

Native Service Contract Act, and revenue is lower as a result of the financial stringency and consequent unemployment in the towns and country districts. Fortunately an investment in a mortgage bond yielded a satisfactory profit on redemption and the Association closed the year with a surplus of £366 8s 4d, after making ample provision for depreciation and reserves.

The Association has now completed the 30th year of its existence and the harvest of the years justifies all the hopes which were expressed by the late Sir Julius Jeppe at the inaugural meeting. It has behind it a long record of achievement in fostering and protecting the interests of landowners and in assisting in the development of the Transvaal. On the 30th June there were 63 members representing an aggregate landholding of 9,365,000 acres in the Union. The Association is also representing 19 other landowners. During the year one member resigned and 4 new members were elected.

The Association has been in correspondence with sundry overseas organisations concerning matters of mutual interest and is now acting as Honorary Correspondent for the Central Landowners' Association, London, and that Association is acting in a similar capacity on our behalf. The Executive Committee is arranging, too, in connection with its endeavour to extend the scope of the Association's activities amongst landowners, to appoint representatives in certain cities in the Union. At the special General Meeting just held you agreed to certain amendments to the Constitution which will aid the Executive in carrying out its aims and objects and, in particular, to attract an increasing number of landowners to the Association. It is a commonplace that the experience and ideas of experts must be pooled for mutual benefit: this Association should, therefore, be a meeting place to which all landowners, large or small, should be able to come to discuss matters affecting their common interests and to co-operate for the advancement of their individual concerns.

The Association might also be of practical use in the provision of a specialised reference library and a department for collating and disseminating the results of agricultural and pastoral research and investigations into land uses, and for advising members of new legislation, court cases of interest and the latest literature concerning land, agricultural interests, town planning, etc.

There are also such matters as a common effort to study the possibilities of the local market; attracting and attending to enquiries from overseas; promoting unification of land interests in the various Provinces comprising the Union, and encouraging working with the Farmers' Associations.

The Association is a non-political body but one of its principal functions is to scrutinise all legislature affecting landowners and agriculturalists and to make their point of view known where such interests may be prejudiced. During the past year the Legislative Assembly and Senate in Capetown, and the Provincial Council in Pretoria, have provided ample opportunities for ensuring that there shall be no slackening of work for your Executive.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

In the early days of the Association reference was made from the Chair to the need for a thorough system of agricultural education, commencing in the village and farm Primary Schools and extending to the Agricultural Colleges and Technical Institutes. Much progress has been made in the provision of schools and elementary lectures given to workers on the land

by means of trains equipped with apparatus for practical demonstrations; but the exodus of population from the platteland, the small percentage of model farms, the lack of appreciation of the requirements of overseas markets, the fact that the Trade Commissioners have occasion to refer to the need for improving the packing, marking and preparation of produce (especially in competitive markets), the increase in soil erosion and the trekking of stock, etc., etc., all indicate that a great deal has yet to be done. The success which has been achieved by the Danish agriculturalists is attributed to the system of education in vogue in the rural areas of Denmark. With the changing conditions in agriculture a survey of our system of agricultural education could advantageously be made and efforts directed to make it more practical and of the quality of our leading competitors.

In this connection the Drought Commission Report of 1923 states "your Commissioners find that taking into account that so many scholars will in later life be directly or indirectly dependent on agriculture for their livelihood, the course of instruction followed, particularly in rural areas, should have a strong agricultural bias." Much could be done in the way of demonstrating to the potential farmer and assistant how and why the grazing, scrub and forests need protection and the evil effects of the uncontrolled fires on the water supplies and the flora and fauna of the country.

Efforts should be made, through the medium of agricultural science, to awaken youthful interest and to give an insight into the wonderland of nature, thereby stimulating and developing progressiveness and creating a thirst for knowledge—all helping to provide the ground work necessary for intelligent farming.

It is impossible in any scheme of education affecting the agricultural and pastoral side of the country's activities to omit mention of the Bantu. The natives continue, to a large extent, to take the utmost out of the soil, without attempting to replace material essential to successful plant-growth. In common with some of the Europeans, they indulge in veld burning and over-stocking, disregarding or having no knowledge of the most elementary rules for the preservation of the veld. The strength of any chain is its weakest link and it is imperative from every point of view—not the least that of landowners—that the natives should be made aware of the dangers of their present harmful methods of agriculture and stock raising and that the recommendations of the Native Economic Commission on their general education should be adopted.

It is instructive to read the closing remarks of the Secretary for Agriculture in his notes on the scheme to combat soil erosion, as they apply equally to the subject of agricultural education and the native land question. He said: "In other words, to tackle one phase of the matter and neglect another would, in the long run, mean so much time, labour and money wasted." To this I would add that government includes the art of formulating policies, whilst possibly its greatest duty is to educate. There is certainly ample scope for it if our products are to compete successfully in the world's markets.

RESEARCH

There are many indications to-day that a well-equipped and efficient research organisation is coming to be regarded more and more as an essential part of each industry. There is, too, a wide field in archaeology, ethnology, entomology and in our agricultural, pastoral and silvicultural practices. Another useful opening for research is in the direction of transport methods and costs which so vitally affect the cost of production and

deserve far more attention than they receive. We live in an age of constant change and progress, but in no field is this more marked than in science and never before in history has scientific research been so fruitful in results.

We need in South Africa a central body for all scientific research. Such a body should be organised and supported by the Government to co-ordinate the work of existing associations and institutes, to assist in establishing further research associations, and to work in co-operation with Research Organisations in other African States and overseas.

A large amount of extremely useful work is being carried on by various industries, Institutions and Government Departments, but this is a plea to organise further research in the many directions where there is ample scope and to secure that, where possible, discoveries made overseas may be examined in the light of their possible application to our own industries. As examples of these I may mention the research carried out by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research in England on the transport and storage of fruit, vegetables, fish and chilled meat; on the problem of the protection of metals against corrosion; on extending the uses of tin; and on the development of the canning industry. All these investigations are of the greatest importance to South Africa and call for the closest co-operation not only in research but in the commercial exploitation of the results.

I referred just now to the need for a Central Association to organise research and to co-operate with the Research Organisations of other African States and Dominions. The fact that the red-winged locusts (which are not indigenous to the Union and whose breeding grounds are in the Moero Swamp at the south-western end of Lake Tanganyika) have again penetrated to the Union during the year, indicates the need for co-operating research with a view to common action by the various Governments of Africa. Other examples are pasture research and investigations into the shipping of cattle on the hoof or as chilled beef, which are being undertaken in Southern Rhodesia at the moment. Sooner or later, too, it will be necessary to carry out, as in America, detailed surveys of land uses, including soil research, for the purpose of ascertaining what every part of the Union is capable of producing, and to work out schemes to make effective use of the results. Under existing conditions there is a lot of mis-directed energy and a waste of private and public money which could be avoided if research and investigation into such problems as soil conditions and grasses had been undertaken long ago. There is real need for a sane and efficient planning of land uses according to the intrinsic value of the land for any given purpose.

ROADS

The allocations for road expenditure in the Province for the current financial year (1933/34) are £229,320 for maintenance and repairs and £124,395 for new construction, a total of £353,715. This amount of £124,395 includes £10,150 for new roads in the Rustenburg district, £10,000 in the Pretoria district, £7,950 in the Witbank district, £7,550 in the Lydenburg district, £8,000 in the Belfast district and £5,400 for the Middelburg district. Other districts in which Members' farms are situated receive amounts varying from £2,000 to £5,000 for new roads. The mileage of new roads completed during the previous financial year was 187·7.

At a meeting of the Provincial Finance Commission, Mr W. F. Murray submitted a memorandum in which, amongst other things, he strongly advocated the establishment of a National Road Board to direct the major

aspects of road transportation from a national point of view, on the lines of similar boards in America, Australia and elsewhere. The suggestions made generally follow the lines of the report made by the 1923 Union Road Committee of which Mr Murray was a member. Details of the scheme were published in *The Friend* of the 20th September 1933.

The Association has consistently advocated for years the value of a wise scheme of good roads which would have a permanent effect in improving communications, bringing outside districts into closer touch with the markets, improving the tourist traffic, spreading business over a wider area and doing much towards bridging the gulf between town and country. Under the existing system of control of roads, this country is falling behind its competitors and it is urgently necessary that a national road policy should be framed and carried out. As far back as 1923 the Drought Commission reported that it would be to the benefit of farmers if the roads of the country were improved, and further stated that the unmade roads were a fruitful cause of drought and were continuously ruining the veld. Despite the recommendations of the Drought Commission and the Roads Commission, conditions are unchanged to-day and it is to be hoped that, not only will a National Roads Board be instituted with power to carry out a national policy, but that any local committees formed to replace existing Road Boards shall be composed of men of experience carefully selected to carry out the policy of the Board.

NATIVE SERVICE CONTRACT ACT

This Act, with the exception of Section 9, came into operation during the year but so far has not been rigorously enforced. Owing to its importance to members, I propose, with your indulgence, to deal with this Act at some length—but, before doing so, perhaps it would be as well to refer to previous history on this question, particularly as it has a bearing on current events.

You will remember that in 1913 Parliament passed the Natives Land Act, a measure laying down the principle of territorial separation of rights in land between natives and non-natives. Certain areas were definitely set aside as scheduled native areas; it was laid down that no native could acquire from a European (and vice versa) any land or interest in land except with the approval of the Governor-General, and that a Commission would be appointed to enquire and report what areas should definitely be set apart for the future occupation of whites and natives respectively. To carry out the provisions of the Act, the Beaumont Commission was appointed and in 1916 it recommended additional native areas in the various provinces. In 1917 the Government introduced the Native Affairs Administration Bill which embodied a schedule of the areas which the Beaumont Commission recommended should be set aside for native occupation. This Bill was referred to a Select Committee and thereafter Local Committees were appointed to enquire into the suitability or otherwise of the Commission's proposed areas. The Local Committees reported in 1918.

In 1919 your Association was officially advised by the Secretary for Native Affairs that since the reports of the various local Natives Land Committees had been published the Government, as an administrative principle, regarded as potential future native areas such areas as had been recommended for native occupation both by the Beaumont Commission and by a local committee and in such areas leases were being freely approved for periods not exceeding three years. The position, then, was that until quite recently natives could, with the sanction of the Government, lease or

acquire land in a Local Committee area—which was a measure of relief from the restrictions imposed by the 1913 Act. In 1927 the late Government introduced a series of Bills on the Native question and included therein was the Natives Land (Amendment) Bill. These Bills have been referred to a Joint Select Committee of both Houses of Parliament and are still under consideration.

In the meantime the late Government introduced and passed the Native Service Contract Act. The main features of this Act are:—

1. That every male native must produce a document of identity and no person may employ a male native domiciled on privately owned land in the Transvaal or Natal unless such native produces a labour tenant contract or a written statement from the owner of the land on which the native is domiciled to the effect that such native has the owner's permission to enter service for a specified period and is not obliged to render him any service during such period.

The effect of this is that an employer of labour must satisfy himself that the boy he engages for work carries the prescribed identification certificate and pass. The boy's working period is limited to the date stated by the owner of the farm. Actually a native domiciled on a private farm is penalised in looking for employment as compared with natives from locations and all natives outside of the Transvaal and Natal.

2. That a tax of £5 per annum may be levied in respect of native males, with a few exceptions, domiciled in a proclaimed area on private land (not being a location or urban area) where such natives have not during a period of not less than 3 to 6 months in every calendar year, as may be defined by proclamation, rendered service to the owner of the land.

This section of the Act is not in force but the fact that it can be enforced at any time has caused landowners who are not able to employ all their natives considerable apprehension.

We have had a full discussion with the Government on this matter, and it is fully appreciated that members are not prepared to pay the tax of £5 per male native per annum and that, if the Section is enforced, members would give all natives not in service notice to quit with their stock. The Government has promised to keep the Association advised of its intentions with regard to proclamations under Section 9 and in the meantime we are perfecting our organisation so that if perchance any areas are proclaimed the necessary notices to quit can be served on the native tenants with the least possible delay.

The attitude of the Association has been consistent throughout, *viz* that section 9 should not be enforced until land is available for the natives who may be dispossessed of their present leases. According to the Press reports during the discussion on the Bill, the then Minister of Justice repeated a previous assurance that the taxation clause would only be applied when the natives would have land to go to if they had to leave the farms. He regarded this as a matter of fundamental justice that could not be ignored by any Government of the Union.

After the passing of the Bill, the Government withdrew its consent to the settlement of natives in the Native Released Areas which the Beaumont Commission and Local Committees suggested should be set aside for native occupation. This does not refer to grazing leases, but we do submit that

this restriction is contrary to the whole spirit of the understanding between the European and the Bantu and, under existing economic conditions, is adding to the difficulties of the natives and is of no assistance to the Europeans. The Government further instructed a number of Committees, each under a magistrate, to make enquiries concerning various points arising out of the Act, points which are set out clearly in the report before you. As an Association we replied fully to the questionnaire and in some instances supplemented our letter by verbal evidence very ably given by Messrs A. P. Richter and H. S. Lyons, the Secretary and Agents, to whom our thanks are due. We have no information as to the result of these enquiries.

In the meantime the Government resigned and was succeeded by a combination of the two major parties and we are hopeful that this question will now be dealt with on a national basis. Our investigations to date clearly show the need for a more correct and effective system of registration of all natives in the Transvaal. A preliminary comparison between our registers and those of the Department of Native Affairs in one northern district shows large differences and this, no doubt, will be the usual experience—if adopted generally—and probably accounts for the exaggerated idea of the number of natives on Company farms. As a matter of interest, I may say that the land owned by members in the Transvaal is about 8,000,000 acres; the average native population is about 6·7 per 1,000 acres and the average number of native rent payers 1·6 per 1,000 acres. These natives are estimated to own about 150,000 head of stock.

The main problem in South Africa is the settlement of the native question and the chief interest of the native is in obtaining more land; many other important questions, e.g. soil erosion, are subsidiary or so closely allied to it that I can only express the hope that the National Government will give this matter its serious consideration. I am, I think, correct in stating that even steps taken to preserve the natural flora and fauna of the country, to arrest soil erosion and to conserve moisture are merely palliatives until the matter of land for natives is settled. A recent Press statement by the Minister of Mines that it was necessary to assist natives to make better use of their land and that more land had to be found for them is encouraging. I do not believe that the provision of more land or increased production on the reserves will adversely affect in any way the status or the best interests of Europeans. On the contrary, a fair and equitable settlement of this long outstanding land question will give stability to the country, striking, as it would, at the root of many of our problems. The history of the native land question to date indicates that a settlement can only be accomplished by a National Government, and it is to be hoped that this will be one of the first of the measures to be passed when Parliament re-assembles.

SOIL EROSION

The conservation of soil fertility, the raising of the subsoil water table and the conservation and development of its forest lands ought to form an integral part of South Africa's continuous land policy. These are matters of major importance to members and the Association should keep up a steady pressure on the Government to ensure continuity of the policy and in the work. Soil erosion, following destruction of forests and grazing grounds, is causing serious concern in thickly populated countries such as India and China and in such sparsely populated countries as Australia.

I read in a recent issue of the *Australian Pastoral Review* that researches into remote antiquity have proved that vast numbers of sheep and cattle

once grazed over what is now the Arabian Desert—one of the great desolate regions of the world. If nature did not excuse those Assyrian and Chaldean graziers for over-stocking their country, why should she excuse us? The article then went on to state that the Government should definitely discourage over-stocking on Crown lands and should go in for a big and national scheme to conserve moisture in the back country. It pointed out that big cities were of no avail if the country behind them was drying up; that the politicians of to-day were no different from those of Nineveh and Babylon and that it was necessary to take stock of the pastoral conditions, finally pointing out that the intelligent tillers of the soil and the men who are conserving their pastures are doing immeasurable service to their country. This is true of South Africa and probably accentuated here by the overcrowding of Native Locations, Crown lands and some native areas.

I am not aware to what extent the Government is contemplating acting in detail on the recommendations of the Drought Commission of 1923, but I am glad to learn that the Department of Agriculture proposes to take active steps to combat soil erosion at its source and to reclaim, as far as is economically possible, already wasted areas. This Association has intimated to the Government that it will gladly do all in its power to co-operate in the proposed survey and completion of data. I would, however, emphasise that, concurrently with educating the European, there is the need for requiring that natives carry out the instructions of the Government and that they be made very clearly to understand why it is necessary to take action in:—

- (1) Improving the absorbing capacity of the surface by ceasing indiscriminate veld burning and encouraging the growth of vegetal cover;
- (2) Conserving water supplies by building dams and contour walls;
- (3) Sub-dividing their farms into camps, with drinking water, for the better management of their veld;
- (4) Protecting dams, pools and streams by a deep covering of vegetation;
- (5) Selling all surplus stock—in fact definitely to under-stock as far as possible; and
- (6) Ceasing to destroy the deciduous trees for firewood, and, instead, selling dead wood and plantation timber only.

I suggest, too, there is need for co-operation with the Imperial Government for similar instruction to be given to natives in the Protectorates, especially in Basutoland.

There is ample evidence that much valuable work is being done in various portions of the country in anti-erosion and soil reclamation, but, having regard to the recommendations of the Drought Commission, the rate of progress has been slow. One of the most urgent steps is to raise the subsoil water table and prevent the heavy run-off to the rivers and eventually to the sea. The discoloration of the sea for miles from the mouths of South African rivers is evidence of a heavy capital loss of soil. Dr Schonkin in lecturing at Stellenbosch on "Our Natural Water Supply" remarked that when a cycle of wet years again takes its turn, care is flung to the winds. The history of soil reclamation in South Africa confirms the truth of this. He further remarked on the need for veld rangers, pointing out that in France they number many thousands. Possibly the

Special Service Battalion could be employed on this important work, which can be summed up in the phrase that it is saving one of the capital assets of the country and making good use of another.

MINERAL SURVEY

I welcome the recent statement of the Minister of Mines that, as the Government was obtaining such a large revenue from the gold mines, he hoped that it would be possible to divert some of that revenue to obtaining further knowledge of the country's mineral resources. He also hoped that it would be possible to allocate a sufficient sum to begin an adequate mineral survey of the Transvaal. The carrying capacity of the gold mining industry, particularly during the last few years, has brought home as never before (and also in unexpected quarters) the value of the industry to South Africa. Previous Governments do not appear to have appreciated the value and importance of an adequate geological survey and it has been largely left to private enterprise to carry on mineral surveys to demonstrate the mineral possibilities of the country and to open up new discoveries. State assistance should be given, not merely in the direction of making a mineral survey, but also in establishing an adequately equipped Mineral Research Department which should make provision for Commercial Research, including the dissemination of information as to markets, competition, improvement of the products and so on.

With a view to encouraging the development of precious metals, the Government has introduced an amendment to the Gold Law, which is receiving the attention of your Executive. I trust that for the same reasons the next measure will be an amendment to the Precious Stones Act, giving to the owner and discoverer awards commensurate with their interests in their properties.

CITRUS

Under the Ottawa Agreements, South African producers of oranges enjoy a preference in the British market of 3s 6d per cwt, and of 5s per cwt in respect of grape-fruit. It was naturally thought that these preferences would place the South African grower in an advantageous position in relation to their competitors in the British market. These hopes were not, however, realised. The producers of oranges in Spain, Brazil and California flooded the markets of the United Kingdom with oranges which resulted in a heavy fall in the prices, the comparable realisation figures of South African oranges to the end of July 1933 being 10s 8·4d sterling a case gross (or 5s 9·3d net), as against 19s 5d gross (14s 1·5d net) in 1932. Fortunately the prices are improving and there is a strong hope that the returns for the closing three months of the citrus year will raise the average to a satisfactory level. The lessons to be drawn from the experience of this current season are:—

- (a) That the producer of early, middle and late season's varieties of citrus fruits is in a more advantageous position than the producer of only one variety.
- (b) That the South African citrus growers should redouble their efforts to find new markets.
- (c) That full advantage should be taken of the preference of 3s 6d per case in the Canadian market and this market, together with the Indian market, vigorously developed, whilst it would appear that the local market also should be effectively organised.

- (d) That the questions of pushing the sale of orange and grape-fruit juices and of high grade quality grape-fruit and oranges in cans should be explored.

THE CANNING INDUSTRY

In recent years most important advances have been made in the scientific study of canning problems, and better transportation facilities have assisted in the development of the industry. Canned foods are entering into serious competition with raw foods, but, on the other hand, the development of quick freezing of fruits, vegetables and meats packed in cardboard cartons and subjected to sudden freezing cannot be ignored.

The production of canned fruit in the Union has increased by some 500 per cent since 1921 and the exports have more than doubled. The United Kingdom is the Union's main market and it is not without interest to note that 190,000 tons of canned fruit were consumed by the people of the United Kingdom last year. The imports reached the record figure of 160,000 tons to the value of £6,000,000. The chief importations consisted of peaches, pears, apricots and pineapples. Pineapples are almost exclusively (93 per cent) imported from British Malaya, due mainly to popularity, research and clever advertising. Eighty-six per cent of the other fruits were imported from foreign countries, mainly America, and the balance of 14 per cent came from the Dominions. This illustrates the possibilities that exist for the varieties of fruit which South Africa can supply, but it also emphasises that its canners must concentrate on achieving the maximum possible reduction in overhead, production and selling costs as their future is bound up with their ability to compete on the London market in price and quality with American packers.

CHILLED BEEF

It cannot be said that marked progress has been made in this industry during the year. Low prices of beef brought about by increased competition in Great Britain, particularly from the Argentine, Australia and New Zealand, resulted in a quota being adopted in England for all classes of meat. The results of the shipments and investigations to date indicate that, although some highly satisfactory beef has been shipped, it will be necessary to adopt a breeding policy suited to our conditions if we are to keep up a regular and continuous supply of the quality beef demanded by the discerning buyers overseas.

A further factor is that discussions are taking place in England on the principle laid down at Ottawa, *viz* that the local producer has first call on his own market, the Dominions having the next preference, and other countries the third place. Action has been taken to restrict importations of meat and dairy produce and, as I mentioned just now, quotas have been arranged. The effect will be to intensify competition and it therefore behoves us to examine closely, and effectively to control, our costs of production. While on the subject of competition, it is of interest to note that the value of the meat consumed in the British market last year was £155,000,000, of which considerably more than half was spent overseas.

Another matter of importance in the development of the beef industry is the question of research and investigations with a view to placing pure-bred acclimatised bulls at the disposal of farmers (European and Bantu) in the low country districts of the Transvaal. A beginning might be made by placing pure-bred acclimatised bulls with the Government Stock

Inspectors and later—after the necessary research—bull breeding stations should be established to enable small ranchers and others to obtain suitable bulls at prices within their means. An Act should be passed providing for the gradual registration of all bulls and the elimination of the scrubs, all necessary ground work leading to an improvement in the herds of the Transvaal. It is said that there are 11,000,000 head of cattle in the country and that only 1 per cent is fit for export. If this is so, further comments on the need for action (especially in view of the export bounties and facilities) seem unnecessary.

COTTON

The excellent research work inaugurated some years ago under the auspices of the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation at their Barberton Station is being continued and is of the greatest possible value to the cotton grower. The Corporation's activities include the breeding of cotton seed adapted to our special conditions, and success in this direction has already been achieved in the breeding of a new variety of seed, now termed "U.4," which is not only practically immune from Jassid attack, but which gives a much higher yield of seed cotton and an increased lint percentage. These in themselves are important factors when it is remembered that some years ago the ravages of the Jassid accounted for very considerable losses, whilst the importance of the increased lint yield can be gauged by the fact that the percentage of lint to seed cotton is now invariably 35 per cent, whereas in former years when using the strain of seed originally introduced into South Africa, namely Improved Bancroft, the average yield was only about 30 per cent. Other experimental work of a similar nature is continually being carried on and it can be said that not only does the cotton grower owe a very real debt of gratitude to this Institution but that the Institution is deserving of unstinted support from every section of the community interested in the development of the cotton industry within the Empire.

PASTURE IMPROVEMENT

Nothing has been so encouraging during these times of low prices for farmers as the increasing interest in pastures, both natural and artificial. We cannot expect to develop a chilled beef trade or reduce the production cost of our dairy products unless we can feed more cheaply and efficiently, and the only way to do so is by improving our pastures.

As mentioned in the annual report, the Grasslands Research Committee of the University of Pretoria and African Explosives and Industries Limited have been conducting a series of immensely important experiments. The latter concern has to-day hundreds of acres under co-operative experiments with farmers in the Union and Rhodesia. This research covers veld grasses, kikuyu, Rhodes, Johnson, woolly finger, paspalum, winter grasses and grasses under irrigation. Special consideration has been given to the effect of rotational grazing and fertilisers on the stock-carrying capacity and on the botanical composition of the veld. The endeavour has been to ascertain whether animals show any preference for one treatment as compared with another, and whether there was less selective grazing. As a result of these experiments a great deal of valuable information has been collected and is available in popular form to any interested. These publications show that an enormous amount of patient investigation work has yet to be done, but the results achieved (in some cases an improvement of as much as 300 per cent due to fertilisers was recorded) indicate that the output of the land can be greatly increased.

BOREHOLES—KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Members are aware of the appeal made to the public through the Press some two months ago on behalf of the game in the Kruger National Park, where the water supplies are low, necessitating the provision of boreholes in various places. Your Association donated £75 which was sent to the Johannesburg Boreholes Fund. I feel sure that you will endorse our action in making this contribution in the cause of game preservation.

1820 MEMORIAL SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION

The 1820 Memorial Settlers' Association continues its useful work of introducing new settlers to this country. During the year ended 30th June 1933, 102 settlers and dependants entered the Union under the Association's auspices, making a total of 6,501 settlers and their dependants introduced into South Africa by the Settlers' Association since February 1921.

I am informed that there is an increased interest in Great Britain in emigration, through the Settlers' Association, to South Africa since the Union left the gold standard. Special efforts are being made by the Association to attract persons who are retired from Government and military services in India and the East, and it is hoped that these efforts will meet with success.

GENERAL

You will much regret that, owing to a change in the administration of the South African Land and Exploration Company Limited, the Association is losing the valuable assistance of Sir Llewellyn Andersson, who has been associated with the Transvaal Land Owners' Association practically since its inception. Sir Llewellyn has been a member of the Executive Committee for ten years, inclusive of three years as President of the Association, and he has given unsparingly of his time and energy in the interests of land and all that it implies. I should like to take this opportunity of placing on record our high appreciation of Sir Llewellyn's services to the Association and its Members, and to express the hope that the Executive Committee at its next meeting will elect him an Honorary Member of the Association.

In conclusion, I should like to express my thanks to the Vice-Presidents and the members of the Executive and our warm appreciation of the excellent services rendered by the Secretary and his staff and by all the District Agents. They have readily responded to the many calls made upon them during a trying period.

I now beg to move the adoption of the Executive Committee's Report and Accounts for the year ended 30th June 1933, and will ask Mr H. S. Lyons to second the motion.

In seconding the motion for the adoption of the Committee's Report and Accounts, Mr H. S. Lyons said:

It gives me very great pleasure to second the motion for the adoption of the report so ably moved by the President. The President has reminded you that the Association to-day completes the thirtieth year of its existence. As a member of your Executive since the inception of the Association, I have attended every one of the thirty annual meetings held during that long period, and listened, if I may include my own, to thirty presidential addresses. All of these have revealed a close study of the problems and difficulties connected with land possession and land administration in this

province, and each of them has contributed greatly to the solution of some of these problems and difficulties. But I do not remember ever to have heard a more interesting, instructive and suggestive disquisition from the chair than that to which we have just listened.

One has only to read the report and to consider the many and diversified topics touched on by the President to realise how very persistent, numerous and ever-increasing are the tribulations of the unfortunate landowner.

Land companies, as we all know, have few friends and many enemies, but nobody can read our reports from year to year, and study the views and hopes annually expressed from the chair, without realising that this Association does discharge a very serious and responsible task in all matters pertaining to an unselfish and progressive policy in land management and administration. Not only does it serve a wide and otherwise inarticulate public by its close scrutiny of all legislative enactments and amendments which may inflict undeserved penalties and burdens on the friendless landowner, but in its provision of a sanctuary for otherwise homeless natives, and the contented, orderly and law-abiding character of the communities under its control it performs a service to the State which is too little recognised and most ungratefully requited.

Before concluding, I should like to associate myself with the tribute paid by the President to the many services rendered to the Association and its members by Sir Llewellyn Andersson, a past President, and a keen and active member of the Executive Committee for many years.

I have much pleasure in seconding the motion for the adoption of the Report.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr R. E. Garwood proposed the re-election of the retiring members of the Executive Committee and the election of Mr R. B. Hagart to the Executive Committee for the ensuing year. Mr Rhys Evans seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

In proposing the re-election of Mr H. J. Summerley as President of the Association for the ensuing year, Mr R. W. Townsend endorsed Mr Lyons's remarks and referred to the yeoman service rendered by the President to the Association during the past year. Mr Townsend stated he favoured the policy of continuity especially when such important items as native affairs and proposed amendments to mineral laws were being dealt with. Mr Connell O'C. Maggs seconded and Mr H. J. Summerley was unanimously re-elected President of the Association for the ensuing year.

Mr Summerley thanked the meeting for the compliment in re-electing him as the Association's President.

Mr J. Davidson proposed that Messrs J. N. Mackenzie and A. P. Richter be re-elected Vice-Presidents of the Association for the ensuing year. Mr Rotro Hedding seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr Geo. Parkes proposed, and Mr J. N. Mackenzie seconded, that Messrs Roberts, Allsworth, Cooper Brothers & Company be re-elected auditors of the Association for the ensuing year, and that their remuneration for the past year's audit be forty guineas, which was agreed to.

The meeting then terminated.



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