 acres will be grown by African farmers in the coming season.

Other potential cash crops which are being tried out at Mahalapye are Turkish tobacco, and the oil seeds linseed and safflower. It is not yet possible to say if these crops can be successfully produced in the B.P.

QUESTION NO.69:

What would be the approximate cost to divert Chobe waters to Kgalagadi?

ANSWER:

It would be an extremely difficult and expensive proposition to divert the waters of the Chobe river, which forms part of the Northern boundary of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, to the Kgalagadi district. It would be easier to divert the waters of the Okovango River to the Kgalagadi by means of a gravity flow canal, but without more information on the ground levels in this part of the territory this is not an assured proposition. Assuming it were possible a sum of not less than £5,000,000 would be required. Whether the benefits to be derived from such a vast undertaking would justify this expenditure is debatable.

QUESTION NO.70:

How do water springs come into being and why do they dry up?

ANSWER:

All springs derive from rain water which has precipitated on high ground and been absorbed into the ground. This water then percolates through the ground in a down hill direction through pervious soils until it strikes impervious strata such as clay or rock. The water then either comes to the surface in the form of a spring or is diverted down into the ground to re-charge ground water aquifers. Springs can diminish and disappear because of a reduction of the rainfall in the area or because the sub-soil water finds an easier way into the ground to become ground water.

Springs are found all over the world more so in high rainfall areas than in semi-arid areas such as the Bechuanaland Protectorate.



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