

NYASALANDNEW CONSTITUTION PROPOSALS:

At the recent London Conference on Nyasaland, agreement was reached on recommendations for a new Constitution. It is proposed that there should be a restricted franchise for which it is estimated that about 100,000 persons of all races will be entitled to register. The Legislative Council should consist of 28 elected non-official members, 3 ex-officio and 2 nominated official members of the Executive Council. Twenty of the twentyeight non-official members to be Africans. There should be an Executive Council of ten members presided over by the Governor and should comprise five official and five non-official members. Of the non-official members three will be Africans and two Europeans. The Governor may, also, appoint up to three Parliamentary Secretaries of whom at least two must be Africans.

The Conference recognised the need to ensure the complete impartiality and independence of the judiciary and that security and non-discrimination should be assured to the civil service. Also, that the traditional political institutions in Nyasaland must be harmoniously reconciled with the development of parliamentary government at the centre. In this process, the chiefs would have an important and time-honoured role to play.

All the delegates to the Conference declared that they mean to work the new Constitution and recognised "that a reasonable period of trial for it will be necessary to ensure the stability upon which economic and social progress and further constitutional advance could be based".

The Nyasaland Government is appointing a working party to draw up detailed recommendations on the definition of the franchise qualifications, the registration of voters, the qualifications and nomination of candidates, the delimitation of constituencies and other matters with a view to the implementation of the conclusions of the London Conference.

COMMITTEE TO ADVISE ON CIVIL SERVICE:

A special committee is to consider the increased employment of local officers in the Civil Service of Nyasaland. Mr. A. L. Adu, Head of the Civil Service in Ghana, has been made available by the Ghana Government as Chairman of the Committee. The other members of the Committee will be Africans and Europeans drawn from the Protectorate.

NATIVE AUTHORITIES:

The number of Native Authorities established in the Protectorate is 171. There are 75 in the Southern Province, 59 in the Central Province and 37 in the Northern Province.

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THE NEXT BULLETIN WILL BE ISSUED AT THE END OF JANUARY 1962.

- SOUTHERN RHODESIA -

COUNCIL OF CHIEFS AND PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLIES.

The bill to provide for Provincial Assemblies and a Council of Chiefs has passed its Third Reading in Parliament.

The Tribal Trust Land (Native Reserves and Special Native Areas) is to be divided into seven provinces each of which will have its assembly of chiefs known as the Provincial Assembly. These assemblies will meet at least twice a year and will be responsible for bringing to the notice of the Minister any matter of local interest. Matters of national interest will be referred to the Council of Chiefs.

Each Provincial Assembly will elect not less than three and not more than five of its members to form the Council of Chiefs. The Council will meet, also, not less than twice a year. The functions of the Council will be:-

- "(a) to make representations to the Minister in regard to the needs and wishes of the tribesmen living on Tribal Trust Land;
- (b) to consider any representation made to it by a provincial assembly and in its discretion to report thereon to the Minister."

In addition, the Council will consider and report on matters referred to it by the Minister or the Board of Trustees.

AMENDMENT TO NATIVE LAND HUSBANDRY ACT.

In terms of an amending Act which became effective on 24th November, 1961, a native commissioner after consultation with the respective chief concerned, may demarcate an area of prescribed grazing land for temporary cultivation to those Africans qualified to have farming rights but who at present do not possess such rights.

LUVEVE TECHNICAL TEACHER TRAINING COLLEGE.

At this College, African students are trained to become teachers of technical subjects. At present there are 50 trainees. Students are offered a choice of eight courses. These are - electrical engineering, including installation; machine shop engineering; automobile engineering practice; plumbing; carpentry and joinery; brickwork; plastering; and painting and decorating.

The four-year courses prepare students for the City and Guilds Examinations at ordinary and advanced levels. The fifth year leads to the Teacher's Diploma.

The courses demand a high standard in both craft practice and scientific theory: admission is consequently limited to holders of the Cambridge School Certificate. Preference is given to those with credits in English, mathematics and science.

FORMATION/.....

FORMATION OF AN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY.

A company has been formed to specialise in the provision of finance to African farmers, co-operatives and businessmen.

The company will be entirely financed by private enterprise and the present issued capital is £100,000 but provision has been made for an ultimate issued capital of £250,000.

The activities of the company will extend into areas not normally covered by the commercial banks. The company will operate on a non-racial basis and borrowers will be expected to pay the normal bank overdraft rate on their loans.

INYATI SCHOOL SPEECH DAY.

Speaking at the Inyati Secondary School for Africans on 25th November, the Minister of Labour, Social Welfare and Housing, the Hon. A.E. Abrahamson, M.P., reminded the students of the difficulties the Colony's first missionaries had in inducing the Africans to see the advantages of literacy. Mr. Abrahamson read the following extract of a letter written in August 1863 by William Sykes of the Inyati Mission:-

".....As to schools, alas, the prospect is black indeed. I have tried times without number during the past year to induce the people to learn to read and have spent hours again and again in explaining to them the advantages of being able to read and write. Some have said that they would learn to read at once, but when they found that it would take weeks, perhaps months, to learn to read well, the resolution had vanished more quickly even than it had been formed. Others have said that they would learn if I would give them something for learning, which I always declined to do....."

The first "Prize Day" at the Mission took place twenty years later on 26th December, 1883, which Sykes described as follows:-

".....We had a novel scene here last week - an examination of the school and giving of prizes. I had announced our intention some weeks previous, and promised that out of a number of knives of different values those who obtained sufficient marks would have their choice in order - the best scholar having the first pick. About 20 youths gathered for the contest, and the four successful competitors carried off their bright prizes. By way of comforting the unsuccessful, and as a treat in honour of the visit of our friends, we gave the school two sheep for a feast, of which I suppose in about an hour every scrap had disappeared down the 'red lanes'....."

Mr. Abrahamson then informed his hearers that there were now 525,000 African children in primary schools in the Colony and he said "...there is an increasing demand for better and wider educational facilities which poses a grave financial problem and presents a challenge to those responsible....."

SOUTHERN RHODESIA INFORMATION SERVICE : NEW BOOKLETS ISSUED.

Two booklets both in English, ChiShona and SiNdebele have been issued during the month. The booklets are entitled "How to Conduct a Meeting" and "Mainly for Mothers". The latter deals with the prevention of accidents in the home and first-aid hints. Free copies may be obtained from the Southern Rhodesia Information Service, P.O. Box 8232, Causeway.

- NORTHERN RHODESIA -

DEATH OF LAWRENCE KATILUNGU.

Mr. L.C. Katilungu, the acting President of the African National Congress and member of the Legislative Council was killed in a road accident on 9th November, 1961.

Tributes to Mr. Katilungu from all sides of the House were made by members of the Legislative Council on the 14th November, when the following Motion was carried:-

"That this Council do place on record its deep regret at the death of the late Mr. Lawrence Katilungu, together with its appreciation of his distinguished services to the Territory, and that the sympathy of the Council be conveyed to his family".

DIRECT AFRICAN REPRESENTATION IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

The Minister of Local Government, Mr. H.L. Jones recently outlined in the Legislative Council the proposals to give Africans a vote in local government affairs.

The Minister said in part "....A system of election based on the principle of dual rolls has been devised.....this system would require that there should be two main types of councillors and two corresponding types of electors. The division would not be on racial lines but on the contribution made to the funds of the local authorities and a person would be permitted to be enrolled on only one of the two voters' rolls. The present age and residential qualifications and the requirements that a voter should be the owner or occupier of premises valued for rating purposes at £750 or more would be retained. Those qualifying on this roll would vote for candidates chosen from their ranks and the councillors so elected would be expected to form a majority of the members of the local authority....."

"....In order to enfranchise those residents of whatever race or colour who lawfully reside in a local authority area but who, because the premises they occupy are exempt from assessment for rates or are of a value of less than £750, fall short of qualifying for enrolment on what would be known as the "ratepayers' voters' roll", there should be prepared a separate "residents' voters' roll". Similar residential and age qualifications to those applicable to a "ratepayer" would be required for enrolment on this roll. Voters styled "residents" would be able to vote for candidates chosen from their ranks and the members so elected would be called "councillors to represent residents". These, however, would be expected to form the minority of the members of the local authority....."

NON-RACIAL TEACHING SERVICE.

A proposed amendment to the African Education Ordinance will make provision for the establishment of a Northern Rhodesia Teaching Service on non-racial lines. The amendment, published as a Bill in a recent Government Gazette, also provides for the establishment of a Teaching Service Commission and makes provision for membership of the Teaching Service.

The Teaching Service will replace the Unified African Teaching Service for new appointments and will be on similar lines to the Local Conditions of Service approved for civil servants by the Legislative Council at its last session. (Nshila).

- NYASALAND -

HISTORIC SESSION OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OPENED.

The first Session of the Legislative Council with African Members in a majority was opened by the Governor, Sir Glyn Jones on 28th November, 1961. In his speech from the Throne His Excellency said inter alia "I have been struck by the keen appreciation with which the Ministers view the responsibilities placed on their shoulders and by the determination with which they try to measure up to those responsibilities."

SMALLPOX POSITION.

In Nyasaland's Central Province, there have been 2,691 cases of smallpox, with 233 deaths, from December 1959 to November 1961. The Federal Ministry of Health in Blantyre says that the outbreak has now been curtailed. There are only sporadic cases and they are being dealt with by Health teams. A spokesman for the Ministry has said that some cases were occurring in the Southern Province, but vaccination teams were covering the area.

COMMONWEALTH TEACHER TRAINING SCHEME BURSARIES.

The Nyasaland Government announced recently that ten bursaries, worth more than £6,000 have been offered to the territory under the Commonwealth Teacher Training Scheme.

Two of the bursaries are for students at Domasi Teacher Training College, near Zomba, and the rest are available to teachers and others associated with education, provided they hold the School Certificate.

The courses will be held at various centres in Britain, and subjects range from housecraft for women students to the teaching of English as a foreign language.

The Commonwealth Teacher Training Scheme was started early last year to provide men and women in overseas territories with an opportunity to study in Britain.

LOANS TO AFRICANS.

Nearly £50,000 was lent to 381 Africans in Nyasaland for the development of farms, houses and businesses in the Nyasaland Loan Board's second year of existence. The Board originally had £157,000 available, and by the end of last December £81,000 had been drawn, with £27,000 of the remainder having been committed. Emphasis is on loans for agriculture, and a large amount had been allocated to people developing coffee for the first time on single-acre plots.

AFRICAN TO STUDY ARCHITECTURE.

A Nyasaland African, Mr. Felix Sapao, is to study architecture for six years in Germany under a new training scheme started by the White Fathers and partly financed by the Federal German Government. Mr. Sapao, who is 22 years old, is a trainee assistant supervisor with the Nyasaland Agricultural and Marketing Board at Limbe. He was educated in Northern Rhodesia and at the Catholic Secondary School in Zomba. After completing his course he hopes to join the Nyasaland Ministry of Works and Transport.

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- SOUTHERN RHODESIA -

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OPENING OF PARLIAMENT : 25TH FEBRUARY 1964.

Below are extracts from the Opening Speech by His Excellency the Governor:-

"Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly, I welcome you to the Second Session of the Tenth Parliament of Southern Rhodesia.

By a Statutory Instrument, made by Her Majesty in Council on the 20th December, 1963, the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, and with it the Federal Government, the Federal Legislature and other Federal authorities, was dissolved immediately before the 1st January, 1964.

My Ministers have disclaimed responsibility in any way for this act and have declined, in consequence, to contribute towards the costs of dissolution. The functions of Government which Southern Rhodesia surrendered in 1953 have returned to the country. In the course of the transfer, a considerable number of Federal Government enactments were modified and adapted by Order in Council and have become part of the Southern Rhodesia statute law....."

".....For 1964 there are indications of an expansion in activity in many sectors of the economy. Since the middle of last year the volume of retail trade has improved, industrial production has expanded, and the consumption of electricity has risen substantially. There has been a promising increase in beef production. The sugar industry is developing well. The phosphate deposits at Dorowa are being exploited and the output of iron, steel and ferro-chrome during 1964 is assured at a high level.

My Ministers will continue to give careful attention to measures designed to stimulate the economy. The Industrial Development Corporation has been established. A National Export Council will be set up to cover all the country's products. The Sabi-Lundi Development Board has recommended the establishment of a permanent authority for the development of the low veld. This recommendation will be examined carefully by my Ministers....."

".....My Government are pursuing the rapid development of the agricultural industry. All sectors of agriculture are now under the control of a single Ministry, which is being assisted in its tasks by an Agricultural Production Committee. Through the encouragement of tenant farming and other schemes my Government will seek to promote closer land settlement in established farming areas....."

".....My Government are developing productive irrigation schemes and work has commenced on the Chiredzi-Manjirenji scheme.....On Lake Kariba, marketing and refrigeration facilities have now been provided at both Kariba and Binga by the private enterprise concessionaires. African fishermen who avail themselves of these facilities are now showing considerable interest in the industry and licenses have been authorized for a total of 1,600 nets. My Government will continue to stimulate the development of this industry....."

".....My Government's policy of establishing a system of local government throughout the country by the processes of community development is being pursued and, as soon as practical, legislation will be presented making

possible/.....

possible the creation of local authorities in rural areas where none exist or cannot be formed under existing legislation.

Education is now under the control of a single Minister and the two Ministries of Education will direct their immediate efforts and planned investigations towards unification as a single Ministry. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has been invited by my Ministers to provide a planning team to advise on the future development of education in Southern Rhodesia and on the costs involved....."

".....My Prime Minister had the opportunity last month of having personal and private discussions with the British Prime Minister and with the Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations on independence for Southern Rhodesia. It is now plain that the British Government are not prepared to be brought to any conclusion, except on the most extravagant terms; not because of misgivings about my Government's competence and ability to govern in the interests of the country or the logic and rightness of my Ministers' case, but because they wish to placate at all costs those members of the Commonwealth who have declared, openly, their hostility to my Government and country. My Ministers consider that they have done their utmost and that there is no obligation upon them to initiate further discussions....."

".....In Her Majesty's name, I now declare this the Second Session of the Tenth Parliament of Southern Rhodesia to be duly opened".

FIRST AFRICAN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIST IN CENTRAL AFRICA.

Mr. Daniel G. Matonda who graduated last year from the University College of Rhodesia and Nyasaland with a B.A. Degree in Economics, English and Anthropology has joined the staff of the Economics and Marketing Branch of the Ministry of Agriculture. He will initially be working on surveys among African farmers with a view to developing farm management advisory services.

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- SOUTHERN RHODESIA -

NATIVE DEVELOPMENT FUND : EXPENDITURE AND ACHIEVEMENTS.

During the period 1956 to 1962 a sum of £17,731,082 has been expended on an agricultural development plan. To finance the plan, it has been necessary to borrow £3,443,000 of which the Fund has undertaken to service and repay £1,856,000. The balance of the funds required were obtained from grants to the Native Development Fund from revenue votes and from levies on the sales of African grown produce and livestock. The African farmers' contribution through the levies has been in the proportion of £1 to the £8 from Government sources.

Over the seven year period the following works have been carried out:-

Water Development. 1,910 successful boreholes have been sunk and fitted with pumps, 1,368 dams and weirs built, 736 successful wells sunk and 367 other water points erected. In addition, between £100,000 and £150,000 per annum has been spent on maintaining existing water supplies.

Roads and Bridges. 7,998 miles of new road have been completed. 2,114 miles of road cut but not completed, 4,147 miles of road re-aligned, 1,581 miles of road gravelled, 121 bridges built and 4,138 culverts and stream crossings constructed. Nearly £250,000 per annum has been spent on maintaining existing roads.

Conservation, Survey and Registration. Almost 1,800,000 acres of arable land have been demarcated and beaconed. This has involved the pegging of approximately 270,000,000 yards of contours and storm drains, of which 75 per cent have been constructed, the contours by land-users and the storm drains by the Native Development Fund.

Buildings. 98 Land Development Officers' houses were constructed during the period, and, as far as other buildings are concerned, apart from numerous small buildings such as store-rooms, workshops, map-rooms, etc., the bulk of the expenditure was used to construct 502 demonstrators' cottages.

Experimental Stations. Funds were used to maintain and operate seven breeding and experimental stations and to promote research into the agricultural problems peculiar to the Tribal Trust Lands. Extensive developments were undertaken on all stations.

Marketing. Funds were used to provide marketing services and to operate a transport equalization fund for the main crops - maize, munga, kaffir-corn and groundnuts, and for subsidiary crops such as cotton, tobacco, seed beans, vegetables, etc., and for cattle marketing. As far as the latter is concerned, over 100 sale-yards are being maintained, of which 70 were constructed during the period and fitted with weighbridges and quarters for the buyers and operators. Cattle marketing is operated on a weight-and-grade auction system.

Dipping. At the end of 1962, the Fund was operating 1,316 dip tanks for dipping nearly 2,000,000 head of cattle. 430 new dip tanks were built.

Afforestation/.....

Afforestation. Nearly 2,000 acres of new plantations were established, bringing the total of established plantations maintained by the Fund to 6,200 acres.

General Development. The funds provided under this heading cover a multiplicity of items for promoting better agriculture, such as demonstration plots, seed bulking plots, operation of bull camps, fencing, promotion of fish farming, bee-keeping, agricultural shows, weed eradication, crop trials, etc.

Training. The funds were used to set up three training institutes for teaching agricultural officers extension methods and advanced courses for African farmers, and 520 training centres for training African farmers.

AFRICANS PRODUCING SEED FOR EXPORT.

Vegetable seed production for export has become big business for about 1,000 African farmers spread over eight irrigation schemes, mainly in the Sabi Valley, in Manicaland, where 80 per cent of the country's total production of seed bean, pea, lettuce and seed tomato was being grown. It was estimated by Mr. P.E. Maitin, Irrigation Group Officer for Manicaland, that production this year would be to the value of £50,000, according to a Government statement.

There were 1,165 acres under seed bean, 40 acres under seed pea, 74 acres under seed lettuce and 17 acres under seed tomato in the irrigation areas. There were in addition 190 acres under green beans estimated to yield a further £6,000 this year.

High Quality Seed.

Due to the strict control exercised by the Department of Conservation and Extension, the seed produced was of a very high quality. Last season, samples tested by the Seed Services, yielded an average purity of 99.9 per cent.

The marketing of the seed crops was being handled by the Department of Economics and Marketing, which had actively encouraged the formation of co-operatives on the irrigation settlements. The co-operatives, which had been established so far, were now handling the marketing of their members' crops most efficiently.

It had been proved that hand harvesting as opposed to machine harvesting, resulted in a superior quality seed and that vegetable seed production was primarily a peasant farming crop, easily handled by the family unit.....(MURIMI).

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