

29.3.18

NEWS FROM SWAZILAND

POSTAL BALLOT PAPERS

BEING ISSUED

Postal ballot papers for voting on the national roll in the Territory's Legislative Council elections this month are being sent to voters who have applied for them. The issue of postal ballot papers for voting on the European roll began more than a week ago.

No application for a postal ballot paper for voting on the national roll will be accepted after June 16. The papers may be completed immediately and sent back to returning officers. They will not be counted if they are received by returning officers after the close of the poll on June 25.

The national roll polling days are on June 23, 24 and 25 and polling will take place between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily. Polling on the European roll between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on June 16.

FIRST AWARD BY AN
ARBITRATION TRIBUNAL

For the first time in a trade dispute in Swaziland an award has been made by an arbitration tribunal under the Industrial Conciliation and Settlement Proclamation.

The award affects the pay and conditions of service of 13 employees of the Manzini Metal Works. It was made by Mr. A. Germond, who was sole arbitrator in a trade dispute between the Manzini Metal Works and the Swaziland Commercial, Technical and Allied Workers' Union.

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The Secretariat, Mbabane.)

SWAZILAND INFORMATION SERVICE
APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Brian G. St. Clair-Burke, of Marandellas, Southern Rhodesia assumed the duties of Principal Information Officer in the Swaziland Government on June 1. Mr. Ronald G. Webster, of Lusaka has been appointed Visual Aids Officer on transfer from the Government of Northern Rhodesia.

Both Mr. St. Clair-Burke and Mr. Webster were born in London and saw active service during the last World War.

Mr. St. Clair-Burke was educated at St. John's College and at Cambridge University. After the war he became a foreign correspondent for Kemsley Newspapers in Vienna and later editor of "Colony" magazine. Whilst in the United States of America he joined the staff of "Newsweek" the international newsmagazine as a foreign correspondent and travelled extensively throughout Africa. In 1962 Mr. St. Clair-Burke was appointed Senior Information Officer and head of the press section of the Information Department of Southern Rhodesia.

Mr. Webster was educated at Hillbrook Central and Wimbledon Technical College. He worked for several industrial concerns in the United Kingdom and later joined the staff of the Northern Rhodesia Information Department as Senior Visual Aids Officer. He completed a course at the Overseas Visual Aids Centre in London and attended the Cairo Art School and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

Mr. St. Clair-Burke and Mr. Webster are both married and have children.

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15 JUN 1964

MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM
FOR ELECTIONS.

Radio transmitters and receivers mounted in vehicles will be used to keep returning officers in touch with presiding officers at polling stations throughout Swaziland during the Legislative Council elections.

The 1st battalion the York and Lancaster Regiment has agreed to operate a mobile communications system in the Hhohho and Manzini constituencies for the national roll elections, on June 23, 24 and 25. The military communications system will also operate in those districts during polling in the European roll elections, on June 16.

Elsewhere in the Territory there will be seven mobile radio transmitters and receivers provided by the Public Works Department.

Use will also be made throughout Swaziland of police radio stations, which will relay information from polling stations in the vicinity.

Every returning officer will have at his headquarters a police radio set and an army radio set. The Director of Posts and Telegraphs has arranged that telephone calls to or from a returning officer be given priority if the radio fails.

There are 84 polling divisions for the national roll elections and 14 for the European roll elections. All divisions will be in touch with their returning officer at least every two hours, reporting the progress of polling.

Counting of votes will begin the day after polling, at 8.15 a.m. It is expected that the results of the European roll elections will be announced about midday on June 17 by the returning officer in Mbabane.

Counting in the national roll elections will take much longer and it is not expected that the returning officers at Pigg's Peak, Manzini, Stegi and Hlatikulu will be able to announce results in their constituencies until late on Friday, June 26, or even afterwards.

Voting on all polling days is from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Chief Electoral Officer has written to all employers urging that employees be given full opportunity to cast their votes. He quotes the following legal provisions :

"An employer shall, on polling day, allow every voter in his employ a reasonable period for voting, and no employer shall make a deduction from the pay or other remuneration of that voter or impose upon or exact from him a penalty by reason of his absence during that period.

"An employer who, directly or indirectly, refuses or by intimidation, undue influence or in any other manner interferes with, the granting to a voter in his employ of a reasonable period for voting as in this section provided, is guilty of an offence and is liable on conviction to a penalty of a fine not exceeding one hundred rand or imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or both."

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The final project in the development plan will be the installation of a main telephone switching centre at Nsoko, with additional outlets between Big Bend and Gollel.

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SALARIES OF ESTABLISHED NON-PENSIONABLE
OFFICERS TO BE REVIEWED

The Secretary of State has amended the terms of reference of the Public Services Salaries Commissioner, Mr. T.M. Skinner, to include the review of salaries of established non-pensionable officers in the High Commission Territories.

The revised terms of reference are: "To review the current emoluments (excluding inducement allowances payable to designated officers) of pensionable, established and contract staff in the public services of the High Commission Territories, having regard to the financial, economic and constitutional circumstances of each of the three territories. The Commissioner will also advise the British Government direct on the inducement allowances payable to officers designated under the Overseas Aid Scheme."

Mr. Skinner, who will spend July and August in Basutoland, Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland, paid preliminary visits to these three territories and the High Commissioner's Office in Cape Town last month.

TELEPHONE SERVICE

IMPROVED

The number of telephone lines between Mbabane and Manzini have been more than doubled - from five to 12. Calls between the two towns are now connected instantly or in a matter of minutes whereas before there were often delays of up to two and a half hours.

The additional lines have also brought about an improvement in Manzini's service to places beyond Mbabane, particularly to Johannesburg.

Another impending improvement in Swaziland's internal telephone service is the doubling of lines between Manzini

and Stegi. There are two lines now and two more are due to be installed by the end of July.

In the current five-year development plan, which is nearing its end, about R600,000 has been spent on improvements to Swaziland's telephone system. It has been necessary to rearrange and change the plan as a result of developments arising from last year's civil disturbances in Swaziland. For instance the new St. George's Barracks, at Matsapa, have been given three direct lines to Kwaluseni telephone exchange and a large internal telephone system. Services to police stations and prisons have been expanded for the same reason.

There have been several large projects in the development plan now nearing completion: a 12-channel carrier system between Mbabane and Johannesburg has been installed; operating positions in the Mbabane and Manzini exchanges have been increased from two to five; service has been given to 300 new subscribers in Mbabane and 200 in Manzini; cable systems in Mbabane and Manzini have been reconstructed and relaid in ductways instead of in earth trenches; the Usutu Pulp Company has been given service entailing the installation of a 100-line board and construction of a telephone route between the mill and Mbabane; a telecommunications network has been provided for the Swaziland Electricity Board and involves connections to Edwaleni power station and other power installations; the Hlatikulu-Goedgegun route has been reconstructed and expanded and there has been reconstruction of the Goedgegun-Mahamba route; additional lines on the Goedgegun-Mhlotsheni and the Manzini-Balegane routes have been installed to give service to farms that had no telephones.

22 JUN 1964

CHIEF WARDERS RETURN FROM U.K.

Chief Warders Mr. Stoney Nxumalo of Manzini and Mr. Amos M. Maziya of Malkerns are due to arrive by air in Johannesburg on Saturday, June 27 from a three-month course on prison administration in the United Kingdom.

Mr. Maziya told a reporter in London recently: "Such things as vocational classes for prisoners in which they could learn a trade to help them on their release could prove of benefit if adopted in Swaziland. I am sure this idea will eventually be developed when money is available".

Speaking of his impressions on the special release of a prisoner to attend a relative's funeral or visit a sick member of the family, Mr. Maziya said: "This helps to put a prisoner's mind at ease and stops him worrying too much over domestic troubles. He returns to prison having seen for himself the true position of matters which could otherwise have an unsettling effect on him."

Before proceeding to the course at the Staff College, Wakefield, Northern England, Mr. Maziya and Mr. Nxumalo together with 29 other prison officers from eight countries had an opportunity of attending a two-day Introduction Course to the British way of life arranged by the British Council. They also attended a preliminary discussion about the main course at the Department of Technical Co-operation, London.

DOMESTIC SCIENCE DEMONSTRATOR
GOES TO ISRAEL

Mrs. Mildred Dlamini, better known as Mildred Mathonsi, domestic science demonstrator in the Department of Agriculture is attending a four-month course in community development in Israel.

The course which began on June 15, at Mount Carmel International Training Centre, Haifa, places emphasis on adult education and literacy teaching. It includes the theory, methods and techniques in activating the community, understanding and changing attitudes; "know your own country", preparation and use of visual aids and practical work in model lessons, demonstrations and group work.

Both the Agricultural and Education departments are engaged in adult education, the former on home economics

with emphasis on cooking, hygiene and vegetable production and the latter on literacy classes together with the Sebenta Society, a voluntary organisation which aims at furthering community development and education. This society has a total of about 500 students at 24 centres in the Territory which are run by 33 teachers. The Medical Department holds group discussions on health and nutritive education.

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NEWS FROM SWAZILAND

CAMPAIGN AGAINST
MALNUTRITION

A campaign against malnutrition in Swaziland is to be launched by the Swaziland Government with the help of two United Nations agencies, F.A.O. and U.N.I.C.E.F.

The campaign will encourage the production of vegetables, poultry and eggs by Swazi farmers. Their produce will be delivered to schools where groups of Swazi women will be shown by domestic science demonstrators how to cook it properly. The meals they prepare will be eaten by the children attending schools.

The survey on nutrition in Swaziland carried out by Miss Sonia Jones revealed that generally the Swazi diet was deficient in animal protein, calcium and vitamin A. Many children go to school without having eaten a proper meal and this affected their ability to concentrate on their school lessons.

Malnutrition may be due to a shortage of food among subsistence level farmers but it is often due to ignorance of healthy food and its preparation. Some vegetable growers who sell their produce on local markets have undernourished children because they do not appreciate the value of vegetables as food.

Seven areas where improved land use has already been initiated have been selected for the project. F.A.O. will give loans to selected farmers to help them set themselves up as poultry farmers or market gardeners. The Government will train farmers in improved farming methods and will teach women the value of the food and the best way to cook it. Farmers will pay off their F.A.O. loans by supplying food to the schools and the children will pay a nominal amount for the meals they receive.

F.A.O. will provide an expert in nutrition and an expert in extension methods to start the scheme and local staff will be trained to carry on the project and extend it to other areas. F.A.O. have provided fellowships for overseas training in nutrition and home economics, horticulture, poultry management, public relations and audio-visual aids. Three African field officers of the Swaziland Department of Agriculture, Mr. George Khumalo, Mr. Osborne Nxumalo and Mr. Arthur Dlamini, are in Israel on a four-month course in poultry management. An Agricultural extension officer, Mr. Peter Millin, will leave soon for training in agricultural information work and audio-

visual aid techniques in Britain, West Germany, Greece and Israel. On their return to Swaziland these officers will help train local field staff employed in the selected areas of the scheme before it is launched in the field.

The Ngwenyama in Council are supporting the project and have appointed Dr. George Msibi, Mrs. Letta Dlamini and Mr. Mekiseni Dlamini to serve on the planning committee. Under the chairmanship of the Secretary for Local Government, Mr. P.R. Forsyth-Thompson, the committee also has representatives from the Department of Agriculture, the Medical Services and the Department of Education.

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