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29.3.5

FILM ON ELECTIONS IS
BEING MADE

A film explaining registration and voting procedures in the forthcoming Legislative Council elections in Swaziland is being made for the Administration by two officers of the Agricultural Department. It is hoped that the film will be shown in early January.

The officers who are making the film have already produced several films for the Agricultural Department.

This is one of the developments since Her Majesty's Commissioner directed, on October 14, that a special section of Government be formed to disseminate information on the proposed Swaziland Constitution and on the procedure which will be adopted in the election.

Two Landrovers have been equipped with public address systems and are touring the Territory playing recorded explanatory talks on the Constitution and distributing pamphlets explaining its features.

The first pamphlet in the series "Our Constitution" is printed on pink paper and gives the background story on how the Constitution was made. The second, on green paper, explains the functions of the Executive and Legislative Councils. The third, on yellow paper, explains the enhanced powers of the Ngwenyama, or King of Swaziland, and the measures taken to protect Swazi traditional institutions under the new Constitution.

Thirty thousand of each of these pamphlets have been printed and more than two-thirds of them have already been distributed.

A poster has also been prepared graphically portraying the Constitution and this will be distributed in the next few days.

Copies of the pamphlets and posters, which are printed in both English and Swazi, are available at all District Commissioners' offices or from the Information Officer at the Secretariat, Mbabane.

(Issued by the Information Office,
The Secretariat, Mbabane.)

*Liberty
benefit*

EXERCISE TRIDENT

BEGINS

The Swaziland Administration, the Swaziland Police and the 1st Battalion the Loyals are taking part in an exercise which began today to test the organization of security forces in Swaziland and their communications. The exercise, which will end at midday on Friday, is called "Exercise Trident."

While it is taking place, messages about fictitious incidents in the Territory will be passed between the main centres, mostly by telephone and radio. No special precautions will be taken to see that they do not reach any member of the public but the messages will be prefixed and suffixed by the words "Exercise Trident."

The controllers of the exercise point out, therefore, that it is probable some messages will be overheard by people not connected with the exercise. But their fiction should be apparent to most of the public who may overhear them, particularly if the prefix or suffix to^a message is heard clearly.

(Issued by the Information Office,
The Secretariat, Mbabane.)

OXFAM GIVES R160,000

FOR NEW PROJECTS

The Oxford Committee for Famine Relief (Oxfam), of Britain, has most generously agreed to give about R160,000 for several projects to assist agricultural and rural development in Swaziland. This is in addition to the gift of about R42,000 approved earlier by Oxfam for agricultural and health projects in the Territory.

The new schemes are part of an Oxfam programme in which R1,250,000 will be spent in the three High Commission Territories in the next two years.

The biggest single grant to Swaziland is one of about R100,000 to finance the Adult Short Course Training Centre which is to be built with the Agricultural College in Malkerns. Building of the College and Centre, which is to begin early next year, was originally to be financed by the Freedom from Hunger Campaign in Britain. Oxfam has now agreed to take over responsibility for financing the Short Course Centre.

The other new projects to be paid for by Oxfam are:

The Lebombo Quarantine Station, costing R6,000. This will facilitate the movement of cattle to and from the Stegi area where, because of the danger of foot and mouth disease spreading into the district, about 18,000 cattle are now in permanent quarantine.

The Mbuluzi Leper Settlement Farm, costing R11,058. The farm will provide fresh milk and vegetables for the patients of the Leper Settlement being run in the Mbabane District by the Nazarene Mission on behalf of the Government. It will also provide patients with a limited amount of occupational therapy, provide a well-run demonstration farm for agricultural extension purposes and provide a tractor hire service to selected progressive farmers in the area.

The Eluyengweni Settlement Scheme, costing R19,700.. Eluyengweni is an area of nearly 5,600 acres in the Malkerns Valley belonging to the Swazi Nation. It is proposed to assist the farmers in the area to reorganise their farms in a pilot Swazi Irrigation Scheme, resettling the people there to the best advantage. There is sufficient land for 20 small irrigation holdings. The Swazi Nation contributed towards the cost of the Malkerns irrigation canal and is entitled to a share of the water for the Eluyengweni area.

Rural domestic water supplies, costing R1,200. This will launch a scheme to protect, with concrete enclosures, springs in the rural areas and build small reservoirs from which water can be drawn by Swazi families for domestic use.

Small scale irrigation projects will be initiated in a number of Swazi areas with a grant of R10,000.

A livestock improvement/dairy project will be started with a grant of R6,000. The grant will provide six selected master farmers in Swazi Areas with two good Friesland cows each and enough capital to run a dairy unit for two years. The farmers will have to pay half the money spent on their farms within five years.

A grant of R17,500 is to be made to organize Swaziland's handicraft industry, the yearly turnover is of which is estimated to exceed R50,000, and to stimulate production. Organized groups in the various areas would eventually become co-operative societies and the establishment of a central marketing body will follow. World-wide distribution of products would be an aim of the marketing body.

A handicraft teacher/organizer would be employed in this scheme.

There will continued assistance to farmers becoming tenants in the Vuvulane Settlement Scheme of the Swaziland Irrigation Scheme. A further grant of R3,720 is to be made to provide subsistence for the first year for farmers leasing the eight-acre holdings in the scheme. The money is repayable by the farmers.

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18th November, 1963.

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SWAZILAND CONSTITUTION
TO BE PROMULGATED SOON

The full text of the proposed new constitution for Swaziland will be promulgated "very shortly" by Order in Council. This was announced in the House of Commons yesterday (Tuesday) by Mr. Duncan Sandys, Secretary of State for the Colonies, in a written reply to Mr. Patrick Wall (Conservative).

PETITION FROM PARAMOUNT CHIEF

A petition from the Paramount Chief of Swaziland and King of the Swazi Nation was presented in the House of Commons yesterday by Mr. Patrick Wall (Conservative).

Mr. Wall said his petitioner, Ngwenyama Sobhuza II, sought relief on matters of principle arising out of the proposed new constitution for Swaziland.

The petition concluded with a Prayer that the House of Commons should direct the constitution of Swaziland to incorporate the method of election of the Legislative Council set out in the petition, provide for recognition of the status of Swaziland and accord the Paramount Chief his rightful status with commensurate powers in the Government of the country.

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